

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT:**

Kim Larose  
The Lowell Five Bank  
55 Technology Drive  
Lowell, MA 01851  
(978) 323-7239 or [klarose@lowellfive.com](mailto:klarose@lowellfive.com)

**LOWELL FIVE BANK HELPS MAKE NORTH ANDOVER FARMERS' MARKET A REALITY**

Lowell, MA – David Wallace, President, and CEO of Lowell Five Bank announced that Lowell Five Bank had donated \$15,000 to the North Andover Merchants Association to support the Town of North Andover's first-ever farmers' market. North Andover is one of only a few towns in the Merrimack Valley that do not have a farmers' market. Although the town includes a number of farms and there has been strong support for a farmers' market, the project never came to fruition until recently.

On Friday, April 28th, Dave Wallace, Linda Firth, No. Andover Branch Manager, Steve Ventre, SVP Commercial Lending and Jay Stephens, CFO presented the check to members of the North Andover Farmers' Market Planning Committee at Lowell Five Bank's First & Main ATM Plaza. Lowell Five will serve as the exclusive sponsor of the North Andover Farmers' Market.

Lowell Five Bank became involved in the plans to establish a farmers' market when approached for support from Lowell Five customer Tina Messina. Tina serves on the North Andover Farmers' Market Planning Committee and is one of the owners of the First & Main Plaza where her business, The Wine Connexion, is located. Tina was able to obtain the support of her ownership partners for the farmers' market to use the First & Main Plaza parking lot for use by the farmers' market. When asked to provide the seed money to get the project off the ground, the Lowell Five Bank Senior Management team immediately embraced the opportunity to help the North Andover community.

The North Andover Farmers' Market will be held every Sunday from 10 am to 2 pm, beginning June 25 through October 8 on the stretch of First Street near where it intersects with Main Street.



Appearing in photo: (L to R) Janice Mottolo - Smolak Farms, Michael Smolak, Owner - Smolak Farms and member of both the Massachusetts Farm Service Agency and the Massachusetts Agricultural Board, Dawn Pease, President – N. Andover Merchants Assoc., Chris Palermo, Owner - Blue Dog Pet Care and N. Andover Merchants Assoc. Member, Chris Allen, Treasurer – N. Andover Farmers' Market, Eric Kfoury, Director of Community and Economic Development– Town of N. Andover, Tina Messina, Owner – The Wine Connexion and N. Andover Farmers' Market Committee Member, Phil DeCologero, Board of Selectman – Town of N. Andover, David Wallace, President & CEO – Lowell Five Bank, Linda Firth, N. Andover Branch Manager – Lowell Five Bank, Jay Stephens, CFO – Lowell Five Bank, and Steve Ventre, SVP, Commercial Lending – Lowell Five Bank.

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