## The Friends of Radish HELPING TO SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT HEALTHY LIVING

WQPT is a member of The Friends of Radish, a special group of community-minded businesses that are helping to spread the word about healthy living from the ground up.



Photo by Dick Oberg

The cast of WQPT's new local children's exercise program Get Movin' which debuts May 15 at 4:00 p.m. on WQPT, Quad Cities PBS. Get Movin' features exercise, cooking and "put play in your day" segments and is designed to give children and their families a fun and educational way to add healthy habits to their lives.



ADVERTORIAL

## "A Doctor's Confession"

(And Why I Still Do What I Do)

### Dear Friend:

Perhaps a confession can help clear the air so there's no misunderstanding. But let me say a few other things first.

### Ten years ago something happened that changed my life forever.

At the time I was a financial analyst for Florsheim in Chicago. I was a former college volleyball player who still loved to play, but I had developed a very painful shoulder problem from all my volleyball playing. I couldn't raise my arm above my shoulder and what was even worse for me at the time; I could no longer play my favorite sport. It eventually spread to my neck and caused headaches that stopped me from sleeping at night. For more than 2 years I had painkillers, muscle relaxers, and physical therapy that only made me feel better until the next day. I considered surgery, (my doctor in Chicago said that was my only option), but I decided against it. A friend of mine convinced me to give a chiropractor a try. The chiropractor did an exam, took some films, and then "adjusted" my spine. The adjustment didn't hurt; it actually felt good. I got relief, and I could use my shoulder again. In fact, within only one month I was back playing volleyball again, at full speed, like I never had a problem. It worked so well that I went to chiropractic school myself.

Now people come to see me with their "rotator cuff" problems. Also, they come to me with their *beadaches, migraines, chronic pain, neck pain, shoulder/arm pain, whiplash from car accidents, backaches, ear infections, asthma, allergies, numbness in limbs, athletic injuries,* just to name a few.

Several times a day, patients thank me for helping them with their health problems. But I can't really take the credit. <u>My confession is</u> <u>that I've never bealed anyone of anything</u>. What I do is perform a specific spinal adjustment to remove nerve pressure, and the body responds by *bealing itself*. We get tremendous results. It's as simple as that! I have a significantly lower fee plan so that more people are able to afford the care they need. A whole week of care in my office may cost what you could pay for <u>one visit</u> elsewhere.

**Amazing Offer** – When you bring in this article, you'll receive our entire new patient exam, with x-rays for just **\$27**. That's it, no kidding.

**Great care at a great fee –** Please, I hope that there's no misunderstanding about quality of care just because I have that lower fee. <u>I just have that low fee to help more people who need care.</u>

My assistants are Tacia and Amy, and they're both really great people. Our office is both friendly and warm, and we try our best to make you feel at home. We have a wonderful service, at an exceptional fee. Our office is called *SCRANTON CLINIC* and it is at 2512 18th Avenue, Rock Island, IL (We are "next to, but not in Whitey's"). Our phone number is 309-786-3012. Call Tacia, Amy or myself today for an appointment. We can help you. Thank you.

## - Dr. Rob Scranton, D.C.

**P.S.** When accompanied by the first, I am also offering the second family member this same exam for only \$10.

**P.S.S.** Please hurry, we only have 7 slots available this month for this offer.



## from the editor



Photo by Paul Colletti / Radisl

Tim Johansen always makes me smile. And now, as you can see, there's photographic evidence of it. Jim invited cover model Dana Swanson (above), Radish photographer Paul Colletti and I to his organic farm, Wesley Acres in Milan, Ill., for the photos here, on the cover and on page 40. There was an early spring nip in the air, so Jim and Dana were nice and chilly when Paul gave them the OK to put their coats back on after the shoot!

I've had the pleasure of knowing Jim — a good farmer and a man filled with the spirit of service — for a few years, and he always finds a way to make the people around him feel just plain happy. His farm not only includes space for organic vegetables and fruits but also several acres of wooded land set aside as a wetland nature preserve. It's inspiring.

Yet to tell the whole truth, anyone with the grit and the guts to put down roots and grow something — whether it's in a backyard or on a farm — inspires me. That's because to my mind (or perhaps, my palate), nothing is quite so lovely as a plate of food grown and prepared with care. At this time of year, it's easy to find happiness in the flavors and textures that come from the soil right here, right where we live. Each bite owes a debt to that soil, to those who cultivate it, and to the friend whose recipe turns a streaked stalk of rhubarb into something more.

This month in Radish, you'll find just those kinds of great recipes to get you in the mood to visit your favorite farmers' market. (Turn to pages 10 and 18.) Most markets open this month, and you can find one near you in the list on page 39. Don't forget to catch some of the season-opening events on page 13.

It's also time to mark your calendars for the 3rd annual Healthy Living Fair, which will be held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 20, next to the Freight House Farmers' Market, located at 421 W. River Drive, Davenport. This year's event has a new location and new hours, so be sure to take note. We can't wait to see you there!

> - Brandy Welvaert editor@radishmagazine.com



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## contributors



April Maher writes about camping and outdoor recreation in a syndicated, monthly column called Camping Journal published by the Small Newspaper Group family of newspapers in Illinois. April worked for Rand McNally for over 20 years before going freelance. April and her family have pitched a tent, popped-up a camper and parked an RV in some of the most amazing places under the stars. Read her story about Starved Rock on page 22.

Donna Schill is a freelance writer from Fairfield, Iowa. She graduated with a B.A. in communications and is continuing in the fall for her master's in journalism from the University of Iowa. She has an interest in sustainability as well as the Slow Food movement. She enjoys dinner parties with friends, the outdoors, bike rides, dance classes, travel and journaling. Her story about Heavenly Organics is on page 14.

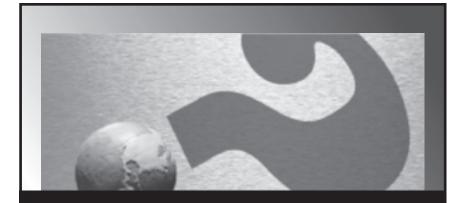
Dana Swanson currently is a junior at Augustana College in Rock Island. Originally from Barrington, Ill., she is majoring in sociology and English. Dana enjoys spending her days outdoors, whether she's reading, training for triathlons or volunteering at Wesley Acres in Milan, Ill. Dana's story about her time spent on the farm is on page 40.

Also writing in Radish this month are regular contributors **Donna Duvall** ("Strawberry love," page 18), Linda Egenes ("Visits with the Amish," page 8), Darcy Maulsby ("The early risers," page 10), Stacy Mitchell ("Spring clean your diet," page 12), Ann Scholl Rinehart ("Finding one's place," page 6, and "A Massage Oasis," page 24) and Sharon Wren ("Breaking through," page 26).

Natalie Askren, from Muscatine, Iowa, is a junior at Iowa State University. Besides journalism, Natalie studies art and design, channeling her passion for photography. She will spend the summer as a Web intern for House Beautiful magazine in New York, having spent last summer as an intern there for Interior Design magazine. Her story about grazier Steve Reinart, which she wrote as a communications intern at the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture in Des Moines, is on page 16.

Jeff Cornelius is a founding members of the Quad Cites Transportation Advocacy Group (QC TAG), which encourages people to "think outside the car." Year-round, he travels by bike and bus in the Quad-Cities, often with QC TAG's youngest member, Miguel Cornelius, who is just 11months old. Read Jeff's story about Alternative Transportation Week on page 32.





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## the grapevine

## Bring your dog to the **3rd Annual Healthy** Living Fair!

Radish wants you to bring your family pet to the 3rd Annual Healthy Living Fair for the Radish Dog of the Year Contest!

The Healthy Living Fair will be

held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 20, next to the Freight House, 421 W. River Drive, Davenport.

To participate in the dog contest, bring your dog and be prepared to share how you keep him or her healthy. The winning dog — as chosen by a vote of applause — will be named Radish Dog of the Year. The winner also will get a gift bag filled with healthy treats and will be featured in an upcoming issue of Radish.

Also at this year's event: The Quad-Cities Largest Yoga Class III and a Radish Scavenger Hunt.

For the latest info on the 2009 Healthy Living Fair, visit radishmagazine.com. A complete guide to the fair will be included in the June edition of Radish.



**Radish** 4

Stop by the Radish booth at the following events and pick up a copy of the magazine. On the Road with Radish is made possible by The Friends of Radish: Trinity Regional Health System, Metro, Zimmerman Honda and WQPT.

- Moonlight Frog Chorus, Wapsi River Environmental Education Center, 31555 52nd Ave., Dixon, Iowa, at 7:30 p.m. May 2. Bring a flashlight and waterproof footwear.
- The opening of the Milan (Ill.) Farmers' Market, 900 W. 4th St., from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. May 6.
- Mother's Day Mania at the Freight House Farmers' Market, 421 W. River Drive, Davenport, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 9. For details, turn to page 13.
- Showing of the film "The Future of Food," Unitarian Church, 3707 Eastern Ave., Davenport, at 7 p.m. May 15.

## Kick back with a free book from Radish

Looking for a good read? Each of the following books will be given to the first reader who requests it and in turn agrees to write a mini-review for Radish.

- "300 Big & Bold Barbecue & Grilling Recipes," by Karen Adler and Judith Fertig (Robert Rose, 2009)
- "Clean Food: A Seasonal Guide to Eating Close to the Source," by Terry Walters (Sterling, 2009)
- "Depletion and Abundance: Life on the New Home Front," by Sharon Astyk (New Society, 2008)
- "Oneota Flow: The Upper Iowa River & Its People," by David S. Faldet (University of Iowa, 2009)
- "Visits with the Amish: Impressions of the Plain Life," by Linda Egenes (University of Iowa, 2009)
  - To request a book, send an e-mail to editor@radishmagazine.com.



## From our readers

"I really enjoy your magazine and read it whenever I can. I'm from the Mt. Vernon, Iowa, area and would always pick up a copy whenever I saw it around town. Now I live in the Ouad-Cities, and I'm thrilled to find it everywhere here!"

— Erin Farrington, Quad-Cities

Grounds for recycling (March 2009): "Great article. I didn't know coffee grounds could be used as insect repellent."

— Dixie Norris, East Moline, IL

Way to go, Fairfield!

radishmagazine.com.

Last month when Grist (grist.org) named its

picks for the top "green" mayors across the country,

it selected Fairfield, Iowa's mayor Ed Malloy among

them. Radish honored Malloy and the city of Fairfield

with a 2009 Radish Award earlier this year for adopt-

ing a citywide Green Strategic Plan. The Grist story

also is featured at MSN.com and links to the January

Radish story by Linda Egenes, which is online at

Alpacas (Feb. 2009): "Our alpacas have given us beautiful and peaceful moments, and all visitors are mesmerized by them. The most important fact about their fiber is that it is the only natural warm fiber that is non-allergenic, which makes it so sought-after in garments."

— Marianne Pattyson, Wayland, IA

Vegan for six weeks (Feb. 2009): "So ... I came across this article, and I was wondering: How do you get protein in your diet? I know nuts and soy-based 'meat' have protein, but is it enough?"

- Sean, Colona, IL

Protein needs are easily met with a well-balanced vegan diet. Protein is found in many plant foods such as beans, nuts, soy products and even grains and vegetables. Most Americans eat much more protein than they need. The recommended daily allowance for protein is .8 grams per kilogram of body weight. For someone weighing 150 pounds (68 kilograms), that would be 55 grams of protein per day. With a protein food at each meal (for example, soy milk at breakfast, hummus at lunch and lentil soup for dinner) along with vegetables and grains throughout the day, a vegan easily could meet the recommended protein intake for the day.

— Jeni Tackett, registered dietitian

Ed Malloy

## healthy living from the ground up features

Finding one's place Iowa nature writer relishes even the Midwest humidity.

• Visits with the Amish  $\bigcirc$  Sustainable farming, living are hallmarks of the plain life.



Recipes for enjoying the first foods at farmers' markets.

20 Hey, good lookin' Beautiful blooms r Beautiful blooms pack a powerful punch.

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- 34 rooting around
- 38 resources
- 39 farmers' markets

## on the cover







Dana Swanson at Wesley Acres, Milan, III. (Photo by Paul Colletti / Radish)

## departments



 $12~^{\rm eating~well}$  Spring clean your diet: Eat whole grains, drink more water and add some fish.



