

August 2016

# garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

## Villa Catalana Another World



**Butterfly Sprayer**

**Raising Backyard Chickens**

**NOWLENS BRIDGE PERENNIALS'**

**Donna Krieg**

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## Who Let the Dogs Out?

The summer is in full swing and it looks like the heat has finally arrived. That means the Dog Days of Summer are here. Now, a lot of people think that the dog days refer to the heat and that the days are ones that would make a dog lazy. Actually, they refer to the sultry days of summer in the northern hemisphere that coincide with the appearance of the Orion's dog, the dog star Sirius in the constellation 'Canis Major'. Depending on your reference material, these days are meant to last from sometime in mid-July to the beginning of September. I heard one forecaster predicting that long range models are showing no significant rain until September 12th. Dog days indeed!

For the gardener, we can shout 'who let the dogs out'? The heat is starting to take a toll on all your landscape plants. Wilt-ing plants, sun burned foliage, and stressed leaves changing into their fall colors are all signs we have to be on the lookout for at this time. I swear that some of the plants look like they are panting, begging for water, with their drooping leaves. All we can do is to protect them from too much sun (by moving them into the shade if possible) and watch for signs of thirst. Speaking of dogs, make sure your family pets are getting proper hydration as well as yourself if you wander out in this heat.

This month we have a group of hot stories! Robin shares a new tool with us called the 'Butterfly Sprayer'. This is a new garden gadget that converts from a handheld spray nozzle into a stand-alone sprinkler. It looks like a good tool to keep those plants cool and hydrated. If you are looking for water of the edible kind, Sarah investigates the old summer favorite, watermelon. This signature fruit of the summer has its own rules for growing and Sarah shares some tips to help you be successful. Finally, we take a gander at raising backyard birds, specifically chickens. This has become the 'hot' trend for the home gardener. This is considered a win/win for most people. You get a pet that will help get rid of slugs and pests, fertilize your garden and provide you with fresh eggs, but be prepared for disappointment if you're not up to scratch! These are not easy birds to raise and the cost/reward model may make you think twice before you bring these chicks home to roost.

The summer is the time to rest, relax and not do much outside in the yard, unless you need to. If you do need to get out in the garden, do it in the morning hours when the sun isn't so hot, that will help keep your 'dogs' from barking.

Also, if you are thinking ahead and you love the heat, don't forget our Garden Time Tour to Hawaii coming up in February. Check out the 'Tours' page on the Garden Time website for details.

**Happy Gardening,**  
**Jeff Gustin, Publisher**

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## In this issue...

### Villa Catalana

adventures....pg. 4

### Raising Backyard Chickens

backyard....pg. 8

### Butterfly Sprayer

got to have it....pg. 12

### Watermelon

eats....pg. 16

### Donna Krieg

hortie....pg. 20

### Garage Organization

home....pg. 24

### August Gardening

wtditg....pg. 28

### Gardening Events

play time....pg. 30

# Another World

The Art in the Garden Party at Villa Catalana will transport you to another time and country.

by Judy Alleruzzo



you arrive. Please no outside food or beverages. Join us and get inspired!"

The Conservatory and Gardens of Villa Catalana are a plant geek's Nirvana. They are a collection of beautiful and unusual plants. In the past, Burl traveled extensively to many areas of the world collecting seeds. Other cool plants were found in the states and grown in his greenhouses. The huge tropical Bromeliads in the garden beds are really on summer vacation from their winter greenhouse protection. When Burl decided he needed large Olive trees to frame the Villa, he sourced the ancient looking trees from an olive producer in California. He dug them and loaded them on a flat bed truck to transport to his garden. The effect is stunning. A plantsman just can't start every plant from cuttings!

And then there are the plants in the Wine Tasting Room. I asked Burl about the collection of these plants. He told me, "Our tasting

We all love to travel to exotic places, but sometimes that is just not possible. What is possible is a visit to the special place called Villa Catalana in Oregon City. Villa Catalana is the home and winery of owners Burl and Cindy Mostul.

They began building this beautiful home in 2007 to 2008. As Burl states, "We did all the work ourselves with unskilled labor including our own. We used a contractor to put the tile roof on and do the internal framing and sheet rock."

The August event that showcases this amazing Villa and landscape is the Art In The Garden Party, happening on August 20th, 5:30 to 9pm. You will just feel transported to another time and coun-

try while strolling the gardens, having a glass of wine, observing Plein Aire Artists and tasting the delightful buffet offerings from Chef Dan Clark. Delicious gourmet ice cream will be available from Jared Goodman of Morgan St Theater. The reservation entry cost is \$10 and can be made through PayPal on their website, [www.villacatalanacellars.com](http://www.villacatalanacellars.com).

The Buffet is \$18 and wine can be purchased separately after entering the event. Burl and Cindy love to invite visitors to their home and winery. He said, "We strive to make this event affordable for almost every budget so this is a pay-as-you-go event. If you want dinner or beverages, you can order and pay for that after



**Cindy Mostul**

room is our rare plant conservatory. The plants in the conservatory come mostly from South Africa, Mexico and Madagascar, but some come from other tropical areas. Most of the plants I raised from seed or cuttings. Some I purchased from other nurseries as small plants." As you can see the results of this work is astounding. Rare Plant Research, Burl's Nursery is also on the property. The Nursery is home to many interesting plants that he sells to local garden centers and during Open Nursery weekends. It is not open on this day, but check their website for contact information.

And yes, I'm finally getting to the wide assortment of wine to taste at Villa Catalana Cellars. Burl is the wine grape grower and wine maker and a very talented one at that! "We grow Pinot Gris and Pinot Noir and buy the rest of our grapes. It allows us to make wines



**Burl Mostul**

# Where Will a Capitol Subaru Take You?



## Local Events August 2016

### Art in the Garden

**Thru September 30, 2016**

**The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR**

Art in the Garden, presented by Capitol Subaru, features stunning art installations in the Garden throughout the summer. We will feature pieces from ten artists, with four pieces being built specifically for The Oregon Garden. All pieces are available for sale.

