

As BEST AS I CAN RECALL, IT WAS THE SUMMER OF 1960. My father and I trekked across the road to help finish loading a truck for an early season market. He had proclaimed several times in the prior days that the season held great promise (carrots, radish, peas, celery strawberries were cooperating). With an arm around me he shared that I should not be interested in farming because it appeared easy.

A couple of days later a hail storm broke that promise. Still the routine goes forward, the crew to muster, a few peaches to pick, cauliflower to transplant, irrigation lines to move. On this night my dad urged that any longing for the farm should not waver because it is too hard (I dare not reveal that I had already taken measure that is was not for me).

He died before the next season could begin. For a twelve-year-old, I was not very insightful and only through years of coaching by my mother and uncle did I come to see how thoughtful and provoking he was in that week in 1960.

There was a lesson that took time to be revealed. Perhaps it was that life's work is conflicting. There are constant challenges and fires to put out. In The Art of the Good Life the author describes the obvious, "The good life is only achieved by constant readjustment." Be if farming, teaching, preaching, or establishing positive relationships.

Is this our greatest shortcoming? Inability to

Upon their return, Brooke and Ben would post in inconspicuous places clear signals: "Think clearly," "Delegate," "Change is positive," "Pay Attention". I am hopeful this was meant for all eyes and intended to encourage and not to confront.

Jacque, too, had been telling me this for

years. And what can the outcome of such revelation promote?

We all have a grand plan to achieve the "good life". The hardest thing to do in the world is to simplify it. I firmly believed that the easiest way to achieve that is to pursue a course that is different. Not so easy.

I would like my dad to see what we have become. Our family can make it easy for they give us purpose.

Adrianne, Tom and Arra are in Ann Arbor. She is a "Flower Farmer" and he a architectural fabricator. Their plan does not include tranquility with Tom still commuting from Toronto and Anne wrestling with muddy fields.

Brooke and Ben flourish on uncharted waters with Payton, Henry, Beatrice and Tucker (arrived in December of last winter) their plan is far too rigorous for us.

Jacque and Bill returned to their home this past February after the fire of June 2017. The "payback" of a new home was and is intense. It will long endure.

It is early morn, a heavy shower just pounded through. Blue sky to the west. The promise continues. While winter's cold hurt Ohio's peach crop, we will have enough for you. I know we all have shared a lousy spring in terms of the outdoors, but the yellow brick road is not long.

SUMMER & FALL 2019

JUNE 25 First Cherries JULY 10-15 Red Raspberries First Peaches (cling stone) JULY 15-20 JULY 10 First Apples (Lodi)

AUG. 5 Zestar apples Red Haven peaches AUG. 10-20

AUG. 25-30 First white peaches and nectarines

Plums SEPT. 2-30

SEPT. 10 - NOV. 25 Pears

First cider SEPT. 1

First Gala & Honeycrisp SEPT. 5-10 PICK YOUR OWN

OCT. 11 Pumpkins OCT.15-20 Cameo & Fuji

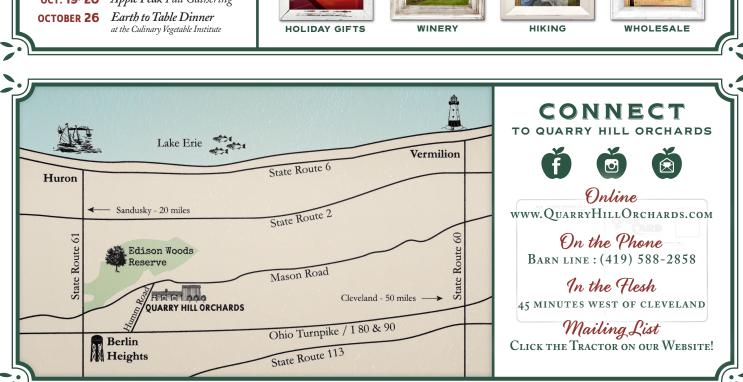
OCT. 30 - NOV. 25 Pink Lady, Goldrush & Evercrisp

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ALL THE BEST FROM THE GAMMIE FAMILY!





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