

IN THIS ISSUE DUNCAN HILCHEY

Building our airplane while flying it



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In this issue Catherine Sands and colleagues offer a detailed account of their eight-year effort to simultaneously launch and make adjustments to a food policy council in western Massachusetts while keeping its momentum going. They share the trials and tribulations and lessons learned—including many positive outcomes—in *Building an Airplane While Flying It: One Community's Experience with Community Food Transformation*.

The challenge of *building an airplane while flying it* applies to JAFSCD as well. Over the past year we have been working to maintain our quality and volume of published content while switching to a new review and publishing platform at www.FoodSystemsJournal.org. We, too, have had our share of challenges: Amy has been maintaining our old peer review and publishing websites while designing and migrating content, including subscriber records, to the new platform. I've been continuing to guide manuscripts through our old peer review system while learning the new system; we began taking submissions there in late September. It has taken many hours of work, but we are now reviewing and publishing new papers in the new system, and all JAFSCD content since our launch in 2010 are on the new site.

Over the last year we also have been exploring ways to transition to a community supported open access journal. Yes, we're borrowing from a familiar food systems model of community supported agriculture to look for broad support to underwrite JAFSCD so it can be open access—freely available worldwide. We will soon be launching a campaign to raise pledges from prospective organizational shareholders.

All this work has meant this issue is a bit smaller than a typical issue, but what we have to offer are gems. As always, we begin our issue with our columnists.

In *Enough Good Food for All: A Proposal*, **John Ikerd** outlines his new and innovative strategy for caring

On our cover: A visual illustration of food desert areas in the City of Darebin with 250, 500, and 750 Meter (.16 mile, .31 mile, and .47 mile) buffers. From the paper in this issue, *Urban Planning Roles in Responding to Food Security Needs*, by Christine Slade and Claudia Baldwin (both at University of the Sunshine Coast) and Trevor Budge (La Trobe University). (Map source: *City of Darebin, 2008, Food Security in Darebin Part 3: Mapping Food Supply and Access. Melbourne, Australia.*)

communities called the “Community Food Utility.” This concept is covered in more detail and welcomes constructive comments at <https://sites.google.com/site/communityfoodutility/>. And in *Midcourse Corrections?* **Kate Clancy** continues to delve into systems concepts, suggesting that proponents of good food may need to rethink their assumptions about what messages regarding nutrition and good food American consumers really respond to.

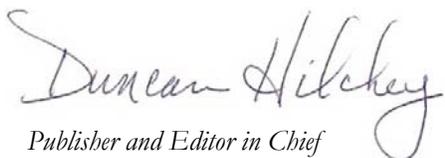
We are sorry to report that due to a family member’s serious illness, Monica White has needed to delay her first column, *Freedom’s Seeds: Reflections on Race, Food and Community*, so it is not included in this fall issue as hoped. We wish Monica and her family the best during this difficult time and will publish her inaugural column in the winter issue.

Next, **Mateja Savoie-Roskos, Heidi LeBlanc, Casey Coombs, Lea Palmer, Melanie Jewkes, and Teresa Hunsaker** measure the impact of various marketing strategies to promote local food to SNAP recipients, in *Effectiveness of a SNAP-Ed Nutrition Education Booth at Farmers Markets*. In their mixed methods study *Exploring the Connection Between Community Food Security Initiatives and Social-Cognitive Factors on Dietary Intake*, **Diana Cuy Castellanos, Josh Keller, and Emma Majchrzak** find that community food security initiatives (CFSIs) may need to look beyond *access* as a barrier and consider other social factors, such as community empowerment and individual psychosocial factors relating to dietary behavior. Next, *Urban Planning Roles in Responding to Food Security Needs* by **Christine Slade, Claudia Baldwin, and Trevor Budge** explores the barriers urban planners experience in responding to food security issues in the state of Victoria, Australia. **Daryl Nelligan, Nairne Cameron, and Brandon Lee Mackinnon** adapt a framework by Porter (1985) for identifying and filling local food supply chain gaps and reveal the importance of information technology and coordinated distribution methods in *Bridging Gaps: A Framework for Developing Regional Food Systems*.

In their reflective essay, *Taking the Challenge for Real Food: Student Engagement in Procuring Sustainably Produced Food on Campus*, **David Burley, Emily Coker, Timothy McCarty, Bonnie May, Erica Dickerson, Benny Milligan, Danaty Moses, Sole Sanchez, Adam Shea, and Rick Hortman** describe the struggle to get local and sustainable food into their university cafeteria and establish a permanent farmers market on the university campus. Similarly, **Catherine Sands, Carol Stewart, Sarah Bankert, Alexandra Hillman, and Laura Fries** offer a detailed reflective case study of the eight-year life of a food policy council addressing the needs of a predominantly Latino/Latina community in *Building an Airplane While Flying It: One Community’s Experience with Community Food Transformation*. Finally, in *Bringing Fresh Produce to Corner Stores in Declining Neighborhoods: Reflections from Detroit FRESH*, **Kameshwari Pothukuchi** explores the challenges of expanding fresh produce sales in corner stores located in depopulating neighborhoods of a large city and concludes they require ongoing subsidy to succeed.

In this issue we include five book reviews: **Matthew Mars’** review of *Street Farm: Growing Food, Jobs, and Hope on the Urban Frontier*, by Michael Abelman; **Robert Perry’s** review of *Pig Tales: An Omnivore’s Quest for Sustainable Meat*, by Barry Estabrook; **Elizabeth Morgan’s** review of *Civic Engagement in Food System Governance: A Comparative Perspective of American and British Local Food Movements*, by Alan R. Hunt; **Kathleen Hunt’s** review of *Gender, Nutrition, and the Human Right to Adequate Food*, by Anne Bellows, Flavio Valente, Stefanie Lemke, and Maria Deniela Núñez Burbano de Lara; and **Wende Marshall’s** review of *Beyond the Kale: Urban Agriculture and Social Justice Activism in New York City*, by Kristen Reynolds and Nevin Cohen.

Whatever “airplane” you’re working on, we wish you best of luck in taking off and flying in 2017. 


Duncan Hilchey
Publisher and Editor in Chief