



GardenShare

HEALTHY FOOD. HEALTHY FARMS. EVERYBODY EATS.

GardenShare.org

News

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✓ **Welcome New Staff** GardenShare welcomes two new staff members this year. **Carlene Doane** (left) joins us as Office Manager, bringing a wide range of experience, from Peace Corps service in Morocco to work with Cornell Cooperative Extension. She also comes from a family deeply involved in food work. Her parents, Carlton and Phyllis Doane, founded and administer the free-will dinners at the United Methodist Church of Canton, serving over 400 meals a month.

Following a comprehensive nationwide search, GardenShare also welcomes **Aviva Gold** (right) as our Associate Director. Aviva's background with food policy councils and community food assessment, fund-raising and graphics design will be especially useful as she moves toward becoming Executive Director in 2012.

Both Carlene and Aviva work in GardenShare's office at the ESL House on CR 68 in Canton—workspace generously provided by the Environmental Studies Department of St. Lawrence University. Our new phone there is (315) 261-8054.



✓ **Working Together to Fix School Food** On February 10, GardenShare brought together some 90 parents, teachers, food service staff, school administrators, and students to hear a presentation by Dr. Janet Poppendieck (left), a national advocate for healthy school food. Beginning with the simple premise that hunger is the enemy of education, Poppendieck offered her persuasive vision of working together to guarantee fresh, nutritious food for all children as a regular part of their school day. GardenShare also organized a breakfast at which Poppendieck met and exchanged ideas with area school food service directors.



✓ **ACTION FOCUS: CSA Bonus Bucks** Again this year, GardenShare wants to share the cost of CSA membership with households living on low incomes. Our CSA Bonus Bucks program enables eligible households to join the CSA farm of their choice at a discount. The CSA farm receives its usual fee because GardenShare makes up the difference.

Last year, our CSA Bonus Bucks program paid \$150 of the membership fee for each of 22 households at 10 local CSA farms. Those households included 41 adults and 38 children aged 18 or younger. (One baby ate its first solid food from the family's CSA box.)

This year, GardenShare hopes to increase the number of households that receive CSA Bonus Bucks. Your tax-deductible donation will help determine how many families we can serve in this way. Please use the reply form on back of this newsletter to make as generous a contribution as you are able.

✓ **Save the Date** On March 26 in Canton, GardenShare will present "Table Settings: A Literary and Musical Celebration of Food." Mark your calendar and plan to join us for this evening of scrumptious short stories, tasty tales, and well-seasoned poetry—plus music by Piquant, followed by a dessert reception. Watch GardenShare.org for details and ticket information.



✓ **GardenShare Retreat** Last fall, the Blue Mountain Center generously hosted a two-day retreat for GardenShare board and staff members. The Adirondack setting—and the hospitality of managing director Ben Strader and staff—enabled us to have an in-depth conversation about GardenShare's advocacy of public policy changes regarding food, farming, and hunger, particularly with an eye toward the upcoming federal Farm Bill.

✓ **The Seasonal Kitchen** Explore the pleasures of cooking and eating in rhythm with the seasons at our blog, "The Seasonal Kitchen." Robin Rhodes-Crowell writes about food, farming, nature, politics, and more—at GardenShare.org.

✓ **Thank You!** In recent months, GardenShare has received generous support from the following foundations and organizations: Northern New York Community Foundation, NY Farms!, Catholic Charities Campaign for Human Development, Fresh Sound Foundation, Harry Chapin Foundation, and Miles Hodsdon Vernon Foundation.

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