

Spring  
2019

# THE WALLACE CENTERS OF IOWA DES MOINES · RURAL ORIENT

## BIG AS A BARN NEWS

*Enriching Community through Sustainable Food & Civility Initiatives*

### new effort: Garden for Good

Starting in 2019, WCI is partnering with the Food Bank of Iowa to help food-insecure Iowans. WCI will grow and donate at least **10,000 pounds of sweet potatoes** from its “Garden for Good” at the Country Life Center. Through its network in 55 Iowa counties, the Food Bank will distribute the produce to Iowans who really need food assistance. One out of every 8 Iowans is food insecure, and the amount of fresh produce available to this group is limited. With our long history of producing sustainably-grown produce, WCI is in a unique position to help meet this critical need.

“The Wallace Centers of Iowa has been on the forefront of organic produce production and distribution,” explained Deb Houghtaling, CEO. “Now by partnering with the Food Bank, we can take that initiative in a new direction.”

Why sweet potatoes? Sweet potatoes grow especially well with the growing conditions at the Country Life Center. They store well, are easy to prepare and are a relatively nutrient-dense food—all important traits for food-insecure people. This root crop is a good choice for our first effort.

“Iowans struggling with food insecurity have a lot of trouble getting access to fresh, nutritious produce, due to its cost,” notes Emily Shearer, Food Acquisition Coordinator at the Food Bank of Iowa. “When WCI donates sweet potatoes to the Food Bank of Iowa, they’re helping us ensure that our neighbors in need can maintain a wholesome diet.”



WCI will grow at least 10,000 pounds of sweet potatoes in 2019 for clients of the Food Bank of Iowa.

WCI’s “Garden for Good” will help food-insecure Iowans access more locally-grown produce and eat more healthfully. If you’d like to help support this new initiative, you can send a check of any amount to the Wallace House in Des Moines or make a direct contribution through our Donate page ([www.wallace.org](http://www.wallace.org)) or the Community Foundation of Des Moines’ GIVEdsm page ([www.givedsm.org](http://www.givedsm.org)). Thank you! 

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We welcome your comments, suggestions, and relevant  
news. Contact Ann Taylor at the above address or  
515.243.7063. Submissions may be edited.

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## Farm 2 Table Chef Katie on IPTV Show



IPTV host Charity Nebbe poses with Chef Katie Porter during the taping of the “Iowa Ingredient” cooking and travel show. Katie is the featured chef during a segment focused on kohlrabi. The episode will be broadcast in April.

Chef Katie will soon be making a second appearance on IPTV’s “Iowa Ingredient”—a cooking show that focuses on a single ingredient produced in Iowa. Kohlrabi is the featured vegetable for the April 2019 episode. Katie made a stuffed kohlrabi and a kohlrabi slaw with coconut dressing. Katie’s first appearance on the show was in 2013.

Chef Katie’s regular gig is the Farm to Table Thursday dinners each week at the Wallace House, which highlights produce harvested at the Country Life Center. The changing weekly menu features a special appetizer, entree and dessert created by Katie, plus seasonal vegetable side dishes that can be shared around the table.

Call Deborah at 515.243.7063 to book your table anytime from 5:30 to 8 pm. The weekly meals begin March 28 and run through December 12. BYOB. 

## New cooking classes



Are you suffering from hum-drum meals? Get out of that rut with the newest tastes and latest cooking methods from Chef Katie at the Wallace House.

This year’s classes are super-exciting and fun!

Katie will team up with Farm Programs Manager Mosa Shayan on April 15 for **“Shoots, Sprouts & Micro Greens”**. They’ll tell you all the steps to growing them at home and using them in the kitchen. Other topics:

- **May 20** - Pucker Up: Using rhubarb and other tart ingredients in savory dishes
- **July 15** - Tacos: Make fun and tasty street tacos at home
- **September 16** - Tapas: Cook traditional Spanish tapas
- **October 7** - One Pot Meals: Delicious and convenient one pot meals
- **November 18** - Holiday Appetizers & Decorating Tips

WCI’s culinary classes focus on using fresh, locally-sourced ingredients whenever possible. Each class begins at 5:30 pm, lasts at least 2 hours, and includes dinner and take-home materials. \$45/person. Call the Wallace House at 515.243.7063. 

## Hearts & Homes



One of the first female journalists in Iowa, Nancy Cantwell Wallace edited the Hearts & Homes women’s column at her home in Sherman Hill from 1892 to her death in 1909.

