

GALLATIN GRUBBER

July 2020

Market & Garden Update

The garden is growing well as are the weeds. We have been rained out on one of our weeding parties, and our rototiller that we use for weeding has been in the shop getting a new engine. But it is back in operation so we hope to get the weed situation under control shortly. We harvest every Friday afternoon at 1 pm and could use plenty of help to get that job done. We always end the harvest time with coffee, juice, and sometime treats so it's a nice way to spend a Friday afternoon. We are almost always finished by 3 pm. We had our first Farmers' Market sale on Saturday, June 20 and the second market on June 27. The crowds for these two markets have been thin but we have sold out of everything we had for sale with the exception of a few left over tomato plants. Things should pick up as more produce becomes available in the coming weeks. We will also continue to have our Tuesday or Wednesday morning weeding parties starting at 9 a.m. as long as needed, probably the entire season. Watch your e-mails for details. For those that help out at the garden, we have a special treat at the end of the season and that is sweet corn for all who want it. The variety that we grow is called Northern Xtra Sweet which is one of the super sweet varieties and very tasty.

Picnic, Tours Cancelled

We will not hold our annual picnic in July this year due to restrictions related to the corona virus. Also, we will not be holding any garden tours this summer. Hopefully in 2021 we will be back to a normal schedule.

Bob Donovan Remembered

With sadness we share the news that club member Bob Donovan passed away June 9 at the age of 92. Bob's neighbor and Club President Cathy Rechlin offers this remembrance: "This past month we lost a club member and a very dear friend of mine, Bob Donovan. I met Bob and his wife, Pat, when they moved in across the street after spending more than 30 years in Big Sky. Bob was an avid gardener. In fact, I enrolled in the Master Gardener



Bob in his vegetable garden

program at MSU so I could attempt to have a yard as beautiful as Bob's. On my first evening of class I took my seat and scanned the auditorium for anyone I may possibly know only to find Bob three rows down. My garden would never compete! In addition to this beautiful yard across from me, Bob had a large veggie garden at his son's home, an easy bike ride away. All of this is exhausting enough, but Bob was in his mid 80's when I met him! I only wish I'd seen what he had in Big Sky to share with the moose, deer and bear. Frank made a lovely video of Bob and his gardens a couple years ago. I encourage you to watch it, it'll bring you a smile. He will be dearly missed by all those who knew him. His energy and enthusiasm seemed boundless. In his 90's he could keep up with any bike rider half his age. If only we could all tally our years with as much spirit and pure enjoyment for life as he did." (Link to video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZzWurOJU-k&t=24s>)