

Spring 2023

We're well worth the drive!

OUR 41ST YEAR OF GROWING FOR YOU! 1982-2023

Hours:

Mon- Sat 9 to 5 Closed Sunday

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HASTING PLANTS, LLC

Hasting Plants is a seasonal greenhouse operation, specializing in annual and perennial flowers and vegetable plants. 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.

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 2nd **week of April Sweet Potato slips** come in **first week of May** "**Specials**" (Mixed Pots) are ready close to Mother's Day

End of Season Sale starts around Memorial Day

If you are planning only one visit to Hasting Plants this year due to distance, may we suggest you plan your visit between April 15 and May 1 for the best display and selection.



NOTES FROM NANCY

It was a fight to the finish to get the #1 greenhouse torn down and replaced with the new structure. We started demolition earlier and finished later! This one got all new benches and a new seed starting bench as well. We love it! As I write this, plants are starting to grow and take off in the greenhouses. It is really looking pretty! We can't wait for you to come see everything.

Just a little about supply chain issues and pricing: You will notice some higher prices this year, most notably on some metal goods, soils, and seeds. We are sorry to have to increase prices, but our costs have risen dramatically. Some of the bulk seed is slow coming in and some is not even available. A few items went up quite a bit. Our soils seem high, but we feel like we sell the best potting soil around. Once you try it, you don't want any other! Keep in mind that our large bag of potting soil is 3 cu. ft. Our salesman tried to talk us into a smaller bag this year because of cost, but we love that large bag! Our soil amendments are top quality as well.

I attended the Perennial Plant Conference last summer in Pennsylvania, which featured a lot of native plantings. I was interested to find this quote from Dr Allan Armitage (my Horticultural Hero) from his book, "Armitage's Native Plants for North American Gardens." It echoes my sentiments very well... I like all plants! Here is the quote: "Like many gardeners, I enjoy mixing natives with exotics; I am simply not capable of limiting myself to one or the other exclusively. Our gardens and landscapes are richer for the diversity and assimilation. Some people prefer to celebrate only those plants, and they will talk you to death about why only native plants are best. I like to celebrate plants that work in my garden, and I let the plants do the talking."

FACEBOOK MESSAGES

Facebook is a wonderful way to communicate, but I struggle every spring when I get messages by Facebook. During the day, I have absolutely no time to check and respond to messages. I cannot tell you how many times I have gotten home at the end of the day, sat down at the computer, and realized someone had asked a question wanting/needing an immediate answer. If your question is one that you need answered right away, please call the greenhouse! It is much easier for me to get an answer back to you! I feel bad when I have missed responding in a timely fashion.

LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE

IT'S BACK!!!!! Be sure to join us for our 13th annual "Late Night at the Greenhouse" on the third Friday night in May. We will have "Late Night" on **May 19, from 8 p.m. to 10:30 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, 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 10:30. You must be present to win for all drawings.

PLEASE NOTE!!!! CARD TRANSACTION FEES!

For the last few years we implemented a new card processing system to help our small business with the everincreasing card transaction fees. If you don't own a small business, you might not realize that the cash back and miles you earn on your cards comes from the small retailers' pockets, not the credit card companies. They make the deals with you and we have no say in it. This year we continue to have a 3.5% fee on all card transactions – both debit and credit. This will help defray those costs for us. One advantage for you is that we can now accept all types of cards – even American Express. You can avoid this fee by paying with cash or writing a check, so plan accordingly. Examples: On a \$50 sale, you would be charged \$51.75. \$100 sale would be \$103.50. We don't get any of that extra money...it goes straight to the credit card companies.



Onion Slips should arrive the first of **April**. We'll carry **Vidalia**, **Super Star**, and **Candy** varieties **Sweet Potato Slips** should arrive the first week of **May**

A WORD ABOUT PROVEN WINNERS

Don't get me started on my rant! For the past couple of years, Proven Winners decreed that all their plants HAD to be potted in their Proven Winner Pots. We have done this for years with Perennials with no problems, but those pot sizes matched what we already use. With our annuals, none of their pot sizes are the same as what we normally use, so our trays won't work, and spacing on the bench becomes problematic, not to mention the confusion at the potting bench making sure which plants go in which pots. To make a long story short, I have drastically reduced the Proven Winners we grow. I did keep a few that are "special."

What you may not realize, is that there are a lot of other plant breeding companies out there with just as good if not sometimes better genetics. Proven Winners has just done a better job of promoting their own name to the public. Every year I chose plants from across the board of plant breeders to give you what we think is a great selection of plants. Plant breeder companies like Ball Flora Plants, Selecta, Sygenta, Dummen, Danzinger, and Pan American Seed all have great stock, so I don't think you will be disappointed at all with our switch.

