



local food for everyone

Spring 2010

NEWSLETTER

"Ordering seeds is like ordering hope." Nan Hamilton

240 Beaver Street • Waltham, MA 02452 • 781-899-2403 • www.communityfarms.org

MEET JERICO – EDUCATION & OUTREACH COORDINATOR AND “FELTER” EXTRAORDINAIRE

Since April 2009 Jericho Bicknell has been WFCF's Education and Outreach Coordinator in charge of developing and running the children's and family programs and coordinating the many volunteer groups who help out on the farm from April through October. Jericho is also an expert “felter” and shares her enthusiasm for the craft by teaching felting here at WFCF and elsewhere.

WFCF volunteer Mary Saudade interviewed Jericho about her interest in both agriculture and felting.



Nov. 2009 – Jericho helps the farmers prepare winter shares.

Mary: Tell us about how your family was instrumental in your decision to work in agriculture and in developing your craft of felting.

Jericho: Ever since I can remember, my sister and I served as the weeding crew for my parents' vegetable gardens. I also recall spending many pleasant hours eating

vegetables straight from the garden with my friends. As far as felting, my aunt Robin began spinning after mom taught her how to knit, and that's when they all caught the fiber arts bug. Robin and Jennifer got into felting in a serious way and taught the rest of us. Among us, we have almost the entire spectrum of fiber arts covered. The only piece missing is production and I intend to have sheep someday to complete the picture!

Mary: Why do you think agricultural education is so important and what's new at WFCF this upcoming year?

Jericho: Through my involvement in agriculture from production to distribution as well as in education I have realized that, although I am fortunate to have been brought up in an environment where I knew where my food originated, many people haven't. Education is a key piece in providing the whole farm-to-table picture. We have several new and expanded education programs this year. We have more spring and fall after-school programs and we have added additional summer sessions. In an effort to reach a broader age range, we will begin a new pre-school program for 4-5 year-olds as well as a new series of adult/teen workshops. We are also reaching out to the urban core more and will be hosting and participating in several community events throughout the year.

Mary: How does felting fit into the WFCF picture?

Jericho: Workshops focusing on farm skills or using farm products (such as wool) help further our goal of promoting and educating about agriculture in general. I am currently trying out a technique called “Nuno” – felting which combines wool with silk fabric – and hope to teach a class here as

soon as I master it. Last year I taught a felting class here at the farm and donated a pair of felted slippers for the silent auction at Sprout, our annual fundraiser and spring celebration. This year I ran a felted bag workshop on Feb 20th, and will again contribute something to the silent auction – maybe a bag, maybe slippers, maybe both!



A recent felt bag creation by Jericho.

Come to Sprout 2010 for your chance to go home with handmade items by WFCF staff, such as one of Jericho's felt creations, or pottery by Farm Manager Andy Scherer and Executive Director Claire Kozower.

SPROUT 2010 HOST HEADS UP THE GREEN ENTERPRISE TRAINING INSTITUTE

The Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation in Waltham and the Workforce Development One Stop Center in Newton recently teamed up to create The Green Enterprise Training Institute, offering training programs focused on two tracks of coursework, Green Jobs Energy Efficiency Training and Green Enterprise Small Business/Entrepreneurs Programs. We are delighted to learn of this initiative and thrilled to be holding our Sprout event at the Museum again this year. The exhibit halls will be open throughout the evening. Check their website (www.crimi.org) for more information about their new job training program as well as what will be on view at the time of Sprout on May 8th.

Save The Date for Sprout 2010:
Saturday, May 8th 5:30–8:30pm
Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation

Ticket invitations will be sent out soon!



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Letters from the Farm & Board	2
Welcome Baby Sadie!	2
Local Business Heroes & 2009 Donors	3-4
New Greenhouse, Fresh Ideas & Faces, Wish List	5
Opportunities, Calendar	6

FROM THE BOARD

In 2010 the Board of Directors of Waltham Fields Community Farm will be drafting the second long-range strategic plan for the organization. With the mission and vision of the organization as our guide, the commitment, talent, and ideas of our staff as our inspiration, and the strength of our members, shareholders and community as our base, we look forward to an exciting and fruitful process.

