

Adapt or perish, now as ever, is nature's inexorable imperative. - H. G. Wells

A MESSAGE FROM STAN SOUTHWICK



Have any of you played the party game where everyone sits in a circle and one person whispers something to the person next to them who then whispers it to the next person until it has gone completely around the circle? The initial statement invariably changes and usually quite dramatically. Recently I have felt caught in the middle of a large circle getting information on one hand, trying to interpret it and then pass it along. Most of us who get information and pass it on are sincerely trying to be accurate and helpful, but because of our different perspectives and human nature we sometimes add or subtract pieces of the information. The economic news seems to be somewhat the same. Have we hit bottom? Is the end in sight? Will I have a job tomorrow? Although we at Southwick LA have downsized and adjusted our working hours, we are still moving forward. Our clients are wonderful and we enjoy working with each of them. We are designing some exciting and challenging projects that will really

have a positive influence on those who use them. Sunset Park Phase I has begun construction with its dunes preserve area, history boards explaining the evolution of the site, interpretive kiosks to educate visitors, miles of walking paths, and a unique playground area surrounded by a native plant garden. Reunion Trails Park will have a hi-tech playground incorporating video game technology into the contemporary equipment, a large splash pad area unique to any other around, and art work that has been incorporated into the site furniture, walls and shade shelters. We continue to move forward with a positive view for the future knowing that all things change. Positive change is good ... variety is the spice of life.

GILMORE CLIFF SHADOWS PARK

This fourteen acre park for the City of Las Vegas is located at Gilmore and Cliff Shadow Parkway. The land was leased from the BLM by the City to make this park and trailhead. The park design has preserved as much natural area as possible including a natural wash and foothills overlooking the city. Some existing plants were salvaged and reused on the site to help mimic the surrounding areas. The park features include parking, restrooms, open play areas, picnic shelters, playgrounds and natural rock retaining walls to secure the steep slopes. The wash trailhead has a large parking lot for horse trailers. Equestrian users have direct access to the surrounding foothills.



FAVORITE FLORA:

SETCREASEA PALLIDA - PURPLE HEART



Don't try and adjust your screen, this plant really is purple. Purple Heart (*Setcreasea pallida*) is a great plant to add year round color to your landscape. This creeping groundcover is a native of Mexico, growing to about 1ft. high and spreading to about 2ft wide. Being from warmer climates, Purple Heart prefers full sun to light shade. Heavier sunlight will bring out more of the purple in the leaves. During a frost the top portion of the plant can die back, but the plant will recover when the weather warms. Small pink to purple flowers dot

the plant throughout most of the summer. Purple Heart requires moderate watering every week or two to keep the growth lush in appearance.

The intense coloring of this plant makes it a perfect accent to planters and pots alike. The runners are perfect for cascading down a wall, rocks or a hanging basket. Purple Heart can even be grown indoors adding its color to an office bookshelf. If a more compact growth is desired prune back any fast growing shoots. Keep this plant away from high traffic areas as its stems are brittle.

This summer you might have noticed a tropical looking shrub with bright orange and red flowers around the Las Vegas Valley...

PHOTO OF THE YEAR



LIQUID PHENOMENA
FERN CANYON, NV
LINDZAY GREEN