



Walter Andersen Nursery™

SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE

Garden Talk

INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED SINCE 1928!

STORE HOURS: San Diego 8am-5pm | Poway 9am-5pm | 7 Days-A-Week

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The Meaning Of Flowers Helps You Shop Smart On Valentine's Day

By WAN Staff



more original, you can show your love with rose bushes (ours are leafing out now) or flowers.



Tulips

For your Valentine, if he or she isn't a fan of roses. A scarlet tulip represents "perfect love," according to Turkish legend. Tulips can also help if you're in the doghouse; smooth things over with yellow tulips (cheerful thoughts) and encourage forgiveness with white tulips.

Orchids

A safe choice for any Valentine, male or female. Potted orchid plants are more often given to men, while orchid bouquets are more frequently given to women. Orchids



continued p2

Found Feline

By WAN Staff



The San Diego store is home to three formerly unwanted furry felines, all of whom came to us via our Poway location. Sometimes the occasional stray saunters through. This friendly guy seemed a little too friendly to be feral so one of our team

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Not All Plants Like Jack Frost

By Botanical Interests & WAN Staff

This time of year, it pays to keep an eye on nighttime temperatures. To help you, here's a simple list of common vegetables and their frost tolerance.

Light Frost

Temperatures 28-32 degrees F.

Hard Frost

Temperatures below 28 degrees F.

Likely damaged by light frost:

Beans, cucumbers, eggplants, melons, New Zealand spinach, okra, peppers, pumpkins, summer squash, sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, amaranth, and winter squash.

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Recipe For Building A Terrarium

By Birds & Blooms
& WAN Staff



What a feeling of power it is to create a garden in a jar. Maybe that's why interest in terrariums doesn't wane. You are actually creating an environment and believe it or not, sustaining that is much like keeping a pet alive. It will take work. The average terrariums last four months to two years.

If you are going to attempt to create a terrarium, you will need to commit to either a closed terrarium (where moisture loving plants will thrive) or an open option where cactus, succulents or other arid loving plants will survive.



If you plant an **open terrarium**, your seven layers (from top to bottom) will be: Plants, small decorative pebbles, soil (use a cactus mix), activated charcoal, landscape fabric, small rocks, then sand.

A **closed terrarium** requires eight layers and you will begin by putting a layer of sand at the bottom, followed by small rocks, a layer of landscape fabric, then activated charcoal, topped with sphagnum peat moss, covered with potting soil, then small

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Meaning Of Flowers continued from p1



Lilies

in particular are delicate and graceful, representing love, luxury, beauty and strength.

Sunflowers

The yellow petals and open face of this big bright flower symbolizes the sun itself. An entire bouquet conveys warmth, happiness, adoration, and lasting love. These are a nice choice if your sweetie is an outdoorsy, or back-to-nature type. Sunflowers like warm weather.

Bamboo Plant

Another good choice for male or female recipients. Give a symbol of "being lucky" on the special occasion of Valentine's Day.

Lilies

Give lilies to let her know she's a classy lady. Don't offer white lilies by themselves because they might remind her of Easter, or death. Pink lilies can look especially romantic. Lilies affectionately depict "refined beauty."

Gardenias

Loaded with fragrance, these elegant flowers signify purity and joy, and connote deep, old-fashioned love. Buy a grafted variety such as Mystery, Veitchii, First Love, or August Beauty.

Irises

Irises convey that you can't say enough good things about her. Purple irises are often mixed with other flowers in Valentine's Day bouquets. They symbolize the best



Irises

compliments. Grow them with roses or wildflowers and you'll have your own cutting garden.

Roses

Red is a classic color and the most popular choice for Valentine's Day. It could be because red roses symbolize love, romance, beauty, and perfection. If the florist is sold out of red roses, you may have to opt for another color or choose a red rose bush from the more than 25 varieties our stores stock. You can't go wrong with 'Love at First Sight', 'Dark Night', or 'Drop Dead Red'.

