News Release



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GRAHAM KERR HEADLINES AMPLEHARVEST SEATTLE FESTIVAL WHICH

WILL PROVIDE FRESH PRODUCE TO LOCAL FOOD BANK

Locally Grown Fresh Food To Become Increasingly Available To Food Bank Clients As AmpleHarvest.org, the Internet Solution to Hunger and Malnutrition, Comes To The Seattle Area.

For Immediate Release

Des Moines, WA – (August 14 2012) – On Saturday, September 15th, Furney's Nursery in Des Moines, WA. will host the AmpleHarvest Seattle Festival from 9:00am – 4:00pm to benefit AmpleHarvest.org, a web-based resource that enables home gardeners to donate their excess produce to local food pantries. The Keynote Speaker is internationally known culinary and television personality and award-winning author Graham Kerr, the former "*Galloping Gourmet*" who will speak to the audience about the benefits of growing and eating fresh vegetables and fruits in a home garden and will be joined by special guest, gardening expert Ed Hume. Gary Oppenheimer, Founder and Executive Director of AmpleHarvest.org, will address the audience to explain the powerful need for growers to join the efforts to help families in the Seattle area and Colin McCrate of Seattle Urban Farm Company and Sue Goetz of The Creative Gardener will address how to grow a bountiful and edible garden.

Focusing on the organization's vision of "No Food Left Behind", Oppenheimer explained that "More than 50 million Americans, including 1 out of 4 children under the age of six, are food insecure. At the same time, more than 40 million people grow food in home gardens, often more than they can use, preserve or give to friends. It doesn't have to be that way. The focus of AmpleHarvest.org is to redirect fresh, locally-grown produce which would otherwise go to waste to hungry families and Furney's is providing a great opportunity for Seattle growers to recognize their ability to help their neighbors in need with no additional cost."

Guests are encouraged to participate in a "**Produce Drive**" by bringing their fresh garden foods to the event which will be distributed to the Des Moines Area Food Bank. The event will feature a Community Pavilion including local gardening businesses and organizations where guests will enjoy demonstrations, healthy food and family fun. Additional information including sponsorship and booth opportunities is available at <u>www.AmpleHarvest.org/Seattle</u>.

AmpleHarvest.org, Inc. is a not-for-profit 501c3 organization which works to diminish hunger in America by educating, encouraging and empowering growers to easily find a local food bank eager to receive the excess garden bounty. For more information on the campaign, visit www.AmpleHarvest.org/press or call AMPLE-6-9880 (267-536-9880).

Furney's Nursery has been inspiring gardeners in the Pacific Northwest for over 60 years, and is the largest garden center in South King County, providing the best plants, expert advice, garden supplies and outdoor living products.

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