• [www.oregongarden.org](http://www.oregongarden.org)

### Jewel Box Plant Sale

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 • 9:00am-3:00pm**

**Sebrights Gardens, Salem, OR**

Stop in and pick out some gems from the hand picked selections of CNT Members, all in one place for your shopping delight! Tour Sebright's spectacular gardens and shop their huge variety of hostas and companion plants. Honeywood Winery will be offering tasting & sales and Country Chick Creations will have delicious food to purchase.

• [www.cascadenurserytrail.com](http://www.cascadenurserytrail.com)

### Tomato Festival

**Saturday, August 27, 2016 • 11:00am-2:00pm**

**Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR**

Tomato and pepper tasting, tomato contest, tomato education, kid's zone, master gardeners Q&A and staff favorite tomato recipes.

• [www.farmingtongardens.com](http://www.farmingtongardens.com)



[capitolsubaru.com](http://capitolsubaru.com)

from grapes that will not grow in the cool Willamette Valley.

Wines available in the Tasting Room Conservatory:

2013 Pinot Noir

2014 Pinot Noir

2014 Pinot Gris

2013 Syrah, Villa Catalana Red Blend  
(66% Cabernet 33% Syrah)

2015 Grenache Rose

2015 Chardonnay

Burl also experimented with a fortified wine liquor made from berries he grows at Villa Catalana. It was a natural addition to his wine making as Oregon is so known for cane berries. Burl says, "The Cascade Berry Fortified Wine Liquor is made from the Cascade berry that is a hybrid between our native trailing blackberry and loganberry. Hardly anyone raises it anymore because it turns to juice very quickly. The flavor is the best of the blackberries. It received a gold medal at the 2015 San Francisco Chronicle Wine



There's still time to order, still  
time to plant...



If you are otherwise busy for The Art in The Garden Party, Villa Catalana Cellars is open for wine tastings each Saturday, 1 to 4 pm. Wine Tasting fee is \$10, with \$5 refunded with a wine purchase.



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Competition.”

All in all, this multi faceted evening at Villa Catalana seems like an ideal summer outing. Satisfy your travel bug and stay local this month by visiting Villa Catalana on August 20th. An evening of seeing beautiful paintings, tasting new varietals of wine and strolling an astounding landscape and gardens is to not be missed.

You'll think you were overseas and you didn't even need your passport!

### Villa Catalana

11900 S Criteser Rd  
Oregon City, OR 97045

[www.villacatalanacellars.com](http://www.villacatalanacellars.com)

### Rare Plant Research

[www.rareplantresearch.com](http://www.rareplantresearch.com)

## Available Now! **Garden Time Flowers**

In honor of Garden Time, three brand-new flowers have been named in our honor. The *Garden Time Tulip* is available through Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm. The *Garden Time Dahlia* comes from Swan Island Dahlias and the *Garden Time Rose* was introduced by Heirloom Roses.



**Garden Time Tulip**



**Garden Time Dahlia**



**Garden Time Rose**

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**Garden Time**

# Coming Home to Roost

Raising Chickens in Your Own Backyard • by Sarah Gustin

The idea of raising backyard chickens has gained a lot of momentum in recent years! It's a great compromise for those who want or need to live in the city and still want the rewarding experience of raising hens for farm fresh eggs. Owning chickens is very involved, and can have some icky components, but once your coop is established, your flock can be giving you the gift of fresh eggs daily!

If you are considering raising backyard chickens, you will need to begin by investigating your local policies and regulations about chicken ownership. Portland will allow you to keep up to 3 chickens with no permit. Salem also does not require a permit for up to 6 chickens, provided the living quarters for your chickens fall within their parameters. Smaller cities like Tualatin and Sherwood tend to require permits for any chickens. Most cities in Oregon will not allow you to keep roosters because of the noise. Laws, fees, and permitting can vary widely and is dependent upon your location. You will need to do some research before buying your chicks.

And you will probably need to buy chicks. Older birds that are already laying are much harder to come by and more expensive than purchasing chicks, and they aren't as cute! Many farm supply stores will have a schedule for when you can purchase chicks, how many will be available, and the breed. Your chicks will need to be kept in an open box with a red heat lamp, bedding, chick feed, and clean water. You'll need to very closely moni-

tor your chicks for health issues. With chickens, one sick bird can quickly spread disease to all the birds in your flock. When the chicks are young, keep the heat lamp close. If you notice your chicks are huddling together they may be too cold. As the chicks begin to feather and grow you will need to move the heat further out, eventually creating hot and cold zones. After a few months you can move your now not-so-little chicks out to your



PHOTO CREDIT: JOHN HERESHELL VIA FLICKR



coop.

You will need the space for a coop and a run. This website (<http://www.backyardchickens.com/a/small-chicken-coop-designs-pictures-of-chicken-coops>) has oodles of pictures and plans for all kinds of coops, so you could build your own at home. Of course there are always places online or at supply stores that will sell you a kit. Though designing your own coop can be very fun and rewarding, a proper coop requires some very specific features. Ventilation, chicken doors, people (egg collecting/coop cleaning) doors and possible wiring for extra winter-time lighting (which may help counteract the winter laying lull that you will experience) are just a few. Your chickens will need a waterer and one or two food troughs depending on how many chickens you have.

Icky part number one: chickens are stinky! If you've designed your coop and run well (or chosen a good design), you'll be able to give your coop the weekly cleaning it needs. Replacement bedding can usually be purchased at the same place you purchased your chicks. Even with regular cleaning though, they are still a barnyard animal. With the authentic farm-fresh eggs comes

the authentic farm-fresh smell.

Icky part number two: chickens can be brutal creatures! Never use a white heat lamp for your chicks. A red lamp won't show blood, and if chicks see blood, they will attack. Be thoughtful when creating your run; give the chickens too little space and they will begin to pick at each other. You may also have a chicken that grows up to be an egg eater. Collecting eggs immediately before they can be crushed and clean-

ing egg remnants out of the coop will help prevent it, but once a chicken begins eating eggs they are unlikely to stop and will begin breaking eggs to eat them. Which lead us too....

