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Gardening

Take Advantage of Fall Nursery Sales



Jacki Hein is the Garden Center Manager at Arapahoe Acres Nursery in Littleton and is a Colorado Certified Nursery Professional. www.arapahoeacres.com

Want to get in on a good deal? Local garden centers and nurseries are offering great sales now on much of their stock. With a little careful shopping, you can find choice plants at significant savings.

Fall is a great time to plant. It al-

In winter, water on a day when temperatures are above freezing and water early in the day so that moisture will have time to soak away before nighttime's freezing temperatures

lows you the opportunity to get plants into the ground and established now, putting them ahead of where they'd be

if planted next spring. Our soils generally don't freeze until late November or early December and roots will continue to grow until then even though there are no leaves to be seen above ground.

As with spring planting, prepare soil by incorporating organic materials (compost, sphagnum peat, etc.)

*a little work now
can mean a beautiful
landscape next spring*

whenever you plant anything. The roots of perennial plants are often quite deep and it's important to amend the soil throughout the root region. If your soil is heavy clay, choose a more coarse amendment such as the EKO Claybuster Compost. This is EKO Compost (my favorite amendment) with pumice added to aid in loosening those heavy soils. For sandy soils, either compost or sphagnum peat will work well.

When planting trees or shrubs, dig holes large enough for roots to spread out without crowding. Prepare the backfill soil by mixing one part amendment to two parts soil. > to page 5

Can it Really be Fall?



Kristin Clifford is the owner of Castle Pines Florist & Greenhouse in Castle Rock www.castlepines-florist.com

Fall is my favorite time of year; I just can't believe it is here already! As promised, this month's focus is centerpieces fresh from YOUR garden. The first centerpiece will be a simple flower bouquet.

Depending on what you have growing, this may be a single type of flower or a variety of flowers and colors. You decide! (A few of my favorite: Sunflowers, Dahlias, Zinnias, and Lilies.) If you have a rectangular table you may consider three smaller arrangements to stretch the length of your table and give the flowers more presence; on a round table, a single arrangement will make a great impact. Our second centerpiece will be vegetables fresh from your garden.

Fresh Flower Bouquet

You will need:

- Container of your choice (May I suggest a taller container with a

smaller neck—this will make designing much easier)

- Cold Water
- Flower Food (if available, I have heard sugar and bleach work, I can't say that I have ever tried either)
- A sharp knife or scissors
- Flowers of your choice cut from your garden
- String (Depending the your design

*Treat your flowers well
and they will treat you well
in return.*

choice)

STEP 1: Ensure your container is clean. Then fill with cold water.

STEP 2: Just like any plant, you want to clean your flowers, remove any dead or brown petals, leaves, etc.

STEP 3: Depending on the flowers you choose, you can now decide if you want to leave your stems long for a less designed look, or, cut the stems so the flower heads rest on the neck of your container.

STEP 4: For a short uniform arrangement, gather your flowers so that the heads are even, and then give the stems a fresh cut, so that all stems are the same length. (You may need to cut

your stems a couple of times to get the desired length.) If you don't want the uniform look, arrange the flowers in your hand until you have the desired look, then cut your stems even and drop in your vase. If the stems once gathered are smaller in diameter than the vase opening, tie your bouquet with a string to maintain the design you have just created.

STEP 5: Place your arrange- > to page 3

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Will's Wisdom

Planning is not something that comes naturally to most people. After all it takes time to think and to plan. And then you have to write it down and lastly you must, heaven forbid ... implement it. Now planning is important and I will be the first to admit that I am not good at it, but I know it needs to be done. God has a plan, businesses have plans, and individuals have plans. Do you? No? Why not?

This year I am going to plan. It may not be elaborate, but it will be a plan with goals, objectives and the rest or the necessary elements. I will be happy if I achieve just one or two of my goals. If I concentrate on just one or two then I won't get distracted and not concentrate on any of them. Will you join me in this challenge? Who knows we may even enjoy it once we get started.

