

## MEMBERS' FORUM

### HEALING GARDENS AROUND

I read with interest "Gardens for Recovery" (November/December), specifically in regard to the Legacy Healthcare System gardens and programs in the Northwest. The East Coast is also well represented by gardens at rehabilitation hospitals such as the Rusk Institute, Bryn Mawr, and others, which have programs run by horticultural therapists like me who are accredited by the American Horticultural Therapy Association (AHTA). We provide input on the design of these settings, which we use to help clients recover physical or emotional function. The AHTA has about 800 members in the United States, Canada, Japan, and beyond. Several universities and other organizations offer degree and certificate programs in the field.

Laurie Sexton, HTR  
New York, New York

### BIRCH NOMENCLATURE CORRECTION

I wanted to note that in the article about John L. Creech by Leah Chester-Davis (November/December) the scientific name of the 'Whitespire' birch was listed incorrectly. I introduced the 'Whitespire' birch in 1983 from plants thought to have been grown from seeds Creech collected in Japan. At the time of its introduction, 'Whitespire' was assumed to be a cultivar of *Betula platyphylla* var. *japonica* due to faulty records at the Longenecker Horticultural Gardens of the University of Wisconsin Arboretum. We now know that it is a cultivar of gray birch (*Betula populifolia*).

Edward R. Hasselkus  
Horticulture Professor Emeritus  
Curator, Longenecker Gardens  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

### New Password for Website

The members-only section of the AHS website ([www.ahs.org](http://www.ahs.org)), provides access to membership benefits as well as the contents of each issue of *The American Gardener* since January/February 2001. To access the section, the username is always **ahs** and the password, effective February 1 for 2010, will be **oak**. Until this date, the password is **seeds**. Both username and password must be entered in lowercase letters. As a reminder, the password is always listed on page 5 in each magazine issue.

**PLEASE WRITE US!** Address letters to Editor, *The American Gardener*, 7931 East Boulevard Drive, Alexandria, VA 22308. Send e-mails to [editor@ahs.org](mailto:editor@ahs.org) (note Letter to Editor in subject line). Letters we print may be edited for length and clarity.

*Nature creates with purpose.*



Vertical Gardens/Vegetated Retaining Walls

*So do we.*

**Furbish Company**  
LIVING ROOFS | LIVING WALLS

[www.furbishco.com](http://www.furbishco.com)  
443-874-7465