



Get in the **KNOW**
...with
Home Delivery and
Unlimited Digital Access
[click for details](#)

HeraldNet

f t s p g+ You Tube

Hidden forecast link

Everett

43°

Light Rain

High: 43° Low: 32°

Full forecast | Web cam

Newsletters: Sign up | Manage Green editions

SEARCH

Home News Towns Sports Business Opinion Entertainment Life Blogs Obituaries Classifieds Jobs Autos Homes Daily Deal

High schools Prep football Silvertips AquaSox Seahawks Mariners Sounders Huskies Cougars Golf Hunt/Fish Autos

Tweet 20

Recommend 87

g+1 2

Share

Life

- Everett doctor offers weight-loss class, 10 sensible tips Nov. 19
- It's easier to hear at the library Nov. 19
- Martha Stewart's latest book has advice for long life Nov. 19
- Today In history Nov. 19
- Outdoor events: Warren Miller, paddling, hiking, more Nov. 18
- Today in History Nov. 18

Home & Garden

Highlights



Homes wanted

Animals up for adoption in Everett (updated 11/5)



Hike-along apps

5 great ones to add to your smartphone

Published: Thursday, March 15, 2012, 12:01 a.m.

EMAIL ARTICLE | [PRINT](#) | [JUMP TO COMMENTS](#)

Many tending veggies instead of grass

By **Jackson Holtz**, Herald Writer

Next >>

It used to be that the greenest grass lawn was the envy of the neighborhood.

Not anymore.

In fact, there's no more grass in Kathie Chapman's yard.

Instead, four raised beds were built, providing ample space for the Everett woman to grow carrots, beans, kohlrabi, celery and, of course, tomatoes.

Ever since Chapman moved into the residential neighborhood in south Everett, she's been planning to install a garden in her yard.

"I've been thinking about it for 13 years," she said.

She saved up and then learned about **Seattle Urban Farm Co.**, a small local business that helps people turn ornamental yards into productive food gardens.

Enter Colin McCrate and Brad Halm, the owners of Seattle Urban Farm Co. and the authors of "**Food Grown Right, In Your Backyard: A Beginner's Guide to Growing Crops at Home.**" The book hits stores today.

"We work mostly with people just getting started," McCrate said.

Since 2007, the two college pals have built a steady business sharing their



Photos by Michael O'Leary / The Herald

Collin McCrate (left) and Brad Halm, owners of Seattle Urban Farm Co., plant perennials in the vegetable garden they are creating for Kathie Chapman of Everett.



8 day hikes

All these trails make great day trips

Calendar

| NOVEMBER 2013 | | | | | | |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |

Weekend to-do list



Delivered to your inbox each week.

[See sample](#)
[More Newsletters](#)

advertisement | [your ad here](#)



enthusiasm for sustainable agriculture. They've transformed home

advertisement | [your ad here](#)



gardens into healthy, organic beds for food crops.

As a result, people are eating better food and helping the environment.

"Growing food in a sustainable way is something we can do," he said.

Chapman had her front yard torn up, four raised beds installed with a drip irrigation system, starter crops planted, plus three fruit trees and an herb garden -- all for about \$3,000. The first edible plants to go in were herbs. She'll grow rosemary, thyme and bay.

"I'm so excited about that," she said.

For people who don't want to hire someone, the new book is how-to guide, McCrate said. It basically recreates the same steps McCrate and Halm take when working with a customer like Chapman. With gorgeous photos and conversational writing, the authors lay out an easy-to-follow plan.

They cover how to select the best site to grow food, how to choose and create the right soil and how to build a raised bed or other type of garden. Then McCrate and Halm walk readers through selecting crops that grow well in different climates, including here in the Pacific Northwest.

They try to help people overcome common mistakes.

Soil often is overlooked, they said. Building raised beds creates an advantage because most people will start with fresh, new dirt, not the existing construction soil that's frequently used in residential neighborhoods, McCrate said. Raised beds also allow the soil to warm more quickly and drain better.

The two men suggest starting small and planting only crops that likely will thrive and produce. Planning the garden is essential to prevent overcrowding and to get the most from your space, they say.

"Having a plan laid out is really important," McCrate said.

Now's the time to do that. By April, it's time to start sowing salad greens, carrots, cabbages and broccoli. Potatoes can be planted.

"It all gets filled up pretty quick," McCrate said.

Chapman can't wait for her new garden to start producing. She's expecting to have enough harvested to share.

"I'll be giving it out at Halloween," she said.

Jackson Holtz: 425-339-3447; jholtz@heraldnet.com.

Learn more

You can reach urban food experts Colin McCrate and Brad Halm at the Seattle Urban Farm Co. at 206-816 -9740, or check out their website at www.seattleurbanfarmco.com.

Their book, "Food Grown Right, In Your Backyard: A Beginner's Guide to Growing Crops at Home," is available in bookstores, or on amazon.com. List price is \$24.95

Story tags » • Gardening • Local Food

Share your comments: We recently changed our commenting system. Your previous log-in information will still work, or you can log in using Facebook, Twitter or Disqus. Comments that violate the rules are subject to removal. Please see our [terms of use](#). **Please note that you must verify your email address for your comments to appear.**

0 comments  0



Leave a message...

Best ▾ Share  


No one has commented yet.

ALSO ON HERALDNET

WHAT'S THIS?

Boeing says it will make 777 site choice within 3 months

69 comments • a day ago

 **Meta4** — Boeing already knows exactly where they are going to build the ...


Property taxes could rise

20 comments • 10 hours ago

 **Bologna** — They need to take our money to repay their "campaign ...


Attempt to pass truck led to trooper's crash, probe finds

30 comments • a day ago

 **Mike Levin** — If you're so hung up on the issue of whether or not the ...

Everett doctor offers weight-loss class, 10 ...