Market madness! Area farmers' markets celebrate spring



with special events.

14 good business Heavenly Organics: Sweetly sustainable sugar and honey from small farms.



growers

Beyond sustainability: Leopold Center awards grazie with Spencer Award.



18 food Strawberry love: Recipes for tempting fruits from one smitten chef.



## $\bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc$ outdoors

LL Take a hike: There's plenty to see at Starved Rock.



health & fitness

A Massage Oasis: Human touch heals hospital patients and their families.

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### Breaking through: Bored with working out? Give tae kwon do a try.



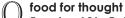
 $28\,$   $^{\rm arts}_{\rm Better bling for Mom: Dazzle her with healthy, local glitz}$ this Mother's Day.



### aardens

Garden homework: Check out these tips before buying or planting this year.

environment 32 Switch up the ride: Try alternative transportation this month and save.

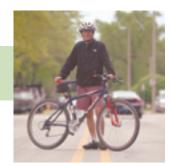


Farming 101: Cultivating cucumbers — and a love for soil









# healthy living Finding one's place

## Iowa nature writer relishes even the Midwest humidity

By Ann Scholl Rinehart

When he was about 6 years old, Tom Dean had a major revelation: His whole world — his grandparents, his school, his library, his grocery store - was within walking distance of his home.

In that eye-opening moment was born Dean's passion for place, a passion he shares in his book, "Under a Midland Sky" (2008, Ice Cube Press). In it, Dean weaves some of his life experiences, including his bout with cancer and his mother's death, with his infatuation with Midwestern weather.

It all began with the book's first essay, Dean's personal favorite, "The Commute of the Canada Geese." In it, he writes, "The commute of the Canada geese had been a sounding note of my search for home after first leaving Iowa."

The Rockford, Ill., native earned a Ph.D. in English from the University of Iowa in 1991. Throughout the following years, he and his wife Susan Prepejchal "always looked for a place like Iowa City" until moving back in 1999 with their two children, Nathaniel, now 16, and Sylvia, now 13.

Since 2000, Dean has worked as special assistant to the president for communications and research at the University of Iowa. His job involves being the speechwriter for University President Sally Mason, which he also did for her various predecessors.

While he didn't write the Canada geese essay with the idea of writing a book, doing so was always in the back of his mind. Some of his essays were published over the years. Many of his pieces started with U R Here, a monthly column he writes for an Iowa City publication called Little Village.

Eventually Dean realized he had the makings of a collection of essays tied together by the sky/weather theme. When the time came, he turned to Steve Semken, publisher of the Ice Cube Press in North Liberty, Iowa, who had published some of Dean's essays in his Harvest Lecture series. Dean says he and Semken are "kindred spirits in our dedication to place, environment and community."



Tom Dean sits at the desk of nature writer Sigurd F. Olson in Ely, Minn. (Submitted)

As a child, Dean poured over his mother's encyclopedia set from the 1940s. Reading about various towns was of particular interest. At Northern Illinois University at DeKalb, Ill., where he earned bachelor's degrees in music history and English and a master's in English, he became interested in Midwestern regionalism. He also developed an interest in environmental studies and nature writing. "All were coalescing to the idea of being connected to place," Dean savs.

In "Under the Midland Sky," Dean writes about many topics familiar to Midwesterners, such as "Embracing Humidity," and specifically to those living in Eastern Iowa. For example, his essay "Farewell to Denny" revolves around being a "weather geek" and his lifelong relationship to local news meteorologists, including the sadness he felt in 2006 when longtime KCRG-TV Channel 9's weatherman Denny Frary retired. Dean refers to Frary as a "minister of place" and how, because of Frary's departure, "our place will never be quite the same, either, at least for me."

"News, Atmospheric and Metastatic" is a powerful essay that ties in weather events, like flash floods and heat waves, with the death of his mother and his own experience with testicular cancer in 1996.

Writing about such personal things can be frightening, Dean admits, but it serves as a vehicle for his "mission:" to talk about the importance of being committed to place.

"There's plenty of autobiography and memoir that's self indulging," he says. "I want to avoid that. I don't think my story is any more important than

anyone else's." By writing, though, he hopes to demonstrate that "everybody's story is important and deep, even if it's just an everyday life."

Dean says that when he teaches Introduction to Place Studies, he considers three important questions: Who am I? What am I going to do? Where am I? The latter receives little attention in our culture or our educational systems, he maintains. Dean believes that we have a responsibility to care for the natural environment, but that can only happen if people feel connected to it.

Dean believes Iowans have a strong pride in being Iowan, a strong sense of what it means to be Midwestern and a strong literary and artistic tradition "expressing who we are as a people."

ones pushing them out the door.

here."

Dean hopes his writings will help readers who are from the Midwest feel connected to and appreciative of where they are from. "There are great and wonderful things here," he says.

## "We have this prejudice that only oceans and mountains" matter.

"I hope to reveal the wonder and beauty of the Midwest and even of the everyday. I haven't convinced a whole lot of people about the humidity," he cracks.

about the Midwest.

"We have this prejudice that only oceans and mountains" matter, he says. He invites people to "come out here and see the fields, see the gentle hills" and understand that they can be "just as wondrous as an ocean." Dean has had great feedback on his book.

"People say, 'Yes, this is how I feel but I didn't have the words to express it.' He believes his skills as a keen observer developed through his love and study

That's very rewarding when I feel I'm expressing what others think and feel." of literature and music. "You have to pay attention to detail" when you are studying literature, he says, and when you play an instrument, you "have to dig into the details and individual notes and play them over and over."

instead the ugliness.<sup>3</sup>

Another book already is taking shape for Dean. The working title: Rock, Soil, Water. He also hopes to inspire others not just to think about place and their connection to it, but to write their stories as well. Dean teaches at the Johnson County Senior Center and through the Iowa Summer Writing Festival.

"I think a place will not flourish, a community will not flourish, unless the community is connected. It can't just be an individual proposition. It's a part of community building and a part of place building. It's a way for people to discover their own connection."

On the other hand, Iowans have an "infamous modesty" that says they're not all that important. While Iowans lament the departure of their young people, who leave to live and work in other places, Dean points out that Iowans often are the

"We've had a tendency to encourage young people to get the hell out of

He hopes to overcome stereotypes that people outside the region might have

He is also an optimist who is "always looking for greatness in something



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CIDE



# healthy living Visits with the Amish

## Sustainable farming, living are hallmarks of the plain life

By Linda Egenes

olden sunlight stretches wide over the Iowa hayfields in early September. At the Yoder farm near Bloomfield, a girl waves a hearty hello.

This is Regina, age 15. Besides household chores, she and her older sister Annie milk their family's cows and drive a team of horses in the fields.

The girls laugh merrily when they talk. "Some people think we are twins, especially when we dress the same," says Annie with a laugh. Today they wear identical raspberry-colored dresses, white aprons, and royal blue scarves tied under their chins.

Both say they'd rather spend their day in the fields than inside the house. "I think it's great fun to work out," says Regina.

"I feel more free outside," agrees Annie in her mild way. "Farm-work doesn't have to be done so fine and neat as needlework."

Their day starts at 6 a.m., when their father wakes up the eight children who still live at home. Before breakfast, the girls feed the cows while their father and 22-year-old brother, Dan, feed the horses. All four help with the milking, then Dan goes off to work as a carpenter.

The 12 black-and-white spotted Holsteins all look identical to me, but the girls befriended Jody, Joline, Vera, Abby, Shirley, Tina, Sheila, Fannie, and Pam when they were calves and call each one by name. Honey Lou and Sunny Sue, two fawn-colored Jerseys munching on hay in the corner, complete their herd.

Do the cows ever kick?

"Some people's cows do kick, but ours don't," says Regina. "If they start to kick, we give them a little slap and they learn they can't do that." Hobbles - clamps that gently draw the cow's hind legs together just above the knee keep the cows quiet during milking.

Sometimes the girls do get stepped on, which is not too serious. "It hurts for about five minutes, and that's all there is to it," says Regina.

Inside the barn I meet two colts, Dawn and Beauty. Regina pats Beauty on the lips, who bares her teeth in a jack-o'-lantern smile. "I like to tease her," says Regina mischievously. "She bit me the other day, just to be playful. Boy, did that hurt."

An immense black stallion stands in the stall across from the colts. "He's gentle," Regina reassures me as she strokes his forehead between soft black eyes.



it up.'

Suddenly three wide-eyed children appear. Robert, David and Grace, aged seven, 10 and 12, just drove home from their one-room school in an open pony cart. They show me how to hitch it up. Like a well-trained team, Robert and David pull the cart out of the shed while Grace slips the bridle on Midnight, their pony, and backs her in between the cart's shafts. In one minute, thanks to teamwork, it's ready to go.

Annie takes me for a ride. The wind blows in our faces. Annie likes riding in a cart better than a buggy, she says, "because it's more open, more free." We pass the grassy pasture where the Yoders' cows and horses graze peacefully. With just a slight tug, Midnight turns around.

Back on the farm, I notice the family's three black, covered buggies stored in an open shed. Annie and Regina have driven their family's covered buggies to town or to visit friends "since we were big enough to read up and put the bridle on the horse," says Annie.

The family owns two Standard Bred geldings to pull the buggies and nine big-boned Percheron mares to plow the fields. Both girls love to mow the hay fields with a team of two mares. "If you like horses, you like to do things with them," says Annie.

"Driving a workhorse is even more fun than driving a gelding, because they're more powerful," says Regina. "When you drive a team, you just feel content. Except you have to watch to make sure you're at the row you should be and the mower doesn't get jammed up."

The geldings and massive draft horses are easy to handle and calm, the girls tell me. "We do have one pony that is kind of skittish," says Regina. "So only Dad or Dan (her older brother) rides him."

more fun to ride bareback."

The sun slips low on the horizon by the time the cows are in their stalls. In a graceful motion, Annie swings the hobble chain under a cow named Sheila and fastens it just above the knees, drawing them together.

"Usually, you milk cows on the right side," Annie says. But since Sheila is a two-bucket cow, the girls place their stools on opposite sides of Sheila, clutch shiny metal pails between their legs, and pull the cow's teats with both hands in brisk rhythm. Frothy milk splashes into the buckets.

"Want to try?" Annie asks. I do, but when I squeeze the cow's udder, there's barely a trickle. Annie laughs and makes milk squirt like a faucet.

clear and sweet, perfectly on key. "There are no shadows without the sunshine. There are no showers when all is fair. And roses blooming in thorny places with sweetest fragrance perfume the air."

Excerpted from "Visits with the Amish: Impressions of the Plain Life," which recently has been re-released by the University of Iowa Press. The book is available online and in local bookstores. The author will speak at 7 p.m. May 18 at the Fairfield (Iowa) Public Library, 104 W. Adams. To schedule a talk, contact Linda Egenes at laegenes@gmail.com.

**Radish** 8

"He helps us clean the barn in winter by pulling the manure spreader while we pile

Soon it's 5 p.m. and time for Regina to round up the horses and cows from the pasture. Barefoot, she rides Midnight without a saddle, because "Dad says it's

They like to sing while milking. A plaintive hymn floats in the air, voices





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"HITTING THE TARGET"

# healthy living The early risers

## Recipes for enjoying the first foods at farmers' markets

### By Darcy Maulsby

 $\Lambda$  fter a long, cold winter, few things can compare to finding the first firm, Aslender spears of asparagus, tender, crisp leaves of lettuce, and rich, red stalks of rhubarb at the local farmers' market.

"People are really ready for fresh food this time of year, and there are so many great options at area farmers' markets," said Morgan Hoenig, a vegetable grower who manages the farmers' market that opens May 16 in Mount Pleasant, Iowa.

Options in the Midwest can include radishes, Swiss chard, spinach, lettuce, cabbage, arugula, collard greens, rhubarb and asparagus. Hoenig, who runs MoGo Organic and has been selling produce at the farmers' market for three years, likes to use lettuce in salads and Asian spring rolls, while Swiss chard works well in salads and calzones.

"I like to grow pretty plants," added Hoenig, who raises unusual varieties like "Yugoslavian Red" butterhead lettuce and gets many of her seeds from Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, Iowa.

