For Immediate Release
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VA Locavores Join National Food Day Coalition
- Farm Store (re)Startup Celebrates Local Food and Farming -

Washington, DC and Concord, VA - Uncle Glover’s Sherwill Center for Rural Heritage (Uncle Glover’s) in Concord, Virginia, will be taking part in a national campaign to recognize Food Day. The rural farm store (re)startup is one of many organizations hosting an event in October to celebrate Food Day’s mission of promoting local farming, healthy eating, and affordable food produced in a sustainable way.

Food Day, which originally began in the 1970s, is a nationwide grassroots effort encouraging healthier diets and improved food policies. Organizers are working with restaurants, colleges, schools, health departments, churches, farmers markets, city halls and state capitals across the country to establish October 24 as Food Day.

In Concord, Virginia, the proprietors at Uncle Glover’s, sisters Audrey and Anne Scott Cardwell, will be hosting a Fall Hootenanny and Food Day Celebration featuring butter making, cider pressing, and bluegrass music, as well as food from local chefs and stalls featuring local produce, arts, and crafts. The event will take place on October 9th, from 2pm - 6pm at Uncle Glover's at the crossroad of Spring Mills and New Chapel Roads in Campbell County Virginia.

Uncle Glover’s was first opened in 1926 by the great-uncle of Cardwell sisters. It served as a meeting place for the residents of the rural Concord community. Audrey and Anne Scott were raised on a working family farm nearby and participated in activities at their relative’s store throughout their childhood. Their passion for history, family, sustainable farming, and local food has animated their desire to restore Uncle Glover’s, which had been closed for the last 38 years. Uncle Glover’s is now a place where locals gather, listen to pick-up bluegrass, buy an heirloom tomato, learn how to graft heritage apple trees, or simply share a story.

Lilia Smelkova, Food Day’s campaign manager, commented, “Our goal for Food Day is to raise awareness about food-related issues including the importance of local food, sustainable agriculture, nutrition and eradicating hunger. Anne Scott and Audrey Cardwell’s participation encompasses all of those efforts. We are glad to have them as partners and Concord is lucky to have them!”

A local restaurant owner, writer and self-proclaimed foodie, Anne Scott Cardwell, said, “This country store and community has been a part of my family for generations. We are using this event to support the continued renovation of our historic store, aid our local farmer-food bank coalition, and give our community a place to gather socially. Uncle Glover’s and Food Day are a perfect partnership. Amazing things are happening in Concord and the nation and we are glad to be a part of it.”

Other Food Day events in the area include: Food Day Extravaganza, and A Community of Gardeners, in Washington DC; Fox Hollow Farm’s Fall Harvest On the Farm “Healthy Food For All”, and Volunteer on a Farm! in Maryland; and Good, Clean & Fair Food for All Film Fest in Richmond, VA. Hundreds of other Food Day events can be found on an interactive map at FoodDay.org.

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About Food Day:
Food Day, which is spearheaded by the nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest, wants to get Americans cooking healthy, delicious meals for their families again. National organizations, such as the American Dietetic Association, American Public Health Association, Community Food Security Coalition, Earth Day Network, Farmers Market Coalition, Humane Society of the United States, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, Prevention Institute, and Slow Food USA, along with many city- and state-level organizations, are planning on organizing or participating in Food Day events. Modeled on Earth Day, Food Day will inspire Americans to hold thousands of events in schools, college campuses, houses of worship, and even in private homes.

Food Day’s advisory board, chaired by Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), includes many of the most prominent voices for change in the food policy world, including urban farming proponent Will Allen, author Michael Pollan, scientists Walter Willett and Kelly Brownell, Seattle Mayor Michael McGinn, former Surgeons General Richard Carmona and David Satcher, executive directors of the American Public Health Association and American Dietetic Association, chefs Dan Barber, Nora Pouillon, Barton Seaver, Alice Waters, and others. www.foodday.org

About Uncle Glover’s Sherwill Center for Rural Heritage:
Audrey Cardwell grew up on a family farm in rural Virginia. She worked in community based public service organizations, and then spent many years traveling and working internationally with officials and activists on sustainable development and tourism in the West Indies, South Africa and the South Pacific. She is a Virginia Master Naturalist, an avid amateur photographer and a mediocre gardener and seamstress.

Anne Scott Cardwell (Scott) was born on the same family farm in Virginia. She left at the age of 18 to study, travel, work and write. After 20 years of living in larger and larger cities and smaller and smaller apartments, she returned to the family farm to care for her parents and in 2001 opened Bull Branch, a global bistro and lounge, in nearby downtown Lynchburg, Virginia. Bull Branch has been called "the most romantic restaurant in Lynchburg...half Paris and half New York..." by Southern Living and declared "...one of our favorite restaurants on earth..." by the Washington Post.

Uncle Glover Hunter Jones was born June 4, 1892, the youngest of six children, on a tobacco farm two miles from his future store. In 1926 he bought what had been the Stratton & Elder dry goods store at the crossroads in Sherwill, Virginia from Yankee Peete. The Glover H. Jones General Store sold everything from cotton thread to fishing line to cured bacon to, what by all accounts was the best butter in the county. Glover Jones ran his general store until his death in 1967. The store closed its doors six years later and has sat idle until now. Sisters and great nieces Audrey and Anne Scott Cardwell are reviving Uncle Glover’s Store to celebrate their family history, promote and provide local food and restore a defacto community center in this historic farming community.