

It's another Cobblestone Farmers Market Saturday for us! We'll be there TOMORROW -- Saturday (6/10) with loads of goodies. See what we are bringing in the list below.



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!



What a lovely view out of my office window today. That's one of the great things about working outside -- you get to pick your view so much of the time! WFH is one thing, but WFF (Work From Farm) is something entirely different!

We had better enjoy the sunshine over the next couple of days because it's looking like a rainy one next week.

A lot of this week has been spent on getting the sweet potato field ready for planting. The field is fertilized, beds are shaped and prepped, and drip

irrigation is all tucked in. Now all we need is to pop in the sweet potato slips, right? Not so fast!



Planting sweet potatoes is like sending an engraved invitation to an *All You Can Eat* buffet for deer. Sweet potato plants are absolute deer candy. Before we plant, we must fence!

So that's what we are doing. Jonny, Camile and Ray have spent the better part of 2 days getting this new fence in place. Since this is a field we haven't used in a while, it wasn't set up with our new fencing methodology. Fencing methodology...think we've been doing this for a while?

For those of you who have been following us over the past few years, you are quite familiar with our deer struggles. We have invested thousands of hours and dollars trying to keep deer out of our fields. It does feel like we are having a bit more success as of late -- probably because we are electrifying the fence more -- and more consistently.



Once the fence is done, we can plant our 2,100 beautiful sweet potato slips in this great soil. They get to share space with okra as well! Getting hungry just writing about this!



And just like that, the planting has begun! Getting these babies in the ground this morning!



Field Notes

Sweet potatoes and fencing aren't the only things on our minds around here. The new round of cucumbers is planted in the Pavillion and is ready to be trellised. This is a new location for the cucumbers, and we hope that it will have better air circulation than inside the greenhouse. Better air flow will hopefully give the cukes less pest pressure (less stressed plants = less pests). Our two previous rounds of cukes this spring were beset by pests and disease from the get-go.



Pole beans, sweet peppers and lettuce all got planted this week, while we harvested lots of the spring brassicas and carrots. And we are also looking at the garlic and thinking that it is going to need to come out of the ground soon. We are approaching that magic number of 5-6 good leaves left on the plant -- that's when you need to get your garlic out of the ground.

The Joan J Raspberries also got a good weeding -- they had gotten pretty furry! Since it is a new planting (2022), the beds need to be kept relatively weed-free so the plant can get better established and spread.



The plants seemed to be much happier after they got cleaned up! Although I don't think this was instantaneous fruiting!



Speaking of raspberries, thanks so much to all the folks that came out for our Pick Your Own last Saturday! We had a great turnout, and it was nice to see folks head home with berries. Stay tuned for a blackberry PYO announcement in the next few weeks!

Cobblestone Market Update!

We'll be at [Cobblestone Farmers Market](#) this **Saturday, June 10 from 8:30-noon** and we'll have some great produce and plants under the Purple tent!

We'll be bringing our famous Fireworks on a Stick! Our Elephant Garlic Flowers are starting to open up and they are beautiful! A great thing about these beauties is that they dry into a lovely everlasting flower AND their little florets are edible! How many flowers can you say that about?



In the veggie department we'll have **Green Tomatoes!**, **Carrots**, young tender **Collards**, **Fresh Green Garlic**, **Kohlrabi**, **Garlic Scapes** (and recipes!), **Escarole**, Pac Choi, Salad Turnips, and more!



We'll also have a nice selection of plants for your weekend gardening adventures. We'll have popular **Strawberry Hanging Baskets**, beautiful and tasty **Patio Salad Bowls**, and **Thornless Blackberry plants**.



We hope you'll stop by and say "Hello!" -- you'll find us under the Purple tent along the fence on the Old Salem Road side of the market. The Market is located at [1007 South Marshall Street](#) (at the intersection of Salem Avenue). There is ample parking at The Enrichment Center and other lots just across Marshall Street and as well as parking along the street. Just remember to ONLY park in designated, paved spots...avoiding grass and landscaped or blocked areas.

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow!

That's all the news we've got this week! If you are planning your weekend adventures and need some ideas, consider this. The [Stokes County Arts](#)

[Council](#) has some great events planned this summer! Tonight through Sunday, they will be hosting a one-woman [Dolly Parton show](#) which will feature stories and tales from one of Tennessee's most famous residents. This sounds like a great event -- I mean, who doesn't like Dolly?



If you'd rather have a maybe more subdued afternoon, experience the work of a talented singer-songwriter from Winston-Salem. Check out this free concert by [Alicia Bullard on Saturday afternoon](#). Her work focuses on folk music and Americana.

Danbury is the place to be this weekend, for sure! Music, performance and ice cream at [Rocky's](#) -- who could ask for more?

Until next week,
Cheryl & Ray