The Colors:

PINK

Before making your decision willy nilly, make sure you know what the color of a rose symbolizes. Pink roses are the symbol of admiration and gratitude. Those colors may be better suited for mothers and grandmothers.

LAVENDER

A good choice on this lovely occasion as lavender roses symbolize "enchantment".

YELLOW

Symbolizes friendship, meaning your friend, of course. In a romantic context, these can mean, "let's just be friends". My advice before giving yellow roses is to make sure your significant other knows that you are just friends. •



Terrarium

continued from p2

decorative pebbles or living moss and finally the plants.

The water from the soil is taken up into the plant as it grows. The water is then released through the leaves via transpiration. This water condenses on the glass and runs back to the soil, where it can be used again. Check on the terrarium every few weeks and add water when the soil becomes dry. Water will only be needed for many closed terrariums every 3 to 6 months, although the frequency can vary greatly based on soil type, plant species, light levels, and other factors.

To care for your terrarium, place it in medium to bright, indirect sunlight. An east or north window would be a good choice. Heat can build up quickly when light is too intense, so avoid locations that get direct sunlight. Avoid fertilizing because it will encourage growth and earlier crowding of the plants. Additionally, many potting soils already contain a small amount of fertilizer to help plants get established.

If plants are struggling (yellowing leaves, interveinal chlorosis, weak growth), fertilize with a balanced all-purpose fertilizer with low numbers (like 10-10-10 or 4-4-4) mixed at quarter strength. •

TERRARIUM GARDEN CLASS:
Saturday February 22
@9am

Join the Terrarium Construction & Care class with Erin at the San Diego location.



Jack Frost

continued from p1

Can withstand light frost:

Artichokes, beets, carrots, cauliflower, celery, Chinese cabbage, endive, lettuce, parsnips, peas, Swiss chard, escarole, arugula, bok choy, mache, and radicchio.

Can withstand hard frost: Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, collards, kale, kohlrabi, mustard, onions, parsley, peas, radishes, spinach, turnips, leeks, and sorrel.

Other frost factors: Temperature is not the only factor affecting the survival of plants during a frost.

> The further a plant or its parts are from the ground, the more likely it is to be damaged by frost. The ground, when warm, will radiate that warmth to plants that are close to the ground.

> Humidity can also help protect plants from frost. Humid air holds more heat and reduces the drying effects of frost.

> Air movement also has an influence on frost damage. When wind blows during cold nights, it sweeps away any warm air trapped near structures or the ground, eliminating their insulating capabilities.

> Tender plants can be protected from a few light frosts with row covers or blankets.



> Mulched beets, carrots, leeks, onions, radishes, and parsnips can be harvested later in fall before colder temperatures.

> Light frost makes leafy greens and root vegetables sweeter, so it's worth leaving some of your kale and carrots in the ground until you're ready to harvest.

Regardless of the protection from frost, natural or manmade, temperatures below 25 degrees F are risky for vegetable plants. •

Found Feline

continued from p1

members posted his picture on NextDoor to see if he was reported missing. A volunteer from the San Diego Humane Society called to see if the cat was still on site and came in with a chip scanner to scan our new friend. He was chipped and had been reported missing in 2014!!! The volunteer called the phone number and was able to reach his people! The cat was taken to the Humane Society where he was reunited with his family. The following day, our cat mom called to say that after not feeling well, the cat passed away. While not the happy ending we envisioned, it reminds us that the world sure works in mysterious ways. •





Back in the Day

with John Clements

The Tower House

Our *Back in the Day* photo has so many stories behind it, and some stories from my own family concerning the little piece of land in this month's photo. History means nothing if we can't appropriate it for ourselves. The first photo is from the late 1890s of the Moses Kimball Tower House on East 10th Street in National City.



John Clements has been a horticultural professional since 1976. Former nursery owner, gardener and koi pond builder to the rich and famous, horticulturalist, commercial fruit tree farmer, garden writer, agricultural historian, and now a co-host on Garden Talk!



