RAY HIGH SCHOOL BOTANY CLASS - PROPAGATION USING AIR-LAYERING
Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Rosemary Plank

You Have to Start Somewhere...
...and propagation is a great place to start! Attending the Tarrant County Master Gardener Propagation Specialist program April 21-23 of this year (and I can’t say enough wonderful things about this program) was a learning experience. It was an extension of information beyond that I learned in the Nueces Master Gardener Certification program back in August of 2015. Teaching is not new to me, my last job was one where I taught university faculty how to teach, but the teaching of horticultural propagation, rather than human reproduction, was a new adventure.

NMG Beverly Leach and Victoria Reyes, Ray High Biology Teacher, gave me that opportunity on Monday May 9th and Tuesday the 10th. On Monday students were instructed on the objectives of the learning experience, the basics of non-sexual propagation using the air-layering method and then saw an air-layering demonstration. On Tuesday the 10th they did hands on of what they learned in the demonstration, saw the result of air-layering propagation and heard a short discussion of aftercare. With a LOT of folks helping on Tuesday in the Ray greenhouse, and donation of plants by Mr. Ted Turner, it appeared to be an experience the students (with one exception) enjoyed.

I visited with Mr. Ted Turner a few days prior to the class, and we had a conversation which was vibrant and interesting and toured his various greenhouses (finding a night blooming cereus in a back corner). Mr. Turner is a true gentleman with a most interesting past.

Mr. Turner graciously donated oleander, croton, and dracaena. These plants were used to inform, not only of the process of air-layering, but protective needs such as the use of gloves, for both the plant and the person. The plants also provided opportunity for air-layering using slit and exposure of cambium methods.

Thanks for being there Victoria Reyes, County Extension Agent Kevin Gibbs and Nueces Master Gardeners Debbie Holliday, Beverly Leach, Alene Burch, Carlos Valdez for their help with the exercise! Thank you Mr. Ted Turner!!
Let the harvest begin!

I know I’ve done a lot of talking lately about community gardens, but you can’t help but get excited when other people are getting hyped about gardening. Our hard work has paid off and our gardeners are beginning to harvest herbs and vegetables from their gardens. We are seeing an abundance of herbs including basil, oregano, spearmint, peppermint, thyme and rosemary. Most locations have begun to harvest peppers, and a few tomatoes. At least one gardener has harvested yellow squash. And every location is on the verge of having oodles of eggplant.

Sabie Morlan and Brett Arredondo have done food demonstrations at every location and it has been very well received. Thanks Sabie and Brett! Sabie even made watermelon punch and used the watermelon as the punch bowl. It was very fun to watch. I’m very blessed to have such a wonderful group of people to work with.

On a side-note, the State Master Gardener Conference was held this past week in McKinney and I’m told that our organization received numerous awards. Unfortunately I was unable to attend. I will let you know what all we received at the next meeting. See all of you soon!

Ahoy Texas Master Gardeners
We’re Taking our 2017 Conference to the High Seas!
April 27 - May 1, 2017 from Galveston to Cozumel!

Come join us for aboard the Carnival Liberty™ for four special days of education and fellowship, along with sun, fun and ocean waves!

Your conference fee will get you 8 hours of exclusive education content during our time at sea and we’ll spend a day in Cozumel, where you may choose a shore excursion or just stay on board and relax.

Want to bring friends and family? Please do; the more the merrier!

For more information and to register CLICK THIS

Howdy,
We all have times in our gardening lives (this happens to me all the time) that we admire a plant in someones yard. They give us starter plant and a story, with a made up name. We go on our merry way with our new prize and plant it in what we think is an appropriate place. Amazingly it grows and if we are lucky it multiples. All of a sudden it starts to sprout and it grows and grows, and grows a six-foot spike. Now you have a bloom, but what is it??

Well, if you are a Master Gardener you ask your fellow Master Gardeners. No clue. Then you post on Facebook and search Google. But all you have is a made up name and a poor description of what it should look like and a fuzzy picture.

Then one day you are casually talking to a friend, who is also a Master Gardener, and they say “I think I have the same thing growing wild in my yard” and it is not really a lily but it is a native succulent.
Well, thank heaven for Google image. There it is and you have your answer, but you just hope it will surprise you again with another fabulous alien-looking bloom and more baby plants to give away to all the people who now want one in their yard.

Manfreda maculosa ‘Spot’ (Spot Deciduous Agave) Spice Lily, Texas Tuberose Zone: 7b to 9b, at least Height: 12" tall Culture: Part Sun Origin: Mexico, native to south Texas.

