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MARCH 31, 2017

Dear Friends,

Here is the 199th issue of our weekly gardening newsletter for Houston, the Gulf Coast and beyond. We really appreciate all of our readers hanging in there with us, sharing stories and inspiring us in so many ways.

Thanks so much!

This newsletter is a project of The Lazy Gardener, Brenda Beust Smith, John Ferguson and Mark Bowen (John and Mark are with Nature's Way Resources). We also have a great supporting cast of contributing writers and technical specialists who will chime in and tweak away regularly. We would love to keep receiving your input on this newsletter . . . comments . . . suggestions . . . questions. . . E mail your thoughts to: lazygardenerandfriends@gmail.com. Thanks so much for your interest.

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ROSES, ORCHIDS & TREASURED LOVED ONES ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE SAID IT BEST . . .

Our highest assurance of the goodness of Providence seems to me to rest in the flowers

— Arthur Conan Doyle

By BRENDA BEUST SMITH

I'd like to first take a moment to make note of a major personal and wider-spread loss, the passing this past Tuesday of my beloved brother-in-law [Dr. John McMurray](#).

Many of you may not recognize his name. But if you are an antique rose enthusiast and have attended past Texas Rose Rustler activities, John's should be a familiar face (left above). He was often seen at TRR events, helping his wife Audrey (my baby sister, a Texas Rose Rustler stalwart & former TRR Chairman). John was the quiet gentle man, often wearing a white cowboy hat, hauling plants from car to event sites, cleaning up, helping everyone with everything and generally being one of the nicest guys around.

When not needed, John and his faithful computer would retire to a quiet place to work on grant requests to fund research projects to help the rest of us cope with medical horrors like cancer. To many, John's name is familiar as an internationally-recognized medical researcher. To our family and his legions of friends, he was a treasure, certainly one of the most brilliant men, and most witty, I've ever met. He will be so missed by all who knew and loved him. I am so grateful he came into my life.

How incredibly fitting that below today we are spotlighting antique roses -- with which Audrey kept John absolutely and continually surrounded! With her allergies to perfume, she treasures fragrant roses -- as does Mike Shoup, who below shares his favorite scented roses. Mike's Antique Rose Emporium has long been a mecca for the Texas Rose Rustlers who, although they focus on old roses, define themselves as an "organization of rose enthusiasts who take delight in propagating roses found outside their gardens."

First, though . . .

WHERE ARE YOUR ORCHIDS? THEY SHOULD BE OUTSIDE!

As much as orchids love our heat and humidity, they don't like dry air that develops inside our homes, thanks to our central heat & air. This tip comes from Bruce Cameron, orchid grower/owner of Orchid Obsession. The Moth orchid pictured above right is a Phalaenopsis (from [Orchid Obsession's Facebook page](#)).

Ideal would a spot on a covered patio, where the plants would receive morning sun and afternoon shade. Two hours of direct sun, Bruce warns, is enough to kill a Moth Orchid. He strongly urges those interested in seeing or growing orchids to drop by the big annual [Houston Orchid Society Show & Sale](#).

Visitors from across the nation gather to see the extraordinary displays that will be on exhibit and for sale Sat.-Sun., Apr. 1-2, 9am-5pm, in the Houston Museum of Natural Science mall lobby, 5555 Hermann Park Drive. Admission is free.

Bruce can be found Saturdays 8am-noon at the [Urban Harvest Farmers Market](#), 3000 Richmond Ave. between Kirby & Buffalo Speedway. Yes, this huge community garden event does include flower sellers!

* * *

Speaking of community gardening, Texas AgriLife Extension is offering expertise on organizing school and other community-type gardens at a Thurs., April 18, LEARN, GROW, EAT, GO! COMMUNITY PARTNER TRAINING at Harris County AgriLife center, 3033 Bear Creek Park. \$40. [Registration](#) deadline is Thurs., Apr. 13. Details: 713-274-0978 or 713-274-0978. School gardens, especially habitat gardens, are now integrated into multiple lesson plans in most schools, especially at the elementary level and are active aspects of many community centers and programs. Go & learn from these experienced organizers!

* * *



The Antique Rose Emporium nursery, left, is still for sale -- fans hope a new owner will continue this treasured tradition! Current owners Mike & Jean Shoup will continue to run the ARE catalog and wholesale divisions.

"If you smell a rose and it doesn't have any fragrance, then you might as well be looking at a picture of a rose in a book."

-- Mike Shoup

I can remember when Mike Shoup's name WASN'T synonymous with antique roses. But that was a long time ago, and today . . . he's everyone's guru.

Don't know the history of his [Antique Rose Emporium](#) in Independence (just north of Brenham)? Mike was a wholesale grower of typical landscape plants who developed a love of wildflowers in general and then antique roses, in particular. He (like other early Texas Rose Rustlers) took cuttings from remote cemeteries, abandoned farms and other neglected spot in which these thrived untended around the Brenham area.

Word spread and Mike began receiving "Please, can you identify Grandma's rose for us?" pictures and cuttings. Mike grew the cuttings and researched their identities and history (often far, FAR back into history). Soon he had a nice size inventory of historic named roses, whose provenances were confirmed (most of the time) by a steadily growing grow of fellow fanatics (aka, the Texas Rose Rustlers).

