



# green. OBSERVER

# EARTH DAY 2011

## SAFEGUARDING EARTH'S CLIMATE

by Professor Michael Schlesinger

The feature article for Earth Day was written by Professor Michael Schlesinger, who teaches Climate and Global Change at the 100 and 400 levels, is Head of the Climate Research Group at the U of I, is an IPCC recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize and a member of the Illinois Climate Change Advisory Group.

There would be no liquid water or life on Earth without water vapor, carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) and the ozone. Without these three natural greenhouse gases – which make up less than 0.25% of the Earth's atmosphere – the surface temperature would be 0°F.

The fact that the temperature is a life-supporting 60°F is due to the natural greenhouse effect of these supposedly trivial gases.

Since the beginning of the in-

dustrial revolution, humanity has increased the  $\text{CO}_2$  concentration in the Earth's atmosphere by 40% from burning fossil fuels – coal, oil and natural gas – and deforesting. Because

$\text{CO}_2$  absorbs radiation emitted by Earth to space, its surface and

atmosphere have been warmed by this human enhanced greenhouse effect. Instrumental temperature obser-

vations since the 19th century

show a global warming of 1.4°F.

Analysis shows this warming is due to the human-enhanced greenhouse effect.

My Climate Research Group has calculated future human-caused climate changes based on four scenarios of possible future  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions. These show a further global warming of 4.0°F

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 4...**

### A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR EM-J STAPLES

Happy Earth Day to all critters, humans, green things, neglected recycle bins, stressed out landfills, seedling packets and stainless steel water bottles. History tells us in 1970 a Senator named Gay initiated a spring day to recognize environmentalism. A mark on the calendar makes it official, but we don't need to celebrate just 24 hours of Earth excellence. I'm festive on Thursdays, Urbana recycle pick-up day. I'm dancing under sunrays and blue skies. When the rains come I'm slip n' sliding, wearing my rain boots. Life's too short and too good not to celebrate Mama Nature a little bit everyday. Raise your mugs, jugs, or cup full o' bugs, let's chug to celebrating life's greatest drug-- giving big ole' tree hugs.



by Elise Pescheret

# GO LOCAL FOR EARTH DAY

## COMMUNITY GARDENS

by Sophia Petukhova

After creating a successful garden in Douglass Park, the CU-Garden is opening its second garden in Stanton Elementary. Half of the park is for the elementary school, incorporating gardening into the curriculum. The other half is for the community. Anyone is welcome to join, regardless of previous experience with gardening or kids.

Erin Harper, one of the original starters of the CU-Garden, recommends that anyone, regardless of gardening experience or academic specialization, join their team.

## DIVINE WINE

by Katherine Lindsay

When you think classy wineries you think Mendoza, Argentina; Provence, France; Alto Pass, Illinois. Yes, Illinois. With its 86 vineyards, Illinois grapes are starting to make a serious name for themselves in the Midwest.

Many Illinois wineries can be found in the Southern region of the state. However, Alto Vineyards is a local treat. It started with Guy Renzaglia, a Mahomet native, and today it continues to be a family-operated business. Their central Illinois roots led the Renzaglia family to open a branch of their business right here in Champaign.

According to Renzaglia's son, Ryan, the Champaign branch permits the family to remain close to home but also allows the company to cater to an expansive wine market—think the U of I market. Students can attend outdoor concert series between May and September. The free walk-in wine tastings promise to

Sam Wonsover, another CU gardener says that participating in the CU-Garden program is beneficial to family life, kids, students, and the community as a whole. For him, volunteering is all about having the resources to be able to teach and bring people together from all sorts of socio-economic backgrounds.

Change up your Saturday routine and volunteer for a great cause. The CU-Garden is looking for volunteers to help on workdays, every Saturday from 11:00am-3:00pm. Find them at cu-garden.com.