NEW IN THE BUILDING

There is a new sheriff in town. Unfortunately for us, Barb decided to retire from the greenhouse. She's done a fantastic job in the sales building for the past 11 years and we will miss her! But fortunately for us, Tammy has agreed to undertake that task! She has rearranged things for a whole new look that we are excited for you to see.

We have some special paper-like LUMIZ lanterns that operate by battery, which means you can use them inside or out. They have a real unique look, we have several shapes, sizes, and colors. They come with a remote, rheostat, and timers. We have a lot of new Art Poles in stock from tiny to big! Our garden hats are always popular. There are also a <u>lot</u> of new ceramic, plastic, and terra cotta pots in large to small sizes (we went a little crazy in that department), head planters, and even basket planters. There are hanging planters and Tuscan pots. We have a new line of quality wind chimes coming in (a bit later) that will be a lower price point than our favorite Music of the Spheres.

As always, we have an incredible selection of wind spinners and unique garden stakes. There are hanging metal balls that will hold candles or plants and Armillaries (an open ball shape with an arrow through it) in several sizes for your garden. There is a great tall overhead sprinkler from Dramm for your garden watering needs. There is a nice-looking odorless compost container for the kitchen. We have some lovely bee aprons you can wear in the garden or at home! We have lots of new Fairy items, including some houses. We have wooden drawer planter stands and rectangle planters, new watering can planters and more. There are some rustic metal animals for yard art. And of course, we have plenty of new flags, mats, pillows, and rugs for your decorating needs. I think you will really enjoy shopping the building this year!

SUPER CLEARANCE

We have lovely table top motion lights marked to sell. These are very pretty, but you need to see them lit up at night on a table to appreciate their glow and how the light moves.

2023 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Rudbeckia 'American Gold Rush'

The Perennial Plant Association has named Rudbeckia 'American Gold Rush' (Black-Eved Susan) its Perennial Plant of the Year for 2023. A hybrid between several species of Rudbeckia, 'American Gold Rush' is an easy grower with a compact habit, long late-summer bloom time and foliage that stays healthy. Daisy-like flowers appear atop upright stems from midsummer into autumn. The rays are a golden yellow and the cones, deep brown. Medium green, long and narrow, finely haired leaves form a basal clump of foliage. The leaves have shown good resistance to powdery mildew and leaf spot, which can be a problem for Black-Eved Susans. 'American Gold Rush' grows about two feet tall and it can spread nearly twice as wide. It has a rounded, compact shape. Place 'American Gold Rush' Rudbeckia in full sun or part shade. It grows best in lean to average soil with good drainage. Avoid fertilizing, which can cause lanky growth amid rudbeckias. Water regularly while the plant is getting established, but thereafter it can tolerate dry periods. Leave seed heads standing for birds in the fall, then cut the plant back in late winter or early spring. This plant may reseed in the garden. USDA Zones 4-9.

ANNUALS TO TRY IN 2023

The greenhouses are filling up and the plants are looking great this year! We feel like we have the best selection of annuals around, and always try to balance our tried-andtrue favorites with some special new varieties to tempt you!

Marigold Cracker Joe, which many of you have become addicted to is being replaced with **Cheddi Orange** (the Cracker Joe seed is no longer available and my supply ran out this year). We have half and half available. It is a tall impressive orange marigold that everyone who grows wants more the next year!

Annuals Continued:

Begonia Hula Red joins our favorite begonia plants, the **Big Begonias**, and **Dragon Wing Begonias**. All of these begonias are tough plants, grow in sun or shade, and are very water forgiving. **Hula Begonias** are brand new. They spread quite well, so are great for landscapes or baskets. The blooms are held in masses on top of the plants for high impact. We have them in red.

I was excited to find **Trade Winds Hibiscus** (tropical) in several colors again this year. They make a great patio plant in full hot sun. Another sun lover are the **Mandevilla vines.** We have our usual pink and red giant blooms as well as a bush variety we had a few years ago, **Sun Parasol Apricot.** It will make a great hanging basket for those really hot areas.

Rudbeckia Minibeckia Flame was a showstopper for us at our summer trade shows. It is in the same family as Indian Summer, so it is more annual than perennial. The blooms have great red and yellow markings. It is already in bloom!

Helianthus Sunfinity, Brown Eyed Girl, and Sol Seeker Yellow are all Sunflowers that bloom throughout the summer. These make nice size plants for a good showing.

