

Lamorinda OUR HOMES

Lamorinda Weekly Volume 16 Issue 24 Wednesday, January 18, 2023



The Real Estate Quarter in Review

read on Page D4

Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Stunning storms and 2023 Garden Trends, Part two



Camellias are blooming.



The color of the year, orange calendulas offer sunshine in the rain.



Madeira and sage are happy bedmates.

Photos Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

“Hope and faith flower from the cheerful seeds of the old year to the sprouting garden of the new year's dawn.” ~ Terri Guillemets

For the past three-plus weeks, we have endured intense storms (bombogenesis) with strong winds and extreme precipitation. Substantial atmospheric rivers caused flooding, mudslides, debris flows, and power outages. Rock-filled dry creeks are raging, trees have been uprooted, and many residences required sandbags as protection from the heavy showers.

I am grateful for the rain and only wish I had personal reservoirs and underground cisterns to capture the run-off as my barrels and

buckets are overflowing. Despite the torrents, the drought is not over. We need more rain.

Weeds and seeds are sprouting everywhere. On my hillside, orange and yellow self-seeded calendula plants are blooming while poppy plants are peaking through the soggy soil. I have begun weeding daily, even in the downpours, as the small seedlings are so much easier to pull. Bruce Macler, a regular reader of Digging Deep and an Ambassador for MOFD's Fire Adapted Community program wrote me to encourage gardeners to start pulling out non-native, invasive, flammable, and difficult-to-control Brooms including Cystisus, Gentista, and Spartum while the soil is soft.

... continued on Page D8