



“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth, for the touch of a friendly hand and for a talk beside the fire: it is the time for home.”

— Edith Sitwell, 1887-1964

## Meet Carbon County's Extension Agent, Nikki Bailey: Feb 20

On Thursday, February 20, at 4:00 pm at the Community Foundation in Red Lodge, we will hold our regular monthly Food Partnership Council meeting, with a special focus on celebrating 100 years of MSU Extension, a network of educators in all counties of the state. MSU Extension provides resources on topics that range from raising your livestock, growing your crops and protecting your environment to raising your family, managing your finances, starting your business and protecting your family's health and well-being. You might be familiar with MSU Extension through such well-known programs as 4-H for youth, master gardener courses, and food preservation education; it is all of those things and much more. Please join us to learn more about Nikki and her role as a county extension agent. In addition, there is a rumor that some delicious food, featuring Montana-made products will be available for sampling. For more information, contact Martha Brown at [mbrown.mt@gmail.com](mailto:mbrown.mt@gmail.com) or call (406) 445-7214.



## A Place at the Table: Feb 20

Thanks to all who joined us for the Food for Thought screening of *Ingredients* last month. We had a great turnout and enjoyed a beautifully photographed film, a lively discussion, and yummy treats from Hope's Artisan Foods.

This month's film will be "*A Place at the Table*" which looks at food insecurity and the serious implications that hunger causes in America.

One in four children – 50 million Americans – do not know where their next meal is coming from, despite the fact that our nation has the means and resources to feed every hungry mouth. *A Place at the Table* tells the powerful stories of three such Americans who maintain their dignity even as they struggle just to eat.

Barbie, a single Philadelphia mother who grew up rarely knowing where her next meal would come from is determined that her two children will never face that

uncertainty. Rosie, a Colorado second-grader, has difficulty concentrating in school and often relies on the kindness of others to fill her plate; and Mississippi grade-schooler Tremonica has asthma and health issues that are exacerbated by the largely empty calorie meals her hardworking mother can afford.

Their stories are interwoven with insights from experts including sociologist Janet Poppendieck, author Raj Patel, nutrition advocate Marion Nestle, Witness to Hunger's Mariana Chilton, Academy Award winner Jeff Bridges, and Top Chef's Tom Colicchio.

*A Place at the Table* shows how hunger poses serious economic, social and cultural implications for our nation and how the issue could be solved forever, if the American public decides – as they have in the past – that making healthy food available and affordable is in the best interest of us all.

Please come and join us for the screening on **February 20th at Cafe Regis. Light refreshments prepared by Mas Taco will be available at 6:30 pm. The film will begin at 7:00 pm**, with a discussion following the film. Free food, great conversation, a thought provoking film – what could be a better way to spend your evening?

The Food for Thought film series is made possible by the generous support of community sponsors: Babcock & Miles, Beartooth Billings Clinic, Café Regis, Carbon County Resource Council, First Interstate Bank, Honey's Café, Hope's Artisan Foods, Junction 7, Mas Taco, The Pollard, Red Lodge Area Food Partnership Council, Red Lodge Carnegie Library, Rocky Mountain Organic Meats, Sylvan Peak Mountain Shoppe and Wholesome Foods. For more information, contact Annette Lavalette at [annette@nemont.net](mailto:annette@nemont.net) or (406) 328-7396.

The film series will continue every third Thursday of the month until May. Join us.

March 20<sup>th</sup>: *Tapped*

April 17<sup>th</sup>: *Dirt*

May 15<sup>th</sup>: *The Greenhorns*

## **Plant to Plate: Apr 8-9**

Zone 4 magazine is offering a conference "Plant to Plate" at Chico Hot Springs at April 8th and 9th. This event will be an action-packed, fun-filled two-day gardening and culinary experience that will get you going and growing just in time for the 2014 growing season. To learn more and to register, go to [zone4magazine.com](http://zone4magazine.com).

## **A Better Pizza Party**

*By Emily Howe*

There is no better publicity than fresh baked pizza - especially as it's being carted down the hall from the middle school kitchen: fourteen perfect pizzas headed to the first grade. In early January, I approached the PTO about how FoodCorps could become more involved in some of their projects within the school. They had just held a raffle and the results were in. The class that sold the most tickets won a pizza party.





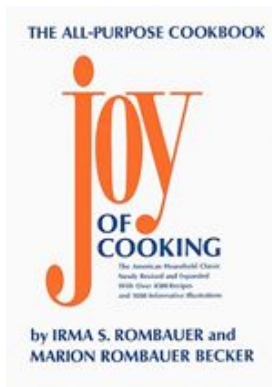
Conveniently, the winning class was one I have been working with this year. I offered to turn it into a make-your-own pizza party instead. It was a total hit. Each student got a small round dough to shape and top as they pleased. We encouraged them to add one new topping to their pizza, even if it was just a ribbon of basil. The pizzas turned out wonderfully, and the smell was even better!

## AERO is coming to Red Lodge: Oct 24-26

AERO (Alternative Energy Resources Organization; [www.aeromt.org](http://www.aeromt.org)) is celebrating 40 years as a Montana nonprofit that nurtures self-reliance through programs that support sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and environmental quality. AERO has a long legacy of helping individuals and communities become agents for change through grassroots, member-driven initiatives that bring people together for collective action and a common purpose of shaping a more sustainable future. Many of us in our part of the state have attended AERO's annual meetings that are a tremendous source of energy, resources, skills, knowledge, and positive engagement.



We are so pleased to announce that the 2014 AERO annual meeting will be held in Red Lodge on the weekend of October 24-26. Please plan to join us for the amazing speakers, engaging presentations, delicious food, fun, camaraderie, and opportunities for networking and connecting with those who share your passions across the state. If you have questions or are interested in volunteering to assist with the planning, contact Janet Peterson at (406) 425-3806 or [foodpartnership@gmail.com](mailto:foodpartnership@gmail.com).



## About Books

*By Corey Thompson*

In this food-frenzied age of specialized cookbooks, be it an entire volume devoted to Paleo or cupcakes or Ecuadorean cooking or whatever, it's comforting to have a very basic, no nonsense cookbook among the others on your shelf. The Joy of Cooking, first published in 1931, is just one of those. If you need a simple recipe for, say, waffles or pickled beets or a white sauce, the Joy of Cooking is your department store of recipes-easily accessible, instructions are clear, and recipe variations are available if you should so choose. What is your go-to cookbook?

## Want to get More Involved?

Join FPC or attend our meetings as a guest if you're interested in learning more. The next meeting is February 20 at 4:00 pm. We meet once per month at the Red Lodge Area Community Foundation, 24 West 13th Street in Red Lodge. Meetings include discussion and progress reports on subjects such as gardening, producer/consumer coordination, composting, and school food programs. Contact Martha Brown at [mbrown.mt@gmail.com](mailto:mbrown.mt@gmail.com) or call (406) 445-7214.