Thinking is the first thing to do when planning. Now this is difficult for me. Thinking for the thinking's sake is not my idea of fun. Writing it down is a little more pleasant, but not much. At least there is something

tangible. Implementing is where it should be fun. You get to actually do something! Now implementing requires change. Uh, oh, that nasty word 'change' showing up again. **NO!** I want things to stay the same, but I want a different result. Sorry, Charlie, it doesn't work that way. Change is a fact of life. Get used to it. Why do you get a haircut? Because your hair has changed. In order to make a plan work you/we/I must change. So join me this month. **Think. Write. Implement your plan.** Let's see how much better we feel about ourselves and how much more productive our lives have become.

I will **plan** on checking back next year about this time.

The above appeared in the February 2007 issue of Buy Colorado. Well, what do I have to show for all the planning? I must admit that my planning has fallen short of my goal. Yes, I have made a little progress, but not nearly as much as I would like.

How have you done? Oh, about like me? Well, let's make a better re-

solve and get started. We don't have to wait for the beginning of a new year. **LET'S JUST DO IT! NOW!!**

Check back the first of 2009 to see how I am doing. Here is the challenge ... you do better than I do!

Well, here we are in the latter-middle of 2009 and what has changed? Hair a little grayer. Wrinkles a little deeper.

I would like to be able to say that I have made a 180-degree turnaround. Sadly, I can't. I have however started a program that is forcing me to 'put on my big boy pants' and start being more organized and intentional.

Will someone, willing to hold my feet to the fire on making changes, step up to the plate and contact me. I would be grateful and you might be surprised what will happen to both of us.

Will

'Til we meet again.

May the good Lord take a likin' to ya.

> *Castle Pines Florist cont page 2*

ment in the desired location and enjoy!

You will want to give your flowers a fresh cut every couple of days, change out the water and give the container a good cleaning. Treat your flowers well and they will treat you well in return.

Vegetables

On one of my recent market trips I saw a display of vegetables in a large low black bowl, the bright colors against the black was so dramatic! What an easy way to add something to your table last minute, even if you don't have a black bowl, imagine what tomatoes would look like in a white bowl. A display of pumpkins, squash,

and zucchini down the center of your table (no container necessary) will also add drama to an otherwise naked table. When creating these displays, whether in a bowl or just on the table, remember to build up. Create dimension with your veggies, start by making a pyra-

Some rules were made to be broken!

mid as your base and then build out as desired. Mix it up; don't feel the need to put all of the large vegetables on the bottom and smaller on top; break the rules! Some rules were made to be broken! Until next month, I hope this fall season is an abundant one!

Buy Colorado

240 N. Wilcox St.
Castle Rock CO 80104
303.663.0151

buycolorado@usa.net or
www.ColoradoMerchant.com



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Laura and Brian Bell with "Parker"



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Banell Custom Decks and Basements offers numerous references and is fully licensed and insured for your protection. Call today for a free in home estimate to see their portfolio of extraordinary basements and decks.

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increasing the enjoyment you'll get in your expanded living space but also by increasing the value of your home ... call Banell Custom Decks and Basements today!



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Email: brian@banellcustom.com

> *Arapahoe Acres cont page 2*

Set the tree or shrub in so the crown (the area where the roots meet the trunk) is approximately 2 inches above the soil level. This will allow for settling of soil and roots to a final depth that is the same or slightly above the surrounding ground level.

Water new plants deeply after planting and apply a mulch on top of the soil to a depth of several inches. This thick layer of mulch will help to prevent early freezing of the soil and will therefore allow more time for root growth.

Your plants will need water during the winter as well as now, but only roughly once a month if there is no snow cover and the ground becomes dry. In winter, water on a day when temperatures are above freezing and water early in the day so that moisture will have time to soak away before nighttime's freezing temperatures.

You may not feel much like doing yardwork now that the summer is done, but there are bargains to be had and a little work now can mean a beautiful landscape next spring!

