

Thanks...giving - By Stanton Southwick



During this time of year, we often think about what we are thankful for. Some come easily to mind because their names alone bring a feeling of warmth (family, friends, love, etc.) while others may at first look like you shouldn't be thankful for them at all. Upon deeper thought, those that seem daunting can actually be anything but.

Trains, cars, airplanes, horses, and buggies that allow us to travel great distances to share Thanksgiving with our loved ones.

The spouse who complains when dinner is not on time, because s/he is home with me, not with someone else.

The teenager who is complaining about doing dishes, because that means she is at home & not on the streets.

The mess to clean after a party because it means I have been surrounded by friends.

The taxes I pay because it means that I'm employed.

The clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat.

My shadow who watches me work because it means I am out in the sunshine.

A lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home.

All the complaining I hear about our government because it means we have freedom of speech.

The space I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking.

My huge heating bill because it means I am warm.

The lady behind me in church who sings off key because it means that I can hear.

The piles of laundry and ironing because it means I have clothes to wear.

Weariness and aching muscles at the end of the day because it means I have been productive.

The alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I'm alive.

Getting too much email that bogs me down because it means I have friends who are thinking of me.

What will you add to your list during this "Giving of Thanks" season?

" Thank you to everyone... for being who you are, your support, and your friendship throughout the years "
~SLA

Favorite Flora:

...Parsley, Sage, Rosemary, and Thyme - By Caryl Davies



Photo Credit: Jenni Kayne

Thanksgiving brings to mind family and friends, whether gathered at a table or in our hearts. The centerpiece of the table is usually a nice turkey with stuffing and other yummy side dishes.

What makes many of the dishes so delicious are the fresh herbs added for flavoring. Oftentimes we think of growing plants in the hot desert as limiting, and growing food items as not negotiable. However, we can grow many food producing plants in the Las Vegas valley. In fact, many herbs do very well here.

Like the lyrics to a popular Simon and Garfunkel song... parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme can easily be grown in our hot desert. Outdoors or indoors. In a garden bed or in a pot. If starting seeds, start them indoors and transplant outdoors after the tender shoots have matured. If planting from small nursery plants, go ahead and transplant right away.



Our Thankful Tree
SLA Land Architects

Think outside the box and incorporate the herbs into your landscape utilizing their particular growth properties for an aesthetically pleasing look... thyme as a groundcover, sage and parsley as a small 'shrubs', Rosemary can be either a groundcover or a shrub depending on the variety. Besides producing food, herbs also attract many beneficial insects. Just remember, you are eating these so avoid all pesticides. A bonus is that you can dry your herbs for use year-round! You can even use them as fragrant decorations for your Thanksgiving table (I love using rosemary cuttings)!

Pay attention to the season and when each herb grows best, and you'll thankfully find yourself quietly gathering fresh herbs from your yard rather than rushing to the grocery store to buy them. Bon appetit!

"An optimist is a person who starts a new diet on Thanksgiving Day" - Irv Kupcinet