

# Peel off the layers of growing artichokes

With deeply lobed silver leaves and a 3-foot stature, the artichoke unfolds as much mystery in the garden as it does on the dinner table.

Used to set off any color in a perennial border, as a striking specimen plant or the flagship of a vegetable garden, the artichoke has much to recommend it to the gardener. But the reason most people grow them are the leathery leaves made to dip into butter — or is it mayo? — and the succulent heart at the center.

Although most artichokes thrive in the cool, moist climate of coastal California, western Oregon is usually mild enough to grow these edible thistles as perennials if cut back and mulched in the winter, according to Jim Myers, plant breeder and researcher at Oregon State University.

For the best success he recommends varieties Green Globe, Imperial Star and Emerald.

"For something unusual, try growing Violette," Myers said. "It is particularly variable for spines and purple heads, but in my opinion, has the best flavor of all of the artichokes."

To grow artichokes from



**KYM POKORNY**  
Your Garden

seed, start them indoors in late February or March under grow lights for about eight weeks, and then plant them outside after the last frost. In May or June, it's best to purchase starts from your local nursery or mail-order catalog.

"Plant artichoke starts in loose, well-amended soil in full sun," Myers said. "Space them 3 to 5 feet apart, and when planning your garden, think about the shade they will cast. Water and mulch regularly."

By mid-summer, the artichoke plant should send up flower buds. To eat the buds, harvest them before they open. If left to flower, the plant will produce a large purple thistle that can be dried and used in arrangements. If you harvest all the heads, in milder climates artichokes may send up a second crop in the fall.

An artichoke will produce well for about three or four years, Myers said. After that,



Photo from Flickr by Michelle Tribe

**For a fun project, beautiful garden plant and delicious vegetable, try growing artichokes.**

it's best to dig and divide it as it produces off-shoot plants that may crowd the original plant.

"In the fall, cut back your artichoke plant and mulch it with a covering of leaves or

straw. After mild winters, new plants will sprout in the spring from the old parent plant. Uncover them in April. Cold winters, however, may kill artichokes, whether or not they are mulched."

## MI TOWN

Did our merry month of March come in like a lion ... or a lamb? Visions of spring-time appear as the raindrops fall over MI Town and soon flowers will appear everywhere. The bright yellow daffodils and the promise of blossoms on the trees keep our spirits high as we dodge those puddles and downpours one day, and enjoy clear blue skies the next.

The Boston Red Sox and the Minnesota Twins play Wednesday (today) at Fort Myers, Fla., in their first spring training game of the season. Alas, we will not be basking in the sunshine and cheering on our two favorite teams this year, but all is not lost. Western Oregon University Wolves softball team is scheduled to play Saturday against St. Martin's University at noon. Coach



**PATTY TAYLOR DUTCHER**  
Columnist

Lonny Sargent's team will host Central Washington on Sunday at noon, where everyone will get a chance to see the WOU women play at home for the first time this season.

The following weekend, beginning March 12, the men's baseball season opens at home when the Wolves meet St. Martin's at 3 p.m. On March 13, the two teams will play again at 3 p.m. We can all enjoy a day or two of softball and baseball without even leaving MI Town, and welcome Coach

Kellen Walker and the 2016 WOU baseball team. Springtime doesn't get any better than this.

MI Town's own Dutch Bros. participated in the annual Dutch Luv day on Feb. 14, where \$1 from every drink sold was contributed to local food banks. A record-setting amount of \$234,030 was distributed in the seven states where 256 Dutch Bros. locations participated in the program. Dallas Food Bank was the recipient of \$1,793 from the Monmouth location. It's good to see contributions and donations being put to good use right here in our area.

Springtime seems to be arriving early this year with our backyard camellias in bloom and the promise of

pretty azalea blossoms just a few sunny days away. After visiting the seed lending library at Monmouth Public Library on Saturday, it's definitely time to get the garden beds prepared for peas, beans, peppers and other vegetables; and to get the strawberry and raspberry beds ready for those first sweet and tasty delights.

Mark your calendars for Saturday for the monthly community breakfast at the Monmouth Senior Center. Smiling volunteers promise good, wholesome food and a chance to get together with friends and neighbors before getting started on a busy weekend of activities. After breakfast, visit Crafter's Corner, featuring handmade items made by local seniors. Lions and lambs of all ages are welcome.

