# We'll be at Cobblestone Farmers Market on TOMORROW with all kinds of Organic Spring Goodies! See below for more details.

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# Happy Friday, Farm Friends!

The <u>Golden Hour</u> on the Farm is quite a sight to behold. Thursday night was especially magical -- if I had waited a few more minutes, I could have included the near-full moon in the photo.



What a Week! It started last weekend when we moved the beehive from the meadow. It was a cool, calm night -- perfect for closing up the hive and driving the mile back to the farmhouse. Picture perfect move -- got the ladies in their new location and settled in for the night.



The next day was a different story. We were chasing swarms all over the place! We don't know if the hive we brought back threw a swarm or if it was another colony. It was crazy -- we think there were at least 4 swarms (or maybe the same group swarming 4 times!) Hard to tell.



Ray set up the small demo hive body to try and capture the bees -- and they were there for a while. Then they left too! It is swarm season, after all. Be alert for swarms and feel free to contact us if you have one at your home. If we aren't able to capture it, we might be able to refer you to a beekeeper who can. It's a BZZZY time of year!

#### More Planting, More Fences!

Lots more planting this week! It always feels so good getting those little plants into the ground and watching them grow. Our fence crop is expanding as well. Sophie and Ray were fencing machines and got the fence up around the strawberries. Night #1 was a success -- fingers and toes crossed for this to be the norm. It is so nice not to uncover and cover the strawberries and peas every day. The bees are probably pretty happy about it too!



### One Potato, Two Potato...

We're planting potatoes today! According to my Aunt Ruth, you should always plant something on Good Friday. We are happy to honor her memory with our efforts. Jonny and Elise blasted through 370 pounds of spuds earlier this week and got them cut to proper size. The potatoes had already started to warm up and send out shoots. They are awake and ready to grow!



## The Garlic Brigade!

This year's garlic crop is looking really good! Strong, healthy plants -- and amazingly, very few weeds compared to what we have dealt with in previous years. Team Plum Granny and their hula hoes zapped all those weeds in the field in less than 4 hours. Wo declared Victory Over Weeds! Before weeding, Ray gave the garlic a bit of fertilizer to give it an extra bit of oomph as it moves into scape production (hardneck garlic only) in mid-May and bulbing in late May.



On Thursday, we harvested the first of the Spring Garlic -- beautiful, tasty bulbs! This delicious spring treat will be going to Cobblestone Farmers Market

#### on Saturday.



#### Mark Your Calendar! Huge Summer Plant Sale NEXT Weekend

We have been busy little bees ourselves as we get ready for next weekend's Plant Sale. The dates are **Friday, April 22 to Sunday, April 24** -- 3 days to get beautiful, healthy plants for your summer garden.



Not only do we have 56 varieties of tomatoes, we have 29 varieties of peppers -- from sweet, bell peppers to VERY hot habaneros along with herbs, veggies and flowers. But it's not just the wide variety, we offer so much more. Our plants are grown in high quality, Organic seed-starting mix -- which we selected after several years of trying more than 10 products. We supplement our mix with a beneficial <u>mycorrhizal</u> inoculant which helps the plants be more self-sufficient and stronger. We also give the plants a dip in a solution of fish emulsion and compost tea to give them an extra boost when they are potted up. All of these steps take more time and cost us more money but the result is a healthier and more resilient transplant than you will get at any big-box store or nursery. A better start for your garden.

Watch your email for more details next week including a list of available plants!

## The Purple Tent is Back!

We'll be making our first appearance of the season at <u>Cobblestone Farmers</u> <u>Market</u> this Saturday, April 16! We're bringing our early season specialties including Spring Garlic -- it will help you get ready for <u>National Garlic Day</u> next Tuesday (who knew?). Also gracing our tables will be Snacking Cucumbers, beautiful Red and Green Butter Lettuce, Seminole Squash, and Asparagus (limited quantities). We'll also have 4-packs of Organic Veggie Starts including broccoli, cauliflower, pac choi and other Asian Greens. *ALL of our products are Certified Organic, and they are grown by us!* 

The market is located at 1007 South Marshall Street (at Salem Avenue) and is open from 8:30-noon.







Please stop by and say "Hello!" -- we would love to see you. And we'll also have more information about our Plant Sale as well as information about <u>PlumFresh</u>. Time is running out to sign up -- registration closes on April 18!

That's the news from the farm for this week! It's a busy weekend with Passover and Good Friday today, and Easter on Sunday. Enjoy spending time with your family and friends as we celebrate our traditions of faith.

Let us close with another Golden Hour photo of the farm -- the light transforms even the mundane high tunnels into a beautiful canvas of this place we call home.



Remember to be kind, love your neighbor and pray for Peace.

Until next week, Cheryl & Ray

P.S. Don't miss Saturday's Full Moon!