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Fun Things To See & Do

PERFORMING ARTS

Now–Sep. 27—Girls Only: The Secret Comedy of Women

This original comedy celebrates the honor, truth, humor and silliness of being female. This two-woman cast and audiences full of raucous, laughing ladies has found popularity in its unique look at all things girly. It is a mix of sketch comedy, improvisation, audience participation, and hilarious songs and videos. The Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Garner Galleria Theatre, Speer & Arapahoe, Denver, 303.893.4000, www.denvercenter.org

Sep. 15–Oct. 11—Miss Saigon

The Arvada Center brings to you another spectacular production by the creators of Les Misérables. Miss Saigon will illuminate the intimate setting of the Arvada Center main stage. This pop opera is the 10th longest running Broadway musical and tells a war-time love story of an American G.I. and a Vietnamese bar girl during the fall of Saigon and their heart-wrenching reunion. (Contains mature subject matter.) Arvada Center for the Arts & Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, 720.898.7200, www.arvadacenter.org

CONCERTS

Sep. 17—Phoenix & Yallah!

Phoenix, belly dancing since 1997, approaches the art from a spiritual and artistic direction. Her fluid performance is a fusion of various styles and is most often improvisational and always from the heart. She has studied many styles including Egyptian Cabaret, Turkish, Classic Oriental, Tribal, Folkloric (Lebanese, Ghawazi, Kuwaiti and Egyptian), Rom, Khaliji, and Spiritual Dance. Phoenix is appearing with the group, Yallah!. Yallah means let's go in Arabic, and they have been entertaining area audiences with percussion-fueled party music since 2002. Music from around the world inspires Yallah! to compose and perform a diverse range of exotic material. Percussion is the core of Yallah!'s unique sound, members play an eclectic assortment of instruments. Swallow Hill Café, 71 East Yale Avenue, Denver, 303-777-1003, www.swallowhill.com

LIBRARY

Free Online Homework Help

Visit DouglasCountyLibraries.org for free and immediate online homework help from qualified Tutor.com tutors. The service connects students to experts in math, science, social studies and English every day from 3–10 p.m. Spanish-speaking tutors are available in math and science Sun.–Thurs. from 3–8 p.m.

Sep. 19—Castle Pines Library Grand Opening

Celebrate the community's commitment to our new library. Enjoy free, fun-filled activities and entertainment. 7437 Village Square Drive #110, Castle Rock, 303-791-READ, www.douglascountylibraries.org

Sep. 21, 22, 24, 26, 28 & 29—Family Storytime

Storytime for all ages. Check the website for times. 7437 Village Square Drive #110, Castle Rock, 303-791-READ, www.douglascountylibraries.org

FOR THE CHILDREN

Oct. 10—Kids Jam

Join us for fiddle fun. During the first half of jams we will continue to play the tunes from the first and second group. Then we can start working on the new tunes during the second half. Camilla wants to start teaching a few tunes by ear (no music). This will open up a whole new way of learning for some kids. Benet Hill Center, 2577 N. Chelton Rd., 719-488-9487, www.blackroseacoustic.org

Sep. 12–13, 19–20, 26–27—Day Out With Thomas

Children can experience the world of Thomas the Tan mk and Friends with a ride on the train with special surprises. The event is held on three consecutive weekends in September. Colorado Railroad Museum, 17155 West 44th Avenue, Golden, 303-279-4591 www.events.hitentertainment.com/us/home/index.asp

ETCETERA

Sep. 27—Pancake Breakfast

All you can eat. Elbert Woman's Club Restore Russel Gates Mercantile Building 8:00–1:00, Elbert

Sep. 17—Nov. 15—Calaveras: Skulls, Skeletons, Devils and Demons in Mexican Folk Art

Calavera is the Spanish word for skull. By extension it is applied as well to skeletons and more particularly to the satirical skeletons that are a distinct motif in a body of Mexican folk art associated mainly with the observances of El Dis de los Muertos. A private collector in Denver has generously lent more than 75 Day of the Dead themed objects or sets of objects for exhibition. As a complement, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center is also lending 12 Calavera-series broadside prints by Jose Guadalupe Posada (1852-1913). The exhibition is presented in partnership with the Mexican Cultural Center and the Consulate General of Mexico. Arvada Center for the Arts & Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Blvd., Arvada, 720.898.7200



GARDEN CENTER & FLORIST

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Sep. 19—Bonsai Basics

Learn tips for growing bonsai successfully in our dry climate from Dee, our Tropical Plant Horticulturist and Bonsai Expert.

Late Season Lawn Care

John, our Garden Supplies Dept. Co-Supervisor will give a few simple pointers (mowing frequency can be reduced, fertilization in the early autumn for root growth and food storage) and more in-depth information to keep your lawn healthy all winter and to have the best lawn next spring!

