

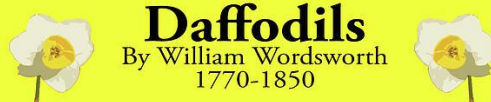


www.hopefromthebottomup.com

April 2022 Newsletter

The Arts:

SPRING IS THE SEASON OF HOPE



Daffodils

By William Wordsworth
1770-1850

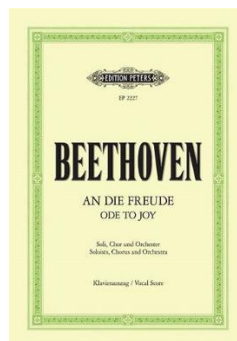
I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed and gazed but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

AND TO CELEBRATE SPRING, LISTEN & WATCH BEETHOVENS' ODE TO JOY!



<https://youtu.be/87qT5BOI2XU>

Hope-Filled Organization:

SPRING IS THE START OF THE GROWING SEASON & FEEDING THE WORLD IS TAKING A TURN TOWARDS HEALTHIER FOOD...MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT AGRICULTURE... NEW JOBS...NEW FARMERS

Are women the future of farming? The Female Farmer Project thinks so Meet the women leading us to a world with better food

By Dana Fouchia, Feature photo by Alex Workman, Mar 8, 2022



Sarah Hallstedt

Along with her husband Phil, Sarah Hallstedt plays a big part in Michigan's 40% contribution to the country's entire cherry supply. We traveled to the outskirts of Traverse City in [Issue No. 22: Cherries](#) to visit their 53-acre farm and learn more about the challenges of cherry growing in an area faced with climate concerns and rising real estate prices. Lucky for us, the Hallstedt's solution to these issues was to add an agritourism element to their business, allowing visitors the pleasure of a U-pick experience on the farm's picturesque grounds. To read more, click on this link: https://feastandfield.net/read/lifestyle/meet-the-women-leading-us-to-a-world-with-better-food/article_f72a523c-9517-11ec-a555-77f958b5d3c6.html

Hope-Filled Organization:

"The Female Farmer Project" is a multi-platform documentary project that chronicles the rise of women working in agriculture around the world. From in-depth stories, personal essays, photographic portraits and a podcast, the project gives a powerful voice to the fastest growing demographic in agriculture-- The Female Farmer. To view a 3 minute video, click on this link: <http://www.womensworkdocumentary.org/> To learn more about the Female Farmer Project, click on this link: [The Female Farmer Project](#)

Stories of Hope:

A Pandemic Step Forward: Healthy Food, Low Energy Use, Local Jobs

Local food producers insulated from national supply chain woes flourish during pandemic

By Karen Ann Cullotta, Chicago Tribune, Mar 21, 2022



Gotham Greens Chief Greenhouse Officer Jenn Frymark the Gotham Greens facility in Chicago's Pullman neighborhood on Feb. 24, 2022. (E. Jason Wambsgans / Chicago Tribune)

But as a fifth generation grain farmer whose family has witnessed the devastation wrought by droughts and floods dating back to the 19th century, the disaster that arrived in March 2020 prompted Riggs to pivot, not panic.

After locating a mobile canner, Riggs began transferring his kegged beer supply, which was originally headed to wholesalers, into aluminum cans, and before long, the company's new retail product was on the shelves at central Illinois grocers, including Wal-Mart and Schnucks.

And since Riggs grows and harvests the grain for the brewery on 60 of the 316 acres at his family farm, the business managed to avoid supply chain disruptions that have hampered many food and beverage operations two years into the pandemic.

"The pandemic forced our hand, because I had always liked being draft only," said Riggs, adding that the brewery is now seeing a resurgence in orders for its draft beer in kegs, due to stepped up demand from bars and restaurants.

"It's been a weird couple of years, and I wish it would never have happened, but you have to deal with reality," Rigg said.

Despite enduring two years of pandemic-era hardships, many Illinois farmers like Riggs say their decisions to take risks and embrace new business models two years ago have led to some silver linings.

From local growers who avoided supply chain and transportation troubles that continue to impede large companies importing products from overseas, to the surging popularity of home delivered fruits and vegetables, many Illinois food purveyors say they are surviving, and in some instances, thriving.



Plants that make up the Gotham Greens Gourmet Medley grow in the Gotham Greens greenhouse in Chicago's Pullman neighborhood. (E. Jason Wambsgans / Chicago Tribune)

To read more, click on this link: [Local food producers insulated from national supply chain woes flourish during pandemic. 'We saw a huge bump in demand.' - Chicago Tribune](#)

A Glimmer of Hope: How the World Community Supports Ukraine

Kathy Roman | March 12, 2022, Bahai Teaching Organization



Every day I wake up to news of war's worsening tragedy, and each night I fall asleep with visions of a terrified Ukrainian population, fighting for their country and their children's survival.

