

# Mouths watering over Farmers' Market 'cook-off'

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HOLYOKE – Mouths have begun to water over the anticipated fantastic feasts to be prepared by city officials at the 2nd Annual Holyoke Farmers' Market Cook-Off on Aug. 16.

The free event, held from noon to 2 p.m. at the Farmer's Market in front of City Hall, features returning champion Mayor Alex Morse, Police Chief Manny Febo, former Chamber President Kathy Andover and Ward 1 City Councilor Gladys Lebron-Martinez to fight for the title of best cook.

Last year, Morse went head-to-head with Holyoke Schools Superintendent/Receiver Stephen Zrike. Video from the event shows competitors slicing, dicing and cooking over a hot grill. The contests were sweating more than being grilled at a budget meeting.

The winner and bragging rights will be judged by a panel of three local

judges, Holyoke Community College President Christina Royal, Executive Chef of the Log Cabin and Delaney House Mick Corduff, and one lucky culinary student from the new HCC MGM Culinary Center.

"I am excited and looking forward to a healthy competition between the contestants - they are bringing awareness to our market and for that I'm very thankful. Our contestants will cook like pros. Who knows, maybe one of them will find a new career in culinary arts," said Andres Villada, Holyoke Farmers' Market.

This year's theme of the market has been Come Together, an invitation for all to support and connect to one another. Each week, the Holyoke Farmers' Market delivers fresh, locally grown fruits and vegetables available to all people, including Holyoke.

The cook-off event is organized by the Holyoke Farmers' Market along with Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce and the mayor's office.



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