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Rawhide's Farmers Market

THE VALLEY'S NEWEST MARKET allows shoppers to get in touch with their inner-cowpoke while buying fresh fruits and vegetables grown on the Gila River Reservation. The brainchild of Rawhide chef Michael Cairns (see his recipe on Page 60), the market also offers produce grown in the garden at the make-believe Western town and by Gila farmers and backyard gardeners.

"We buy the produce from the farmers and sell it for them because the last place farmers want to be on Saturday is away from the garden," he said. Along with green beans, lemons and other produce, the market sells Native American specialty foods such as mesquite flour and tepary beans. Shoppers with an appetite can sit down for a fresh-cooked breakfast such as chorizo and



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egg burros, strawberry pancakes with mascarpone cream, vegetable fritatta and steak and eggs. Or just nosh on tamales or fry bread topped with red-chile beef. Although not all the Old West stores are open, shoppers can browse the candy store, general store and museum. Daredevils can try their luck on a mechanical bull while being serenaded live by country-Western singers. **8 a.m. to noon Saturdays, 5700 W. North Loop, Gila River Reservation. 480-502-5600.**



Clockwise from left: Along with produce, shoppers can buy tortillas freshly made by Rhonda Ruiz; Rawhide cook Jose Arredondo feeds hungry shoppers breakfast off the grill; buy fresh citrus like lemons or Buddha's hand, a tart fruit segmented into finger-like sections and used in Asian cooking; Rawhide executive chef Jon Andersen teaches on-site cooking lessons; in-season produce grown on nearby farms is one of the market's primary draws; music: from the Hey Boyz puts a bounce in shoppers' steps; and Rawhide's Western atmosphere starts at its entrance on the Gila River