Where to start? Let's start with Moses Kimball. First off, he has no relation to the Kimball brothers that founded National City as a community for wealthy easterners and mid-westerners to come to California to enjoy the sunshine and become gentleman farmers of fabulous fruit orchards. Moses was a retired Ohio farmer, who moved west as an old man. He built the Tower House in 1893 for his wife Sarah.

He purchased the land from a Mrs. Elizabeth Brewster. She used the farm to operate a sanitarium, the area had a long history of operating sanitariums. Dr. Potts had a rather famous hospital in Paradise Valley that went belly up in the mid-1890s due to a terrible drought. Eventually the Seventh Day Adventists bought the land and turned it into Paradise Valley Hospital—a whole new story. Back to Mrs. Brewster. She lived in the white structure to the right in the photo.

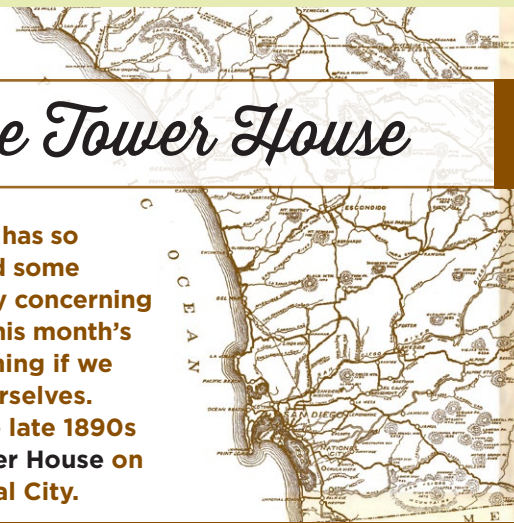
Mr. Kimball turned her former house into a carriage house and barn. Mrs. Brewster bought the farm in Paradise Valley from a local pioneer of sorts, Mr. Josephus Marion Asher. Asher had befriended a man while in San Francisco named Alonzo Horton the father of New Town San Diego. Horton convinced Asher and his wife that San Diego held great promise. Around 1869, Asher became the first commercial nurseryman in San Diego's history. His growing grounds were in a little vale called Paradise Valley. He called his little venture Fruitvale Ranch. He built the house that still stands today in 1870, which Mrs. Brewster had lived in. It is one of the oldest standing structures in San Diego. Asher opened storefronts for his nursery business in downtown San Diego and eventually Coronado.

Asher later desired to divest himself of his nursery business, and moved to El Cajon to a little spot called Castle Rock Ranch, on the site of what is now Parkway Plaza shopping center. He sold his business to a local school teacher who had her sights set on getting into the nursery business herself. Her name? Kathryn Olivia Sessions, otherwise known as Kate Sessions, the mother of Balboa Park.

How is that for a boat load of history so far? Now my own history. My parents came to San Diego, and married here in 1957. They bought a home, their first, on a little street called Paradise Valley Road in National City, a literal stone's throw from Moses Kimball's Tower House. I was born at Paradise Valley Hospital. My dad was an Indiana farm boy, and had never seen so many interesting trees as he found in San Diego. There were still trees on the property in the '50s from when the property was operating as fruit orchards, including a large avocado in the backyard. My dad had never heard of avocados let alone seen one or grown one.

Believe it or not, despite owning some of the pioneer avocados of San Diego County, my dad never tasted an avocado until he tried one of my buttery Reeds just a couple of years ago. He was in his 80s! He said he wished he hadn't waited so long, "that avocado was darn good". Today, I am raising citrus and avocados. Funny how everything comes full circle. A great deal of history in one small photograph.

