

# Extend vegetable crop through fall

Fresh vegetables can be harvested most of the year in many places in Oregon. In fact, many cool-season crops produce well in the fall and hold through the winter if protected.

"You can plant vegetables in mid- to late summer after you harvest spring crops and as space is available, and in many years have a year-round garden," said Ross Penhallegon, a horticulturist with Oregon State University's Extension Service.

Some of the best vegetables are produced during the warm days and cold nights of fall, he said. Light frost adds sugar to sweet corn and crispness to carrots. Parsnips, kale, collards, Brussels sprouts and Jerusalem artichokes also improve with a touch of frost.

Certain vegetables are better-suited to fall and winter harvest than others, Penhallegon said.

A key to successful fall or winter gardening is the location of your garden. Choose the warmest spot you have that is not prone to early frost, avoid the bottom of a hill or an area with lots of bushes and trees. A south-facing slope is best for winter sun, he said. Be



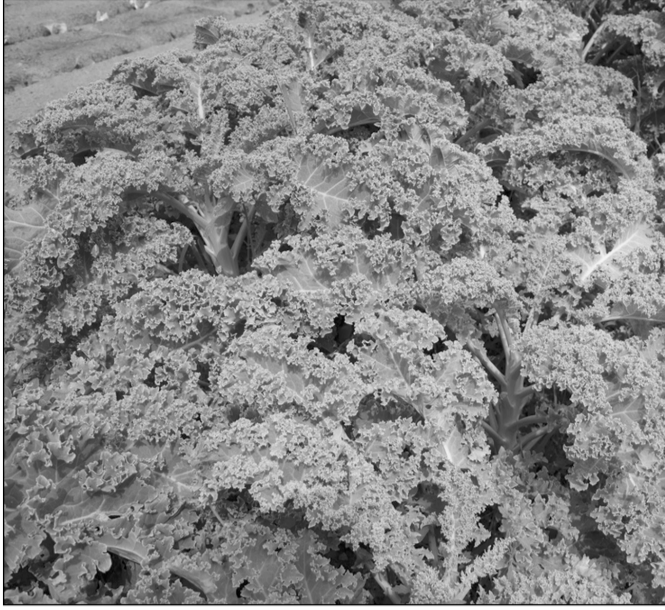
**KYM POKORNY**  
Your Garden

sure to restore nutrients removed by spring and summer crops with a light layer of compost or aged manure or a small application of fertilizer. Do not over-fertilize with nitrogen.

"During the rainy season, good well-drained soils are essential," Penhallegon advised. "Raised beds are best, and if your soil doesn't drain well, amend it with organic matter such as compost."

Timely planting is another key to success. Crops need time to become well-established before cold weather and short days curtail growth, but if you plant too early, the young plants can wilt in the heat or mature too soon. Choose the fastest-maturing varieties and pay attention to the average date of the first killing frost in your area. Most winter crops are planted from July through August.

You can give seeds a head start in containers or a nursery bed, or buy starts from a garden center.



Courtesy of Oregon State University Extension Service

**Fresh vegetables can be harvested most of the year in many places in Oregon.**

Here are Penhallegon's examples of summer-into-fall plantings:

- Pull out old pea vines and plant carrot seeds in their place.
- Yank bolted broccoli and replace with a crop of lettuce and salad greens.
- Harvest the rest of the beets and sow a crop of kale.
- Replace tomatoes in the fall with an overwintering crop of garlic or shallots.
- Remove your spent squash plants and put in

crimson clover (a cover crop) to protect the soil over the winter.

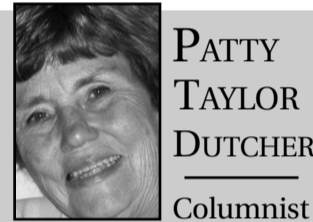
- Compost bitter lettuce and replace with a batch of scallions, leeks or radishes.

Penhallegon suggests that a crop that fails one year because of an unusually early freeze or abnormally cold winter may thrive in a milder year. "Be willing to experiment," he said, "and don't give up if your results some years are less than ideal."

## MI TOWN

It was wonderful to see so many people at the Polk County Fair two weeks ago — and there was indeed something for everyone to enjoy. We ate corn on the cob and ice cream cones, and liked seeing the new changes at the fairgrounds. Watching the young people involved in 4-H and FFA gives everyone a positive feeling about what's good in our world. Unfortunately, the 6 o'clock news rarely showcases stories about these teens and focuses more on sensational stories of all the bad things that happen daily in the cities and small communities alike. Even in MI Town, it's not all sunshine and flowers — but seeing the accomplishments of many of our young citizens, I'm optimistic that our future is in good hands.

The summer concerts in



**PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER**  
Columnist

Main Street Park in Monmouth just keep getting better and better, and what could be more fun on a summer evening than spending time with friends and family, listening to a variety of excellent entertainers. Tonight we'll all be entertained at 6:30 by a group known as Ramble On, a Led Zeppelin Tribute Band. Time is passing quickly, and these special summer-time events will soon be over for another year. Thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to make Wednesday evenings so special for everyone in MI Town.

Tomorrow evening will be yet another great opportunity to see a movie — "Guardians of the Galaxy" at the Independence Amphitheater. The movie begins at dusk, and you're invited to bring a picnic supper and get settled in early.

The next River's Edge concert will be at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, when Chance McKinney will be at the amphitheater to bring everyone an evening of music and entertainment.

We're past the middle of August now and it seems like summer is flying by more quickly every year. Stores are featuring back-to-school clothes and shoes, and there are displays of pens, notebooks and paper everywhere you turn. Families

are enjoying these last precious days of summer before the regular routines of school and homework begin.

