

June 2011

garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

Floating an Idea

Plans and Plants Combine
for the Rose Festival's
Grand Floral Parade

CHERRIES

Zonal Geraniums

*The International Rose Test
Garden's Botanical Specialist
Harry Landers*

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June Bug

June is here and you know what bugs me?... it's the late spring. It bugs me because of the cold and wet springs we have had the past few years. I'm no expert about climate change, but this is really bugging me! We've had two years like this and for the new gardener it is very frustrating. We have been following the trends and there are a lot of new gardeners that are making their way back to the soil. These cold and wet days are very frustrating to them, and to us all. We've heard of some gardeners having to replant their garden two or three times during the spring. Take heart brave gardeners! This is not a permanent thing. All weather conditions cycle. We just happen to be in an (extremely) wet and cold cycle. Boy, I hope I'm right!

One of the plants that has been suffering because of the weather is the rose crop. This year the Rose Festival has become the 'Rose-bud' Festival. The plants are ready, but they are just waiting for a little more heat before they share their wonderful color with us. The good news about the cooler weather is that the blooms are more vibrant when they do bloom. Of course, one of the best places to see some of this color is at Heirloom Roses between Newberg and St. Paul. They are the first to have color, and to celebrate this color, they have their annual Rose Days celebration on the weekend of the 4th and 5th of June. There are a ton of things to do at the garden during these two days. The *Garden Time* Crew will be there on Saturday the 4th with goodies to giveaway. We will have free shopping bags and garden gloves to share, provided by Meta, the sponsor of the Rose Days event, and even a raffle to give away some watering tools from Dramm. Check out their new website at www.heirloomrosedays.com to get more details about this FREE event.

June is also another month of festivals. We see the continuation of the peony blooms at Adelman's Peonies. We also have the incredible gardens at Schreiner's Iris's. The middle of the month brings us the tasty strawberry events at French Prairie Gardens and Tugawa Nursery. It is the beginning of a tasty summer! According to some of the growers we have talked to, we will start to see more than just strawberries. As we approach the end of June we can start thinking about some of the other berry delights that include early season raspberries, blackberries and maybe even blueberries. Of course, with this cold and wet weather, the dates could change. A great resource for fresh produce is the Tri-county Farm Fresh Produce. Tri-county Farm Fresh Produce is an organization of local farms offering produce for sale directly to the public through u-pick and farm stands in Washington, Clackamas and Multnomah counties in Oregon. Add this link to your computer, www.tricountyfarm.org, to get the latest information about fresh vegetables in the Tri-county area around Portland. If you are outside of Portland, you can check with the Oregon Farmers Market Association (www.oregonfarmersmarkets.org) where they even have an interactive map to help you find the market near you.

Finally, we would like to say thank you all for continuing to support the shows. *Garden Time*, *Fusion* and even the *Garden Time* magazine would not exist if it wasn't for all of you.

Happy Gardening!

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

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FLOATING AN IDEA

*It takes a lot of plans...
and a lot of plants...
to put this annual event
in motion.*

by Jeff Gustin



A sure sign of spring in Oregon and southwest Washington is the arrival of the Portland Rose Festival. For some, the Rose Festival marks the last of the rainy season, but for the plant lover it also means the celebration of the rose and the Rose Festival Parade. This "must see" event showcases all kinds of plant material in the construction of the floats and a tremendous amount of work to pull it all together. For over 100 years, the Rose Festival has defined the beginning of summer for Oregonians. In current years it has attracted over one million people to see the dazzling display of festivities and events, and for some, the highlight is the *Spirit Mountain Casino Grand Floral Parade*.

You can't acknowledge the 'magic' of the Grand Floral Parade without the hard work of the major

float builder, *SCi 3.2*. This company has been building the award winning floats of the grand floral parade since 1977. They are not only the Official Float Builder for the Portland Rose Festival; they have also created floats for Phoenix, San Francisco, Oakland, Tampa, Chicago and the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena. Their goal is to provide exceptional creativity, quality and service, but they can't do this without help! *SCi 3.2* relies on volunteers and the floral industry to create these short-lived, moving works of art.

It all starts with an idea.

The first thing needed to build a float is an idea and a community oriented company to help fund it. These companies love their communities and they are willing to show that support by sponsoring

these giant beauties. Designs are discussed, marketing goals are considered and production goals are set. The overall process takes months. It reaches a peak during the final couple of weeks leading up to the parade.

In the weeks before the event, the rough structures of the floats are built. The crews at *SCi 3.2* have to build the frame on which the float will take shape. Usually this means building it on a stripped down car that has had all the mechanics checked out. They have to make sure that the engine and car can handle the weight of the structure.

While this is happening, designers make sure that materials are ordered. You have to ensure that you have enough roses to create the red blush of a clown's nose and the right amount of wheat

seed to color his hat, too. Now imagine doing that for a dozen floats or more!