## DELISH DISH

by Ida Kutechko

What's better than springtime sunshine? Springtime produce, of course! Even though the Urbana Farmers' Market is still a few weeks away, you can get delicious local food thanks to the good people at Blue Moon Farm, Prairie Fruits Farm, and Moore Farm.

Blue Moon produce includes a variety of fresh greens. Moore Farm provides a variety of natural and local meats. Finally, you can get artfully crafted goat cheese from Prairie Fruits Farm.

**DOUGH** (for 4 calzones)  
(inspired by Eatingwell.com)

1 cup whole wheat flour  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1 packet quick-rising yeast  
½ tablespoon dried basil  
1 teaspoon salt  
½ teaspoon sugar  
¾ cup hot water, plus extra if dough is too dry  
1 tablespoon olive oil

**FILLING**

1 tablespoon olive oil  
3 cloves garlic, minced  
6 cups Blue Moon Farm spinach, rinsed  
Salt and pepper to taste  
4 oz Prairie Fruits goat cheese



Image by Ida Kutechko

### FOR THE DOUGH:

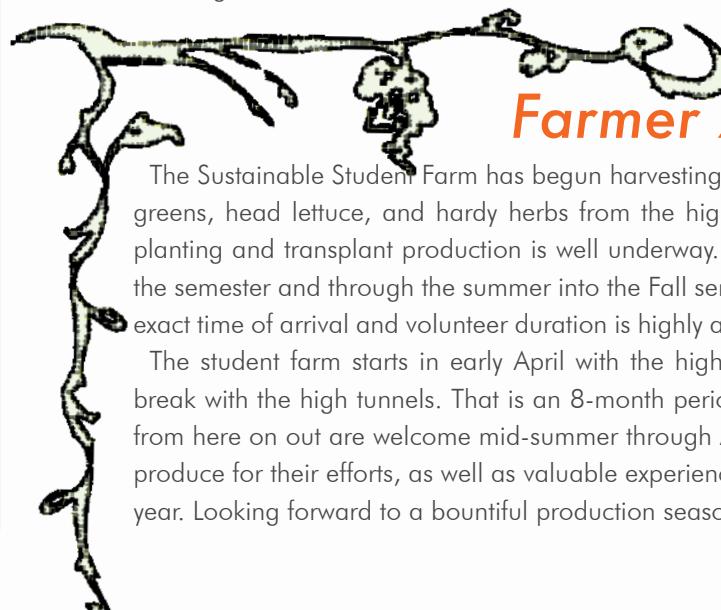
Combine whole-wheat flour, all-purpose flour, yeast, basil, salt and sugar in a bowl. Combine the hot water and oil. While mixing the dry ingredients, gradually pour in the hot water and oil until combined. Place the dough on a lightly floured surface and knead for 2 to 3 minutes, until soft. Too dry? Add a splash of warm water. Too sticky? Add some more flour. Form the dough into a ball. Coat a bowl with cooking spray and place the dough in the bowl. Cover the bowl with a clean kitchen towel and let the dough rest for 10 to 20 minutes before rolling.

### FOR THE FILLING:

Sautee minced-

garlic in the olive oil. Add the spinach, and leave it in until it is just wilted, about 1 to 2 minutes. Drain excess liquids to avoid soggy calzone dough. Add salt and pepper to taste.

**ASSEMBLY:** Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Separate the dough into four equal pieces. Roll or press each piece out into a 5 to 7 inch diameter circle, this can be done directly on a baking sheet. Put in a quarter of the sautéed spinach, leaving enough room to press in the edges. Top with a quarter of the goat cheese. Fold over the dough, and press edges together by hand or with a fork. Prick the top of the calzones with a fork. Bake 10-15 mins, or until gold-



## Farmer Zach's update

The Sustainable Student Farm has begun harvesting for the dining halls! It all starts with salad greens, head lettuce, and hardy herbs from the high tunnels. Outdoor planting, high tunnel planting and transplant production is well underway. Volunteers are still needed for the rest of the semester and through the summer into the Fall semester. Signing up on our website with the exact time of arrival and volunteer duration is highly appreciated. Visit us @ [thefarm.illinois.edu](http://thefarm.illinois.edu)

The student farm starts in early April with the high tunnels and ends at the onset of winter break with the high tunnels. That is an 8-month period of fresh vegetables! Harvest volunteers from here on out are welcome mid-summer through August. Volunteers usually take home free produce for their efforts, as well as valuable experience. We hope to see some of you there this year. Looking forward to a bountiful production season!

