

THE PURSUIT OF HOPE

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OPEN 9 - 6 DAILY

Dear Friends,

Frogs chirp in the old quarry behind our home. Rudy studies the sloping meadow to the north for a woodchuck to pursue. Fireflies have yet to mass, but the full weight of a muggy summer's evening descends and creates a subtle calm at days end, as we await chops on the grill. A happy day. Again and again, we muse on what we do and why we do it.

Our Uncle Len often pondered on Alexander Pope's thought of how, "Hope springs eternal from the human breast". Morgan Freeman's character in the movie, The Shawshank Redemption said that "Hope is a very dangerous thing". All of us know the extremes of the spectrum. Our family and the seasons ahead have always been the focus of our hope. Stability is always elusive, yet attainable. We know that hope must be tempered by determination if we are to straighten the curves in the road.

It is said that children enjoy the present because they have neither a past nor a future. When do they emerge from that narrow view of their world? Of course, it is an ongoing process, but fully impacts moms and dads when "home" becomes a distant place. For the first time in our lives, both Adrienne and Ben will be calling someplace other than Berlin Heights home. Adrienne will spend the summer in Cincinnati working in a "boutique" as part of her fashion design study at the university. Ben will launch a "career" in Austin, Texas with an engineering consulting firm. Our tears will well up when they say from time to time, "I'm coming home".

While Bill and I hope always to celebrate the joy of rural living, our longings will be confirmed as our children push themselves from the porch. Their own making of new lives and new relationships will rivet us as they climb their mountain of hope.

A friend of our farm just called inquiring when melrose apples will be ready. That query alone is cause for hope. We are grateful to you for trekking down a back country road.

July 10 -15	First peaches (cling type)
August 5 - 15	Red Haven season (freestone)
July 30 - August 5	Nectarine season
August 10 - 15	first white peaches
August 15 - 20	Gala apple harvest
August 20 - Sept. 10	Plums
August 25 - Sept. 10	Pears
Sept. 10 - 20	last of peaches
Sept. 11- 15	Fall apples and pick your own begin
Oct. 10 - 31	pick your own pumpkins
Oct. 15 - 25	Cameo and Fuji apple harvest

CALVIN & HOBBES by BILL WATTERSON



Hope to see you soon!
The Gammie Family

Bill Gammie
Adrienne Gammie