

A Whole New World A NOTE FROM BILL
 July 20, 2015

OFTEN WE BEGIN OUR THOUGHTS WITH A REFLECTION OF WHAT WE SEE OUT THE NORTH WINDOW. The first eager step outside in the morning reveals that our world is full of magic. It is quiet. This day, storm clouds drift north over the lake, the dull hum of the earth's movement (perhaps, this is imagined) gently encourages us to increase the pace. Like an evening's deep sleep, it is calming.

There are moments when we appear to be devoured by our own work to even notice our good luck. Much of the work world foils for a weekend, the out of doors, the intimacy of family. Yet, we are immersed in it each day. Stop, look up, look out. The trappings of success can be redefined.

No success is without struggle. You and I have heard that endless times at our fathers knee. What farm family or any family has not faced adversity – economics, weather, conflicting philosophies, illness? Perhaps, this older generation has not laid the proper foundation for we want our children to be tested by struggle, but not too much.

We all bear responsibility for the joy and purpose for those people who affectionately wait for us, be it in our family, our work, our friends. Countless

sermons have been preached about the conflicting roles of a happy life and meaningful life. An enriching minister once stated that a “happy person gets joy from receiving, people leading meaningful lives get joy from giving to others.” This tenuous relationship can be brushed smoothly with a new beginning.

The “news” came late on a sunny day. Multiple updates throughout heightened our anticipation. Adrienne and Tom began a new chapter when they gave birth to a glorious daughter. Arra Kirana Probowo will grow strong and tender with a love that lifts us all up. Will she be the source of energy that will help us to forget ourselves and commit to “giving” rather than “taking”? We have treaded these waters before but Arra's arrival will

be more enthralling as these morning glimpses into a new world.

Brook and Ben have immersed themselves in this farming life as if they want to stay. Workshops, grant writing, new directions to widen our network of relationships. No time for leisure lunch, we can't be absent parents. Payton and Henry can play in a barn as well as a backyard. We must escape to the present.

Bill leans on Jacque. Jacque leans on Bill. Perhaps we will both fall down.

The “farm” is stoic in its pace. Always defined by dry and wet, but absolutely glorious this sunny week. Cold weather took a toll on the peach crop, although we do have our own this year. Apples appear comfortable. All crops are ten+ days later than normal. Hope to see you soon! 🍓



Baby Arra

SCHEDULE *Summer & Fall*

- JUNE 10** Cherries
- JULY 10** Lodi apples
- JULY 15-20** First peaches & apricots
- AUGUST 1** Zestar apples
- AUGUST 1-10** Red Haven peaches
- AUGUST 15-20** First white peaches and nectarines
- AUG. 25-SEPT. 20** Plums
- AUG. 25-NOV. 15** Pears
- SEPTEMBER 10** First cider
- SEPTEMBER 10-15** Gala & Honeycrisp
PICK YOUR OWN
- OCTOBER 5-10** Cameo & Fuji, Pumpkins
- OCTOBER 17** First Fall “Gathering”
- OCT. 20-NOV. 15** Pink Lady & Goldrush

THE GAMMIE FAMILY

*TOM, Adrienne,
 + Baby Arra*

Bill & Jacque

*Ben
 Brook Payton + Henry*

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