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Above Scarpa prepares fresh bruschetta in her kitchen. Right, is a pear torte, made with fresh eggs from Lake Meadows Farm in Ocoee, and Florida Crystal sugar.



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## *A Dreamy Dinner*

November 19th

If Rife's plans blossom, Saturday evening's Farm to Table Dinner will be a magical experience, not just a meal. Local chefs will prepare a multi-course repast with foods produced by area farmers. The feast will host 200 people maximum.

Jamie McFadden of the Winter Park-based catering firm Cuisiners is the mastermind behind the logistics. Chefs from Luma on Park, The Ravenous Pig and Mi Tomatina are among those participating. Each will prepare one course. Some foods will be served at the table while others will be finished *a la minute* at cooking stations so guests can meet both the chefs and the farmers responsible. Paired wines will be poured. Bluegrass musicians will entertain.

While the food and beverage promise to be delightful, Rife is most excited about the camaraderie. "Grassroots guys tend to villainize the yuppies and the yuppies tend to villainize the hippies. Here you'll have country club members dining with tattooed farmers, seated under the same communal tent on an eating adventure. It's a great way to break down barriers."



anything. But I will go through the headache of coordinating this thing if others just agree to show up and play.”

### STARTING FROM SCRATCH

Where to begin? With the ladies from his childhood Winter Park neighborhood. “Back in the 1980s, six mothers in the Vias called themselves the Tired Mothers’ Club and went out every Thursday evening while their husbands watched the kids,” Rife says. “These women are very well respected in the Winter Park community. [They are Rife’s mother, Shelley Rife; Mary Rumberger; Genean McKinnon; Katherine Miller; Janet Elrod; and Ginger Pointer]. If you want to launch something here, they are one place you go to first.

“So I went to my mothers and asked: ‘Does this tickle your fancy at all, or do I just have a hippie streak and nobody in Winter Park would be interested in it?’

They thought the idea had merit, so step number two was getting financing. Mary Rumberger was on the board of the Winter Park Health Foundation. She told Rife that

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