

# *Homegrown*

## *A Conference on Local Food*

### Conference Announcement

One hundred years ago residents of Southwest Colorado prepared and ate locally-grown food from the farms, ranches, and gardens belonging to their neighbors.

Today, most food travels to our tables via a complex system of trucks, factories, and grocery stores. The farms and ranches that produce our food are spread across continents. The farms and ranches that produce our food are spread across continents, and growing one's own food is a challenge.

On February 9th and 10th at Fort Lewis College, a unique gathering of people from across the region will discover, discuss, and debate ways to strengthen our local food system. The event, entitled *Homegrown: A Conference on Local Food*, will present the results of a year-long assessment of community food security in

La Plata county and will generate an action plan for increasing access to affordable, nutritious, sustainably-produced, and culturally-appropriate food.

Planning for this event has been a cooperative effort of individuals and organizations involved with the Farm-to-School Committee of the Sustainability Alliance of Southwest Colorado with special assistance from the Healthy Lifestyles Coalition.

# Homegrown

- Schedule -

**Friday, February 9<sup>th</sup>**

*Pre-Conference Workshops-Memorial Student Lounge, FLC College Union*

1:00 p.m. Land Conservation for Local Food Production

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. Producer-Purchaser Dialogue & Discussion

4:15 p.m. Break

4:30 p.m. Creating Community Food Security in La Plata County: An Open Discussion with Keynote Speaker Dave Henson

6:00 p.m. Special "Local Foods" Dinner

*Homegrown Conference – Fort Lewis College Ballroom, FLC College Union*

6:00 p.m. Information Fair and Reception Fort Lewis College Ballroom

7:00 p.m. Welcome and Presentation of Community Food Assessment – Growing Partners of Southwest Colorado

7:30 p.m. Keynote Address "Growing Democratic Communities and Sustainable Economies with Local Food" Speaker by Dave Henson, co-founder and director of Occidental Arts and Ecology Center

**Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup> - Fort Lewis College Ballroom**

9:30 a.m. Welcome, Review, and Orientation

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions I: Issues, Questions, Visioning – College Union Building

- Higher Education and Food Security
- Growing Spaces (Community Gardens)
- Production, Marketing, and Distribution
- Farm-to-School

12:00 p.m. Lunch and small group discussions at tables

1:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions II: Goals, Strategies, and Next Steps

2:30 p.m. Report Back and Closing

3:00 p.m. Local Food Fair and Seed Swap