

GARDENING CORNER

SEED CATALOGS SPROUT NEW YEAR HOPE

BY LIZ DOUVILLE
For the Spokesman

Everyone knows the pitfalls of grocery shopping without a shopping list especially when you are hungry. I can relate to that, I-want-it-all feeling when it comes to pursuing the stack of seed catalogs that started arriving on the November 17. I mark the date received on the cover and put it in the catalog basket until January 1. That's the tradition at my house. Football game on TV, a stack of catalogs, a black marking pen and a stack of yellow Post-it notes on the table. I am ready for 2021. There's not as much indecision as years ago. I have done enough experimenting and learning about the Central Oregon climate and soil to be able to compile a master list, especially for the tomatoes. I still have the compulsion to go through the catalogs, one by one and page by page just to see what's new. Or maybe it's just to have a conversation with myself — "Well, that won't work here." "A tomato that big couldn't be tasty." "A tomato THAT small couldn't possibly have any flavor." "Only one ear of corn per plant?" Last year, there was an unexpected increase in vegetable gardening resulting in suppliers being sold out very early. Seed orders were eventually filled but many orders weren't received until mid-June or later. National studies have shown that home-grown tomatoes get top billing in the vegetable category. Clear the table, get your catalogs and supplies

set out, brew a cup of tea or coffee and make catalog browsing an event. I know, this can be accomplished on the computer, but it's harder to keep track of who offers the most seeds per packet for the best price and who offers the best shipping rates. Once you have made your decisions is the time to head for the computer. I suppose my long-standing ritual is my transition into the coming seasons. Short growing season New gardeners to Central Oregon and many who have not gardened for some time will benefit by being reminded that our growing season is short, approximately 90-100 days, with Sunriver and Sisters being between 70-85 days. The secret is to choose varieties with a maturity time of 65-75 days. Add to that 14 days which helps to compensate for the swing of warm days to cool nights bringing the total close to the 90-day growing season. There are many vegetables we can grow that are frost tolerant. Beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, chard, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, leeks, onions, parsnips, peas, potatoes (partially frost tolerant), radishes, rhubarb, and spinach. Being that these seeds are frost tolerant they can be purchased off the rack at your favorite garden center. The vegetables that require more selection are bush beans instead of pole beans. Bush beans are easier to protect from frost with row cover. Individual size cantaloupes grow well, Minnesota Midget has become a favorite.



123RF

Seed catalogs are harbingers of spring.

Sweet corn is one vegetable I haven't had a great deal of success with. The soil temperature has to be at least close to 65 degrees for germination. We did have luck with one of the super-sweet varieties years ago, but then the yield was so small that it seemed a waste of land and water when you could purchase corn grown in Western Oregon and available at the markets.

Cucumbers, eggplant, sweet peppers and small bell peppers are productive given a more protective planting area and provisions for frost protection when needed. Smaller varieties of pumpkins and watermelons have been developed over the past few years that are productive and give us bragging rights that we grew our own. All of the frost sensitive plants

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should go into the ground as seedlings, either started by you or purchased in a garden center. Our soil just doesn't get warm enough for a good germination rate of those particular seeds. And then there is my favorite, the juicy home-grown tomato full of flavor. For the greenhouse I always plant Cobra and Applegate and usually some experimental varieties. Sweet Million is my choice for a cherry with Camp Joy running a close second. Seeds for Sun Gold, Gold Nugget, Oregon Spring and Legend are always on the list for seed starting. I usually add at least 3 varieties for experimental purpose, mainly for hardiness. I am still debating on the varieties. The moral of the story is, don't wait too long to think about a vegetable garden and what you would like to plant. I suspect this year will be another year of increased home gardening.

POLICE & FIRE REPORT

The Spokesman will update items in the Police Log when such a request is received. Any new information, such as the dismissal of charges or acquittal, must be verifiable. For more information, call 541-548-2185. Redmond Police Department Dec. 21 Criminal mischief — An act of criminal mischief was reported at 8:41 p.m. in the 1200 block of NW Sixth Street. Hit-and-run — Hit-and-run incidents were reported at: 3:51 p.m. in the 900 block of SW Veterans Way. 8:24 p.m. in the 1700 block of NW Fir Avenue. Thefts — Thefts were reported at: 7:02 a.m. in the 1600 block of SW 36th Way. 9:17 a.m. in the 700 block of NW Fourth Street. 10:38 a.m. in the 2400 block of SW Timber Avenue. 1:46 p.m. in the 300 block of NW Oak Tree Lane and an arrest made. The suspect was also charged with criminal trespass. 4:18 p.m. in the 1700 block of SW Odem Medo Road.