No need to spend money on public relations back in the 1980s for his new emporium. We in the media LOVED giving him tons for free! What gorgeous pictures. What fascinating histories he could share.

If you've never visited the Antique Rose Emporium in Independence, now's a great time. Independence is in the heart of our local annual bluebonnet explosion. [Texas' official Bluebonnet Festival](#), Apr. 8-9, is centered in nearby Chappell Hill. February's warm, moist days predict a great 2017 bloom forecast.

Antique rose enthusiasts are awaiting word of the ARE's future. Mike has put the Emporium on the market, although he & wife Jean will continue to run the mail order and wholesale division. Mike hopes the eventual buyer will continue the tradition of this now four-decades-old treasure. So do a lot of us!

The Emporium easily boasts the largest collection of native Texas perennials in the state of Texas. So when Mike agrees to revealing his short list for his most favorite rose fragrances (antique or not), it's a very special opportunity for floral fragrance fanatics.



L to r: Archduke Charles and Autumn Damask

I didn't have the heart to ask Mike to "rank" these. Just happy to have his "Top Five" -- and what pops into his mind when he sniffs each! All these are repeat-blooming shrubs, although not all antiques (old roses*):

- **ARCHDUKE CHARLES** - Mike: "Banana cream pie"
(Red China* rose, 3'-5', has been called "as changeable as the chameleon, changes from bicolor crimson & pink to solid crimson. Circa 1825, believed to be one of the first China roses sold in Europe.)
- **AUTUMN DAMASK** - Mike: "True perfume"
(Pink Damask* rose, 4'-5')
- **BEVERLY** - Mike: "Grandmother's hat box"
(Pink Kordes* rose, 4'-5')
- **CRYSLER IMPERIAL** - Mike: "Floral lemon pledge"
(Red Hybrid Tea*, 3'-4'. An All American Rose Selection in 1940 & '45.)
- **DUCHESSE DE BRABANT** - Mike: "Teddy Roosevelt's favorite raspberry"
(Pink EarthKind* rose, 4'-6'. Circa 1857, named for the Duke of Brabant of Belgium.)



L to r: Beverly, Cryslar and Duchesse de Brabant

I once mentioned to Mike that the roses I bought there grew a LOT bigger than the sizes he listed. He shot back that the sizes listed are the recommended size to keep the rose (translation: prune it back!) for

optimum bloom production. Well, watta ya know!

You can meet Mike in person at :

THURS., APR.13: DELIGHTING IN THE FRAGRANCE OF GARDEN ROSES by MICHAEL SHOUP, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free.

houstonrose.org. Mike will have with him some roses that will be auctioned at the event.

** "The American Rose Society defines the term 'old rose' to be varieties introduced prior to 1867. Others consider any variety that has been in cultivation for 75 or more years, or varieties having old rose characteristics of flower form, color, and fragrance, to be old."*

-- Antique Roses for the South by Dr. William C. Welch

JOHN'S CORNER

MINERALS - The Elements and What They Do

Part 17



25) Manganese (Mn) - Manganese is a metal found in group 7 of the periodic table of elements. Manganese is a hard brittle silvery metal that will burn in oxygen and react with water. The most common electrical state for manganese is +2 and it combines easily with other elements and is a component of hundreds of minerals.

Manganese can be found in igneous rocks at 950 ppm, shale at 850 ppm, limestone at 1,100 ppm and sandstone at 50 ppm. In most soils, it is around 850 ppm but is not often found in water, with fresh water having only 0.01 ppm and seawater even less.

One of the first uses for manganese was in its black oxide form, it was found in cave paintings from over 17,000 years ago where it was used to make a black paint. Manganese is very useful when mixed with iron (Fe) to form alloys that form high quality steel that can take a very sharp edge as in razors. Manganese is used in many items from baseball bats to golf clubs, from fuel additives to batteries. Potassium permanganate (KMnO₄) is a strong oxidizing agent used by water systems and creates an intense pink color when dissolved in water.

Manganese became famous by the efforts of the CIA to recover a sunken Russian submarine under the guise of mining manganese nodules from the ocean floor.

Manganese is essential for all living beings. It activates enzymes involved with glucose metabolism, energy production, and superoxide dismutase. It is a component of several metalloenzyme's, hormones and human proteins.

However, excess manganese in water systems and in some industrial processes can produce a Parkinsonian like syndrome and psychiatric disorders that resemble schizophrenia.

Manganese is used to strengthen nerves and involved with their correct functioning. Manganese is involved with amino acid, lipid, and carbohydrate metabolism and is used as a co-factor in many enzymes. Excess manganese prevents the body from absorbing iron (Fe).

Deficiencies of manganese are linked to birth defects, asthma, convulsions, retarded growth, skeletal defects, and disruption of fat and carbohydrate metabolism, to joint problems. The best-known deficiency disease is carpal tunnel syndrome where tens of thousands of surgeries and numerous devices are sold to correct a simple nutritional deficiency. Manganese is used to make the molecule mucopolysaccharides which is used in collagen, bone and cartilage.

Animals are more sensitive to manganese deficiencies than humans are.

Nuts, chocolate, cereal based products, sugar beets and some fruits are good sources of manganese along with snails (think French cuisine).

Gardening and Landscaping Problems Associated with Manganese (Mn)

Manganese is mobile in most soils and in conditions of high humidity. Acid conditions leads to manganese being leached from soils.

