

Munch ON THIS



Who Can You Count On

By Marcia Rae
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I grew up in the sixties, one of the original “me” generation. I thought I could do anything, and to heck with the affects my actions might have had on others. I believed in the supremacy of the individual.

Now, 40 years later, I think differently. I see the interconnectedness of all things, living and un-living, near and far, good or bad. This realization of my own frailty, of life’s transitoriness, of how impossible it would be for me to survive, even one month, separated from other people, is why I am in Brownsville. I came here, and I stay here, to be part of this community. Here, there are people I can count on; and there are people who can count on me.

It is also why I care about local food issues. I think that having, and getting, enough food will become of concern for us all as the world’s population swells from 6.9 billion to 9 billion in the next 40 years, especially given that our current national food situation relies heavily on oil and natural gas and the US already uses more of both than it has. But, as a community we can strengthen our food security by putting in place now the knowledge-base, land-base, markets, and distribution systems that in the future help make us impervious to the vicissitudes of the world beyond.

I trust the savvy and strength of the members of this community more than I want to count on all that is out there. I think I can count on us more than them. That is why I buy locally raised food. That is why I want you to buy it, too. I want our community to be more self-reliant, somewhere between the me generation and the pioneer spirit that settled Brownsville in 1846.

At what point do you inconvenience yourself in order to support change? At what point do you pick your home team? When do you say, this is where I draw the line? This is where I make my stand. These are my people.

The Farmers Market opens April 17. Come on down. Introduce yourself. Get to know your neighbors. Hang out. Listen to music. Buy local.

Munch On This – Who can you count on? Who can count on you?

PS – Remember the Spring Square Dance fundraiser – April 9 with caller Kirby Goode. Beginners are welcome. At the Rec Center, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. \$10 or \$20 for the family. Money raised at this event supports the CFA Community Garden which puts fresh food on the tables of those who might not otherwise have access to it.

PSS - Munch Night, April 16 is local author, Elin England who will be cooking up local food with Penny of the Bramble House Restaurant. Elin’s book, *Eating Close to Home, A Guide to Local Seasonal Sustenance in the Pacific Northwest*, is a perfect inspiration to eat local, healthy food. 6 p.m. Call the Bramble House to RSVP and save your spot as dinner seating will be limited. Or just come for the discussion at 7 p.m.

PSS, again – Farmers Market opening April 17, 9 a.m. to noon. Music by Joe Hall.

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