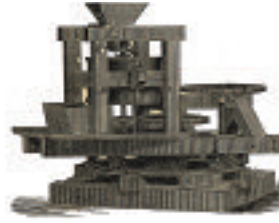


# GRIST FOR THE MILL



My relationship with Edible Communities began before I knew it had started. Vacationing in Oregon last summer, I picked up a copy of a unique food magazine and as I browsed through the pages of *Edible Portland* I kept thinking, “This would be great in Vermont.” The seeds were planted.

Fast forward to March 2007. The setting—a meeting to discuss marketing plans for the upcoming Vermont Fresh Network Forum. Phoebe Garfinkel suggested *Edible Boston* as an option for press coverage and then Molly Stevens asked, “Why isn’t there an *Edible* in Vermont?” It was a question I was compelled to answer, and I am so glad that I did.

*Edible Green Mountains* is an opportunity to showcase our culinary heritage and all of the people who keep it alive. In our pages we plan to make introductions, motivate connections and inspire you to choose local more often than not. We’re fortunate to live in a state where farmers’ markets are proliferating and artisanal producers are inspired to create. We’re also home to many exceptional writers, authors and teachers whose words we will feature on our pages. This season’s issue is proof of that!

As you read stories about personalities and places throughout the state, you may be reminded of some stories of your own. We would love to hear about your local favorites and the people you know who are sustaining and celebrating Vermont’s rich heritage of good eating.

I would like to thank Governor Jim Douglas for his enthusiastic welcome and the priority his administration has given to the Buy Local campaign.

I offer a special expression of gratitude to my father, David Schapiro, for instilling in me an entrepreneurial spirit and ambition to always set another goal; my mother, Eva Schapiro, for sharing her passion for the culinary arts and her talent for making every meal a nurturing occasion; and my husband, Lou Polish, for his infinite patience, exceptional judgment and discerning taste.

Thanks for spending time with us!

Deborah Schapiro

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