Taste food festival to bring local chefs, entertainment to SteelStacks

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Easton Farmers' Market hosts Zucchini 500

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By Sara K. Satullo | For lehighvalleylive.com

Locavores rejoice there's a food tasting festival for you this summer.

On July 24, the Lehigh Valley's local food economy will be celebrated at the new, free Taste festival. It will be held noon to 4 p.m. on the <u>SteelStacks</u> campus in <u>Bethlehem</u> at the ArtsQuest Center, Levitt Pavilion and PBS39's media center. A ticketed food tasting will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets cost \$25.

"We invite people to come out and discover the wonderful flavors of fresh, locally grown foods, meet the farmers that produce them, and participate in fun activities to learn more about our local food system," said Lynn Prior, Buy Fresh Buy Local of the Greater Lehigh Valley director.

At Taste, attendees will be able to sample food from the region's top chefs, chat with farmers and buy locally grown food at the farmers' market with almost 30 farmers and vendors.

The tasting room will be up in the Musikfest Cafe, where you can sample delectable cuisine from area chefs. All restaurants will serve menu items containing at least two locally sourced ingredients from area farms. Local wineries, distilleries, ciders and breweries will also be serving samples.

Tickets can be purchased <u>here</u>. There's a limited number of \$50 VIP tickets, that offer early access to the tasting at noon, music by GT3 Jazz Standards and a special VIP cocktail by Eight Oaks Craft Distillers.

If you want to make it a family affair, there's lots of fun for the little ones, like a cow milking station, arts and crafts and the Zucchini 500, where they get to make and race a car made from zucchini.

There will be cooking demos and workshops on topics like beekeeping, cheese making and a demo on fresh tomato salsa.

Taste is presented by Buy Fresh Buy Local of the Greater Lehigh Valley, a program of the Nurture Nature Center. The event is sponsored by Sam Adams, Agri-Dynamics, ArtsQuest and Chipotle.

Tasting room participants include:

- Bolete
- The Bookstore Speakeasy
- Curious Goods at the Bake Oven Inn
- DiMaio's Family Ristorante and Pizzeria
- Eight Oaks Craft Distillers
- Franklin Hill Vineyards
- Frecon's Cidery
- The Hamilton
- Heirloom
- Historic Hotel Bethlehem
- Maxim's 22 Bistro Brasserie
- McCool's at the Red Lion Inn
- Meals on Wheels of Northampton County
- Molinari's
- Moravian College Dining Services
- Pearly Baker's Ale House
- Porters' Pub and Restaurant
- Saranda's
- Saucon Valley Country Club
- Sette Luna
- Social Still
- Sodexo Dining Services
- Subarashii Kudamono Gourmet Asian Pears
- Tolino Vineyards
- Two Rivers Brewing Company
- 187 Rue Principale

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