

NORTHERN NEVADA



CONTACT
JAMES BALL
775-327-6726
JABALL@RGJ.COM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 2013 • RGJ.COM/LIVING

MASTER GARDENER

Gardening in NV: Bartley series

By Wendy Hanson Mazet
University of Nevada Cooperative Extension

Gardening in Nevada is challenging even for native Nevadans, but imagine how hard it is for those who are just moving to our area.



Learning how to garden anywhere is not easy, but Northern Nevada's hot, dry summers and unpredictable winters make gardening here especially difficult.

Newcomers and native Nevadans need to learn about our wide variety of soil types, from clay to sand. They also need to learn how to amend our local soil, which often is lacking in organic matter and might have pH levels not conducive to growing some plants. In addition, local gardeners need to consider the challenges that the weather will bring — false January springs to late spring frosts, early fall freezes, high winds and scorching sun — just to name a few.

To get the inside track on successful gardening in Northern Nevada, why not consult the local experts — University of Nevada

See GARDENER, Page 3E

PRODUCING FRUIT IN NEVADA

Michael Janik, UNCE Master Gardener volunteer and owner of the Nevada orchard Michael's Apples, will help local gardeners produce plentiful and delicious fruit through his Gardening in Nevada series classes on Feb. 12 and March 5.

An expert on successful fruit production in Nevada, Janik grows more than 100 apple varieties in his 4,000-square-foot orchard. His orchard also features several cherry, plum, peach and nectarine trees; as well as currants, grapes, elderberries, raspberries and hops. He is accomplished at grafting and specializes in growing espalier fruit trees, which are trained to grow flat up against a trellis or lattice.

Below, Janik shares with us how he got started producing fruit and which varieties he grows.

Question: How and when did you get started?

Answer: In the late '90s, I decided to plant five or six fruit trees that would grow in our backyard in Northern Nevada. I started reading books on apples and fruit trees and sent off for catalogs. In the spring of 1999, I had narrowed my five to six trees down to 20 must-have varieties of apples and about a dozen stone fruits. That year, with the initial planting done, I went back to the books and taught myself how to graft. Since then, I have grafted a few hundred trees each year since and expanded my collection to 100 varieties of apples."

Q: Which varieties do you grow?

A: Most of the varieties I am growing are antique apples such as Lady, Newton Pippin, and Esopus Spitzenburg. These and other antique apples have been propagated for many years because of their flavor and keeping qualities. I have several varieties of cider apples, including Wickson Crab, Brown Snout and American Pippin. I also grow some modern varieties like Fuji and Honeycrisp."

To learn more about Janik or his orchard, visit www.michaelsapples.com.

INSIDE TODAY

Calendar of events.....	4E
Cipher/word search.....	3E
Comics/puzzles.....	2E
Community news.....	5E
Crossword.....	3E
Dear Abby.....	3E
Horoscope.....	5E
Movie times.....	4E
Television.....	4E

FOCUS ON: HOME & GARDEN

20 things for \$50 (or less)

By Laura Longero
llongero@rgj.com

Winter in Northern Nevada, with its fluctuating temperatures and promise of snow, is not the time for gardening. But, if you're tired of being cooped up in the house, it is the perfect time to visit local retailers in search of a few new (or new to you) home furnishings to make your decor pop.

I recently visited three Reno stores, Bella's Trunk, the Niche and Wildflower Village in search of home items that cost less than \$50 apiece. Here are 20 things I found:

BELLA'S TRUNK

4305 B W. Fourth St.
Details: 775-313-8587

1. I love this multicolored pillow from Bella's Trunk in its varied hues of blues, purples and pinks. It would be lovely tossed on a couch or as a pop of color on a guest bed covered with white bedding. Cost: \$19.95

2. A nine-piece vintage ladies' hairbrush-and-mirror set is embossed with the letter "A." I don't know how I feel about using someone else's hairbrush, but the set would look lovely on a silver tray atop a dresser. From Bella's Trunk. Cost: \$30.

3. Vintage table runners and fingertip towels at Bella's Trunk are pressed beautifully and ready for use. Towels cost \$5 and table runners cost \$20.

4. Pink and gold goblets are perfect for having a glass of wine with a friend or for use by one couple at a dinner party featuring different sets of goblets. Cost: \$13.95 for the pair at Bella's Trunk.

5. The tag says these candlesticks are crystal, but the price leads me to believe otherwise. No matter, they're beautiful and would be a perfect accompaniment to a dining table set with china, crystal and antique silver flatware. Cost: \$24.95 for the pair at Bella's Trunk.

6. I'm an apron collector, and I love two sold at Bella's Trunk, embellished with lace and Victorian scenes. And you can't beat the price — they're \$16.95 each.

