

## Commentary... Seed to Table Farm joins Farmers Market

By Audrey Tehan  
Columnist

The nonprofit education farm Seed to Table is thrilled to join the Sisters Farmers Market on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fir Street Park. The farm's booth offers the community crisp salad mix, sweet carrots, deep red beets, rainbow radishes, and beautiful plant starts.

Despite the cold long spring, the bounty is plentiful. This will be Seed to Table's first year at the Sisters Farmers Market. The farm is excited to further our reach and help provide communities with fresh produce and student activities.

Spring on the farm brings out a lot of emotion. First, there is pure excitement as the fields and greenhouses come alive with patchworks of greens, purples, reds, oranges and every hue in between. The field will slowly reveal the characteristics of the hundreds of varieties we have swooned over all winter. Will the Happy Rich broccoli really produce by the first week in June? Do

the Monte Gusto pole beans really grow to 12 feet high? Are the Ya Ya carrots truly the sweetest around?

Second, spring brings waves of anxiety reminding us that Mother Nature is running the show, not us. Our carefully crafted crop plan was delayed, then restructured, when a foot of snow blanketed the farm until April. While we were grateful for the water, we waited, and waited some more, to plant, squeezing the workload into shorter timeframes. Crowded greenhouses brought pests we had never seen before. Then came the rain, leaving us feeling like we had suddenly been transported to the west side of the Cascades. The wet weather caused seedlings to rot and allowed cabbage root maggots to thrive.

Spring in Central Oregon is just hard on farmers.

Lastly, spring brings an outpouring of determination. When one member of the Seed to Table team gets a little down, others of us

See **SEED TO TABLE** on page 23



PHOTO PROVIDED

Seed to Table Farm's produce can be had at Sisters Farmers Market.

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## Gate on Road 16 open, access challenging

On Friday, May 31, the Deschutes National Forest opened the gate on Forest Road 16 next to Upper Three Creek Sno-Park for the season.

Access remains challenging, as the road is wide enough for two-lane traffic until Park Meadows Trailhead, then narrows to one lane with limited turnouts for approximately one mile to the junction of Forest Road 370. Beyond that, vehicle travel is not advised due to large snowdrifts the remaining mile to Three Creek Lake.

"As the warm weather continues to melt snow, access to this area will improve," said Kassidy Kern, public affairs specialist with the Forest Service. "We appreciate the public's caution when traveling on Forest Road 16 and remind visitors that if an area is blocked by snow, do not try to get through it with your vehicles as this can create resource damage."

Be prepared to park at Forest Road 370 junction and walk the approximately one mile to Three Creek Lake.

## Upstaging the band...



PHOTO BY JERRY BALDOCK

A young visitor to Sisters Farmers Market upstaged the band for a moment last Sunday at Fir Street Park. The popular country-folk duo Appaloosa kicked off opening day of the market season with several rousing music sets, peppered with intriguing stories. The Farmers Market's new day and time debuted to considerable success, with a good crowd and excellent weather. Sisters Farmers Market has changed to Sundays, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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