"Food tastes better when it looks good, too," she says.

Hoenig opened up her recipe box to share some of her favorite spring recipes.



Roasted Garlic Salad Dressing. (Photos by Paul Colletti / Radish)

**Radish** 10

### Lemon-Roasted Asparagus

1 lemon 1 pound asparagus 1 tablespoon olive oil Salt and pepper

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Grate the zest and squeeze the juice from the lemon. Place asparagus in a single layer on a baking sheet. Drizzle with oil and roll asparagus on pan to coat. Sprinkle with lemon zest, salt and pepper. Roast 5 to 7 minutes, turn for even cooking, and roast for 2 to 4 more minutes. Drizzle with 1 teaspoon lemon juice and serve.

### Yoaurt Dill Salad Dressina

- 1 teaspoon olive oil 1 tablespoon minced dill 1/2 teaspoon dried oregano 1 to 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Salt and pepper, to taste 2 teaspoons lemon juice  $1\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons honey <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup plain yogurt

Blend all ingredients but the yogurt in a blender or food processor. Stir into yogurt and serve.

### Poppyseed Salad Dressing

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup sugar 1 teaspoon mustard powder 1 teaspoon salt <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup vinegar

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> onion, minced 1 cup vegetable oil <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tablespoon poppy seeds

Whisk all ingredients or mix in a blender. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.

### **Roasted Garlic Salad Dressina**

- 10 to 12 garlic cloves, unpeeled 1 cup olive oil <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup balsamic vinegar <sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup water
- 1 teaspoon salt <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> teaspoon pepper 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

In a small, heavy skillet, roast the unpeeled garlic cloves over medium heat, turning them occasionally. Cook the garlic for 10 to 15 minutes until it is soft and covered with dark spots. Test doneness of garlic by pressing with a spoon. If juices squirt through the skin, remove from pan. Allow garlic cloves to cool, then peel off the skins.

In a blender, puree the garlic with the oil, vinegar, water, salt, pepper and mustard until smooth. Dressing will keep for a couple of weeks in the refrigerator.



Mix radishes, carrots, soy sauce, vinegar, brown sugar and oil. Cover and let marinate in refrigerator for at least an hour. Serve on a bed of lettuce. Serves 4.

### Southern-Style Collard Greens

2 pounds collard greens, chopped 1 medium onion, sliced or chopped 1 ham hock or 6 slices cooked bacon

Clean and wash greens; remove tough stems and ribs. Chop greens and place in a deep pot; add onion. Wash ham hock and add to the pot. Add red pepper and salt. Add enough water to cover greens and cook until tender, about 1 hour. Taste and adjust seasonings. Serve with sliced tomato and corn bread.

## Rhubarb Strawberry Toppina

This sauce recipe from the University of Illinois Extension Service is excellent as a topping for ice cream, pancakes, waffles, pound cake, a bowl of fresh fruit, gingerbread or yogurt. It will keep in the refrigerator up to 4 days.

10 stalks rhubarb, trimmed and cu into 1-inch pieces

4 cups hulled, quartered strawberri  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups sugar

In a large heavy saucepan, combine all ingredients and stir well. Bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Reduce heat and simmer for 10 to 12 minutes, skimming off foam as it collects. Remove from heat and allow sauce to cool to room temperature. Cover and refrigerate. Serve cold or warm. Reheat if desired. Makes 8 cups.

For more recipes, turn to Resources, page 38, or visit radishmagazine.com.

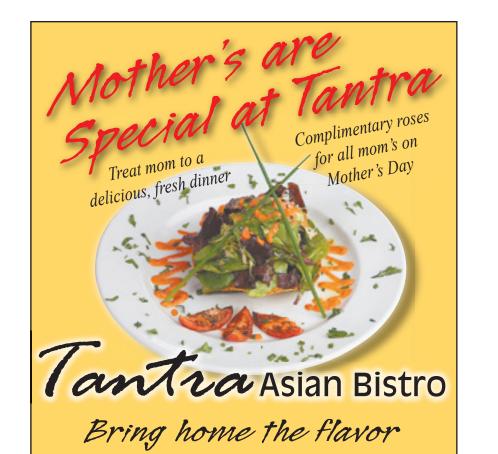


### **Radish Salad**

1/2 cup radishes, sliced 1 carrot, thinly sliced 1 tablespoon soy sauce 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar 1 teaspoon brown sugar 1 teaspoon oil 1/2 teaspoon hot pepper sauce (optional) 2 cups lettuce, chopped

1 teaspoon crushed red pepper 2 to 3 teaspoons kosher salt

lt	1 cup orange juice
	Zest of one orange, grated
ies	Zest of one lemon, grated
	1⁄2 teaspoon vanilla extract



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# eating well Spring clean your diet

## Eat whole grains, drink more water and add some fish

By Stacy Mitchell, RD, LD

Spring is a great time not only to clean up your surroundings but also your plate. Add the following foods to your diet to amp up your health.

**Think whole.** Let's look at your food. What types of whole grains are in your diet? Many items may say "whole wheat," "wheat" or "multigrain" on the front of the package, but that does not necessarily mean they have a higher nutritional value. Don't be fooled. Turn the package over and look at the ingredients. Make sure either the first or second ingredient is whole wheat flour. The word "whole" tells you that the product is made with all three parts of grain, including fiber-rich bran, endosperm (which contains some B vitamins) and the germ, which is a nutrient powerhouse. If you see the word "enriched" as the first ingredient, then you are losing the fiber-rich bran and the germ.

Let's take it a step further. How about trying a new grain? Have you ever tried barley, wheat berries, bulgur or even quinoa (keen-wah)? These grains pack a lot of nutrition and are a great source of fiber along with iron, B vitamins and minerals.

**Try something new.** We all know fruits and veggies are packed full of good nutrients for you, but many of us seem to come up short in our servings each day. So here is a challenge for you: Try a new fruit or vegetable this week. Go to the grocery store or farmers' market and find an item that you have never tried before. Some of my favorites include jicama (he-ka-ma), broccoli slaw, spaghetti squash, pummelos and tangelos.

Get great omega-3s. Let's not forget about those heart-healthy omega-3 fats These essential fatty acids are important in the diet for both the young and old. Omega-3 fats can help stop blood platelets from "clumping" together and sticking to the artery walls and help keep arteries flexible. There also has been research showing that omega-3 fats may help lower triglyceride levels. The American Heart Association recommends eating at least two servings of fish each week and getting the omega-3 fatty acids from fish, not from fish oil capsules. For children, omega-3 fats from fish are brain food! Studies continue to show the positive effects that omega-3 fats have on brain development.

Omega-3 fats can be found in fatty fish, such as salmon, tuna, mackerel, bluefish, herring, lake trout and sardines. Some of my favorites are salmon and mahi mahi burgers, and frozen marinated teriyaki salmon and lemon-herbed tilapia. So delicious!

**Radish** 12



Dietitian Stacy Mitchell shows off healthy foods. (Photo by John Greenwood /Radish)

You also can get omega-3 fats from a variety of plant sources including canola oil, walnuts, walnut oil, flax seed, omega-enriched eggs, wheat germ and soy foods. However, the body has to convert the omega-3 fats in plant foods first, so you get fewer omega-3 fats from plant foods than you do from fish.

My new favorite plant source of omega-3 fats are chia seeds. Check out our pumpkin-chia muffin recipe on hy-vee.com.

Drink water. Along with these nutrient-packed foods, beverages may be overlooked in our diet. Do you get at least 64 ounces of water each day? For many people, it may be difficult to drink so much water, so they may overcompensate on soda, juice, coffee and other flavored beverages. According to studies, calories from liquids such as soft drinks, sports beverages or sweetened tea don't seem to register as food.

Be aware of the portion sizes of beverages. A king-sized soft drink can contain up to 500 calories. In addition to the sugar and calories, soft drinks also are high in caffeine and affect the body's use of calcium, which may lead to weak bones.

There's no time like the present to enhance your diet for health. After all, swimsuit season is just around the corner!

## community

## Market madness! Area farmers' markets celebrate spring with special events

### By Radish staff

As farmers' market season takes off, a bevy of good Atimes — not to mention good, healthy buys await shoppers. Here's what's going on around the region this spring.

• The Bettendorf (Iowa) Farmers' Market, 2117 State St., will host a Mother's Appreciation Day with free gifts for moms from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 9. The Spring Fling, from 8 a.m. to noon on Thursday, June 11, will include face-painting for the kids, free balloons and ice cream, and free books from the solar-powered S.M.A.R.T. Bus.

• The Davenport Farmers' Market, 320 W. Kimberly Road, will host a Mother's Appreciation Shoppers check out the veggies at the Freight Day from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 9. All House Farmers' Market moms who come to the market will be treated to a free continental breakfast. Other special events in May file photo. at the Davenport Farmers' Market will include a visit with the greyhounds from Quad Cities Greyhound Adoption from 8 a.m. to noon on Wednesday, May 13; and on Saturday, May 16, Quad-Cities author Gary Metivier will read from his book, "A Hog Ate My Homework." During the event, kids can pet a real potbellied pig.

• The Fairfield (Iowa) Farmers' Market, in Howard Park, will ring in the season from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on its opening day, Saturday, May 2, with a May Day Festival. Shoppers can participate in a traditional May pole dance at 10 a.m., and they'll have the chance to make May baskets, too. On Saturday, May 9, the market will provide supplies for kids to make cards for their moms for Mother's Day.

• The Freight House Farmers' Market, 421 W. River Drive, Davenport, will kick off the outdoor season from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 2. Beginning at 8 a.m., 500 reusable market totes will be given away. A brass band will perform from 10 a.m. to noon.

bished loading dock.

• The Galesburg (Illinois) Farmers' Market, held in the parking lot on Simmons Street between Seminary and Kellogg streets, will hold a Mother's Appreciation Day from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 9. The first 100 moms to visit the market will receive a free flower from the Galesburg Flower Company. • The Mount Pleasant (Iowa) Farmers' Market will celebrate its grand opening in a brand-new location under two permanent pavilions from 3 p.m. to dark on Tuesday, May 12, at Moultrie Middle School on Coleman Boulevard. The event will include live entertainment and a kids' corner with activities for children • The Twin City Market, 106 Avenue A., Sterling, Ill., will host a Summer Kickoff Cookout from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 6.



in Davenport in this 2008

On May 9 for Mother's Day, children can decorate a flower pot and plant a marigold, and moms and their daughters are invited to a dress-up tea on the refur



## Fresh Grape Salsa

- All you need: 1 c. seedless green grapes, roughly chopped
- 1 c. seedless red grapes, roughly chopped
- 3 tbsp chopped red onion
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro
- Itbsp seeded, chopped jalapeño pepper\*
- 2 tbsp fresh lime juice
- salt and pepper, to taste

Nutrition information per serving: Calories: 41; Carbohydrate: 11g; Cholesterol: Omg; Dietary Fiber: 1g; Fat: Og; Protein: Og; Saturated Fat: Og; Sodium: 2mg

All you do:

- 1. In medium bowl combine grapes, onion, cilantro, jalapeño and lime juice. Cover and
- chill at least 30 minutes.
- 2. Season with salt and pepper to taste. 3. Serve with chips or grilled chicken, fish or pork.
- 4. \*Use caution when handling hot peppers. Wear disposable gloves or wash hands thoroughly in hot soapy water afterward.

## May is Salsa Month

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## good business

# Heavenly Organics

## Sweetly sustainable sugar and honey from small farms

### By Donna Schill

My first encounter with Heavenly Organics was while I was working at a spe-cialty store called the At Home Store on the downtown square in Fairfield, Iowa. We had new products in — three kinds of honey from a local company, Heavenly Organics. The Himalayan Raw Honey quickly became my favorite, swirling smoothly upon my spoon and spreading malleably over my tongue with a light and fragrant flavor.

The story of Amit Hooda, who is president of Heavenly Organics, was beginning to spread around town, and I decided to learn more. I had a chance to speak with Hooda himself, and I learned not only of his beginnings, but of why each product he sells is unique.

They say that sometimes one must travel far to discover what is right in front of him. This was definitely true for Hooda. He grew up in a country known for its virgin rain forests teeming with wild-growing medicinal herbs. Born and raised in Northern India, Hooda had his own free-roaming dairy cow in the backyard, a sprawling garden full of sustainable produce and a renowned organic agronomist for a father. When it came time for college, he found himself in the plains of Iowa at Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, where he sought a master's in computer programming and a good job in the United States.



