

Catalog has gardeners covered

You planted your seeds, hung lights to simulate the sun, watered regularly, even put down heating pads to warm the germinating plants. Then they disappear overnight. Talk about disappointing.

What happened, and how do you stop it from happening again? Turn to Oregon State University Extension Service's newly designed online catalog, where you'll find almost 200 garden-related guides, including "Propagating Plants From Seed." The catalog also features approximately 700 additional publications on topics such as food preservation and safety, heating your home, aging, health, emergency preparedness and living sustainably.



KYM POKORNY
Your Garden

Some are in Spanish. "The intuitive, mobile-friendly catalog website helps make OSU Extension's research-based information available in the way the public expects: anytime, anywhere on the device of their choice," said Jennifer Alexander, the interim director of OSU's Extension and Experiment Station Communications department, which manages the catalog. The catalog homepage fea-

tures recent releases and the most popular items for the week according to hits received. To find the peer-reviewed publications, you can search or browse by topic. The page for each publication shows a description, authors and links to related resources.

Most catalog publications are free to view or download. Some are available in multiple formats.

For example, "Backyard Chicken Coop Design," which is part of the Living on the Land series, is available as a downloadable PDF, eBook and audio files. All of the podcasts are free on iTunesU.

You can also share on Facebook, Twitter and Google+. If you prefer to subscribe to an RSS feed on

different subjects, you can have that, too.

Some publications and field guides, such as the popular "Shrubs to Know in Pacific Northwest Forests" and "Trees to Know in Oregon," are available to purchase. Simply click the "add to cart" button and enter your billing information.

The following are the most downloaded garden publications: "How to Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides"; "Growing Blueberries in Your Home Garden"; "Growing Tree Fruits and Nuts in the Home Orchard"; "Training and Pruning Your Home Orchard"; "Growing Your Own Table Grapes"; and "Managing Diseases and Insects in Home Orchards."

MI TOWN

Wednesday (today) is April Fool's Day, and thoughts of all the pranks played back in the day return — none of which I'm going to share in print, or even begin to admit to doing to family members, teachers and friends many years ago.

April 1 has been celebrated all over the world since the mid-1500s with all kinds of jokes and pranks played on just about everyone. In France, school children try to secretly tape pictures of fish on one another's backs; in Scandinavian countries, there is always an April Fool's story printed on the front page of daily newspapers.

It's a great day for laughter and just good, plain fun.

Spring break was over before we knew it. Our local



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

students are back in their classrooms with thoughts of sports, proms and upcoming graduation competing with learning history, English and math. Spring is the time for dreams and fantasies, and everyone is looking forward to days filled with sunshine and evenings that you want to last forever. Today is not the day to deal with the reality of tidying up closets and pulling weeds. It's a great day to take a long walk around MI Town.

Mark your calendars for

Saturday for the monthly community breakfast at the Monmouth Senior Center. Everyone in the family will enjoy all-you-can-eat scrambled eggs, sausage, biscuits and gravy, and orange juice. Cost is \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 12. What a great way to begin a busy Saturday.

With Easter Sunday just a few days away, many of us are planning family get-togethers and celebrations of faith at our local churches. Easter is definitely a time for new beginnings and sharing the joy with everyone. It's a time for new life to appear — lambs, calves and foals in farmers' fields, and lilacs and tulips are everywhere. It's a time for optimistic thinking and doing — and when the spring fever subsides — ac-

complishing all kinds of necessary tasks around the house, yard and community.

Last week's Spring Sports Preview Guide in the *Itemizer-Observer* was a special bonus to everyone who enjoys outdoor sports. What could be more fun than to get the family together and cheering on our friends and neighbor kids as they show how much they enjoy participating in school sports events.

From the time I was a little girl watching my dad play baseball with neighbors at the local elementary school playground on springtime and summer evenings, I've been in love with all things baseball. Nothing tastes better than a hot dog at the ballpark. Let's show our kids how much we appreciate their efforts — and have a good time as well.

PEDEE NEWS

Family and friends were on hand at Pedee Church on Sunday when Jacob Barnhart and his girlfriend, Allison Thomson of Los Angeles, announced their engagement. It made an exciting end to the service. They are planning a July wedding. They met last year at Ecola Bible School in Cannon Beach.

