

## Webinar Set For Youth Garden Programs

BROOKINGS — SDSU Extension is offering a series of online trainings for those involved in school gardens or other youth gardening projects.

School teachers, afterschool and summer garden program leaders are all welcome to participate in the Youth in the Garden Webinars.

The next Webinar will be held Nov. 28 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. CST. The program includes two presentation topics running 15 to 20 minutes each with about 20 minutes for a discussion session within the learning community.

To join each Webinar visit <http://igrow.org/events/> and click the link under the event posting. Participants are encouraged to log in within 30 minutes of the specified time.

**SCHEDULE:** Presentation 1 — Character Education Integration, Karelyn Farrand, SDSU Extension 4-H Character Education Field Specialist. Presentation 2 — Garden Themes, Chris Zdorovtsov, SDSU Extension Community Development Field Specialist.

These sessions will help you learn how easy it is to integrate character education into your gardening lessons.

**CHARACTER COUNTS!** teaching tips, resources and lessons will be presented. Additionally, learning theme ideas will be presented to help stir creative garden education.

For more information contact Chris Zdorovtsov, SDSU Extension Community Development Field Specialist at 605-782-3290 or [Christina.Zdorovtsov@sdstate.edu](mailto:Christina.Zdorovtsov@sdstate.edu).

## When You Go On Holiday, Where Do Your Pets Go?

BY DAVID AARON MOORE

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution (MCT)

Though Grandma may welcome the kids with open arms as families travel for holiday visits, bringing along the family pet may elicit a different response.

So what do you do when your canine buddy or feline pal can't join in the holiday fun? Here are some options:

### BOARDING

Boarding is particularly popular among dog owners, but pet lovers say to book early as slots in kennels and veterinarians' offices fill up early.

"I will take Gus (a bull mastiff) to Doguroo," said Stuart Krauss, a resident of Atlanta's Buckhead neighborhood. "He likes to play and enjoys the company of other dogs, so the social environment for him when he goes there is a lot of fun." Doguroo is one of many facilities in metro Atlanta that offer a variety of boarding and care services.

"We are a full-service dog care facility," said Doguroo co-owner Eileen Kelly.

"We've also partnered with Petwell Veterinary Service, which is in the same building we are," she said.

Kelly's company, like many others, requires boarding candidates to visit in advance to determine their compatibility in a canine group environment. Quality facilities also require proof of vaccines.

Boarding needs of a dog are different from those of a cat.

"We board both dogs and cats," said Lauren Lough, a veterinarian assistant at Briarcliff Animal Hospital. "Cats, unlike dogs, don't generally like to get out and play with other cats."

"But we do have the option of a daily 'happy hour,' if the pet owner wishes, so their cats can have exercise and interaction with a human," she said.

"Like the cats, the dogs also have time to get out. They can play in a covered run and are let out to use the bathroom — generally twice daily — or when needed," she said.

### PROFESSIONAL PET SITTERS

Pet sitters can be found through mutual friends or on websites such

as [www.petsitters.org](http://www.petsitters.org).

"I have a longtime pet sitter I've worked with for many years," said Norcross resident Laura Mason, the owner of an American tabby and a border collie.

"She'll come by once daily — or twice for a slight additional charge, if I request — to make sure my animals have proper food and water," Mason said. "She'll take the dog for a walk, clean the cat's litter box and spend quality time with them. It works well for me and my two pets because I know they're safe at home and they're happy not having to be in a completely different environment."

### FRIENDS

A good friend who gets along well with a pet may be the most economical option. There are multiple bonuses: You know the person, and the pet knows the individual, as well. Just make sure the friend is aware of where the food is kept, how much the pet eats and drinks daily, and whom to call in the event of an emergency.

### TAKING THEM WITH YOU

If you do take Fido and are traveling by plane, talk with the airline about charges and potential hazards during transport. Air flight can be potentially traumatizing, and many airlines require sedation for the pet.

If you're driving, it can be fun, or a nightmare, pet owners said. Cats generally don't enjoy car rides, unless socialized from youth. If you're traveling in a car with an older, inexperienced cat, keep the cat safe in a kennel. Don't forget to bring a small portable litter box.

Generally, dogs see road trips as a fun outing.

"I always make sure I bring along doggie treats, chew toys and a pallet," Krauss said. "Sometimes soothing music can add to the experience. I've found it helps keep my dog calm. The important thing is to try and make them feel as much at home as possible, even though they're not." Another important consideration is if you're planning any overnight stays at a hotel.

