



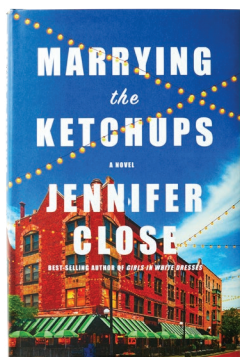
life



JOANNA LINBERG,
CONTRIBUTING
HOME EDITOR

GRASS ROOTS

Having moved home to the Midwest from the West Coast, I love the greeting cards and prints sold by Prairy Market and Deli in Newton, Kansas. Featuring tallgrass prairie plants (and their amazing roots), they are both pretty and educational—and 1 percent of proceeds supports prairie conservation. From \$3.50. shop.prairy.com



BOOKSHELF

MARRYING THE KETCHUPS

This hilariously woven novel from Chicago native Jennifer Close follows the wildly different yet equally endearing members of a restaurant family in the city's suburbs. Expect funny romance, colorful language, '90s music, the Cubs—and lots of food (Knopf, \$28).



GIVE BACK

ALL IN THE FAMILY

Omaha high schooler Andrew Genchi-Bello was struggling with his grades when he found Latino Center of the Midlands. The community center's Pathways to Success program not only helped him graduate, but introduced him to gardening and volunteering—distributing food from its urban agriculture program and learning how food insecurity impacts community health. He represents one of thousands of people Latino Center has helped since 1971. Diverse programming includes workforce education courses (such as ESL and computer classes), after-school kids' activities, and wellness opportunities like Zumba classes and cooking demos. The Latino Center also works to elevate its neighborhood of South Omaha. "It can have a stigma at times," says Nate Van Haute, marketing and communications manager. "When people come to see it, they're in shock about how vibrant and familial it is." latinocenter.org

As part of our Good Neighbors program, highlighting unique Midwest nonprofits and individuals making our communities stronger, Midwest Living has donated \$500 to Latino Center of the Midlands.