



A group of Market shoppers and “conversationists,” calling themselves the “Odd Ducks,” have met regularly for decades at the Strafford Farmers Market to laugh, argue, and share their stories of the day. At this meeting of the “Ducks” on November 8, 2019 are (L to R) Bob Tiffany, co-founder; Jim McArvle; Charlie Bissell; Al Gillis; Sandy McAliane; Kendall Wheeler; Sam Chew; Frank Felice; Dick Shaw; Rick Blankley; and Paul McAliane, co-founder. *Courtesy of Kendall Wheeler.*

A Sense of Community

A sense of community will always connect the Market with the folks on the Main Line!

No matter what happens, good or bad, the Market will continue to be the place the community gathers to talk, to shop, to share their lives with each other, and with the vendors they’ve come to know and trust. Over the decades, through tragedies or triumphant victories, and no matter which political party is in power, the Market has been where people share their greatest as well as their most difficult moments.

Yes, the Market is a great place to shop, with the freshest, local, in-season fruits, vegetables, meats, cheese, breads & pastries. We also have imported French linens, gifts, greeting cards, fresh ground coffee, chocolates & fresh flowers, all sold by independently-owned and operated local businessmen & women. Our vendors take pride in their products, they can tell you where the ingredients come from, how they’re made, what to pair them with, and how to prepare them. There are connections between vendors and shoppers that have endured for generations, with children who remember coming to the Market with their grandparents and now bringing their own grandchildren to the Market to create their own market memories.

As the Market manager, it is my responsibility to create and foster an environment for memories to continue, and to permit the community connections to grow and deepen. I look forward to many years of doing just that! This special community deserves nothing less! — *Mike Fisher*

Michael Fisher, from Gap Pa., has been in the restaurant and market industry for over 45 years, and has served as Market Master at Strafford for 2 ½ years.