



LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS

Houston Garden Newsletter



Feb. 7, 2020 - Issue #326

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[Nature's Way Resources](#) owner John Ferguson, "The Lazy Gardener" Brenda Beust Smith and Pablo Hernandez welcome your feedback and are so grateful to the many horticulturists who contribute their expertise.

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IT WAS AN AMERICAN GARDENING TRIUMPH -- TOO FEW OF US KNOW

By Brenda Beust Smith

"It was an American triumph: the first botanical garden founded for the new nation...Because of his garden, (David) Hosack became one of the most famous Americans of his time."

— Victoria Johnson, "American Eden"

Does the name David Hosack ring a bell?

It should, if you love gardening.

David Hosack laid the foundation for all gardening means to us -- even more so now that we're returning to the soil for so much more than just landscape beauty.



Hosack's beloved 20-acre Elgin Botanic Garden (above), started in 1801, now lies beneath New York's Radio City Music hall and surrounding office towers and skating rink. As Victoria Johnson describes it in her book, **"American Eden,"** a 2019 Pulitzer Prize finalist:

"Hosack's garden helped change the way Americans saw the natural world ... few Americans beyond well-heeled gentlemen with country estates and a handful of nurserymen and college professors thought plants were worthy of scientific study."

Victoria details — with such vivid imagery possible only with the deepest of research — the amazing story of this incredible man who, in so many ways, defined the foundations of our American gardens today. Yet so few of us even know his name!

More of us will — here for sure — after Victoria's visit to Houston for her Wed., Feb. 19, presentation, **"David Horsack, Botany, and Medicine in the Gardens of the Early Republic."** This biannual Nancy Stallworth Thomas Lecture will be 10am at St. Luke's Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 3471 Westheimer. Free, open to public, no reservations needed.



***L to r, Victoria Johnson, David Horsack
and "American Eden," a 2019 Pulitzer Prize finalist***

Even if Hosack's name isn't familiar, certainly those sharing pages of history with him are:

"When Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr needed an attending physician for their 1804 duel, both chose David Hosack. Thomas Jefferson sent Hosack plants and seeds for his garden ..."

...as did, Victoria added, William Clark, of the Lewis & Clark expedition. She paints as vivid a picture of the times and people as she does the transformation of ***“his soggy, rock-strewn patch of Manhattan into an American Eden”***-- his famous Elgin Botanic Garden.

Surely many of us can identify with Hosack, about whom his medical protege John Francis wrote: ***“Had he the wealth of John Jacob Astor, he might have died poor.”*** Why?

As Victoria explains:

“Hosack was on a quest to collect every medicinal plant he could gather locally or procure from his correspondence throughout the United States.”

(Makes our quests for more and more plants seem pretty modest, doesn't it!)

Again we gardeners can sympathize: Turns out, Hosack's passion soon overwhelmed practicality. Finally his Elgin Botanic Garden's fame was proposed for the type of government funding enjoyed by Europe's most famous gardens — the first such proposal ever in this country, and in the process promoting medical science's growing interest in botanical benefits.

Did it succeed?

“For the rest of the story . . . “(to quote Paul Harvey), attend Victoria's lecture. Or, have your group send representatives who can then report back with a club presentation.

PS. Hosack was also noted for his then-unheard-of encouragement to young women to enter botanical studies and even collect specimens, an unheard of activity in his day! For more details on the lecture: gchouston.org/lectures/



The Nancy Stallworth Thomas Lecture is named for a longtime Houston horticultural supporter and one of my mentors and gurus for almost as long as I can remember. Nancy is a mainstay of the Garden Club of Houston (lecture sponsor), a former President of both GCH and the Garden Club of America President, among many other accolades. She was one of the original (still is) driving forces behind our new Houston Botanic Gardens.