Volunteers are required to take the next step, the decorating. Once the structure is assembled and covered with burlap, the volunteers apply the 'natural' materials to the outside. The official rules state that all surfaces must be covered by plant material. The plant material is catalogued and each float has a certain amount of flower and plant material designated for its construction. Local materials are used when possible.

You can be 'hands on' in this part of the Rose Festival by volunteering at SCi 3.2 through their website. Volunteers start decorating about a week before the Grand Floral event, but the action gets more intense in the last few days before the parade. And although volunteer decorators are never paid directly, their time can help make a contribution to an important local charity. For each hour they work, SCi 3.2 will donate

50 cents to 'Hands On Greater Portland'. It is great to be involved in the Rose Festival, but it is even better when you can help your city at the same time!

As for the floats, in some cases, volunteers work right up to the last minute. Some floats get their finishing touches on the day of the event so they look

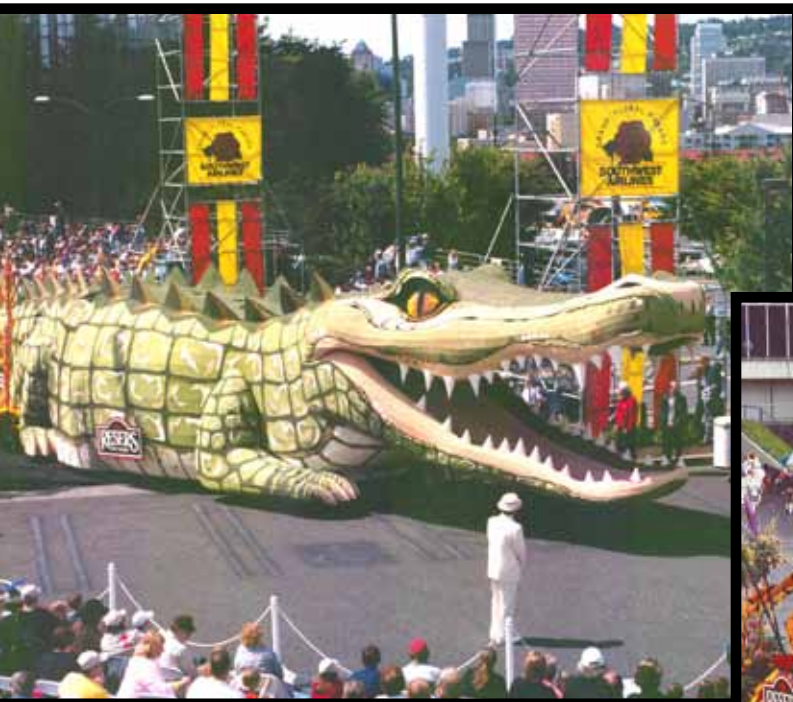
their best for the TV cameras and the crowds that line the route. If you have seen the parade on TV, you know how beautiful the floats look. But, to really get an idea about the details, you should check them out at the Grand Floral Parade Float Showcase on SW Naito Parkway, adjacent to City-Fair on Saturday June 11 (3:00 - 10:00 p.m.) and Sunday, June 12 (11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.) right after the parade.

***Did you know there
are enough flowers
used on the floats
to send your
mother a dozen
roses, every day,
for 30 years?***

This year take time to appreciate the color and pageantry of the Rose Festival and know that all that color may be coming from the smallest of northwest plants!







**Grand Floral Parade
Saturday June 11, 2011
10:00am
Memorial Coliseum to
Downtown Portland**



The awe and beauty of the floats in the Rose Festival's *Grand Floral Parade* are rivaled only by the fact that every color, texture and detail has its origin in some kind of plant.

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He Promised Us a Rose Garden

And Harry Landers delivers on that promise at Portland's International Rose Test Gardens.

by Judy Alleruzzo



Having a dream and lots of determination got Harry Landers his job with the International Rose Test Garden in Washington Park.

In 1985, Harry, his wife and two sons were in Portland visiting family for the Christmas holidays. Now, of course, Portland in December is cool and rainy, but coming from a Wisconsin winter of 26 degrees below zero, Harry had found Eden. He toured The Rose Garden and felt like he was home. He made a vow to move to Portland and become the head of The Garden.

In 1989, 600 people applied for four open positions at The Rose Garden, and Harry acquired his dream job. His official title is "Botanic Specialist," but Harry thinks of himself as "Curator" of The

Rose Garden. He brought his love of roses and plants and a Horticulture degree from North Dakota University to his new job. Now, North Dakota has only five main species of trees: Box Elder, Cottonwood, Elm, Green Ash and Pin Oak, so he knew his experience with plants would be broadened quite a bit at The Rose Garden!

