

GUS'S FARM

AUGUST 2021 NEWSLETTER

“Pasture Raised & Veteran Owned”

What's New on the Farm?

“Same!”...*Different.*

Lately, our daughter Eleanor has enjoyed pointing out any similarities in wardrobe she has with people. She comes to feed the pigs with me almost every afternoon and she's added to our routine a little dance. She sticks out one foot and says, “boot” points to her head and says, “hat” and after seeing an opportunity for some dad humor I taught her to flex her arms and say “muscles!” She culminates the jig with both hands extended towards me, and a head tilt that suggests I'd be blind not to see it too. And a big loud “Same!” It's pretty adorable, especially since the boots and hat are the only thing she has on besides a diaper.

Anyone who has meet her knows Ellie is very much her own spirit but it's nothing short of flattering to have such a beautiful soul want to be like me.

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Current Inventory

BREAKFAST SAUSAGE

BACON

SWEET ITALIAN
SAUSAGE

CHORIZO SAUSAGE

KILEBASA LINKS

BRATWURST LINKS

GROUND PORK

COUNTRY STYLE RIBS

LOIN ROASTS

HAM ROASTS

WHOLE CHICKENS

MAPLE SYRUP

Off the farm some of you may have heard of California's Proposition 12. In a list of animal welfare requirements for any producers intending to sell product to California a ban on any "breeding pigs and their immediate offspring in areas with less than 24 square feet of usable floor space." Yes, that's right, an area smaller than a sheet of plywood would be an improvement for the vast majority of sows in this country. There are several newsletters worth of writing I could pull out of the Prop 12 and it's different angles. I'll just say I'm glad the tide is shifting...inching... toward a more ethical agriculture system. I'll also provide you an example of agriculture that doesn't need voters and markets from states away and millions of dollars of taxpayer subsidies to force us to make minimal improvements...

Our group of sows are currently on 1.5 acre paddock shaded by locust and oak trees carpeted with clover, rye, and other grasses they planted the year before as young gilts moving through the woods. They have access to huts but prefer the nests they build into the brush piles waiting for a winter's night to burn. The manure and urine are soaked into the ground that's waiting for it's upcoming rest (where we take any pigs off the 1.5 acres for 6-8 months) to burst back with life. There is no manure lagoon, no florescent light, no concrete, just a water trough and an electric fence wire. Piglets who are red, black, striped, spotted, and floppy eared, long tailed, and everything in between, dart between the stumps and sows co-nursing in the cool earth. Eleanor points out each "peeeg" to herself as she patiently waits outside the fence for dadduh to come back with the empty buckets. I turn around to see the afternoon sun illuminating the wild hairs of my daughter and warm the piglets of our newest litter and think about the big confinement facilities. As proud as Eleanor is to be the same as dadduh I'm proud to be a part of something different from them.



WE OFFER PIG ROASTS

If you have an upcoming event: Labor Day Weekend, Fall BBQ, Family Reunion, Wedding, Party / Get together of any sort let us know.

You can reserve a pig that we have available if you let us know the amount of people you are trying to feed.

Picture shown is from a pig roast this past weekend from a happy customer.

RESERVE YOUR ORDER FOR A HALF OR WHOLE HOG

- \$4.25/LB Hanging Weight
- \$100 deposit to reserve
- You select the custom cuts you want from the butcher
- Pick up will be at the end of Sept. / beginning of Oct.

This is a great way to stock your freezer for fall



**Non-GMO Pasture
Raised Whole
Chickens Available
As shown**



Mel Franchi

A HIKING
FIASCO



Aside from farming, my wife wrote a children's book about hiking Mount Watatic in Ashburnham, MA with our daughter Eleanor. This cute rhyming book is perfect for little ones if you have any little loves you'd like to share it with. I know she would certainly appreciate the support. It is available for sale on Barnes & Noble and Amazon.

Link available in email

Meet Mel

She's the one behind the scenes filling orders and answering most of the emails that come my way. It certainly isn't easy to be married to a farmer & she handles it with ease.

