

# The Crows' Courier

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*The mission of Crows' Feat Farm  
is to build community through a collaborative  
commitment to regenerative farming*

## WHAT'S GROWING ON



### *The Year of Our Dreams*

2023 was the year Crows' Feat Farm came into its own, thanks to the hard work of our volunteers and the support of our Seacoast community. As our favorite singer-songwriter David Roth expressed, [This Was the Year](#) of our dreams.

With loving hands and hearts, we grew thousands of pounds of food, despite challenging weather conditions. We were welcomed as a newbie farmer to the Exeter farmers market, and gave [Seacoast Eat Local](#) our very best – meeting many wonderful people in the process. We expanded our farm share program, and created a new flower share for those who love beautiful blooms.

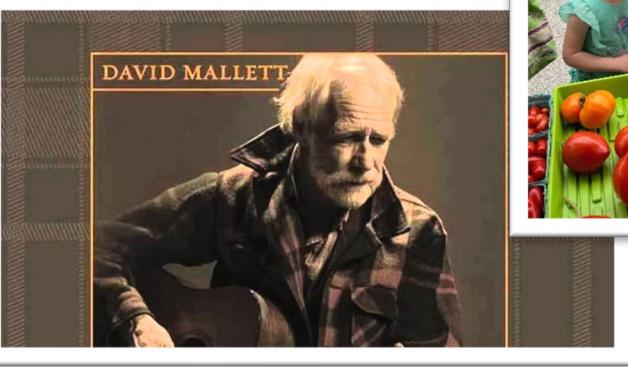
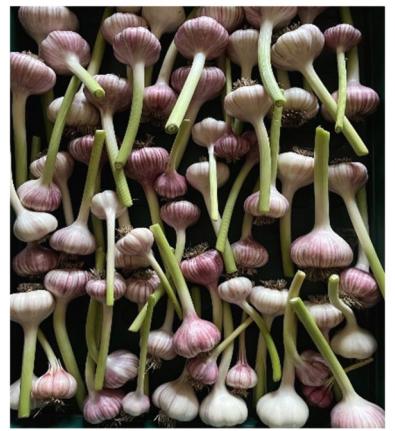
We built connections with other farmers, and learned so much from them. We were delighted to host cows in our pastures, supporting the work of Nell and Andy Fillmore of [K-Farm](#). We gained a lifetime of knowledge about preserving food from [Alicia Crow](#), our sister in name and spirit. Our beekeeper, Scott LaFrance of [Newfound Hill Farm](#), expanded his operations at Crows' Feat, providing plenty of pollinator potential for our plants (that's a lot of p's and bees!) We look forward to working with and learning from [Dean Cousins](#), a smart and hot-saucy guy in neighboring Stratham.

Through the gracious gifts of nature, we had just enough for everyone: enough eggs, chickens, produce, fruits, conversation, donations, laughter and appreciation. More than enough to keep [St Vincent DePaul](#) among our highest-priority clients. Everything we do rests upon the foundational principles of permaculture, and we are grateful to [Seacoast Permaculture](#) for teaching us so much about how to create abundance. We fed a lot of people in 2023, and filled many hearts too.

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We continued our summer concert series through our fourth year, welcoming some wonderful bands new to the farm, including the phenomenally talented [Rockspring](#), as well as New Orleans jazz fusion [Krewe deGroove](#). It was a beautiful day for a picnic and Dave Mallet's legendary *Garden Song* – thank goodness the rain held off for at least one weekend!

## COMMUNITY CORNER



We made progress in building the farm's infrastructure, extending our gravity-powered irrigation lines, building many new garden beds, and adding a second hoop house to keep our chickens warm during the winter. Progress on the farm store has (finally!) accelerated, and we expect to be open for business in the spring of 2024. The finish work will take time, as we're milling our own pine boards for siding. After that, it's just a matter of the insulation, plumbing, drywall, floors, painting, and the kitchen...



Fortunately, we have welcomed many new friends and volunteers to the farm, among them Nell & Andy, Trish, Mike, Charlene, Chris, Serena, Jean, Penny, Nadine, Devin, Kristen, and Randy, who have joined our expanding community of fellow farmers & gardeners. We look forward to bringing more young cultivators into the circle, demonstrating the power of collaboration and cooperation.

What we do every day seems to some like an impossible dream – but it's not. We are already living it, with hard work and faith, one day at a time. Our gratitude for the blessings of nature and community is boundless.



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## COME GROW WITH US

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**First Saturday (or Sunday)  
Working Parties**

**2024 dates & times TBD!**

By custom, on the first Saturday of every month we gather as a community to perform the work of this farm that none of us can do alone. Our working party routine was complicated this year by perpetual snow and rain (which seemed always to arrive on the weekends!) and the challenges of juggling farmstand hours with our group activities.

Many volunteers helped on other occasions, for which we are very appreciative! Even so, our group activities are always the most fun, as many hands make light work together – and the feast that follows tastes so much better when shared. We are debating whether to move our working parties to Saturday afternoons (with a dinner & firepit to follow) or to Sunday morning. Please let us know your preference!