Some microbes (bacteria and fungi) help precipitate magnesium out of the soil solution by changing its common oxidative electrical state from +2 to +3 or +4 which then changes its chemical properties. Biological properties of the soil are critical for manganese utilization by plants. All manganese compounds are important as they are essential for plant nutrition and they control the behavior of many other trace elements. Microbes are essential for cycling manganese in terrestrial systems.

It is interesting that sterilizing soils in greenhouse applications has lead to manganese toxicity; the microbes also prevented the plant from absorbing too much.

Adequate manganese helps promote calcium (Ca) availability in the soil and is necessary for all plants. Uptake by plants is done passively and by microbial action. The interaction between roots and microorganisms can result in the oxidation of the available form of manganese (Mn^{+2}) into an unavailable form (Mn^{+3} or Mn^{+4}) as mentioned above. Manganese deficiency can occur on calcareous soils due to its alkalinity.

Research at Purdue University has found that the application of the glyphosate-based herbicide Round-Up, will tie up manganese within the soil and the plant, and alter the microbial populations in the rhizosphere. Note: Several researchers believe this also happens in human digestive systems when we eat food grown and treated with glyphosate, preventing one from absorbing any manganese that might have been present which then leads to numerous health problems like carpal tunnel.

Manganese is easily transported in plants, but tends to accumulate in older leaves and sheaths. Manganese is required for the plant enzymes arginase and phosphotranferase and may substitute for magnesium (Mg) in other enzymes. Manganese is involved with photosynthesis and the oxygen transport system. It is used in reducing nitrogen oxide ions (NO_2^-) during the reduction process hence; it is believed to affect the nitrogen assimilation process.

For years, gardeners were told to use Mn EDTA (manganese ethylnedaminetetraacetic acid) to correct manganese shortages. We now know this chemical actually made the deficiency worse as it induced more manganese deficiency.

Manganese is a micronutrient and plant tissue contains 5-500 ppm depending on the species. It is required for certain physiological processes such as enzyme and co-enzyme systems, and activates enzymes used in the growth process. It aids in the oxidase enzyme in carrying oxygen and enters into oxidation and

reduction reactions needed in carbohydrate metabolism. Manganese is required for seed formation and involved in the production of chlorophyll.

A deficiency results in poor uptake of other nutrients resulting in mineral imbalances in plant tissues. Symptoms frequently resemble iron deficiency and if there is excess sodium and potassium (10% or more of available nutrients) manganese will not reach the plant. Deficiency shows up on youngest leaves and stems, high pH soils, sandy soils, low organic matter soils, overly limed soils, and is seen as interveinal chlorosis.

Manganese deficient plants have retarded growth, lower resistance to disease and pests, and increased sensitivity to climate issues. This includes reduced cold hardiness. The most common symptom of manganese toxicity is iron (Fe) chlorosis and brown spots on leaves with browning of roots on some plant species. Excess manganese also prevents plants from absorbing cobalt (Co).

Excess phosphorous (P) in artificial fertilizers can cause or aggravate manganese deficiencies. Manganese toxicity occurs on soils with a pH of 5.5 or less (acid) on soils with lots of manganese and on poorly drained soils. Activities of some enzymes and hormones of plants are reduced with exposure to excess manganese. Many legumes will not fix nitrogen if there is too much manganese.

Deficiencies can be corrected by both soil and foliar applications of manganese.

Note: Sewage sludge (Biosolids) is often a source of manganese toxicity.

Sources: compost, native mulches, manganese sulfates, chelates of manganese, basalt sand

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LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING AN EVENT TO THIS CALENDAR.

Events **NOT** submitted in the **EXACT** written format below may take two weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped.
 After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us. Sorry, no children's programs.
 Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

**IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS, PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT IN
 THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER**

SAT., APR. 1: COCKRELL BUTTERFLY CENTER SALE, 9am, Houston Museum of Natural Science, hmns.org

SAT., APR. 1.: WHITE OAK GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE, 9am program by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 10am-2pm (or till sold out) sale, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. nnmd.org

SAT. APR. 1: MEMORIAL NORTHWEST LADYBUGS GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE, 9am-2pm, MNW Community Center Parking Lot, 17440 Theiss Mail Route Road, Spring. mnwhoa.org.

SAT. APR 1: EDIBLE POLLINATORS by DAVE & TRISH WHITINGER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., APR 1: SFA GARDENS PLANT SALE, 9 am - 2 pm, at the Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet Street, Nacogdoches, TX 75962. Inventory will be posted on the SFA Gardens FB page.

SAT,M APR. 1: Urban Harvest's Warm Weather Gardening. 9:30-11:30am. University of Houston, Central Campus, Charles McElhinney Hall, Rm 106, 3623 Cullen Blvd. \$40. 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org

SAT.-SUN., April 1-2: HOUSTON ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW & SALE, 9am-5pm. Houston Museum of Natural Science Main Lobby, 5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston. Free. <http://www.houstonorchidsociety.org/show.html>

MON., APR. 3-MAY 1: LANDSCAPE FOR LIFE, 9am-noon, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$150. Register: 713-274-4160.

