

# Hasting Plants



Spring 2018

*We're well worth the drive!*

## Hours:

### March 19 to April 8

9-4 Mon-Sat.

Closed Sunday

### April 9 to May 13

9-6 Mon-Friday

9-4 Saturday

1-4 Sunday

### May 14– until closing

9-6 Mon-Fri

9-4 Saturday

9-4 Memorial Day

Closed Sunday

*(Open the last three Sundays in April,  
the first two Sundays in May)*

## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HASTING PLANTS, LLC

We are a seasonal greenhouse operation, specializing in annual and perennial flowers. We feel we have one of the best selections in the area and try to live up to our slogan that *"We're well worth the drive"*. We do not handle trees and shrubs, or do design or installation work. This leaves us more time to grow and produce the best selection of herbaceous plants for you. We are open for business from the middle of March until the middle of June (we actually start working in the greenhouses in January every year). The season might vary according to the weather. We grow almost all of our plants, which we feel is a great bonus for you in variety and quality.

## NOTES FROM NANCY

As I write this another flood is receding. A flood during planting seasons isn't as devastating as the one we had in 2011 during April and May - our selling months, but it still presents problems. Our buildings are safe; it is just the road that floods. We had 7 ½ feet over the road at the deepest part. We were flooded out exactly 2 weeks. The hardest part is dealing with all of our plant deliveries - somewhere between 5 to 8 each week. The lack of workers to get those plants planted is even worse. If the weather is nice - not too cold or windy, and the water is high enough, we can boat a few workers in. That only happened 3 days this time. When we get back to work there is a lot of catching up to do. When you come in April, you probably won't notice a difference, but those early birds in March will see we are a bit behind!

This has been a fun year in other ways. We attended a huge plant tour in Michigan put on by several of the larger greenhouses and Michigan State University. I have a lot of new plant varieties to try and got plenty of inspiration. I also attended the Atlanta Market for giftware in the building and as usual it is overflowing!

The rest of my "off" season included getting the 6<sup>th</sup> greenhouse up and running as well as all the ordering, displaying and clean-up tasks we usually have. I spent a large amount of time doing WW I research - there is another article in this newsletter about that.

I hope you come and enjoy our efforts this year. I'm excited about the plants we are offering and how good they look at this point! See you soon!



Hasting  
Plants

## NEW IN THE BUILDING

Here is some of the merchandise you'll find in the building - I've overdone it again. The building is overflowing!

Messina Deer Repellent (which we had good reports on last year), as well as a new dog and cat repellent! Decorative Glass Globes with LED lights great for a tabletop on your patio, or inside.

Unique bamboo wind chimes. Lawn tables that have stakes at the bottom to stick in the grass.

Only 2 very unique fire pit "globes". Each one has a laser cut design over the top that is magical with flames peaking through - I'm hoping one will be left that I can have! Smaller wind chimes, including some for the Armed Services. Great Balancer Yard Art and Wind Spinners - a couple that light up when spinning. A new Turf and Ornamental Weed Stopper - easier and works better than Preen (for flowers only). Unique rain gauges, including one that rises out of a cylinder when it rains. Shepherds Hooks in smaller sizes, and Trellis' in larger sizes. Lots of new iron-work. Some very fancy and well-made birdhouses. Unique glass bud vases with metal stands. Quality Wallaroo brand hats in wonderful pastel colors for gardening or anytime. Some of these are SPF 50! We have way too much new merchandise...I need someone to hold me back!

We also have really great markdowns on a couple of the large fiberglass fountains, the four arbors in the building, Christmas flags and mats, UK and Colts merchandise. The potting benches we've used in the building for displays are being replaced. We will be selling several of these at bargain prices.

## TIMELINE

Just a few dates that hold true most every season:

We **open** each year around **March 15** - give or take a few days depending on weather.

