

Bulbs for colorful spring bloom

When it comes to plants, bulbs are about as easy as it gets.

"You plant them in fall, they grow over winter, flourish in spring and go dormant in summer," said Heather Stoven, a horticulturist with Oregon State University's Extension Service. "Once they're in the ground, they do quite well over multiple years with little maintenance."

On top of that, bulbs are drought-tolerant. "That's one of the great things about them," she said. "Since they go dormant in summer, they don't need to be watered."

If you plan to intermingle bulbs with perennials or place them near shrubs, pair with plants that don't need much irrigation, Stoven said. Or, if the area does get regular water, make sure the soil drains well.

Bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, crocus and hyacinth are planted in fall because they need some time to get their roots going before pushing up to put on a spring show. Although October and November are ideal for planting, bulbs can go into the ground until mid-December.

When shelling out money for bulbs, make sure you choose large ones. The bigger the bulb, the bigger the bloom, Stoven said. Also, avoid those with mold or soft spots, which signal rot. Plant as soon as possible, but if something comes up to delay you, store bulbs in a cool, dim place such as an unlit garage.



KYM POKORNY
Your Garden

Before heading to the garden center, make a plan. Decide on color combinations. Do a little research so that you can choose early, mid- and late-blooming varieties for a longer display. Think about what to plant together — a mix of different types of bulbs is an attractive option.

As you get ready to plant, dig holes to fit multiple bulbs rather than planting one at a time. The effect is more natural.

"Groupings are really nice," Stoven said. "You'll get a mass of color."

When digging the hole, it's best to follow directions on the package for planting depth, but a general rule of thumb is three times as deep as the bulb is wide. Add some organic material — compost, well-rotted manure or mulch — to the bottom of the hole, place bulb pointed side up and cover with soil. Adding fertilizer is not necessary, but if you feel compelled, use super phosphate or a low-concentrated product labeled for bulbs, Stoven said.

There's no need to dig bulbs up after flowering, but letting the foliage turn brown and die back is a good idea so that the nutrients contained in the leaves return to the bulb and it can start the cycle once again.



OSU EXTENSION/for the Itemizer-Observer
Fritillaria (F. imperialis), bell-shaped flowers in orange or yellow hang in clusters from single stems up to 5 feet tall.

Here are Stoven's recommendations for uncommon spring-blooming bulbs:

Fawn lily (Erythronium oregonum) — An Oregon native wildflower with dainty, nodding white or yellowish flowers and brown-stained leaves. Doesn't mind shade and looks inviting in a woodland setting.

Grecian windflower (Anemone blanda) — Delicate, star-like flowers come in blue, white and pink on frilly foliage that melts away soon after bloom is over. Best used in a mass. "Blue is especially nice to have as a contrast to yellow daffodils," Stoven said.

Allium — Part of the garlic family, this deer-resistant bulb puts up a stem with one ball-shaped flower, usually in shades of purple, pink and blue, more infre-

quently white. Sizes vary widely from the 10-inch flowers of 'Globemaster' to the tiny pops of one-inch drumstick alliums.

Fritillaria — Another group of bulbs with wide variation. On crown imperial fritillaria (F. imperialis), bell-shaped flowers in orange or yellow hang in clusters from single stems up to 5 feet tall. The much-smaller native checker lily (F. affinis) has dark purple flowers spotted irregularly with yellow.

Species tulips — Just like their big siblings, but shorter, hardier and longer lasting. These bulbs will seed themselves so they'll naturalize and give years of enjoyment. For more information on the group, check out a fact sheet from OSU Extension.

MILESTONES

Morgan — 95th

Norma L. Morgan of Dallas will celebrate her 95th birthday at 2 p.m. on Oct. 11 with her family and friends at her daughter's home in Dallas. She was born in Healdsburg, Calif., on Oct. 11, 1920. She has lived in the Polk County area the last 20 years, and Milwaukie before that. She worked in Treasure Island, Calif., during World War II as a time checker, and also had worked in retail at Lipman's in Salem. She retired from doing the janitorial service at Paul Koch Volkswagen in Milwaukie.

Norma enjoys spending time with her family and friends. She also enjoys watching old movies, writing letters, and sending current and old pictures to relatives.

Her family includes her late husband Harold H. (Arch) Morgan and her children, Larry and Rosi Morgan, of La-Center, Wash., Dennis Morgan, of Dallas; and Janet Gilbert, of Dallas. She has three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



BIRTHS

Thompson

Abigail Ann Thompson was born to Richard and Denise Thompson, of Dallas, at 6:36 a.m. on Sept. 25 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

She weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 21 inches long.

