

## NEWS

## FARMERS MARKET

## Halloween dance jam ends gatherings

By Amy L. Dempster

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As the fourth season of the Farmers Market draws to a close Tuesday its organizers throwing the 2nd Annual Halloween Dance Jam. The use of the common as a community gathering place is most on display during this joyful finale of the Westford Farmers Market.

"We really hope to get everyone involved in the last market not just the children," said market founder Gloria Gilbert.

Children and adults of all ages are invited to dress up and check in at the market manager's tent to register for the costume contest. Costume prizes to be awarded for most creative in different age categories. A special Upcycle It! prize will go to the most innovative use of recycled items.

"Our Upcycle It! program has been wildly successful our first season collecting over 24,000 pieces to date," said Kristina Greene, the Upcycle It! founder and manager.

A scavenger hunt will have children seeking out local seasonal produce and products. As they find listed items such as pumpkin ravioli they can cross off from a list of charted items to

be turned in for a prize.

For crafty young supporters, there will be a cool spin on traditional trick or treating. As parents shop the market, children will trick or treat at each vendor for all the supplies to make a Halloween creature. From eyeballs to antennae to the magic seeds that grow monster's hair, children will bring their collected items back to the Go Green on the Green tent to assemble their Halloween craft with the guidance of market volunteer Emily Piper.

Participants can make edible spooky treats including banana chip ghosts and snack cracker spiders. Edible art is a creative way to encourage cautious tasters to try new items and this yearly activity has become a favorite among children and adults.

Rounding out the day are fair favorites including face painting, fishing for apples, and warm apple cider.

A costume parade begins at 4:30 and leads into the hip shaking and monster moving dance jam. Tunes such as "The Monster Mash" and "The Adams Family Theme" will set the stage for a dance jam led by

## Sustainable Westford Winter Happenings

■ Fall Harvest Soups and Breads workshop and tasting, Sunday, Nov. 7, 5-7:30 p.m. at the First Parish Church United. Registration required. \$10 fee supports Sustainable Westford.

■ Winter Education and Workshop Series begins in January. Topics include eco-green lifestyles, backyard chickens and coops, organic winter gardening and the 1st Annual Green Fair.

■ The Winter Farmers Market opens January 15 at the Roudenbush Community Center.

**Visit [WestfordFarmers-Market.com](http://WestfordFarmers-Market.com)**

instructors from Westford Racquet and Fitness and the Westford Academy and adult volunteers.

"The Halloween Dance Jam is a fun and high spirited way to end our outdoor market," said Gilbert. "And it will hopefully set the stage for our winter initiatives such as our first Winter Farmers Market and the popular winter education series."



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