Harry was taking on a vast responsibility in this new job. The Rose Garden is the oldest continually open, public rose test gardens in the United States. In 1917, one of the original missions of the Rose Garden was to save the roses of Europe. With the Great War raging, many old and established gardens and rose breeding businesses were in trouble. Roses from Europe were sent to several U.S. gardens to be kept safe. These roses were planted

in the area that is now The Rose Garden parking lot. A sturdy fence was erected and secured with a lock.

One rescue story involves the Rosa canina or Dog Rose. A cutting was sent to a U.S. Rose Garden from the original rose that grew over a German cathedral. The cathedral was bombed but the rose survived and rebloomed. That original plant is over 1000 years old. The Rose Garden has an offspring of this rose in The Garden. It was planted as a gift to Mayor Vera Katz. The Dog Rose is aggressive in The Garden. Every five years, Harry's team takes chain saws to trim it. Five truck loads of debris are carted away.

Today, The Rose Garden is one of many rose test gardens across the United States. Harry helps to

evaluate four different programs:

The All-America Rose Selection (AARS) selects the best new rose introductions from rose breeders. 200 roses are planted in the garden for two years. They are evaluated on 14 characteristics including color, habit, foliage, fragrance and disease resistance.

American Rose Society selects the best Mini Roses.

David Austin Roses – The Rose Garden is one of five gardens in the U.S. to evaluate the British company's roses in Portland's climate.

Gold Medal Award selects the best rose introductions. These roses can be seen in the beautiful Gold Medal Garden.

Throughout his tenure as "curator" of the garden, Harry has strived to give the best care to the rose collection and to bring interesting displays and a diverse palette of plants to The Garden. Many years ago, Harry thought of the idea of planting climbing roses at the base of each lamppost in the garden. Visitors are sure to take home that idea to their gardens.

Daffodils are a glorious sight in spring. Masses of bulbs are planted to give The Garden an early splash of color. As a sustainable practice, daffodil bulbs are transplanted from the downtown Transit Center's landscape after they are finished blooming. This recycling of bulbs is a boon to the flower beds of The Rose Garden and The Pittock Mansion.

The Oak Islands in the parking areas are planted with Hosta and other shade-loving plants. The Hosta Society designed and planted these beds to replace the vinca groundcover. These lovely beds enhance the parking areas and are one last pretty sight to see as visitors leave the garden.

Harry believes that new plants



should be added to The Garden every year. New display beds and plants keep the garden interesting. Garden trends change and Harry believes change is good at The Rose Garden. Tropical plants for summer displays are showcased in the warm months.

Among the focal points are:

Princess Flowers - Tibouchina

Taro of all leaf shapes, colors and sizes - Alocasia

Elephant Ears - Colocasia

5 varieties of banana trees

Angel's trumpets - Brugmansia

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These plants are brought out in late spring and then warehoused in greenhouses for winter.

Perennials are wonderful companion plants to roses. While not planted with the roses, Harry saw the perfect place for perennial display beds surrounding the nearby tennis courts. Plant donations from two local growers, Terra Nova Nurseries and Blooming Nursery give year round interest to the area. As with the roses, these plants are evaluated by these two companies.

When asked about what his responsibilities and duties are at the garden, Harry responds, 'Ev-

everything." He has a very limited official staff. "I have one, three-day-a-week person and one two-day-a-week person." The bulk of maintenance is done by dedicated rose loving volunteers and the Multnomah County Community Service people. These groups of people logged in 5923 hours in 2010. Harry is wowed by this number.

Volunteers are trained each year to deadhead roses, lead garden tours, prune, plant and even paint signs for the garden. Those jobs are only the gardening related tasks. Volunteers can also work at helping train volunteers, inventory roses and other behind-the-

scenes jobs. An ongoing project is an official catalogue and inventory of the roses. The unofficial tally, so far, is 9000. The final report is due to be completed in the next year.

One long time volunteer works in the garden every Tuesday. Now that is a wonderful volunteer! Many groups of people dedicate a day a year to work in The Garden. Every Spring, 70 members of The Church of Latter Day Saints, donate a day of their time. Another group of 15 people from OSU are in The Garden planting annual flowers.

Multnomah County is currently using The Rose Garden in their "Clean Slate" program for Community Service. So far, 400 people have gone through this program to clean up their file. They work between eight and 100 hours depending on their situation. When their community service work is completed their record is wiped clean. It's a creative program that benefits the care of the plants at The Rose Garden.

And speaking of creative, that seems to be Harry's middle name. It has to be for such a huge job of taking care of a world class garden. This year he is implementing a way people can support The Rose Garden by renting a rose bed. Rose lovers can donate money for up to two years for the care of a rose bed. A lovely plaque is displayed with the donor's name. All donations go directly to The Rose Garden.