## ENGAGEMENTS

### Anderson—50th



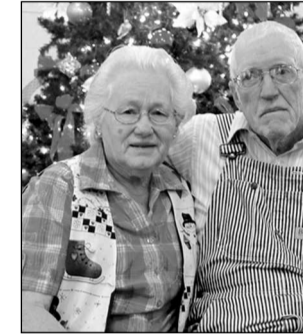
Donn and Diane Anderson, of Dallas, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Donn Anderson and Diane Schaeztle were married Feb. 26, 1966, at the Little Chapel of Silence on the campus of the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

The couple has lived in Los Angeles, the San Francisco Bay area, Saudi Arabia, Seattle/Puget Sound, and on the island of Maui, Hawaii.

Donn and Diane are graduates of the first ever Dallas Citizens Academy in 2015. They are active in the Faith Evangelical Free Church in Dallas.

Their family includes Todd and Tanya Anderson, of Lodi, Calif., Brian and Chris Anderson, of Cottonwood, Calif., and Wyatt and Debbie Anderson, of Redwood City, Calif. The couple has seven grandchildren.

### Domes—65th



William and Emmy Domes, of Rickreall, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary with family. William Domes and Emmy Rempel were married Feb. 18, 1951, at the Grace Mennonite Church in Dallas.

Rev. Regier officiated the ceremony. The couple was attended by Miriam Morris and Keith Shields.

The couple has lived in Polk County all their lives. William and Emmy received the OSU Agricultural Diamond Pioneer award in 2005 and 2011 for their contribution to Oregon agriculture. They enjoy their church, family, and their farm.

Their family includes Don and Margo Domes of Hillsboro, Jeannie and Bill Schierling, of Dallas, Jerry and Kris Domes, of Rickreall, and AJ and Rex Campbell, of Corvallis. The couple has 15 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren.

## BIRTHS

### Drebin

Theodore Samson Drebin was born to Jimmy and Briana Drebin, of Irmo, S.C., at 5:14 p.m. on Jan. 18 at Silverton Hospital Family Birth Center.

He weighed 9 pounds, 2 ounces, and was 21.25 inches long.

Theodore joins Maximus, 19 months. Grandparents are Kelly and Kathy Drebin, of Corvallis, Matt Hawes, of Dallas, and Sean and Trina Comerford, of Rickreall.

Great-grandparents are LaVal and Jennifer Houskeeper, of Lacey, Wash., Patricia Laughlin, of Oregon City, Ronald Lewis Laughlin, of Portland, and Dixie Leder of Woodburn.

Great-great-grandmother is Betty Morris, of Olympia, Wash.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Continued from page 8A

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 (CONTINUED)

• **Polk County Republican Women** — 11:30 a.m., Oak Knoll Golf Course, 6335 Highway 22, Independence. No-host lunch available; everyone welcome. 503-623-5759.

• **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.

• **Free Blood Pressure Check Clinic** — 2 to 3 p.m., West Valley Hospital (surgery admitting area), 525 SE Washington St., Dallas. 503-623-7323

• **Monmouth Senior Center Music Jam** — 6:30 p.m., Monmouth Senior Center, 180 S. Warren St., Monmouth. Open to the public; musicians of all types welcome. 503-838-5678.

• **Dallas American Legion Post No. 20** — 7 p.m., Academy Building, Room 108, 182 SW Academy St., Dallas. 503-831-3971.

• **Lenten series** — 5:30 to 8 p.m., St. Thomas Church, 1486 SW Levens St., Dallas. Free. Worship service at 5:30; soup supper at 6; video lecture series on Old Testament followed by discussion from 7 to 8.

• **Monmouth-Independence Chamber Luncheon** — Noon to 1 p.m., Monmouth Public Library, 168 Ecols St. S., Monmouth. \$11 boxed lunch available upon registration. Polk County Sheriff Office update. Micc-or.org.

**You're Invited**  
*Ignite Your Passion*

**Third Annual Survivor Dinner & Celebration**  
hosted by Eola Hills Winery  
sponsored by Relay For Life of Polk County & Team Perrydale

**Saturday, April 2**  
**at Eola Hills Wine Cellars**  
501 S. Pacific Highway 99W, Rickreall

*Eola Hills*

**5:30 ~ Doors open, Meet & Mingle**  
**6:15 to 8:00 ~ Dinner & Entertainment**  
Every survivor and guest will be guests of honor. Please join us for an evening of food, fun and festivities. To RSVP your name and the name of one guest, contact Vicki Bailey at 503-623-5241 or vickibaile@aol.com. For planning purposes, RSVPs are encouraged by March 23, but are not required.