Icky part number three: you will probably have to kill a chicken, or at least watch one die. Chickens will live for less than a decade, and the older they get, the less they will produce for you. After they stop being productive layers you have a choice: keep them as a pet for a few more years until they pass of old age (risking sickness that may contaminate the rest of your flock), or have chicken and dumpling soup. Chickens also make easy prey for neighborhood predators like raccoons, foxes, skunks, and your pet Fido. Design your coop with buried fencing to deter these diggers that would do your precious chickens harm.

Making the decision to raise chickens requires time, money, commitment, and quite a bit of research. Before you go out and buy some adorable chicks, get all of your questions answered by the experts! Head to the Urban Farm Store (<https://www.urban->



You've read it, now watch it! Garden Time has done several stories about raising your own urban chickens:

**Urban Chickens - April 22, 2011**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IURZe28S4ro>

**Urban Chickens - May 12, 2010**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F10FROPaoac>



farmstore.com/) or Linnton Feed & Seed in Portland, where they can answer any questions and help you get started with your own backyard barnyard.

**For some legal mumbo-jumbo about raising chickens visit:**

Portland: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/362065>

Vancouver: <https://www.clark.wa.gov/community-development/urban-livestock-and-chickens>

Salem: <http://www.cityofsalem.net/Departments/CommunityDevelopment/Planning/Documents/Land%20Use%20App%20process%20packets/Chickens%20-%20Resource%20Guide.pdf>

Eugene: <http://www.eugene-or.gov/2389/Farm-Animals-Urban-Animal-Keeping>

Always contact your city's representative and familiarize yourself with local policy before getting chickens for your home.



# Garden Time Tours

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TRIP BOOKED THROUGH



# The Butterfly Effect

No, it probably won't change the future, but it *will* change the way you water your garden.

By Robin Burke

Gadgets, gizmos, and doodads are all strangely enticing to the American consumer. Consider the rise and fall of the selfie stick, the iWatch and the hoverboard.

But, what if the selfie stick wasn't so silly, the iWatch not so redundant and, the hoverboard not so combustible? Each one may have graduated from a gimmick to a tool of the trade. Perhaps those gadgets that survive to sell another year, do so because they don't outlive their usefulness.

## A New Kind of Nozzle

Here's where we talk about the "Butterfly Sprayer". Admittedly, the name is a bit gimmicky, but the product is getting good reviews and falling into the "tool" category for some.

In a nutshell, it's a handheld spray nozzle



that easily converts to a sprinkler.

The “Butterfly” is a product of Radius Garden, known for ergonomically designed gardening tools. This is the first thing most people notice about the Butterfly.

“Mainly I like the handle, especially for someone with arthritis,” says backyard gardener Darlene Halperin. “It does feel good in your hand and, it’s light.”

Besides weighing in under a pound, the major plus of the Butterfly is there’s no squeezing. The water is released by an easy-slide button, so your hand doesn’t become over-worked when watering for long periods of time.

That’s important to gardeners like Halperin who spend up to four hours a day watering two acres of flowers, shrubs, grass and two vegetable gardens.

“The light spray easily waters the pots on my deck, too, without damaging the blooms,” Halperin notes.

There are a total of nine spray patterns, from jet stream to gentle rain. Changing them is easy with a dial that turns, revealing a different icon on the top of the nozzle for each spray pattern. Seven of the adjustable patterns are for the handheld nozzle. Two patterns are for the conversion to a sprinkler head.

“As a sprinkler, it’s surprisingly stable for how light it is,” says Halperin, “And, you don’t have



to adjust it several times it to make sure it doesn't flip over."

Hidden along the handle are two "wings" that easily flip out to act more like legs, actually. They hold the nozzle upright to be used as a stand-alone sprinkler. No need to unscrew the nozzle and then replace it with another sprinkler.

The two pattern variations in this position are 360-degrees or 180-degrees. Perfect to cover a large portion of lawn (up to 870 square feet) or a smaller side yard when you don't want to also water the driveway or the side of the house.

The two-in-one function is the main selling point of the Butterfly, but surprisingly, really just the cherry on top. The spray nozzle itself is a good product for knocking down cobwebs, washing the car and, watering prized plants and flowers.

The one tip to mention when using this product is to slide the button to the off position when you change the spray pattern. If you don't, the nozzle will naturally leak. The water has to go somewhere when you switch between settings if you leave it on.

If you aren't sold, yet, then you should know this gizmo also comes in purple.

*The 2-in-1 Butterfly Nozzle and Sprinkler is available at Drake's 7 Dees Garden Center and online at [www.radiusgarden.com](http://www.radiusgarden.com) and [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).*





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# Check Out These Melons!



**You can still have juicy smiles in late summer.**

**by Sarah Gustin**

I was the champ you guys. Undefeated to this day. With juice running down my chin I spat that seed all the way across the yard. No need to check, no need to measure, all of the neighborhood kids saw. Now watermelons are mostly seedless, and have been bred to have thin rinds to save on weight costs. Kids these days will never know the joy of a good old-fashioned seed spittin' contest. Luckily though, with love, care, and hard work, you can grow watermelons and still

have juicy smiles in late summer.

Watermelons originate from Africa, where the high temperatures and long summer makes the conditions ideal for them. Watermelons came to the American south with slaves, and became incredibly popular, even though they are difficult to grow. Some varieties were so coveted, that people would poison or electrocute some of their melons to deter thieves.

Unfortunately our summers in the Pacific Northwest do not resemble the summers in the south or in Africa. To be successful growing melons here we need to make a few adjustments away from just putting seeds in the ground.

First, there is the cross pollination risk. You'll need to plant your watermelons far from other melons or gourds. Watermelons will very easily pollinate with plants that they shouldn't, and create hybrids that may be dangerous to eat.