We are excited to have **Tropical Milkweed** in not only **Red**, but also **Yellow** which the butterflies really seem to like. Even though these don't come back, they are really worth planting for their display.

The **POPCORN PLANT** is back! ...Enough said! I can't think of a bench in the greenhouses that looks prettier than the **Sun Coleus** corner in #3. As always **Coleus Inferno** is our runaway favorite, but check out all the wonderful colors. We also have some compact and trailing varieties that prefer a bit more shade.

When people see our **Glimmer Double Impatiens** for the first time, most ask if it is a rose. The blooms are full and very pretty. We have 2 colors.

Sunpatiens Compact Purple Candy, and Vigorous Peach Candy were some unique bloom colors we added this year

By request, we found a couple double blooming geraniums to offer this year. Check out **Geranium Rosalie Antique Salmon, and Appleblossom Rosebud.** The light pink blooms are very full and lovely.

Yellow Thunbergia or Black-Eyed Susan vine is back again this year. The yellow blooms with a black throat make a great showy vining or trailing plant.

Strawberry Begonia is a fun houseplant that puts off runners like spider plants. We have a few houseplant varieties tucked under the benches in #2 (they will move up later in the season). I'm also hoping to get some specialty houseplants in this year around mid-April...we'll showcase them on Facebook. We have some beautiful **Rex Begonias**, which are great for shade outdoors and make excellent houseplants as well. These hide under the benches in #1 until later in the season when they move to #2. **Phygelius Colorburst Red** has a common name of Cape Fuchsia (native to South Africa), but they are more closely related to Penstemon and Foxglove. These 20-30" plants have drooping red blooms that hummingbirds enjoy. This is a different plant for you to try. It is perennial a little farther south. **Mexican Salvia** puts on its show in late summer like Pineapple Sage. We haven't had this for quite some time, so are excited to have it again. The fuzzy blue blooms are very showy.

Cuphea Cherrybells is a cigar plant very similar in color to the Proven Winners Vermillionaire which is really a great bee plant and thrives in sun and heat!

How can you pick out just a few Petunias to talk about? They are just beginning to bloom in greenhouse #4, and it is hard to choose just one favorite. **Petunia Pinkerbelle**, is a semi-double pink, **Petchoa Orange Sunset** is a new color in that very popular series (it is a cross between Petunia and Calibrachoa). I could go on and on about each variety. You just have to come see them all! Almost half of #4 is filled with petunias!

We have several tropicals including, Jack's Giant Elephant Ear, Polargreen, Black Coral, and Blue Hawaii Elephant Ears. We also have the hardy Basjoo Banana.

Verbena 'Vanity' was an All-America Selection Winner last year. It is a compact version of Verbena bonariensis, and is a real butterfly magnet! It is not hardy for us, but if it is like the species, it might reseed and spread. It has nice deep purple flowers.

Celosia is one of our new favorite annuals. It thrives in sun and heat as well as having lower water requirements. Look for '**Fresh Look**' in packs, as well as **Kelos**, **Dragon's Blood**, **and Intenz** in pots.

We love the easy to grow Zinnias as well, adding two newer AAS selections, a tall **Queeny Lemon Peach** (which joins Queeny Lime Orange), and the shorter **Profusion Red & Yellow Bicolor**, which is striking.

Come see all these wonderful plants and more!!!! I really can't list them all!!

Hasting Plants has been dedicated to bringing you exceptional garden plants since 1982. We hope you feel we live up to our motto "**We're well worth the drive**"



NEW ROSE SELECTIONS FOR 2023

As usual, we have a great rose selection! We carry the Hybrid Tea and Grandiflora (Cutting flowers), Floribunda (clusters of blooms with a more rounded habit), Climbers and Shrub roses which are sometimes hard to find. New varieties this year include: **Heavenly Scented**, a pink HT, **Picture Perfect**, a hot pink HT, **Uptown Girl**, a coral pink Grandiflora with old fashioned looking blooms, **Morning Glow**, warm yellow Floribunda and **Sultry Night**, a magenta with a hint of blue shrub rose. We have lots of others as well. We also carry a few **Knock Out** roses and a newer Shrub rose '**Top Gun**' which is resistant to the Rose Rosette.



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PERENNIALS OF NOTE IN 2023

Astilbe 'Dark Side of the Moon' has amazing black foliage and rosy flowers – you want this beauty in your garden, '**Black Pearls'** is a sturdy plant that boasts large purple blooms with a hint of blue.

Agastache 'Queen Nectarine' and 'Royal Raspberry' are new this year. They are large (32-36" tall) and full varieties with great landscape presence. Agastache or Anise Hyssop is a wonderful pollinator plant for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. They prefer full sun, well drained soils, and love heat!

