

Farmers market opens in Capitola on Thursdays

By TARMO HANNULA
OF THE REGISTER-PAJARONIAN

CAPITOLA — A new farmers market opened for the first time at the Capitola Mall on 41st Avenue Thursday. About 20 stalls offered a wealth of goods including fresh produce, prepared foods, cheese, handmade soaps, flowers, honey and olive oil.

"The weather was a little threatening, but I think we had a fine grand opening," said Lisa Porter, manager and business development for the Capitola Mall. "We had a big crowd and the Capitola/Soquel Chamber was here to help with the ribbon-cutting." Porter said Thursday was chosen because no other farmers market takes

place on that day.

The market unfolds in the parking lot in front of the main entrance on the 41st Avenue side.

"We have a good mix of vendors and a lot of local goods," Porter said. "Each week we plan to feature one nonprofit at the market."

"I think I did pretty good on this first day," said Neal Butterfield who runs the booth Big Paw Olive Oil and Balsamic Vinegars. "I think my products go well with a lot of other goods for sale here at the market so it's a good relationship."

Butterfield said he commonly sells at similar markets in San Mateo, Palo Alto and Campbell.

See MARKET, page A2

Page A2 — REGISTER-PAJARONIAN, Saturday, April 28, 2012



Tarmo Hannula/Register-Pajaronian

Fresh produce was a hit at the first-ever farmers market in front of the Capitola Mall Thursday.

MARKET

From page A1

His booth features hand-crafted dippers, salad dressing, a wide variety of olive oils and balsamic vinegars, a smoked ketchup

and a chipotle ketchup.

Dave Milczarek, who owns Garden Lane Soaps of Corralitos with his wife, Diane, displayed a variety of handcrafted bar soaps at his stand.

He said the natural, hand-made soaps are formulated with herbs, flowers and seeds from his organic gardens.

"We use natural oils and pure ingredients, no animal fats or artificial color," he said. "The scent in our soaps range from fragrant to mild, the lather, from full to light."

Porter said the market will run from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Thursday through November 15.