

Digging Deep

... continued from page D12

Cynthia Brian's Mid Month Fresh Garden Tips

TRY something new. How about growing blueberries? Find a spot with six hours of sunshine, amend the soil to make it more acidic (blueberries like a PH of 4.5 to 5.5), protect the bush from the hungry birds, and harvest for your breakfast and snacks.

ASK questions from gardeners you admire or at your local nursery for tips you can implement.

HANG a hammock or two between trees or posts for a cozy place to relax, unwind, and read a good book. Pretend you are on a holiday.

PLANT a pollinator garden. It's good for the birds, bees, butterflies, moths and healthy flies as well as the garden and you.

OPEN your nature medicine cabinet this summer. Apply aloe on sunburns instead of buying a bottle of burn ointment. Spread honey on cuts and scrapes to reduce healing time. Honey boasts anti-bacterial and anti-inflammatory properties.

CONCOCT a cocktail with fennel, mint, dill, cucumber, and edible flowers from your garden. Wow your friends with your unique creations.

PLAN ahead for bulbs for fall. Check out catalogs and garden magazines for new releases.

CUT an armful of flowers for beautiful bouquets or arrangements. Perennials will re-bloom.

GET creative with plant markers by using wooden clothespins, utensils or other items headed for the trash.

PICK plums, apricots, cherries, mulberries, and loquats.

PULL out errant blackberry bushes you find growing in your garden. Blackberry plants multiply quickly and will overrun your garden. Buy a thorn-less variety and keep it contained.



Magenta roses are perfect for arrangements.

Photos Cynthia Brian

PROTECT your plants from deer, rabbits, and gophers with wire, fencing, or organic sprays.

LOWER your stress level by sniffing citrus-oranges, lemons, grapefruit and tangerines.

REPEL mosquitoes and other pesky bugs by placing sage and rosemary on the barbecue. The smoke keeps the insects away.

SOW sweet potato eyes and eat the greens while they are maturing.

DEADHEAD spent perennial blossoms and rose blooms weekly to encourage continuous blooms.

Happy Gardening and Happy Growing!



Sunflowers spell summer.



Lic.: #611120

Family owned in
Moraga since 1987



Your friendly neighborhood
arborists Darren and Lew Edwards

KEEPING TREES HEALTHY

Generally speaking, trees don't need us to grow. But they need our help to stay healthy and safe. Having your trees checked by an ISA arborist on a regular basis is a wise choice. As a professional we may be able to see the dangers that lurk ahead and can solve them before they can become a bigger problem or even dangerous.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by your local ISA Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service for all your tree care needs.

Advance Tree Service
Your Authority on Trees.



925-376-6528

advancetree@sbcglobal.net www.advancetree.com