2 comments • 10 hours ago

 **Ann Washburn** — hm.....\$150 per person for the doctor's class will ...

 [Subscribe](#)

 [Add Disqus to your site](#)

Have it your way

Unlimited digital access

starting at 99 cents. Digital
+ print just \$1.50 a week.

➤ What is this?

➤ FAQ

➤ Log in

➤ Subscribe

GROW Washington

Sunny Kobe Cook & more @
the Global Entrepreneurship
Summit in Everett! \$25 to
attend. Value: \$50.

Global Entrepreneurship
Summit

Presented By
GROWWashington

advertisement | [your ad here](#)

Amy
SCHUMER

in the Orca Ballroom

JAN 10

Tickets
ON SALE
NOW

TULAMP
RESORT CASINO
21 & OVER

Photo galleries

» More HeraldNet galleries

Marysville garden &
model railroad: Oct 2

Snohomish Home Tour:
Sep 10

Shack to showplace:
Jul 24

Snohomish County
Dahlia Show: Aug 13

Jobs

Top employers in
Snohomish County

**REGISTER NOW! New
(CNA/NAC) Nursing
Assistant Classes start
DECEMBER 09th
(Seeking LPN's)
MEDPREP**

Autos

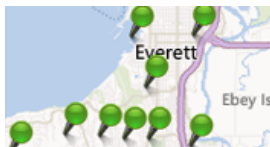
Search for cars
from local dealers



\$29,390
2013 Mazda
CX-5

Homes

Search local real
estate listings



Stuff

Services, garage
sales, pets, items
for sale



The best way to find a great deal

Autos Internet Specials

Time left: 4 days, 14 hours, 0 minutes

2013 Mazda2

\$13,176

AFTER ALL APPLICABLE
DISCOUNTS

MSRP \$15,960



AM/FM/CD, P/W,
P/L, Tilt, Arm Rest

Stock # 6441

MAZDA OF EVERETT

10630 Evergreen Way, Everett WA 98204

1-888-871-8777

www.mazdaofeverett.com

* Click here for all Internet Specials *

advertisement | [your ad here](#)

UP TO 40% OFF
FITNESS

UP TO 30% OFF
GAME ROOM

SHOP YOUR WAY
Members Get 3% in Points
OR Get 10% in Points
with Sears card

11/17-11/23

sears
WHERE BETTER HAPPENS

MOST READ

1. Trooper drove on shoulder, ran into truck, probe finds
2. Bed bugs out for blood at Snohomish County Jail
3. Boeing says it will make 777 site choice within 3 months
4. Licenses available for prospective pot growers
5. Sailors glad to be home
6. New Everett schools admin building to open
7. Masterful performance
8. Sudden impact
9. State crews don't kid around when drying roads for

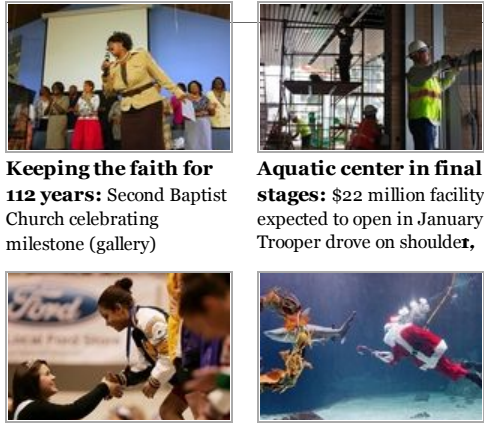
- work
10.

Meet our new aerospace writer
11.

Everett still holds key draw for 777X, analysts say
12.

Video shows near-vertical crash of Russian 737

HeraldNet highlights



Keeping the faith for 112 years: Second Baptist Church celebrating milestone (gallery)

Aquatic center in final stages: \$22 million facility expected to open in January Trooper drove on shoulder,

Pressler, Lucien win titles: Jackson freshman, Mariner sophomore bring home state titles

Wild holidays: Twinkling lights, diving Santa make for fun at 2 zoos

- MOST READ THIS WEEK

ran into truck, probe finds

2. Bed bugs out for blood at Snohomish County Jail

3. Boeing says it will make 777 site choice within 3 months

4. 225 orders launch 777X

5. IAM president: Heat from Airbus behind Boeing offer

6. Licenses available for prospective pot growers

7. Sailors glad to be home

8. New Everett schools admin building to open

9. 'Sky's the limit with us'

10. Jail deputies' overtime a costly burden on county

11. Masterful performance

12. Sudden impact

- Sections
- Local news
- Opinion
- Sports
- Business
- Boeing
- Living
- Entertainment
- Movie listings
- Blogs

- Social media
- The Herald on:
- Facebook
- Twitter
- Google Plus
- Pinterest
- Tumblr
- YouTube

- Extras
- Celebrations
- Crossword
- Green editions
- Horoscopes
- Newspapers in Education
- Sudoku
- Today's front page
- Contact us

11/19/13

Many tending veggies instead of grass | HeraldNet.com - Home and Garden

Directory and staff
listings
News tips
Subscribe
Renew
Vacation holds
Moving form
Delivery issues
Calendar
submissions
Newsletter signup

Classified

Place classified ad
Jobs
Jobs at The Herald
Autos
Homes
Marketplace

Advertisers

Place a display ad
online
Print advertising
information

Partners

The Herald
Business Journal
La Raza NW
Sound Publishing

About The Herald | Work at The Herald | Contact Info
Copyright © 2013 The Daily Herald Co., Everett, Wash.