**Onion Slips** come in the **first week of April**

**Newsletter** mailed around **2<sup>nd</sup> week of April**

Extended opening hours **2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April**

**Sweet Potato slips** come in **first week of May**

**Late Night** is the third Friday night in May

**"Specials"** (Mixed Pots)

are ready close to

Mother's Day

**End of Season Sale** starts around  
**Memorial Day**



## LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE

Be sure to join us for our 11<sup>th</sup> annual "Late Night at the Greenhouse" on the third Friday night in May. We will have 'Late Night' on **May 18, from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.** As always, we will string lights in the greenhouses and outside to make a "festive" atmosphere. Plants will be discounted. We will have lots of refreshments for you to enjoy, and "Clif the Drifter" will be providing musical entertainment. Bring a lawn chair and a flashlight and come sit for a spell to enjoy the evening. Door Prizes will be drawn throughout the evening with a Grand Prize Drawing at 11:00. You must be present to win for all drawings.

## YOU MUST RESIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTER THIS YEAR!!!!

Every once in a while we have to purge our mailing list... there are just too many "bad" addresses. This is the year! So please sign up when you visit the greenhouse even if you just signed up on the web site a little bit ago. The new list starts once this letter is mailed out! My son, Daniel, has fixed a program so you can type your name directly in a computer at the register. This should eliminate me having to decipher handwriting as well as help you update your address when you move. Please-please-please don't forget to do this!

## LUNCH AT HASTING PLANTS

No, I'm not opening a restaurant like a lot of you have suggested I do over the years, but my church, Mt Vernon Community Church/Black's Chapel UMC will have food for sale on Saturday April 21, with a rain date of April 28. They will serve sandwiches, snacks and drinks. You can shop and eat in one stop, and support a good cause at the same time.

## COUPON ETTIQUITE

My cashiers just hate coupons! We provide them to reward you, our valued customers for shopping with us, and I know you enjoy getting them. Most of you know and appreciate that. Unfortunately we can't give you the coupon discount if you don't have the coupon... please understand it from our side, if we did it for one, we would have to do it for all. Once that started, everyone would get a discount all the time. I simply can't afford that. We are sorry if you forgot/lost or destroyed your coupons, we can't honor them if you don't have them...

## PERENNIALS OF NOTE IN 2018

Here are some plants that were commented on in the Master Gardener Walk last year that you might be interested in trying (some of the workers pointed these out as highly "noticed"): **Lillium 'Conca d'Or'** is a tall hybrid lily has the prettiest yellow and white blooms that are huge! **Amsonia hubrectii** was a Perennial Plant of the Year a little while back. It features lacy foliage, blue blooms in the spring and a lovely yellow fall color. **Prairie Dropseed** is a native grass with very fine leaves. **Northwind Panicum** is a very vertical grass with blue green foliage.

**Callirhoe involucrate** also called **Poppy Mallow** or **Wine Cups** is a great plant to sprawl over a wall or a hillside. It is deer resistant and gets covered with purple red flowers

**Gelsemium 'Margarita'** or Carolina Jasmine, is a native vine that gets loaded with fragrant yellow blooms early in the spring. I have one at the end of Greenhouse#1 that is glorious every year.

**Hydrangea 'Haas' Halo'** is a show stopping hydrangea with deep bluish-green leathery foliage and 14" wide pure white lace cap blooms. Great for pollinators. We also have **Climbing Hydrangea** which makes a great vine for part sun locations. It is a slow grower, so give it time to produce!

**Coreopsis 'Gilded Lace'**, is a knockout plant 4-5' tall that is covered in blooms from late summer through fall. Lacey foliage is mildew resistant

**Coreopsis 'Crazy Cayenne'** has fiery sunset orange flowers. It really stood out in the field trials last summer.

**Clematis 'Serious Black'** is a bush clematis with dark purple foliage topped by antique ivory blossoms.

**Daylily 'Desert Flame'** was another field trial standout with bright red-orange blooms.

**Liatris 'Floristan Violet'** is a more compact refined version of the Liatris we've carried in the past. It makes a great cut flower. Butterflies and bees like it and deer don't!

In **Tall Garden Phlox** there are several great varieties. We have the Candy series - '**Cotton Candy**', '**Bubble Gum**' and '**Grape Soda**', that we had a couple of years ago. I had requests for more since they performed well. These are very mildew resistant and hardy. Another of our favorites is '**Minnie Pearl**', which blooms early and makes a nice compact mound of white.

**Sedum 'Little Miss Sunshine'** was another trial garden standout. In fact this was a favorite of several of the staff at the gardens as well. It has a neat tidy habit and is covered with yellow blooms in the summer. Very drought tolerant once established.