This is a groundcover manfreda (deciduous agave) that forms 2' wide rubbery rosettes composed of 3" wide glaucous green leaves, each heavily spotted with dime-sized liver colored spots in April, the rosettes are occasionally topped with 6' tall spikes of terminally produced alien-looking flowers with greatly extended sexual parts.

Good Gardening to all
Thur. Jun 2  -  Orchidology Class, 7pm
Sat. Jun 4  -  ‘Drip Irrigation, Catch-Can Audits” seminar by Nueces Master Gardener Suzy Murry, 10am
Sat. Jun 11 -  ‘Super Succulents” seminar, 10am,
Mon. Jun 13 thru Fri. Jun 17 -  Kids’ Half-Day Summer Nature Camp (birds/reptiles), BG, 8:45-12am, ages 5-7,
Sat Jun 18  -  ‘Mulch Worth More than Meets the Eye”, 10am
Sat Jun 18  -  ‘Reading our Palms” seminar, 10am
Sat & Sun Jun 18 & 19 -  Fathers’ Day free weekend, BG, just say “It’s Fathers’ Day” and dads get in free all weekend,
Mon. Jun 20 thru Fri. Jun 24 -  Kids’ Half-Day Summer Nature Camp (recycle/repurpose), BG, 8:45-12am, ages 5-7
Sat. Jun 25 -  “Hot Bloomers” seminar, 10am
Mon. Jun 27 thru Fri. Jul 1 -  Kids’ Half-Day Summer Nature Camp (Nature Rangers), BG, 8:45-12am, ages 5-7

For the Botanical Gardens 2016 Full Calendar of Events
CLICK THIS

Sat. Jun 4  -  “Creative Container Gardens” seminar, 10am,
Gills on Airline, 992-9674
Sat. Jun 11 -  “Creating Outdoor Spaces You’ll Live In & Love” seminar, 10am, on Airline
Sat. Jun 18 -  “Exploring Edible Native Plants & Weeds” semi-
nar, 10am, on Airline
Sat. Jun 25 -  “10 Tips For A Beautiful Summer Landscape”
seminar by Nueces Master Gardener DeAnna Baumgartner, 10am, on Airline,

MASTER GARDENERS MEETINGS
Tuesday, June 21 at Garden Senior Center

10:00am - Board of Directors Meeting
11:30am - Meet and Greet Over Lunch
12:00pm – Casey Williams will present a program titled "A Window into Aquaponics"
12:30pm – General Meeting

Thanks to the lunch volunteers for this meeting; Lan-Lee Lin, Beth Spirko and Rita Phillips

To volunteer for future lunches, contact Rita Phillips 991-0750 or email rpripphillscctx@grandecom.net

Check out the VMS Event Calendar for a complete listing of all available volunteer events

ONGOING PROJECTS
COMMITTEE/PROJECT CONTACTS - CLICK THIS

RAY HIGH SCHOOL GREENHOUSE  Tuesday MG Workday 9:00-11:00

FOOD BANK PROJECT  “Outgrow Hunger” Tuesdays 7:30a.m. (Except MG meeting day then Wednesday) Contact: Mary Lambert 813-7596 or e-mail her at cwlml@yahoo.com

NAT URE CONSERVANCY  Mondays, 4:00pm & Blucher Park 5:00 pm until sundown (Behind the Main Library). Contact: Karen Smith 877-9723

COURTYARD AT THE GARDEN SENIOR CENTER,  1st Monday, 9:15 a.m. Contact: Betty Whitt 991-5375

BOTANICAL GARDENS,  Wednesdays, 7:30 a.m.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

(GC = Garden Senior Center)

Wed. Jun 1 - Coastal Bend Cacti & Succulent Society, 7pm, GC, 687-6474
Wed. Jun 15 thru Fri Jun 17
Healthy South Texas Master Gardener Growing Healthy Communities Master Gardener Specialist T raining,  A&M Research and Extension Center, 10345 Hwy 44, (see page 5 for details)

Tue. Jun 21 - Aransas/San Patricio Master Gardener Association, 10am, 892 Airport Rd., Rockport, 361-790-0103

Thur. Jun 23 - Plumeria Society, 6:30pm, GC, 813-9616

Thur. Jun 23 - Bromeliad Society, 7pm, GC, 658-8650

Have Some Extra Greeting Cards?
Those extra greeting cards, you know – the ones that you bought just in case, quite a while ago, that are now stuffed in that shoe box, that you put on the top shelf of the closet and have forgotten or will probably never use - these can be put to good use.