When you find that patch, make sure it has plenty of space for vines to ramble. Check your seed packet for the specifics, but most plants require about 20 square feet per plant.

Next, you need to consider your variety. In the Willamette Valley we need to be cautious and choose a very hardy variety that is tolerant of lower soil temperatures. Head to your local garden store and ask the experts to guide you toward the right seeds for your area.

Watermelons require very warm soil temperatures to be successful, and have a very, very long growing season (around 90 days or longer). Plant your seeds in peat pots and start them indoors in early May, and wait until soil temperatures rise to 60-70 degrees to transplant only the strongest looking starts (probably June). To up your odds of success, you can use plastic mulch or a garden cover to keep your soil temperature at an optimal level.

Then you must water and wait. Use a drip system to avoid getting water on the leaves and to prevent overwatering. Overwatering can lead to bland melons. The growing season will again, depend on the variety you've chosen, but in general you will not be picking melons until late August or September.

Though it may take some extra work, growing melons in the Pacific Northwest can be incredibly rewarding. A home-grown melon will always taste sweeter and more flavorful than anything you can buy in a store. Though I wouldn't recommend poisoning them. That may ruin your seed spittin' contest.



# Refreshing Watermelon Mojito



This drink tastes best when you take your time and make the drinks one at a time.

Makes one Mojito

**1 Tbs. Sugar**

**4-5 Mint leaves**

**3-4 One inch cubes of watermelon**

**Ice**

**About 4 oz. of clear rum**

**1 lime wedge**

Add sugar and mint leaves to a glass and muddle (I just used a spoon to press the leaves into the sugar). You'll know you're done when the sugar looks damp from the mint oils. Add the cubes of watermelon and muddle in with the mint and sugar, crushing the melon (some chunks remaining is ok). Add 2-3 cubes of ice, splash rum (about 1 oz, or a half shot) over the ice, and use your spoon to "stir" the ingredients. Pull the spoon up and down the side of the glass in short movements to mix. When the ice is partially melted, add a few more cubes and another splash of rum, and mix again. Continue 2 more times. Garnish with a lime wedge.



# Cascade Nursery Trail

*Follow the trail for a plant adventure...*



## Jewel Box 4th Annual Plant Sale

Saturday, August 20, 2016

9 am to 3 pm

Sebright Gardens  
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Find our group of specialty nurseries in one great place. Plus a whole lot more!

Stop in, buy a tasty lunch from Country Chick Creations, sip some wine from Honeywood Winery, tour the fabulous acres and acres of Sebright Gardens and discover plant gems and jewels for your garden!



Visit [www.CascadeNurseryTrail.com](http://www.CascadeNurseryTrail.com) for details  
*Follow the trail for a plant adventure...*

# Bridge to Tomorrow

**For Donna Krieg, her  
yesterdays built the path  
to today...and she's just  
getting started.**

**by William McClenathan**

So few of us in Horticulture actually started out thinking we were going to be in this industry. This month's Hortie, Donna Krieg of Nowlens Bridge Perennials, is a classic example.

Her degree was a bachelor in English and Education, with a Masters in Education. It was not long after her graduation that, like so many others who work so hard to get their degrees, she realized this was not her passion. But she found one of her passions in the form of a tall, handsome man named Jim. Considering that they are in their 49th year of marriage, I suspect her passion was true.

But that still did nothing for her personal ideals about what she wanted to do.

And as all of us generally have to work to make money, she and Jim started raising turkeys. It was a good life for just over 20 years. They had the land and Jim had the skills plus they grew turkeys for Nor-Best right here in Oregon. Being like so many Agriculture folks are, they had to consider what to do going forward. Jim opted to grow sheep, having a lot of lambs currently.

**Donna Krieg in shade area.**

But Donna still felt unsure of what she should do.

She considered creating some kind of clothing line by utilizing her sewing skills, something she is very good at. But realized that to make money, she needed to be much faster at sewing than she was. Then, as life so often does, she found a new path.

Donna went to work at a nursery. At one, she learned some basic concepts; how to water properly (I say it all the time...it is a SKILL to water properly!), seed planting, proper fertilization, and yes...even weeding.

At the second one, she learned about tissue samples and hybridization, even those these things were not her job, she paid attention, because it intrigued her.

I asked her why it intrigued her. She said, "Because it reminded me of sewing. Each time I sew, something new and different appeared, something I created. Working with plants in the way I did at these two nurseries seemed similar to me like sewing did. Nothing had really intrigued me before, but plants did".

Everything in the Universe has a beginning. Everything starts somewhere, somehow.

For Donna, and her future nursery, this was the fertile soil which the seeds of her future were planted.

And boy howdy, did they sprout!

This new found passion was further cared for by a friend she would assist when she went to markets and plant sales. As Donna assisted her more often, Donna's new found passion became stronger. Not only in the sense of the plants themselves, but also in the idea of growing her own plants. Finding unusual ones...maybe...even starting her own nursery.

And start it she did. In 2000, Nowlens Bridge Perennials was planted.

Since then, Donna has created a nursery which totally reminds me of the ones from long ago. Her products and choices are unique. Her selections are hard to find elsewhere and gloriously grown.

Some varieties are old and oft forgotten, but many are new and current. All are amazing.

I asked her what she saw in the future. Her response was that as she got older, she has become more enamored with trees and shrubs. Then she smiled her adorable smile and said it might be also because it is harder to bend down and prune the perennials she so loves. The maintenance of trees and shrubs was easier.

I fully understood her!

In fact, she is taking a trip to Canada soon with a friend to scout out more unusual trees and shrubs to begin growing.

When asked what unforeseen



Donna Nowlens in greenhouse.

**Nowlens Bridge  
Perennials**

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Molalla, OR 97038**

**(503) 829-8448**

**[www.nowlensbridge  
perennials.com](http://www.nowlensbridgeperennials.com)**



challenges she faced, the answer was simple. Weather. She had not prepared herself for winter and the tragic effects a normal winter season could have on plants in containers.