I asked Nancy (left below) for a few words on why area gardeners should be interested in (and attend) Victoria Johnson's lecture. Her response:



*Being a member of a family with a number of physicians and my own long time passion for Horticulture, I was intrigued by the title and subtitle of Victoria Johnson's remarkable book, **American Eden, David Hosack, Botany and Medicine in the Garden of the Early Republic.***

This remarkable story of a physician whose inquiring mind benefited not only the world of medicine but opened the doors for the interrelationship of the plant world and mankind in our country. After his studies in Europe where botanical medicine was practiced and taught, he returned home to the realization that the knowledge found in the great botanical gardens of Europe did not exist in our new country. For the remainder of his life, he set about trying to solve this problem.

This effort also touched a cord in my life as I recall the efforts of many to establish a Botanic garden in Houston which fortunately is coming to fruition.

Hosack was less rewarded, but Victoria Johnson's deeply engaging and well researched book with fascinating highlights of the history and people of those early days gives us an insight into an under-appreciated American genius whose legacy we can still admire 184 years after his death. -- Nancy Thomas

(Quotes from "**David Hosack, Botany, and Medicine in the Gardens of the Early Republic**" used with permission from Victoria Johnson)

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SPEAKING OF BOTANICAL MEDICINAL BENEFITS . . .Of all the herbs we grow in both herbal and regular gardens, basil has to be the most popular. It's so pretty, so fragrant, so easy, so tasty, so full of health benefits. Sweet basil, below right, so readily available in nurseries and plant departments, makes a great beginner's plant, and one we plant in late February or March.

But Waller County Master Gardeners hope folks don't stop there, that they'll expand their horizons with newer great-for-us varieties that, like more traditional basil, will do well in either sun or shade in our area. They are delighted with these below.

Right: sweet basil



RED RUBIN BASIL

(*Ocimum basilicum purpurascens*)

Fragrant, compact grower with eye-catching reddish-purple (more purple than red) foliage and delightful small pink flowers in mid- to late summer. Easy to place between regular plantings or in containers. Plant when all danger of frost has passed.



AFRICAN BLUE BASIL

(*Ocimum kilimandscharicum* × *basilicum* 'Dark Opal')

Unlike most basis, this is perennial. All basilis attract butterflies, bees and other beneficial pollinators. But



African Blue seems to stand out with its abundant flowers that are pink with a dark purple base. It doesn't reseed but in protected areas may prove perennial.

SWEET GENOVESE BASIL

(Ocimum basilicum)

With slightly large leaves and intense flavor than regular sweet basil, Genovese do well both in containers and mixed in regular beds with other plants.



All four varieties will be available at the Waller County Master Gardeners' SAT., MAR. 7, **SPRING VEGETABLE & HERB SALE**, 9-1 pm, Waller County Extension Office, 846 6th St., Hempstead. More info at txmg.org/wallermg or 979-826-7651.

* * *

VALENTINE'S DAY, Feb. 14, is our traditional day to prune roses. Most roses don't need pruning unless they're growing out of bounds or in ill-shaped patterns. Pruning may also promote more blooming. For another bloom-trigger, try beating them with a broom at night. Why at night? So neighbors won't see you! Read: "[Beating Your Plants.](#)"

[Hybrid tea roses](#) are the ones most in need of pruning for good health and blooms in this area. Simply put, ideal is a 3' vase shape with all stems curving upward and outward, none inward or crossing. So easy to say and often so hard to achieve!

That's why Houston Rose Society's most popular meeting is the one coming up: **THURS., Feb 13: ANNUAL PRUNING PARTY**, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. houstonrose.org.

Houston has the nation's largest rose society and Rosarians will be on hand en masse to answer questions and demonstrate proper techniques. Drop-in's welcome!



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"LAZY GARDENER SPEAKER LIST" & "PUBLICITY BOOKLET"

are free — email request to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net

Brenda's column in the LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDENNEWSLETTER
is based on her 40+ years as the Houston Chronicle's Lazy Gardener



BOOK REVIEW:

Practical PERMACULTURE for Home Landscapes, Your Community, and the Whole Earth, by Jessi Bloom and David Boehnlein, Timber Press, 2015, ISBN: 978-1-60469-443-7