Visit [www.officialpethotels.com](http://www.officialpethotels.com) for a list of pet-friendly places you can rest alongside your four-legged friend.



COURTESY VENT-A-HOOD VIA CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/MCT

Homeowners are investing in all areas of the kitchen, including the ventilation system, as it becomes the main gathering place for families and friends. The range hood needs to match the size and features of the stove or cooktop. Decorative hoods such as this one combine style and function. This 60-inch island hood (Vent-A-Hood CILH9-2+260) has a price tag of about \$4,800.

## Under The Hood: Style And Power

### Range Hoods Emerging As A Focal Point For The Kitchen

BY KAREN SULLIVAN

The Charlotte Observer (MCT)

Above every stove or cooktop hangs an opportunity to express yourself.

No more are we stuck with a boring, bulgy box that howls from a space beneath the spice cabinet.

Now that the kitchen is one of the most popular places to gather, range hoods are evolving and competing to be a focal point.

They are floating elegantly above a voluptuous kitchen island and commanding attention from a wall.

Make the right choices, and you can have a sleek new kitchen ventilation system that has power and a purr — for an investment starting at about \$400, plus installation.

It would be easy to spend a lot more. Prices for custom and high-end decorative hoods can quickly climb to thousands of dollars.

Homeowners are turning on to the trend. From the artsy to designs with attitude, decorative range hoods are turning up in settings from contemporary to traditional.

"If you're doing a traditional home, there's no reason you couldn't use a more decorative hood," said Lora Donoghue, past president of the National Kitchen and Bath Association's Carolinas Chapter.

Form over function? Not necessarily. Range hoods are more powerful than ever,



COURTESY OF WHIRLPOOL

VIA CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/MCT

Whirlpool's 36-inch GXW6536DXS wall-mount range hood with a glass canopy is an economical option, priced at about \$400 at Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery.

with blowers moving air at rates from about 400 to 1,300 cubic feet per minute or more. Check online consumer reviews to avoid noisemakers.

The might and muscle is important these days. Ranges in many homes are big, sometimes six to eight burners.

That's a lot of territory for a range hood to cover to remove the grease and steam bubbling up from the pots and pans.

"If it isn't leaving the house, (the greasy steam) is on — guess what: beautiful new cabinets, carpeting, upholstery, walls, pictures and you," says Jan Byers, manager of the Sub-Zero/Wolf showroom in Charlotte, N.C.

Many homeowners still prefer traditional

decor. About 70 percent of customers want a traditional look when they come to Ferguson Bath, Kitchen & Lighting Gallery, on South Boulevard in Charlotte. A custom hood built by a cabinet maker is often their choice.

A hood can be built to match the cabinets — and the size of the range.

"Basically if you can draw it on a CAD (computer-aided design) program, they can make it," said Liz Gant, Ferguson's appliance manager.

A custom hood will need a liner and an insert, which includes all of the innards that do the dirty work.

A decorative range hood is a second option. The single unit combines a hood and insert. These often have a more contemporary look.

Lighting is usually built into a ventilation system. Halogen, florescent and LED fixtures are common.

While design is important, customers want a model that works well above all. That means power without the howl.

"The No. 1 concern is consumers want something quiet," Gant said.

### ABOUT BLOWERS

A family that cooks four times a week can produce about a gallon of grease and two gallons of water in the form of steam every year, says Jan Byers, manager of the Sub-Zero/Wolf showroom in Charlotte. The blower in the kitchen's ventilation system is designed to remove both.

The best option is a blower that is vented to the outdoors. Range hoods that recirculate air through a filter generally don't perform as well.

The strength of the blower should be based on the size and features of the range.

## On Gardening:

### Flowering Kale And Cabbage Colorful Troopers Of The Cool Season Landscape

BY NORMAN WINTER

McClatchy-Tribune News Service (MCT)

Flowering kale and cabbage are a favorite cool-season plant, but I recently saw them from a new perspective — backlit by the late afternoon sun. I was amazed at the brilliant purples and mauves in some leaves and iridescent stripes in others.

We think of kale and cabbage as pansy partners or to be used in stunning combinations with snapdragons, but after watching them closely throughout the day I believe they can offer all the cool-season sizzle you may want.

These plants, which survive in zones just about anywhere in as cold as 0 degrees Fahrenheit, are among the easiest to grow. They do prefer fertile well-drained soil. At the Columbus Botanical Garden we added a 4-inch layer of organic matter prior to rototilling. We also incorporated a slow-release, 12-6-6-fertilizer at a rate of 2 pounds per 100 square feet of bed space.