We live, we learn.

Donna still stays true to her original ideals in business. She had from the start wanted to supply customers with plants which could not easily be found anywhere. Plants which the common gardener could afford to purchase to enhance their own gardens. It does seem though that in every life path, at least some rain must fall.

Just under a year ago, Donna was diagnosed with Lymphoma. It tells you volumes about this amazing horticulturist, that to her, the biggest frustration is that it has forced her to slow down.

During our interview, Donna said two things which stuck in my mind and heart. One was that her first time to get her medication after she left the hospital, she was amazed at the amount of people with the same cancer...and how worse off so many of them appeared to be. So much so, that she felt guilty for being so much better off than they were.

The second one was that she felt such guilt for thinking a few months before her diagnoses that she had

never had anything really ever bad happen to her health wise.

I realized as she shared these things why I thought so very highly of her. Even with her own life being dealt a tragic blow, she still cared more for the suffering and heartache of others. Priceless.

My final question was what were her current expectations?

She responded by saying, "I just want to feel like I am successful in my own eyes". When I asked her if she did, her response was immediate. "Yes".

#### **Authors Note.**

Nowlens Bridge Perennials is an hour's drive from Portland one way. Also, please call for an appointment. It is worth it, if for no other reason than to get to meet Donna and see her amazing plants.

**[www.nowlensbridgeperennials.com](http://www.nowlensbridgeperennials.com)**

If the drive is simply too much, you may also purchase a selection of her plants at Drake's 7 Dee's on Scholl's Ferry Rd.

**[www.drakes7dees.com](http://www.drakes7dees.com)**



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# Where Clutter Goes to Die

Some people actually park their car in the garage. Here's how you can organize yours.

by David Musial



Organizing the Garage: Before...

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.GLUTTERMAGIC.ORG

When I informed my wife that my current article was on garage organization, she gave me the look. You know the look... "Seriously, you? What do you know about garage organization?" I'll tell you what I know; almost 33% of all garage owners can't park their car in the garage. I am obviously in good company!

Whether you want to park a car in the garage, use the space for some other purpose; such as a shop or hobby room or just be able to find things more easily, organization is what you need and together we'll discovery ways to bring organization to chaos.

To begin the process you will need to discover what you have in the garage and what you really want to keep. Once the process starts, you will quickly learn the truth in the saying, 'the garage is where

clutter goes to die'. Attributed to many, it is the truth. In my previous house, unused items went from the upstairs to the downstairs and then into the garage. The birth of garage clutter.

The process of deciding what to keep is challenging; emotional ties, financial ties and I might still need it ties. If you need help in this process, enlist a friend that can be honest with you in the evaluation of your 'stuff'. Make a decision to keep, sell, donate or trash. For myself, I prefer to donate in most cases rather than trying to sell, especially if it means a garage sale. Some enjoy the process, but to me there is nothing worse than someone offering me a quarter on a ten dollar item marked fifty cents!

Now that you have pared down the items in the garage, you are

probably seeing real estate that has not seen the light of day in years.

Time now to evaluate what you want to store in the garage and determine the best storage solutions. To start, group the items into categories such as tools, holiday decorations, sports equipment and gardening tools. Then determine the frequency of use for those items. The frequency of use helps to decide where an item is stored, as well as how it is stored. Frequently used items should be easily accessible while seasonal items don't need to be front and center. If you want to park a car or create a shop area, your planning for storage will need to be worked around the area that they will occupy.

Garage storage can be broken into the area stored and the stor-

age options within that area. Storage areas include the walls, the floor and overhead spaces. The walls and floor space are used to store items that you use frequently. Most overhead space is for things used less frequently.

Storage options include wall mounting, free standing shelves, tool cabinets, built in shelves and suspensions. Careful combination of the where stored and how stored will give the most efficient and organized storage.

Walls hold several options for storage. Items that can be stored on the wall include gardening tools, hand tool and even bikes. Back in the day, the only option was peg board, but now slatwall panels are the way to go. Slatwall has horizontal grooves rather than holes, like peg board. Same concept, but much more secure. You can attach racks, hooks or baskets to the slatboard. For the super organizer, you create an entire wall of slatwall panels by installing several 4'x8' sheets. Mountable track


systems are also available and easier to install than slatwall panels, but still have several of the same storage options.

Mounting cabinets on the wall is another great option. Although some skill is required for 'level' installation, they provide storage for items in an enclosed space and free up the ground area below.

Floor space is at a premium and getting the most use normally means building up. Floor shelving units or racks are the most common and are designed to hold a lot of weight. With the flexibility to raise or lower shelves depending on needs, they create efficient use of space. Mounting to the wall will help prevent the shelves from falling over, but still remember to distribute the weight properly.


When most think of overhead space in a garage, they only think of storage in the rafters. However, if your garage is sheetrocked, you may not have access to that area. You can still use that space by either

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**SATURDAY MORNINGS**

<b>9:00AM</b> PORTLAND	<b>8:30AM</b> EUGENE	<b>9:30AM</b> SALEM/PORTLAND
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CH. 49/CABLE 13	CH. 23/CABLE 4	CH. 17/CABLE 318

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.CLUTTERMAGIC.ORG



building a ceiling mounted shelf or creating suspension storage.

Ceiling mounted shelves are ideal for light items that are used only periodically, such as holiday decorations or seasonal clothing. Items that can be suspended include bikes or kayaks. Storage pulleys are designed to make it easy to securely raise and lower your bicycle. My canoe is stored on sawhorses and takes up a large area of the garage floor. By raising it off the floor it opens up a lot of storage space.

A few thoughts on storage safety. Gas can be dangerous when stored in the garage, especially if you have a gas water heater with a pilot light. Best to store in an outdoor shed that has ventilation. Also, if storing items overhead, be sure that all mounting is done into the ceiling joists or that properly rated molly bolts are used.

