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7-2-2014 Dear Members,

Happy 4th! Things are kicking here, the crops are showing us who's boss, (or maybe it's the weeds) So just time for a short letter today.

Lettuce shortage – only one head per this week.

Chard – new patch is now open, we will clean and fertilize the old one so it will be lush in just a few weeks!

Kale – has been hit with a severe infestation of aphids. I've never seen this before here in the Spring. (we usually get a small amount in the fall if any.) All the farmers are complaining about it. We trimmed all older growth off, and sprayed tops, centers and bottom of each leaf with a little soap in water. That was a fun job! Hopefully that will help. Will re-open when it re-grows.

Flowers – the zinnias are starting to bloom, other varieties will follow soon. **Please SHARE with the rest of us.** When we only have a limited amount, pick 3 or 4 for now. **NOTE: pick them short!** All the little leaf nodes along the stems (everywhere there is a pair of small leaves) will end up sending up 2 more stems to bloom at each node, so soon we will have plenty of flowers if people don't cut nearly all the plant down for just one bloom.

That's it – more later