

expressed confidence in the intelligence of readers to make choices about what to read.

In his concluding chapter, Wiegand draws from his database of library accessions to see whether the four libraries studied acquired works of serious literature, popular fiction, series books, or banned or controversial works. With small book budgets and dependent on donations, library collections before 1956 did not grow according to plan. Nonetheless, Wiegand's comparisons of library holdings against lists of best sellers and challenged books are often intriguing, although it is hard to draw conclusions about motives in particular cases. What his findings show is great variety in book selection that reflected not only the local communities but also the historical roots of the library and the philosophy of the librarian in charge. Iowans may read more about Osage in Christine Pawley's *Reading on the Middle Border* and would be interested, as well, in the work of Forrest Spaulding and the Des Moines Public Library in actively supporting community forums in the 1930s and adopting its own Library Bill of Rights in 1938.

Turn Here, Sweet Corn: Organic Farming Works, by Atina Diffley. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2012. 335 pp. Illustrations. \$24.95 cloth.

Reviewer Barbara J. Dilly is associate professor of anthropology at Creighton University. Her research focuses on rural economic development, ecology, ecotourism, gender and agriculture, agricultural adaptations, rural religious community life, rural community revitalization, rural environmental sustainability, rural health, rural art forms, and rural volunteerism.

Atina Diffley's autoethnography is a personal story placed in an ethnographic context. Diffley presents organic farming as a cultural innovation based on the same values of hard work, risk taking, determination to succeed, creativity, extended kinship relations, spiritual connections to the land, specialized knowledge, and neighborhood networks of traditional family farming agriculture. But she explains how urbanization and industrial systems threaten those relationships and the land. In the story of her life, Diffley argues that organic farming works to sustain marriage, family, neighborhood, and community relationships. Organic farming not only keeps body and soul together, but it also works to save soil fertility, balance water use, dignify labor, harmonize plant, animal, and insect populations, and provide fresh, nutritious, and delicious fruits and vegetables for local consumers.

But this testimony does not present organic farming as a romantic escape from urban alienation. Iowans intrigued with organic farming

need to read this book. They can learn about the trials and tribulations that come with dealing with midwestern weather, maintaining farm equipment, managing soil fertility, addressing insect infestations, marketing, getting up at 3:00 a.m. during harvest, and the art of timing—when to plant and when to pick to get the best yields and the best flavor. They can learn about the highly intimate soil and plant knowledge organic farming requires, as well as business strategies, government regulations, and the politics of organic farming that make for organic farming success. Iowa farmers thinking of going organic will appreciate this book. Iowa consumers will wish more of them would.

Harvest the Wind: America's Journey to Jobs, Energy Independence, and Climate Stability, by Philip Warburg. Boston: Beacon Press, 2012. xii, 244 pp. Illustration, tables, notes, bibliography, index. \$27.95 cloth.

Reviewer Angie Gumm is an adjunct lecturer at Wichita State University. She is the author of *Waste, Energy, and the Crisis of Confidence: The American People and the History of Resource Recovery, 1965–2001* (forthcoming).

Philip Warburg's *Harvest the Wind* is an argument for whole-heartedly pursuing wind energy in the United States. The environmental lawyer and advocate briefly lays out the history of the modern wind industry, which had its first "big wave" in the United States in the 1980s, about a decade after it emerged in Denmark, the world's wind energy leader. In both countries wind went from a type of soft-energy-appropriate technology to being as high-tech as any other big utility. Unlike Denmark—and now China—the U.S. has not had given wind power consistent governmental support, but in recent years wind has moved to the forefront of green energy technologies. Warburg explores a wide range of issues, including how the U.S. industry compares with the rest of the world; how midwestern communities like Newton, Iowa, and community colleges like Iowa Lakes are on the cutting edge of this burgeoning industry; how turbines are transported and assembled; and what obstacles are impeding the industry's growth.

Warburg has studied the issue well and provides an excellent introduction to wind. Readers used to more scholarly books, however, should keep in mind the author's agenda. He presents two sides of several issues, but the objections of wind opponents are sometimes brushed aside too easily. He repeatedly shows how there is more than enough wind power to meet the country's projected energy needs. However, when residents object to turbines in Kansas's Flint Hills, he incorrectly implies that the permanent environmental impacts of the construction (the service roads and concrete slabs) are no worse than