More than just recipes and household tips, Nancy encouraged her readers—women, men, and children— to contribute their views on a variety of issues such as women’s suffrage, school lunches, and education in rural areas. WCI’s 90 minute program includes excerpts from Nancy’s column that lead to great table discussions. Each program is different so that people can come back again and again.

If you couldn’t get in last year because too many dates were booked, try us again! Upcoming spring dates include:

- March 8
- April 12
- May 17
- June 14

We often gather small groups together at larger tables for more fun, but you can request a private table.

You can also book a private tea for at least 20 people. Reservations are required by calling 515.243.7063. 

# 2019 Garden Workshop



## SATURDAY, MARCH 23 Orient United Methodist Church

**Workshop: 8:45 am - 3:45 pm • Doors open 8 am**  
VENDOR SALES BEFORE WORKSHOP BEGINS & DURING LUNCH BREAK

### DETAILS

- \$30 Workshop Fee includes handouts, morning refreshments, lunch, & door prizes.

- **5 Approved Master Gardener Continuing Education Hours!**

- **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED** and due **Friday, March 15**. Register by mailing this form or by phone with credit card: 641.337.5019

- Please indicate any **dietary needs** **ON THE REGISTRATION FORM.**

- The Orient United Methodist Church is located at 124 S. Maple, right on Hwy. 25 in Orient

## TOPICS & SPEAKERS:

- Food Preservation, Dehydration – Barb Fuller, ISU Extension
- Advanced Houseplants – Derek Carwood, DSM Botanical Center
- Mulch – Lisa Swanson, The Wallace Centers of Iowa
- Lavender 101 – Kim Lauffer, Berly & Blake Lavender
- Crop Rotation – Lisa Swanson, The Wallace Centers of Iowa
- Elderberry: Growing for Fun, Food & Health - Judy Hayes, Diamond H Elderberry Farm

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*(the best number in case of inclement weather)*

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**DIETARY NEEDS** \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 15. Registration is \$30 per person.**

Complete the information above and return with your check or call Lisa at 641.337.5019 to register with credit/debit cards.

Please make checks payable to The Wallace Centers of Iowa and mail to PO Box 363, Greenfield, IA 50849.

Questions? Call or email Lisa: [lisaswanson@wallace.org](mailto:lisaswanson@wallace.org)



THE WALLACE CENTERS  
OF IOWA  
DES MOINES • RURAL ORIENT

# Quilt show expands to seminar



## Spring Quilt Show

April 29 - May 4

Hours: 10 am - 4 pm daily • \$TBD  
(Wednesday: 10 am - 6 pm)

inside the Gathering Barn at the  
Country Life Center

One Day Only!

Saturday, April 27: \$TBD

Quilt Show, Lunch & Program:

**"Mourning Quilts"**

call 641.337.5019 for more details

## Volunteer dirt



Volunteers are needed in the gardens at the Country Life Center

Like to garden? Starting in late spring, volunteers will be especially welcome on Mondays from 10 am to noon at the Country Life Center. The work will be focused on the Garden for Good donation garden and the flower beds around the grounds, but there might be other tasks as well. We'll provide sunscreen, water & tea. Bring your favorite gloves & bottled water if you prefer. Call ahead to let us know you're coming (especially if you're part of a group) or just show up. In addition to weekly weeding sessions, staff will need help planting and harvesting the sweet potatoes in late May/early June, exact date TBD.

Contact Lisa to get on the volunteer garden email list for specific dates: 641.337.5019. 

## American Dreamer



Tom Milligan

*American Dreamer:*  
The Life and Times of  
Henry A. Wallace

It's about time we invited Iowa actor Tom Milligan to portray Henry A. Wallace at both of our historic locations. On **Tuesday,**

**April 30,** Tom will perform

his one-act play at the Wallace House beginning at 7 pm, with a dessert reception to follow. Admission price TBD.

We'll celebrate Henry A. Wallace's 131st birthday with a dinner theatre performance on **Monday, October 7** at his birthplace farm, now the Henry A. Wallace Country Life Center. More details, including dinner menu and ticket prices will be announced soon.