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During a required business course in which students designed their own business plans, Hooda was reminded of his childhood in Northern India. He came up with a plan for his own organic food company, drawing upon the experience of his father.

Since before Hooda was born, his father, Dr. Ishwar Singh Hooda, dedicated himself to helping hundreds of farmers in India and parts of Asia to preserve their traditional and sustainable methods while making a living wage. His son explained to me the situation of rural farmers in India.

"Small farmers using traditional methods are very unfortunate. They are the members of society left behind-left to starve."

The elder Hooda has been working hard to change that. He has helped small family farmers find markets for their products, connecting them with five-star hotels. The hotel restaurants benefits from local, fresh produce, and the farmers get a reliable income. He also worked with the Indian government to subsidize farmers using traditional methods.

His son found himself with a business plan that tied right back in to the cause he grew up with. He decided to put aside a job offer in computer programming and pursue his business with organic sweeteners.

"I realized that starting this business would be a good cause for me," Hooda says, adding, "I want to make a contribution to society."

Heavenly Organics now has been running successfully for five years and its products are in more than 300 stores nationwide, including Whole Foods.

"At Heavenly Organics, we have respect for honey bees as our planet's prime pollinators, responsible for the biodiversity of any farm or garden," Hooda says.

India's wild-growing medicinal herbs afford health benefits to each honey, correlating with the land it was harvested in. This land never has had chemicals put on its soil, is certified organic through a French organics certification firm (ECOCERT), is harvested in a sustainable fashion, and is purchased from farmers at a higher than market price. Unlike most methods that squeeze the entire hive, Heavenly Organics methods are cruelty-free because the company takes only the portion of the hive that holds ripe, pure honey.

The sugar sold by Heavenly Organics is unique as an organic sweetener because it's not processed with synthetic chemicals like other organic sugars. The farmers practice a unique method of using herbs instead of chemicals to process the sugar and a sun-drying method to maintain its vitality. The process creates a sugar that dissolves slowly into the bloodstream and doesn't spike blood sugar like refined white sugar does. It is good for the digestion and respiratory systems. It also tastes good and promotes the greater good. What could be better?

Heavenly Organics is sold at Hy-Vee stores; the New Pioneer Coop in Iowa City; and Everybody's, Golden Dome Market, and the At Home Store in Fairfield. For more information, visit heavenlyorganics.com or call (866) 923-2184.

## **May 2: Grand Opening** Freight House Year Round Indoor/Outdoor Farmers Market





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### May 9: Celebrate Mother's Day at Market

encouraged to decorate a flower pot with stickers, etc. and plant a marigold plant for their Mom's as a unique gift that will educate as well. Friends of the Market are planning a "tea" on the loading dock complete with real tea cups and linens. encouraged to dress the part with hats

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## growers

# Beyond sustainability

## Leopold Center awards grazier with Spencer Award

### By Natalie Askren

In Steve Reinart's mind, sustainable agriculture has the wrong name. He suggests a different one.

"It should be called regenerative agriculture," he said. " 'Sustainable,' to me, is simply doing no additional harm, while 'regenerative' improves the soil and ecosystems."

He lives what he preaches on his 500-acre operation with seed stock cattle and grass-finished organic beef, which makes the Glidden, Iowa grazier fully deserving of the Spencer Award that he recently received from the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture in Ames. The award was established in 2002 to honor those who have made substantial contributions to the stability of mainstream family farms in the state.

Reinart's practices differ from those of most in his field: He relies on grazing and forages for his cattle's nourishment. Not alone in using this method, he regularly gets together with others who also practice holistic management, an approach to grazing that blends land use with natural processes. "We bounce ideas off each other," he said. "If I don't think something is going to meet my holistic goal, I won't use it."

Beyond raising cattle, Reinart is instrumental in the well-being of wildlife in his area and incorporates many shelterbelts (windbreaks), wetlands and ponds into his farming acreage. These improvements helped him qualify in 2005 for Tier III payments for the highest level of conservation practices under the Conservation Security Program.

On his farm, Reinart has some Composite and Black Angus cattle, but his focus and main operation is with Red Angus. "That's the breed I want to settle on eventually," he explained. "They're more heat tolerant and do more of the things I want them to do." He selects for breeding traits such as fertility, longevity and the ability to produce tender and marbled meat.

Reinart was born in Iowa and is a 1964 graduate of Carroll Kuemper High School. The fall after his graduation, Reinart participated in a winter-quarter farm operations class at Iowa State University. The following fall, he was drafted into the Army and served in Vietnam.

In 1973, Reinart took over his father's farm. At that time, he mostly operated the conventional way. Around 1975, his uneasiness with conventional farming took hold and he began planting native grasses on his farm, seeing their benefits for wildlife and admiring the way they work as a throwback to how Iowa once was.

"I'm thinking the past forward, taking the best from the past," Reinart said. By 1981, he had transitioned the farm to native and cool-season grasses for grazing.

The name of his operation, Reinart's Prairie Reds, came about seven years ago because he needed a name for advertising and an e-mail address. He was certified



Steve Reinart raises cattle on his farm in Glidden, Iowa. (Submitted)

organic three years ago. It was an easy process for Reinart since he had always avoided insecticides and herbicides.

"I've been living the lifestyle forever, so that's why I could jump in immediately," he said.

Reinart has served on the Carroll County Conservation Board and the Carroll County Soil and Water Conservation District. He was honored the Ruth Wagner Award as the state's outstanding assistant commissioner in 2006. More recently, Reinart has helped the conservation board acquire property and create Reinart's Bend conservation area along the North Raccoon River south of Lanesboro. He also is on the boards of directors for the Iowa Forage and Grassland Council and M&M Divide RC&D, and has worked on efforts to establish a community market in Carroll, Iowa. He is a member of Practical Farmers of Iowa, too.

Reinart believes that sustainable agriculture should be an integral part of the way farmers think, and that no one should have to receive an award as encouragement to carry out what he and others are practicing.

"We're so blessed to be able to do these things and work with the land," he said.

This story originally appeared in the Leopold Letter, a quarterly publication of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture. It is reprinted here with permission.





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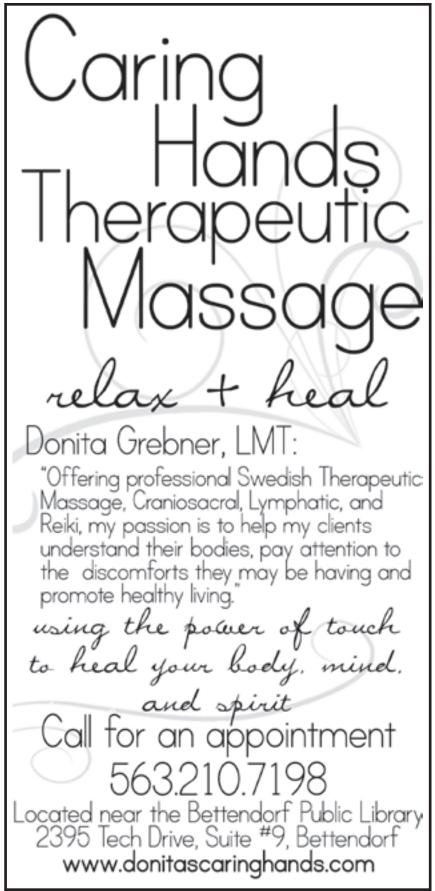
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## food

# Strawberry love

## Recipes for tempting fruits from one smitten chef

## By Chef Donna Duvall

" noubtless God could have made a better berry ... but doubtless God never **D**did." That often-repeated line just about sums it up. What could be more tempting than a sun-warmed, jewel-red strawberry fresh from the garden or farmers' market? To make it even sweeter, this delectable fruit is a powerhouse of nutrition. A serving of strawberries provides more vitamin C than an orange, plus fiber, folate, potassium and antioxidants, all at only 55 calories per cup. Is it any wonder that 94 percent of Americans eat strawberries?

Strawberries are members of the rose family and are the only fruit with seeds on the outside. However, botanically speaking, strawberries are not true berries, but pseudocarps, or false fruit, with their "seeds" being the true fruit. Each beautiful berry has 200 seeds, or more correctly, fruits, on its luscious exterior.

Strawberries have a long history, going back more than 2,000 years. They grew wild in Italy and were enjoyed by the Romans. In medieval times, they were served at important functions to bring peace and prosperity.

But why are they called strawberries? There is a legend that 19th century English children picked the berries, placed them on grass straws, and sold them as "straws of berries." Another theory goes back 1,000 years to when straw was strewn around the plants to protect the ripening fruit, thus the plants were called strewberries, which over time became strawberries.

Strawberries are best the day they are picked but will keep for several days in the refrigerator. They should be covered with plastic wrap and refrigerated. Keep the caps on berries until ready to use, and rinse berries just before serving or preparing. To freeze strawberries, place them in a single layer on a sheet pan, then transfer them to plastic containers or freezer bags.



Brandy Welvaert / Radish

### **Balsamic Strawberries**

2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar 2 tablespoons red wine 1/2 cup sugar 2 tablespoons butter 4 cups strawberries, halved 4 scoops vanilla ice cream

Combine balsamic vinegar, red wine and sugar in a sauté pan. Bring to a boil and reduce by half; turn heat to low and stir in butter.

Add strawberries and stir until just warmed. Serve over ice cream. Serves 4.

### Strawberry Honey Butter

<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup strawberries, sliced  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup butter, very soft 2 tablespoons honey

Place all ingredients in a mixer with the whip attached. Mix until strawberries are well incorporated

and butter is creamy. Store in the refrigerator. Allow to come to room temperature before serving. Serve on toast, biscuits or scones. Yield: 1 cup.

## Strawberry Salsa (above)

3 cups fresh strawberries, chopped 1 cup green pepper, chopped 3 tablespoons green onions, chopped 3 tablespoons cilantro, chopped Half a jalapeno, chopped 1 tablespoon honey

Juice of half a lime Salt and pepper, to taste

Mix all ingredients together in a bowl. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours. Serve with grilled fish or chicken, or with tortilla chips. Yield: 4 cups.

All recipes created and tested by Chef Donna Duvall. For more recipes, visit radishmagazine.com.







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# healthy living Hey, good lookin'

## Beautiful blooms pack a powerful punch

### By Barbara Pleasant, from Mother Earth News

We value beauty for its own sake, yet many colorful flowers have much to offer beyond their good looks. Some can be used medicinally, others are good to eat, and many provide food and habitat for beneficial insects. Give multipurpose flowers a bit of space in your garden and prepare to be amazed at what they can do for your health, your palate and your spirits.

## Calendula (Calendula officinalis)

Whether you prefer your calendulas orange, yellow or somewhere in between, all are easy to grow in cool weather and bloom for weeks or months if you remove seedheads before they mature. Many cooks snip calendula petals into eggs or rice as "poor man's saffron," and chickens fed calendula flowers lay eggs with darker yellow yolks. Calendulas make great cut flowers, but their greatest use may be in topical oils or creams for burned or injured skin.



## Garlic Chives (Allium tuberosum)

A culinary herb and a beautiful flower, young garlic chive leaves can be used in salads or sprinkled over potatoes. Garlic chives often are included in perennial display gardens, too, where they bloom from late summer to early fall and attract many beneficial insects. You need not worry that they smell like garlic because garlic chive blossoms have a light lilac scent. It's a good idea to remove spent flowers to keep them from shedding too many seeds and becoming invasive. If you can't bear to take them from your garden, gather them up just as their black seeds harden and thresh in

a paper bag. Then you can sprout them and enjoy their zingy flavor on salads and sandwiches in winter, when fresh pickings from the garden are in short supply.

### Sunflower (Helianthus annuus)

Sunflower varieties are diverse, and you can choose between tall, upright forms, bushy, branching varieties and others that have been bred for pollen-free cut flowers. Sunflowers are easy to grow, though it's important to remember that they are phototropic plants that will twist around until they face the direction from which sunlight is strongest. Choosing among dozens of varieties can be a challenge too, but not if you focus on your goal. Want a towering giant? Try 12- to 14-foottall 'Sunzilla' or 'Titan.' Tall varieties also tend to produce large, easily hulled seeds for snacking.