The first project to benefit from this new program is the refurbishing of the lights in the Beach Memorial Fountain dedicated in 1974. This Lee Kelly stainless steel fountain is titled "Water Sculpture". The sculpture was donated by the family of Frank E. Beach who coined the phrase that Portland is "The City of Roses". The return of the lights will restore the original concept of the artwork.

Harry is a busy man with all his



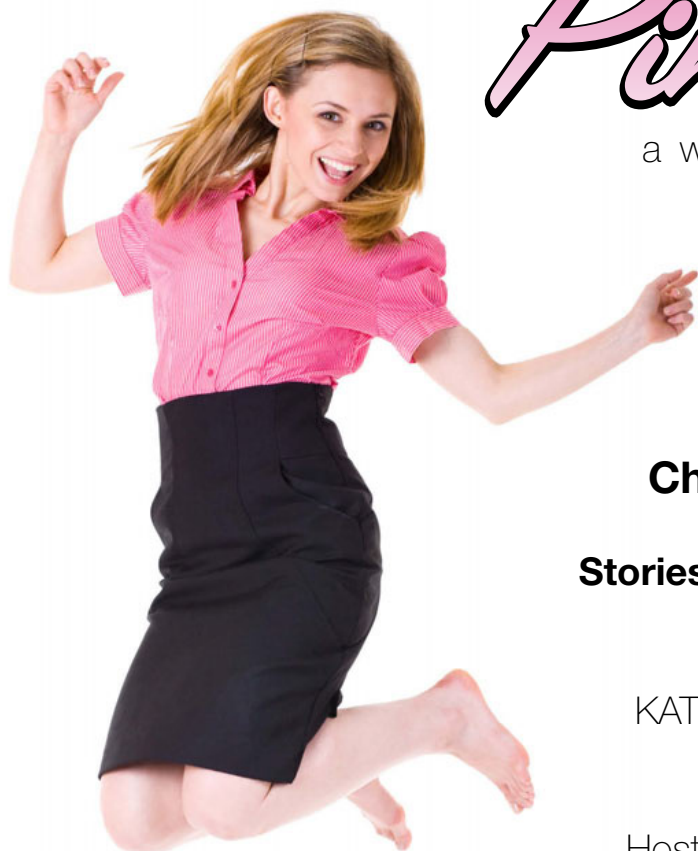


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We all have been affected by the prevalence of breast cancer, and so are very excited about this new event, which will benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation! Join us for a fun weekend!

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responsibilities at The Rose Garden, but his love of all plants trails over to his personal gardens at home.

Harry not only loves roses but has a passion for many types of plants. At one time, his own collection of roses was over 500 plants. Unfortunately, deer and shade from his trees have whittled that number down to 60. (Note: For rose protection against deer, Harry suggests "get a good dog or a good fence!")

He now spreads his love of plants to tropicals, orchids and citrus plants. He has fresh lemons, limes and oranges all year long.

At the time of this interview, Harry is looking forward to sunnier, drier weather and to enjoying the beautiful roses in the garden.

The International Rose Test Garden in Washington Park is definitely a Portland gem. Make a plan to visit this summer. You may even see Harry out walking the paths.

Find more information on
The International Rose Test Garden
www.portlandonline.com

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In the Zone

We all know what a Zonal Geranium is. Don't we?

by Judy Alleruzzo

June is a month of many special days. It's the month when school is out, it's daylight until almost 10 p.m. and it's National Iced Tea month. But really, for us gardeners it's when Geraniums are blooming their little hearts out. The huge clusters of flowers are stunning.

We all love Geraniums. They are pure summer flower tradition. So why am I writing this article? We all know about Geraniums right? Or, do we?

Did you know that the flowering plants we all know as Geraniums are really named Pelargoniums? Yes they are, but that is a story for another magazine issue. Ha!

Really, this article is about Zonal Geraniums. You probably have heard that term and either know what it means, have forgotten what it means or are intimidated to ask what it means at your favorite garden center. I know I was intimidated to ask when I first started to garden. Geraniums are Geraniums, I thought. Well, I was wrong. All Geraniums are not created equal. There is a BIG difference between Zonal and seed Geraniums.

