

Welcome: *Molly Notarianni* to the Ann Arbor Farmers Market



Molly Notarianni first discovered farming five years ago while working on her friend's fledgling farm in Chelsea, Michigan. It was love at first turnip! She went on to work on commercial farms from Colorado and Italy to New York, selling the produce she grew at vibrant local farmers' markets along the way. When she arrived in Portland, Oregon Molly became the manager of the towns' markets.

Throughout her tenure with *Portland Farmers Market*, she gained invaluable experience, working with one of the nation's most innovative and consistently top-ranking markets. Molly is extremely excited to have the opportunity to return to Ann Arbor, her home, and to manage the farmers market. In her mind, it is a perfect chance to find creative ways to implement some of the market innovations she has discovered across the country, while maintaining the integrity of the *Ann Arbor Farmers Market* as a vital and vibrant part of the Ann Arbor community.



We welcome **Molly Notarianni** to the City. She starts her new role Monday, Feb. 25 and can be reached at **734.994.3276** or via e-mail at **mnotarianni@a2gov.org**.

I couldn't be more delighted about becoming the new manager of the *Ann Arbor Farmers Market*! A longtime Ann Arborite, I have spent the past five years growing for, selling at and managing farmers markets across the country.

With a unique background that includes experience on both sides of the market table, I have worked on commercial farms from Southeast Michigan to Colorado and Italy. As a grower, I adored sharing the literal fruits of my labors with others, and believe the discourse created through such market-based interactions is an essential component of the successful relocalization of food systems. At the same time, I feel extremely passionate about the institution of farmers markets, and their ability to help local growers and artisans stay afloat.

I have spent the past season managing the *Portland Farmers Market*, coordinating several markets each week, often involving upwards of 150 vendors. Working at one of the largest and most innovative markets in the nation, I have gained invaluable knowledge. From organizing festivals to recruiting vendors; managing finances to dealing with early-morning market dilemmas; I have experienced, and learned from it all.

It was the *Ann Arbor Farmers Market* that first introduced me to the world of sustainable agriculture and local foods many years ago. I am so honored to now have the opportunity to work with the market, and am excited to become the Market Manager at a time when so many new opportunities exist on the horizon. I look forward to finding creative ways to implement some of the market innovations I've discovered across the country, while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the *Ann Arbor Farmers Market* as a vital and vibrant part of our community. Most importantly, I look forward to having the opportunity to getting to know each of you better and working as your advocate!