As we near the end of our first strategic plan and begin the second full year of Claire Kozower's tenure as Executive Director, we can report that the goals of the first strategic plan have been met and WFCF is healthier and more mature than ever before. I'd like to highlight just a few of the accomplishments from the first strategic plan that are especially salient right now.

Jericho Bicknell, our previously part-time Education and Outreach Coordinator, will be joining us full-time this year. As the only working farm left in Waltham and one of few within Rte. 128, we are particularly well-situated to educate the community about farming and give people a chance to learn about and participate in growing food. The educational and volunteer programming Jericho will be offering this year surpasses our previous offerings in scope and in quality. Be sure to stop by the Learning Garden when you come to the farm to see it in action.

We joyfully welcome Amanda Cather and Mark Walter's new baby. One important aspect of our mission is to provide and model high quality, sustainable jobs for farmers. We are proud to be able to offer Amanda and our other full-time staff a benefits package that includes meaningful paid parental leave.

WALTHAM FIELDS COMMUNITY FARM

2010 Board of Directors

Rebecca Nesson, President (Cambridge)
Jay Rudolph, Vice President (Somerville)
Nathan Weston, Secretary (Watertown)
Judy Fallows, Treasurer (Watertown)

Alicia Harvie (Cambridge)	Andrew Mirsky (Boston)
Adam Kessler (Somerville)	Margaret Post (Waltham)
Griffin Lamb (West Newton)	Sam Robinson (Waltham)
Meryl LaTronica (Dover)	Janet Yeracaris (Newton)
Jay Luker (Lexington)	Chris Yoder (Dover)
Sophia Mansori (Cambridge)	

Staff

Claire Kozower, Executive Director
Andy Scherer, Farm Manager
Erinn Roberts, Assistant Farm Manager
Jericho Bicknell, Education & Outreach Coordinator
Deb Guttormsen, Admin/Finance Coordinator
Marla Rhodes, Development Assistant
Amanda Cather, Special Projects Coordinator
Amy Cook, 1st yr. Assistant Grower
Dan Roberts, 2nd yr. Assistant Grower

We promote local agriculture through growing and distribution practices that are socially, ecologically, and economically sustainable. We forge relationships between people, their food supply, and the land from which it grows.

Waltham Fields Community Farm is the business name of Community Farms Outreach, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization.

Contact Us

240 Beaver St. • Waltham, MA 02452
(781) 899-2403 • www.communityfarms.org

Donations welcome - become a member!

The farmer training program continues to produce capable and dedicated farmers and we're fortunate to have Andy Scherer and Erinn Roberts stepping up into the Farm Manager and Assistant Farm Manager positions this summer. We're also happy to welcome back former Assistant Grower Meryl LaTronica, now a farm manager at Powisset Farm, onto our Board of Directors along with several other new directors: Griffin Lamb, Jay Luker, and Janet Yeracaris. Our Board is passionate about the mission and vision of the organization. If you'd like to share your ideas about the future of WFCF, we'd love to hear from you informally around the farm, at Sprout this spring, or by email to board@communityfarms.org.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Nesson, Board President



Amanda Cather, WFCF's farmer for the last 6 years, is currently on maternity leave and returns in March to run an organic gardening workshop and help us develop new tools and resources throughout the year.

At left: Amanda & Mark with Jonah (age 6) and their new baby Sadie Hazel Cather-Walter (born 1/14)!

FROM THE FARM OFFICE

The quote at the start of the newsletter was recently said to me by my pottery teacher Nan Hamilton of Mudville Pottery, over her excitement as the 2010 growing season nears. In her simple line, "ordering seeds is like ordering hope," she captures the beauty of what so much of the winter is about for farmers and gardeners in this region – true for the scale of production at Waltham Fields Community Farm as well as for small urban gardens such as Nan's and my own.

Many years ago, Nan transformed her Somerville yard into a serious force of local food production, focusing on intensive vegetable gardens and experimentation with the kinds of fruit trees that pull at my heart strings – apricots, Asian pears, and sour cherries! About a decade ago, she dug up a thornless blackberry for me, to which planting I've since added two more varieties and am now a huge fan. Thornless blackberries are a must-have for edible urban gardens, providing year-round interest as well as decent yields of delicious fruit! For some of Nan's great recipes and tips for using the bounty of the seasons, checkout the workshop section of her website, www.nanhamilton.com – try the Curried Pumpkin Mushroom Soup, Roasted Eggplant Cascabel, and Berry Bread Pudding.