### Nasturtium (Tropaeolum majus)

Nasturtiums are so easy to grow that they are recommended for children's gardens. Nasturtium leaves and flowers are edible, too. Softly fragrant nasturtium flowers have a mild peppery-sweet flavor, but the leaves are much spicier. They taste like watercress and contain 10 times the vitamin C found in most types of lettuce.

### Day Lily (Hemerocallis species)

Day lilies have big, delicious buds that you can eat. Day lily buds are a marvelous little vegetable. Imagine the tenderness of asparagus combined with the savory flavor of a baby snap bean, and you have a pan-braised day lily bud. Pick them just before they open and cook in a little olive oil until they caramelize to a brown color (less than five minutes). You can eat opened day lily flowers, too, but remove the stamens before you slice the petals into your salad. Day lily buds, flowers and even young leaves have been eaten and used as medicine in China for thousands of years. Confucius recommended consuming day lilies to ease the pain of grief, and recent research at Michigan State University's Bioactive Natural Products and Phytoceuticals Lab has revealed that day lily petals are loaded with an array of antioxidant compounds, which help prevent cancer and the effects of aging.

Echinacea

(Echinacea purpurea)

echinacea is easy to grow, and the

blossoms are frequented by bees and

to make your own immune system-

study published in the New England

Journal of Medicine a few years ago

that reported echinacea was not effec-

tive against a common cold virus, but

enhancing medicine. There was a

butterflies. You also can use echinacea

Often called purple coneflower,



follow-up points made by the American Botanical Council indicated that the dose used in the study was one-third of what it should have been. To decide for yourself and make an echinacea tincture, harvest the plants in the fall by uprooting them and pulling apart the crowns. Scrub the seeds clean, air dry them for a day, then

chop them up and put them in a clean glass jar with a few leaves from the plant. Cover everything with 100-proof vodka, screw on the cap and let it steep for three weeks before straining it. By then, a drop of the stuff on your tongue should leave a tingly numb spot — evidence that the polysaccharides and other compounds in the echinacea have turned the vodka into a true tincture.

## Lavender (Lavandula species)

Lavender has been used in aromatherapies since the time of the Roman Empire, and there are numerous named varieties, most of which are winter-hardy. Scientists have validated its relaxing effects on guinea pigs and lab rats. To help calm geriatric patients, several nursing homes have reported good results from diffusing lavender oil into the air at bedtime. In the garden, you don't have to wait for the appearance of flowers to enjoy lavender's fragrance because the leaves give off a burst of aroma when crushed. When lavender plants bloom in early summer, bees are as drawn to the flowers as are gardeners. Dried lavender stems hold some fragrance for several months.

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## outdoors

# Take a hike

## There's plenty to see at Starved Rock

## By April Maher

Along the mighty Illinois River near Utica, Ill., hikers will find fun at Starved Rock and Matthiessen State Parks.

The three provide plenty of outdoor recreation activities for the entire family. The heart of Starved Rock is its lodge built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Inside, the Great Hall provides an impressive introduction to what lies ahead. Stepping outside onto the veranda, visitors get a glimpse of what the park has to offer.

Of course, the major attraction at Starved Rock is hiking. The 13 miles of hiking trails (and many stairs) lead to the high points of Starved Rock itself, to Lover's Leap and into the lower canyons. There are 18 canyons in the park. French Canyon is reached by following a short, 0.7-mile trail toward the mossy-layered, sandstone cliffs, which descend 50 feet. At the trail's end, we were able to navigate the narrow passageway and trickling stream to enter the compact canyon.

After a heavy rain, waterfalls become a major reason to visit Starved Rock. It is a mystical trade-off for hikers as the short-lived cascades prevent hiking into the canyon.

There are 16 well-marked trails at Starved Rock. Many of them are divided into very doable sections. Five are less than one mile in length (one way), and the friendly visitor center staff can provide trail maps and sound advice.

Camping at Starved Rock State Park Family Campground is available yearround with 133 campsites situated in two loops. Campsites in loop 1 (numbered 1-55) are more open and grassy, while the loop 2 campsites (56-133) are more wooded. All the campsites have electricity. Five generously sized, paved campsites are available for campers with disabilities. Only 25 campsites are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations are strongly recommended between May and October, as sites fill up fast.

We camped at the park, but noncamping friends can hit the sack in one of 92 rooms at the lodge's hotel. Rooms start around \$100 a night.

Before you go, let the kids check out the Web site, starvedrocklodge.com, to help plan the trip. Most Friday nights, free live music is offered, and waterfall and canyon tours are offered on weekends. On May 16 and 17, visitors can enjoy the 5th Annual Honor the Eagle Pow-Wow, which will include dancing, drumming, storytelling and events for kids.

A steaming cup of creamy hot chocolate hit the spot the chilly weekend we visited. When we asked for extra whipped cream, the server didn't flinch. Customer service and comfort food head the menu in the lodge's expansive main dining room that seats up to 200 people and is open seven days a week. Breakfast, snacks and specialty drinks are available from the Starved Rock Cafe, and burgers and beers are par for the course at the Back Door Lounge.

Fishing also is available at Starved Rock, and boats may be launched into the Illinois River from the west end of the park. Catfish, bullhead, white bass, sauger, walleye, carp and crappie are plentiful.

Nearby Matthiessen State Park is smaller and less crowded than its big sister park. The main event at Matthiessen is its reconstructed fort. One interesting walking tour takes the visitor to the Upper Dells and continues to Cascade Falls, where the canyon drops 45 feet toward where the Lower Dells begins. The canyon is one mile long and includes a rock formation called Giant's Bathtub.

Accessible to visitors to either park are 13 miles of equestrian trails and nearby stables that rent horses along Illinois 71 and 1/2-mile east of Illinois 78.

For more information, visit starvedrocklodge.com or call (800) 868-7625.



French Canyon is a popular hiker's destination at Starved Rock State Park near Utica, III. Heavy spring rains create waterfalls in the park. (Photo by April Maher)





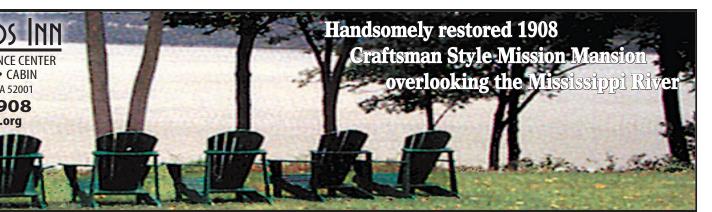




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# body, mind & soul A Massage Oasis

## Human touch heals hospital patients and their families

By Ann Scholl Rinehart

Radish 24

Daureen Hoverson's 8-year-old son Dawson couldn't take it any longer as he watched his mother enjoy a chair massage at University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC) recently.

"Mom," he chided, "I should be the one getting a massage!"

True, Dawson has had a tough time since a toy sheriff's badge penetrated his eye in January 2008 after he rolled over onto it in bed. But the multiple trips to UIHC have proven stressful for his mother, too. Hoverson says she first noticed A Massage Oasis during a visit a week prior. This time, the Freemont, Neb., woman decided not just to walk by the station, located on level 2 at elevator L in the Pomerantz Family Pavilion. Instead, she signed up for a 15-minute massage — her first ever.

"I think it's wonderful," she said after the massage. "I feel good. I feel more awake now and less tensed up."

Such benefits of massage are becoming more and more well known, says Kristen Stephens, executive director of East-West School of Integrative Healing Arts in North Liberty, Iowa, and owner of A Massage Oasis. In addition to lowering stress and improving mood, Stephens says massage has been shown to reduce muscle pain, boost the immune system, lower blood pressure, enhance flexibility, relieve headaches, improve thinking and increase productivity.

"A hospital can be a physically and emotionally draining environment, so massage can provide much needed stress reduction and respite."



Carrie Eckermann gives a chair massage to Kelly Nissen at A Massage Oasis, Iowa City. (Photo by Ann Scholl Rinehart)

She's grateful that the UIHC was open to having a chair massage station in the hospital. The idea took root more than two years ago when Stephens was volunteering on the Women's Wellness Committee at the UIHC. At first, the idea was to offer massage to pregnant women, and then it took off. Why not let everyone benefit from massage?

"We believe that this amenity is reflective of our efforts to create a welcoming environment and to provide services that are responsive to the needs of our patients, visitors and staff," says Amy O'Deen, senior assistant director at UIHC. "It has proven to be a wonderful addition and complement to the array of support services we offer throughout the hospital."

The grand opening of A Massage Oasis was Jan. 5. By early March, more than 6,000 minutes of massage had been provided.

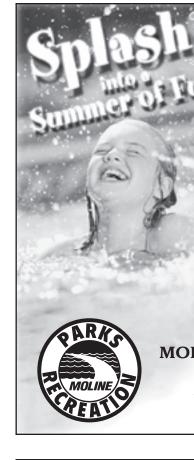
"I have heard many accolades and expressions of appreciation that this service is now available in the hospital," O'Deen says. "A hospital can be a physically and emotionally draining environment, so massage can provide much needed stress reduction and respite."

Social worker Kelly Nissen, A Massage Oasis regular, agrees. The 43-year-old woman often has shoulder and neck discomfort but can't always get a full massage. She appreciates being able to get some relief from her pain without leaving the hospital.

"I was pleased (UIHC) would look at something that's a nice complement to what we're already doing here," Nissen says.

Carrie Eckermann, a graduate of the North Liberty school, says that she loves giving massages in a hospital setting and "just seeing that they feel better when I'm finished with them, that they're going to walk away a little taller, a little more relaxed."

A Massage Oasis is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost is \$1 per minute. For more information, visit amassageoasis.com.







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# health & fitness Breaking through

## Bored with working out? Give tae kwon do a try

## By Sharon Wren

The first time I ever saw tae kwon do was when I took my son, Logan, to his first class. While many of the students were young enough to be my kids, there were adults in the class, too - adults I assumed had been practicing since they were old enough to walk. As Logan and I became regulars, they teased me about when I was going to start. Me? The stereotypically geeky kid who preferred books to exercise and would use any excuse to get out of gym? I'd been doing yoga for four years and figured that it would be the extent of my workouts. Besides, I'd tried running, lifting weights and workout tapes before and quickly got bored.

When I learned the order of belt colors white, yellow, orange, green, blue, red, brown, temporary black and black — I was surprised to discover that the adults I thought had been practicing tae kwon do since babyhood only had started a year or two earlier. I watched as they struggled to break boards with kicks that looked like they came from a Jackie Chan movie — and finally broke them with practice. Boy, wouldn't it be so cool to break a board?

Going to the tournament hosted by our school clinched it for me. Adults of all ages and ranks were competing, and when I saw an 80-year-old black belt snap a board, I was hooked. I became a white belt a week after the tournament, at age 40.

Fast-forward two years. Logan since has dropped out, but my other son, Tyler, is now a yellow belt. I'm a blue belt with the goal of becoming a black belt by the time I'm 50. I'm in the advanced class, but Tyler's still in the beginner class. Two nights a week we're at the dojang (practice hall) from about 5:15 until 7:30 p.m. Members of the advanced class often are asked to help out during the beginner class. When we're not lending a hand, we practice on our own, study terminology or trade Chuck Norris facts. ("When Chuck Norris does a push up, he doesn't push himself up. He pushes the Earth down.")

Respect is a huge part of tae kwon do, and yes, I do have to bow to people decades younger than myself and call them "ma'am" and "sir." It never bothers me because while I'm older, they're senior belts. When I bow, I'm showing respect to the tremendous amount of work they've put in at the dojang. Believe me, nobody just hands you your new rank: You work for it, and you work hard.



Tae kwon do blue belt Sharon Wren breaks a board. (Photo by John Greenwood / Radish)

A typical class starts with lots of stretching, followed by punches and kicks, then forms. Forms are sort of like choreographed dances made up of various kicks, blocks and punches. Promotion testing happens every other month at the home dojang, Chung Kim's Black Belt Academy in Bettendorf, Iowa, and consists of forms, punches, sparring, questions on terminology and board breaking. Testing was nerve-wracking until a black belt told me that everyone there wants to see us succeed and that testing is a "Hey, look what I can do!" type of event. Even though we try, those boards don't always break on the first kick, but it's heartwarming to see black belts, even from other schools, run over to struggling students to offer advice and support.