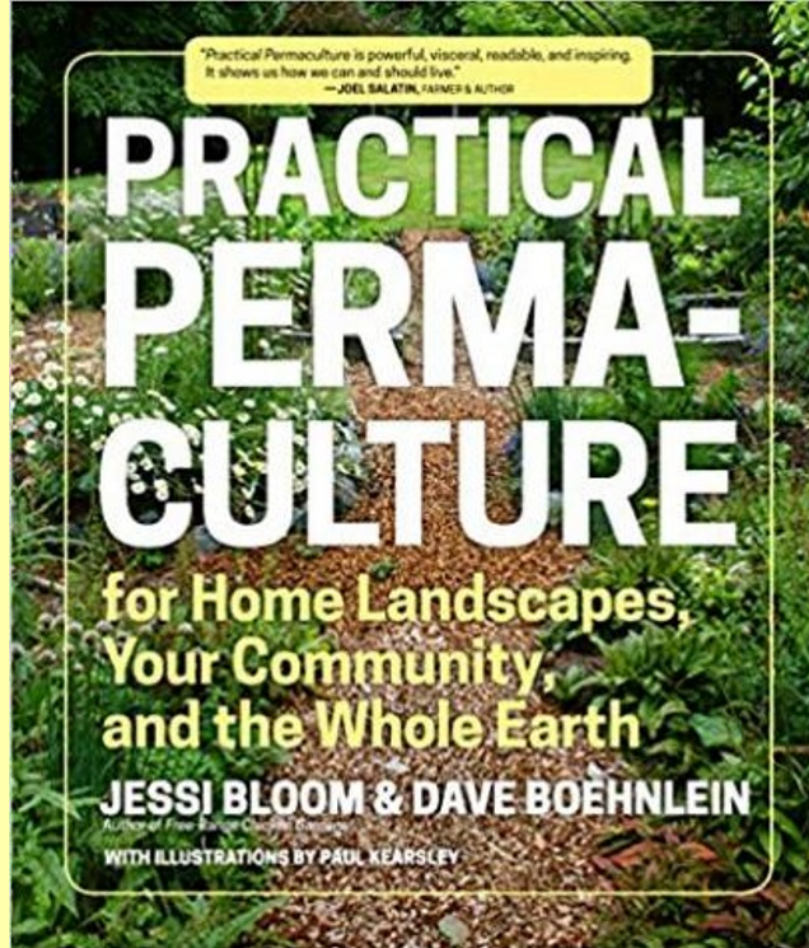
Gardeners and homeowners are demanding a healthier lifestyle in today's society. We want more sustainability, healthier food, and a safer environment for our families and pets

This book is a good introduction to the ideas of permaculture that one can use in a landscape to make it safer and more sustainable. The information is presented in clear logical steps as to how and why we need to design our yards and gardens to make them more ecological friendly and produce healthy food.

In clear, logical steps, Practical Permaculture offers the tools you need to live a life rich in healthy food, safe housing, and renewable resources. The book covers the basic principles of permaculture, showing the entire design process from land assessment to the completed master plan, with detailed information on the plants, water, waste, energy, shelter, food, animals, and structures that make up the garden. Filled with real-life examples from all over the world, this invaluable resource will help you turn your property into a sustainable ecosystem. --COVER.

The authors included a good mix of pictures, diagrams and charts to illustrate the various ideas presented. They do a good job of linking many ideas from ecology into a simple-to-apply manner for our landscapes.

"Permaculture is more popular than ever, but it can still be a daunting concept. If you are new to permaculture and interested in learning more, *Practical Permaculture* offers authoritative, in-depth, and hands-on advice for a more holistic approach to sustainable living. Jessi Bloom and Dave Boehnlein, two dynamic leaders in the permaculture community, explain the basics of permaculture, share their design process, and explore various permaculture systems including soil, water, waste, energy, shelter, food and plants, and animals and wildlife. They also profile the fifty most useful plants for permaculture landscapes." Amazon.



***“Practical Permaculture* is powerful, visceral, readable, and inspiring. It shows us how we can and should live.”—Joel Salatin, farmer and author**

* * *



HOUSTON PREMIERE OF A SHOCKING NEW FILM

LEARN | CHANGE | PROTECT
TOGETHER, MAKE OUR STAND!