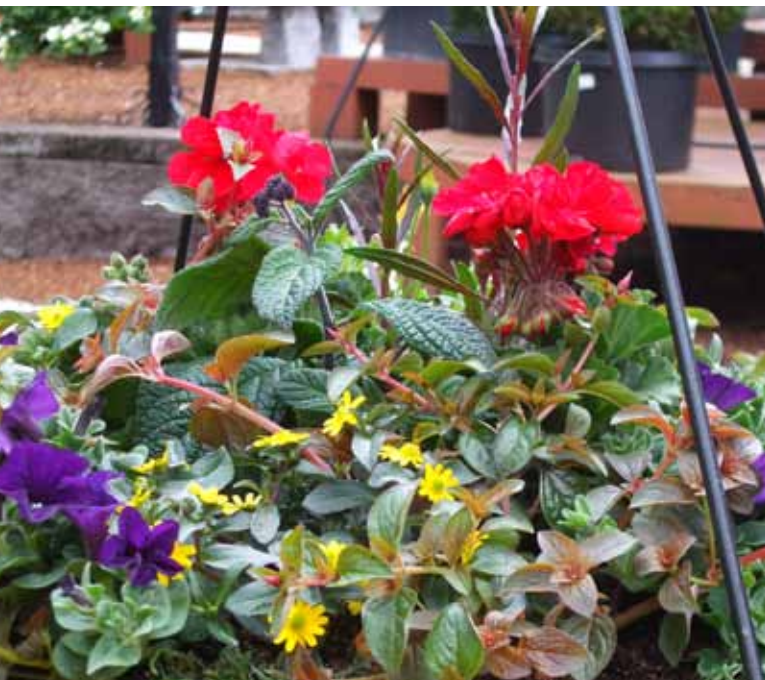
Zonal geraniums are bred to be the best plants for your garden, containers or hanging baskets. They are grown from a cutting and not from seeds. Because they are grown from a cutting they have much more deliberate characteristics that breeders have spent a very long time to achieve.

The breeders have carefully selected the final plants for more flowers, better flower color and size, better plant form and beautiful dark green foliage. To make more of these plants, small pieces of the Geraniums are cut from the 'mother stock' of the variety of Geranium. This is how the exact replica of the plant carries on all the work of the breeders.



A Geranium grown from a seed is like a new born child. The child has qualities from both parents at a very random pattern. Each child in the family does not look exactly like the other siblings. Many times, the same thing happens when a seed is planted. Each plant can be very different from one another as each exhibits specific traits of the parent plant. There is less quality control on the plants produced.

At any of your favorite garden centers, you can find many different varieties of Zonal Geraniums. There are too many favorites to name just one, but I do like a very nice pure white and the deep red-magenta of the two Geraniums pictured here. Many other colors are available such as blue-red, orange-red, salmon, light pink, dark pink and more. There is a Geranium color for every person's tastes.



Zonal Geraniums are the work horses of summer annual flower displays. They have been gracing our gardens and window boxes since the 1700s. Geranium breeders have been working all these years to give us the best plants for us to enjoy.

Oh, I almost forgot, the term 'Zonal' refers to the colored band that appears on Geranium leaves. Wasn't that the point of this article?

I know, I get wordy sometimes!



Care for Zonal Geraniums

6-8 hours of Sun

Keep soil evenly moist

Well drained soil

Deadhead spent blooms for more flower production

Fertilize regularly with a water-soluble fertilizer.

In winter, Geraniums can be kept in a cool place or greenhouse.

You are just keeping the plant from freezing.

Replant in fresh soil in early spring and slowly acclimatize the plants to stay outside all day and night.

Fertilize with a transplant fertilizer and then fertilize regularly, once the plant shows some growth.

Trim back any stretched foliage.

Check for insects.

The road to creating a great backyard entertainment area could be...

Paved with Good Intentions

by Jeff Gustin

The summer will soon be here and it is time to start thinking about outdoor entertaining. If your outdoor entertainment area is lacking, you might be thinking about building a new patio or expanding your current one. One of the first things you may think about is the cost. That becomes the major sticking point for most homeowners and can be pretty daunting if you are trying to cover a large area.

Most homeowners want a patio that will look great and last a long time and for them the answer is brick or concrete pavers. One way to cut down the costs is to install the patio yourself. With a brick or paver patio this can be easy to do. Our neighbors recently installed one in their back yard and even though it was not a quick job, they took their time and were very happy with the result. One of the leaders in

pavers, bricks and masonry is Mutual Materials and they have plenty of on-line help for those who want to tackle this job for themselves. They even have formulas for calculating the number of pavers you will need to get the job done. The measurements will change for each individual type of paver so make sure you check your calculations before you buy.

Some of the tools you will need include a shovel, a level, a hammer or mallet, a chisel, some wooden stakes, string, some way of compacting the soil, a brick cutter or masonry saw, eye protection and gloves. You will be ordering crushed rock, bedding sand and your selected pavers.

To start, you will want to mark out the area for your patio with the wooden stakes and some string. Double check your measurements so you have the right area marked out. Remove the sod with a shovel making sure that you stay about 8 inches below the soil level. This depth is for a standard paver and it may have to be deeper for other pavers



or applications. Take into account a slope (about 1 inch of drop every 4-8 feet). This will allow for drainage and runoff of rainwater. Make sure to drain away from buildings and structures.

Next you will need to fill in 5/8 minus crushed rock and bring it to a level of about 3 ½ inches below the soil line. You will use your compactor to level and stabilize the rock. This part is very important since this will become the base on which you will build your patio. If you are installing an edging material now is when you install the first piece (follow the manufacturer's instructions for anchoring it in the ground).