When we learn a new technique, the instructors teach us to aim for floating ribs, noses and kneecaps and explain how to get the most out of our kicks and punches. Knowing that you can break a rib is very empowering, but probably the most useful thing we learn is how to break out of wrist grabs. Blue belts know 11 different techniques, and it's great knowing that you can pull away if someone grabs you, even if they're bigger and stronger. While board breaking is a blast, my absolute favorite part of tae kwon do is the staff class in the summer. Once a week, we spend half an hour learning forms with those big sticks like Robin Hood uses in the movies.

Let's not forget the exercise! According to Mayo Clinic, a 160-pound person will burn 730 calories per hour in class. It's rare that I come home from class not dripping with sweat, even in winter.

Recently I overheard our instructor talking to two temporary black belts about what they want to do when they become black belts. I'm still at least a year away from becoming a black belt, but already I think I know what I want to do. I think I'd like to open a school that caters to women over 30. I want them to know that it's never too late to become what you're supposed to be.

For a list of area dojangs, turn to Resources page 38.



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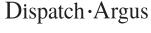
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# Better bling for Mom

## Dazzle her with healthy, local glitz this Mother's Day

By Brandy Welvaert

Most moms will tell you that they like Mother's Day not because of the gifts but because of the sentiment. Yet a piece of jewelry — a simple pendant, a bracelet — sure does bring a smile to Mom's face, doesn't it? It's good to know that you can give her sparkling gifts that are safe for her skin and benefit the environment, too.

The environment was a top concern for Judy Payne of Davenport when she began creating her Cool Earthwear designs, a line of pendants made from salvaged organic materials.

"It had to do with my attitude about where the world is going with excess. We want it all, and we want it now. If you want it, at least we're using the leftovers and being more practical," says Payne, who began working with fused glass in 2003. Her designs use wood as a base to encapsulate organic materials, such as a slice of beehive, coated with a thin veneer, which she says is the only non-ecofriendly part of the reversible jewelry.

The pendants are sold in the Quad-Cities at Your Designs and Five Star Salon Spa, both in Bettendorf, Iowa, and at ArtsWork in LeClaire, Iowa.

ArtsWork sells a variety of locally-created jewelry, including some truly repurposed glitz that's made from salvaged plumbing parts, says owner Deb Willaredt.

Yet the environment isn't the only reason to select jewelry carefully. In recent



Pendants from beehive and natural wood from Cool Earthwear. (Submitted)

years, the safety of some jewelry has become a concern — especially when it comes to kids' health.

Last December, several pieces of costume jewelry from nationwide stores like Express, Lane Bryant, Wal-Mart and Banana Republic were found to contain dangerous amounts of lead, according to a report by the nonprofit Center for Environmental Health. Lead can cause cancer and reproductive problems as well as mental and physical retardation, and it's especially harmful

to children. Even if the jewelry is meant for moms — and not kids — safety experts say that it can end up in their hands — and in their mouths.

Lead is something that artist Amy Greenberg always thinks about when she finishes a ready-to-wear pendant.

"I am cognizant of this issue as a mother of a toddler, and any chains or raw materials I purchase in producing my jewelry and other glass products I review for safety," says Greenberg, whose sells her dichroic glass jewelry, including earrings and pendants, under the name Blarney Glass & Beads at the Davenport Farmers' Market from 8 a.m. to noon Saturdays at NorthPark Mall, 320 W. Kimberly Road. Her work also is sold at Inspirational Cup and Gift Gallery, 2724 Brady St., Davenport. Each piece costs between \$5 and \$25.

"As a mother to a toddler, I want to make sure that the things I have in my house are safe for my toddler," she says.

She doesn't discard small, "leftover" bits of glass, either: She uses every piece in some way.

Sometimes she uses lead-free sterling silver or gold-plated metals for earring posts and the like. However, most pieces are made of glass only, which is "good for people with allergies to metals," she adds.

Artist Toni Reed believes that her jewelry actually promotes healing. Reed, a breast cancer survivor, sells silver magnetic bracelets and anklets touted for healthpromoting properties at the Freight House Farmers' Market (3-6 p.m. Tuesdays and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays at the Freight House, 421 W. River Drive, Davenport). Bracelets cost \$8 to \$10 each, and anklets are \$15.

Looking for another good reason to give a gift of local jewelry? Consider who crafts it. Most of the time, the beaded bracelets and funky pendants sold at farmers' markets and small gift shops are handmade by local women finding creative ways to support their families.

Greenberg, a single mom, says, "I started designing the jewelry as a hobby and it exploded into a career."



Amy Greenberg of Davenport owns Blarney Glass & Beads. (Submitted)







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## gardens

# Garden homework

## Check out these tips before buying or planting this year

By Radish staff

May has arrived, spring has sprung, and it's time to put down roots in the garden. Finally! But before you head out the door to the nearest garden center or farmers' market, check out these tips for finding the best plants — and making the most of them once you do.

Before you shop, consider: How big is the space you plan to fill? Is it a whole bed, a space between plants, or a container? You want to choose a plant that will fill the space but not quickly outgrow it. If you plant something in a space that's too small, you always can move it, but that's more work.

If you love it, don't let it go. You're bound to see purple petunias everywhere, but when you see a unique plant that you really like, you may not find it again — buy it.



Check the label/know what it means. Though many garden plants can tolerate some sun and shade, others need either lots of sun or lots of shade.

Giving them the wrong thing can kill them. Read plant labels and be sure the chosen spot in your yard will accommodate the plant's needs: "Full-sun" plants need six to eight hours of direct sunlight each day.

In partial shade, these plants will produce fewer flowers, fruits or vegetables. "Partial sun/partial shade" plants need three to six hours of sun each

day, preferably in the morning and early afternoon.

"Dappled shade" plants grow best when most sunlight that hits them - but not all - is blocked by large-leaved deciduous trees such as maples.



Look closely. Plants should be sturdy and compact for their type. Leaves should be vibrant, clean and free of insects and imperfections. Check the undersides of leaves, too. Stay away from spindly plants and plants with leaves that are light-colored for their type.

**Overdo it.** Buying a few extra plants never hurt anyone. Having extras available to fill a space or to cover for plants that die is a good idea.

Buy bigger when you can. Bigger plants are less work to put in, and they look better faster.

Shop on Fridays. While this might not be the best advice everywhere you go, some gardeners shop on Fridays because they think selection is at its peak then. Stores won't be as crowded on Fridays as they are on weekends, either. It's the best of both worlds.

Photos courtesy of iStockphot

What about blooms? Some experts advise against buying a plant with blooms because its roots won't be developed, which makes a plant more hardy in the long haul. Others say to buy plants with at least a couple blooms — because if labels in the greenhouse get swapped, you could end up with purple petunias instead of pink.

The best bet, in most cases, is to buy a plant with a couple of blooms for assurance's sake. After the plant is in the landscape, pinch off the blooms to assure that the roots will go deep.





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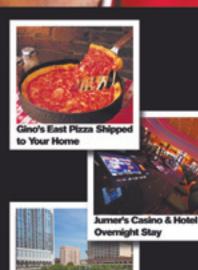
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# environment Switch up the ride

## Try alternative transportation this month and save

### By Jeff Cornelius

one are the days when people could make **U** a living and purchase, build, make or grow whatever they needed within their own communities. We now have to travel great distances to work and school, and in search of things to do and buy that are not closely available. But when will we come to the realization that all this traveling around by so many people is taking an enormous toll on the environment?

A good time to think about it is now. Alternative Transportation Week, or Alt-Trans Week, as it's been dubbed, is May 10-16 this year.

Consider: Studies attribute nearly 30 percent of the average American's carbon footprint to "private transportation." To put that number in perspective, consider that home electricity is 12 percent of one's footprint, clothes and personal effects just 4 percent and what we eat and drink is 5 percent.

All of this begs the question: How can we continue to live modern lives and minimize damage to the planet at the same time? Part of the answer lies in the reality that it's not just about miles-per-gallon, but reducing vehicle-miles-driven. It is truly time to start thinking outside the car.

Throughout the Midwest, alternative transportation advocacy groups, local businesses and employers are gearing up for Alt-Trans Week by doing their part to promote options that help people lead more sustainable and healthier lives. They will promote biking, transit and walking in place of driving with fun events aimed at inspiring new beginnings. But for those who swear by it, sustainable travel can be enjoyed year round.

Iowa City's Bike Library was founded in 2004 with the hope that encouraging the community to take up cycling would serve as a catalyst to other advocates in the area.

Founder Brian Loring says, "Bike Library serves mainly as an entry point for cyclists. We started with a folding table at the farmers' market, checking out

three or four bikes per week. Now we check out 800 bikes per year."

Bike Library relies heavily on donations and volunteers to maintain its fleet. The system works by lending kids' and adult bikes for up to six months for a small deposit. "In the past two years, we've noticed a significant increase in people checking out bikes for commuting and running errands," says Loring.

Bruce Grell, owner of Healthy Habits bike shop in Bettendorf, says the resurgence in urban biking has "opened new doors to stock and maintain bikes designed for commuting, and modifying customers' existing bikes. We now stock more options in tires, bags, racks and lights for commuting than ever before. People still like to customize their ride too, even if the bike is mainly utilitarian."

Grell attributes the interest mostly to the rise in the cost of gas, but he notes that bike commuting can help shed pounds as well as save money.

Healthy Habits has initiated some creative ways to promote biking in the Quad-Cities. During last year's Alt-Trans Week, they partnered with Genesis Health System to offer employee discounts on bikes and accessories that were purchased through a payroll deduction program. Both are looking forward to offering the same program in 2009.

If you're interested in sustainable living and saving money but prefer a relaxing commute with your coffee, paper and iPod, there's likely a bus stop close with your name on it. Transit usage exploded in 2008. More people rode the nation's buses and trains last year than in any year since 1956.

If you've taken steps to live a more sustainably, you probably already understand that it's not about giving up all of life's comforts. Yes, there is some selfsacrifice involved, but it's mainly about wise decisionmaking and adjusting your lifestyle. Choosing to bus, bike or walk can make a difference in the environment, your waist and your wallet.

For more information, turn to Resources, page 38. Read a longer version of this story at radishmagazine.com.



Programmer Todd Kempf rides his bicycle to work in Rock Island. (Photo by Todd Mizener / Radish)





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## www.quadcitiesymca.org

## rooting around

## Sustainable ag tours planned in Illinois

Looking for farm fun this spring and summer? Then check out the University of Illinois Extension's farm tours that highlight sustainable agriculture operations around the state. "Small farms embody a diversity of ownership, cropping systems, landscapes, biological organization, culture and traditions and have unique challenges and opportunities," says Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant, who is coordinating the tours. The schedule for the 2009 sustainable agriculture tours is as follows:

- May 14: Organic meats and poultry; Open Range Products, Pecatonica, and Eickman's Processing, Seward.
- tomatoes at his • June 19: Growing strawberries naturally; Jed's Farm, Atkinson, III., farm. (File) Thompsonville
- July 7: Grass-fed beef, pastured chickens and eggs; Meadow Haven Farm and Graze N' Grow Farm, Sheffield
- Aug. 13: Creative community co-op farming; Basu Natural Farms, Pembroke.
- Aug. 15: Raising elk and innovative farming; Mackinaw Valley Elk Farm and Blue Schoolhouse Farm, Congerville.
- Sept. 22: Fresh fruits and vegetables; River Front Berry Farm, Martinton (riverfrontberryfarm.com).

Tours are \$20 per person and include lunch. Register at least one week in advance at webs.extension.uiuc.edu/registration/default.cfm?RegistrationID=2845. To register by phone, contact Donna Cray at (217) 241-4644.

## Citizen science tracks warming trend with **Project BudBurst**

The idea behind Project BudBurst is simple: Watch the buds on your trees, then make a report when they've opened to reveal leaves. Over time, scientists will use the data to track trends in global warming. An analysis of thousands of Project BudBurst observations from last year and the 2007 pilot shows that volunteers have established a baseline for the timing of key plant events. In 2008, 4,861 observations were reported online from participants in every state except Hawaii. Scientists made interesting observations between the 2007 and 2008 years, finding that forsythia in Chicago opened their first flowers from



April 17 to 19 — almost a week earlier than the 2007 flowering dates of April 23 to 25. Scientists warned, however, that they could not draw any conclusions about global warming from just two years of data. They will have to analyze observations for many years in order to distinguish the effects of long-term climate trends from year-to-year variations in weather. To help out with Project BudBurst, visit budburst.org.