## TREE TUNES

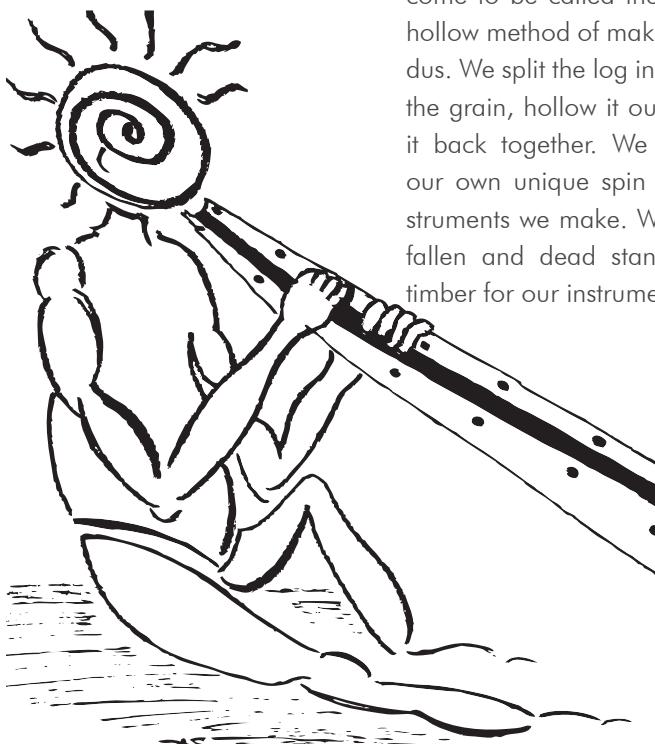
by Felissa Amanda Tugade

The didjeridu is a wind instrument tracing its roots back to 1,500 years ago in Northern Australia. Phil Clark and Ben Hay, graduates from UIUC, have followed the flow of their rhythmic creativity through the sound of wooden trumpets. The Tree Thump Didjeridu Company and Clark and Hay's band, Tree Thump, have spread the knowledge and music of Australian Aboriginal people here in central Illinois.

G.O. spoke to Phil Clark to find out more about the sound of music with the trumpet tune.

**G.O.:** How did you and Ben become interested in didjeridu making and music?

**P.C.:** I fell in love with the didjeridu after stopping in a shop in California that specialized in them about 8 years ago. I chased my passion for the instrument all the way back to Northern Australia, and the Yolngu Aboriginal people of Northeast Arnhem Land. I made four visits to Yolngu communities between 2006 and



2008 to learn about this unique instrument, how it is made and played, and its place in Aboriginal culture. I got Ben hooked on the didj as well. Between the band, Tree Thump, and his natural talent as a craftsman, he decided to try making them.

**G.O.:** How did you learn to make these instruments? How do you decide on the carved designs on the didjeridu? Are there any popular designs or does each instrument have a different design?

**P.C.:** I learned how didjeridus are traditionally made by watching and working with master didjeridu-maker Djalu Gurrwiwi at his home in the far north of Australia. Making them here in Illinois is a totally different matter. In Australia, didjs are made from living trees that have been naturally hollowed out inside by termites. It's not possible in Illinois because our termite-tree ecology is completely different. There aren't any standing, hollow trees of didjeridu size just waiting to be found. So, we use what's come to be called the split-and-hollow method of making didjeridus. We split the log in half along the grain, hollow it out, and join it back together. We try to put our own unique spin on the instruments we make. We use only fallen and dead standing local timber for our instruments.