TUES. APR. 4: WHATS NEW AND UNIQUE IN THE PLANT WORLD by RAND HOPKINS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

WED., APR. 5, 2017: PLANT SALE, 9am-noon, Clear Lake United Methodist Church, 16635 El Camino Real. Free. Gardeners By The Bay event. 281-474-5051

THURS., APR. 6: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-10am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT., APR. 8: PLANNING AND PLANTING A HABITAT GARDEN by NANCY GRIEG,- Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449 - Enchanted Garden 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond 281-341-1206 free. myenchanted.com

SAT. APR. 8: THE ART OF ESPALIER by ANGELA CHANDLER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., APR 8: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY, 10am-2pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., APR. 8: NATIVE LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATION LEVEL 3 CLASS (Installing/Maintaining), 8 am-4:30 pm, Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Road, Tomball. \$57. Native Plant Society of Texas-Houston Chapter; Register: npsot.org/wp/nlcp; npsot.org/wp/houston/native-landscaping-certification.

SAT.-SUN., APR. 8-9: 53rd ANNUAL BLUEBONNET FESTIVAL, 9-6 Sat, 10-5 Sun., Chappell Hill. Free. (\$5 parking) chappellhillmuseum.org/bluebonnet.html

WED., APR. 12: GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

WED. APR. 12: SOLVING HOUSE PLAN PROBLEMS WTH LANDSCAPING FENG SHUI by KATHERINE ASHBY, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

THURS., APR.13: DELIGHTING IN THE FRAGRANCE OF GARDEN ROSES by MICHAEL SHOUP, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org

THUR., APR. 13: SOILS & MULCH by JOHN FERGUSON, 10am, Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnett at Hillcroft. Free. Houston Area Daylily Society event. 281-723-7409

THUR., APR 13: GRAF TING PECAN TREES by GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, 2-3 pm, 15102 Williams

Street, Santa Fe. Free. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

THURS., APR. 13 GREAT GARDEN IDEAS BY STEVEN CHAMBLEE, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404; sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., APR. 13: HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR HAND TOOLS by LOUIS MICKLER, 10am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluf. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu

THURS., APR. 13: GREAT GARDEN IDEAS BY STEVEN CHAMBLEE, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404; sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., APR. 13: Registration Deadline: LEARN, GROW, EAT, GO! COMMUNITY PARTNER TRAINING (on APR. 18), 9am-2pm, Texas AgriLife Extension Office, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. \$40. [Register link](#). 713-274-0978; 713-274-0978

THURS., APR. 13: DELIGHTING IN THE FRAGRANCE OF GARDEN ROSES by MICHAEL SHOUP, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillon, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org

THURS., APR. 13: WATER CONSERVATION by BOONE HOLLADAY, 9:30-11am, Missouri City Rec & Tennis Center, 2701 Cypress Point Dr., Missouri City. Free. Quail Valley Garden Club event. QuailValleyGardenClub.org

FRI., APR 14: "PEACE, LOVE AND MILAGROS: LIFE LESSONS FROM THE ROAD" by STEVEN CHAMBLEE. 10 am. White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. www.houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SAT. APR. 15: VERTICAL GARDENS MADE EASY...AND AFFORDABLE! by STEVEN CHAMBLEE, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

MON., APR. 17: ALL ABOUT MULCHES by JOHN FERGUSON, 2 pm, AgriLife Extension Center, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. Free. Montgomery County Master Gardeners. 512-577-2914, mcmga.com/

MON., APR. 17: OPEN GARDEN DAY & PLANT SALE, 8:30-11am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd., Houston, TX 77034. Master Gardener event. Free. hcmga.tamu.edu

TUES., APRIL 18: HERBS, 6:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf 281-855-5600

THURS. APR. 20: VEGETABLES - IS IT TOO LATE? by JEREMY KOLLAUS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

THURS., APR. 20: HERBS, 6:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

THURS., APR. 20: HOW TO GROW STONE FRUIT by Herman Auer, 6:30-8pm, AgriLife Extension Center, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. Free. Gulf Coast Fruit Study Group event. 281-855-5600; Ute.Schaefer@ag.tamu.edu

FRI., APR 21: EVENING AT PECKERWOOD LECTURE SERIES, 7pm, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232 ; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., APR. 22: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PERENNIAL SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

SAT., APR. 22: POOLSIDE CONTAINERS AND IDEAS, Enchanted Forest 10am - 10611 FM 2759, Richmond - 281-937-9449; Enchanted Gardens 2pm - 6420 FM 359, Richmond - 281-341-1206 free. myenchanted.com

SAT. APR. 22: LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND MAINTENANCE MADE EASY by SKIP RICHTER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., APR. 22: PARTY FOR THE PLANET, 6-10pm, Armand Bayou Nature Center, 8500 Bay Area Blvd. Tickets: abnc.org

SAT., APR 22: PECKERWOOD GARDEN OPEN DAY, 10am-2pm tours, 20559 FM 359 Road, Hempstead. \$10. Garden Conservancy event. peckerwoodgarden.org, 979-826-3232; info@peckerwoodgarden.org

SAT., APR. 22: HERBS, 10am, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd. Katy. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

SAT., APR. 22: GALVESTON COUNTY PLANT SWAP, 8am-Noon, NASA Gilruth Center, Bluebonnet Pavilion, on Space Center Blvd., between NASA Rd. and Bay Area Blvd. in Clear Lake. <http://www.freewebs.com/gcplantswap>; 713-724-7213; Free.