The Illinois Local and Organic Food and Farm Task Force released its longawaited report to the Illinois Governor and General Assembly last month in a press conference at the capitol. The verdict? More local foods in Illinois could make a significant economic impact. "Local Food, Farms, and Jobs: Growing the Illinois Economy" makes a strong case that the state dramatically can increase economic activity by growing and processing much more of the food sold in the state. "That perhaps 95 percent of the fruits, vegetables and meats that Illinoisans eat are produced in other states or countries is an astonishing imbalance and presents us with an enormous opportunity. This plan represents an important step forward in efforts getting underway in Illinois that will enable farmers in the state to produce and sell fresh food and other farm products, keeping billions of dollars in our communities," says representative Julie Hamos (D-Evanston), lead sponsor on the legislation. Based on the report's findings, Hamos and state senator Jacqueline Collins (D-Chicago) have filed new legislation, which when enacted, will set in motion important elements of an Illinois local farm, food, and jobs economy.

## **Chicago Smart Home** is open once again

Visitors again will be able to stroll through the Museum of Science and Industry's environmentally friendly home exhibit after a brief closure and renovation. Museum officials say the Smart Home exhibit, which closed Jan. 4, reopened March 19. The 2,500-square-foot home has been renovated with the latest in green technol-



A view inside the Smart Home (Submitted)

ogy, including an eco-friendly nursery and a garage workshop. The home is on the grounds of the museum and will be open through May 31. For more information, visit msichicago.org.

## Mother Earth News wants to help you find a new, green career

Despite the current recession, there are more green job opportunities now than ever before, including careers in wind power, HVAC, environmental engineering, transportation and facilities retrofitting, according to Mother Earth News. To make these jobs easier to find, Mother Earth has created a new Web site, Great Green Careers, to showcase jobs that make a difference in the environment. Users can post their resumes, sign up for job alerts and have updates about job openings sent to their e-mail's inbox. All job-seeker services are free. To check it out, visit greatgreencareers.com.

## You can appreciate the Mississippi with **River Action**

River Action, a nonprofit organization in Davenport, Iowa, will begin offering its summertime Channel Cat Talks and Riverine Walks the first week of June. Each talk or walk has a special focus, and topics include Mississippi flora and fauna, and river folktales and songs. Channel Cat Talks are offered Aboard the Channel Cat Water Taxi on the Mississippi. (File) Tuesdays and/or Thursdays from 9 to 10:45 a.m. aboard the Channel Cat Water Taxi, which launches from Celebration Belle Landing, 2501 River Drive, Moline. Early June talks will be held June 2, 4, 9 and 11. Cost to attend is \$12 per person. Riverine Walks are offered on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and/or Saturdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Walks take off from various Quad-Cities locations. Early June walks will be held June 6 and 17. To register for an event or for more information, visit riveraction.org or call (563) 322-2969.

## New FoodBooks from Learn Great Foods

Learn Great Foods, a culinary tourism company with an outpost in Mount Carroll, Ill., now offers 10 books that introduce local foods. FoodBooks include the latest information about the health benefits of foods, ideas for storing foods and tour-tested recipes. The full-color books are 16 pages and cost \$2.45 each (plus shipping and tax, as applicable). Books cover foods such as asparagus, bison, fish and herbs. To order, visit learngreatfoods.com. FoodBooks also are available at Common Ground Grocery, 516 N. Main St., Bloomington, Ill.; GreenSky, 5357 N. Ashland, Chicago; and at the John Deere Historic Site, 8334 S. Clinton St., Grand Detour (near Dixon), Ill.

## Hit the floor barefoot and dance in Amana

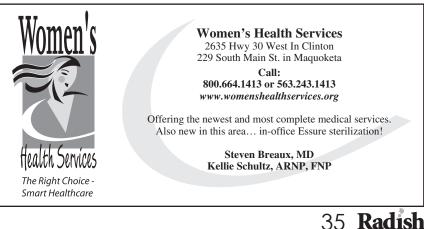
The 7th annual polka fest, hosted by Barefoot Becky and Ivanhoe Dutchmen, will be held May 29-31 at the Amana Colonies RV Park and Outdoor Convention Center, located at the corner of Iowa Highways 15 and 220. The event features food, drink, music from seven polka bands, and dancing in two air-conditioned halls with wooden floors. Dance hours are 6 p.m. to midnight May 29, noon to midnight May 30 and noon to 6 p.m. May 31. Admission is \$10 for Friday or Sunday, \$12 for Saturday or \$25 for a 3-day pass. For more information, contact Becky Livermore at (877) 499-7133 or polkabecky@aol.com. Or visit barefootbecky.com.















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## rooting around

## Plant sales abound this month

Looking for healthy, hardy plants for your garden? Plant sales around the region provide a chance to shop for a good cause: Most organizations use the money they raise during a plant sale for community projects. Here's what's going on:

- May 2: Moline Horticulture Society plant sale, 9-11 a.m., Riverside Park pavilion, 3400 5th Ave., Moline. Plants, including hostas and perennials. There also will be raffles for a gift basket, an Isabel Bloom and plants.
- May 2: Friends of Vander Veer plant sale, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Vander Veer Park Conservatory, 215 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport.
- May 3: Friends of Riverside Park Gardens plant sale, noon, Riverside Park greenhouse, 3400 5th Ave., Moline.
- May 9: Fulton plant sale, 8-11 a.m., fire station, 4th Street and 10th Avenue, Fulton, Ill. Plants may be donated from 5 to 7 p.m. May 8 or from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. May 9.
- May 9: Rock Island County Master Gardeners' plant sale and Spring Garden Fling, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Rock Island County Extension, 321 W. 2nd Ave., Milan, Ill. The event will include four "grow zones": a butterfly zone that will include a butterfly room filled with live butterflies, exhibits and kids' activities; a "green zone" with recycling activities; a "home grown zone" with activities on vegetable gardening; and a "blue zone" with ideas for rain gardens and conservation. The event also will include craft and garden vendors and food.
- May 9: Silvis Garden Club plant sale, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Schadt Memorial Park, between 10th and 12th Streets off 4th Avenue, Silvis, Ill.
- May 9-10: Quad City Botanical Center plant sale, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 9 and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 10 at the Botanical Center, 2525 4th Ave., Rock Island.

## EarthTalk book answers commonly asked environmental questions

E – The Environmental Magazine, publisher of the nationally-syndicated EarthTalk column, recently released a book of its best columns that address everyday environmental concerns. "EarthTalk: Expert Answers to Everyday Questions About the Environment" (Plume, \$15) is available in bookstores and online. The column upon which the book is based is published across the country by newspapers, magazines and Web sites — including the Radish Web site, radishmagazine.com. The book answers questions about recycling, local foods and junk mail. For more information about the book, visit emagazine.com.



Shoppers check out the plants at last year's plant sale at the Quad City Botanical Center, Rock Island. (File)

## "The Future of Food" gets to the bottom of the GMO controversy

What is genetically modified food — and what's wrong with it? Progressive Action for the Common Good (PACG) in the Quad-Cities hopes to answer those questions with a screening of "The Future of Food," a film that explores the food web and investigates many relatively new foods filling grocers' shelves. Many of these foods are unlabeled, patented and genetically engineered — and there's no way to know it by looking at them. The film will be shown at 7 p.m. May 15 at the Unitarian Church, 3707 Eastern Ave., Davenport. The showing is free and open to everyone. For more information, call PACG at (563) 676-7580.

## Put down roots with One Million Gardens

More and more gardeners are growing food in their backyards, and One Million Gardens is for them. One Million Gardens, at onemilliongarden. ning.com, represents a group of passionate gardeners from across the country who have started growing their own food and are enjoying the benefits of backyard food gardens. By registering with the site, gardeners get e-mails with planting tips and gardening instructions, garden videos and more. The site also has a Master Gardener on staff who will answer questions posted to the forum. For more information or to join One Million Gardens, visit onemilliongarden.ning.com.

## Rides, runs & walks

- Cornbelt Running Club 24-hour run, 7 a.m. May 2, Eldridge, Iowa. (563) 324-2250.
- 1-mile; \$30. (563) 210-7550.
- <sup>1</sup>/2-mile. (815) 589-4945.

- (319) 356-3939.
- (319) 356-8302.
- (563) 582-1877.
- Rock Island. 5K. (563) 326-1942.
- kids' fun run, family run with Ray Porter. (563) 344-0339.
- (563) 323-4321.
- The Wild Five, 8 a.m. May 23, Davenport. 5K. (563) 323-7025.

• Palmer N8K Charity Run, 8 a.m. May 2, 1000 Brady St., Davenport. 8K,

• Steve Klooster Memorial Run (Dutch Days), 8 a.m. May 2, Fulton, Ill. 5K,

• ALS 5K Run/Walk, 9 a.m. May 2, Galesburg, Ill. gustafson@grics.net. • NAMIWalks for the Mind of America, 10 a.m. May 2, Credit Island Park, Davenport. (563) 322-8870 or namiwalks@namiscottcounty.org. • Ronald McDonald House Run/Walk, 8:45 a.m. May 3, Iowa City. 5K, 10-mile.

• Bridge the Gap to Health, 8 a.m. May 9, Quincy, Ill. Half marathon, 5K, 10K.

• MVRA Heritage Trail Run, 8 a.m. May 9, Durango, Iowa. 5K, 10K.

• Ouad Cities Distance Classic, 7:30 a.m. May 10, Augustana College, • United Way Imagination Library Run, 8 a.m. May 16, Davenport. 5K, • Quad Cities Start! Heart Walk, 8 a.m. May 16, The District, Rock Island.

• Arts Festival Run, 8 a.m. May 16, Marion, Iowa. 5K run/walk. (319) 373-0741. • Swing into Spring, 9 a.m. May 24, Mount Joy, Iowa. 3K, 17K. (563) 343-7132. fresh healthy hair offerience the difference of Carefully chosen organic & eco friendly products

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## **Yoga Happy Hour!**

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nstructors will revolve through various DSOY teachers, giving everyone a chance to try different styles, and meet different people.

This class has been filling up very nicely, so don't be late! Now more than ever it is important to find a way to reduce stress



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## resources

## THE EARLY RISERS

3 cups chard, finely chopped

1 cup provolone cheese, grated

3 cloves garlic, minced

2 tablespoons olive oil

1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cups sweet onion, finely chopped

(Story on page 10)

Filling:

Here's a recipe for chard, one of spring's heartiest leafy greens. Multicolored Chard Calzones Dough: 1 tablespoon active dry yeast 1 teaspoon sugar 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cups warm water

1 tablespoon olive oil 1 teaspoon salt 2 cups unbleached all-purpose flour

2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar 1/2 teaspoon salt Cornmeal for dusting Tomato sauce (optional)

In a large mixing bowl, stir the yeast and sugar into the warm water. Cover the bowl and set aside for about 10 minutes. Stir in the oil, salt and flour using a sturdy wooden spoon and vigorous strokes. Dust a bread board or countertop with flour and knead the dough for 10 minutes, adding flour as necessary to keep the dough from sticking. Return the dough to the bowl and cover with plastic; allow dough to rise for 2 hours or until doubled in volume. In another bowl, combine the chard, onions and garlic, cheese, oil, vinegar and salt. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Dust two baking sheets with cornmeal. Divide the proofed dough into five equal pieces. Shape them into balls and allow them to rest for at least five minutes. Dust with flour and gently press each piece into an oval shape roughly 10 inches by 14 inches. Place equal amounts of the filling on one half of each oval. Fold over and pinch around the edges. Arrange the calzones on the baking sheets, allowing some space around each. Bake for 25 minutes, or until the calzones are golden on the bottom. If you will be using tomato sauce, warm it for ladling over the calzones.