If you can take the time to dig them out, and then dust them off, and donate those greeting cards which can be used and sent to your fellow Master Gardeners; please contact Linda Lamprecht at aragonmill@icloud.com
MOSQUITO REPELLENTS
University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences - C. Roxanne Rutledge and Jonathan F. Day

Click here for original PDF version of this article

How Do Mosquito Repellents Work?
Repellents make humans unattractive to a mosquito so that it will avoid areas of the body that have been treated with the product. Repellents do not kill mosquitoes. The best repellents will provide protection from bites for a long period of time from just one application. The University of Florida mosquito researchers test and evaluate the effectiveness of mosquito repellents based on the amount of time the product will continue to repel mosquitoes after one application to the skin. This is known as Complete Protection Time (CPT).

What Kind Of Mosquito Repellents Are Available?
Repellents that are currently available are either synthetic chemicals, such as DEET, or plant derived chemicals such as Citronella. Various formulations of these repellents are available that differ in the amount of active ingredient, which is the substance that actually repels the mosquito. These products are available as sprays, wipe-on's, sticks, foams, and lotions.

Product Labels
It is very important to read the label before using any mosquito repellent and remember the following:
Both N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide and N,N-diethylbenzamide are chemical names for DEET; the label may or may not have the word "DEET" on it. There are different recommendations for frequency of application for different repellents; do not over apply.

Check the container for an EPA-approved label and registration number; never use a repellent that has not been approved for use by the EPA. Make sure that the repellent label lists the insect that you need to repel; some repellents are not formulated for certain insects.

What About Products That Combine Repellents And Sunscreen?
The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) does not recommend using products that combine DEET with sunscreen. Sunscreens are intended for generous and frequent use while DEET is intended for less frequent use. The concern is that use of a repellent that combines the two compounds may promote increased and unnecessary use of DEET. Additionally, blending DEET with a sunscreen decreases the efficacy of both compounds. The CDC recommendation is to apply sunscreen first, then the insect repellent containing DEET, to be sure that each product works as specified.

What About Devices That Emit Sound To Repel Mosquitoes?
There is no evidence that wearing devices that emit sound will repel mosquitoes.

Will Garlic, Bananas, Or Vitamin-B Repel Mosquitoes?
There is no scientific evidence that eating garlic, vitamins, onions, or any other food will make a person repellent to mosquitoes. The attractant level of each individual to biting arthropods is based on a complex interaction of many chemical and visual signals. Certain foods in certain individuals may effect their individual attractiveness to biting arthropods, for better or for worse.

How To Decide Which Repellent Is Best
Read the label to determine what the active ingredient is and what percentage of the active ingredient is in the container. Use Table 1, (For Table 1, see the full article) based on University of Florida research, as a guideline to compare products. Some provide protection for a long period of time and some have very short protection times.

In 2005, the CDC revised their recommendations on mosquito repellents and added two repellents, in addition to DEET: Picaridin [1-Piperidinecarboxylic acid, 2-(2-hydroxyethyl)-, 1-methylpropylester] and Oil of Lemon-Eucalyptus [p-menthane 3,8-diol (PMD)]. The oil of lemon eucalyptus has not been tested against mosquitoes that spread malaria and some other diseases which occur internationally. The label for oil of lemon eucalyptus specifies that it should not be used on children under 3 years of age.

Keep in mind that repellents do not protect all users equally. The effectiveness of a repellent depends on the mosquito species that is biting as well as the age, sex, level of activity, and attractiveness of the human using the repellent. Consider the following when choosing a repellent:
- Are you in an area where you know that mosquito-borne diseases are present?
- What is the mosquito population like? (A lot of bites expected? Or occasional bites?)
- Will time spent outdoors at night be longer than an hour?

Continued on next page
• Will you be around heavily vegetated, humid areas during the day?
• What type of activity are you engaged in: exercising, gardening, yard work, etc.?
• Is the humidity and temperature high and wind speed low?