# GREEN IS THE NEW BLACK

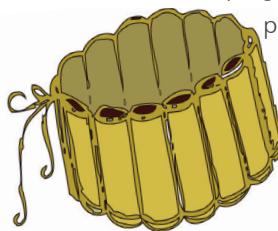
## *the latest staple: sustainability*

by Megan Dawson

Jewelry designers are keeping up with sustainability by producing original pieces reflecting a greater effort to support the environment and developing countries. As we celebrate Earth Day and prepare for the warmer months ahead, there is no better time to revamp your jewelry collection.

### spurge

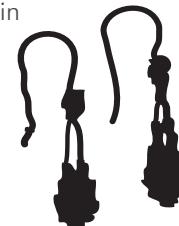
Spring and Summer 2011 is all about mixing hues of cream with gold accessories. This brass bullet casing cuff, designed by artist Shannon Asatali Dejong, has the perfect balance of sophisticated and edge to take a neutral-toned outfit to the next level. It was made from 100 percent salvaged material. Dejong collected discarded shells from shooting ranges in order to create these trendy and sustainable fashion pieces. The cuff can be purchased from UncommonGoods.com for \$162.



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### spend

Check out Ten Thousand Villages in downtown Champaign for an eclectic choice of jewelry that you can feel good about. The store sells one of a kind pieces made by artisans in disadvantaged countries. Purchases from Ten Thousand Villages help create a market for handmade products in North America and aid under and un-employed artisans in 38 countries. Pair these Ancient Flower Earrings, hand-crafted by artisans of Allpa in Peru, with a pulled-back hair style for a sleek, elegant affect. Can be purchased in store or from Ten Thousand Villages.com for \$44.



### free

With just pop can tabs and two pieces of ribbon, you can make your own trendy bracelet without spending anything at all. All you need is 20-25 tabs and two pieces of silk ribbon, each about long enough to wrap around your wrist. Choose two colors or patterns that compliment each other.

Take one of the ribbons and thread it through the top of a tab. Thread the second ribbon through the bottom part of the tab. Repeat weaving the top ribbon and bottom ribbon until you have completed the circumference of your wrist. Cut the ribbon with about 5 inches of room and tie off with a bow.



### THE GREEN OBSERVER CREW

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Funded by SORF

### THE DO-GOODER SAYS...

- Bring any of your canned food items to the Quad, Wed. April 27 from 10-2 p.m.
- Pass out water to tired and sweaty runners for the Illinois Marathon April 30:  
<http://www.illinoismarathon.com/volunteer.php>
- Write a letter to an inmate. contact VIP.community.justice@gmail.com

## RAIN, RAIN COME MY WAY

Some folks relish rain in the forecast. Instead of avoiding it, they collect it.

Take Mary Baird, an Urbana resident who has a 55-gallon rain collecting drum, with a vinyl hose, PVC pipe and a screen grate to keep debris and insects out.

"We have elevated box gardens that we grow fruits, vegetables, and herbs in the summertime. We use the rain barrel to water

those," Baird said.

The EPA says that lawn and garden watering make up nearly 40 percent of total household water use during the summer.

As warm weather approaches, water may be in short supply. Rain barrels provide a free source of water after a good rainstorm. To collect even more water, people put them under waterspouts and drain systems.

"It probably cut our water bill

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by 2100, and a sea-level rise of 1.6 ft.

