

Bianca Gonzalez, 4, of Watsonville smells a fresh bouquet of roses Friday at the official opening of the Certified Farmer's Market next to Watsonville Plaza.

Tarmo Hannula/Register-Pajaronian

Farmers' Markets

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Stop and smell the roses

Farmers' Market opens in Watsonville

REGISTER-PAJARONIAN STAFF REPORT

A chilly wind and dark overcast skies welcomed the opening day of the Watsonville Certified Farmers' Market on Friday.

Vendors and shoppers donned coats and hats as the wind picked up and knocked over signs and toppled displays of goods. But the weather didn't put a complete damper on the fun. Mr. Twister the Clown was handing out balloons, music was playing and produce was selling.

Phil and Gloria Irby of Soquel didn't let foreboding clouds stop them from coming to the market.

"We saw it in the paper and figured it would be a fun visit," Phil Irby said.

The market features varieties of produce, nuts, fruit, honey, flowers and other business stalls. Music and other entertainment are slated with each market that opens from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. every Friday until November 22.

Nancy Gammons, director of the market, said about 16 booths were set up Friday but she would expect more than 30 stalls to be up and running over the next few weeks.

"Considering the weather it went really well," Gammons said. "People had a good time, the music was great. It was a wonderful environment. ... If this was the worst day we have, we'll have a great year."



Phil and Gloria Irby of Soquel purchase several bags of fresh produce as the Watsonville Certified Farmers' Market opened to the public Friday.

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Mister Twister the clown shares the enthusiasm for the Farmers' Market with Sierra Williams, 3, after he made her a Pooh Bear out of balloons.

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