How To Apply Mosquito Repellents
READ AND UNDERSTAND THE LABEL!!! Apply according to the directions on the label. Do not use any repellent that has not been approved by the EPA. To find this information, you can visit the EPA’s website www.epa.gov or look for an EPA registration number on the label.
• As with all over-the-counter products, use common sense when applying. Watch for reactions, some people may be allergic to ingredients in the repellent.
• Do not apply to the mouth or eyes, cuts, wounds, or on sunburned or irritated skin.
• To apply to face, spray on hands first and then rub on face.
• Apply ONLY to the parts of the body that are exposed. Some repellents can be applied directly to clothing, but check the label first. Do not apply to skin that will be covered by clothing.
• Do not allow young children to apply repellents.
• Apply only as often as the label says. More is NOT better! If the repellent wears off earlier than expected, read the label to determine how often it is safe to re-apply.
• Keep in mind that some things may decrease the effectiveness of a repellent such as: activities that cause perspiration, high humidity, high temperature, rainfall, and swimming.

Safety of Mosquito Repellents
The EPA has determined that the normal use of DEET does not present a health concern to the general US population, and DEET used normally not classifiable as a human carcinogen. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) updated their recommendation for the use of DEET products on children (2005) to state that repellents containing DEET with a concentration of 10% appear to be as safe as products containing a 30% concentration when used according to label instructions. The AAP suggests that it is acceptable to apply repellents with low concentrations of DEET to infants over 2 months old. Non-DEET repellents have not been as thoroughly studied as DEET and may not be safe to use on children. There are no reported adverse events following use of repellents containing DEET in pregnant or breastfeeding women.

Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under 3 years of age. In the University of Florida research, summarized in Table 1, it should be noted that one subject experienced a skin reaction when testing the efficacy of the oil of lemon eucalyptus; the subject discontinued that portion of the study.

Natural Products
“Natural” is a word that is sometimes used to promote “safe” products. Unfortunately, the wording can be misleading for the uninformed individual. “Natural” products are usually essential oils distilled from plants; oils that have evolved with plants to defend the plant from insect feeding. These oils can be toxic and irritating in high concentrations. “Natural” repellents are not necessarily safe repellents.

http://mosquito.ifas.ufl.edu/Mosquito_Repellents.htm

Nueces Master Gardeners that are celebrating a birthday in June include the following. Be sure to wish them a HAPPY BIRTHDAY when you see them.

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FROM BETTY ROGERS
TIPS ON REPORTING YOUR HOURS
Hours are due on the last day of each month. Our agent’s reports are due on the first of each month. Please report your hours on time.

Submitted by Linda Lamprecht
My rose, which is named after DeAnna Baumgartner, has finally bloomed!
Even though we are fighting fungus and black spot it is still a pretty rose.

Thanks Jan & Ronnie Shannon!
XERISCAPE WORK DAY AND MEMORIES
By Nueces Master Gardener Jessica Latimer

On Saturday, May 14, Joanne Salge Nueces Master Gardener class 20, of the City Fire Department, held a Xeriscape Garden Work Day, at the garden in front of the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. I had not worked there in a long time, so decided to go and work. How nice it was to see an old friend Leland Johnson Class 1, and Ron Maxwell who was in my Class 4. With Joanne and Patty Sawyer Class 26, that made four of us MG’ers, or five - if we get to count that our own County Agent, Kevin Gibbs who was there to work also! There also were other volunteers from the Water Department, Communications, and the ESI (Environmental Strategic Initiative). So, from that workday, I decided to write this article because it brought back so many nice memories.

This is a brief history about the beautiful garden located in front of the Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History. The initial planning was done from 1991 until 1993. The design was created by local landscape architect Doug Wade, who passed away two years ago. During that time period the infrastructure was put in, the water system, the concrete slab retaining walls, the Gazebo, and the lovely brick work. The first planting was done in April 1994, mainly by Nueces Master Gardeners, headed by Leland Johnson. The Parks Department maintained the Xeriscape Garden until 2000, and the Water Department is now in charge of the garden. The Xeriscape Garden is Joanne’s “project”, and she plans 3 or 4 work days a year, and co-ordinates the activities of the maintenance company and the vendors that work there, even though she works with the Fire Department.

Back to the brick walk way, there is a Nueces Master Gardener Honor Roll of bricks laid there. At the time, if you worked 35 hours there, you got a brick with your name on it, and Leland would not let us “double dip”!!! The honor roll has the names of these Nueces Master Gardeners on bricks; Carolyn Wood, Jeanne Cazassis, Arthur Foss, Cathy Camp, Jessica Latimer, C. W. Carpenter, Gary Cowan, Leland Johnson, Betty Whitt, Lana Reed, Ted Stokes, Lila Bradshaw, Ron Maxwell, Susanne Butler, Inez Cheatham, Betty Noster, Shirley Whiteside and Nikki Samer. The bricks were laid about 1995 through 1996. There are also bricks “In Memory Of”, and “In Honor Of”, etc.