By the way, the area looks nothing like the shot in the photo these days. The 805 freeway runs to the right of the orchard in the center foreground of the picture. Nope, nothing stays the same. ●



Best Fragrant Flowers For Aroma & Nostalgia

By Monrovia & Melanie Potter

Photos by Monrovia



Lilac

Last May I spent a few days in New England and was bowled over by the late spring flowering shrubs. The rhododendrons were tremendous, the dogwoods wowed me, and if there was a lilac in sight, I was soon under it trying to memorize its scent. While Southern California's climate doesn't allow for many 'back east' plants to flourish, we are able to grow lilacs (*Syringa vulgaris*) and other fragrant shrubs.

Lilac

Lilacs grow well in colder growing zones but there are some that are adapted to a Mediterranean climate. They thrive in well-drained, neutral to slightly alkaline soils. Provide good air circulation and water deeply and regularly in the first growing season to establish an extensive root system. Once established, reduce frequency; increase frequency again before and during spring bloom period. Fertilize in early spring and prune after flowering.



Jasmine

Jasmine

A fragrance recognized in perfumes, soaps, and candles; Jasmine has a sweet floral scent. Clusters of tubular flowers contrast nicely with the dark green, leathery leaves. Train on posts, walls or trellises, or allow to trail as a groundcover.

Gardenia

Big, velvety, pure-white blooms with a sweet, fresh scent. Gardenias are beautiful in containers, hedges, or patio trees. For the best success planting gardenias, start with grafted varieties (*Gardenia jasminoides* 'Veitchii' (Grafted onto *G. thunbergia*). We recommend "Mystery", 'First Love' or 'August Beauty'. Gardenias require acidic soil to thrive in.

Lavender

A celebrated plant for its famous fragrance and calming effect, it finds its way into sachets, soap, essential oils, teas, baked goods and honey. Lavenders love the heat. Whether it's in a pollinator, cutting, herb, or waterwise garden, lavender is right at home nearly anywhere. Plant in sandy, well-draining soil, in full sun.



Gardenia



Spanish Lavender

There are numerous varieties of lavender:

- French (*Lavandula dentata*):** Known for its distinctively toothed leaves, it's cherished for its long-lasting, subtly fragrant blooms. This variety is particularly resilient and can tolerate humid conditions better than others.
- Spanish (*Lavandula stoechas*):** Easily recognized by its unique, pineapple-shaped blooms topped with vivid, purple bracts. Its leaves are also edible and can be used (in moderation) for a pop of flavor in savory dishes or baked goods.
- Woolly (*Lavandula lanata*):** Notable for its silvery foliage and deep purple flowers that provide a striking contrast in the garden. Woolly lavender is native to hot and dry hillsides in southern Spain and needs well-drained soil with little to no overhead watering.
- English hybrids (*Lavandula x intermedia*):** Known as the lavandins. The varieties in this group come last in the bloom cycle. Lavandins have long gray leaves, twice or more the size of *L. angustifolias*, and grow much larger and faster.

Green Thumbs Found Here

By Melanie Potter



Ella plants the new herb garden in Poway

It's hard to imagine that not all the folks who work at WAN have green thumbs. For now, we will focus on those who do and one in particular, Ella (in our Poway store) is doing a great job of planting gardens for us all to enjoy.

Her latest project was to create an herb garden under the Silk Floss Tree. Already flourishing is thyme (lemon variegated and French), curry plant, mint (in pots because it is very invasive), a bay laurel tree, oregano (Cuban and Hot & Spicy), santolina (green and grey) and Rosemary. She has already completed a seed garden and native garden that surrounds a waterfall.

What's next as we continue with beautification projects at our stores? Look for a monkey puzzle tree to be planted in the parking lot at our Poway store. •

To Do List: February

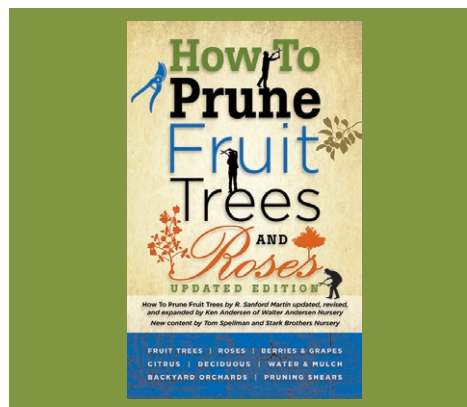


Prune Bougainvillea

Prune

Now Is The Time. Finish pruning roses and deciduous fruits and ornamentals before new growth starts. In late February, trim back tropicals like Hibiscus and Bougainvillea to clean up any damage received during the winter (after the danger of frost passes).