Another storage concern is pests and what you store your property in will determine how long it will survive in the garage. No matter how hard you try, pests always seem to get into the garage and one pregnant mouse can wreak havoc on the contents stored in a cardboard box. Using plastic containers with tight fitting lids will help to protect your perishables and items made of fabric stored in the garage.

### Tips

- If parking a car in the garage, be sure that your storage solutions allows for all car doors to open.
- If your neighbor is remodeling their kitchen, the discarded cabinets could be a great storage solution for your garage and it's free!
- If parking a car in the garage, be sure to install a carbon monoxide alarm.
- Label storage containers for easy identification or use clear bins.
- Store like items in the same area.

So what's holding you back from getting organized? Need more motivation? Well just around the corner is National Clean Out Your Garage Day. Yes, you can join with other garage organizers on Saturday, September 10th and be on your way to an organized garage. In fact, maybe I'll participate...oh wait a minute; I think I'm going to be out of town. Darn, maybe next year!



Peg board is still considered the standard for wall hanging by many.

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.HARBORFREIGHT.COM



Ceiling storage creates space in an otherwise unuseable area.

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.NOTSOBIGHOMES.COM



Slatwall, the new peg board.

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# WTDITG

**Our Northwest summers aren't nearly as hot as other places in the country, but it's not uncommon to have a few 100 degree days. Plants, just like people, need special care when the temperature rises. Be sure you give your plants the same attention during these hot spells that you would your pets or kids.**

## PLANNING

• Have you been good about keeping up with the journal writing? We won't tell if you want to just sit down and cheat some notes from spring and summer now. If this helps you grow better crops

next year we think you'll enjoy the act of noting the good and the bad things that happened in the garden this season.

## PLANTING



- Time to plan on a new lawn? August through mid-October is prime time to get a new lawn put in. In the late

summer and fall the grass seed germinates in the warm soil so much faster than in April or May. Good grass seed blends will give you the best looking lawn on the block, plus add some lime and good fertilizers to start lawns with!

- Time to over seed a tired lawn? For the same reasons given in the above note on planting a new lawn, over seeding an old tired lawn is great to do now too. Mow the lawn short, (this one time we give you permission to mow it short) thatch (rent a thatching machine to make the job a lot easier) and then seed with premium lawn seed blends for this area. Cover the seed barely with some Organic Compost to keep the birds away from the seed. Fertilize with natural lawn fertilizers for outstanding results. Keep the compost dark with moisture

while seed is starting.

- Plant perennials and biennials from seed this month directly in the garden. The seed germinates pretty quickly in the warm soil and big beds of future flower



color can be created starting with seed now.

## TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

- Clean up the strawberry beds. After final harvest, cut off all foliage (fun and fast to run over the bed with a lawn mower set on high, so as not to damage the plant crowns). Water and fertilize with Azalea & Camellia fertilizer to encourage strong new growth. You can also reduce a thick planting at this time by removing the "mother" plants, leaving the newer "daughter" plants.

- Mulch the garden and ornamental beds if needed to conserve soil moisture. If you have not mulched the garden beds yet you'll notice they dry out very fast. Get topdressing on the beds of Organic Com-

post or bark to hold in soil moisture, retard weeds and make it easier for soil to absorb water. Keep the flowering annuals dead-headed and fertilized to keep them going strong until fall.



- Prune Raspberries and other cane berries after harvest.

Summer crop raspberries produce fruit on two-year-old canes. After harvest, the two-year-old canes that produced the fruit begin to die. Remove the old

# What To Do In The Garden AUGUST

canes anytime after harvest.



During the growing season, keep only 1 to 2 of the strongest new one-year-old canes per plant. Continually cut out all the small canes and sprouts. The big, strong canes will produce the following summer's crop.

Ever bearing raspberries produce their main crop of berries in the fall, on the top 12" of one-year-old canes. After harvest, you have two choices: 1) remove the top portion of the cane that has fruited, leaving the rest of the cane to produce a crop the following spring, or 2) cut the canes off at ground level in mid-October, thus allowing the plant to fruit only in fall (the fall crop on ever bearing varieties is superior to the spring crop). If you choose to let the plant produce two crops, remove the two-year-old canes after harvest.

- Make sure the irrigation system is working properly if using one or create one if you haven't yet—it's never too late. Watering plants thoroughly and deeply is

very important this time of year.

- Work on your compost piles. Make compost out of grass clippings and any clippings or pulled plants that are ready to be recycled, unless foliage is diseased. If you have a pile going already,



turn the compost over and water it if necessary. Do not use grass clippings in compost if you have used weed kill-

ers on the lawn! To get the pile decomposing faster use compost starter. The addition of microbes and good bacteria will help plant material break down faster.

- Mow the lawn higher in hotter weather. Grass 'roots' length is directly related to the grass 'shoots' length. In other words if you scalp the lawn short, then the roots will be ultra short too. The longer grass blades help shade the lawn roots, help the grass compete with weeds for space and allow the grass plants to lengthen its roots deeper to where the soil does not dry out as quickly. Plus the leaf blades are where photosynthesis takes place

so when you cut the lawn short it can no longer feed itself!

- Water the lawn with 1 inch of water once a week. To determine how long to water, place empty cat food or tuna fish cans out on the lawn under a sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill the can to 1" deep. That is all the water needed, once a week to maintain a beautiful lawn.

- If you have been maintaining your lawn with irrigation then apply a good fertilizer to carry it into the fall. Use natural lawn fertilizer for a dose of natural pro-bi-



otic microbes that will help break down naturally, thatch and encourage deep root development.

- Keep an eye out for fresh notched leaves on ornamentals. Root Weevil adults are still feeding this month.

- Apply Beneficial Nematodes to the beds below rhododendrons and azaleas to fight root weevil damage.

## VEGETABLE GARDEN



- Continue to fertilize the vegetable and herb crops. This will aid in maintaining good production through your harvest months.

- Seed out, directly in the garden, for fall and winter crops;

Arugula, basil, broccoli raab (aka Italian broccoli) cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, collards, kale, lettuce,

mache, mustard greens, radishes, salad greens, spinach, swiss chard and turnips.



