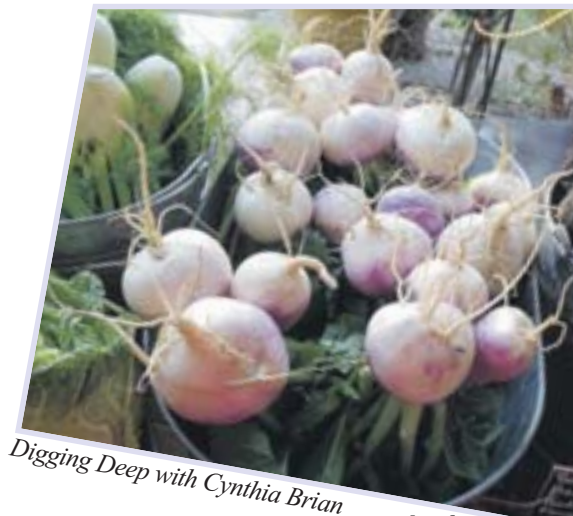


Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 08 Issue 14 Wednesday, September 10, 2014



Digging Deep with Cynthia Brian ...read on page D13

What to Do With All the Books?

Creating a “home library” needs organization

By Chris Lavin

You’ve got to have it: That latest book, something from an interview on NPR, or Fox News, or the New York Times best-seller title that seems to resonate. You order it, or better, you end up buying it from an independent book-seller. Then what? If you’re like most of us you get the book, think “I can’t wait to look at this!” and it ends up in one of three places: the bedside table, next to the toilet, or – in those few homes with open space on bookshelves – on a shelf.

Book buying is still a passion for those who haven’t taken kindly to a Kindle or a Nook, but it also poses problems. What to do with a physical book collection is a challenge in many homes – impossible shelves full of books, with more coming in all the time.

Think dust.

“Some people just prefer paper,” said Randy Young in a simple way. He doesn’t seem to be concerned about dust. He is a volunteer for the Moraga Friends of the Library,

and works in the store there selling other people’s cast-off books, and shrugged off the question of keeping books clean in every nook and cranny. “Books are great!”

Right. Home libraries are full of books that have been read, are intended to be read, or are just

there because they are great books that might be visited again. Just looking at them can be rewarding. Managing what comes in and goes out seems to be the key to keeping the house a healthy and happy environment.

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Molly Young’s home library is organized by subject and by how often a book might be revisited.

Photo Chris Lavin