



# Ozaukee Living Local

Working collaboratively for a more resilient and sustainable future.

Volume 2, Issue 2

March 1, 2012

## March Events

- **3/7 Building a Better Milwaukee Part II: Recognizing Abundance in Milwaukee;** 12-3/5-8pm at the Sister Camille Kliebhan Conference, Cardinal Stritch University; [www.stritch.edu/bettermilwaukee](http://www.stritch.edu/bettermilwaukee) or call (414) 410-4646 to register
- **3/7-9 Green Energy Summit & Exposition;** [greenenergysummit.us](http://greenenergysummit.us)
- **3/17 Local Farmer Open House at the Urban Ecology Center;** 11am-4pm; free; [urbanecologycenter.org](http://urbanecologycenter.org)
- **3/22 Transition Ozaukee Book Club;** Discuss the first two chapters of Community by Peter Block (see article); 6:30-8pm at the [Niederkorn Library](http://NiederkornLibrary) in Port Washington
- **3/24 Riveredge Maple Sugarin' Open House;** 10am-2pm; \$10/\$5 non-members/\$5/\$4 members [www.riveredge.us](http://www.riveredge.us)
- **3/27 Sweet Water Global & Local Aquaponics/Urban Agricultural Expo;** Washington Co. Public Agency Ctr., West Bend; 7-9pm; free [www.riveredge.us](http://www.riveredge.us)
- **3/31 Port Washington Indoor Farmer's Market** 9am-1pm at [First Congregational Church](http://FirstCongregationalChurch), 131 N. Webster St., Port Washington; Hosted by the FCC & [PortFish, Ltd.](http://PortFish, Ltd.)
- **3/31 Seed Saving Workshop with Seed Savers Exchange;** Time and details TBA; [www.riveredge.us](http://www.riveredge.us)

## Building Community by Mary Boyle

Transition Ozaukee is a local version of a worldwide grassroots movement working to create more resilient and sustainable communities through the process of re-localization.

Our organization is sponsored by [PortFish, Ltd.](http://PortFish, Ltd.), a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, whose mission is to raise awareness of issues and concerns regarding our current and future food supply; to educate local communities about sustainable and healthy alternatives to food production and supply; to engage communities in actively exploring alternatives and to serve as an "agitator" for change in food-related systems.

The organization is managed by a steering committee, which

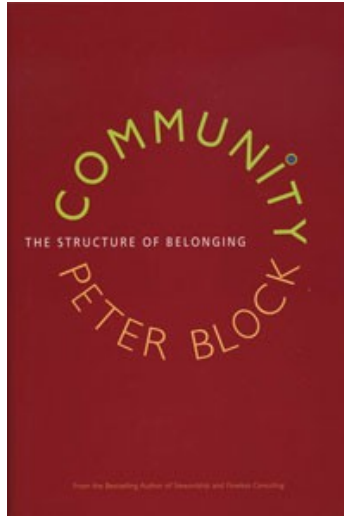
consists of the nine original people brought together by Steve Sandlin; however, the *real* work of Transition is brought about by the individuals in our community.

Although technically people can not 'join' Transition Ozaukee, it is a participatory organization with most of the participation happening in what is known as sub-groups or workgroups. As these workgroups become established, the steering committee is manned by a representative from each workgroup.

Transition Ozaukee is working on the formation of our first workgroup, the **Transition Ozaukee Book Club**, which will tackle Transition-

related literature and meet to discuss on a weekly basis.

The first book on the agenda is called **Community—The Structure of Belonging** by Peter Block:



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## What's New at PortFish, Ltd. by Pat Wilborn

PortFish, Ltd is making progress on its Model 3 version of aquaponics. We are working on the fish habitat and nitrification portion of the facility and expect to be near completion within the next 60 days. As of the end of May 2012, we plan to attach the greenhouse section to the south elevation of the building. You can see some additional details at [www.portfish.org](http://www.portfish.org)

PortFish, Ltd., along with the [First Congregational Church](http://First Congregational Church), is hosting the Port Washington Winter Farmer's Market. This is our second year and we have experienced a high degree of success. In view of the challenges associated with providing the market, we are now considering how we might make our third year even more successful.

