



Budding News from Sundance Gardens

August 2010



Hot Fun in the Summertime

It is summertime, definitely hot, and we hope you are having fun!

The recent summer heat has necessitated extra vigilance with our watering schedules, and you may notice a shorter bloom time on some of your perennials. If possible, water in the morning and avoid watering during the hottest part of the day. Also, using a hose or drip irrigation can prevent bacteria growth due to over spraying. And remember, the insulating properties of mulch will help keep the ground temperature constant and help retain moisture in the root zones of plants. This will reduce plant stress resulting from alternating cycles of drying out and excessive watering. If only it were so simple for us mortals!

Why not stay cool with some of our tasty ideas (*below*) for using your garden herbs? Maybe a **cool minty mojito** fresh from the garden will keep you remembering the fun of those summer days!

"That's when I had most of my fun.....those summer days" - Sly and the Family Stone



August Garden Center Tip

Be sure to deep water all your newly planted trees, shrubs, and perennials. Shallow watering forces the roots to be shallow, which makes for a weaker plant in the long run. Always deep water!

August Garden Center Special

Buy one perennial at the regular price and get the second same size perennial for 50% off. Limit one per visit.





Getting to know you...an interview with **Alexis Thomas**

How and when did you get started working with Sundance Gardens?

I grew up at Sundance since my mother and father started it when I was younger. I remember going on bids with my Dad when I was 7 or 8 years old. Then I worked here one summer in High School and helped out after graduating from college. I started full time in 2005 because I was interested in the family business and had a close relationship with Linda. I find it very therapeutic to plant, and I like being outdoors.

What is it like working with your Dad?

It has brought my Dad and me closer. I work hard and he respects that, and I respect how hard he works. I like seeing him on a daily basis and we have a similar work ethic.

You and Linda work closely together in the Garden Center; what is that like?

I have known Linda since I was 2 years old, and she is another mother figure to me. She has taught me a lot and has made it a joy to work here. She has made the Garden Center a successful business, which means a lot since it is my family business.

What do you like best about working here?

Over the last 5 years, I have met a lot of cool people who share a love of plants and the environment. Many of our customers have affected my life in a positive way. I also love hand-picking our plants. We are the only place that hand picks all our plants. We take a lot of time and care for our customers.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I like to play soccer, read, and watch sports.

What would we be surprised to learn about you?

I recently bought a restaurant! In October, I bought the Lakeshore Cafe with my Mom and brother, and if I am not at Sundance you can find me there.



CSU Flower Trial Gardens

Colorado State University recently hosted a Turf and Horticulture Field Day that included stops at several ongoing Research Projects and The Plant Select Perennial Research Project. A walk around their Annual and Perennial Flower Trial Garden showed the plants being evaluated for future inclusion as Top Performers for the garden industry. The gardens are



free, open to the public, and truly a spectacular sight.
[click here for more information](#)



Plants of the month: Herbs

Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, & Thyme...

Not only are fresh herbs easy to grow and great for flavoring many summer dishes, some actually **repel** the deer and elk when planted in your garden. The heavy scent of chives, lavender, sage, garlic, spearmint, and thyme are thought to confuse the animals' predator alert sensors. Try planting these highly fragrant plants in your existing flower beds or create a border to help keep unwanted foragers away.



Then pick a bunch and experiment with them in your recipes. Here are some of Sundance's favorite combinations: Cindy's Pesto Pasta with Grilled Chicken, Gail's Pork Tenderloin with Rosemary & Garlic, Alexis' Tomato, Mozzarella & Basil Salad, Kathryn's Chive & Thyme Herb Butter with Corn off the Cob, Arlene's Roasted Root Vegetables with Oregano, Garlic, & Rosemary. And of course don't forget the Mint Mojitos! [click here for more information](#)



Customers Corner

Do you have an amazing annual? A brilliant border? A compelling combo? We would love to see your photos and share them with our newsletter subscribers!

Please send your favorite garden picture to kboylston@msn.com and we will share some in our future newsletters. We can't wait to see what **you** have in **your** garden!



Please call us for a free landscape estimate at 303.670.0358, and be sure to check out photos of our work at our website: www.sundancegardens.com. We look forward to working with you soon.

Sincerely,

Your friends and neighbors at

Sundance Gardens & Landscaping

Serving Our Evergreen Community for Over 30 Years



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10%**

Plan now for Fall and Winter Landscaping! This coupon good for 10% off Landscaping work started after September 15, 2010. Includes water features, retaining walls, patios and more. [Click here for more info](#)

Offer valid for work started and completed between September 15, 2010 and March 1, 2011