SAT., APR. 22: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY SPRING SHOW, Noon - 4pm, Memorial City Mall, 303 Memorial City Way, Houston. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org

SAT., APR. 22: PARTY FOR THE PLANET, 6-10pm, Armand Bayou Nature Center, 8500 Bay Area Blvd. Tickets: abnc.org; 281-474-2551

TUES., APR. 25, HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & HERB SEMINAR:, 9-11am, 3033 Bear Creek Drive. Free .Harris County Master Gardener event . Register: ogd.harrishort@gmail.com

TUES., APR. 25: BENEFICIALS ON THE GARDEN by DR. WILLIAM M. JOHNSON, 6:30-8 pm, AgriLife Extension, Carbide Park, 4102 Main, La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Free. Register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

WED., APR. 26: FLOWER POWER by CYNTHIA GRAHAM, RN, BSN, Noon-1pm, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free, arborgate.com

TUES.-WED., APR. 25-27: FLORESCENCE, 10am-5pm, Houston Museum of Fine Arts, Audrey Jones Beck Building, 5601 Main. Garden Club of Houston & River Oaks Garden Club event. Fees: flohouston.org; florescence@mfah.org ; 713-639-7572

THURS., APR. 27: HERBS, 6:30 pm, Barbara Bush Memorial Library, 6817 Cypresswood Drive Spring. Free Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf ; 281-855-5600

FRI. APR. 28 OLEANDER FESTIVAL LUNCHEON, 11:30am, Viewfinders Terrace, Moody Gardens Hotel, Galveston. \$35. International Oleander Society event. Checks only received by Apr.19 at IOS, Box 3431, Galveston, TX 77552-0431

SAT., APR. 29: 2015 OLEANDER FESTIVAL, 10am-4pm, Betty Head Oleander Garden Park, 27th & Sealy, Galveston. Free. International Oleander Society event. oleander.org.

SAT., APRIL 29: FAIRY GARDEN SEMINARS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. \$10+. myenchanted.com

SAT. APR. 29: CONTAINER HERB GARDENING by HENRY FLOWERS, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., APR. 29: SPACE CITY HIBISCUS CHAPTER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, East Harris County Activity Center, 340 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena.

SAT., APR. 29: NATIVE LANDSCAPING CERTIFICATION LEVEL 3 CLASS (Installing and Maintaining Native Landscapes), 8 am-4:30 pm, Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Road, Tomball. \$57. Native Plant Society of Texas-Houston Chapter; Register: npsot.org/wp/nlcp; npsot.org/wp/houston/native-landscaping-certification .

SAT.-SUN., APR. 29-30: HERITAGE GARDENERS SPRING GARDEN TOUR & PLANT SALE, noon-4pm Sat., 1-5pm Sun. Start: Marie Workman Garden Center & Briscoe Gardens, 112 W. Spreading Oaks. \$12 pre/\$15 tour day. facebook.com/FriendswoodHeritageGardeners ; heritagegardener.org

THURS., MAY 4: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-11am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS. MAY 4: RAZZLE DAZZLE BASIL by ANN WHEELER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT. MAY 6: CUT FLOWER GARDEN by SONI HOLIDAY, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. myenchanted.com

SAT. MAY 6: RAZZLE DAZZLE BASIL by ANN WHEELER & CHRIS CROWDER, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., MAY 6: WATER-WISE GARDENING, 9:30-11:30am, University of St. Thomas, Strake Hall, Rm 107, 3812 Yoakum Blvd. \$40. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org

SAT, MAY 6: TOOL TIME HANDS-ON WORKSHOP by HENRY HARRISON, III, AND TIM JAHNKE, 9-11am. Galveston County Master Gardener Demonstration Garden, 4102 Main St, (Hwy 518), La Marque. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Pre-register: galvcountrymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SUN., MAY 7: RAIN BARRELL & COMPOST BIN TRUCKLOAD SALE ORDER DEADLINE, Houston Green Building Resource Center event. rainbarrelprogram.org/Houston; steve.stelzer@houston.tx.gov

TUES., MAY 9: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org; 281-438-3653

WED., MAY 10: WORM COMPOSTING, noon - 2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS., MAY 11: INSECTS IN THE GARDEN, 6:30 pm, Barbara Bush Memorial Library, 6817 Cypresswood Drive Spring. Free Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf 281-855-5600

THURS., MAY 11: THE FOODSCAPE REVOLUTION by BRIE ARTHUR, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pineywoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

FRI., MAY 12: BLOOMING BONNETS LUNCHEON, 2:30-4:30pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. \$25. Register: 713-274-4160.

FRI., MAY 12: ATTWATER PRAIRIE CHICKEN NAT. WILDLIFE REFUGE: PRAIRIE OASIS OF SE TEXAS by TERRY ROSSIGNOL. 10 am. White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine. Free. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. www.houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SAT., MAY 13: MOTHER'S DAY MAKE & TAKE FLOWERS/MARKETS, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. \$10+. myenchanted.com

SAT., MAY 13: ART IN THE GARDEN, 10am-3pm, Seminar & FELDER RUSHING, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. arborgate.com

SAT., MAY 13: INSTALLING & MAINTAINING NATIVE LANDSCAPES, 8 am-4:30 pm, Kleb Woods Nature Center, 20303 Draper Rd, Tomball. \$57. Native Plant Society of Texas-Houston Chapter. Register: npsot.org/wp/nlcp; npsot.org/wp/houston/native-landscaping-certification.

