

VENDORS from Page 9

Winter Green Farm
Winter Green Farm in Noti, Ore., is a family farm, nestled in the foothills of the Coastal Range. The farm is a pioneer in holistic farming and certified organic at the first opportunity — 30 years ago, in 1984. Our organic and biodynamic practices allow us to grow healthy food while nurturing the vitality of the land. The Winter Green farmer-owners have a combined agricultural experience of over 150 years farming this land.

Members of Wintergreen's CSA enjoy over 40 different vegetables and berries with exceptional taste and quality and its award-winning organic produce is available each week in Portland, Eugene/Springfield, down the coast as far as Coos Bay and in the Fern Ridge area. Winter Green also sells wholesale to restaurants and grocers.

The farm's certified organic grass-fed beef is healthful, raised humanely and simply delicious.



At Winter Green Farm, we know the satisfaction and the sense of meaning that comes with engaging in the work of growing food and participating in the rhythms of nature. Growing a healthy world includes creating opportunities for folks of all ages to come to our farm to renew their relationship to the land.

Come to the farm for field trips, open houses and learning opportunities at Winter Green Farm's beautiful 171 acres. We seek to strengthen the connection between the community and the land that sustains us all.

Growing great food and making it available to people regardless of income is one of

our core values. We offer several payment options, offer a limited amount of financial assistance to those in need, and can accept SNAP (Food Stamps) for CSA Share payment. We are also strong advocates of justice for our farm employees, providing mentoring and steady advancement in wages.

Winter Green's farmer-owners view their farm as a living organism. Taking care of its soils, riparian areas, wetlands and wildlife, and growing a wide diversity of crops, helps Winter Green to raise nutritious food for people, while also preserving the land for future generations.

Come visit the farm at 89762 Poodle Creek Road in Noti, call at 541-935-1920 or visit online at www.wintergreenfarm.com.

Word of Mouth Home Décor
Word of Mouth Home Décor is a new retail business that has opened next to Edgewater Precision Flooring in Florence on Highway 101.

This charming store features



handmade signs, hand-poured candles, pillows, throws and handmade full-grain leather jewelry. Word of Mouth offers several varieties of Oregon-made products and fashionable

accessories for the home. It is a fun place to shop for gift giving or something special for yourself.

Word of Mouth is also on Facebook.

Come see these vendors and more at the Florence Home & Garden Show March 2 to 4 at the Florence Events Center, 715 Quince St.

Look for these early blooming spring flowers

The arrival of spring is a welcome occurrence for many people. Budding flowers are among the harbingers of spring. Spring flowers can revitalize winter-weary people just when they need it most — and provide reassurance that brighter, warmer and longer hours of sunlight are just around the corner.

Cold-tolerant flowers are hardy enough to start blooming before the last frosts have dissipated. Other flowers will begin to fill in as days warm a little bit more, according to Better Homes and Gardens. Home gardeners looking to warm up their gardens with early blooms can use these flowers in their early-season containers, window boxes and planting beds.

- Pansy: Pansies prefer cool weather, which can make them one of the best flowers to plant in early spring and late fall. Pan-

sies come in a variety of colors, so there's bound to be an offering that will blend with any homeowners' landscape design.

- Creeping phlox: Also known "moss phlox," creeping phlox is a short ground-cover that is a herbaceous perennial. Phlox produces small, fragrant flowers in dense clusters, which can attract wildlife, such as butterflies, to their mats across the soil surface.
- Snowdrops: Snowdrops can peek out even when there is snow still on the ground — sometimes as early as January and February. But their name is actually a reference to their appearance, as snowdrops have three white petals that hang down like drops dripping off the stem.
- Violets: These flowers are closely related to pansies and, as a result, prefer cool seasons. Violets are generally slightly smaller than

pansy blooms, but they can be just as beautiful. But as with pansies, violets will start to fade when the heat arrives.

- Crocus: Crocus plants are relatively small, only reaching three to six inches in height. However, their grass-like leaves are some of the first sprouts that can be seen among bulb and corm plantings. Preferring full to partial sun, these gold, purple, lavender, white, or yellow flowers can be enjoyed during the earliest days of spring.
- Daffodil: Daffodil bulbs produce cheerful, yellow flowers in early spring. They're one of the most recognizable flowers thanks to their familiar shape and fragrant aroma.
- Lenten rose: Hellebores, also called the Lenten rose or Christmas rose, can tolerate light frosts. These blooms get their name from the time of year when they bloom,

which is typically around the Christian Lenten season. Despite their name, these delicate flowers are not actually related to roses, however.

Early-blooming flowers give winter-weary gardeners hope that spring has arrived. — Metro

Crocus blooms are some of the first flowers seen in early spring.



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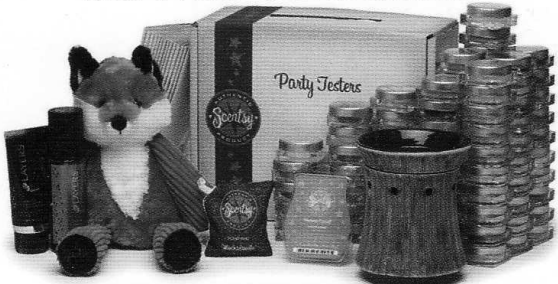


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