Landscape Design Basics

Carole Kastler of Camelot Design, will show tips for successful fall planting—plus, many perennials, trees and shrubs are specially priced in the fall, making it a great time for planting!

Sep. 20—Hostile Plants: Environmental Protection of Your Home

Craig Miller, & Officer Dawn Birchfield, Parker Police Department will talk about noxious weeds and why should you care. In this class, we will define noxious weeds and discuss weed management techniques. We will also cover home lawn and garden weed e selection and use and cultural controls.

Sep. 26—Children's Container Bulb Planting

Becca, our Children's Gardening Enthusiast will make bulbs magical for kids. How proud they will be next spring to see what they have created!

Fall & Winter Holiday Centerpiece Demonstrations

You know who you are—long before the holidays and all in your head, you arrange and re-arrange your dinner table for the perfect celebration. Discover new ideas and techniques for centerpieces that will dazzle and dazzle your family and friends by Mary Ann.

Sep. 27—Sunday in the Garden with 9NEWS Rob Proctor,

Containerized Bulbs for Spring.

Rob specializes in planting bulbs in patio containers in the fall for an unbelievable flower show next spring! Learn his special tips for success.

Home Herbal Medicine Chest

Christina Blume, Herbalist, shows how easy it is to create your own herbal remedy kit! These are herbal analogs for the over-the-counter medicines that we have in our homes, remedies that address acute, self-limiting, everyday ailments and emergencies such as cuts, wounds, burns, infections, gastrointestinal troubles, colds, flues, fevers, earaches, cramps, motion sickness, etc. See how to easily make your own herbal tinctures, salves and medicinal teas.

Oct. 3—Garlic Festival

How To Harvest & Use Your Summer Herbs

Kris, Herbalist and our Annuals/Production Co-Manager will show you how your precious plants can be harvested to keep the delicious flavors that may be kept and enjoyed throughout the winter months.

Pickling with Garlic 101

Becca, our canning enthusiast will show you how to make garlic-y pickles out of seasonal veggies.

Garlic Recipe Tasting

Sample garlic recipes created by Tagawa employees! A hand-

out will be provided that includes all the foods featured at Garlic Fest. A special treat—visit with local vendors that specialize in garlic-y foods.

How to Plant Garlic,

Fall is garlic-planting time—one of the easiest crops to grow and one of the tastiest, too. Once considered a poor man's flavoring, garlic has become the darling of gourmet cooks & the source of many healthy benefits. Kris our Garlic Guide.

Special Presentation—Panayoti Kelaidis, Denver Botanic Gardens(DBG)

Presents the new book Flourish, A visionary Garden in the American West. We are honored to have this amazing, world re-nowned Plantsman at our store to present a special presentation featuring the history of the DBG and many great plants for our climate.

Oct. 4—Children's Fairy Garden Class

Grandma Mimi & Miss Lynne invite kids and parents to come learn how to construct your own kid's fairy garden to enjoy for the months to come.

Cold Process Soap Making

Christina Blume, Herbalist shows how easy it is to make cold process soap in your kitchen! Home made soap contains moisturizing glycerin, free of the harsh perservatives and other chemicals found in commercial soaps that can be so drying and irritating to skin.

Win a \$50 Gift Certificate Buy Colorado

*A winner has not yet been selected at press time.
We will announce the August winner next month.*

Win a \$50.00 cash gift certificate from BUY COLORADO to any business advertising in this issue. Fill in the blanks printing the business' name whose advertisement contains the group of words listed for each of the Numbers 1 through 10.

Mail your entry to:

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All entries must be postmarked no later than the 20th of the issue month. All entries with the correct answers will be entered in the final drawing from which the winner will be chosen at random. The lucky winner will be mentioned in the next month's issue. Associates of Buy Colorado, Inc., its advertisers and their families are not eligible.

ENTRY FORM

New contest clues from the businesses advertised:

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9/20/09

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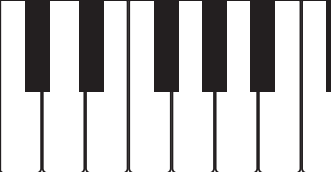


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