Based on the award-winning book "American Dreamer" by Senator John C. Culver and John Hyde, Tom portrays Henry A. Wallace, the agricultural innovator and founder of Pioneer Hi-Bred Seed Corn Company, who also became US Secretary of Agriculture and later Vice President under Franklin Roosevelt. Admired and controversial, Wallace always held out a vision for the future. Are you a theatre buff? Would you like to sponsor one or both of Tom's performances? Contact Ann Taylor at 515.243.7063 for more info. 

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# Planning Your Legacy

Do you have causes that you care about? Have you thought about how to continue that support even after your lifetime? A charitable bequest can provide on-going support to non-profits and offer these benefits to you:

- **Simplicity:** Just a few sentences are all that is needed. If you choose to support WCI, your estate planning attorney can find the official bequest language on our web site ([www.wallace.org/support/donate/](http://www.wallace.org/support/donate/)).
- **Flexibility:** Because you are not making an immediate gift, you can change your mind at any time.
- **Versatility:** You can structure the bequest to leave a specific item or amount of money, make the gift contingent upon a certain event, or leave a percentage of your estate.
- **Tax Relief:** If your estate is subject to estate tax, your gift is entitled to an estate tax charitable deduction for the gift's full value.

WCI accepts both unrestricted gifts and gifts for specific

programs and purposes. Gifts can be used for annual operations all at once or placed into one of two endowment funds at the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines: 1) The Wallace Centers of Iowa Endowment Fund and 2) The Wallace Centers of Iowa Endow Iowa Fund, which is eligible for a 25% Iowa tax credit. Both funds distribute a percentage for annual operations which include community-building educational programs, facility improvements, and staff support.

A planned gift is a thoughtful and easy way to continue the generosity that you've demonstrated throughout your life. If you'd like to talk more about planned giving, please contact Ann Taylor, VP Marketing and Resource Development at 515.243.7063 or [anntaylor@wallace.org](mailto:anntaylor@wallace.org).

*All inquiries are confidential and without any obligation. You should also consult your trusted professionals for legal, financial, insurance, or estate planning advice. WCI staff are not engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional advice. ☞*

## Spring Support starts Year Strong

Financial support early in the year is critical as WCI gears up for spring planting, programs and visitors.

Programs and community services such as the Shared Use Kitchen and the new Garden for Good rely on contributions for their development, implementation and evaluation. Winter has taken its toll: maintenance and improvement of our two historic locations can also benefit from your support.

Almost 51% of our **donated** funds comes from individuals

just like you who want to help provide the programs and services WCI offers the community.

Join our family of supportive donors with a contribution of any size. Simply fill out the form below and send it with your check. Or you can contact either location and make a contribution by credit or debit card. All members receive invitations to programs and events, regular newsletters and acknowledgement in the annual report. You can also choose to remain anonymous. Thank you! ☞

### Count me in! Here's my 2019 contribution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please help us reduce mailing costs by providing your email address. WCI does not rent or sell its mailing list.*

TYPE OF GIFT: (circle one)

• **Annual Gift Levels:**

Grower (\$50)	Believer (\$100)
Thinker (\$250)	Innovator (\$500)
Dreamer (\$1,000+)	

• **Endowment Funds:** Contact me with more information about endowment giving. *(no obligation)*

The Wallace Centers of Iowa | 756 16th St., Des Moines, IA 50314

**Credit/debit card donations are also accepted via our web site:  
[www.wallace.org/give/donate](http://www.wallace.org/give/donate) or by phone: 515.243.7063**

## 21 Years of Board Service



Elizabeth Wijkman Treitler stepped down from WCI's board of directors after 21 years of faithful service. Her last board meeting was February 11 in Des Moines. Traveling four times a year from her home in Brookline, MA, Elizabeth missed only a handful of board meetings, mostly because of conflicting family events such as high school and college graduations.

The niece of Henry A. and Ilo Wallace, granddaughter of Henry C. and May Wallace and great-granddaughter of Henry and Nancy Wallace, Elizabeth is the oldest child of Ruth Wallace Wijkman and Per Wijkman.

Cousin Rob Fleming, himself a former board member, commented, "Elizabeth was often in Des Moines during her early years on the board to check in on and care for her mother, Ruth. This made it more convenient to serve the Wallace House, but she would have travelled out anyway, as evidenced by the fact that she has continued steadily since Ruth's death. As is true of Wallace women generally, a sense of duty motivates Elizabeth. This, combined with her deep loyalty to family, explains her extraordinary constancy as a board member and WCI supporter."