FEB. 13, 2020



A NEW RESISTANCE

Soak In The Newest Investigative Work From
An Award Winning Documentary Film Maker

Not your typical RoundUp event. Glyphosate is still at large. Right now, we are headed some place; Is it to the promise land or off a cliff?

One way or another we are going to find out. Do we want to wish we could have changed when we had a chance? Are we sentencing future generations to the unknown? Join us for the Houston premiere, and learn what we need to do for change and building a healthy future.



Special Bonus: Meet the Producer

Award-Winning Producer/Director and Writer
Ed Brown will introduce his film, A New Resistance,
and hold a Q&A after the showing.

TICKETS

Register Online

ohbaonline.org/events

OHBA Members \$10

Non-Members \$25

UNITED WAY | 50 WAUGH DR. HOUSTON, TX 77007

THANK YOU SPONSORS!



ITINERARY

5:00PM-5:30PM

Registration | Light Bites

5:30PM-6:45PM

Film Premiere Showing

6:45PM-7:15PM

Meet The Producer | Q&A

HAVE YOU TRIED . . .

BANANA SHRUB

(Michelia figo)

Banana shrub has been called a true Southern lady . . . sweet and tough! Spring through summer flowers smell like delicious ripe bananas. Evergreen, low care, sun or light shade, drought-tolerant, rounded open growth 10-15'. Doesn't mind pruning, even works as espalier.



BANANA SHRUB IS carried by Nature's Way Resources ([Map](#)). Or . . . contact our sponsor, Montgomery Pines Nursery in Willis, our othersponsors below or your neighborhood nurseryman for possible sources.

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LAZY GARDENER & FRIENDS HOUSTON GARDEN NEWSLETTER CALENDAR EVENTS

ADULT GARDEN PLANT EVENTS ONLY

ALWAYS CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOUR EVENT IS IN! HOWEVER . . .

PLEASE READ BEFORE SUBMITTING EVENTS!

- *Events NOT submitted in the EXACT format below may take 2 weeks or longer to be reformatted/retyped and added to calendar.*
- *Events written in the email in this EXACT format will be copied & pasted immediately into the next upcoming calendar.*
- *No pdfs or flyers!!! They only delay publication.*
- *Submit to: lazygardener@sbcglobal.net.*
- *Put group name in email subject.*

SAT., FEB. 8: COME GET THE SCOOP ON HEALTHY SOILS by GREG COOPER, 11am-12:30pm, Wabash Feed & Garden, 4537 N. Shepherd. Free. 713-863-8322; wabashfeed.com

SAT. FEB 8. FORT BEND MASTER COUNTY GARDENERS 2020 FRUIT TREE SALE, 9am-noon, Fairgrounds George Pavilion, 4310 Hwy 36S, Rosenberg. Preview list: fbmg.org/events/annual-sales/fruit-citrus-tree-sale; 281-341-7068.

SAT., FEB. 8: SPRING VEGETABLE PLANTING I by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT. FEB 8: TURF GRASS SELECTION & MAINTENANCE, 8-10am, & GROWING SPRING VEGETABLES, 10:30am-12:30pm, by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5/\$8 both. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

MON., FEB. 10: WILDSCAPING - DESIGN FOR NATURE IN YOUR LANDSCAPE, 6:30pm, West Gray Multiservice Center, 1475 West Gray. Free. Houston Urban Gardeners event. houstonurbangardeners.org

TUES., FEB. 11: DISH GARDENS by LYNN HUBER, 9am, Shenandoah Municipal Complex, 29955 I-45N, Shenandoah. The Woodlands Garden Club event. Free. thewoodlandsgardenclub.org

TUES., FEB. 11: AIR LAYERING by MARY KARISH, LUNCH & LEARN, 11:30am-12:30pm. Free. Waller County Master Gardener event. txmg.org/wallermg or 979-826-7651; npsot.org/Houston

WED., FEB. 12: VEGETABLE GARDENING IN SMALL SPACES by Robert 'Skip' Richter, noon-2pm, Mercer Botanic Gardens, 22306 Aldine-Westfield, Humble. Free. Register: 713-274-4160. hcp4.net/parks/mercer

