



Harvest season is winding down, but there is still a selection of fresh veggies to be found at the weekly Farmer's Market in Sonoita. Every Saturday morning at 10 a.m., local growers and craftsmen set up their tables at the intersection of Highway 82 and 83 behind the mini-mart. Fruits, vegetables, spices, and cheese, along with home-made soaps, leather and jewelry are on display.

Every week during the harvest season you will find Tom Hansen from Hilltop Hydroponics selling a selection of fresh veggies picked at his greenhouses in Sonoita. Lesia George always brings her goat cheeses. Rancho dos Osos displays their farm eggs



Buying Local In Sonoita

and cheeses.

The aroma of Russell Compton's slow-cooking Texas BBQ beef, served with beans and coleslaw, wafts through the market. Barbara Neville brings her books along with jewelry

and leatherworks. Several locals come with soaps, lotions and breads. Nogales Mercado comes up from Nogales to sell at the market, and "Senor Cilantro" displays his many varieties of cilantro

spices.

Unfortunately, Yucca Ash Farm with their excellent selection of produce, has moved away.

According to a recent report, Santa Cruz County has 193 farms, most rang-

ing from 10 to 49 acres. Thirteen of these farms sell directly to consumers. Buying from local farms and craftspeople keeps your money in Santa Cruz County. Make the market a weekly stop.

Sonoita Fire Team Joins CA Firefighters



Submitted photo

Four firefighters from the Sonoita-Elgin Fire District recently returned from 14 days of battling the California fires, which drew 29,000 firemen, fighting 95 uncontained fires in eight western states.. Droughts, high winds and low humidity had fanned the flames and made it almost impossible to quell the fires.

Captain Brian Jackson of the Sonoita Fire District, designated as Engine Boss, took three wildland firefighters with him from the local station. J.W. DeWolf, Michael Jensen and Joseph KcKearney, all volunteers, made up the four-man team that traveled to

California.

Their original assignment was to travel to Anderson, California, near Redding, and cover the local fire stations while their counterparts were already on the fire lines. Soon after that they loaded up their truck with 300 gallons of water and headed west to fight fires in Humboldt County, where they worked shifts that allowed for as little as four hours of sleep per night. Eventually they made their way to the Fort Bragg area, where they finished their two week assignment.