

ELAWA FARM FOUNDATION

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2020



Dear friends,

We hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health. Much like spring weather, this season has been unpredictable and quick to change. In times of uncertainty, it's inspiring to see communities come together to support one another. We have been moved and humbled by the support and resiliency shown within our Elawa Farm community.

As we begin the 103rd season at Elawa Farm, we reflect on the history of the farm. We recognize that this land and its stewards have weathered many storms over the years. Through it all, the abundance and resiliency of Elawa Farm flourishes.

Since its inception, the Elawa Farm Foundation has been grounded in the values of community connectedness, health, and stewardship. We are proud that our programs help us to foster connection to one another and promote the health of our community and environment. These values are ever more present, and our programs and harvest ever more crucial, in this coming year.

This new season brings an exciting transition for the Foundation with the hire of our new Executive Director, Laura Calvert. She brings fresh ideas to Elawa, as well as an extensive background in sustainable agriculture, community programming, and organizational development. We are excited for Elawa to grow under Laura's leadership.

We are working hard to prepare for the upcoming season. We are adapting our programming to ensure the safety of our community. The leadership at Elawa is working through alternatives to serve you, especially in the market, if social distancing remains in force. Be assured that Elawa Farm will continue to provide meaningful programming, fresh produce and other goods to the community.

Our dedicated staff is taking this time to plan for new programs at Elawa. For example, we will offer yoga on the farm this summer, expand our farm camp program for children, as well as lay the groundwork for new culinary and garden programs. We also continue to explore opportunities to share our healthy harvest with our community members who need it the most.

We rely on the support of our community to help us grow and remain steadfast during these trying times. Making a tax-deductible contribution, shopping at our market, or attending a class are vital ways that you can help keep Elawa Farm Foundation growing. Donations can easily be made with the envelope inside or online at <https://elawafarm.org/donate>.

Thank you for supporting the Elawa community. We look forward to seeing you on the farm this season!

Alex Hodges, President, Elawa Farm Foundation



Elawa Farm Welcomes Laura Calvert as Executive Director



Elawa Farm Foundation is excited to announce the appointment of Laura Calvert as its Executive Director. Laura joined Elawa in January 2020. She was selected to succeed Joanne Miller, who had been with the Foundation since 2008.

Laura comes to Elawa Farm Foundation from Advocates for Urban Agriculture (AUA), where she served as Executive Director for three years. Laura led the organization through significant organizational growth and innovative program development during her tenure.

Prior to AUA, Laura worked for the Chicago Botanic Garden for eight years. There, she managed the business operations of Windy City Harvest, the Garden's urban agriculture workforce development program. Laura oversaw the business development of more than 13 urban farms and trained hundreds of youth and adult participants.

Laura has a B.S. in Business Administration and Management from Bradley University, where she graduated first in her class, and has been involved in regional and statewide advocacy initiatives for urban farmers. She is a founding board member of the Illinois Farmers Market Association.

Laura says of her new position, "I am honored to join the Elawa Farm community and lead the organization in its next chapter, alongside the dedicated Board of Directors and staff. Elawa is a truly unique and beautiful place, and I look forward to expanding its presence and programs in Lake Forest and beyond."



From the Garden at ELAWA FARM

When I wrote my garden update for our spring newsletter last year, I was new in my role as Garden Manager and gearing up for my first season at Elawa Farm. I had some nervous anticipation as I prepared to apply my knowledge of growing vegetables and cut flowers and hoped to have a successful growing season. Thankfully, as a result of a lot of hard work, collaboration, and creative problem-solving with our team of interns, dedicated volunteers and Ana, our Assistant Garden Manager, we had a great season and increased garden sales by 25%. I'm hopeful that you had an opportunity to benefit from our wide variety of sustainably grown vegetables and beautiful floral bouquets.

Winter is now beginning to slowly make way for warmer days and more hours of sunlight. That means that much work is underway to prepare for another productive growing season. We're continuing to focus on projects that will improve efficiencies in storage and post-harvest handling. Additionally, our crop plans are complete, and seeding has begun in the greenhouse.

In addition to selling our vegetables and cut flowers at our weekly Garden Market and supplying the Elawa kitchen with as much produce as possible, we also are continuing our weekly Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program. CSA members receive a weekly box of fresh vegetables that change throughout the season for 20 weeks from June through October. We recently filled all our CSA openings due to a strong response from the community. Although our CSA is full, you'll still be able to access our fresh veggies (and flowers) at our weekly market.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to sharing our bounty with you this season!