THURS., Feb 13: HOUSTON ROSE SOCIETY ANNUAL PRUNING PARTY, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. houstonrose.org

THURS., FEB. 13: SPRING VEGETABLE GARDENING, 6:30-8:30pm, Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. Harris County Master Gardener event. Free. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

THURS., FEB. 13: PURPLE MARTINS by MATT FENDLEY, 10-11:30am, Genoa Friendship Garden, 1202 Genoa Red Bluff Rd. Free. Harris County Master Gardener event. 713-274-0950; hcmga.tamu.edu

FRI., FEB. 14: HOUSTON FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS PLANT SALE. 10 am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Free. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

SAT., FEB. 15: URBAN HARVEST 20th ANNUAL FRUIT TREE SALE, 9am-1pm, Sawyer Yards, 2010 Winter St. Preview list: UrbanHarvest.org/fruit-tree-sale

SAT., FEB. 15: ANTIQUE ROSES by JIM MAAS, & MIKE SHOUP, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., FEB 15: GALVESTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS 2020 SPRING PLANT SALE. 8am: Preview. 9am-1pm: Sale (bring wagon). Fairground, Jack Brooks Park, Hwy 6 @ Jack Brooks Rd, Hitchcock; 281-309-5065. Preview list: aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SAT., FEB. 15: GROW YOUR OWN by FORT BEND MASTER GARDENERS, 9-11am, Bud O'Shields Community Center, 1330 Band Rd., Rosenberg. fortbend.agrilife.org/grow-your-own; 281-432-3034.

SUN., FEB 16: SIMPLE TRICKS FOR EFFECTIVE PHOTOGRAPHY by CAROLYNNE WHITE, 2pm, Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Free. Gulf Coast Fern Society event. tgcfersoc.org.

TUES., FEB. 18: ORCHIDS IN HOUSTON FROM A "BOX" STORE with Jay Balchan, 7pm West Grey Multi-Service Center, 1475 W. Grey. Bromeliad Society/Houston event. Free. bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

TUES., FEB. 18: A PLANT LOVER'S TOUR OF PUBLIC & PRIVATE GARDENS IN ST. KITTS & NEVIS by Joan Pritchard, 10am, St. Basil's Hall, 702 Burney, Sugar Land. Sugar Land Garden Club event. Free.

WED., FEB. 19: AMERICAN EDEN: DAVID HOSACK, BOTANY, AND MEDICINE IN THE GARDEN OF THE EARLY REPUBLIC by VICTORIA JOHNSON, 2020 Nancy Stallworth Thomas Horticulture Lecture, 10am, St. Luke's Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 3471 Westheimer. Free. gchouston.org

THURS., FEB. 20: MUSHROOMS: THEIR NICHE IN ECOSYSTEMS by TERI MACARTHUR 6:45-8:30pm; American Red Cross, 2700 Southwest Fwy. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. npsot.org/Houston

SAT., FEB. 22: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SUN., FEB. 23: CACTI AND SUCCULENTS by JACOB MARTIN, 2pm-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring, TX 77388. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com

THURS., FEB. 27: TIM BELL'S DAYLILY GARDEN, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. ofts.com/hhs/

SAT., FEB. 29: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., MAR. 2: WALLER COUNTY MASTER GARDENER VEGETABLE & HERB SALE, 9am-1pm, VEGETABLES by MARY KARISH; VEGETABLES by HENRY FLOWERS. Extension Office, 846 6th St., Hempstead. wallermgardener2103@gmail.com

TUES., MAR. 3: A HOMEOWNER'S GUIDE TO WEED CONTROL by JOHN JONS, 6:30-8pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

THURS, MARCH 5: SHERRI HARRAH SPEAKING ABOUT WEEDS AND DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANTS, 10am, MUD Building 805 Hidden Canyon Dr., Katy. Free. Nottingham Country Garden Club event. ncgctx.org

SAT., MAR. 7: SPRING VEGETABLE PLANTING II by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & PAUL NESRSTA, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., MAR. 7: HERBS FOR THE GULF COAST by BRIANA ETIE, 9-10:30am; KITCHEN GARDENING by MARY DEMENY, 1-3pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SAT., MAR. 7: PARTY FOR THE PRAIRIE!, 11am-2pm, Safari Texas Ranch Palm Pavilion, 11627 FM 1464, Richmond. Native Prairies Association of Texas. texasprairie.org/party; 512-392-2288.