Once the gravel has been compacted you can add sand and using a couple of 1 x 1 inch boards as a track, place them parallel to each other on the ground. Using a 2 x 4 board level the sand out

between the two 1 inch boards by drawing the 2 x 4 toward you. Then remove the boards and fill in the tracks where they used to be. Don't walk on the sand. This is the base for your pavers so you will want to work in small areas at a time. You will have better control of the placement of the pavers and you can make corrections much easier.

Lay out your pavers in the pattern that you want. Start at a corner of the project and work across multiple rows at a time (forming a triangle in the corner) and work out from there. If you need pavers cut or shortened, use your masonry saw, cutter, or a hammer and chisel to do the job. Remember to wear eye protection and gloves to protect yourself from flying chips. Leave a small space between the pavers (about 1/8 of an inch) to allow for joint sand.



Apply the remaining edging material around the outside as you finish and then spread sand in a thin layer across the surface of the pavers. Sweep the sand in the cracks and then run your compactor across the surface to vibrate the sand into the cracks. Be careful not to allow the compactor to set in one place too long, it can cause cracks in the pavers or make your patio uneven.

Do a final sweep of the sand to make sure all the cracks are filled and remember to keep a little extra in case you lose some due to wind and rain.

You are now finished and you can start using it immediately since you didn't use mortar or cement. This patio installation is ready for everyday use, but is not designed for cars or heavy equipment. For more instructions on different applications you can always check the Mutual Materials website (www.mutualmaterials.com).

You may find that you will spend more time outside and your entertaining will be more enjoyable since you will have a larger patio to entertain guests.

To see some of our stories on installation of a paver walkway and a retaining wall check out these Garden Time stories.

Building a Garden Path
<http://www.youtube.com/v/2yhWkl3biLY>

Easy Retaining Wall
<http://www.youtube.com/v/WPZQFqCRRqY>

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Life is a Bowl of Cherries

Or, at least, it can be, when you plant a tree in your yard.

by *Therese Gustin*

We've all heard the story of George Washington as a boy chopping down his father's cherry tree and then 'fessing up to his misdeed when confronted by his angry father. I question the validity of this story, thinking maybe it was perpetrated by the "peach" industry to get a jump on cherry consumption. Why anyone would want to slow down the production of this sweet-sour versatile fruit escapes me.

Fresh sweet cherries are one of my very favorite summer fruit to snack on and I look forward to their short season every year. The sour or "pie" varieties offer countless ways to enjoy this tart fruity treat beyond its short growing season; simply freeze, can or dry them.

Hood River, Oregon and Eastern



Washington are home to the vast majority of commercial cherry farms in the country. In fact, the Pacific Northwest offers ideal conditions to grow cherries in your own backyard.

Although several varieties can top the 25 foot mark, most cherries are now grown on dwarf or semi-dwarf rootstocks and can be kept more manageable. When choosing a spot to plant your cherry tree make sure the soil has good drainage and the tree gets at least eight hours of sun each day. Sour cherries or "pie" cherries don't require another variety for pollination, but some sweet cherry varieties do, so check with your local independent garden

center or mail order company before choosing a variety.

Our wet springs can encourage a disease called bacterial canker. Symptoms of bacterial canker are dead branches and bronze colored exudation on branches or on the trunk. A fall and winter copper spray is recommended to help prevent damage from this disease. Shot hole fungus is another disease fostered by our wet spring weather. Small brown -to-purplish spots appear on the leaves and eventually drop out leaving a "shot hole" appearance to the leaf. This disease, while unsightly rarely damages the tree. Birds love cherries just as much as humans so you may



need to cover your crop with bird netting when the fruit is close to ripening or just plan on sharing a little of the bounty with our feathered friends!

Although "Bing" is the most well-known sweet cherry variety, there are many other varieties that are as tasty and grow well in this area. My favorite is a yellowish pink variety named "Ranier". Check out One Green World's online catalog (www.onegreenworld.com) for varieties that thrive in the Pacific Northwest.

Cherries offer year round interest in a landscape; the beautiful pinkish white blossoms in the spring, the colorful abundant summer fruit, the soft yellowish orange leaves in the fall and even the stunning reddish bronze bark with horizontal markings that stand out on a winter's day. So add one of these beauties to your landscape.

"I cannot tell a lie"...cherries are the "bomb".

Cherry Sauce

½ cup sugar

2 tablespoons cornstarch

½ cup water

2 cups fresh or frozen pitted tart cherries

**1 tablespoon of cherry liqueur,
cherry brandy or orange juice**

A few drops of red food coloring (optional)

In a medium saucepan, stir together sugar and cornstarch; stir in water. Add cherries. Cook and stir over medium heat until thickened and bubbly. Cook and stir for 2 minutes more. Remove saucepan from heat. Stir in liqueur and, if desired, food coloring. Serve warm or cooled to room temperature over frozen vanilla yogurt or ice cream.

