



It Really Was a Fine Day

Sometimes in life, things turn out even better than you had imagined. That's the way I feel about our cover story, "One Fine Day in Bloomington." In the August/September issue we asked readers interested in photography to take pictures of whatever caught their fancy on one day, Saturday, August 23. The idea was to show a typical summer day in Bloomington—both to reflect on our shared experiences now and to show people of the future what life was like in early 21st-century Bloomington.

The quality of the pictures and the variety of subject matter exceeded my expectations.

What's more, I discovered a wonderful pool of talent—amateur photographers who I hope will contribute to *Bloom* as professionals in the future.

Among them is Domingo "Ding" Prud'homme. I have seen many images of our courthouse, but none as warm and beautiful as his, which appears on pages 76 and 77. Ding also shot our striking cover picture of the iconic Chocolate Moose and some "in your face" photos of roller derby.

I am in love with Susan Savastuk's joyful picture on page 79 of a young couple on their way home from the Farmers' Market, their bicycles laden with tomatoes, their intelligent, open faces so quintessentially Bloomington.

Another, very different picture that grabs me was taken by Mique Van Vooren inside Big Red's Genuine Tattoos, on page 82. The effect is kinetic, the colors electric, and the expression on the faces of the two young women beguiling. On that same page is a mesmerizing image by Marti Garvey of eight



young skateboarders posed in a row. And on the final page of this story is an Alan Burdette photo of a middle-aged man square dancing at an old-time music festival—a genuine slice of Bloomington life if ever there was one.

I have been making magazines for more than 30 years, but I have seldom been as excited about a story as I am about this one. I hope you enjoy it as much as I do and that you will find your own favorite pictures.

Please visit our website, magbloom.com, to view many more pictures. And a big thank you to all the photographers who sent in their work. Together I think we may have made a little history.

Malcolm Abrams
editor and publisher