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ordering, and preparation that make the summer months fruitful. Ultimately, both served as Manager at Appleton, directing all planting, supervising seasonal workers, driving the tractors, and running the farm's CSA. Lise and Melissa come to Concord with a wealth of practical experience. No flower children, these!

They are eager to move in and prepare the greenhouse for seeds, starting as soon as possible. When we interviewed them, snow was still on the ground, so they are looking forward to seeing where perennial crops will come up. They see this as a learning year, planting a few acres in many types of vegetables: lettuces, tomatoes, beets, onions, squash, bean, peas—and watermelon! Seeds have been ordered, and once the ground dries, peas will go in. Lise and Melissa plan to run Barrett's Mill Farm primarily as a CSA, with a planned 40 families subscribing this year. Unlike other CSAs, which assign prescribed amounts of each item to each family, members will be able to select those foods they want from a weekly array. There will be some pick-your-own peas, beans, and cherry tomatoes as well. It will also be possible to buy vegetables at the farm stand, which will be open Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Next year? More acres planted, with flowers as well as more vegetables.

The farmstand opening date has yet to be decided, but will probably coincide with the asparagus harvest—something to look forward to. The CSA will begin later in the season, on June 17th.

McGrath Farm, you may recall, was purchased last year after a Town Meeting vote, using a combination of CPC funds and monies raised by CHF. The CHF board has been involved in the planning for the remodeling of the farmhouse to provide separate living spaces for both a farm family and an additional farm worker.

Long-time Concord residents, like Dave Holdorf and Kathy Dwyer, Lise's parents, have volunteered their time to make Concord inviting—but now find that, for their children, the chances of moving back are hampered by the rapidly rising prices of homes and land alike. And in order to make a farm economically viable, an even more substantial financial outlay is required.

Lise and Melissa said, "We're thrilled to have this opportunity to live here where people care about locally grown food, and to farm this land, which wouldn't have been possible without the creation of this affordable-rate house and land rental. We want people to know how grateful we are for this opportunity."

Find out more about the farm's progress at:
www.barrettsmillfarm.com