

briefs & announcements

dispatches

Happy Thursday — it's market day!

Spring, summer, fall — a beautiful afternoon, warm sun. Feel like going somewhere? Head to the county fairgrounds behind Pittsboro's Food Lion and browse the 20 plus tables our local farmers set up to sell fresh fruit, vegetables, pastured meat and eggs, bread, cakes, bedding plants, ornamental plants, and crafts.

Or suppose it's raining, and you're dying to get the kids out of the house. Throw on your rain gear and go to the Thursday afternoon Pittsboro Farmers' Market, held under a shelter. On a budget? Take along what you'd normally spend on vegetables, fruit, baked goods, eggs, meat, and see how

far it goes. You'll know you're getting fresh local food and supporting your local economy. In May the strawberry farmers will be there. In mid to late summer the blueberry and peach growers.

Want to grow more food yourself? Shop in April and May for transplants of tomatoes, peppers, herbs, etc. Farmers love to give growing tips. Maybe you need shade plants? Seek advice from those selling ornamentals. Want an inexpensive bouquet for your sweetheart or a company dinner?

Hungry for tomatoes and cukes in April? Our greenhouse growers focus on pre-season crops. Need a bottle of wine for dinner? Try a local winery vendor.

Market and state agriculture rules require that produce and other products be of high quality, grown, made, or prepared in a certified kitchen by the farmer-vendor.



Spring into Pittsboro



For member info, go to www.pittsboroshops.com

The Pittsboro Farmers' Market is open April 2-Nov. 19, 3:30-6:30 p.m., Thursdays, rain or shine. For more info call Jeffrey Hassler, Market President, 548.0068. Or check out www.pittsborofarmersmarket.org. But the very best way to learn what it's like and what you might be missing is to go right down to the Pittsboro Farmers Market.

— Judy Hogan

Pet shelter seeks "forever" homes

In today's economic crisis, people are not the only ones suffering. Many pets from foreclosed homes are abandoned and may become victims of euthanasia or starvation. Fortunately, there is still hope for some area pets.

The Goathouse Refuge, a local no-kill pet sanctuary, is housing and seeking permanent homes for over 150 rescued cats. The number of rescued pets has spiked sharply in recent months during the economic decline.

The Goathouse Refuge, a non-profit organization founded and maintained by local artist Siglinda Scarpa, offers a safe haven for cats and other pets without homes. All cats are spayed or neutered, dewormed and examined by a local vet. The sanctuary provides daily care,



including animal and human socialization, while seeking animal placement in "forever" homes. However, Scarpa has concerns about the future of those in her care.

Those interested in adopting a cat from the Goathouse Refuge can visit them online or in person to fill out the application form. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. The refuge is a volunteer-run organization looking for additional helping hands. For more info, visit www.GoathouseRefuge.org or call 919.542.6815.

— Brenna Sowder

briefs

Shakori Hills ready for spring

The Spring Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival of Music and Dance will take place Thursday, April 16 through Sunday April 19 at 1439 Henderson Tanyard Road in Silk Hope. Schedule and info can be found at www.shakorihills.org or by calling 919.542.8142. Information is always being updated.

The festival will feature more than 40 bands and performers on two big outdoor stages, a large Dance Tent, and an intimate Cabaret Tent.

Also, check out Shakori Hills Sustainability Fair; local craft vendors;

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Chatham County Line is a community newspaper serving all of Chatham County as well as the southern part of Orange. Our mission is to inform our community by providing a forum "where all voices are heard." We seek all views and ideas about our community, and we report on important matters — including our cultural life — comprehensively and in depth. Our commitment is to create the best-written, best-edited and most stylish community newspaper anywhere. Chatham County Line is published ten times a year.

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