If you haven’t been down to the Xeriscape Garden please do go. It is small, but lovely, with the Harbor Bridge “humming” in the background, the ships coming up or going out of the ship channel. The setting is a special one, with the other museums and the Water Gardens within walking distance. And be sure to come on down the next workday, water, bananas, donuts, snacks all provided, even gloves, and maybe meet an old friend or two!

Growing Healthy Communities Master Gardener Specialist Training

The Master Gardener Growing Healthy Communities Specialist program is designed to train and certify Master Gardeners to become part of a state corps of community garden educators whose goal is to teach others gardening practices to produce healthy food options and increase physical activity. To become a certified Master Gardener Growing Healthy Communities Specialist, Master Gardeners are required to attend the Master Gardener Growing Healthy Communities Specialist training and provide 20 hours of service.

WHERE
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
10345 State Hwy. 44
Corpus Christi, TX 78406

WHEN
June 15, 2016 1:00 PM - 5:30 PM
June 16, 2016 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM
June 17, 2016 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

CLICK THIS
To get more detailed information and if you want to register
"THE RAY PAGE"
Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Rosemary Plank

W.B. RAY Senior Academic Awards Assembly, Thursday May 26, 2016, 9:30 AM in the New Auditorium.  
The opening, presentation of Colors by W. B. Ray NJROTC led to the presentation of multiple awards for the seniors of 
Ray. Awards that ranged from the multiple thousand dollar scholarships to community awards of lesser amounts.

The one award that stood because of appreciative humor, honesty, skill outside of, but inclusive of, grade point aver- 
age, was that presented by Beverly Leach, our Ray High Master Gardener from Nueces Master Gardeners. Beverly 
showed me her speech that was nicely written in proper English and paragraph format. This was the speech THAT SHE 
DIDN’T GIVE!

What she did say should have been recorded given that; it wove together a bit of Master Gardener History, what the 
aim and goals were of the Ray High program, and what the two award recipients, Delylah Henry and Bridget Trevino, 
accomplished over the past two semesters. It was done with humor that held the audiences attention, outwardly 
pleased the two student award recipients and ended with a round of applause. Cissy Renolds-Perez; W. B. Ray Prin- 
cipal and Lynn Harris Hartnett; Career & College Counselor joined in with hugs and smiles for the students: award win- 
ers.

RAIN BARREL PICK UP EVENT

On Saturday, May 7th the Nueces Master Gardeners participated in the Corpus Christi City rain barrel pick up event. 
Over 1,100 rain barrels were picked up between 9AM and 1PM. The Nueces Master Gardeners set up an information 
station and, in addition to assisting with the physical distribution, they were tasked with providing instruction on the 
assembly, installation and effective use of the rain barrels. In conjunction with that task, they gave information on and 
demonstrations of various water conservative irrigation systems that can be used with the rain barrels to increase 
their efficiency. Also being demonstrated were the types of soils and benefits of a landscape at capturing/retaining 
water and a demonstration of how pollutants are ingested into the natural water system. 
During the course of the day well over 100 individuals stopped by the Nueces Master Gardeners station for informa- 
tion on all of the aspects of our presentations, needless to say it was a busy, but enjoyable, day! CLICK ANY PICTURE
THE DUNG BEETLE
Submitted by Nueces Master Gardener Sandra Williams

Before moving to Corpus Christi, I lived in a rural area. There were pastures and woods to explore and quite often I would sit back and observe the plants and wildlife around me. Along with the wildlife which passed through or settled in, numerous stray and abandoned cats and dogs would wander up the drive from the highway. Occasionally a persistent mule and my neighbor’s cattle broke through his fences and spent lazy days strolling through my pasture, munching away at the greener grass and leaving behind an abundance of cow patties.

Apparently, the addition of cow patties tipped the balance of nature, and various other little critters soon arrived, drawn by the delectable odor of dung. While weeding a garden bed one morning, I noticed a marble-sized ball of something moving slowly along. A black beetle on top of this ball appeared to be directing the ball toward a hole in the ground, while another pushed it along. Fascinated by this bit of activity, I watched for a long time until the beetles and their treasure finally reached a hole and pushed the ball into the hole. This particular beetle, as it turned out, was a “roller” variety of the dung beetle. They locate dung through their sense of smell and use fresh, moist specimens from which they are able to extract nutrients and form brood balls.

