

**We're back at Cobblestone tomorrow with lots of Organic goodness for your Holiday meals! Tomatoes, Basil, Potatoes, Sweet Potatoes, Garlic and MORE! And it's our LAST market of 2023! See below for details.**



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!

One of the benefits of Winter is the beautiful sunrises and sunsets. Capturing these beauties can be elusive but Elise snapped this one as our day began this week.



## Keep Pounding



No, we haven't stolen the [Carolina Panthers' famous Keep Pounding drum!](#)

This week our priority has been work on our newest -- and biggest high tunnel. We have a deadline of getting it completed by the end of the year. Thanks to cost-share funding from the [Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentive Program \(EQIP\)](#), we are getting help to fund most of the materials for this project -- which is huge!

We made AMAZING progress on the structure this week! At the end of last week, we had two of the four corner posts set. This week we got the remaining 2 placed -- along with ALL of the ground posts! Thirty-four 9-foot posts pounded at least 32 inches into the ground! Woo hoo!

We told you last week that we had rediscovered our propane hammer and how it was going to make all the difference in the world to this project. Wrong. It turned out that the tool really needed some major repair (sitting in a crate for 10 years probably didn't help!) so it wasn't going to be our magic bullet.

It was time to break out the time-tested and well-worn post driver! That did the trick! Using this tool, we were able to set a post in about 12-20 minutes versus about 1 hour for the propane hammer. That, my friends, is a BIG difference! Like less than 10 hours instead of more than 30 hours.





Pretty large space, huh?

But it wasn't just the posts. Seventeen bows had to be assembled as well. Ray assembled a jig to help the process and that was a great help. It is critical that everything be assembled to exact specifications, or we will run into problems down the road. These bows will be 15 feet in the air(!) and must be strong enough to withstand wind, snowload and gravity. No easy task! But Team Plum Granny checked "Bow Assembly" off the list. Done!



So now the next step is to attach the bows to the ground posts (actually there is a lot of prep work for that task!). Given that the bows must be installed so far in the air, we are exploring options to help us raise them up to the proper level. They weigh about 125 pounds each. Unfortunately, our tractor doesn't lift that far so we are checking around! Anybody got a cherry picker or bucket truck out there?

But, no worries that we'll be bored -- we've still got garlic to plant!

It hasn't all been cold steel and post pounding this week....



We love birthdays here at Plum Granny Farm! This week was Elise's big one -- a quarter century! And she doesn't look a day over 24!



Kitty Park continues to entertain -- both the kittens and us! Tuxie has become quite fond of his King of the Trunk position while Dusty hangs out at the fence waiting for scratchies!

### **Cobblestone Farmers Market Update**

We're back at Cobblestone tomorrow for our LAST market of the year! Sooooo many good things will be on our tables! Better get there early to snap up the last of the **Sweet Potatoes**! We'll be bringing loads of **Potatoes** to get you through the cold months ahead -- Bintje, German Butterball, Nicola, Norwis and Plum Gold will be on the Potato Bar along with quarts of **Creamers** and our famous **Teeny Tiny Taters**! Yum!



We'll also have **Garlic Sampler Bags** (3 varieties of garlic with descriptions!), several varieties of garlic as well as our delicious **Garlic Powder** and

**Granules.** All perfect for keeping the flavor going for your savory Holiday cooking!



And we will also have **Tomato Fruit Boxes!** Yes! This is your last chance for tasty Organic cherry and grape tomatoes in 2023!



And for a crowning glory for those tomatoes (and other great things), we'll have beautiful potted Basil and Dill plants! These are perfect for setting in a sunny kitchen window to keep you in fresh herbs well after the calendar flips to 2024!



We'll have more goodies (frozen roasted green chile and other peppers and

MORE!) We look forward to seeing you under the Purple tent tomorrow. You HAVE to come see what we've got in store for you!

Market hours are from 8:30-noon. [Cobblestone](#) is located in the parking lot at 1007 Marshall Street SW. Parking is available in lots surrounding the market and along the street. Please make sure not to park in reserved areas or to block entrances.

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That's this week's news, Friends!

Keeping with our tradition of sharing some of our favorite Holiday events, here are a couple more for your calendar. This weekend and next, the [Stokes County Arts Council](#) will be presenting [Beautiful Star: An Appalachian Nativity](#) On Sunday, [King Moravian Church](#) will host their performance of **Lessons and Carols** at 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. This choral and orchestral performance really sets the stage for getting in the spirit of Christmas! And the pipe organ is not to be missed!

Hanukkah began last night, and [Temple Emanuel in Winston-Salem has events planned for each of the 8 days of the celebration](#). Events range from nightly Menorah lighting to Latkepalooza and much more!

Another musical event that sounds like a lot of fun are the Holiday concerts presented by the [Salem Band](#). A great mid-week burst of musical joy!



The graphic features the text "HOLIDAY CONCERTS" in green, "Down Home Christmas" in red script, and a red pickup truck carrying a Christmas tree. It lists two concert dates: Thursday, Dec 14 at 7:30 PM at New Philadelphia Moravian Church, and Tuesday, Dec 19 at 7:30 PM at Clemmons First Baptist Church. It also states "FREE ADMISSION".

Day	Date	Time	Location
THURSDAY	14 DEC	AT 7:30 PM	NEW PHILADELPHIA MORAVIAN CHURCH WINSTON-SALEM
TUESDAY	19 DEC	AT 7:30 PM	CLEMMONS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

FREE ADMISSION



Get out and enjoy the beauty, joy and sounds of the Season!

We offer a very special **Happy Hanukkah** to our family and friends who celebrate this Festival of Lights!

**Be kind to your neighbors and let us all pray for peace.**

**Until next week,**

***Cheryl & Ray***