Elaine Madansky, Garden Manager

From the Garden Market at ELAWA FARM

This season, we are excited for the return of our Garden Market, which is a way that we can connect with the Elawa community and support our vibrant, sustainable food system. The Elawa Garden will be producing healthy, local veggies and gorgeous blooms for our market bouquets, while the Elawa Kitchen will be cooking homemade items fresh for the market. Even our beehives will be hard at work to provide local Elawa honey at the market. The Garden Market is a must-stop for your weekly nourishment. All of these undertakings are supported by our active volunteers, who provide unwavering support!

In addition, our Garden Market hosts many visiting vendors. We are proud to support local farmers, food producers, and unique artisans at our market. Over the years, Elawa has served as an incubator for several local businesses to grow and expand their product lines. Just this past February, one of our regular local food producers, Chia Leah, whose product line includes many tasty gluten free items, was accepted into the 2020 Good Food Business Accelerator cohort. We are thrilled to see our vendor businesses expand and have Elawa be a part of their story!

We are grateful that Governor Pritzker considers agriculture and farmers markets as essential businesses during this time. We plan to open our Garden Market on May 15th as a virtual marketplace with curbside pick-up, until we can safely gather at a distance. We will be taking extra precautions this season to ensure our market is a safe space to shop and support our local food system.

We have missed you and look forward to seeing you all soon!

Catherine Gregg, Garden Market Manager & Volunteer Coordinator

Garden Market Hours

May 15th - October 24th | Friday & Saturday | 8am - 1pm

OUR VENDORS

Moll's Balls, Chia Leah, Dave's Tool Sharpening, Eggceptional Eggs, Emil Fresh Baked Bread, Gretta's Goats, Little Bison Meats, Lolo Pottery, Ludwig Cheese, Old School Timber Works, Sitka Salmon Shares, Tomato Bliss, Zen of Slow Cooking, and more.



From the Kitchen at ELAWA FARM

While our gardens have slept through our cold winter in the Midwest, the kitchen at Elawa Farm has once again remained warm and thriving throughout the winter months with our annual "Take and Bake" program. We appreciate all who have patronized the farm throughout the past several months to make this annual program such a success. It has been wonderful to see so many familiar faces - and to meet new ones as well!

During times like those we have experienced in the past weeks and months, more than ever, it continues to be important to know where our food comes from and to support our local farmers. It is this platform that we will continue to focus on for the upcoming market season – sourcing as much as we can from local farmers, artisans, and millers in our region, as well as our own garden.

At this year's market, we will do our very best to bring you a fresh, ever changing menu of seasonal delights, both savory and sweet. Expect to see some Elawa classics, including our signature fresh baked muffins and scones, vegetable and grain focused side dishes, scratch made soups, entrees, and more.

Keep an eye out for some of your favorites offered in our eco-friendly compostable packaging, as some of our pre-packaged items are receiving a face lift this year.

Finally, we'd like to say a special thank you to our dedicated volunteers at Elawa. It's been wonderful working with you, and we look forward to seeing you all during our 2020 market season. Bon Appetit!

Elawa Farm would like to extend a sincere thank you to all our 2019 donors and volunteers for your generous and much appreciated support.

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*deceased



FEATURED PROGRAMS



Starting
June
13th

YOGA
AT
THE
FARM

Saturdays from 9 - 10 AM

Pop-up Story Time

Just pop-up for a storytime at Elawa Farm! Join one of your favorite children's librarians from the Lake Forest Library for a special storytime. Bring your children for a free, fun, interactive storytime full of books, music, movement, puppets, and so much more fun!

ALL AGES WELCOME

Friday, June 26, 9:45 – 10:15 am

Saturday, July 11, 10:30 – 11:00 am

Friday, August 14, 9:45 – 10:15 am





MASTER CLASSES with Chef Gale Gand

Gale Gand is a James Beard Award winning Pastry Chef, founding partner at Tru, and author of 8 cookbooks.

Spring Brunch Class

Monday | May 11 | 12:00 - 2:30pm | \$85

Get ready to create the perfect brunch whether it's Easter Brunch, Mother's Day Brunch, a baby shower brunch or a wedding shower brunch. One of the easiest ways to throw a party! Tastes will be provided.

Summer Pie Camp

Monday | June 8 | 12:00 - 2:30pm | \$85

Do you have fear of making pie crusts? Chef Gale will hold your hand as she teaches you her secrets to a perfect pie crust. We'll focus on summer fruit and custard pies.

Gale teaches in the Elawa kitchen every month. Check our website for upcoming classes.



FLORAL ARRANGING with Katie Ford

Katie is a local floral designer serving the Chicagoland area. She loves spreading joy through creating beautiful floral arrangements.

Mother's Day Florals

Thursday | May 7 | 10-11:30am | \$90

Join Katie Ford of Flowers by Katie Ford for this floral workshop in honor of Mother's Day Weekend. Bring your mom, sister or friend to celebrate this special day.