For pruning help, you can purchase our book **"How To Prune Fruit Trees & Roses"** at both of our stores. It's also available online at <https://shopwalterandersen.com/products/how-to-prune-fruit-trees-and-roses-updated-edition>.



Irrigate & Fertilize

Check Sprinklers. Turn them off during rainy times. If you haven't already done so, sprinkle fertilizer (we like Gro-Power) around before the rain so it can get watered in. Don't forget to take a look at your drains and remove debris from



Check sprinklers and irrigation



Plant potatoes, garlic, beets and more!

around them. A clogged drain can cause flooding.

Plant

Last of the bareroot Roses, Fruits, and Ornamentals should be planted. Citrus can also be planted now. Protect from frost if needed. Plant another crop of leaf lettuce, kale, broccoli, beets, carrots, radishes and cauliflower. Look for Camellias and Azaleas, cool-season vegetables, bulbs, potatoes, garlic, and Spring bulbs.

Pest Control

Dormant Spray. Give the last applications of dormant sprays such as Liqui-Cop or Oil Spray before buds start to break on deciduous fruits and ornamentals. •

Butterfly Garden Planting Chart

By Food Gardening Network

As beautiful as gardens can be, there's little that's more beautiful than a butterfly garden. Flowers and herbs of every imaginable color, sweet fragrance in the air, and the sound of peace and quiet? You can't beat it. And to make it even better, you can enjoy the graceful glide of butterflies on the breeze, hummingbirds stopping by to hover for a drink, and bees gathering pollen to help your food garden produce! A garden rich with flowers, butterflies, and bees might be a dream, but it can be a dream come true. •



