

October Yard of the Month: Tended by the same hands since 1966

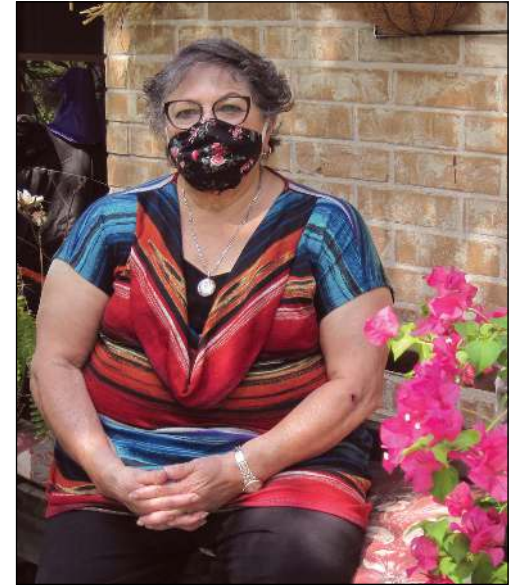


Baudelia Arredondo's entry patio looks out on fountain statue, gardenia and palms.

SHARON LOCKETT
SPRING LAKE GARDEN CLUB

"All my plants have a story," says Baudelia Arredondo, who has tended the same garden for over 50 years at her family's home on Candlelight Lane in Sunset Acres. Built in 1966, her house was one of the first in a new subdivision adjoining Interstate 35 when the family began landscaping a bare lot, planting two pecan trees and lining the front walk with boxwood. As plants became established, the Arredondo home was chosen as an early yard of the month for San Marcos. As Spring Lake Garden Club repeats this honor some 50 years later, we celebrate Baudelia's remarkable gardening skills, practiced even while she was employed full time and raising a family.

Today the entire yard is filled with an amazing collection of plants, with a preference for colorful tropical varieties in pots, along with beds of hardy natives, all accompanied by garden art such as metal birds and flowers and small statues. Baudelia



Arredondo sits with her favorite bougainvillea. Photos by Sharon Lockett

enjoys giving cuttings of her favorites to friends so they can add to their own plant collections, and she cherishes plants

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SOCIAL MOVEMENT

(Re)current Unrest challenges viewers to stay woke

CELESTE HOLLISTER
FEATURES EDITOR

One of the most important roles of live theater is that it gives audiences a window — or sometimes a mirror — of empathy through which we can view the world. The theater is a safe space, but not one without discomfort. It's a place where the stakes are not life and death, where we might be inspired to action or moved to tears, but at the end of the show, the lights go up, the curtains close, and the audience returns to normal life.

(Re)current Unrest challenges this mindset. The work reflects the state of unrest caused by Black America's social condition amidst the pursuit of the American Dream. As an

What's Showing:

(Re)Current Unrest

Online performance.

Saturday, October 10
at 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, October 11
at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets available at hornraiser.utexas.edu/project/21652

Price: Pay what you can

evening-length immersive performance, the show debuts as a livestream dance film that will enable audiences to engage via text-based chats post-performance in order to have those difficult-yet-crucial conversations about the systemic racism that exists in our country.

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(Re)current Unrest, pt. 2: In D'Nile (Momentum, 2017). Photo by Chain-ann Lu

Dianthus looks to be absolutely 'rockin' for fall



NORMAN WINTER
HORTICULTURIST, AUTHOR,
AND SPEAKER

Central Texans who always procrastinate planting cool season color better be on top of it this year if they want Rockin dianthus. This was a new series last year and disappeared quickly. Rockin dianthus is coming out of Pan American Seed. And is perennial in zones 5a-8b. That is a huge area geographically meaning happiness for gardeners everywhere.

The Rockin series will feature purple, pink magic which is multicolored, rose, and the most exciting red



Rockin dianthus comes in four colors, including a riveting red. Photo courtesy of Ball Horticultural

in the world of dianthus. Can believe Merry Christmas red, or Santa suit red?

Suddenly, we who fancy ourselves as color gurus, can imagine creating triadic harmony by adding this red to blue pansies and yellow snapdragons as well as

countless other options.

But since this is a perennial with more flowers than you can count in early summer think of the warm season options too. What also excites The Garden Guy is the anticipation of butterflies and pollinators. This dianthus can do it!

The Rockin series offers color, fragrance and a bounty of cuts for the vase if you want to do some artistic designing for the indoors. You have to admit, there is something special about cutting from your own garden and sharing. It might be as simple as

giving a bouquet of cut flowers from the garden to your neighbors or a Sunday school member who needs a little blessing. For cut flowers, it is recommended that stems be cut when three flowers are fully open.

The Rockin dianthus is upright and will reach 18-24 inches tall with a 12-inch spread. It will bloom in early spring, spring, late spring, summer, autumn and winter with a little guidance by shifting weather patterns. Though I am touting them as perennials you certainly will still get maximum value for your garden dollar even if you use them as annuals like your other dianthus.

They grow best in well-worked beds that are loose, rich in organic matter and well-drained. When preparing a bed, incorporate two pounds of a slow-release fertilizer with minor nutrients per 100 square feet of bed space. They will need plenty of sun to really bloom to their

potential.

For the prettiest display, set the Rockin dianthus out in drifts of three to four plants per square foot achieving a spacing about 12-inches apart. While I was dreaming earlier of triadic harmony and such by all means, consider inter-planting with spring daffodils, tulips and hyacinths and in beds with re-blooming Encore azaleas.

I casually mentioned above that most gardeners don't think about the dianthus as being part of a pollinator project. I assure you during my years at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens in Savannah that when the blooms opened up, we found gulf fritillaries, zebra heliconians, various swallowtails and sulphurs all participating in what seemed to be a fancy feast for butterflies. Follow me on Facebook @NormanWinter TheGardenGuy.