SAT.-SUN., MAR. 7-8: SPRING BRANCH AFRICAN VIOLET CLUB SHOW & SALE, Sat.: 9am-5pm Sale, 1-5pm show. Sun.: 10am-3pm Sale. Judson Robinson Jr. Community Center, 2020 Hermann Dr. Free. kjwross@yahoo.com

TUES. MAR 10, 2020: BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS WITH PLANT SOCIETIES by MARK WOMACK, 7-9pm ; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT., MARCH 7: SPRING VEGETABLE & HERB SALE, 9-1 pm , Waller Country Extension Office, 846 6th St., Hempstead. More info at txmg.lrg/wallermg or 979-826-7651.

THURS., March 12: COMPANION PLANTS FOR ROSES, 7pm, Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Houston Rose Society event. Free. www.houstonrose.org

FRI. MAR. 13: HOUSTON FEDERATION OF GARDEN CLUBS PLANT SALE. 10 am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Free. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org.

SAT., MAR. 14: TOMATO STRESS MANAGEMENT 3 by IRA GREVAIS, 9-11am. free; BONSAI WORKSHOP by CLYDE HOLT, 1-4pm, \$25. Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SAT., MAR. 14: MUST DO, SHOULD DO, DON'T DO IN YOUR GARDEN, 8-10am, & ATTRACTING BEES, BUTTERFLIES & OTHER POLLINATORS, 10:30am-12:30pm, by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5/\$8 both. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

THURS., MAR. 19: NATIVE TREES IN THE LANDSCAPE: WHY AND HOW? by BRAD PHILLIPS, 6:45-8:30pm; American Red Cross, 2700 Southwest Fwy. Free. Native Plant Society of Texas/Houston Chapter event. npsot.org/Houston

SAT., MAR. 21: LOUISIANA IRISES by MONICA MARTENS, 9-11am; AQUAPONICS by GENE SPELLER & BRIANA ETIE, 1-3pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, La Marque. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com, 281-309-5065, aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston

SUN., MAR. 22: BIRDS OF THE BAYOU CITY by MARY ANNE WEBER, 2pm-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring, TX 77388. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com

THURS., MAR. 26: BLUE RIDGE DAYLILY GARDENS, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores

Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. ofts.com/hhs/

SAT., MAR. 28: CYPRESS CREEK DAYLILY CLUB SPRING DAYLILY & PERENNIAL PLANT SALE, 10am-3pm. Wunderlich Historical Farm, 18218 Theiss Mail Route Rd., Klein. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com

SAT., MAR. 28: TAKING CARE OF ROSES by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & KATHRYN COURTNEY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., MAR. 28: GREENHOUSE SELECTION & MANAGEMENT by BRIANNA ETIE, 9-10:30am; RAINWATER HARVESTING by NAT GRUESEN, 1-3pm, Extension Office, Carbide Park, 4102-B Main/FM 519, LaMarque. Free. Galveston County Master Gardener event. Register: galvcountymgs@gmail.com; 281-309-5056; aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/galveston.

SAT. MAR. 28: MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SPRING PLANT SALE, 8 am sale preview; sale 9-noon, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd, Conroe. Bring wagon. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

SAT., MAR 28: HERB FESTIVAL & PLANT SALE AT THE WYNNE HOME, 8am-2pm. Wynne Home Arts Center, 1428 Eleventh St., Huntsville. Herb Society of America Texas Thyme Unit event. Free. texasthymeunit.org

SAT., APR. 4: HERB GARDENING by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & KATHRYN COURTNEY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., APR. 4: WHITE OAK GARDEN SPRING PLANT SALE 10am-2pm; PREVIEW by HEIDI SHEESLEY, 9am, White Oak Conference Center, 7603 Antoine Dr. Free. nnmd.org.