Dahlia Workshop

Thursday | August 27 | 10 -11:30am | \$90

Katie shares her knowledge and skill along with her creative spirit, as she spreads her love of flowers.

More dates for floral classes to come.



Essential Oils 101 with Jane Casey

Essential Oils are the juice or GUT of plants, trees, shrubs, flowers, roots and bushes. These oils protect the plant and can do the same for us humans (and animals - if you have a dog, they will love them too!)

Monday | June 1 | 12-2pm | \$65

Join Jane of Jane Casey's Kitchen and learn how, why, when, and where to apply, diffuse and ingest essential oils. You will leave knowing how to support your mood, sleep, gut and every other part of your body from this hands-on workshop.

Stay tuned for more upcoming classes with Jane Casey on supporting your health through holistic cooking and oils.

www.janecaseykitchen.com



BEE-BOPPERS with Lindsey Smithwick

BEEs will be buzzing and bopping at the farm this summer!

Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:15 a.m.

Join Miss Lindsey and her bee-bopping music class. From original tunes to covers, from simple standards to rock-and-roll.

Bee-Boppers is a great way to incorporate music and early socialization skills into your child's life in a fun, interactive environment. For ages 0 - 4.

Also available for private parties! Classes available as drop in (\$15) or 4 pack (\$50)



FARM TOURS



JOIN US FOR A 45 MINUTE TOUR OF OUR
BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED FARM AND
GARDEN EVERY LAST SATURDAY OF THE
MONTH FROM JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER.
TOURS WILL BEGIN AT 11AM.

ELAWA FARM'S ANNUAL
BEER GARDEN

SUMMER SOLSTICE SOIRÉE

FEATURING LOCAL BREWERIES,
DISTILLERIES, AND WINE.

1401 MIDDLEFORK | LAKE FOREST IL | 60045

SATURDAY | JULY 18 | 6-10PM



THE HARVEST DINNER *in the garden* at ELAWA FARM

Sept 12th

SAVE THE DATE FOR ELAWA'S ANNUAL BENEFIT. THIS FARM-TO-TABLE CELEBRATION WILL FEATURE A DINNER BY AN AWARD-WINNING CHEF & PRODUCE GROWN IN THE GARDEN. ALL PROCEEDS DIRECTLY SUPPORT ELAWA'S MISSION.

PLAN YOUR NEXT EVENT AT ELAWA FARM

We offer a quiet, elegant setting with the unforgettable charm of a restored farm. To inquire, please email info@elawafarm.org or call (847) 234-1966.



Summer Camp at Elawa Farm



Campers will enjoy a variety of activities with a focus on food & the garden, including scavenger hunts, harvesting veggies, preparing food in the kitchen, arts & crafts, and of course, getting their hands dirty!

“And at the end of the day, your feet should be dirty, your hair messy & your eyes sparkling.” -Shanti

Session 1 | 1st & 2nd Graders

Monday - Friday (5 days)
June 8 - 12 | 9 - 11:30am
\$250/child

Session 2 | 3rd & 4th Graders

Monday - Friday (5 days)
July 13 - 17 | 9 - 11:30am
\$250/child

Session 3 | 1st & 2nd Graders

Monday - Friday (5 days)
August 3 - 7 | 9 - 11:30am
\$250/child





ELAWA FARM FOUNDATION

1401 Middlefork Drive • Lake Forest, IL 60045
www.elawafarm.org | 847.234.1966

*A Community of Natural Splendor
and Historical Significance*

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* Past Presidents

OUR MISSION

Elawa Farm, a restored gentleman's farm and garden, enriches our community as a unique center for hands-on learning and inspires an appreciation for gardening, healthy living and historic preservation.

As a nonprofit organization, **Elawa Farm Foundation** relies on the generosity of donors to provide the continued historic restoration of the garden, the buildings, and to grow our programs and educational opportunities. Your support makes all the difference on our progress. In 2017 we celebrated the farm's 100th year and we are looking forward to our next 100 years. Please help us continue to grow.

Donate online at www.elawafarm.org or fill out the enclosed envelope and mail it in.

MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES

By making a gift to the Elawa Farm Foundation you can honor or remember a loved one.
We acknowledge all gifts to their recipients and keep the amount of the donation confidential.

MATCHING GIFTS

The amount of your gift may be doubled at no expense to you if you work for an employer who matches the charitable gifts of employees. Simply contact your company's Human Resource Department.

STOCK GIFTS

Please contact the office for instructions to donate stock at 847-234-1966.

THE GARDEN MARKET AT ELAWA FARM

OPENS MAY 15TH AND RUNS THROUGH OCTOBER 24TH • FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS • 8AM - 1PM