**POLK FLEA MARKET**  
AT THE FAIRGROUNDS  
RICKREALL, OREGON 97371

**SUNDAY, MAR. 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
**HOURS: 9-3**

EARLY ADMISSION SUNDAY 6AM-9AM \$5  
REGULAR ADMISSION \$1 ★ FREE PARKING

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**Rick's Place COFFEEHOUSE**  
*Serving the Community Since 1991*

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**INDEPENDENCE CINEMA 8**  
450 S. 2nd St., Independence  
Showtimes 503-606-3000  
www.IndependenceCinema8.com

Malinesse are all shows before 8pm. New pricing for matinees are: Adult \$7.25 Children \$6.75 Senior \$7.00 Pricing does not reflect 3D showings.

**Friday - Saturday March 3 - March 4**

RISEN (Digital) (PG13)	(12:00 4:55) 7:20	9:40
TRIPLE 9 (Digital) (R)	(2:25)	
EDDIE THE EAGLE (Digital) (PG13)	(11:50 2:20 4:50) 7:10	9:25
LONDON HAS FALLEN (Digital) (R)	(12:20 2:45 5:10) 7:35	10:00
ZOOTOPIA (Digital 2D) (PG)	(11:30 1:55 4:25) 7:00	9:30
DEADPOOL (Digital) (R)	(11:45 2:15 4:45) 7:15	9:35
KUNG FU PANDA 3 (Digital 2D) (PG)	(11:25)	
SPOTLIGHT (Digital) (R)	(1:30) 6:50	
HAIL! CAESAR (Digital) (PG13)	(4:20)	9:30
KUNG FU PANDA 3 (Digital 2D) (PG)	(12:50 3:05)	
THE WITCH (Digital) (R)	(5:20) 7:30	9:35
GODS OF EGYPT (Digital 2D) (PG13)	(1:25 4:15) 7:05	9:45

**Sunday March 5**

RISEN (Digital) (PG13)	(12:00 4:55) 7:20	
TRIPLE 9 (Digital) (R)	(2:25)	
EDDIE THE EAGLE (Digital) (PG13)	(11:50 2:20 4:50) 7:10	
LONDON HAS FALLEN (Digital) (R)	(12:20 2:45 5:10) 7:35	
ZOOTOPIA (Digital 2D) (PG)	(11:30 1:55 4:25) 7:00	
DEADPOOL (Digital) (R)	(11:45 2:15 4:45) 7:15	
KUNG FU PANDA 3 (Digital 2D) (PG)	(11:25)	
SPOTLIGHT (Digital) (R)	(1:30) 6:50	
HAIL! CAESAR (Digital) (PG13)	(4:20)	
KUNG FU PANDA 3 (Digital 2D) (PG)	(12:50 3:05)	
THE WITCH (Digital) (R)	(5:20) 7:30	
GODS OF EGYPT (Digital 2D) (PG13)	(1:25 4:15) 7:05	

**Monday - Thursday March 6 - March 10**

RISEN (Digital) (PG13)	(4:55) 7:20	
TRIPLE 9 (Digital) (R)	(2:25)	
EDDIE THE EAGLE (Digital) (PG13)	(2:20 4:50) 7:10	
LONDON HAS FALLEN (Digital) (R)	(2:45 5:10) 7:35	
ZOOTOPIA (Digital 2D) (PG)	(1:55 4:25) 7:00	
DEADPOOL (Digital) (R)	(2:15 4:45) 7:15	
SPOTLIGHT (Digital) (R)	(1:30) 6:50	
HAIL! CAESAR (Digital) (PG13)	(4:20)	
KUNG FU PANDA 3 (Digital 2D) (PG)	(3:05)	
THE WITCH (Digital) (R)	(5:20) 7:30	
GODS OF EGYPT (Digital 2D) (PG13)	(1:25 4:15) 7:05	

**2016 Relay For Life of Polk County Survivor Swim**  
*It's a CELEBRATION!*  
Free event for all caregivers, cancer survivors, and those currently in treatment and their families!

**Sunday, March 13, 5:30 to 7:00 pm**  
**Dallas Aquatic Center**  
1005 SE LaCreole Dr, Dallas  
Snacks, Swimming, Bingo and Prizes!

For more information: *Ignite Your Passion*  
Tami or Jen  
503-507-0120  
2015relayforlifepc@gmail.com

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