**Echinacea** as usual we have a lot of cool colors and varieties. These come in late since they don't like the cold, so they will be small until it heats up. They take off in the warm temperatures. Look for '**Dbi Scoop Mandarin**', '**Raspberry Truffle**', '**Delicious Candy**', '**Glowing Dream**' and '**Sombrero**' varieties!

**Aruncus 'Chantilly Lace'**/Goatsbeard, loves part shade and is covered with lacy creamy flowers in late spring to early summer. It looks similar to Astilbe, but is more drought tolerant.

**Anemone 'Curtain Call Pink'** is a great plant for late fall color. It is compact and has bright rose pink flowers.

**Buddleia 'Humdunger Magenta Munchkin'** '**Humdunger Little Angel**' '**Pugster Pink**' '**Pugster Blue**' are some great compact varieties of butterfly bush. They are great for butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds.

**Dictamnus 'Albiflorus'** & '**Purpurea**' these are plants I would love just for the novelty effect, but they have beautiful bloom spikes in the late spring that make them worth growing for that alone. The common name is **Gas Plant**, and you can light the gaseous fumes on a calm day. Ask me how.

**Epimedium 'Domino'** makes a very good groundcover in shady areas. These are deer and rabbit resistant plants with a tiny airy white and pink flower in the early spring.

**Heliopsis 'Tuscan Sun'** was another standout in the trial gardens. We don't carry them often since the plants tend to sit and not look like much until it gets hot and sunny. In the summer they are real workhorses covered with bright yellow daisy flowers. They are great for butterflies, hummingbirds, and as cut flowers.

**Panicum 'Cheyenne Sky'** is a **Switch Grass** that turns wine red in early summer. Maybe not as red as the wonderful Fountain Grasses that aren't hardy, but this one comes back!

**Salvia 'Bumbleberry'** and '**Bumbleblue**' were selected for their shorter stature, but they are not short on flower power. Salvia is deer and rabbit resistant, and a great pollinator plant.

**Schizachyrium 'Blue Paradise'**/**Little Bluestem Grass** is upright with silvery blue leaves in the summer and a deep wine gall color.

**Strawberry 'Tristran'** this everbearing strawberry shines as a front of the border groundcover. The bright cherry red blooms are great accents to the attractive green foliage. An added benefit is the fruit production. I loved this in the flower beds I saw last summer.

**Lilac 'Tinkerbelle'** grows 4 to 5' tall with wine colored flower buds which open to fragrant pink blooms.

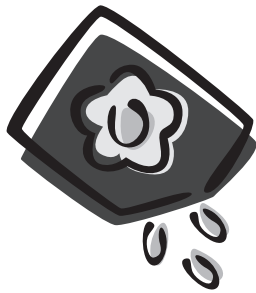
**Hops 'Cascade'** is a great vining plant, but also produces hops for beer making.

**Rudbeckia 'Little Charm'** is a 3-4' tall Black Eyed Susan that blooms three months with small, deep gold flowers.!

We have some beautiful **Peonies** this year. We do have the '**Bartzella**' Yellow Peony that everyone loves. It is an interspecific variety (ITOH), a cross between a tree peony and a herbaceous peony. It has the lovely flowers and colors of the tree peony, but dies to the ground each year like a herbaceous peony. We couldn't resist another ITOH peony (even though it is pricey) called '**Scrumdiddleumptious**'. It is a lovely creamy yellow blushed with pink. These varieties take a little longer to

*Continued:*

## Perennials Continued:



get established and bloom, but they are really worth it! In the standard Peonies, I have several new varieties including a nice pink one called 'Susie Q' which I had to get since that is the nickname I remember my Uncle Bob calling his daughter. And if my cousin happens to read this...there is a 'Susie Q' waiting for her at the greenhouse!

Recent arrivals include a few vines we haven't had for a while. **Akebia or Chocolate Vine** which can tolerate a more shaded location, **Porcelain Vine** with variegated foliage and blue berries, and two varieties of the perennial **Dutchman's Pipe**. We also have **Berlanderia or Chocolate Flower** whose small dark eyed yellow daisy flowers do smell like chocolate, and a few pots of **Jack-in-the-Pulpit**.