FRI., APRIL 10, 2020: EXCITING UNDERUTILIZED PLANTS ADAPTABLE TO HOUSTON REGION by ADAM BLACK. 10am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Federation of Garden Clubs event. Free. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SAT., APR. 11: WILD THYMES HERB GARDENING by JIM MAAS, & MELDA SIEBE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., APRIL 11: SOIL ISSUES, 8-10am, & BEST HERBS FOR YOUR GARDEN, 10:30am-12:30pm, by MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS, AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport Rd., Conroe. \$5/\$8 both. 936-539-7824; mcmga.com

SAT., APR. 18: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., APR. 18: BRAZOSPORT DAYLILY SOCIETY SALE, 9am-3pm (or sell-out), Lake Jackson Civic Center Plaza, 333 TX-332 East, Lake Jackson. lorisgarrett@comcast.net

THURS., APR. 23: MS. MARIKO GONDA'S GARDEN, 7-9pm, Cherie Flores Garden Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Houston Hemerocallis Society event. ofts.com/hhs/

SAT., APR. 25: PLANTING IN GLASS by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SUN., APR. 26: HOW TO GROOM A DAYLILY FOR A FLOWER SHOW by MARY GAGE, 2pm-3pm. Klein United Methodist Church, 5920 FM 2920, Spring. Cypress Creek Daylily Club event. Free. cypresscreekdaylilyclub.simplesite.com

SAT., MAY 2: GARDENING FOR BUTTERFLIES & BEES by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488;

maasnursery.com

SAT., MAY 2: PARTY FOR THE PLANT, Armand Bayou Nature Center, abnc.org

SAT., MAY 2, MONTGOMERY COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS OPEN GARDENS DAY, 9:30-12:30. AgriLife Extension Office, 9020 Airport= Road, Conroe. Free. 936.529.7824; mcmga.

FRI. MAY 8, 2020: THINGS I WISH I HAD LEARNED SOONER (ABOUT ROSES) by BAXTER WILLIAMS. 10am, First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Blvd. Houston Federation of Garden Clubs event. Free. houstonfederationgardenclubs.org

SAT., MAY 9: HOUSTON HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY DAYLILY PLANT SALE 10am-3pm. Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 4040 Watonga, Houston, 77092. Free. ofts.com/hhs/calendar.html

SAT., MAY 9: BRAZOSPORT DAYLILY SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW & SALE, 1-4pm, St., Mark's Lutheran Church, 501 Willow Dr, Lake Jackson, nfreshr@aol.com

TUES. MAY 12: PLUMERIA IN THE CARIBBEAN ISLANDS by NICOLE TIERRMAN, 7-9 pm; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

SAT., MAY 16: PLUMERIA by JIM MAAS, & LORETTA OSTEEN, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., MAY 23: MINIATURE FAIRY GARDEN by JIM MAAS, PAT CORDRAY & BRENDA HESSE, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$45. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

SAT., JUN. 13: 14" METAL HANGING BASKET by JIM MAAS, & PAT CORDRAY, 10am, Maas Nursery, 5511 Todville Rd., Seabrook. \$35. 281-474-2488; maasnursery.com

TUES., JUL 14: BONSAI by SCOTT BARBOZA, 7-9pm; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. Plumeria Society of America event. theplumeriasociety.org

TUES., OCT 13: FALL PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA SOCIAL/LUAU 7-9:00 pm; Cherie Flores Garden Pavillion, 1500 Hermann Dr. Free. theplumeriasociety.org

*If we inspire you to attend any of these,
please let them know you heard about it in . . .*

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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, it then 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 which morphed into her Lazy Gardener's Guide on CD. which she now emails free upon request.

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 specialty shows on HoustonPBS (Ch. 8) and her call-in "EcoGardening" show on KPFT-FM.

For over three decades, Brenda served as 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 Pablo Hernandez 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.

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 and quality control.

Pablo helps this newsletter happen from a technical support standpoint.

