

**We'll be at back at Cobblestone
Farmers Market Saturday with LOADS
of great Organic stuff. Oodles of
BLACKBERRIES, Fresh Garlic and
MORE! Details below...**

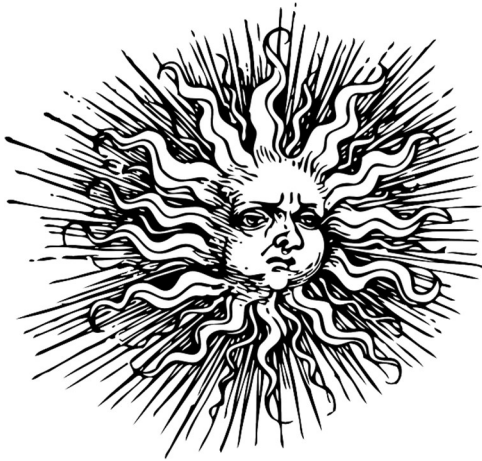
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Happy Friday, Farm Friends! Happy Summer!

The Summer Solstice crept in on Tuesday morning at 5:14 a.m., heralding the longest day of the year. For many, Summer Solstice is a big celebration. For Ray, it is a sad day because days keep getting shorter until December. Is that a glass half-empty kind of guy? Or maybe he's just a farmer with too much to do?



With Summer's official arrival, it really kicks up the need to harvest garlic. We got more out of the field yesterday -- Chesnok Red. And, as is proving to be the case with all things Allium this year, the bulbs are HUGE!



So now we have 1,966 more bulbs to add to the overall total. We currently have 8,816 bulbs out of the ground. And they have all exceeded our expectations for size and quality. We can't begin to express how happy this makes us!

We finally have all of the Lorz Italian hanging in the barn loft. As we mentioned last week, since the bulbs are so large, they are taking up more room than usual! We only have 3 wires left in the barn! Help!



We will be using "the Net" for curing out the Inchelium Red. The net is simply a piece of deer fence that we have attached to an interior side of the barn. This enables us to hang a few thousand bulbs in a relatively small space. We need every inch we can find this year! Here's a picture from a few years ago when we used the net to hang some hardneck garlic.



We've been harvesting more alliums than just garlic around here! Thursday we got out the Greeley Shallots. Best crop ever! These shallots are usually super small -- not these! Big, beautiful shallots!



And, of course, RingBob wanted to help!



We've also been harvesting some big, beautiful onions -- a crop we have struggled with for years! This is definitely the year of the Allium!

Not to be outdone by all of this allium chatter, the blackberries are also demanding our attention! We've picked over 500 clamshells of blackberries since last Thursday! Not a bad haul!



We are also trying to get ready for planting sweet potatoes -- and are running behind schedule for sure! The field we had originally planned on using was going to entail a pretty major fencing effort to keep out the deer. After all, sweet potatoes are their most favorite crop. As time ticked by, that wasn't practical, so we decided to put them where we had snap and snow peas -- and a good

strong fence. Good idea! However, we had to get the peas and the t-posts out of the field. As is the case with most things farming, easier said than done!

Eight hundred feet of pea vines along with about 30 t-posts and a couple of hundred step-in posts take some time to get out of the field. But thanks to Jonny and Sophie, the job is done and now we are prepping the ground for planting early next week.



Cobblestone Farmers Market News!

We're BAAAACK! We had such a great time seeing everyone last week, we decided that it was time to do it again!



We want to share our bumper crop of blackberries and fresh garlic with our wonderful customers (YOU!). We don't want you to miss the chance to get

these delicious Organic goodies -- remember, we're the only Organic vendor at market.

So! Many! Blackberries! Load up for your pre-July 4th celebrations!

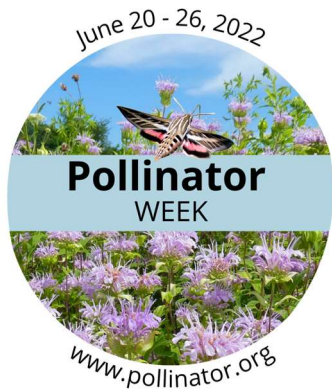


Come see us under the **Purple Tent** for **Blackberries**, Fresh Garlic (*Inchelium Red, Music and Chesnok Red*), Elephant Garlic Flowers, Garlic Scapes, Fennel, Frisse, **Baby Summer Squash**, and MORE! [Cobblestone Farmers Market](#) is open from 8:30-noon and is located at 1007 South Marshall Street. Looking forward to seeing you there!



That's all the news we have for this week! A couple of things to let you know in closing.... This is [National Pollinator Week](#)! We want to give our thanks to the birds and the bees and all of the creatures that help make our job as farmers easier. Pollinators are so important to our food supply -- in fact, pollinators are responsible for as much as 1/3 of what's on our plates and in our glasses. And

when they are in short supply, it makes a huge difference. And it's not just birds and bees that pollinate -- about 1,000 are vertebrates such as bats and small mammals!



And finally, check out the sky tomorrow morning just before sunrise. You'll be treated to a [rare planetary alignment](#). Five planets plus the Moon line up in the predawn sky: Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn. Remarkably, they appear in order of their proximity to the sun, with Mercury visible closest to the horizon while the other planets arc neatly across the southern and eastern sky. This has not been seen since 1864! Enjoy!

Be kind, love your neighbor, and pray for Peace and for an end to all of this senseless violence.

**Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray**