- Plant a cover crop called 'green manure' in the spaces vacated by harvested crops. This 'green manure' will be turned over, into the soil before it flowers to decompose, adding rich nutrients back into the garden soil.



# PLAY TIME

## Gardening Events Around Town

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### **Art in the Garden**

**Thru September 30, 2016**

**The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR**

Art in the Garden, presented by Capitol Subaru, features stunning art installations in the Garden throughout the summer. In 2016, we will feature pieces from ten artists, with four of those pieces being built specifically for The Oregon Garden. All pieces are available for sale.

#### **Featured Artists:**

Tyler FuQua - Tyler is doing a custom installation for The Oregon Garden titled "Wind in the Willows". It will play with the organic nature of the trees in contrast with the rigid nature of metal. The Wind Chime Willow will be not only pleasing to the eyes, but to the ears as well.

Jacob Sorenson - Jacob is creating a unique piece specifically for The Oregon Garden that will challenge your perceptions and assumptions. The piece is a loose representation of the "Sasquatch" and "Bigfoot" concepts and nods to the typical "sighting" experience. His sculpture will be created using wood shingling, a thatched roof effect, and hand manipulation for texture.

Jill Torberson - Exclusively for The Oregon Garden, Jill will explore the idea of horizon, and how it relates to the highest elevation in the Garden. She is creating garden stakes that will create a repeated rhythm both in form and size, filling in a light and linear manner.

David Hillesland - Exclusively for The Oregon Garden, David has created "Chais-ing Dreams"; a bench and chaise lounge carved from the remains of a fir tree. He feels the pace of our lives has increased exponentially and he would like to take the viewer outside of the fast pace. Take a moment to stop and sit and you will be taken back to a simpler time full of wonder and curiosity.

#### **Exhibiting Artists:**

Denise Sirchie - displaying a mosaic titled "Summer" created from recycled materials onto a vintage necklace mannequin.

Scott Kuszik - pieces featuring oiled and torched wood, paired with hand manipulated copper and varnishes.

Mark Brody - displaying a variety of pieces that are bright and traditional; essential in any garden decor.

Lowell Duell - exhibiting "glass balloons" and "green clunkers".

**continued next column**

Richard Hays - displaying an array of nature inspired work.

Mark Collins - installing a Pop Garden, made with reclaimed materials, within the Children's Garden.

### **Movies in the Garden**

**Thursdays, Thru August 25, 2016 • 7:00pm**

**The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR**

Join us for a movie outdoors every Thursday evening, July 7 - August 25, 2016 presented by Willamette Valley Pie Company. Doors will open at 7pm, and the show will begin at dusk on the beautiful Garden Green, in the heart of The Oregon Garden. It's also a great opportunity to catch a sunset in the Garden! Parking will be available in the lower parking lot, across from the Pavilion. Please, no outside food or drink.

Schedule: Thursday evenings, doors open at 7pm, movie begins at dusk. [www.Oregongarden.org](http://www.Oregongarden.org).

August 4: Ace Ventura: Pet Detective, PG-13; August 11: Bridesmaids, R\*; August 18: Space Jam, PG; August 25: Shrek, PG.

Admission: Adults \$4, Teens 12 - 17 \$3, Children 5-11 \$2, Members \$2, Children 4 and under Free. Well-behaved pets on a leash are also welcome. Season Pass - available soon: Only \$15 (save \$17!). Enjoy all 8 movies for more than 50% off! A season pass is valid for one person per movie.

### **Kids' Club: Plant a Shoe**

**Saturday, August 6, 2016 • 11:00am**

**Al's Garden Center, Woodburn, OR**

Experimenting with different types of flower containers is an adventure in gardening. You will want to bring along an old shoe or boot for this fun project! We will plant some assorted flowers to create a unique planter for fall. Cost: \$7.50.

### **Bonsai Basics**

**Saturday, August 6, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Steve Mulvaney of Portland Nursery. Living art. Harmony. Discipline. Just a few words to describe the ancient practice of Bonsai. Come learn the basics with Steve Mulvaney of Portland Nursery. Steve has been practicing Bonsai for the last decade. His expertise will guide you through basics and on your way to being a

**continued next page**



Bonsai gardener!

### **Basics of Bamboo**

**Sunday, August 7, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Ian Connor of Connor Bamboo. There is nothing like bamboo for grace and poetry year-round, but it can also be a point of contention with the neighbors if you do not control it appropriately. Ian Connor is a true expert in bamboo. Hear him share his knowledge of and enthusiasm for these mammoth grasses. This class is a must if you want to learn more about its diversity and habits.

### **Garden Market**

**Friday, August 12, 2016 • 3:00pm-8:00pm**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 • 10:00am-4:00pm**

**Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR**

Friday Garden Market: Food Music and shopping in the Garden.

Saturday Garden Market: Local artisans in the Garden. Call 503-649-4568 or email [events@farmingtongardens.com](mailto:events@farmingtongardens.com) to register for one or all of our free classes this month. [www.farmingtongardens.com](http://www.farmingtongardens.com)

### **Worm Hotels and Creepy Crawlers**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 • 10:00am**

**Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR**

Come discover all about the insects that live and work in our garden soil! What is that worm doing down there? How hard does that ant really work? What does that beetle eat? We will make worm hotels to take home! Worms included, of course! Lessons are geared toward children aged 5-10 but all ages are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. We encourage our Garden Buddies to dress appropriately for hands-on activities.

### **Garden to Table: Mexican Fiesta Brunch in the Garden**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 • 10:30am-11:30am**

**Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR**

Cost: Free but please REGISTER. Phone: 503.649.4568.

### **Kids' Club: Plant a Shoe**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 • 11:00am**

**Al's Garden Center, Sherwood, OR**

Experimenting with different types of flower containers is an adventure in gardening. You will want to bring along an old shoe or boot for this fun project! We will plant some assorted flowers to create a unique planter for fall.

