

Read up on getting your garden ready

Written by Vickie Hardin

Monday, 14 January 2013 08:58 -

Although it is still wintery weather, which is subjective in our part of the country, it is time to prepare our yards and gardens for spring planting. I am no expert when it comes to gardening, but I do enjoy digging in the dirt. To save time, energy, and money I usually check out several books on gardening to make sure I at least give the plants a sporting chance of surviving.

There are too many gardening books to list here, but I do recommend these three: "Landscaping Southern Gardens" published by Sunset; "Envisioning the Garden" by Robert Mallet; and "The Layering Garden" by David L. Culp. These books contain instructions for basic design and construction of gardens including beautiful photos that will make your gardening projects much easier. Layered gardens are very popular no matter how much space you have to work with.

If you have a plant that will not thrive, check out "Why grow that when you can grow this? 255 extraordinary alternatives to everyday problem plants" by Andrew Keys. It could hold the answers to your questions about what to do with plants that seem to barely hang on.

Gardening magazines cover everything from trees and flowers to vegetable gardens. "Organic Gardening," "Louisiana Gardener," and "Garden Gate" are just a few of my favorites that are found in the library collection. Also, when you compare the cost of buying a magazine to getting it free at the library, you could save enough to purchase an extra hanging basket or two.

For other gardening information, go to the library website, www.bossierlibrary.org, where there are listings in the database for many other publications, eBooks, and videos about plants and gardening.

Make a note:

- Aulds Library will host a RELIC (Readings in Literature and Culture) program on the topic of the Vietnam War and experiences during and after the war. The facilitator will be LSUS English professor Kathleen Smith. She will discuss the book "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien. The dates for the programs are Feb. 11 and 25, and March 4, starting at 6 p.m. Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Call (318)742-2337 or stop by Aulds to sign up.

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- Book Match, the Bossier Central teen book discussion group has moved to the third Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be on Jan. 17, from 4:30-5:30 p.m., in the History Center meeting room. Call Tonya at (318) 746-1693.

- Thursday, Jan. 17, at 2 p.m. the Houghton Library will have Pre-school Storytime for ages 3-5 years. Call (318) 949-0196 for details.

- Saturday, Jan. 19, at 11 a.m., Pre-school Storytime for ages 3-5years will be held in Bossier Central Children's Services.

- Monday, Jan. 21, at 10 a.m., the Houghton Library will have Lapsit Storytime for ages 0-3 years.

New Books

Fiction

"Daughter of Light" by V.C. Andrews
"To Whisper Her Name" by Tamera Alexander
"The Hydrogen Sonata" by Ian M. Banks
"The Legend of Broken" by Caleb Carr
"The Orchardist" by Amanda Coplin
"Angel Betrayed" by Cynthia Eden
"Believe Like a Child" by Paige Dearth
"Relentless Pursuit" by Kathy Herman
"Red Cell" by Mark Henshaw
"The First Rule of Ten" by Gay Hendricks & Tinker Lindsay

Nonfiction

"The Dawn of Innovation" by Charles R. Morris
"Holding My Hand through Hell" by Susan Murphy Milano
"AARP Great Jobs for Everyone 50+" by Kerry Hannon
"Whole House Repair Guide" by Ken Collier
"Coaching Confidential" by Gary Myers
"The Art of Men" by Kirstie Alley
"The Whitney I Knew" by Bebe Winans
"Open Heart" by Elie Wiesel
"Undaunted" by Christine Caine
"Dear Chandler, Dear Scarlett" by Mike Huckabee

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