

Spring orchid show at Fairplex

The Spring Orchid Show and Sale, April 26-27 at the Washington County Fair Complex, will have an amazing variety of gorgeous, blooming orchids to enjoy. There will be orchid plants, books and growing supplies on sale, as well, and the Oregon Orchid Society will have volunteers on hand to help with questions.

The Orchid Show will be held in the Cloverleaf and Floral Buildings. The \$3.00 admission ticket is good all weekend and there is plenty of free parking. Saturday, April 26, sale hours are 11 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; show hours are 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday, April 27, sale and show hours are 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Master Gardeners plant sale in St. Helens

The OSU Columbia County Master Gardeners' seventh annual Garden Fair and Plant Sale will be held Saturday, April 26, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the St. Helens High School Commons, 2375 Gable Road.

As in past years, Master Gardeners will sell tomato plants for \$1.00 each. They plan to have the standard fa-

vorites, as well as several heirloom varieties. The tomatoes are being grown by Nelson's Nursery in Warren and Shaft's Farm in Scappoose.

There will also be booths with educational information on growing roses, fuchsias, rhododendrons, wildflowers, peonies, and, of course, tomatoes. Master Gardeners will staff a plant clinic to answer gardening questions, as well.

Raffle tickets are for sale at \$1.00 each, with the list of prizes including a garden cart, hose cart, pruners, sprayers, gloves, planters, bird houses and more. In addition, gift certificates from area nurseries will be awarded.

Local vendors at the Fair will include Blue Heron Herbary, Tide Creek Nursery, Nelson's Nursery, St. Helens Nursery, Shafts Farm, Happy Hollow Garden, Shooting Star Lavender Farm, St. Helens Book Shop, Meoww Wowie, Sheepee Hollow Crafts, Jerry's Workshop, Gifts From the Heart, Blue Moon, Apple of My Eye, Scappoose Garden Club, Earthsoap, Kelly Green Metal Art, The Lions Gallery, Flower Garden Gifts, Children's Garden, and Heaven on Earth Farms.

For more information, call the OSU Extension office at 503-397-3462 or visit <www.mstrgardener.org>.

Community Choir schedules three performances of Easter cantata

This year's Easter Cantata, "The Alpha and Omega," will be presented Easter weekend, April 18 and 19 at Washington Grade School in Vernonia. Friday's performance will be at 7:30 p.m.; on Saturday, there will be a matinee performance at 4:00 p.m., in addition to the performance at 7:30 p.m.

This beautiful musical drama is an original play written by five members of the choir and contains familiar music. The community-wide choir is directed by Lynda Cahill.

The story continues from "The Choice", a cantata performed several years ago. A

Roman soldier, Marcus, who helped crucify Jesus, was in love with a young Jewish girl named Hannah. At the end of the story, Marcus decides to choose Jesus. He leaves the military to marry Hannah and become a teacher and follower of the Messiah.

Soloists and actors include Allen Vetch, Kellie Murray, Britany Murray, Jacqueline Ramsay, John Cahill, Lee Seibert, Glenn Hughes, Cindy Ball, Lana Vetch and Ella Tessitor.

The performance is free, however, donations will be accepted to help offset expenses.

NWS sets two training sessions for volunteer weather watchers

The National Weather Service welcomes volunteers with an interest in severe weather spotting. The Skywarn program is totally voluntary. You will be trained on weather events similar to those listed in the Severe Weather Spotter's Guide, and you may have the opportunity to call in several times a month, depending on the weather pattern in your neck-of-the-woods. You may be called occasionally for a "ground truth" as to what is actually happening near your home. Most phone calls would

be to confirm or verify specific elements, such as large hail, damaging wind, heavy snowfall or peak wind speeds.

There will be two opportunities to learn more about the program and take Spotter training:

- Tuesday, April 29, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Multnomah County Education Center Conference Room, 11611 NE Ainsworth Circle (on Airport Way across the street from the Shiloh Inn), Portland.

- Wednesday, April 30, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Yamhill County Courthouse, Room 32 (Commissioners Hearing Room) 535 NE 5th, McMinnville.

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