Just around the corner is the Independence Hop and Heritage Festival, with the Ghost Walk already scheduled for Sept. 18. More information will follow as the days get closer.

We ordered season tickets and are anticipating our Western Oregon University Wolves' first home game at McArthur Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 12. Ticket information is available on the WOU website. Sitting in the stands on a sunny autumn afternoon, watching "our" college team play football is a great way to celebrate the beginning of a new academic year.

## PEDEE NEWS

The Polk County Fair is now history and several Pedee kids had outstanding results. Abigail Makalea redeemed herself after struggling to show a pig to win Grand Champion 4-H Jersey dairy cow and Reserve Champion for all breeds of dairy cows and went on to win the Polk County 4-H Live Animal Award at the Polk County Fair's awards ceremony on Aug. 8. To win the award, she submitted her 4-H records and a story on why and how she wants to raise the animal, and then was interviewed by the 4-H Live Animal Awards committee. She chose the Holstein dairy heifer, which she named Sugar.



**ARLENE KOVASH**  
Columnist

Dawntae Bault won the Holstein heifer last year, naming her Hope, and showed her this year, winning a blue ribbon in showmanship and the breed class, and will take her to the state fair. He also won a champion ribbon with his silky chicken and showed his horse for the first time this year. Not only that, he got blue ribbons in open class baking with his angel food cake, zucchini bread and

raspberry bread.

Levi Bault entered the ATV rodeo and won trophies in barrel racing, keyhole, pole bending, and the granny panty race. Bet that last one was interesting!

Steve Cameron had very successful back surgery at the Veteran's Hospital in Portland last Thursday. He was up and walking that afternoon, and home on Friday. He credited a wonderful doctor up there with the success.

Bert and Doris Bodine sold their home in Pedee and moved to Dallas last Sunday. Hopefully it will require less care, with less land

to worry about. The Women's Club still hopes to see Doris on Wednesdays, though.

Scott Castle is inviting anyone interested in going through the entire Bible in one year to contact Pedee Church (or just show up). They started last Thursday, and the first week's reading discussion will be this Thursday at 7 p.m. at the church. Handouts of Bible reading plans are at the church or on the "Bible" app on your device, or use the Internet at www.bible.com. The plan on the app is called "Read the Bible for Life — One Year Chronological Reading Plan." This is for anyone — church member or not, Christian or not.

## ENGAGEMENTS

### Merrill-Chase



Heather Merrill of Dallas and Eric Chase of Independence are planning a September wedding.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Richard and Kim Merrill of Dallas. Her fiancé is the son of Chuck and Peggy Chase of Independence.

Heather is a 2002 graduate of Dallas High School and a 2014 graduate of Chemeketa Community College in Salem with an associate degree in business management. She works as the executive assistant for the Polk County Board of Commissioners in Dallas.

Eric is a 1993 graduate of Central High School who went on to serve in the U.S. Air Force until 1998. He works as the Southern Oregon operations manager for Sierra Springs.

The wedding is set for Sept. 2 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, on the beach.

## BIRTHS

### Carpenter

Dakota Joseph Carpenter was born to Matthew and Tracey Carpenter of Dallas at 1:36 p.m. on July 29 at Silverton Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 19.5 inches long.

Dakota joins Dillan, 10, Savannah, 7, and Dusty, 4. Grandparents are Jamie and Rejeania Heide of Monmouth, and Dave and Judy Carpenter of Monmouth.

Great-grandparents are Patricia Heide of Monmouth and Violet Carpenter of Monmouth.

### Case

Mackenzie Robin Case was born to James and Amanda Case of King City at 9:39 a.m. on July 31 at Kaiser Westside Medical Center in Portland.

She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

Mackenzie joins Madison, 3. Grandparents are Greg and Mavis Jenkins of Rickreall, and Sherman and Mary Case of Tigard.

Great-grandparents are Caroline Knutson of Salem; Dean and Carrol Klett of King City; Roger and Lourdes Case of Oak Harbor, Wash.; and Dave and Arlene Andersen of Burlington, Wash.

### Turner

Tred Alan Turner was born to David and Tabitha Turner of Keizer at 4:32 p.m. on Aug. 5 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces, and was 21.75 inches long.

Tred is the couple's first child. Grandparents are Dave and Becky Gladish of Keizer; Eileen Turner of Independence; and Jack and Gayle Turner of Pomeroy, Wash.

### Smothers/Hise

Levi Allen Smothers/Hise was born to Chad Smothers and Penny Hise of Dallas at 6:37 a.m. on Aug. 9 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 20 inches long.

Levi joins Spencer, 18, Bailey, 18, Cooper, 13, and Griffin, 12. Grandparents are Marcia Fisher of Dallas, and Merrell and Elizabeth Smothers of Albany.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued from page 8A

### WEDNESDAY, AUG. 26

• **Willamette Valley Food Assistance Program Food Bank** — 1:30 to 6:30 p.m., 888 Monmouth Cutoff Road, Building E, Dallas. Weekly distribution for eligible community members. 503-831-5634.

• **Yoga in the Hopyard** — 6 p.m., Rogue Farms Micro Hopyard, 3590 Wigrich Road, Independence. Offered on the last Wednesday of every month. Free; bring your own yoga mat. 503-838-9813.

• **Music in the Park** — 6:30 p.m., Main Street Park, Monmouth. Coming Up Threes, celtic. Free. www.ci.monmouth.or.us.

• **American Red Cross Blood Donation** — 12:30 to 6 p.m., Faith Evangelical Free Church, 2290 E. Ellendale Ave., Dallas.

• **Dallas Family Night Out** — 3 to 7 p.m., Dallas United Methodist Church, 565 SE LaCreole Drive, Dallas. Free back-to-school event. 503-623-8387, ext. 22 or www.dallasfamilynightout.com.

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