

# GALLATIN GRUBBER

June 2023

## Garden Report

With the nice rains of the last few days, our club garden is now in excellent condition. Our drip irrigation system has been installed and used once this past week. We have finished planting all of the crops and the peas and spinach have emerged and our transplanted onions, cole crops, and sunflowers are now doing much better. The tomatoes and peppers in our new hoophouse are looking very good and we are watering them weekly and will be tying them to strings this coming week. Now we are waiting for sweet corn, carrots, beans, and beets to emerge and the rain should be beneficial for that. We planted nearly 1000 corms of gladiolas recently and hope to see them emerge over the next 2-3 weeks. With the rain have come the weeds, especially thistle, quack grass, and mallow so that will be on our docket to take care of over the coming days and weeks. No pigweed showing up yet but we know it's coming. The first Farmers' Market is June 17 and we should have rhubarb, lettuce and pak choi for sale along with tomato plants and house plants. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made all of this possible.

## June 5 Meeting: Winifred Hydroponic Project

Our June 5 speaker will be Brandon Tillet, an MSU graduate student who was a co-mentor for Winifred School students investigating indoor agriculture in small towns. Winifred is



*Winifred hydroponics garden*

located about 40 miles north of Lewistown in central Montana. How can small towns get locally grown fruits and vegetables that are fresh and healthy? The solution is growing them hydroponically indoors. That is what Winifred is doing in a town of 200 people. This project accomplished setting up two different hydroponic systems which included a vertical tower and a Dutch bucket system.

This was all done in a greenhouse built at the Winifred School. Join us to hear Brandon explain this fascinating project. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Hope Lutheran Church, 19th and Graf in Bozeman. *(Note: this will be our last monthly meeting until September.)*

## Sale Earns over \$1,000

Our Annual Plant and Tool Sale on May 27 generated over a \$1,000 for the club coffers with more yet to come from tomato plant sales. An enthusiastic crew set up at 7 a.m. and sold much of what we had to offer by 10 a.m. when we closed. Thanks for the donations from club members and Kenyon-Noble and Murdoch's and thanks to Ace Hardware for allowing us to host the sale in their parking lot.

## Upcoming Events

**July 10: Annual Picnic**, Heyden Residence, 6 p.m.

**July 31: Pints for Purpose**, Bridger Brewing, 5 to 8 p.m.

*(Watch July newsletter for details.)*