

Nakira Morris  
Marisha Towner

### Moonflowers: The Start of a Legacy

It's a warm summer evening and the moonflowers are as beautiful as ever. This simple tradition of watching the moonflower open at night would be the inspiration behind Moonflower Farm. Moonflower Farm is owned and operated by Kathy & Mike Howell who have been in business for 5 years. Moonflower Farm is the source of jams, jellies, preserves, cheeseballs, and an assortment of baked goods. While assisting Mrs. Kathy we were able to observe the community atmosphere exhibited by all the vendors present. From certain vendors & businesses shopping directly with some of the farms, to those same farmers stopping by different vendors and supporting them. While watching Ms. Kathy in particular I noticed the good rapport she has built with her regulars. From the playful banter to sharing how Mrs. Kathy's jams were a hit in their home. Furthering my belief that this farmers market is a great way to establish relationships and clientele within the community. The overall atmosphere of the farmers market was so welcoming it was refreshing. Even the slight distraction of onion that filled our noses as a farmer walked by with freshly harvested green onion. The smell was so enticing I had to walk over to their table. There was pure amazement on my face not only when I noticed multiple cucumbers the size of a footlong, but to top it off, they were only \$2 each. This further cemented why I love agriculture and horticulture in particular. Because the ability to plant a seed and get an abundance at harvest is a beautiful thing. Especially when you yourself are tending to your farm and maintaining your crops, the end result is almost always worth it. Attending the farmer's market and assisting Mrs. Kathy was a great experience that I thoroughly enjoyed. That was my first time going to a local farmer's and I will be going back.

