

Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly

Volume 16

Issue 7

Wednesday, May 25, 2022



Organize your closet

read on Page D4

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian Coming up roses



Spectacular blooms of Angel Face roses.

By Cynthia Brian

“Won’t you come into my garden? I would like my roses to see you.” ~ Richard Sheridan

Ask any gardener who grows a multitude of roses what they think of the species, and you’ll probably get an answer that sounds seriously star-struck. I am a dedicated devotee of roses. They consistently amaze me



Photos Cynthia Brian

Roses and cornflowers are beautiful companion plants.

with their resilience, beauty, and bountiful blooms. It wasn’t until the end of February that I completed my heavy pruning, and by the end of April, the roses had sprouted new shoots and were already in full bloom. This month, the flowers are even larger and more plentiful. Depending on the variety, each flush lasts approximately three to four weeks from bud to deadheading. Over the years I

have created multiple rose rooms that continue to delight me throughout the year. If you have not added roses to your landscape, please put them on your bucket list to plant next year. Once established, they don’t require much water, and with a bit of TLC, you, too, will enjoy seasons of splendor. To keep your roses bug-free, add a few cloves of garlic around the base of each trunk. Mix a cup of alfalfa pellets into the soil in March to increase the nitrogen for greener leaves.

Entertaining in the summer garden is my favorite manner to gather friends and family for al fresco dining, conversation, and laughter. There is always so much to celebrate in June – the end of school, graduations, Father’s Day, birthdays, showers and weddings. This is the time to spruce up the yard in anticipation of the summer to come. Because of the pandemic, for the past two-plus years, I have spent countless hours working in the garden yet have not entertained friends or family. The garden is thriving with my diligence, and I have been reaping the health benefits of my efforts in my body, mind and spirit.

The leaves of the spring bulbs as well as the naked lady bulbs that will bloom later in the season have all dried like hay, making the garden appear messy. I’ve pulled multiple garbage bins of them for the compost pile along with so many buckets of weeds that I’ve lost count.

Butterflies are plentiful in my garden as they flutter from flower to flower. Swallow-tails are in abundance as are several different white and yellow flyers that I haven’t identified.

... continued on Page D12