Backyard gardens and the larger movement to break ground at residences, schools, community centers and city-owned lots is just one of the shining stars of our society today, with deep economic, environmental and security implications. Others include the explosion of the CSA model to areas including meat and dairy, fish, apples, honey, wine and more; agricultural focus on season extension and the rise of winter farmers markets; the growth of the slow food effort and popularity of events like Lauren Nelson's Homegrown Supperclub (recently held using stored produce from WFCF's last winter harvest); and the engagement of people in farm-to-table activities and critical food systems thinking. As we each participate in this effort in varying ways, we all need to keep our eyes on the most important prizes: protection of farmland and our local food supply, transfer of regional agricultural knowledge, equitable food access distribution channels, and the adoption of new techniques informed by experience, research and sustainable management principles. As Waltham Fields Community Farm moves forward after its first 15 years in operation, we recommit ourselves to these initiatives and are excited to be working with so many others to benefit the public good.

Here's to our first 15 years and many more!
Claire Kozower, Executive Director

THANKS TO OUR 2009 DONORS

The work that we do at Waltham Fields Community Farm is made possible through both financial and in-kind donations from hundreds of individuals, local businesses and community organizations, and foundations. We are very grateful to everyone who contributed to our work in 2009!



Local Business Heroes

AlphaGraphics, Waltham • Cityside Subaru, Inc. •
Commonwealth Financial Network • Earth Footwear • Energy Credit Union •
Fresh Pond Capital • Gordon's Fine Wines and Liquors • Gravestar, Inc. • Hitachi Data Systems •
The MathWorks, Inc. • Pioneer Investments • O'Connell & Rudolph, LLC • Stanton Insurance Agency •
Staples, Waltham • Sunshine Advantage, LLC • Wainwright Bank & Trust Co., Watertown Sq. •
Watertown Savings Bank • Whole Foods Market, Newtonville & Fresh Pond

Additional Business and Community Support

Adobe Systems Inc • American Repertory Theatre • Arlington Reiki Associates • Atwood's Tavern • Back Pages Books • Belmont Car Wash & Detail Center • Belmont Frame and Art • Berklee College of Music • Big Fresh • Bloc 11 • Blue Cloud Gallery • Blue Ginger • Bob Slate Stationer • Bodywise Therapeutic Massage • Bookcase Factory Outlet • Brine's Sporting Goods • Cantata Singers • Central Path Acupuncture • Chapel Hill Chauncey Hall • Charles River Chiropractic • Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation • Chestnut Farms • Christopher's Restaurant • Colonial Shopping • Cooper Muscular Therapy • Craigie On Main • Dave's Fresh Pasta • Doubletree Guest Suites • Eat More Kale.com • Enzo Salon • Fedco Seeds • FEI Theaters • Finale's Desserterie and Bakery • Flora • Flying Moose Lodge • Focus First, LLC • Formaggio Kitchen • Wilman Gadwah • Garden at the Cellar • Gardener's Supply/Dutch Gardens • Genzyme Corporation Center • Greenward • GROW (Green Rows of Waltham) • Harpoon Brewery • Healing Arts of Belmont • Home Depot Foundation • Hostelling International USA • Il Capriccio • Johnny D's Restaurant and Music Club • Kitchen on Common • Larz Anderson Auto Museum • Laureleaf Designs • Lizzy's Ice Cream • Marcou Jewelers, Waltham • Masao's Kitchen • Mind's Eye Yarns • New England Rain Barrel Company • New England Wild Flower Society • New Repertory Theatre • Northeast Fiber Arts Center • Padula Brothers, Inc. • Pansy Maiden Bags • Physiotivity • Prospect Hill Forge • Real Pickles • Redbones • Russo's • Seeds of Solidarity • Sense of Wonder Productions LLC • Shaw's Supermarkets • Silver Owl Creations • Solea • Spaces Design Studios • Spectrum Singers • Stone Hearth Pizza Co. • Ten Tables • The Charles Hotel • The Elephant Walk Restaurant Group, Inc. • The Magnolia Wine Company • The Waldorf School of Lexington • Timberland • Tranquility Day Spa • Tuscan Grill • Urban AdvenTours • Valora Charters • Vanguarden CSA • Watch City Brewery Company • West Side Lounge • Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery • Workmen's Circle Parents • Zing Pizza • Zocalo Cocina Mexicana