SAT., MAY 13: 'DAYLILY DESIRE' HORTICULTURAL & DESIGN SHOW, 1-3pm, Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 4040 Watonga Ave. Free. Houston Area Daylily Society and Houston Hemerocallis Society event. ofts.com/hhs.

SAT., MAY 13; DAYLILIES & OTHER PLANTS SALE, 10:30 am-sell out, Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 4040 Watonga Ave., . Houston Area Daylily Society event. 713-864-0452.

SAT., MAY 13: BRAZOSPORT DAYLILY SOCIETY FLOWER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, St. Mark Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 501 Willow Dr., Lake Jackson.

SAT., MAY 13: BRAZOSPORT DAYLILY SOCIETY FLOWER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, St. Mark Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 501 Willow Dr., Lake Jackson.

TUES., MAY 16: INSECTS IN THE GARDEN, 6:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf. 281-855-5600

THURS., MAY 18: INSECTS IN THE GARDEN, 6:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane . Free Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf 281-855-5600

SAT., MAY 20: MINI SUCCULENT OR HERB GARDEN, 10am, Enchanted Forest, 10611 FM 2759, 281-937-9449; 2pm, Enchanted Gardens, 6420 FM 359, 281-341-1206, both Richmond. myenchanted.com

SAT., MAY 20: SPACE CITY HIBISCUS CHAPTER SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, East Harris County Activity Center, 340 Spencer Hwy. Pasadena.

SAT., MAY 20: LONE STAR DAYLILY SOCIETY 23rd ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW & SALE. 10am-4pm Sale; 1-4pm Show. Epiphany Lutheran Church, 5515 W. Broadway, Pearland. Free. lonestardaylilysociety.org; peskine@comcast.net; 713-882-9958.

SAT., MAY 20: INSECTS IN THE GARDEN, 10am, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd. Katy. Free Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf 281-855-5600

SAT, MAY 20: HOME FRUIT GROWERS TOUR, 9am-noon. Start: Galveston County Master Gardener Demonstration Orchard & Garden, 4102 Main St. (Hwy 517), La Marque. Free. galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-534-3413, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SUN., MAY 21: PAYNE'S IN THE GRASS DAYLILY FARM ANNUAL OPEN GARDEN & SALE. 9-5, 2130 O'Day Road, Pearland, Tx. 77581. Free. paynesinthegrassdaylilyfarm.com; 281-485-3821 or 713-419-6661

TUES., MAY 23, HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & INSECTS SEMINAR, 9-11:30am, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. Register: ogd.harrishort@gmail.com

THURS., JUNE 1: STROLLER GARDEN STROLLS, 9-10am, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

SAT. JUNE 3: TOMATO CONTEST, 10am, The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920, Tomball. Free. Categories and Guidelines online, arborgate.com

THURS., JUNE 8: PROPOGATION & SEED SAVING, 6:30pm, Barbara Bush Memorial Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf ; 281-855-5600

THURS., JUNE 8: IS REDBUD THE NEXT CRAPE MYRTLE by DENNIS WERNER, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

SAT., JUNE 10: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-3pm, Bay Area Community Center 5002 E Nasa Pkwy, Seabrook. Free. theplumeriasociety.org; 281-438-3653

WED., JUNE 14: CARNIVOROUS PLANTS, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Garden, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160.

THURS., JUNE 15: PROPOGATION & SEED SAVING, 6:30pm, Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

SAT., JUNE 17: PROPOGATION & SEED SAVING, 10am, Maud Smith Marks Library, 1815 Westgreen Blvd. Katy. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

TUES., JUNE 20: PROPOGATION & SEED SAVING, 6:30pm, Spring Branch Memorial Library, 930 Corbindale. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. hcmga.tamu.edu/Public/docs/2017-green-thumb.pdf; 281-855-5600

WED-THURS., JUNE 21-22: CULTIVATING THE OUTDOOR CLASSROOM WORKSHOP, 8am-3pm, Gregory Lincoln Education Center, 1101 Taft St. \$50. Urban Harvest event. 713-880-5540; urbanharvest.org

TUES., JUNE 27, HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDEN DAY & PROPOGATION & SEED SAVING SEMINAR, 9-11:30 am, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. Register: ogd.harrishort@gmail.com

TUES., JULY 11: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org; 281-438-3653

THURS., JULY 13: A BRIGHT SPOT IN THE HEART OF TYLER by GREG GRANT, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

SAT., JULY 22: PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW & SALE, 9:30am-3pm, Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4310 TX-36, Rosenberg. Free. theplumeriasociety.org; 281-438-3653

THURS., AUG. 10: THE GREATER ATLANTA POLLINATOR PARTNERSHIP: A MODEL OF URBAN POLLINATOR CONSERVATION by JENNY CRUSE SANDERS, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., SEPT. 14: FROM OVER THE TOP TO DOWN UNDER, ADVENTURES IN HORTICULTURE by GEORGE HULL, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

SAT., OCT. 7: HARRIS COUNTY MASTER GARDENER FALL PLANT SALE, Bear Creek Garden, 3033 Bear Creek Dr. 281-855-5600

TUES., OCT. 10: GROWING PLUMERIAS, 7:30pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org; 281-438-3653

THURS., OCT. 12: MOORE FARMS BOTANICAL GARDEN: A GERMINATING SUCCESS by REBECCA TURK, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., NOV. 9: MAGNOLIAS: QUEEN OF THE GARDEN by ANDREW BUNTING, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

THURS., DEC. 14: THE YEAR IN REVIEW by DAVID CREECH, 7pm, Ina Brundrett Conservation Education Building, Pinewoods Native Plant Center, 2900 Raguet St, Nacogdoches. 936-468-4404 or sullivanfa@sfasu.edu

If we inspire you to attend any of these, please let them know you heard about it in . . .
THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER!
& please patronize our Newsletter & Calendar sponsors below!