4:21 p.m. in the 2200 block of SW Obsidian Avenue. 8:58 p.m. in the 1400 block of SE Reed Market Road, and an arrest made. The suspect was charged with theft from a vehicle. Dec. 22 Hit-and-run — A hit-and-run incident was reported at 5:02 p.m. in the area of SW Sixth Street and SW Deschutes Avenue, and an arrest made. The suspect was also charged with driving while suspended or with a revoked license. Theft — A theft was reported at Thefts — Thefts were reported at: 2:06 p.m. in the 300 block of NW Oak Tree Lane, and two arrests made. Both suspects were also charged with criminal trespass. Unauthorized use — A vehicle was reported stolen at 4:35 p.m. in the area of SW Umatilla Avenue and SW 29th Street. Vehicle crashes — Accidents were reported at: 8:19 a.m. in the area of SW Badger Avenue and SW Canal Boulevard, noninjury. 11:22 a.m. in the area of U.S. Highway 97 and SW Evergreen Avenue, noninjury.

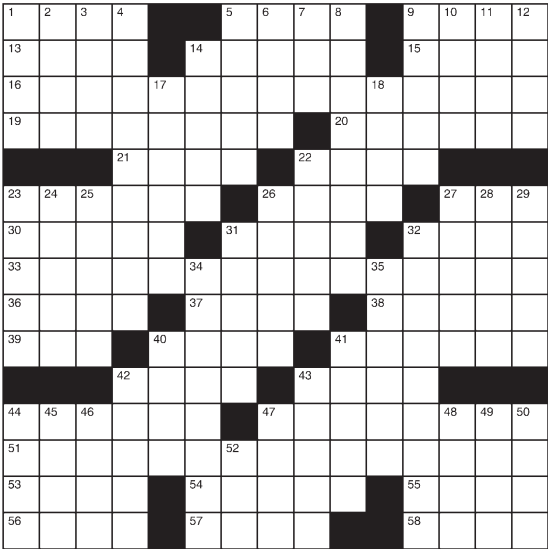
6:11 p.m. in the 200 block of SW Rimrock Way, with injury. 7:09 p.m. in the 3100 block of S. U.S. Highway 97. Dec. 23 Burglary — A burglary was reported at 8:39 a.m. in the 300 block of NW 21st Street. Thefts — Thefts were reported at: 8:11 a.m. in the 1000 block of SW 17th Street. 9:25 a.m. in the 4400 block of SW Umatilla Avenue. 2:40 p.m. in the 700 block of NW Ninth Street. 4:30 p.m. in the 2700 block of SW 49th Street. Unauthorized use — A vehicle was reported stolen at 10:55 a.m. in the 2300 block of SW Salmon Avenue, and an arrest made. The suspect was charged with unlawful entry to a motor vehicle, possession of a stolen vehicle, possession of methamphetamine and was also arrested on an in-state warrant. Dec. 24 Theft — A theft was reported at 8:47 a.m. in the 2200 block of SW 19th Street. Dec. 25 Thefts — Thefts were reported at:

2:57 p.m. in the 300 block of NW Dogwood Avenue, and an arrest made. The suspect was charged with theft of a bicycle and possession of methamphetamine. 11:50 p.m. in the 800 block of SW 24th Court. Unauthorized use — A vehicle was reported stolen at 11:38 p.m. in the 1700 block of NW Larch Wood Court. Dec. 26 Hit-and-run — A hit-and-run incident was reported at 5:53 p.m. in the 500 block of SW Sixth Street. Thefts — Thefts were reported at: 2 p.m. in the 500 block of NW Fourth Street, and an arrest made. The suspect was arrested on an in-state warrant and also charged with criminal mischief, unlawful entry to a vehicle, unauthorized use of a vehicle, interfering with a police officer and a parole or probation violation. 5:57 p.m. in the 300 block of NW Oak Tree Lane, and an arrest made. The suspect was also arrested on an in-state warrant. Dec. 27 Thefts — Thefts were reported at: 4:56 p.m. in the 900 block of SW 23rd Street.