Foundation & Corporate Grant Support:

Adobe Foundation Fund at the Boston Foundation • The Agnes M. Lindsay Trust • Cambridge Community Foundation • Clipper Ship Foundation • Draper Laboratory • The English Family Fund • Foundation M • Frederick E. Weber Charities • The Fullen-Smith Foundation • George A. Ramlose Foundation, Inc. • Genzyme Community Foundation • Gravestar, Inc. • Green Leaf Foundation • The Harpley Foundation • Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation • Hope Foundation • The Jersey Foundation • Millipore Foundation • The Morton and Dinah Danseyar Family Foundation • Project Bread • The Ramsey McCluskey Family Foundation • Waltham Community Foundation • and 3 Anonymous donations, 1 of which was made through the Boston Foundation.

Individual Donors

James and Miriam Alandydy • Edith Allen • Gina Amodio • Gretta Anderson and Paul Bay • Christopher Armstrong • Jill Babcock • Lynda Banzi-Sponholtz and Todd Sponholtz • Brad Barber • Robin Barber • Phoebe Barnes • Karen Barone • Wendy Barret and Alisa Wolf • Elizabeth Bartholet • Steven Beardsley • Judy Bennett • Laura Bethard and Jack Greene • Tierney Bianconi • Jericho Bicknell & JP Calderone • Judy and Jerry Blaine • Ellen Bloom-Fields & David Fields • Rick Blumsack • Ronda Brenner and Robert Goldstein • Jessica Ellen Brown • Carolyn Bruse • Robin Buell • Janet Bunbury • Eliza Burden • Greg Burns • Laura Byrne • Christina Carpino • Jeannie and Jeremy Carriere • Elisabeth Carter • Carrie Cashmore • Paul Martenis and Susan Cassidy • Don and Mary Cather • Jan Childs • Holly Chin • Mindy Chin • Alex & Rosabelli Coelho-Keyssar • Martha Cohen and Marc Wolman • Russ Cohen & Ellen Vliet Cohen • Ann and Aaron Cohen • Jessica Collins • Alina Corcoran • Valerie Courville • Leo Keightley and Martha Creedon • Ellie and Walter Creedon • Nancy Cuneo • James Dailey • Angela Davis • Elizabeth Davis • Mandi Dean • Hank and Emily DeGroat • Cindy Delpapa and Margaret Kearns • Kathy and Richard Diamond • Reva Dolobowsky & Jeff Howe • Brett and Priscilla Donham • Carroll Eastman and David Dorfman • Lucia Droby and Rick Burns • Andrea Dulberger • Marcia Dworkind and Charles Merzbacher • Amy Eastwood • Reg Edmonds • Kate and Dave Ekrem • Ellen Epstein and Ian Brownell • Gail Erdos • Lisa Eschenbach & Will Smith • Kate Farb-Johnson • Judith Fallows and Adrian Gropper • Matt and Marilyn Feinberg • Howard Feldstein • Christine Foot and David Granger • Louise Forrest & Leslie Horst • Bobbi Fox and Daniel Dern • Marc Fredette • Samuel Freilich • Marian Friedman • David Friedman • Jocelyn Gardner • John Gawoski • Naomi Geiger • Katherine and Ted Gekas • Heidi Gengenbach • Bill Gerke & Jessica Korecki • Lauren Gill and Paul Smith • Carol Goranson • Betsey Greenman • Matthew Grygorcewicz & Sara Ellison • Amanda Gutowski • Robert & Beth Hagopian • Gina Hahn and David Truog • Emily Hall • Melissa and Frank Hanenberger • Christopher and Susan Harris • Lydia and Rob Harris • Alicia Harvie • David Hatch • Allison and Ezra Hausman • Kerry Hawkins • Sue Hickey • Elise Hoblitzelle • Laurie Hoffmann • Christine Hogan • Candace Holman • Ruth Hopkinson • Joan Hunt • Sara Irwin and Noah Evans • Lynn Jackson • Diab Jerius and Sherry Winkelman • Brita Jessen • Julie Johnson McVeigh • Carolyn Jordan and Harry Fair • Paula Jordan • Marcy Kagan • Tami Kaplan and Jonathan Lewis • Anwar and Cate Kashem • Sandy and Martin Katz • James Kebinger • Amy Kelley • Katherine Kendall and David Akeson • Anna Kessler • Greg Kindel • Chris Klein and Kristin Newton • Kathleen Knoble • Matthew Kochka • Bill Gerke & Jessica Korecki • Benjamin Kozower and Nikki Fedoravicius • Claire Kozower • Dr. and Mrs. Kozower • Max Kozower and Jane Guttenberg • Mary Lou Krambeer • Deborah Krause • Dee and David Kricker • Griffin Lamb • Michael Langen • Christopher Lawler • Sheila and Jason Lawrence • Henry Leitner & Catalina Laserna • Rebecca Leong and Mark Drews • Ezra Levine • Persis and David Levy • Xuemei Li and Peter Cuddihy • Ying Li • Henrietta Light • Jay Luker & Jennifer Zacharis • Joanne Lyons • Gary Madison and Marty Ahrens • Vincent Maganzini and Sara Folta • Ricardo Maldonado • Barbara and Frank Maloney • Sophia Mansori • Alison and Jason Marshall • Melanie Maxwell • Barbara McDonald • Kathleen McGilvray • Peggy and Ken McIntosh • Dan Melnechuk • Rachel and Jay Mepani • Laura Michelson • Charlotte and James Milan • Andrew Mirsky • Isabel Mirsky • Joyce Mohr • John Monticone, CPA • Patricia Moran & Mark Lang • Michael Mraz • Margaret Muckenhoupt • Julie Munro • Lindsay Murphy • Sarah Murphy • Ruth Nelson • Sara Nemitz • Rebecca Nesson and Wayne Marshall • Janet Nestler • Brenda Berasi & Patrick Natreba • Chris Klein and Kristin Newton • Dorothy and Shaun O'Connell •