When this letter goes out, I'll wish I'd mentioned a bunch more! You'll have to come and look at everything!

## 2018 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR Allium 'Millenium'

The Perennial Plant Association highlights a tried and true plant each year with a great track record of performance. This year features a flowering onion that is a workhorse in the garden! **Allium 'Millenium'** produces a grass-like clump of glossy deep green leaves growing 10 to 15" tall. By mid-summer flower scapes rise above the foliage and produce showy two inch spherical rose-purple florets that last 4 weeks.

'Millenium' thrives in the summer sun and heat, and is ignored by deer and rabbits. It is also a very drought resistant selection. This is a super easy, and pretty plant to grow!

As an added attraction, pollinators flock to 'Millenium': Butterflies and Bees love the blooms.

### ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS 2018

All-America Selections winners have been grown, tested, exhibited, and judged in trial gardens all over the United States. They are always a great source for something new each year. Check out more information and color pictures on their web site at [www.all-america-selections.org](http://www.all-america-selections.org)

BUT I am frustrated every year with the AAS team since they announce the largest majority of winners too late for the seed companies, tag companies, and growers to have them available. I am going to have to quit growing these, or maybe grow the winners a year late. We will have a few of the 2018 winners as listed below:

**Pepper Habanero 'Roulette'** – This is a Habanero pepper with NO HEAT! It has the nice citrusy flavor that regular Habaneros have without the burn!

**Cuphea 'Floriglory Diana'** is a Mexican Heather with larger, darker, more intensely colored magenta flowers.

As always, Cuphea is a great plant to tolerate heat and weather variations.

**Tomato 'Red Racer'** – is a "cocktail" tomato, one that is slightly larger than a cherry tomato. This is a determinate plant, so it stays compact and would make a great container plant.

**Zinnia 'Queeny Lime Orange'** – has large dahlia-like blooms on compact 1 ½ - 2' plants. The unique blooms evolve from a dark coral/peach/orange to a light peach with a dark center. It also makes a great cut flower.

## 2018 SEMINARS

Please sign up in advance for seminars. If there is not enough interest, we may cancel a class, and you would not be notified.

- A. LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE** – No need to sign up for this one. Just plan on joining us for a night of music, food, door prizes and plant discounts. **Friday, May 18, 8 to 11 p.m.**
- A. KIDS PLANT A COLOR BOWL**– Do you have a 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> grader that enjoys plants? We'll have fun as they learn basic planting techniques and leave the class with a colorful bowl of plants that makes a great Mother's Day gift! Class limited to 8, so sign up early. **Saturday May 12, 9:00 a.m. Fee: \$10.00**
- A. FAIRY GARDENING** – Have you caught the latest craze in gardening? Come get inspiration, tips and great ideas as we demonstrate the steps in making your own fairy garden. You'll find your imagination has no boundaries with this fun project! **Saturday May 12, 10:00 a.m. or Saturday May 19, 10 a.m. Fee: \$2.00 seminar only –OR- \$25 for seminar and to make a small fairy garden with provided fairy and plants.**
- A. FUN WITH PLANTS** – One of Nancy's favorite things is to share fun facts about flower names, fun tidbits of knowledge and fun activities to do with plants. Starting with Hollyhock dolls like she made with her "Grammy", we'll delve into what makes plants fun for kids of all ages. **Saturday May 19, 1:00 p.m. No fee, but you must pre-register!**

# ANNUALS TO TRY IN 2018

Oh, I have a lot of plants to talk about this year! Last summer I toured 5 display gardens in Michigan associated with the greenhouses I buy starts from! I found some great new plants and new varieties to try.

First, here are a few items that were commented about during last year's Master Gardener Tour. We have had **Amaranthus 'Tricolor'** in packs for years. It doesn't look very exciting in the pack, but it is a great colorful plant in the garden. There was a lot of "buzz" about it on the Garden Tour. We have other varieties of Amaranthus as well. Check them out! The other annuals I heard commented on during the garden walk were the **'Jolt' Dianthus**. These have been past All America Selection Winners, give great color all summer long, and make great cut flowers. There is a new color, **'Pink Magic'** joining the older **'Cherry'** and **'Pink.'** And new this year is a **Dianthus 'Rockin Red'** that blew me away at the plant trials in Michigan. It was just loaded with bright red blooms!

