Express News Gardening Tasks

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* Early February is the time to plant potatoes. Dig a trench one foot deep and place a piece of seed potato with at least one “eye” every 2 feet in the trench. Cover the seed pieces with 2 inches of soil and add more soil to the trench as the potato stems emerge. Begin harvesting the potatoes when the plants bloom.
* Bedstraw is one of the most aggressive weeds in the winter landscape. Mow it when it grows in the lawn. A rake is an effective tool to collect the sticky stems when it appears in the shrub border. The mass of collected stems can then be placed in the compost pile.
* Naturalized larkspur will take over your flower garden if every plant that germinates is allowed to grow in place. Transplant a few to a designated row and remove the rest.
* American goldfinches are wintering in San Antonio neighborhoods. Attract them to the patio for observation by offering thistle seed in tube feeders for the purpose. The goldfinches become tame and are acrobatic in their pursuit of the high-protein seed.