

Looking for a great last-minute gift that supports a local business? How about our e-gift cards? See below for more details!



Happy Friday, Farm Friends!

It's time for Fun with Nature!



Have you ever seen a [Sun Dog](#)? A sun dog is when there is a mini rainbow on one or both sides of the sun. The sun dog appears at about 22 degrees to the right or the left of the sun. Sun dogs are formed when sunlight passes through a thin veil of ice crystal clouds (usually cirrus or cirrostratus), and the ice acts as a prism, refracting the light. The ring is formed by high cirrus clouds which contain ice crystals. [Moon Dogs](#) are also possible especially as the weather gets colder! My Dad always said that the number of stars inside the ring of a moon are how many days it will be before snow. Thanks to Elise for capturing this sun dog for us!

Here's another interesting winter observation.



This is [needle ice](#). It forms when the temperature of the soil is above freezing, and the air temperature is below freezing. It is fairly common to see this time of year along banks or other exposed areas of soil.

So many cool things to see -- you just have to look around and observe!

Let's get to the BIG story!

Raise that Roof!

Huge progress this week on getting our new high tunnel (Lil' Abner) constructed. By the end of last Friday, all of the ground posts were in place. This week, our task was to attach the 17 bows to the posts. The catch was that we would have to lift the bows more than 15 feet in order to attach them. Oh, and we have no equipment that could handle that job.

We checked with cousins, friends, customers -- nothing would work. Finally, Ray remembered seeing a homemade tool that the [Zimmerman High Tunnel](#) folks used. He figured that he could fashion something like that, attach it to a pallet and then lift it using pallet forks with our tractor. And by golly, it worked!



It worked so well that we were able to get all the bows up in less than a day!
Not a bad investment for some chain, a large eye bolt and a huge
carabiner! Check out [this video](#) showing the last few bows being installed.





Garlic Prep-a-palooza

While we were waiting to find a solution to the Lil' Abner bow-hanging problem (sounds like a fitting seasonal issue, doesn't it?), Jonny, Elise and Ray got going on laying the landscape fabric for the garlic. With the possibility of 2+ inches of rain this weekend (on top of the 1.75 inches we got last weekend), Mud Season is well on its way. If the fabric didn't get installed by today, we couldn't get into the field for weeks (months?). Once again, Team Plum Granny came through for the win -- it's done!



Now, where did all the rock bags go?



Getting "Tutored"



Dusty and Tuxie made their first off-farm trip today to visit our good friends at [Central Spay and Neuter](#) in Kernersville. At 3 1/2 months, it was time. We realized that we have taken 10 cats there (they were #9 and #10)! Our relationship with the clinic goes way back to Mama Meow and her litter of 5 (including Detroit) in 2012. Wow!

P.S. Everything went fine. The clinic staff thought they were the cutest and sweetest kittens ever!

Need Some Gifts? Shop Local! Shop Organic! Shop Plum Granny Farm!

If you are trying to find a gift for the person who has everything -- or just likes food, plants or learning, consider one of our e-Gift Cards.



These cards are in any amount that you'd like and can be purchased online and emailed to the recipient or printed out and wrapped.

The e-gift cards can be used at our booth at Cobblestone Farmers Market or at any of our on-farm events like our Plant Sales or Pick Your Owns. They can even be used for our classes. Here's [the link to purchase a card](#) for a friend -- or yourself!

Thanks for supporting a small, local Organic farm! Don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions: farm@plumgrannyfarm.com

That's the news for this week, Friends!

Here are a few more Holiday ideas for you for this weekend. Tomorrow is the last [Cobblestone Farmers Market](#) for 2023 (8:30-noon). Lots of vendors with

giftable items along with the usual veggies and meat. Starting at 11, you'll find the [Winston Junction Market's Jingle All the Way Holiday Market](#) (11-4 pm). And on Sunday, jazz things up and celebrate a [Charlie Brown Christmas at the Dabble Art Bar](#) in Winston. This event features the Matt Kendrick Trio playing the classic tunes from Vince Guaraldi and other jazzy Holiday tunes.

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

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

Until next week,

Cheryl & Ray

