

Home, Lawn & Garden

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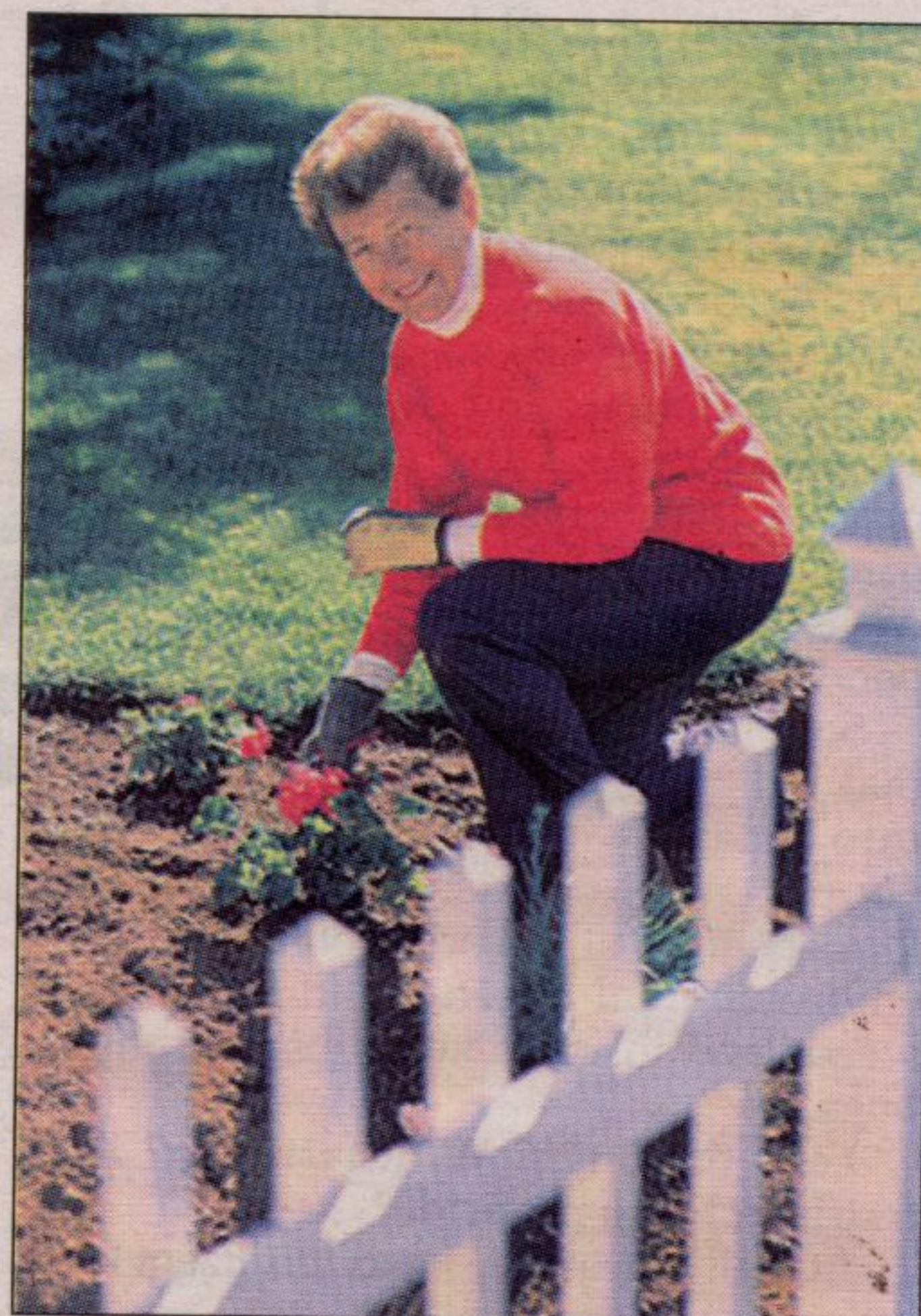
Many of us plant perennials in hopes that they will cut down on our garden work the following year. We expect them to provide the same beautiful blooms as last season. We may even make plans for the next several years, choosing just the right combination of green plants and flowers.

During all of this careful planning we forget about which perennials will bloom the longest time. We know that they will come back next year, but which ones will bloom for the better part of the season? Check into some of these long-blooming perennials and enjoy the colors of your garden from spring through fall.

Laura summer phlox resembles a nosegay of delicate flowers. The cluster of tiny flowers blooms a pretty purple color from summertime to early fall and is disease-resistant. If planted in a sunny, fertile area and kept moist, it will grow to be about 42" high and 18" wide, and will survive temperatures up to 30 degrees below zero.

May night salvia is a regal combination of long, green stems topped with violet, feather spires. It blooms in late spring and then takes a break for a couple of weeks. It returns and blooms until the first frost, if properly cared for. If kept in full sun and the dead flowers are trimmed off promptly, it will grow up to 18" high and 18" wide, and will survive temperatures up to 30 degrees below zero.

Anthea yarrow flowers are clusters of button-like, yellow blossoms. They gather on sturdy, silver-green stems.



As the season passes, the flowers turn cream-a perfect complement to bright fall colors. They need to be planted in an area that receives full sun so they can bloom all summer and fall. They will grow up to 24" tall and 18" wide. The flowers are extra-hardy and will survive temperatures up to 40 degrees below zero.

The Becky shasta daisy bursts with a bright yellow center and pristine petals. This ever-popular flower blooms all summer and is a perfect flower for wedding bouquets. If planted in a sunny location and the dead flowers are removed as they appear,

See LONG-BLOOMING, pg. 15

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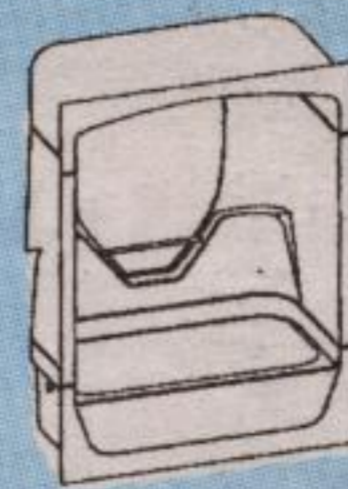
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