But last night was different – the news showed me uplifting images that renewed my hope in humanity.

I decided then that I would try to find positive examples of how the world community is stepping up to support the beleaguered people of Ukraine. With just a little looking, I found four wonderful examples. To read more click on this link: <https://bahaiteachings.org/a-glimmer-of-hope-how-the-world-community-supports-ukraine/>

Park Forest woman who overcame homelessness and now mentors young people wins Unsung Heroine Award

By [JANICE NEUMANN](#) DAILY SOUTHTOWN MAR 23, 2022



Park Forest resident Lamekia Davis, center, receives the 2022 Peggy A. Montes Unsung Heroine Award for her mentoring and otherwise helping young women, from Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, left, and 6th Dist. Commissioner Donna Miller during a recent ceremony. (Morgan Waller)

After overcoming her own obstacles that at one point included homelessness, Lamekia Davis didn't kick back and relax. She got to work helping other struggling women.

Davis, of Park Forest, now spends her days mentoring young women, planning youth activities and staffing a hotline for young people who need a helping hand.

Residents and politicians have taken note of Davis' accomplishments, but it was her mother who helped her win the 2022 Peggy Montes Unsung Heroine Award in Cook County's 6th District.

Davis' mother, Gloria Fields, recounted her daughter's many accomplishments in the face of adversity in a letter to the nominating committee.

“I believe this award should go to her because she gives when no one is watching and needs no recognition, but everyone should know how awesome she is,” said Fields. To read more, click on this link: [Park Forest woman who overcame homelessness and now mentors young people wins Unsung Heroine Award - Chicago Tribune](#)

\$1.5M available to help Racinians pursue training for careers in the trades By Dee Holzel, March 25, 2022, Racine Journal Times



From left, John Anderson and Lindsay Blumer of WRTP/Big, Racine Mayor Cory Mason and Chelsea Powell of Higher Expectations for Racine County announce a new \$1.5 million program aimed at helping Racinians achieve their high school equivalency diploma or receive necessary training to work in the trades.

RACINE — Hundreds of Racine residents will get financial help to complete their high school education or pursue a professional trade under a new city initiative called “GROW Racine.”

Mayor Cory Mason and community partners gathered at City Hall on Thursday to announce the \$1.5 million initiative. Funding for the program will come from the federal American Rescue Plan Act COVID relief initiative.

Mason said the initiative sends the message that the city council and his office believes in the potential of residents. “We want you to succeed and we’re investing in your future success,” he said.

The program will provide:

- 250 adult Racine residents with \$1,500 scholarships to help them attain high school diplomas or equivalency degrees
- Another 250 adult Racine residents with \$1,500 scholarships to help them complete local pre-apprenticeship training for careers in the trades.
- \$600,000 to the Racine Financial Empowerment Center to sustain and grow the center, which provides free, confidential, one-on-one professional financial counseling.

To read more of this story, click on this link: [\\$1.5M available to help Racinians pursue training for careers in the trades | Local News | journaltimes.com](#) To read more about Higher Expectations of Racine County, click on this link: [Higher Expectations for Racine County \(higherexpectationsracinecounty.org\)](#) To read more about WRPT/Big (Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/Big Step) click on this link: [Welcome to WRTP | BIG STEP](#))

Hope-Filled Organization:



<https://www.loaves-fishes.org/>

VISION: Ending hunger. Transforming lives.

MISSION: To provide healthy food and impactful programs to promote self-sufficiency.

OUR CORE VALUES: Compassion, Dignity, Health, Hope, Service

OUR NUTRITION POLICY: Loaves & Fishes is committed to providing healthful foods that are important for the immediate and long-term well-being of children and adults. [Click here](#) to read our Nutrition Policy.

WE BELIEVE

...in the power of community to change lives. ...that by working together we can accomplish great things. ...that each person possesses inherent dignity. ...in the nobility of the human spirit. ...the opportunity to serve is a gift. ...food is a right and not a privilege.

LOAVES & FISHES: NEXT GENERATION GENEROSITY

BY NANCY WIERSUM



As we look to the future, we are so encouraged by the involvement of the youngest generation in our vital mission. This year we had numerous children and teenagers step up to end hunger and transform lives. While we remain deeply grateful for everyone who makes our work possible, we're especially touched by the young people who want to help. Here are a few examples of their generosity. To read more, click on this link: [Loaves & Fishes: Next Generation Generosity - Positively Naperville](#)

Share this Newsletter!

If you find this Newsletter to be a positive contribution to promote Hope and positive changes for now and in the future, please forward this Newsletter to people you think would enjoy it and who may want to share their hopeful stories and programs for future Newsletters. They can sign up for the monthly Newsletters by doing the following:



www.hopefromthebottomup.com

Or

Send me an email (robert@robertbeezat.com) with the name and email address of the person you think would be interested. I will then contact them.

Thank You