After looking at many varieties of Pentas, the **'Lucky Star' Pentas** were my very favorite. They rebloom quickly so you will not go through periods without flowers.

**'Inferno' Coleus** was spectacular at the Michigan State Plant Trials. The only problem was, it was the only plant in the several acre gardens that wasn't labeled. Fortunately I was able identify it in a later Trial garden. It is a great red-ish orange leaf for sun or part shade.

We just have a few of the **Calibrachoa (Million Bells) Chameleon Varieties**. They change colors as they mature so you have a mixture of blooms on one plant. A new variety **'Blue Moon Punch Star'** and last year's favorite **'Tropical Sunrise'** are great colors as well.

**Mandevilla 'Sun Parasol Apricot'** is a new color in the line. This one stays more bush-like and is not as vining as the other Mandevillas.

Our favorite **Dark Red Calliope Geranium** is joined by several other colors this year: **Crimson Flame, Pink Flame, Salmon, and Violet**. These are a cross between Standard and Ivy Geraniums so they have the best of both worlds. Another series of geraniums crossed with ivy Geraniums are the **Caliente Geraniums**. We added **Hot Coral** and **Lavender** to the normal red ones.

Our **'Gartenmeister' Upright Fuchsia** is joined by **Fuschia 'Professor Henkel' and 'Firecracker'**. Professor Henkel is very similar to Gartenmeister, and Firecracker has leaves variegated with pink and green. The upright fuchsia tolerates heat better than the basket varieties.

Some beautiful begonias for baskets in the shade are **Begonia Mistral Pink, and Mistral Yellow**. We also have a couple of Begonia varieties we haven't grown for several years, double blooming wax begonias **'Cherry Blossom'** and **'Lady Francis Pink'**

I selected **Dahlias** and **Petunias** that were the prettiest in the display gardens. We have a lot of colors of both.

Shop early for the best selections: The best colors fly off the benches!

By request, we have **Salvia 'Love & Wishes'** part of a taller annual Salvia series. This one has purple flowers.

**Large Patio Gerberas** we haven't had these for several years, but they are Gerbera Daisies on steroids, and are great in a large pot or planted in the yard.

**Portulaca Stopwatch, Sundial, Pazzaz, Colorblast, Cupcake** we have a lot of Rose Moss this year, some from seed in packs and others from cuttings in pots. There are some really unique colors and double blooms as well! You can't beat this for summer heat tolerance, flower power, and low water requirements!

We have a **Sweet Potato Vine** that actually climbs when given a support! **'Solar Tower Lime'** will make quite a showing! You know how vigorous sweet potatoes can be, and this thrives in the sun and heat. I saw it covering an arbor last summer!

You've loved the vining yellow **'Sunny' Thunbergia** in past years. This year it is joined by several other wonderful colors **'Sunny Arizona Glow'**, and **'Tangerine Slice A-Peel'** and we also have a few Pink and White varieties. Use them on trellises or in hanging baskets. I'm sure they will be best sellers!

**Popcorn Plant** – this plant is one of my favorites! It really smells like hot buttered popcorn. It will grow about 5 ft. tall with spikes of bright yellow blooms summer through fall.

We have quite a few **Elephant Ears**, including the giant varieties **'Thailand Giant'** and **'Borneo King'** as well as a couple of varieties that are actually hardy to zone 6!(our zone) **'Madeira Tropicools'** and **'Sangria Tropicools'**. Also back by request is **'Illustris'**.

**Bidens 'Pretty in Pink' and 'White Delight'** took me by surprise in the trial gardens. I didn't recognize them as Bidens. I love the foliage and flower habit of these! The tiny daisy flowers look great in mixed pots.

**Cuphea 'Fairy Dust Pink'** is a Mexican Heather that has really delicate, tiny blooms.

We were able to find the Papyrus that was unavailable for a couple of years. **Papyrus 'Crown of Pharaoh' and 'Baby Moses'** make great tall accents for the center of mixed pots. Use them in place of spikes for a different look.

