

# Farmers' Market has new mission

The Harvard Farmers' Market is embarking on a new and exciting mission to bring locally sourced food to the residents of Harvard. HFM spokesperson Anita Hamm claims that the interest in locally sourced meats and produce is much higher than the actual supply, so she has been working with town officials on a plan to set aside a few parcels of town-owned land for the first of what organizers hope will be a multi-phase effort to bring substantial food production to Harvard.

The biggest challenge for Hamm was identifying land for the operation. "The Town Common was a no-brainer," she said, after learning that the original land deed for the Common stipulates that the land "be used [sic] for the common good" and "be reserved for grazing and holding of livestock." Hamm knew that any objections to the proposed use of the Common for hogs, sheep, goats, and even cattle could easily be defused by the very deed that created the parcel.

Securing the athletic fields for a large-scale vegetable garden was a trickier proposition. "We worked with the Student Council and then handed off the delicate

negotiating to two students who are taking on this initiative as part of their senior humanities project," said Hamm. Bromfield seniors Zach Quinoa and Bethany Bacon gathered signatures from students and brought a very compelling campaign before the student body to convince them that overall, the "farm" was better for the health and wellness of the students. The Quinoa and Bacon recipe for success was buoyed by the enthusiastic support of the Athletic Department and sports enthusiasts who recognized that the number of calories burned hoeing and tilling greatly exceeded that expended through occasional sprints across the field.

"We ran the numbers, and two hours of picking cucumbers in the hot sun, or hand-harvesting 3,000 pounds of potatoes, yields the same cardio-vascular benefit as a typical soccer game. Who wouldn't rather spend their recreational time feeding our families than wasting a Saturday morning playing some silly sports game? Who benefits from that?" Quinoa emphatically asserted.

So the first phase is to create fenced pens on the Common for the pilot pigs. The DPW has



The first phase of the Farmers' Market plan includes using the Common for livestock production. (Courtesy photo)

agreed to help with the excavation and fencing, and the new town sewer hookup can be used to help mitigate the manure management. "We don't expect the odors to be a significant problem except if it rains," Hamm as-

sured town center residents at a recent info session held at the old library. When asked why it was so poorly advertised (only two residents attended), Hamm said she is trying to avoid controversy by getting the project

up and running first to give residents a chance to see it in practice before judging it.

"It's the way Harvard's founders would have wanted the Common to be used. It's a no-brainer," she reiterated.

## PEOPLE

### Dishonor Roll

The following students failed to achieve Harvard's high academic standards, qualifying them for the Dishonor Roll for the spring session: Anita Bath, Gerri Attrick, Jim Xiu, Norma Lee Oppin, Barb Dwyer, Gene Pool, Pierce Deere, Tish Hughes.

### Nuptials announced

Trip Larrabee of Under Pin Hill Road and Melina Hewett-Salter of Elm Street were wed last week on the Common. The couple had their first play date six years ago at the Ryan Land, where they explored their avid interest in chasing tennis balls. They have dated off and on ever since.

This is Melina's first wedding, and she only agreed to it because she knew there would be fabulous treats at the reception. Trip had a brief marital encounter many years ago



Newlyweds Melina (left) and Trip Hewett-Salter-Larrabee. (Courtesy photo)

and has nine children and dozens of unruly grandchildren. Trip and Melina both have successful careers in homeland security.

## Cable Committee goes 'silent'

Harvard's Community Cable Access Committee announced this week that it plans to broadcast many of the town's publicly-aired meetings without sound. Committee co-chairs John Gardener and Michael Hazanaclue attribute the decision to the resurgence of public interest in silent film, spurred by the recent film 'The Artist,' which won five Academy Awards this year. Gardener says, "We've recently had a significant outpouring of citizen requests to eliminate the sound from School Committee, Board of Selectmen, Municipal Building Committee, and Finance Committee meetings, and our only logical conclusion is that the popularity of 'The Artist' is driving demand for a return to this new old medium." An anonymous source, who asked not to be identified because he is not authorized to speak publicly about it, told the Press that most of these meetings can get pretty

loud, so the elimination of sound is probably a "good idea" and recommended that people "download the minutes from the town's website," to get all the information they need.



In a related story, the Bromfield School's computer graphics class has embarked on a project to animate many of the committee meetings and make them downloadable on YouTube, with a goal to make town politics more accessible to the younger generation. All of the videos will be black and white, set in either Paris or Hawaii, and will include a sympathetic horse character.

## Looking to downsize?



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