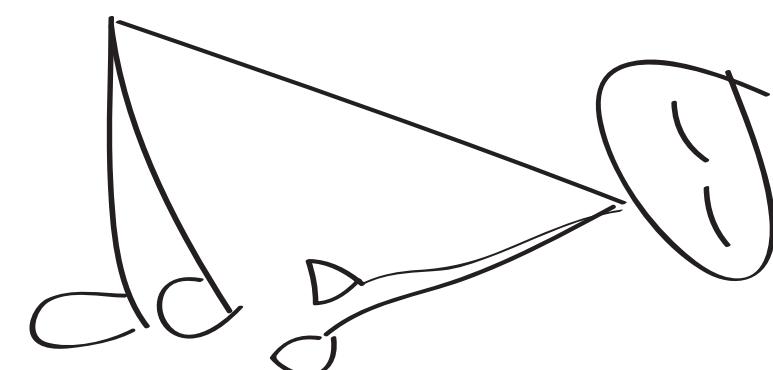
This warming of 5.4°F relative to pre-industrial temperature exceeds the maximum allowable global warming of 3.6°F adopted by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change to "prevent dangerous human intervention with the climate system."

The impacts of such dangerous intervention include:

- Decreased water availability and increased drought;

- Increased risk of species extinction;
- Decreased productivity of certain foods, especially cereals;
- Increased damage from floods and storms, and consequent loss of coastal wetlands;
- Increased malnutrition and diarrheal, cardio-respiratory and infectious diseases; and
- Increased morbidity and mortality from heat waves, floods and droughts.

Our climate-change calcu-



Jennifer Allen is a certified yoga instructor at The Living Yoga Center and also offers classes at CRCE.

Setu Bandasana, the bridge pose, is great for a happy back. It stretches the chest, neck, spine and hips while strengthening leg and back muscles. By calming the brain and nervous system, it helps alleviate stress.

- On the floor, lie on your back with bent knees, with your feet hip width apart.

- Exhale and lift your pelvis toward the ceiling.

- Clasp hands underneath pelvis and press through arms to stay on top of shoulders.

- Lift buttocks, trying to get thighs parallel to the floor. Lift the space between shoulder blades

and neck by firming and pressing on arms.

- Hold for 30 seconds to 1 min.
- Exhale and slowly roll the spine down onto the floor.

For a different yoga experience, bring your mat to Krannert Art Museum for free yoga on Fridays at noon in the East Gallery. The class is first-come, first serve, limited to 20 guests.

by Kaitlyn Pascus

in half over the summer months," said Baird. Baird bought her rain drum locally at Prairie Gardens in Champaign.

"We were able to use eco-friendly rebate discounts for Champaign residents that lowered price," she said.

Rain Barrels can range in price, starting at \$40. Check out B. Lime, Illini Farmtown and Village Garden Shop, and start collecting liquid gold.

## CHICKS, MAN...



by Em-J Staples

Five sisters all live together in a cozy home in residential Urbana. Delilah, Red-Molly, Carmen, Youmee Himher and Fritiki have happily lived in their man made wooden home since last August. They all live similar lifestyles- they wake up early, eat a hearty breakfast, roam freely in the fresh spring air and lay tasty, fresh eggs.

"They are so delicious, it's unlike anything I've ever had before," said Dickinson. "I've developed a new love for quiche."

Dickinson and her crew have learned that their new pets are more than just egg producers.

"They are excellent fertilizers. We scooped all the poop and made a giant compost pile from it," she said.

Luckily, Dickinson lives in Urbana. In Champaign, residents can't keep chickens in their backyards. Some folks have tried persuading the City Council, but so far have had no luck.

This summer the five gals plan to continue their residency, avoid predators like raccoons and badgers, and eat, roam freely and lay eggs.

"They have everything they want," said Dickinson. "It's wonderful to know where my chickens come from. They are living in luxury and not being abused so I can have my egg in the morning."

## THE BRIDGE POSE CLOSE YOUR EYES, RAISE YOUR THIGHS, & RISE

by Molly Fremgen  
Image by Em-J Staples

and neck by firming and pressing on arms.

- Hold for 30 seconds to 1 min.
- Exhale and slowly roll the spine down onto the floor.

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