Learn how to create a container garden

PACIFIC COUNTY, Wash. — For all those gardeners who want to grow their own healthy food but have little or no outdoor garden space, here's the answer: Do your vegetable gardening in containers.

Award-winning writer Maggie Stuckey, author of "The Bountiful Container," which Sunset magazine calls "the definitive work" on the subject, will explain all the how-tos — including choosing the container, the best soil, watering, fertilizing, harvesting and more — in a program that will visit all five Timberland Regional Libraries in Pacific County, Washington, during the month of March.

During the program, Stuckey will share ideas and tips for success with container gardening, answer questions, and demonstrate how to create a container garden with practical planting tips and the basics of good design.

This is a gardening program; specifically, how to create a full edible garden — vegetables, herbs, fruits, and edible flowers — in containers. It's perfect for folks who live in apartments or somewhere else where there is no actual garden space — or where their outdoor garden is too shady or too something else to bring success with vegetables.

"It's also, as I've come to understand in recent years, a very good solution for folks who no longer have the flexibility they once did," Stuckey said. "Container gardening is a lot easier on the knees!"

And here's the best part: Everyone in the audience will be entered into a drawing, and some lucky person gets to take the finished garden home.

Like all library programs, this one is free. The schedule of presentations

- 2 p.m. March 9 at the Ocean Park Library,
- 1 p.m. March 11 at the Ilwaco Library,
 - 5:30 p.m. March 16 at

the Raymond Library.

- 10 a.m. March 18 at the South Bend Library, and
- 2 p.m. March 18 at the Naselle Library.

Stuckey loves to share her passion for container gardening with home gardeners and has made frequent appearances at garden clubs, nurseries and garden centers, and master gardener events. She has also been a featured speaker at: the Flower and Garden Festival at Disney's Epcot, the Philadelphia Flower Show, the Atlanta Flower Show, the Seattle Flower Show, and Portland's Garden & Patio Show.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Maggie Stuckey will give a container gardening presentation and demonstration at all five Timberland libraries in Pacific County, Washington, this March.

Stuckey is the author of 11 nonfiction books, mostly about gardening or cooking — sometimes both. Several of her books have been selections of Book of the Month Club. She also contributed an essay to "Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul" and wrote the houseplants entry for Collier's Encyclopedia.

Autographed copies of Stuckey's books will be available for purchase at the library events.

Her best-selling book "The Bountiful Container" is now in its ninth printing. The Seattle Post Intelligencer said, "You can farm right off your deck or patio with the clear and easy directions in this book. Highly recommended for those without the space, time or strength to till the soil. This book nourishes body and soul."

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Emily Dante as Mollie Ralston, Richard Bowman as Christopher Wren, William Ham as Giles Ralston in the murder mystery "The Mousetrap," opening March 3 at the Coaster Theatre in Cannon Beach.

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COAST WEEKEND EDITOR REBECCA SEDLAK

COAST WEEKEND PHOTOS

DANNY MILLER

ADVERTISING MANAGER

BETTY SMITH

CONTRIBUTORS

NANCY MCCARTHY **DAVID CAMPICHE** RYAN HUME

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Phone: 503.325.3211 Ext. 217 or 800.781.3211

Fax: 503.325.6573

E-mail: rsedlak@dailyastorian.com Address: P.O.Box 210 •

949 Exchange St. Astoria, OR 97103

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