(Cover and chill any leftovers for up to 3 days.)

Recipe from the New Better Homes and Gardens Cook Book

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Making a Clean Getaway

fusion
tip of the month

Spring cleaning will always be a chore. But a few tips and a little discipline will maximize your time and minimize your effort.

by Robin Burke/Fusion Co-Host

A wet, cloudy weekend isn't exactly the best time to move the furniture out to deep clean the carpet. You may have gotten motivated enough to clean out the linen closet, but even that's pushing it.

So, with all the spring rain we've had, there's a good chance you let your Spring Cleaning slip by this year. Well, not so fast! There's a saying that actually grates on my nerves but, applies here: "Git 'er done"! Putting off the inevitable will only leave you with a dusty, dirty, cluttered home. Who wants that? Not you, and frankly, not your guests. (In-laws anyone?)

Here are some tips to get you started:

Make a playlist. Seriously, why not have some good music to get you going, and keep you motivated?

Open some windows and let the fresh air in!

Then, get into your comfy old clothes. Pull your hair back, if you have any, and make sure you can't hear the computer ding with new emails (that gets me every time).

Have handy all the tools and supplies you'll need. (Cleaning solutions, micro fiber cloths, paper towels, tile scrubber.)

If you want to enlist the entire family, go for it. Give specific jobs to each person. If necessary, set a timer. Twenty minutes per task should be enough for kids. Then announce it's time to move onto the next thing. It's helpful for adults, too. For example, set a timer for 45 minutes to clean out the refrigerator, then, move on to the next task. You don't want to get bogged down doing one

thing. Keep up the momentum!

Clutter:

Cleaning experts always say, "Get rid of the clutter, first". No sense in cleaning off your kitchen counter to scrub it down, just to put all that junk right back on top of it.

Start in the main living areas like the kitchen and family room. Remain focused! Now is not the time to "ooh and ah" over art projects from three months ago, or read that article you've been meaning to finish. Important paperwork that still has to be dealt with should be put in a place designated for important paperwork. You'll get to that later. And, unless the clutter is all yours, everyone should help with this first step.

Windows:

Someone's got to do them! Not just the glass, but the window coverings, too. Do the entire house, before you move on to the next task.

Curtains and valances, depending on the fabric, can be gently vacuumed with a brush attachment, removed and shaken out, or laundered by you or by a professional.

Wood blinds can easily be wiped down with a microfiber cloth.

Metal blinds, if not too heavy, can be removed and dunked in a bathtub full of water and a small amount of cleaning solution or distilled white vinegar. Dry on old towels and re-hang.

For glass, spray on a mixture of equal parts water and distilled white vinegar, and wipe clean with newsprint. Yes, it's old fashioned, but it still works! You could also use a small squeegee.

Open windows and clean out the frame.

Wipe down windowsills.

Get the Cobwebs Out:

Move around the house with a clean broom or duster with a long handle and grab those cobwebs on the ceiling, in the corners and along the walls. You don't always notice them, but they're there.

Wipe down baseboards and ceiling moldings.

Carpet:

This is the one job I leave to the professionals. But, if you are a determined do-it-yourselfer, and don't own a carpet shampooer,

do some research before you rent one. Make sure you get the best machine for the job. Remember, this can be a half-day job so, don't expect to get a lot of your other cleaning accomplished.

Spot clean in a pinch.

Kitchen:

Clean oven; or start the self-clean option.

Clean stovetop, including burner covers and wells.

Clean out all expired food from refrigerator, freezer, pantry and cupboards. Don't forget spices and oils, too.

Wash shelves and drawers of refrigerator and wipe down inside with soapy water. Wipe down cabinets and appliances.

Clean out microwave.

Clean out utensil tray.

Clear off counters and seal if ap-

plicable.

Wash out trashcan.

My mom always pulled out the stove and the refrigerator and cleaned behind them. I don't advise this unless you have help, and are assured you won't scratch the flooring.

Wipe down table and chair legs.

Family/Living Room:

Remove cushions from furniture and vacuum. If possible, wash throw pillows.

Carefully dust lampshades.

Clean out fireplace.

Dust everything.

Bedroom:

Wash all bedding, including comforters, duvet covers, bedspreads and pillows. Vacuum under the beds, nightstands and dressers.



You can find more
Fusion tips, recipes
and streaming videos
on our website,
www.FusionNW.com.

Remove everything from the floor of closet and vacuum/sweep.

Bath:

Clean tile and re-grout around tub/shower if necessary. Wash bath mats.

Go through medications and beauty products and responsibly discard expired items.

Wash out trashcan.

Miscellaneous:

Wipe clean all light fixtures and ceiling fans.

