



Photo: Maggie Becher

Native Plant Nursery Blossoms in Carmel Valley

BY RENEE BRINCKS

A Help-the-Monarchs campaign piqued Maggie Becher's interest in gardening, eventually leading her and her husband to start their own native plant nursery.

About a decade ago, inspired by a help-the-monarchs campaign, Maggie Becher planted some milkweed. The potted plants flourished atop her Carmel Valley picnic table. Inspired to learn more, the inexperienced gardener and her husband, David, registered for plant propagation classes at Monterey Peninsula College.

Their fascination with California native plants grew, and in 2013 they established Blue Moon Native Garden.

"I didn't set out to start a business. I just wanted to help the monarchs. Now, I say that the monarchs helped me," says Becher.

She welcomes customers to the nursery by appointment, showcasing thousands of hand-watered flowers, shrubs and trees. She also ships from an extensive online seed store,

updating the inventory each month.

Becher collaborates with landscape architects, contractors, hedgerow installation crews and other garden professionals, supplying plants for large-scale projects and custom jobs. For homeowners, she offers colorful options suited to distinct microclimates and diverse landscapes.

She especially enjoys recommending blooms that bring pollinators to yards and gardens all year long.

"I'm not the only one who wants hope and happiness in life. When you do a backyard restoration, and you support the beneficial insects and butterflies and birds, it just gives you such a feeling of satisfaction," Becher says.

For online orders, appointments, and more information, please visit bluemoonnative.com.