Flowering kale and cabbage should be set in the soil to a depth just slightly below the bottom set of leaves. The plants will reach 6 to 12 inches in height, and you will want to space them 12 to 18 inches apart. Even though we are approaching mid-November, garden centers are loaded with good supplies and a number of varieties.

After planting be sure and add a good layer of mulch to help stabilize soil temperatures and conserve moisture. We used pine straw but there is nothing prettier than fresh bark mulch. One nice



MCT

Flowering kale and cabbage can add sizzling color to landscapes for the long cool season ahead.

note on pine straw: You can completely cover the kale should record cold be forecast, and leave it covered for a few days until the temperature moderates.

Kale and cabbage need good drainage yet must be kept moist and fed to keep them growing vigorously. Pay especially close attention as dry, cold fronts have a tendency to really deplete the available moisture. Feed with a dilute water-soluble fertilizer every four to six weeks. The colors really intensify as the temperatures start to get cold. I can see a dramatic change after temperatures in the high 30's.

Unfortunately, the same cabbageworms that attack broccoli can be a pest on these plants as well. So far in our plantings we have had no damage. Watch and treat as needed with *Bacillus thuringiensis*. This organic pest

control is safe and poses no threat to gardeners.

These plants can be showy by themselves, or for a riveting display, try bold drifts of pink or purple kale next to another drift of a white variety. Consider planting a large bed of narcissus behind the kale or cabbage for special spring crescendo.

Kale and cabbage also are exceptional in large containers where you might place three in a triangular design. Plant tulips or daffodils in the center of the triangle and then place pansies around the edges.

There are many more varieties than gardeners realize. The Chidori series with its fringed ruffled leaves and intense colors have become the most popular. The Peacock and Sparrow series also have to be considered among the prettiest.

## Storm Puts A Stopper On Pet Adoptions

BY JAY LEVIN

The Record (Hackensack, N.J.) (MCT)

HACKENSACK, N.J. — On the to-do list for those hit hardest by Sandy: Repairing storm damage. Finding gasoline. Keeping warm. Nowhere on that list was adopting a pet.

"It's absolutely not a priority," said Marge Kayne, president of Save the Animals Rescue Team (START) II, which operates an Englewood, N.J., shelter. "An animal is another mouth to feed, another thing to take care of, and people aren't coming out now to adopt."

The storm — and the power outages that followed — occurred at an awful time for animal shelters and rescue groups. Fall is popular for adoptions because animals have time to acclimate to their new homes before the stressful holidays.

But midway through this fall, adoptions have virtually stopped, although there is hope activity will pick up with the resumption of pet adoption events on the weekends at retail sites that had been shuttered because of lack of power.

START II was hit hard. Its shelter had property damage and lost power for 10 days. The shelter's nine dogs were boarded at a Ridgefield Park kennel, and the 59 cats were with volunteers. The group also had to evacuate cats it keeps at PetSmart stores that lost power.

"There's nothing going on — no donations coming in, no adoptions going out," Kayne said.

The Bergen County Animal Shelter in Teterboro, N.J., powerless for a week, reopened last week to adoptions. The animals — 300 cats and 60 dogs — were cared for on the premises. "They were kept warm and made it through," shelter manager Deborah Yankow said.

The shelter denizens received additional company, including seven

dogs temporarily surrendered by people displaced by the storm. And a variety of strays arrived, including a pair of Chinese crested chickens deposited at the doorstep of a Home Depot. Joe Appio, a spokesman for the Bergen County Executive's Office, said officials hope to find a petting zoo to take the hen and rooster.

Yankow said all surgeries were suspended while the shelter was without power. That meant an extended stay for a frisky black-and-white Havanese stray dubbed Obama. He was adopted before Sandy blew in but couldn't go to his new home until he was neutered. That happened Monday, right after the electricity came back.

The Ramapo Bergen Animal Refuge in Oakland, N.J., which never

lost power, also took in animals temporarily and has a full house.

"No question there's a drop in people looking to adopt," said Steven Mark, the executive director. "We usually get a lot of foot traffic, but people didn't want to drive here and use up gas. Our animals are here and waiting."

Amy Kozell, founder of Clifton, N.J.-based Angels of Animals, said she knows things are bad when she can find no takers for a perfectly adorable, snow-white kitten — part of a litter of three in her organization's care.

"I don't think I ever had a solid-white kitten who didn't get adopted in three days," she said.

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