

UP FRONT:

Mayan calendar could really mess up my year

Kathy Hedberg The Lewiston Tribune | [2 comments](#)

GRANGEVILLE - Not to be a pessimist or anything, but if the Mayan prediction comes true and the world ends this year, should I bother planting a garden?

Just asking because I've been looking at my garden catalogs and wondering whether it's worth it to spend the money for seeds if the world is going to be incinerated.

I understand the prediction is the world won't end until Dec. 21 and that's long after the growing season. But it could affect what to plant, such as beets, green beans, corn and the like. Is there any point in planting crops you normally can or freeze for the winter if you won't get to use them up before we're toast?

And if I do go ahead and plant, I might as well stick with hybrid seeds that don't reproduce. What's the use of using heirloom seeds you can carry over to the next year when there won't be any next year?

This may be an obtuse way of looking at the Mayan prediction, which, depending on your perspective, could be rather dire. Nobody really wants the world to end, but my feeling is, if it's going to end anyway, could we possibly get that to happen before this agonizing election season goes much further? Every time I hear the Republican candidates talk about exclusion and disguise it as patriotism I kind of lose the will to live.

Gardening is something people do who have hope for the future. I know I start out every year hopeful for the coming spring, eager to plant a garden, get things growing and putting fresh produce on the table.

Then the winter drags on and the spring is wet and cold and people up here on the Camas Prairie don't really start gardening until about the Fourth of July. But we do it, anyway, because we're hardy and we take seriously our responsibility to testify to the regenerating nature of life on this planet by planting a garden. We hold out hope that we won't get a frost before at least the middle of September and we'll be able to harvest those tomatoes and cucumbers and other vegetables. People like us don't go down easy, even in the face of disaster.

This optimistic view of the cycle of life starts with the garden seed catalogs and I was as excited as I am every year when mine arrived in the mail shortly after Christmas. I sat

down with it and began making my order list and then I remembered the Mayan prediction about the end of the world.

I tell you, if the world ends this year, it's really going to mess up my plans. On the other hand, if the Mayans were so smart that they could pinpoint to the very day when the world is going to end, where are they now?

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