continued on next page

Individuals *continued from previous page*

Saskia Oosting and Andrew Ward • Lou and Jay Paap • Gerry and Sally Patrick • Anne Peretz • Alison Peterson • David Petty • Joan Pic • Laura Pitone & Tom Cole • Samuel Plimpton and Wendy Shattuck • Debra Poaster & Brent Whelan • Jeannette Post • Marty and Amy Post • Margaret Post • Xavid Pretzer • John Quatrala • Angela Quinn • Calder Smoot Reardon • John Reinhardt • Marla Rhodes • Ana Rivera and George Snell • Jesse Robinson • Sam and Linda Robinson • Oliveira Rodriguez • Charles Rogers • Joan Roman • Jordan and Sally Rosenthal • Barbara G Rothstein • Laurie Rothstein and Mark Simmons • Jay and Kathleen Rudolph • Marji and Allan Rudolph • Rosemarie Sansone • Amanda Sawires • Andy Scherer • Mary Shaw Schlivek • Susan and Stephen Schmidt • Susan Schonhoff-Sloan and Kevin Sloan • James Schor • Patricia Sharaf • Libby Shaw • Tyler Short • Sara and David Siegal • Jesse Simmons • Vivienne Simon • Daniela Skwerer • Ellie Smerlas • Alison and David Soccodato • Lisa Spitz • Elanor Stamer • Jill Stein and Rick Rohrer • Katharine Stover • Rebecca Stover and Jared Baker • Heidi Strauss • Mikayel Sukiasyan and Marietta Simonian • Jen and Steve Sulewski • Lindsay Swain • Samantha Tanzer • Will Tenney and Susan Gerould • Victoria Thatcher • Hellie Thornley • Stephanie and Paul Thurrott • Nancy Tom • Kate Tranquada • Peggy Tryon • Mary Werowski and Bruce Tsiknas • Ingeborg and Arthur Uhler • Cristina and Andrew Ullmann • Deborah and Moritz Von Rechenberg • Toby and Bruce Ward • Peter Warren • Emilie Webster • Chuck and Louise Weed • Bruce Wenning • Marla Wessland • Gary Westermark • Nathan and Joanna Weston • Darla White • Beth Wilkinson • Sherry Winkelman • Charlotte B. Wilson • David Wittenberg and Cynthia Kagno • Eric Wlodyka • Dudley Wyman & Nicole Barna • Janet Yeracaris • Chris Yoder • Stephen and Marielle Yost • Sabrina Zanella-Foresi