7. Sack towels are perfect for drying dishes, and vintage dinner napkins come in varied colors and fabrics, some embellished with lace. Sack towels cost \$4.95 each and napkin sets run \$7.50, \$8 and \$10 at Bella's Trunk.



8

THE NICHE BOUTIQUE

1300 E. Plumb Lane
Details: 775-348-8661

8. "Love with abandon" sign in the shape of a flower is just the right side of cute. The petals each are adorned with a different pattern and distressed to look old. But the message is apropos.

9. A sign that says "garden" is attached to a garden hoe and is \$29.95 at the Niche Boutique. Perfect for decorating the garden come spring.

10. I like this tilted mirror, which would be perfect atop a dresser without a mirror, near a ladies' jewelry box. Cost: \$34.95 at Niche.

11. Glass tube planters make the perfect bud vases — put one bud into each test tube-inspired glass tube for a whimsical touch to any room.



13

Cost: \$21.95 at Niche.

12. A white fleur-de-lis planter is perfect for housing flowers indoors — in the windowsill above a kitchen sink, perhaps? Think paperwhites or white daisies, or daffodils come spring. Cost: \$34.95 at Niche.

13. I saw this antique-inspired clock in white and yellow at the Niche. Nestle it between books on a bookshelf or a bedside table in the guest bedroom. Cost: \$29.95 at Niche.

14. Small white saford ceramic birds provide a whimsical touch to any space. Cost: \$15.95 each at Niche.

15. A teal-and-black "I love you, a bushel and a peck" sign will keep you singing the song all day long. Cost: \$49.95 at Niche.



14



5



20

18

19

WILDFLOWER VILLAGE

4395 W. Fourth St.
Details: 775-747-8848

16. Wildflower Village will be adding new items to the gallery in the coming weeks but even now has fun items for the home. First up, the medium top open box by Mimi Patrick runs \$20 at Wildflower Village. Use it for storing miscellaneous items that have no home.

17. The gallery is filled with expensive artwork, but "Fence" by Mark Hammon is affordable — and

beautiful — at \$35 at Wildflower Village.

18. Wooden wine stoppers made by Chuck Cozzi are \$11 each at Wildflower Village. The perfect hostess gift.

19. A small blue mixing bowl with whisk, made by Sharon Randall, is \$26 at Wildflower Village. Perfect for whisking eggs for an omelet or scrambled eggs for two.

20. Blueberry bowl is \$29 at Wildflower Village. This bowl would be lovely filled with blueberries in the summer or a bright citrus salad studded with pomegranates during winter.

Workshops, houseplant appreciation day

Staff report

Today

» Greenhouse Garden Center is holding a workshop, "Easy Grow Gourmet Sprouts," at 1 p.m. today at the nursery, 2450 S Curry St., Carson City.

This is the nursery's first 2013 seasonal workshop at Greenhouse Garden Center. This is a hands on workshop, presented by Owner David Ruf. Many supermarkets are no longer carrying sprouts and more might follow that trend. Botanical Interests seed company has come out with some new sprouts that are organic

with many heirloom varieties. All seeds are untreated, which means no GMOs.

Cost: There is a \$10 fee, which includes sprout seeds and a growing jar. For more information or to make reservations, call Greenhouse Garden Center at 775-882-8600.

» Are you ready for a touch of spring or a splash of green? Want to clean the air in your home or office? Are you looking for a quick way to update your décor? Join plant doctor Lisa Braginton to discover the joys of indoor gardening in "The Joys and Benefits of Houseplants" at 10 a.m. today at Moana Nursery, 1190 W. Moana Lane, in the Landscape

and Design Center.

Also this weekend, Houseplant Appreciation Day is running through Sunday at Moana Nursery. Customers will receive 20-percent savings on all regularly priced houseplants.

Feb. 2

Two classes are offered Feb. 2 at Moana Nursery, "Basic Pruning" and "Pruning Trees and Shrubs."

» During the basic pruning class, which runs from 10 to 11 a.m., plant doctor Jon Bruyn will discuss the fundamentals of pruning, including dos and don'ts, and required tools. Weather permitting, a demon-

stration will be done outside.

» "Pruning Trees and Shrubs" will be at 12:30 p.m. Plant doctor Jon Bruyn will discuss the techniques used by homeowners to keep trees, shrubs and ornamental vines healthy and looking good. Weather permitting, demonstrations will be done outside and participation is encouraged. Dress appropriately and bring gloves.

The seminars are free and held at Moana Nursery, 1190 W. Moana Lane, in the Landscape and Design Center. Arrive 15 minutes early, as seating is limited to 60.

Details: www.moan nursery.com or 775-825-0600.