## **BREAKING THROUGH**

(Story on page 26)

Want to try tae kwon do? Several schools in the Radish region offer classes:

- Chung Kim's Black Belt Academy, 1423 18th St., Bettendorf, IA. (563) 359-7000 or chungkim.com
- Hawkeye Tae Kwon Do, University of Iowa Fieldhouse, 113 E. College St., Iowa City. (319) 335-9282 or www.uiowa.edu/~tkd
- Jung's Tae Kwon Do Academy, 3950 Wilson Ave. S.W., Cedar Rapids, IA. (319) 396-1973 or jungstkd.com
- Springer's Tae Kwon Do, 1880 Radford Road, Dubuque. (563) 582-1400
- West Central Tae Kwon Do and Tumbling Academy, 613 E. Pierce St., Macomb, IL. (309) 833-5867

## SWITCH UP THE RIDE

(Story on page 32)

Alternative Transportation Week events are planned in the Quad-Cities and Iowa City/ Coralville for May 10-16. For details about events in the Quad-Cities, visit quad.cities.tag. googlepages.com. Sign-up will take place from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the Freight House Farmers' Market, 421 W. River Drive, Davenport. For events in Iowa City/ Coralville, visit cicbikeweek.org.

## farmers' markets

## ILLINOIS

### **BUREAU COUNTY**

Bureau County Farmers' Market, Darius Miller Park at the train station, Princeton; 3:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays and 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays, through October. (815) 875-6468

### CARROLL COUNTY

Mt. Carroll Farmers' Market, west side of courthouse on Main Street; 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays, through October. (815) 244-3027

### HENRY COUNTY

Kewanee Farmers' Market, 200 W. 3rd St.; 7:30-11 a.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays, May 13-September. (309) 852-2175

### JO DAVIESS COUNTY

Elizabeth Farmers' Market, St. Paul's Lutheran Church parking lot, 411 W. Catlin; 3-6 p.m. Fridays, May 2-October. (815) 598-3138

Galena Farmers' Market, Old Market House Square, 123 N. Commerce St; 7 a.m.-noon Saturdays, through October. (815) 777-1838

Stockton Farmers' Market, 3-6 p.m. Tuesdays, next to Casey's on South Main St. and 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays, Stockton High School, 500 N. Rush St., May 5-October. (815) 947-3197

Warren Farmers' Market, 110 W. Main St.; 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays and 4-7 p.m. Wednesdays, May 16-October. (815) 745-2117

### KNOX COUNTY

Galesburg Farmers' Market, parking lot on Simmons Street between Seminary and Kellogg streets; 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays, through October. (309) 368-9844

Local Growers' Network Farmstand, parking lot at Oak Run Food Mart, 1472 Knox Road 1725 N. #1, Dahlinda; 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays, through October. (309) 335-2744 or lgnfarmstand@yahoo.com

### MERCER COUNTY

Main Street Farmers' Market, Central Park, Highway 17 and College Avenue, Aledo; 4-7 p.m. Thursdays, June 11-Oct. 22. (309) 582-2751

### MCDONOUGH COUNTY

Macomb Farmers' Market, Courthouse Square; 6 a.m.-noon Thursdays and 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, May 21-Oct. 29. (309) 837-4855

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PEORIA COUNTY

(815) 778-4984

(309) 798-7480

Shoppes at College Hills Farmers' Market,

Memorial Drive, Peoria; 4-8 p.m. Wednesdays

and 8 a.m.-11 a.m. Saturdays, through early

East Moline Farmers' Market, Skate City

parking lot, 1112 42nd Ave.; 8 a.m.-noon

Main Street Market, 700th block of 15th

Milan Farmer's Market, 900 W. 4th St.;

Port Byron Farmers' Market, Main Street

near the pavilion; 3-7 p.m. Wednesdays,

Trinity 7th Street Market, 500 John Deere

Road, Moline; 8 a.m.-noon Saturdays,

Monmouth Farmers' Market, First State

Bank of Western Illinois parking lot, N. Main

and W. Boston streets; 7 a.m.-noon Fridays,

Twin City Market, 106 Avenue A., Sterling;

8 a.m.-noon Saturdays, May 9-October.

(815) 626-8610 or www.tcmarket.org

May 2-Oct. 31. (309) 936-7792

through October. (309) 734-3181

WHITESIDE COUNTY

WARREN COUNTY

mid-Mav-October. (309) 269-8705

Avenue, East Moline; 2-6 p.m. Mondays and

Thursdays, through Oct. 29. (309) 755-7922

2:30-5:30 p.m. Wednesdays, May 6-Oct. 28.

Wednesdays and Saturdays, May 2-October.

Von Maur parking lot, 5201 W. War

October. (309) 692-3672 ext. 19

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY** 



### IOWA

### **CEDAR COUNTY**

Cedar County Farmers' Market, south of the courthouse, Tipton; 7:30-11 a.m. Saturdays, May 16-Oct. 3. (563) 886-2076

### CLINTON COUNTY

Lyons Farmers' Market, Lyons Four Square Park, Clinton; 4-6 p.m. Wednesdays and 8-11 a.m. Saturdays, through October. (563) 577-2216 Preston Farmers' Market, Iowa 64 at Twogood Park; 4-6 p.m. Thursdays, through September, (563) 577-2216

### DES MOINES COUNTY

Riverfront Farmers' Market, 400 N. Front St., Burlington; 5-8 p.m. Thursdays, through October. (319) 752-6365



### DUBUQUE COUNTY

Dubuque Farmers' Market, near City Hall on Iowa and 13th streets, down Iowa Street to 11th Street; 7 a.m.-noon Saturdays, through Oct. 1. (563) 588-4400

### HENRY COUNTY

Mount Pleasant Farmers' Market, Simmons Street and Coleman Boulevard, 3 p.m.-dark Tuesdays, through October. (843) 884-8517

### **IACKSON COUNTY**

Bellevue Farmers' Market, gazebo on Riverview Drive; 7-11 a.m. Saturdays, May 30-September. (563) 872-5812

### **IEFFERSON COUNTY**

Fairfield Farmers' Market, Howard Park at Main and Grimes streets; 3-6 p.m. Wednesdays and 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, May 3-October. (641) 472-6177

### **JOHNSON COUNTY**

Coralville Farmers' Market, Coralville Community Aquatic Center, 1513 7th St.; 5-8 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays, May 4 to Oct. 1. (319) 248-1750

Iowa City Farmers' Market, Chauncey Swan parking ramp between Washington and College streets; 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesdays and 7:30-noon Saturdays, May 2-Oct. 31, except dates following. (319) 356-5110

Iowa City Downtown Market, Iowa Avenue between Clinton and Linn streets and along Dubuque Street between Jefferson and Washington streets; 7:30 a.m.-noon May 30, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12 and Oct. 17. (319) 356-5110

Sycamore Mall Farmers' Market, west end of Sycamore Mall parking lot, Iowa Highway 6 and Sycamore Street, Iowa City; 3-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays, May 5-Oct. 27. (319) 338-6111

### LEE COUNTY

Keokuk Farmers' Market, River City Mall parking lot, 2nd and Main streets; 6:30-11 a.m. Saturdays, through September. (319) 524-3985

### LINN COUNTY

8th Avenue Market, 8th Avenue and 2nd Street SE, Cedar Rapids; 4-6 p.m. Tuesdays and 7:30 a.m.-noon Saturdays, May 2-Oct. 24. (319) 286-5699

Noelridge Farmer's Market, Collins Road and Council Street, Cedar Rapids; 4-6 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, through October. (319) 286-5699

### MUSCATINE COUNTY

Muscatine Farmers' Market, 3-5:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wilson's True Value Hardware Store 1420 Park Ave., and 7:30-11:30 a.m. Saturdays at Mississippi Drive and Sycamore Street, May 2-October. (563) 299-2709

### SCOTT COUNTY

Bettendorf Farmers' Market, corner of 21st and State streets; 2-6 p.m. Thursdays, May 7-Oct. 29. (563) 332-5529

Davenport Farmers' Market, NorthPark Mall east entrance, 320 W. Kimberly Road; 8 a.m.-noon Wednesdays and Saturdays, May 2-Oct. 31. (563) 332-5529

Davenport Freight House Farmers' Market, 421 W. River Drive; 3-6 p.m. Tuesdays and 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, May-October. (563) 940-0634

Trinity Farmers' Market, Trinity at Terrace Park, 4500 Utica Ridge Road, Bettendorf: 3-6 p.m. Mondays, May 4-Oct. 26. (563) 332-5529



# food for thought Farming 101

## Cultivating cucumbers — and a love for soil

### By Dana Swanson

When the professors of my environmental learning community course at Augustana College in Rock Island told us that we'd be meeting for class at a farm in Milan, Ill., the class was less than enthused. (I'm from the Chicago suburbs, and the closest I had been to a farm was the produce isle at Jewel.) We were told we'd be going to Wesley Acres Produce for a tour and to see what we would be doing there for the service-learning component of the course. As we approached Wesley Acres, I was surprised to see open farmland so close to the densely developed Quad-Cities.

When we arrived, Jim and Linda Johansen, who own the farm, led the class around the property; the temperature was remarkably warm for early autumn. After the tour, the class perspired and picked produce, including tomatoes, squash and cucumbers. I spent the hour knee-deep in the prickly vines of the cucumber patch, hunting for the plump green vegetables. The sun was glaring down, my shirt was sticking to my back, and I couldn't stop smiling. It just felt right. I needed more.

The following day, I and my roommate, Heather, who also was enrolled in the course, returned to the farm. Jim let Heather drive the tractor while he and I sat on the back to load the cabbages into the planter. Later in the season, the seedlings that I held in my hands peeked their heads up through the soil. Unfortunately, not all of our "cabbage patch children" survived the first frost. Still, there's something truly rewarding about taking responsibility for the crooked lines of cabbage and knowing that I played a part in planting something that may find its way into someone else's stomach.

The rest of the days blur together, filled with picking green beans and peppers, searching for squash under the vines and cutting pumpkins from the patch. But the work does not stop once the produce has been harvested. Things need be done after the fact, like sorting and washing for market.



Dana Swanson and farmer Jim Johansen at Wesley Acres, Milan, III. (Photo by Paul Colletti / Radish)

I've helped with other things around the farm, like skinning corn off the cob for the winter months. One afternoon, while in the shed sorting apples with Jim and resident rodent control specialist, Casper the cat, I learned that produce can get sunburn: The red blush on green apples comes from too much sun.

Wesley Acres is not just about produce. In addition to the vegetable fields, there are areas designated for prairie and wetland restoration as well as trails winding through the woods. I'm not the only one who has been infected with farm fever; most of my friends who have been introduced to the farm ask to come back.

Since my first visit last September, I've spent quite a few hours at the farm. What do I receive

in exchange for my time? On a rudimentary level, my stomach has acquired a considerable number of fresh, local vegetables. One of the first days, Jim let me take a cucumber. I was the one who brushed the insects, dirt and pokes off the cucumber — I never knew before I visited the farm that the little dots on smooth, supermarket cucumbers were once little spikes. Something satisfying stems from knowing the soil where the seed became the cucumber finding its way onto my taste buds.

In addition to the rosy cheeks and muddy shoes I've acquired, while wandering Wesley Acres I've learned something about place. Prior to my experiences at the farm, I had not cultivated an appreciation for the smell of rich soil, dirt underneath my fingernails or how satisfying it is to engage in meaningful work. An apple that I twisted off the tree tastes astonishingly better than one plucked from a sea of pre-picked apples saturated in the oil required to ship them to the supermarket.

By reminding me that green beans come from a vine and not from a can, my time at the farm makes me realize how deeply we as humans rely upon the land to sustain us. I've become more conscious of my choices, realizing that the food I put on my plate contributes to more than just satiating my appetite. The relationship between humans and the Earth is reciprocal; we must understand the implications of the choices we make. Locally grown sweet potato squash not only tastes fresher but also requires far less oil for transportation than squash from California.

I've given parts of me to the farm — sweat, scraped skin and many afternoons — but the farm has given back an opportunity to be part of something natural, something human, something I didn't quite know I was missing until I found it. I've learned a little about farming, a little about sunburned fruit, a little about the land and a little about myself.

Although much can be discovered in the classroom, growth also comes as we weave between rows of leafy vegetables, appreciate the beauty in a stalk of corn and sink our shoes into the tire-tracked mud.