

JUNE GREETINGS FROM CROSS ISLAND FARMS



WHAT WE FOUND IN THE GARDEN



Volunteer Arthur Wilson (see below) found this baby bunny in the vegetable garden and relocated it outside the fence.

WHO VISITED THE EDIBLE FOREST



Braving rain and mist, plein air painters (clockwise from upper left) Jan Byington, Hugh Tift, Bill Christopherson and Jeannine Hammersley visited the Enchanted Edible Forest for a day of artistic expression. Below is Jan Byington's completed work.



WHAT'S BLOOMING





Top: This wisteria vine, planted 13 years ago, finally blooms for the first time in the Edible Forest. Wild blue lupine (lower left) blooms each year wherever it finds compatible ground. And purple robe locust (lower right) is magnificent draped in deep pink edible blossoms.

WHO'S VOLUNTEERING



Arthur Wilson, who just completed his freshman year at NYU. and has always been curious about what life would be like on a farm, visited for two weeks late

last month. He participated in many seasonal chores including planting raspberries and weed whacking in the edible forest. When waiting to board a bus for home, he said the most surprising thing he learned was how hard farmers work!

HOW DO WE PROTECT THE VEGETABLES



Over the years we've learned how to protect young vegetable seedlings from pests. Early on we observed crows using their beaks to pull out each inch-high blade of corn to eat the kernel below. Young Zucchini seedlings were attacked by cucumber beetles. Now we cover both with floating row cover to conceal them from these pests until they outgrow the threat, corn when it is about 4 inches tall and squash when it begins to flower and needs to be uncovered to have access to pollinators.

WHY WE LEAVE THE CATERPILLARS



Used to be if we saw a caterpillar nest (left) we would destroy it not realizing we were destroying food for birds. Now we leave the nest which the birds eventually find and destroy (right), using the contents to feed their young. Rarely do the caterpillars cause significant damage to their host plant.

WHERE IS DANI SCHEDULED TO SPEAK



In Person: Tour of the Enchanted Edible Forest

Cross Island Farms, Wellesley Island

Sunday, June 15 at 2 p.m.

To Register contact Local Living Venture

LocalLivingVenture@gmail.com or (315) 347-4223

In Person: Ramble On Farm, Trumansburg, NY

Perennial Vegetables for Your Plot

Saturday, June 21, 11 a.m.

RSVP by email: Harry Greene <harry@propagateag.com>

In Person: Tour of the Enchanted Edible Forest,

Cross Island Farms, Wellesley Island, NY

Sunday, June 22, 1 p.m.

Sponsored by Tug Hill Tomorrow and Ontario Bay Initiative Land Trusts

RSVP [Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust · Enchanted Edible Forest Tour at Cross](#)

[Island Farms](#)

or email info@obiklandtrust.org or call 315-649-6045-



SAVOR THE SIGHTS, SCENTS AND SOUNDS OF JUNE

Dani Baker

Owner [Cross Island Farms](#) | Creator [The Enchanted Edible Forest](#) | Author [The Home-Scale Forest Garden: How to Plan, Plant and Tend a Resilient Edible Landscape](#)

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