If you have a china cabinet, remove everything and clean or dust.

Wipe down electronics, including television screens with appropriate cleaner.

Touch up wall paint and trim.

Outdoors:

Clean doormats.

Take off window screens and spray off dirt with hose. Let dry before replacing.

Clean windows – if you do that sort of thing.

Clean grill, inside and out.

Clean outdoor light fixtures.

Wash out trashcans and recycling bins.

Clean outdoor furniture.

Whew!

This may be an overwhelming list for some, and only scratching the surface for others. If you're the former, go ahead and pick and choose what you feel is top priority and go from there. If you accomplish all, or even part of this list, pat yourself on the back, host a summer party, or better yet, pop the top off a cold brew of choice and relax. You got 'er done!

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(You never saw so many saws.)

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PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town

Music, Food, Wine & ROSES!

Saturday & Sunday June 4 & 5, 2011 • 9:00am - 5:00pm
Heirloom Roses, St. Paul, Oregon

Judy and William from the Garden Time TV Show • St. Josef's Winery • Pheasant Run Winery • N&M Herb Nursery • Pacific Hazelnut Farms • Rio Con Brio • Sophisticated Beads • Lou & Dorothy Tedeschi Cedar Planter Boxes • Barbeque

What to do in the Veggie Garden: June & July **Sunday June 5, 2011 • 1:00pm**

Portland Nursery, Portland, OR (Division St.)

Discover what to do in the veggie garden for the months of June & July! Polly Gottesman of Pumpkin Ridge Gardens, who has farmed year-round in the Northwest for 20 years, will talk about the ideal crops to plant and harvest, important garden tasks (cover cropping, watering, mulching, fertilizing, etc.), and the various undesirable pests that might be patrolling your garden.

Friday Night Thunder

Friday, June 10, 2011 • 6:00pm-7:00pm

Al's Garden Center, Sherwood, OR

Come by and watch as 200 classic cars drive through Al's parking lot participating in "Friday Night Thunder," the kick-off for Cruisin' Sherwood. Stop by and watch as classic cars from as far back as the '30s drive by and get warmed up for Cruisin' Sherwood 2011.

Companion Plants

Saturday, June 11, 2011 • 10:00am

Al's Garden Center, Woodburn, OR

Attend this class and learn how to interplant vegetables and flowers and herbs to attract beneficial insects. Learn which plants make effective companions.

Moonlight in the Gardens

Thursday June 16, 2011 • 6:00pm

Garland Nursery

Join us for this special Members Only Event and Sale. Membership is free and sign up is available at the event. Celebrate the Strawberry Moon as you stroll through the beautiful gardens enjoying delicious food, great wine and unbeatable sales. Food and for purchase.

Petal Pedal

Saturday June 18, 2011

Oregon Garden Silverton

A fully supported century ride that begins and ends at the Garden with 30, 68, and 100 mile routes. Register at pet-

alpedal.com. Admission: \$70 per person. Includes breakfast at registration and a salmon dinner upon completion with food and all the necessities provided along the route.

Chef in the Garden: Cooking With Fresh Herbs

Sunday June 19, 1:00pm-3:00pm

Farmington Gardens

Herbs are culinary stars all over the globe, because they add a vibrancy and freshness to any dish. Whether your culinary preference leans toward Thai, Indian or Mexican, you can kick it up a notch with herbs you grow yourself. Dan will cook up a fresh herb frittata, rosemary-skewered lamb, a pesto medley of cilantro, basil, and arugula, as well as strawberry-mint lemonade. This class is being offered only through Portland Community College; to register, go to: <http://www.pcc.edu/community/schedule/print-schedule.html>.

Special Weekend Event: Pink Days, benefiting the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. There will be classes and demonstrations, food, wine tasting, live music, children's activities, and more. All benefiting a great cause!

Freezer Jam Making Class

Saturday June 25, 2011

Bauman Farm

Ever wanted to know how to make your own jam? Well here is your chance to learn, the recipe we use for the class is the Bauman Family recipe...the one we all enjoyed growing up as kids. It's quick, easy, and tastes amazing!

11th Annual McMinnville Garden Tour and Faire

Sunday June 28, 2011

10:00am-4:00pm (tour) 9:00am-4:00pm (faire)

Downtown McMinnville, OR

The five selected gardens on this year's tour have been chosen for their individuality and their unique characteristics. Southwestern flavor, formal English gardens, a natural ravine, edible landscaping, and gorgeous hanging baskets are all featured this year. The ticket price is a suggested donation of \$10.00 and is tax deductible. Tickets: see the Garden Club website, <http://mcminnvillegardenclub.org>. The Garden Faire will be held in historic downtown McMinnville on Cows Street between 2nd and 4th Streets (one block off Hwy 99W). Admission to the Garden Faire is FREE.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar
www.gardentime.tv/events.htm



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