Allium	Allium	Partial	Average, drought tolerant once established	Well-Drained	There are more than 700 species of alliums, both ornamental and edible, such as onions and garlic. They also can deter deer, rabbits, and insect pests.
Butterfly Bush	Buddleja davidii	Partial	Average, drought-tolerant once established	Well-Drained	A favorite among butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees. With more than 100 species, there is some variation in the environmental conditions they prefer.
Catmint	Nepeta racemosa	Partial	Average, drought-tolerant	Well-Drained	As a member of the mint family, Catmint is a hardy perennial that can grow in a variety of environmental conditions.
Phlox	Phlox paniculata	Partial	Average to dry, depending on the variety	Well-Drained	Known for abundant flowers and a light, pleasant fragrance, Phlox grows wild across North America and may grow anywhere from a few inches to a few feet tall, depending on the variety.
Clover	Trifolium	Partial	Average	Moist, Well-Drained	Clover is one of the first flowers to bloom in the spring, making it an essential plant for bees and butterflies.
Lupine	Lupinus	Partial	Average	Moist, Well-Drained	The Texas Bluebonnet may be the most famous Lupine, but there are around 200 varieties of this plant, many of which grow wild across North America.
Pansy	Viola tricolor var. hortensis	Partial	Regular	Moist, Well-Drained	The colorful Pansy comes in a wide array of varieties with both solid and multi-colored leaves. Pollinators love Pansies, and they're also edible and great in salads.
Violets	Viola	Partial	Regular	Moist, Well-Drained	Like the Pansy, Violets also produce edible flowers, rich in vitamin C.
New England Aster	Symphoricaricum novae-angliae	Full	Allow soil to dry between waterings	Well-Drained	These low-maintenance flowers bloom in late summer and fall, also called Michaelmas daisies because they bloom around September 29, the ancient feast day of St. Michael.
Blueberry Bush	Vaccinium sect. Cyanococcus	Full	Regular, steady watering	Well-Drained	Blueberries require acidic soil and regular watering due to their shallow root system.
Cornflower	Centaurea cyanus	Full	Drought-resistant	Well-Drained	This low-maintenance, cool season annual is perhaps most famous as the long-running logo for Corningware.
English Lavender	Lavandula angustifolia	Full	Drought-resistant	Well-Drained	This perennial herb attracts bees, butterflies, and has numerous culinary and medicinal uses.
Lilac	Syringa vulgaris	Full	Regular watering until the bush is established	Well-Drained	This fragrant shrub can reach up to 20 feet tall, and grow best in cooler climates as they require a period of winter chill in order to flower.
Sage	Salvia officinalis	Full	Drought-tolerant	Well-Drained	Sage may be an annual or perennial, depending on your climate. The plant also makes a great companion in the garden as it deters several pests.
Snapdragons	Antirrhinum majus	Full	Regular	Well-Drained	Snapdragons attract hummingbirds and butterflies, and comes in a variety of colors.
Orange Daylily	Hemerocallis fulva	Full	Drought-tolerant	Moist, Well-Drained	Daylilies may bloom from spring through summer. They get their moniker from the fact that each flower only lasts for one day.
Dill	Anethum graveolens L.	Full	Regular	Moist, Well-Drained	Dill may be best known as an important culinary herb, but the flowers of the dill plant attract bees, butterflies, and hover flies.
Fleabane	Erigeron annuus	Full	Regular watering, but drought-resistant	Moist, Well-Drained	Fleabane attracts bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.
Hollyhocks	Alcea rosea	Full	Regular	Moist, Well-Drained	Hollyhocks will reseed themselves and return each year.
Mallow	Malva sylvestris	Full	Moderate	Moist, Well-Drained	Mallow is an important food source for bees and butterflies.
Milkweed	Asclepias syriaca	Full	Allow soil to dry between waterings	Moist, Well-Drained	Native to North America, Milkweed is an important food source for many butterflies, and is the exclusive food source for Monarch butterfly larvae.
Shasta Daisy	Leucanthemum x superbum	Full	Regular, but drought-tolerant	Moist, Well-Drained	This common spring flower is a favorite of butterflies.
Sunflower	Helianthus annus L.	Full	Consistent	Moist, Well-Drained	Sunflowers provide nectar to pollinators, seeds to birds, and can grow up to 15-feet tall.
Zinnia	Zinnia sp	Full	Allow soil to dry between waterings	Moist, Well-Drained	The Zinnia is easy to grow and comes in a variety of colors. The flowers attract bees, butterflies, and songbirds.



Garden Talk
RADIO

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Shows This Month:

- 2/1 – Ken, George and John welcome Denise from San Diego Beekeepers Society
- 2/8 – Ken, George and John
- 2/15 – Ken, George, and John welcome Brijette from San Diego Seed Co.
- 2/22 – Ken, George and John Guest TBD



walterandersen.com

Garden Classes: February

Saturday classes are **FREE** and last about an hour. Complimentary coffee is served. During inclement weather, classes are held indoors in San Diego and on the covered, heated patio in Poway. Topics are subject to change. See the full schedule at <https://www.walterandersen.com/classes-events/>.

SAN DIEGO	POWAY
9:00AM	9:30AM
2/1 Staghorn Care & Remounting with Olivia	2/1 Grafting Fruit Trees with Tyler Trimble
2/8 Worm Composting with Kathleen	2/8 Proteaceae with John Clements
2/15 Bulb Planting with Kathleen	2/15 Orchids with Chuck McClung
2/22 Terrarium Construction & Care with Erin	2/22 Spring Seed Starting with Brijette of San Diego Seed Co.



SAN DIEGO'S GARDEN RESOURCE



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