**Vinca 'Kawaii Coral'** is a tiny flowered vinca.

**Alternanthera 'Purple Prince'** really caught my eye this past summer. It is a purple accent plant, but the habit is very neat and precise.

**Oregano 'Kirigami'** is ornamental Oregano that was a favorite of a lot of the seed company employees. It is pretty as well as fragrant.

**Cosmos 'Apollo' series** have replaced our standard Sonata



*Continued:*

## Annuals Continued:

series. They were loaded with blooms in the field trials.

**Ornamental Pepper ‘Sweet Snack Yellow’** is a great idea. The plant is attractive enough to be planted in your flower bed, but the peppers are sweet flavored and edible. **‘Conga’** is another dark foliaged ornamental pepper that is new this year.

**Sunflower ‘Sunfinity Yellow with Dark Eye’** was a knock-out in all the field trials last summer. It is different than most sunflowers since it continues to bloom for several months making it a showpiece of the landscape. If you like sunflowers, you’ll want to try this unique variety!

There are so many more. I always send this newsletter to print and then remember lots I wish I’d mentioned! Come and look around!

## NEW ROSE SELECTIONS FOR 2018

We grow a lot of other roses, but these varieties are brand new this year.

**Frida Kahlo** is a brightly colored scarlet, red and gold striped Floribunda, named for the Mexican painter. **Lady in Red** is a Dark Red blooming climber with large ruffled blooms.

**Rosie the Riveter**, Floribunda, pays tribute to women who worked in factories during WW II. It boasts orange gold flowers suffused with pink.

**Top Gun** is a great red rose with superior disease resistance. This one is even resistant to the rose Rosette Disease! **Easy Spirit** is a new cream colored Floribunda in the Easy to Love Series.

**Easy Does It** is not new this year, it is just a favorite floribunda we had extra requests for last year. It boasts mango, peach, apricot blended blooms on a disease resistant plant.

Of course we have lots of other Hybrid Teas, Floribunda, Climbers, Miniatures and Knock Out Roses as well.

## VEGETABLES AND GARDEN PLANTS

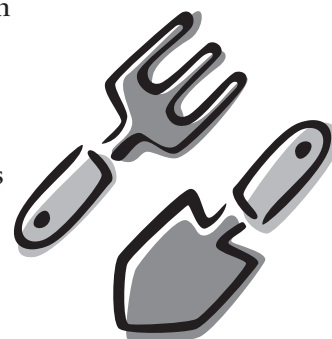
One of my favorite plantings I saw this summer, and it was at several of the locations, were large pots of mixed vegetables and flowers. Most usually contained a “pot style” tomato and an eggplant, a few flowers, like a petunia, marigolds, and cannas, and parsley or other herbs. It was a great container garden for small patios or yards. Pretty as well as useful!

We have several new **Tomato** varieties **‘Little Napoli’** and **‘Little Sicily’** and a great **Eggplant ‘Patio Baby’** just for these type of pots. Another vegetable I saw planted in large pot displays in the gardens last summer, were **Swiss Chard**. They made gorgeous mixed pots. We have always bragged about the ornamental aspect of **Swiss Chard ‘Bright Lights’**, they would be great in those mixed Flower/vegetable pots too!

Other new tomatoes are **‘Saucelicious’**, **‘Super Sauce’**, **‘Big Mama’**, and **‘Midnight Snack’**.

And I’m excited to have the seed available again for my daughter Diane’s very favorite cherry tomato **‘Yellow Canary’**, this joins **‘Red Robin’** as a fun early producing pot tomato that only grows 1’ tall. Years ago, when these started to produce, Diane would come in with tomato juice running down her chin.

We have a couple of new Jalapeno-type peppers since we can never seem to grow enough of those. And we have a great selection of herbs this year, including one we haven’t had for a long time - **Sweetgrass**. It is a native grass used by Indians for ceremonies, and as incense and perfume.



## 100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WW 1

This has nothing to do with plants, but it is something that has consumed a lot of my time this past year. One hundred years ago, my Great Uncle, Chester Schulz, was killed 4 days before the end of WWI. His family didn’t learn of his fate until 4 long months later. I have a collection of letters they wrote back and forth which I compiled into a book. Years ago I printed this just for my family members. I’ve updated the information and done a considerable amount of research over this past year to “flesh out” the story. By the time you get this newsletter it should be for sale on Amazon...but I will have copies at the greenhouse at a better rate if you are interested. The story brings some of the events of WW I down to a personal level and lets you gain a little insight into another time era. The title is “A Tragedy of the Great War: The Story of Chester Schulz”.

