

Last OFE NEWSLETTER for 2021

For those of you that are keeping track of the gardens and wondering how things are going, this newsletter is for you!

The gardens are a sign of vegetative resilience and also the effects of climate change! If you look at the pictures on the web for this week you will see good sized okra. These plants are fruiting out of season and because the weather has been both cool and warm the plants are doing their best to keep on keeping on. The same can be said for the tomatoes and as long as a freeze doesn't come along and the days reach the 80's we will probably get tomatoes. On the other hand this is the time and growing conditions that favor the cole crops and greens. Look at how beautiful the cauliflower is both the orange-ish cheddar cauliflower and the purple gypsy cauliflowers. The colors are vibrant and the heads are just beautiful. The same can be said for the broccoli...just tremendous! The lettuce is coming so fast that some may bolt(?) with the warm days. Do you remember what bolting is?

Finally since there are no students around we, the gardeners" have been blessed with a lot of great vegetables, just look at the table!!

One last note about the pictures, do you remember that we were saying pumpkins make great compost?! Well, look at the temperatures the compost bins have reached for many days in a row. Those micro-organisms are really working, in fact they are in a dead sweat aren't they!

This is the time for surprises as well, it is expected that temperatures for the coming Monday and Tuesday will be on the cold side. The night temps could reach freezing but probably not long enough to do any significant damage. That said it is just the beginning of winter temps here so we need to be on the watch. Remember last year, we had to protect the sensitive plants and onions we planted, you recall what time of year that was. A hint we don't plant onions until the middle of January!!

Stay safe and keep warm (well when it's cold) and see you next week! Yea!!