Judy Guida spent a very good week with Sam's family in Houston, visiting with John, Gina and their four children, and taking the older two, Neko and Adriana, to their first carnival. She and Sam's brother, Joe, traveled to the Texas Hill Country one day to go horseback riding on a 5,000-acre ranch, which certainly was different than riding here in the Coast Range. They visited Joe and Sam's cousin, John Guida, at his home there, where they



ARLENE KOVASH
Columnist

had fun hearing stories of John and Sam growing up in Tampa, Fla. They also went to the Houston Rodeo, held in the NRG football stadium that seats 71,500 people. Judy said all those 71,500 seats seemed to be full. Everything is bigger in Texas.

For the last two months, the Pedee Women's Club has had a beginning quilting class each month. Several class members now plan to get together as often as possible at regular Wednesday club meetings to continue working on quilting projects,

and they invite anyone interested to come. I'll be there most weeks to get new quilters started or to teach new skills. We'll meet from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or so. Bring a sack lunch. You can contact me at kovasha@gmail.com or 503-838-3512 if you have questions or want to make sure I'll be there to give you a hand. Of course, several of our other members can answer questions, too.

Tale and April Makalea are already planting spring crops in their Maple Grove Road garden to sell in their farm stand, which is open on Fridays and Saturdays during the summer. They will also be delivering boxes of natural, home-grown vegetables weekly during the summer and fall to all interested in subscribing. This is their ninth year of providing these

popular "Community Supported Agriculture" (CSA) boxes of from five to 10 kinds of vegetables. Check out their website for more details, makaleafamily.com, or give them a call at 503-838-6085. I should mention that they also teach some really interesting homesteading classes on a regular basis, so check that out, too.

Granddaughters Victoria and Christina Odell of Salem were at our house for the first two days of their spring break. We drove to the top of Mary's Peak, the highest in the Coast Range at 4,097 feet, on the first day, which was a glorious 69 degrees. There are wooded trails in the area, and we hiked several. It's so easy to forget some of our closest and best tourist destinations, and Mary's Peak is only 36 miles from Pedee.

ENGAGEMENTS

Lerwick-McCormack

Barbara Jayne Lerwick of Dallas and Tyler Hugh McCormack of Brothers are planning a June wedding.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Chuck and Barbara Lerwick of Dallas. Her fiancé is the son of Jeff and Runinda McCormack of Brothers.



Barbara is a 2009 graduate of Dallas High School and a 2013 graduate of Oregon State University in Corvallis with a Bachelor of Science in animal sciences. She is a ranch hand at McCormack Ranch in Brothers.

Tyler is a 2008 graduate of Crook County High School in Prineville and a 2012 graduate of Oregon State University with a Bachelor of Science in agricultural business management and a minor in animal sciences. He works on his family's ranch, the McCormack Ranch in Brothers.

The wedding is set for June 20 at McCormack Ranch in Brothers.

Marquez-Schilling

Kali Marquez of Dallas and Brandon Schilling of Dallas are planning an August wedding.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Terheanna Ehret Marquez of Dallas and Dominic Marquez of Petaluma, Calif. Her fiancé is the son of Steven and Lori Schilling of Dallas and Blossom Langston of Dufur.



Kali is a 2013 graduate of Perrydale High School. She is a student at Johnny Matthew's Hairdressing Training School in Salem.

Brandon is a 2011 graduate of Dallas High School. He is employed at Vestas Wind Systems in Portland as a windmill technician.

The wedding is set for Aug. 1 at Summerfield Farm in Salem.

BIRTHS

Westendorf

Dalton Fredrick Westendorf was born to Brian and Jennifer Westendorf of Dallas at 6:46 a.m. on March 8 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20½ inches long.

Dalton joins Adalee, 15 months. Grandparents are Dan and Dena Westendorf of Dallas, Kaye Koloen of Dallas and Rick Koloen of Dallas.

Great-grandparents are Dick and Sharon Koloen of Dallas and Donna Westendorf of Redmond.

Nunez-Andrade

Sofia Annabel Nunez-Andrade was born to Leonardo Nunez and Yoana Andrade of Independence at 6:25 a.m. on March 25 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

She weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

Sofia joins Julian, 8, and Leonardo, 3. Grandparents are Gonzalo and Maria Andrade of Independence and Raul and MariaLuisa Nunez of Independence.

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