

2013 Holiday Happenings

While the end of the year is just around the corner there is still time to catch some of the holiday spirit around town. Here are some events to make the most of 2013 with friends and family.



Light the Night Spectacular

Where: Ethel M Chocolate Factory

When: Now through December 31, 5pm-10pm

What: An amazing display of lights draped over a huge collection of cacti and other desert plants at The Botanical Cactus Garden of the factory.

http://www.ethelm.com/about_us/current_events.aspx

Sunset Park 1st annual Sunset Wonderland Holiday Festival

Where: Sunset Park

When: Now through December 22, Monday –Friday: 4pm-9pm, Saturday and Sunday: 10am-9pm

What: Festivities include an ice skating rink, horse and buggy hay rides around the lake, crafts, performances, and photo opportunities with Santa.

<http://www.clarkcountynv.gov/depts/parks/Pages/sunset-wonderland.aspx>

Santa Train at Boulder City

Where: Nevada Southern Railway station in Boulder City

When: December 21 and 22, Departure times at 10:00am, 11:00am, 12:00pm, 1:00pm, 2:00pm, 3:00pm

What: Train rides, model train displays, photos with Santa, what more could you ask for?

<http://www.nevadasouthern.com/SantaTrain.html>

Glittering Lights

Where: The Las Vegas Motor Speedway

When: Now through January 1, Sunday- Thursday: 5:30pm-9pm, Friday and Saturday: 5:30pm-10pm

What: This event has been transported from Sunset Park to the Las Vegas Motor Speedway this year. The display will feature 2.5 miles of twinkling lights for your family and friends to drive through and experience.

<http://www.glitteringlightslasvegas.com/>

"It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness."
— Charles Spurgeon

FAVORITE FLORA:

EUONYMUS JAPONICA 'GREEN SPIRE' - GREEN SPIRE EUONYMUS



This month's favorite flora is a relative newcomer to the United States landscape when compared to some of the other plants covered over the years. While there are many varieties of *Euonymus japonicas*, the cultivar 'Green Spire' has a one of a kind shape. *Euonymus*' are native to Japan, Korea and China and Green Spire is no exception. It is best grown in partial shade in Las Vegas but can be grown in full sun to full shade locations with the proper care and placement. *Euonymus* species are known for their evergreen, dense foliage of glossy, dark green leaves but don't expect much in the way of blooms out of these plants. Green Spire takes on a unique shape from other *Euonymus*. It is a tall, narrow plants with shoots reaching 6-8 feet tall while staying 1-2 feet wide. U.S. National Arboretum staff discovered this cultivar in Japan in 1978 and brought it back to the United States where it was distributed in 1982 under the cultivar 'Bekomasaki', a Japanese descriptive name of

Skyfire
Henderson, NV
Stan Southwick

Photo of the Month

no botanical standing. It was later given the valid cultivar name 'Green Spire' in 1991.

Green Spire is a great plant for narrow spaces. It can be left in its natural form to screen windows or walls or it can be sheered into hedges. This shrub works as a foundation or accent plant in Japanese and tropical landscapes as well as a backdrop to Mediterranean garden.