Kristin Wilson loads her van with produce bound for the Salvation Army. Thanks to all of our volunteer drivers for ensuring regular deliveries to our hunger relief partners.



Lien Gauthier and additional National Grid employees were loyal volunteers in 2009. Here, they give our fall brassicas a boost by clearing out the rain-nourished weeds!

THANK YOU

OUTREACH & EDUCATION PLANS NOW DETAILED IN OUR PROGRAM BROCHURE

The 2010 season at Waltham Fields Community Farm promises to be more exciting than ever with new events and expanded programming for adults and children! In order to better spread the word about these great events and make sure all of our members, shareholders, farm friends, etc. can take advantage of our offerings we have put together a program booklet. This booklet includes public events, workshops, benefit dinners, Children's Learning Garden Programs, Family Programs, group farm visits, as well as information about our drop-in volunteer program. We are thrilled to be able to provide this resource, giving you the chance to see all that we are set to do this year so you can plan ahead to participate in areas of interest. We will continue to update the on-line version of this brochure as necessary, which you can download from our website (www.communityfarms.org) at any time.



Participants from Wayside Youth and the Waltham Recreation Dept. explore the Learning Garden with educator Nina Rogowsky.

WFCF PURCHASES GREENHOUSE FROM MCLEAN HOSPITAL

As McLean Hospital made the sad decision at the end of 2009 to shut down their Community Greenhouse Project on the UMass property, we were offered the option to buy their greenhouse (situated directly next to the one we already own). While this transfer was bittersweet in having to say goodbye to Steve Tracy's impressive horticultural therapy program that brightened so many patients' lives, we are grateful to have been offered the first chance to purchase the structure and know that it will be a big asset to our agricultural operation.

At right: Farmers Andy and Erinn in front of WFCF's new greenhouse!



WFCF WELCOMES AMY COOK INTO OUR FARMER TRAINING PROGRAM

We are delighted to announce that Amy Cook will be joining our farm staff as a 2010 Assistant Grower alongside Dan Roberts, who is returning for a third year. With an offer on the table to take over some land in Michigan in the near future, Amy is looking forward to participating in our farmer training program to round out her already significant experiences along the farmer career path. She has been involved with organic farming and gardening for over 8 years, including doing a field crew work share with us in 2008 and volunteering numerous times in 2009. For the last 3 years, Amy has worked as a Farm Conservation Planner with the Accelerated Conservation Planning Project, closely collaborating with national and local government agencies to provide farmers with technical assistance around improved natural resource management. She comes to us with a Master of Science degree in Agronomy and a Certificate in Farm Business Planning. We are as eager to learn from Amy as she is from us!

FARM FRESH IDEAS

As the planning phase winds down for vegetable growers in the Northeast, they take their refined production plans and spring into action armed with new strategies, tools and seeds. With a second greenhouse and grant application submitted to the Natural Resource Conservation Service to cost-share a high tunnel at the farm, WFCF's farmers are welcoming the 2010 season as a chance to delve deeper into season extension, and experiment with techniques to mitigate against wind-swept diseases such as last year's Late Blight explosion. High tunnels are simplified hoop house structures that can stretch the length of our 200-foot beds. In addition to allowing for earlier and later crop production, greenhouse and high tunnel cultivation are options for trying out protected growing as a management strategy instead of placing crops on a regular spray schedule for disease control.