6:19 p.m. in the 900 block of SW Veterans Way, an arrest made. 6:39 p.m. in the 300 block of NW Oak Tree Lane, and an arrest made. Vehicle crash — A noninjury accident was reported at 10:18 a.m. in the area of SW Fifth Street and SW Highland Avenue. Redmond Fire Runs Dec. 21 7:52 a.m. Authorized controlled burning, 7848 SW 61st St. 9:42 a.m. Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator, 1765 SW Parkway Dr. 5:09 p.m. Authorized controlled burning, 2010 Northwest Way. Dec. 23 1:47 p.m. Unauthorized burning, in the area of NE Ninth Street and E. Antler Avenue. Dec. 24 9:07 a.m. Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle, in the area of NW O'Neil Highway and U.S. Highway 97. 9:16 a.m. Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other, 2709 SW 26th St. Dec. 21-27: 87 Medical aid or transfer calls

CROSSWORD

Citrus Crop

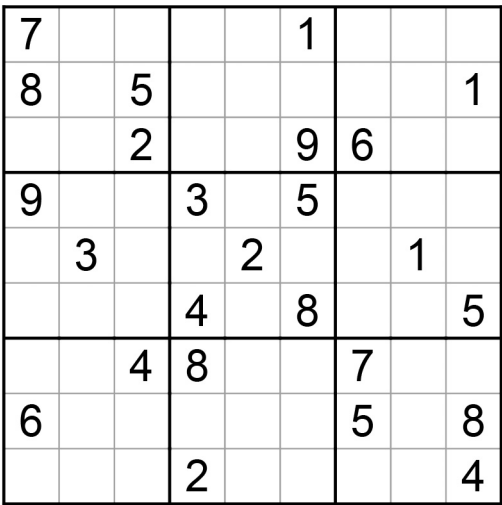


- CREATORS NEWS SERVICE
ACROSS
1 Youngsters
5 Drop cloth
9 Fellow
13 Live ____
14 Run the sprinkler
15 Take on
16 He ruled with Mary
19 NHL-er
20 Large culture
21 Timetable, briefly
22 Louver item
23 Spine
26 Phony
27 Orel's river
30 Hatch or Tucker
31 Others, to Ovid
32 Khabarovsk's river
33 Toast topper
36 Piquancy
37 Julep garnish
38 Massenet heroine
39 Tampa-Miami dir.
40 Proclivity
41 Duchamp, for one
42 RN's post
43 Hombre's home
44 Tedious
47 Cuffed
51 Neighbor of Transvaal
53 Yielded
54 Marginalia
- By Charles Preston
55 Zest
56 Kane's rosebud
57 Long, hard journey
58 Trust in
DOWN
1 New Zealander
2 "How sweet ____!"
3 Witless
4 Spattering
5 Under control
6 Fabric finish
7 Grid zebra
8 Announce
9 Gregorian, for one
10 Forest creature
11 Jason's ship
12 Equal
14 Tries the surf
17 Signing a contract
18 Wander widely
22 Blouse
23 Haley's TV opus
24 Tapestry
25 TV's Col. Hogan
26 Viewpoint
27 Masqat man
28 Renown
29 ____ you glad?
31 Have ____ to: intend
32 Form of gypsum
34 Recently founded

Answers on Page 6

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9, with no repeats.



MEDIUM

83

Answers on Page 6

WEATHER

FORECAST	HIGH	LOW	
Wednesday	49	27	Rain
Thursday	46	32	Cloudy
Friday	41	27	AM Snow
Saturday	40	28	Partly cloudy
Sunday	44	32	Cloudy
Monday	44	34	Rain/snow
Tuesday	47	34	Cloudy

LAST WEEK	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
Monday, Dec. 28	28	20	0.01
Tuesday, Dec. 29	37	9	0
Wednesday, Dec. 30	46	35	0.07
Thursday, Dec. 31	50	32	0
Friday, Jan. 1	52	36	0.01
Saturday, Jan. 2	49	38	0
Sunday, Jan. 3	54	41	T

Precipitation in 2020: 6.40 inches

Precipitation to date this year: .01 inches

* = daily record

National Weather Service broadcasts are on 162.50 mhz.

THE REDMOND
Spokesman

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