Beauty Spot of the Month for September

Congratulations Lauren and Joseph Valentino of 10112 Cornwall—you are the winners of the September 2015 Beauty Spot of the Month!

As we drove by this month's selection, we were drawn in by the lushness of the beds. The bed in front of the house is filled with laurel. On the left side of the driveway, the layer closest to the house is full of Acuba and Domestica Nandina. It is rounded out with azalea, hosta, and assorted plants in pots. These add a wonderful backdrop for the gems that make this yard pop.

On closer inspection, there are three themes on display in this yard:

1. ATTRACT POLLINATORS

At the corner of the beds in front of the house and to the left of the driveway is a large Butterfly Bush, still blooming with purple buds and many bees and butterflies fluttering about. Also on display, and attracting more pollinators, is Rudbeckia (black-eyed susan), Echinacea (purple cone flower), and sedum.

2. INTEGRATE HERBS INTO THE LANDSCAPING DESIGN

At the top of the driveway, by the front door, is a big bush of a plant, blooming with white flowers. At first glance, you might think it is Queen Ann's Lace, but on further investigation, you will be surprised to see that it is actually chives that have been allowed to go to seed and flowered. Also, embedded within the design are rosemary and sage. The herbs add shape, texture, and scent to the garden.

3. VEGGIE CONTAINER GARDEN

At the top of the driveway, to the right, is a lovely little container garden with colorful cages supporting tomatoes and peppers. A pot with bright bold orange marigolds plays nicely against the red of the tomatoes and also acts as a bug repellant.

Stop by and see this beautiful yard— it's chock-full of great design ideas!

(Photo credit goes to Ernie Klimonda)

Respectfully submitted, Jennifer Judelsohn Joyce Skoglund Country Hills Garden Club