Rob continued, "I did not know Elizabeth well before we were WCI teammates. My own early involvement brought me close to her. Through her I have come to know and become close to her siblings, children, sons-in-law, and grandchildren, and this has been a blessing and a privilege. Elizabeth has been a constant and stabilizing force on the board from the beginning and continuing through the present."

Elizabeth, thank you for your thoughtful guidance and steadfast dedication. 🍷

## Wish List: iPad



Have you upgraded your technology? WCI is looking for a gently used iPad for the Country Life Center gift shop.

With an iPad, WCI can load its payment processing software, called Square, on to the device, making checkout quick and easy. The software keeps track of inventory, processes credit and debit cards, and deposits payments immediately. If you have an old iPad that is still usable, please contact Lisa at 641.337.5019. Thank you! 🍷

THE WALLACE CENTERS OF IOWA: [www.wallace.org](http://www.wallace.org)

Wallace House : 756 16th Street, Des Moines, IA 50314 • Ph. 515.243.7063  
Country Life Center: 2773 290th Street, Orient, IA 50858 • Ph. 641.337.5019

### Board of Directors

Christine Halbrook, Chair  
*Bradshaw Law Firm*

Jeff Wallace, Vice Chair  
*South Coast Literacy Council*

Williard Olesen, Secretary  
*Olesen Law Firm, PLC*

Brian Zachary, Treasurer  
*Preservationist & Farmers Mkt. Mgr.*

Jane Hatfield Anchustegui  
*retired middle school teacher*

Deb Copeland  
*Copeland Creative Talent*

Nicholas Devereux  
*U.S. Senate*

Jay Howe  
*Olesen Law Firm, PLC (retired)*

Marion James  
*James Law Office*

Barb Kalbach  
*Madison County Hospital*

### Staff

Debra Houghtaling, CEO  
[debrahoughtaling@wallace.org](mailto:debrahoughtaling@wallace.org)

Deborah Boyer, Leadership Programs Coor.  
[deborahboyer@wallace.org](mailto:deborahboyer@wallace.org)

Mary Kapler, Shared Use Kitchen Mgr.  
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Adam Main  
*Machinery Maintenance, Garden Assist.*  
[adammain@wallace.org](mailto:adammain@wallace.org)

Sarah Mathiews, Country Life Center Chef  
[sarahmathiews@wallace.org](mailto:sarahmathiews@wallace.org)

Katie Porter, Chef/Food Programs Mgr  
[katieporter@wallace.org](mailto:katieporter@wallace.org)

Mosa Shayan, Farm Programs Manager  
[mosashayan@wallace.org](mailto:mosashayan@wallace.org)

Lisa Swanson  
*Program Assistant/Gift Shop Mgr.*  
[lisaswanson@wallace.org](mailto:lisaswanson@wallace.org)

Ann Taylor  
*VP Marketing & Development*  
[anntaylor@wallace.org](mailto:anntaylor@wallace.org)

The Wallace Centers of Iowa  
756 Sixteenth Street  
Des Moines, IA 50314  
515-243-7063  
info@wallace.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**HELP US GO GREEN!**  
**Send us your email address**

## 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 28 Know Your Farmer Dinner with Steve & Becky Kerns, WH, FULL with wait list
- March 8 Hearts & Homes tea, 11:30 am, WH, \$25
- March 23 Garden Workshop, Orient Methodist Church, \$30
- March 28 Farm to Table Thursday dinners begin, WH, reservations 5:30 to 8 pm
- April 12 Hearts & Homes tea, 11:30 am, WH, \$25
- April 15 Cooking Class: "Shoots, sprouts & micro greens" • WH, 5:30-7:30 pm, \$45
- April 24 Leadership Lunch, 11:30 am, WH, details TBA
- April 27 Quilt Show, Mourning Quilt Program & Lunch, CLC, more details TBA
- April 29-May 4 Quilt Show only, CLC, 10 am - 4 pm daily, 10 am - 6 pm Wednesday, admission TBA
- April 30 American Dreamer one-man show with dessert buffet, WH, 7 pm, more details TBA
- May 1 Leadership Lunch, 11:30 am, WH, details TBA
- May 8 Leadership Lunch, 11:30 am, WH, details TBA
- May 17 Hearts & Homes tea, 11:30 am, WH, \$25
- May 20 Cooking Class: "Pucker up" • WH, 5:30-7:30 pm, \$45
- May 27 Memorial Day, both locations closed