**PLEASE READ BEFORE
SUBMITTING AN EVENT FOR THIS CALENDAR.**

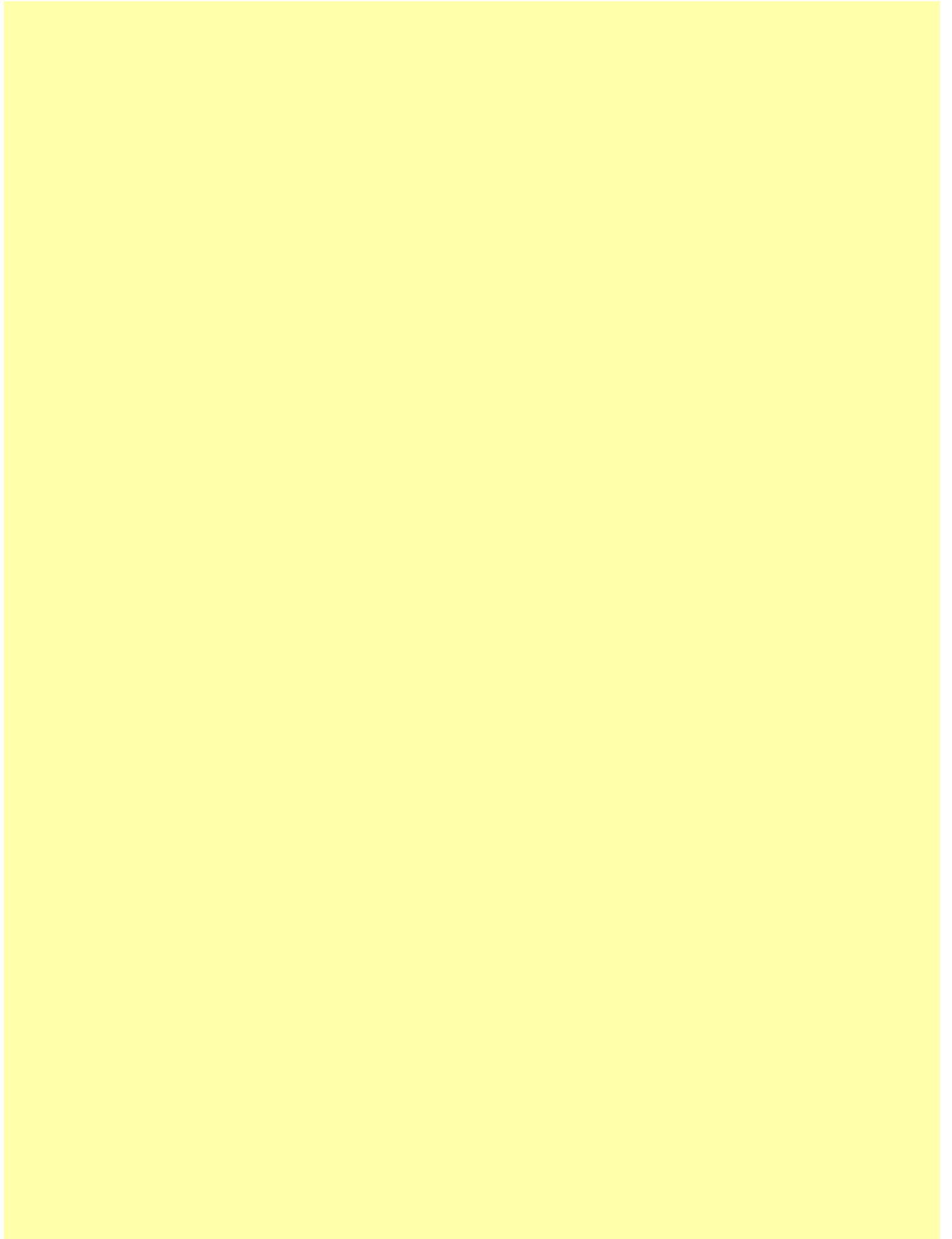
Events **NOT** submitted in the **EXACT** written format below may take two weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped. After that point, if your event does not appear, please email us.
Sorry, no children's programs. - Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

IF WE INSPIRE YOU TO ATTEND ANY OF THESE EVENTS, PLEASE TELL SPONSORS YOU HEARD ABOUT IT IN
THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER

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Join us for an adoption event on Saturday, April 1st
From 10am to 1pm



101 Sherbrook Cir, Conroe, TX 77385



Rain



or Shine !



