



Sowing *the* seeds

by Jennaye Derge



A garden bed outside Mancos Elementary School brings color to the day.



Durango's neighbor to the west hosted this year's Homegrown Food Retreat, where local foodies connect.

When it comes to good local food, Growing Partners of the Southwest has it covered. Alongside their other annual events, such as the popular Apple Days festival and beloved Tour De Farms, Growing Partners also brings foodies together each year for the Homegrown Food Retreat. The event offers a chance to connect and learn more about the growers, cooks and customers in our local food system. For the 8th annual retreat, which took place in Mancos last Saturday, local food lovers attended workshops on the area's business economy and local food distribution system and even broke it up with a jaunt around town. No seed was left unsown and, thanks to some delectable donations from Absolute Bakery, no stomach was left empty.



Absolute Bakery owner David Blaine discusses buying local produce during one of the day's many workshops.



A walking tour around Mancos gave participants a window into homegrown local businesses, such as Fahrenheit Coffee Roasters, as well as historical sights.



One of the Growing Partners tour guides begins a workshop at the elementary school garden.