Dung beetles are grouped as dwellers, tunnelers or rollers. Dwellers live on dung piles, lay their eggs and raise their young on site. Tunnelers dig down through the piles of dung, build tunnels below ground and arrange the dung throughout the den. This group stays with its young for up to four months while they grow and mature. Rollers move the dung away from the source, working in pairs. The female creates brood balls into which an egg is laid. These balls are deposited in holes and the dung serves as larval food once the eggs hatch. Each type of dung beetle plays a special role in recycling the nutrients in dung and in improving soil condition. They are especially important members of the eco systems of pastures. Some research suggests they may be instrumental in removing e. coli from fields, preventing contamination of crops.

Beetles have served as shamanistic and religious symbols since prehistoric times. Earlier people paid homage or worshipped much of the minutia of the natural world and seemed to be very attuned to the importance of the humblest life forms apparent to them. Certainly, any tribe raising cattle would have noticed those busy beetles of the dung heaps. The image of the scarab used by the Egyptians, once represented the god, Kephri, associated with the sun. It is seen in wall paintings and sculptures. Modern jewelers have borrowed the scarab in the form of a small carving of the beetle with hieroglyphics carved on the underside, using it as a good luck charm. It is definitely a collectible in Egyptian carvings and jewelry. Some years ago, scarab bracelets were a fad and status symbol among my adolescent peers. (I never did have one.)

One of the important take-aways is that we would be buried under a very large mountain of smelly refuse if not for these beetles and a myriad of other recyclers known as detritivores and decomposers. The lowly dung beetle is one of those detritivores in the cycle of returning waste material to its essential elements, to be used again in another lifecycle. Another outcome of their activities is improvement to soil fertility and structure. They are just one of the many “behind the scene” factors which we as gardeners may seldom consider.

Resources:
http://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/dung-beetle  More facts about life as a dung beetle
http://www.insects.org/ced2/scarabs.html  History of beetle symbolism
“Dung Beetle Benefits in the Pasture System,” Michelle Thomas, article written for ATTRA and available as a pdf.
Nueces Master Gardener John Balcar submitted some pictures of his plumeria - on the left is Vera Cruz Rose, starting many blooms.

NEWLY CERTIFIED
NUECES MASTER GARDENERS

Jill Barris
Class 26

Patty Sawyer
Class 26

The next time that you see them make sure that you give them a pat on the back and a very-very big CONGRATULATIONS!!!

NATURE CONSERVANCY AT BLUCHER PARK

At the May meeting Nueces Master Gardeners Karen Smith and Pat Botkin delivered the most interesting presentation “Birds and Plants of Blucher Park”. This Nature Conservatory is well known, nation wide, for its birding and dedication to native Texas plants. If you have never been there you should make time and plan a visit - it is well worth it.

The Nature Conservancy at Blucher Park is a ongoing Nueces Master Gardener project. It is scheduled for every Monday, 4:00pm & Blucher Park 5:00 pm until near sundown. Activities will vary depending upon the season. The conservatory is located behind the Main Library. If you want to volunteer your time or for more information contact: Karen Smith 877-9723. If you just want to show up and participate; bring gloves, some bug spray, plus a snack and a chair if you plan to stay for our Chat & Chew time. For a map to Blucher Park - CLICK THIS.

A Note From Your Master Gardener Gazette Editor

Editor: John M. Sluszarz   Phone: 361-939-0505   E-mail: jmsluszar2@gmail.com

It seemed most appropriate to include an article on mosquito repellents. As everybody already knows, the recent heavy rains have caused a tremendous bloom of mosquitoes and they will probably be with us for the rest of the summer. So, we will have to live with them and to do that everybody will be reaching for the mosquito repellent. The article in this issue on mosquito repellents is from the University of Florida (UF/IFAS), if anybody knows about mosquitos it should be them. The only things we can add to the article are; wearing appropriate clothing is very important, be prudent and select what you believe is the proper type of repellant, only use it per the package directions, in this instance more

Individuals with disabilities who require auxiliary aid, service, or accommodation in order to participate in any extension event are encouraged to contact their County Extension Office at 361-767-5217 at least one week in advance of the program in order for proper arrangements to be made.

In the event of a name, address or phone number change please contact the office at:
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
ATTN: Horticulture Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
710 E. Main, Suite 1, Attn: Horticulture
Robstown, Texas 78380     (361) 767-5217

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