EDITOR'S NOTE:

We try to pick our spots carefully in terms of which issues to take a stand on for the sake of our community. The issue below is one that is near to our hearts in great part because the location of the W.G. Jones State Forest is right down the street from the location where this newsletter is published. We consider ourselves and many of our readers to be stakeholders in this effort to preserve the state owned forest for the sake of current and future generations of both people and wildlife. Please do whatever you can to support this grassroots effort. Thanks!

SAVE JONES STATE FOREST Protecting Our Community Treasure OUR PARK, OUR COMMUNITY

W.G Jones State Forest Park is a 1,725 acre park located in Montgomery County, Texas-- just south of Conroe and bordering The Woodlands. The park has existed for more than 90 years and is a key piece in both education and conservation for the surrounding area. Jones forest has been designated by the Texas Forest Service as a "demonstration forest," thereby dedicating certain areas of the land to testing and researching various forest management techniques, forest genetics, and forest product utilization. Since 1990 areas have been maintained to demonstrate ways to protect water from pollution during forestry operations.

On March 10, 2017, Senate Bill 1964 was introduced to authorize the use or lease of land within the Jones State Forest "for the construction of buildings or improvements for multipurpose uses, including academic, research, and private commercial uses..."

On March 28, 2017, significant changes to the legislation were announced. This was followed by an announcement on March 29th that there is interest in construction that would use up to 10% of the Jones State Forest, or 178 acres, for development of future academic and research facilities.

Many citizens of Conroe, The Woodlands, and surrounding communities question the need for degradation of this local treasure or further development along the 1488 and 242 corridors. Follow us here to stay updated on the legislation, the proposal, and our local efforts.



SAVE JONES STATE FOREST

SAVEJONESSTATEFOREST.COM

SB1964 opens Jones State Forest up for development.

**Environmental Damage | Flooding Concerns | Loss of Wildlife
Loss of Community Space | Traffic Congestion
Uncontrolled Development**

ABOUT US

BRENDA BEUST SMITH

WE KNOW HER BEST AS THE LAZY GARDENER . . .

. . . but Brenda Beust Smith is also:

- * a national award-winning writer & editor**
- * a nationally-published writer & photographer**
- * a national horticultural speaker**
- * a former Houston Chronicle reporter**

When the Chronicle discontinued Brenda's 45-year-old "Lazy Gardener" print column a couple of years ago, it ranked as the longest-running, continuously-published local newspaper column in the Greater Houston area.

Brenda's gradual sideways step from Chronicle reporter into gardening writing led first to an 18-year series of when-to-do-what Lazy Gardener Calendars, then to her *Lazy Gardener's Guide* book and now to her *Lazy Gardener's Guide* on CD (which retails for \$20. However, \$5 of every sale is returned to the sponsoring group at her speaking engagements).

A Harris County Master Gardener, Brenda has served on the boards of many Greater Houston area horticulture organizations and has hosted local radio and TV shows, most notably a 10+-year Lazy Gardener run on HoustonPBS (Ch. 8) and her call-in "EcoGardening" show on KPFT-FM.

Brenda recently ended her decades-long stint as Production Manager of the Garden Club of America's **BULLETIN** magazine. Although still an active horticulture lecturer and broad-based freelance writer, Brenda's main focus now is **THE LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER** with John Ferguson and Mark Bowen of Nature's Way Resources.

A native of New Orleans and graduate of St. Agnes Academy and the University of Houston, Brenda lives in Aldine and is married to the now retired Aldine High School Coach Bill Smith. They have one son, Blake.

Regarding this newsletter, Brenda is the lead writer, originator of it and the daily inspiration for it. We so appreciate the way she has made gardening such a fun way to celebrate life together for such a long time.

JOHN FERGUSON

John is a native Houstonian and has over 27 years of business experience. He owns Nature's Way Resources, a composting company that specializes in high quality compost, mulch, and soil mixes. He holds a MS degree in Physics and Geology and is a licensed Soil Scientist in Texas.

John has won many awards in horticulture and environmental issues. He represents the composting industry on the Houston-Galveston Area Council for solid waste. His personal garden has been featured in several horticultural books and "Better Homes and Gardens" magazine. His business has been recognized in the Wall Street Journal for the quality and value of their products. He is a member of the Physics Honor Society and many other professional societies. John is the co-author of the book *Organic Management for the Professional*.

For this newsletter, John contributes articles regularly and is responsible for publishing it.

MARK BOWEN

Mark is a native Houstonian, a horticulturist, certified permaculturist and organic specialist with a background in garden design, land restoration and organic project management. He is currently the general manager of Nature's Way Resources. Mark is also the co-author of the book *Habitat Gardening for Houston and Southeast Texas*, the author of the book *Naturalistic Landscaping for the Gulf Coast*, co-author of the *Bayou Planting Guide* and contributing landscape designer for the book *Landscaping Homes: Texas*.

With respect to this newsletter, Mark serves as a co-editor and periodic article contributor.

PABLO HERNANDEZ

Pablo Hernandez is the special projects coordinator for Nature's Way Resources. His realm of responsibilities include: serving as a webmaster, IT support, technical problem solving/troubleshooting,

metrics management, quality control, and he is a certified compost facility operator.

Pablo helps this newsletter happen from a technical support standpoint.

Travel Tip

Give your readers some helpful weather tips for their upcoming vacation. Make sure to explain the tips, give your best advice and tell them how they will benefit from it. Don't forget to include a fun image to make your newsletter more appealing.



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