One of the biggest challenges is having access to Wisconsin produce during the winter months. Believe it or not, we need to have conversations with local farmers and with community supported agriculture groups (CSAs) right now, in January and February, in order to have fresh produce next year at this time.

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# Ozaukee Living Local

Editor:  
Mary Boyle

Phone:  
262-573-6678

E-mail:  
transitionozaukee@gmail.com.

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## HALES TRAIL COMMUNITY GARDEN

Port Washington's new community garden is in a sunny spot along the Ozaukee Interurban Trail, just south of Hales Trail.

**COME BY AND SEE US!**

15' x 15' plots available for \$25

For more information, contact  
[ourgardeninport@gmail.com](mailto:ourgardeninport@gmail.com) or see Hales Trail  
Community Garden on Facebook

Support the garden by buying your own garden seeds through us through the month of February!



## Building Community *(Continued from pg. 1)*

“Modern society is characterized by isolation and a weakened social fabric. The various sectors of our communities—businesses, schools, social service organizations, churches, government—work in parallel, not in concert. They exist in their own worlds as do so many individual citizens, who long for connection but end up marginalized; their gifts overlooked; their potential contributions lost. This disconnection and detachment makes it hard, if not impossible, to envision a common future and work towards it together.

We know what healthy communities look like—there are many success stories out there, and they've been described in detail. What Block provides in this inspiring new book is an exploration of the exact way community can emerge from fragmentation. How is community built? How does the transformation occur? What fundamental shifts are involved? He explores a way of thinking about our places that create an opening for authentic communities to exist and details that each of us can do to make that happen.

Citizens have the power to change the community story and bring a new context into being. Block shows us how we can overcome isolation and anxiety and create communities alive with energy and possibility. This book is written to support those who care for the well being of their communities. It is for anyone who wants to be part of an organization, neighborhood, city, or country that works for all, and who have the faith and the energy to create such a place.” \*

We encourage anyone who's interested in joining the discussion to support a local business and purchase their copy of *Community* from [Next Chapter Book Shop](#) in Menomonie—mention Transition Ozaukee Book Club and you will get 15% off your book!

This first session of Book Club will meet almost every other Thursday from 6:30-8pm, starting March 22 and going through May 31, in the Community Room at [Niederhorn Library](#) in Port Washington. The discussion will be led by Jennifer Janowitz. For more information, see the [Transition Ozaukee Website](#) or contact Mary Boyle at [transitionozaukee@gmail.com](mailto:transitionozaukee@gmail.com).

A Book Club is only one example of a Transition Workgroup. Do you raise bees, like to garden, have an interest in bringing Farm to School, have a passion for solar power, want to teach people to knit, spin or weave or have an interest in aquaponics? Then you, too, can start your very own Workgroup and become a part of Transition! Contact Transition Ozaukee to learn more!

\*Statement from: <http://www.designedlearning.com>

## What's New at PortFish, Ltd. *(Continued from pg. 1)*

The conversations that we are referring to have to do with the capital expenditures and planning that are crucial to 'extending the Wisconsin growing season'. That is, getting local farmers and CSAs to invest in high tunnels, hoop houses and cold frames. These are the structures that are needed to grow produce in the cold winter months. If we can generate interest in being able to have fresh produce for the market next year, we think there might also be a chance for promoting a [Farm-to-School](#) program.

According to the Farm-to-School website, “Farm to School is broadly defined as a program that connects schools (K-12) and local farms with the objectives of serving healthy meals in school cafeterias, improving student nutrition, providing agriculture, health and nutrition education opportunities, and supporting local and regional farmers.”

If you are interested in learning more about a Farm-to-School program, please contact Pat Wilborn at [wilborn@execpc.com](mailto:wilborn@execpc.com)