**continued next column**

Cost: \$7.50.

### **Growing Fuchsias**

**Saturday, August 13, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Sue Randall of the Oregon Fuchsia Society. Fuchsias can be a great addition to your garden as they not only give us beautiful, showy flowers but can also attract our hummingbird friends. Come learn from Sue's experience about fuchsias, specifically: planting tips, growing requirements, water needs, hardy versus annual, and container versus ground.

### **Ornamental Grasses**

**Sunday, August 14, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Abigail Pierce of Groundswell PDX. Ornamental grasses bring year round interest to your garden with their delightful textures and movement. Different selections offer drought tolerance, beautiful seed heads and evergreen foliage, so there is a grass for every garden spot! Come join Abigail Pierce of Groundswell Garden Design to learn about different types of grasses, when to prune them, and how to ready them for winter.

### **Jewel Box Plant Sale**

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 • 9:00am-3:00pm**

**Sebrights Gardens, Salem, OR**

ONE DAY ONLY! 9-3 at Sebrights Gardens! We will all be at Sebright's to celebrate our FOURTH annual Jewel Box Sale! Stop in and pick out some gems from the hand picked selections of CNT Members, all in one place for your shopping delight! This time of year is always great for obtaining nice full pots ready to be tucked into the garden. Tour Sebright's spectacular gardens and shop their huge variety of hostas and companion plants. A great time to stock up for fall planting. Honeywood Winery will be offering tasting & sales (have you ever tried raspberry wine?) and Country Chick Creations will have delicious food to purchase for your pleasure and convenience. This has become a popular and well attended event, so for the best selection, plan on arriving EARLY! 7185 Lakeside Dr NE, Salem, OR 97035. Phone: (503) 463-9615.

### **Kids' Club: Plant a Shoe**

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 • 11:00am**

**Al's Garden Center, Gresham, OR**

Experimenting with different types of flower containers is

**continued next page 35**

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# PLAY TIME

## Gardening Events Around Town

an adventure in gardening. You will want to bring along an old shoe or boot for this fun project! We will plant some assorted flowers to create a unique planter for fall. Cost: \$7.50.

### **Recreating Native Wetlands in Backyard Rain Gardens and Bioswales**

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Esteban Gatillo. Heavy rain inundates the city storm-water system causing dangerous overflows and potentially polluting our waterways. Filtering roof and surface runoff from our homes through backyard rain gardens helps slow water movement and can be a lovely decorative addition to any home landscape. Using natives promotes the diversity of native fauna and pollinators, and many native plants are drought tolerant which will reduce garden water use. This class will describe the best native plants to use in your rain garden and how/where in the elevation profile to plant flora to maximize their benefit on your landscape.

### **Art in the Garden at Villa Catalana**

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 • 5:30pm-9:00pm**

**Villa Catalana, Oregon City, OR**

The August event that showcases this amazing Villa and landscape is the Art In the Garden Party, happening on August 20th, 5:30 to 9pm. You will just feel transported to another time and country while strolling the gardens, having a glass of wine, observing Plein Aire Artists and tasting the delightful buffet offerings from Chef Dan Clark. Delicious gourmet ice cream will be available from Jared Goodman of Morgan St Theater. The reservation entry cost is \$10 and can be made through PayPal on their website, [www.villacatalanacellars.com](http://www.villacatalanacellars.com). The Buffet is \$18 and wine can be purchased separately after entering the event. Burl and Cindy love to invite visitors to their home and winery. He said, "We strive to make this event affordable for almost every budget so this is a pay-as-you-go event. If you want dinner or beverages, you can order and pay for that after you arrive. Please no outside food or beverages. Join us and get inspired!" 11900 S Criteser Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045. [www.villacatalanacellars.com](http://www.villacatalanacellars.com).

### **Flower Crowns**

**Sunday, August 21, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

**continued next column**

With Coco of Portland Nursery and Fawn Lily Farm. Come play with flowers and take home your own fabulous flower crowns! In this class, all the supplies you need to fashion one fresh floral crown and one dried floral crown will be provided. Let's get crafty and learn about the lovely blooms of summer. Fresh crowns will feature dazzling dahlias, zinnias and sunflowers. Dried crowns will incorporate strawflower, feverfew, sage and more so you can enjoy the delights of summer all year round! Limit 10 participants. Class Fee: \$10.

### **Tomato Festival**

**Saturday, August 27, 2016 • 11:00am-2:00pm**

**Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR**

Tomato and pepper tasting, tomato contest, tomato education, kid's zone, master gardeners Q&A and staff favorite tomato recipes. [www.farmingtongardens.com](http://www.farmingtongardens.com).

### **Insect Superheroes**

**Saturday, August 27, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Claudia Groth of Portland Nursery. Don't go it alone in your fight against garden pests—enlist the help of "good guy" bugs that hunt down pests that plague your plants. Join Claudia of Portland Nursery to find out how to create a garden that attracts these insect superheroes to do the dirty work of pest control for you!

### **Overwintering Tender Perennials**

**Sunday, August 28, 2016 • 1:00pm**

**Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR**

With Rhiannon Lefay of Portland Nursery. Many of the annuals sold in nurseries are actually perennials in warmer climates. It can be sad when the weather turns and a beloved plant is lost to the cold. With the right actions taken, it's possible to overwinter many plants that would otherwise not survive our winters. Join Megan Porter of Portland Nursery to learn about overwintering techniques for some favorite tender perennials.

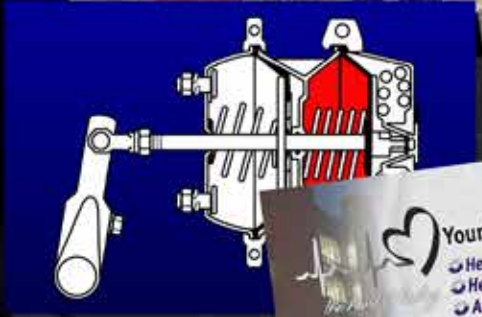
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You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar  
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