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# **Hello April!**



April is a month of rebirth, renewal, and revival.

It's also a month of reassurance. As surely as the sun rises, April begins to fulfill its promise of fresh harvests. The Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market is proud to support nearby farms and offer our customers the finest in *Pennsylvania Preferred, Jersey Fresh, and Delaware Grown* as the earth reawakens.

While we're loyal to local, we also appreciate that we have a constant influx of fresh produce from around the country and around the world. Thanks to all the hardworking people all along the supply chain who deliver nutritious produce to our doorstep. And special kudos to Philaport, the largest refrigerated and fastest growing port, and the #1 fruit gateway in the United States!

# Bring on the Spring!



Congrats to Mark Smith - Market Manager of the Year!



Mark Smith, General Manager of the Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market, was selected by the National Association of Produce Market Managers (NAPMM) as Market Manager of the Year at their annual conference, held last month in New Orleans.

NAPMM's Market Manager of the Year award winner is selected annually by the NAPMM Executive Board and recognizes a market manager for their work and accomplishments at their respective market. All entries are judged on overall accomplishments, with measurable outcomes being heavily weighed.

"Mark was a clear choice for this award," said James R. Farr, NAPMM President. "Under his leadership as GM for the Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market, he cut costs and streamlined facility operations including maintenance, security, and food safety. Most importantly, he has innovated ways to reduce food waste by partnering with area food banks to drastically increase

food donations and decrease waste. Since July of 2021, over 3.5 million lbs. of produce was donated to community hunger organizations and diverted from the waste stream."

Smith has led the Philadelphia Wholesale Produce Market since November 2018. Prior to joining the PWPM, Mark served under Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf in various roles. As Special Assistant to the Governor for Public Safety and a member of the Governor's Senior Staff, he served as the principle advisor to the Governor for security and emergency response issues. These included state planning efforts for the Pope's historic visit to Philadelphia and developing state-wide strategy to increase broadband access across Pennsylvania. Mark also served nearly two terms as County Commissioner in Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

"As a relative newcomer to the produce industry, I'm humbled and honored to be named as the Market Manager of the Year," says Smith.



Mark Smith (center) is congratulated by newly elected NAPMM President, Brendan Tydings (left) and outgoing President, James Farr.

## **April Dates to Celebrate**



April 1st – First Day of Ramadan (last day is April 30th)

April 7th – World Health Day

April 15th – Good Friday

April 15th – First Day of Passover (last day is April 23)

April 17th – Easter

April 22nd - Earth Day

#### **EASTER HOLIDAY HOURS**

CLOSED: Sunday, April 17th
OPEN: Monday, April 18th
3AM for Receiving
8AM for Customers

### **Please Note Our Customer Hours**

Sunday: 9:00 am to Sunday: 12:00 pm Sunday: 7:00 pm to Monday: 11:00 am Monday: 7:00 pm to Tuesday: 11:00 am Tuesday: 7:00 pm to Wednesday: 11:00 am Wednesday: 7:00 pm to Thursday: 11:00 am Thursday: 7:00 pm to Friday: 11:00 am









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