Abigail is the couple's first child. Grandparents are Roger and Lori Sebern, of Dallas; and Don and Sharon Thompson, of Keizer.

Jones

Rylee Kathleen Jones was born to Lee and Chelsie Jones, of Dallas, at 9:34 p.m. on Sept. 30 at Salem Hospital Family Birth Center.

She weighed 6 pounds, 3 ounces, and was 19.75 inches long.

Rylee is the couple's first child. Grandparents are Jeff and Janice Bahr, of Hazelton, Kan., and Ron and Liz Jones of Silverton.

Great-grandparents are Joe and Mildred Frieden, of Kiowa, Kan.; Eileen Bahr, of Gridley, Kan.; and Barbara Moser, of Silverton.

MI TOWN

We send away our children and grandchildren to begin their adult lives. It could be to the community college across town or a large university across the United States, to a technical school, or to join the military. We send them off with love and tears, with hopes and dreams, and go back to our regular lives and routines.

On a beautiful autumn day, with leaves turning colors and college football games happening all over our country, and especially in MI Town, none of us were anticipating listening to the President of the United States offer prayers and condolences to family and friends because their children and friends' lives were taken in yet another series of murders on a college campus.



PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER
Columnist

When I was privileged to work at, and attend, several universities here in Oregon, what impressed me so much was the sense of safety and security, a place of peace and learning and fun, of athletics and music and plays and parties, all of the good things of growing and learning. We do not think of people packing guns and shooting and killing innocents for no reason whatsoever. That our kids and grandkids and neighbor kids would be in harm's way on a small college campus in Roseburg, Ore., is almost

beyond our capacity to comprehend. And we so sincerely wish we did not have to, ever.

In the days and weeks to come, there will be all kinds of theories and speculation — people will wonder how this kind of thing can happen on a college campus, a place that is supposed to be dedicated to higher education and learning, a place where students of all ages can learn about their world, about careers, about meeting people from other communities, other cultures and other nations. It should not be a place where students have to learn survival skills — if they are lucky. College should be a place where youth can make the transition to adulthood, where veterans can return from wars half a world away to go to school in a secure and

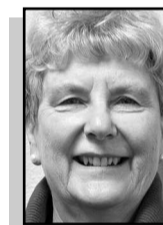
safe environment. It should never be a place where fear can rule; it should not be a place where harm and danger would prevail.

Umpqua Community College is in a beautiful community in Oregon. Roseburg has all the good things that would attract students and teachers, a place where fishing and hunting and hiking and all forms of outdoor recreation is welcome. It is not a place where parents should ever be told their beloved kids have been murdered on a beautiful, autumn day in the happiest and best times of their lives.

May God be good to those who have died far too young, and may angels wrap their wings around those whose lives will never be the same. Ever again.

PEDEE NEWS

Last Thursday, Diane Telfer, who with her husband, Paul, volunteers for the Red Cross, got back from a



ARLENE KOVASH
Columnist

16-day deployment near Napa Valley, Calif., where she was staying in a shelter near Middle Town, north of Calistoga. She worked on disaster assessment for the 80,000-acre "Valley Fire," which killed four people and burned 1,200 homes to the ground. They worked long days, often up to 14 hours, driving the area and verifying addresses of the homes that burned. She was shocked at the devastation a fire like this can cause.

Through careful sleuthing, Pedee Church did discover who stole their musical instruments. They were found half way across the United States where police apprehended the thief and recovered most of the instruments, when the thief tried to sell them on Craig's List. At this point, insurance money is being used

to replace necessary items since it may take a while to get them back across the country as they are released by the police and insurance companies.

A young man in Pedee is looking for a cheap but reliable car to drive to work in Dallas. If anyone has one they are willing to sell, please contact me at Kovasha@gmail.com or 503-838-3512 and I will pass the word along. Looks don't matter at this point in his life.

Daniel and Heidi Russell both had birthdays the last week September, so the church had a surprise birthday dinner for them. Well, almost a surprise. This was Daniel's 40th birthday so the crowd was big. Daniel is a gifted speaker, so I invite you to visit the church sometime and hear what he has to say. No obligation. Worship service is from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

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Sudoku solution

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8	2	3	1	7	4	5	6	9
7	6	8	9	3	5	1	2	4
5	1	2	4	8	7	9	3	6
3	4	9	2	1	6	7	5	8
4	8	7	5	6	2	3	9	1
1	9	5	8	4	3	6	7	2
2	3	6	7	9	1	4	8	5

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