Choosing disease resistant and well-performing varieties is another important strategy as well, but evaluation is key. Field observations in the tomato crop yielded conclusions that the Legend hybrid variety did not appear to be the shining star of Late Blight disease resistance it had been purported to be, but the Gold Medal open-pollinated heirloom variety was without a doubt the most resilient and fruitful of the infested lot. For the season to come, Farm Manager Andy is excited about building on their fertility successes of last year's melon crop, especially pleased with the taste and productivity of watermelon varieties such as the red-fleshed Sugar Baby and yellow-fleshed Sunshine. And Assistant Farm Manager Erinn continues her quest to outwit the dreaded pepper maggot and climate constraints to yield a strong fall crop of sweet red peppers; varieties such as Healthy, Pimento, and Round of Hungary are in the 2010 seed order for this purpose.

Also new on the farm this year, we're gearing up to give the general public more access to our produce. Taking advantage of our new greenhouse, we're expanding our seedlings sales for the GROW community gardens on the property, and offering two sales for the general public. We add these initiatives without having to sacrifice our ambitious goal of distributing \$40,000 worth of fresh vegetables through our food access efforts or having to cut down the size of our community supported agriculture program.

See the Mark Your Calendars section on the back cover for information about our upcoming Seedling Sales on Saturday, April 17th and Saturday, May 8th.

FARM WISH LIST

- More land to farm (lease or owning options)
- 55 gallon barrels with lids for our greenhouse heat sink project
- Picnic tables and benches
- Metal or wood garden arches for our perennial garden



240 Beaver Street

 Waltham, MA 02452

 {t} 781.899.2403

 {w} communityfarms.org



 Printed on recycled paper

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

Sprout Volunteers and Auction Donations Needed

There are many opportunities to help out with our annual spring fundraiser, Sprout. Join our organizing committee or simply volunteer to help out on the day of the event. We're also eager to receive underwriting donations and donations of auction gift items.

- Sprout Wish List**
- Vacation home/inn/B&B stays
 - Tickets to sports & theater events
 - Special experiences, such as lessons for building skills, private tours, etc.
 - Event sponsors/underwriters

Volunteer Drop-In Hours Begin Tuesday, March 3rd

Help our farmers get the season off to a great start!

- March Hours: Tues–Fri, 9:00 a.m.
- April–Oct: Tues–Sat, 9:00a.m.

Stay for an hour or all the way up until noon, but please show up at 9am so anyone present that day can get started as a team. Folks of all ages are welcome! Check our website for orientation events for drop-in volunteers.

Food Access/Hunger Relief

We're looking for volunteers to help with hunger relief efforts such as delivering produce to food access partners and getting involved with our Outreach Market. Contact Andy at farmmanager@communityfarms.org.

Job Opportunities

Check our website for our latest postings for field positions and education support.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Amanda's Organic Gardening Workshop, 2 Tuesdays, March 9 & 16, 6–7:30pm

Join seasoned farmer, Amanda Cather, for advice and planning help for your own gardening adventure this year. Limited to 15 people. \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members. Pre-registration required.

Farm Programs at the Waltham Public Library, 2 Tuesdays, March 9 & 16, 3:30–4:30pm

Join Paula Jordan in exploring *The Risky Life of a Seed* (3/9) and *Soil Habitat* (3/16). Programs are intended for kids ages 6–11 and their caregivers. Free and open to all.

Spring Festival and Seedling Sale, Sat. April 17, 1–5pm

Kick-start the growing season with our seedling sale, information on home composting, soil testing, foraging for wild edibles, and activities for children. April seedlings will include varieties of broccoli, cabbage, kale, lettuce, spinach, and more.

Farm Seedling Sale, Sat. May 8, 9am–12pm

Stop by the farm just in time for Mother's Day for organically grown seedlings of all your favorite summer vegetables, including basil, eggplant, greens, peppers, tomatoes and more. Spend the early afternoon getting them in your garden, then head on over to Sprout...

Sprout, Saturday, May 8, 5:30–8:30pm

Waltham Fields Community Farm's annual spring fundraiser at the Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation. Live Music, Silent Auction, Delicious Food and Open Bar! Event is for adults, ages 21 and over. Tickets go on sale at the beginning of April.

Mild November weather brought forth bountiful winter harvests.