Also, I am planning a trip back to France this summer to trace Chester’s path and see a plaque added to the 1<sup>st</sup> Division Monument at Wadelincourt France (his name was left off 100 years ago with the confusion over his death - and they are correcting the error!). You can follow that story at [www.tracingchesterschulz.wordpress.com](http://www.tracingchesterschulz.wordpress.com)

# OUR EMPLOYEE FAMILY

I think my employees are the best!

**Brenda Upshaw**, Assistant Manager, 11 years, has a great knowledge of flowers. She does it all...transplant, move plants, water, clean, and work the register. She also get a lot of the merchandise checked in and priced in the building. No one (myself included) works harder!

**Lydia Lurker**, 16 years, is one of my main transplanter. She can do the tiny things no one else wants to tackle. She is also my vegetable expert! We are always inspired by her age and work ethic!

**Jo Ann Holbrook**, 16 years, helps with transplanting and selling. She also loves plants and is great at helping you find those unique varieties. She is another good vegetable expert.

**Barb Enderson**, 7 years, works the register during selling season. She also helped out with planting this year. She excels at displaying and promoting the merchandise in the building.

**Joe Anderson**, 5 years, does any job we need. It's tough being the only male employee with all of us women! He enjoys working the wagon during selling season.

**Donna Anderson**, 3 years, helps out with transplanting and register duties...yes, she's Joe's wife

**Loren Simpson**, 2 years, is helping out a couple of days when she is off from her full time job. She transplants and works the wagon on selling days.

All of my employees love plants, and you can tell it in the work they do. I couldn't ask for a better crew.

I don't have any immediate needs, but I finally developed a **job application** for Hasting Plants. If you think you'd like to work with us, fill one out and tell us to keep it on file for future years.

And my family update:

**Diane Hasting**, 25, lives in Fort Wayne and works as an E.R. Nurse at Lutheran Hospital.

**Daniel Hasting**, 30, still lives in Indianapolis and works for IU health. He enjoys rock climbing in his spare time. He maintains my web page as well.

Husband **Mike** continues to run maintenance for me. He never wants me to mention him, but I really couldn't do this without him. He handles the propane, arranges the potting soils, prepares and manages the playground, places and changes my road signs, and many, many more behind the scene activities. He really does make this possible!

**Socks & Pizazz** (the cats) are usually around, just not very visible.

Our newest additions are **Poppy**, the adorable puppy we found last spring just before closing and her best buddy, **Lady** (added late September)! We hope they will continue the great tradition that Crystal and Ginger had of greeting and enjoying our customers!!!! Since they are young (a year old in March), and still like to jump, they may be confined to a kennel when we are busy.

**Nancy** thinks every year she'll be more organized & prepared for spring to roll around... but instead she is always playing catch-up. It's a fun frenzied time that I love each year.

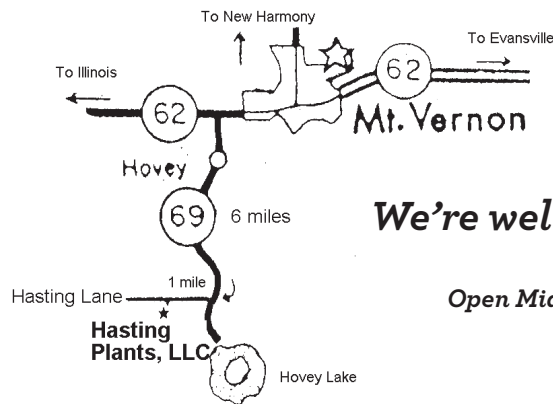
*You - my customers - are the real heart & soul of this business. Without you and your support, your comments and the love you express for all our efforts, we wouldn't be here to have all this fun each year. I appreciate each and every one of you.*





1500 Hasting Lane  
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620  
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If you are planning only one visit to Hasting Plants, LLC this year due to distance, may we suggest you plan your visit between April 15 and May 15 for best display and selection.



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