Astrantia 'Burgundy Manor' is a new shade plant for us. Requested by a customer to add to our line-up. Some lovely delicate color for the summer shade!

Hydrangea 'Gamechanger Blue' & 'Picotee' bloom continuously from spring through frost! They are large lace cap varieties. These are already blooming in the greenhouse!!! 'Phantom' has huge 15" long cone shaped flowers that start light green, transition to white and turn pink in the fall. 'Limelight' is a long time favorite we were requested to carry again. We are excited to have Climbing Hydrangea this year! It is a beauty, slow to get established and then takes off. It has lovely white blooms in the summer. These attach by aerial roots. It's a hard-to-find plant and these are really nice! Bearded Iris It is so hard to select just a few varieties each year....they are all so lovely. We have several rebloomers this year! Japanese Iris 'Harlenquinesque' has huge white blooms splashed with blue and fuchsia, with a bright yellow throat, and Siberian Iris 'Miss Apple' has blooms with shades of violet, lavender, red, yellow and gold...very unique! Lavender 'Sensational' is a new Lavender this year touted as an improvement on 'Phenomenal' (which is another favorite of ours). This densely packed plant has shorter stems and larger flowers.

Lilies - as usual, we have lots of beauties including OT Hybrid 'Zelmira' which is a pink apricot color, and Asiatic 'Royal Pink' that is similar to Stargazer but is improved in habit. Oriental 'Scorpio' is a stunning dark red. There are many others as well.

Delphinium 'Blue Buccaneers,' and '**Cobalt Dreams'** I have always refused to sell Delphiniums because of how hard they are to grow in our heat and humidity. These hybrids were bred in New Zealand and are selected for their heat and humidity tolerance, so I'm giving them a chance. Check them out if you love that English Garden look, and let us know how they perform!

We have a lot of cool **Hostas**, but **Hosta 'Party Streamers'** really stood out as unique when it started growing. **'Glad Rags'** has a unique yellow and green color contrast, and **'Dancing With Dragons'** has heavily rippled blue leaves. **Bee Balm** is always a great plant for hummingbirds, bees and butterflies. A new color available this year is **Monarda 'Upscale Red Velvet'** which has large cherry red flowers on a taller 32" plant. We also have a high ranking variety, **'Judith's Fancy'** with bright purplish red flowers and highly disease resistant foliage.

Solomon's Seal 'Ruby Slippers' is a lovely compact variety for shade. It features arching red stems with green and silvery foliage

Sedum 'Back in Black' is a stunning variety with dark almost black foliage and ruby flowers in the late summer. All Sedum is hardy and carefree!!!

Spigella or Indian Pinks are native flowers that grow well in sun or shade. '**Little Red Head**' has deep red flowers with a yellow tip, while '**Ragin Cajun**' is orange and yellow with a more rounded habit. These are a favorite of native gardeners, great for hummingbirds and bees.

Allium is a tough plant, requiring little care, for a great summer showing of round purplish blooms. We have several varieties like 'Millenium', 'Windy City', 'Lavender Bubbles' and 'Bubble Bath'!

Lily of the Valley is a great shade ground cover we have requests for and have it available again this year. Joe Pye Weed 'Little Joe' likes it warmer, so when we have plants in growing well, we get excited! It is a great native for butterflies!

Honeysuckle 'Major Wheeler' (Red blooms), 'John Clayton'(Yellow blooms) and 'Gold Flame' (Pink and yellow blooms) are all great flowering plants for hummingbirds if you are looking for vigorous vines. Agapanthus 'Northern Star' is a hardy variety of one of my favorite plants (of course they are all my favorites). I love the blue umbel blooms on these!

Hellebores – I have struggled for years to get some of the great blooming Hellebores (Lenten Roses) in nice size plants, and finally realized I had to get them in the fall and grow them for the spring. We have some great blooming varieties this year. I especially like the **Ice Rose** series, '**Carlotta'** and '**Red'** that hold their blooms up above the foliage! We also have '**Wedding Party Flower Girl'** that has double light pink flowers.

Perenials Continued:

Jacob's Ladder 'Heavenly Habit' has variegated yellow and green foliage that is striking for color in the shade. Echinacea One in a Melon, a lovely large melon shade, 'Double Dipped Rainbow Sherbert', with double pompom orange to pink flowers, 'Red Ombre' and 'Yellow Ombre' are lovely seed grown uniform varieties and 'Eyecatcher Coral Craze' with pink flowers and black stems, are some of the Purple Coneflower selections we have. We also have the straight species.

As usual, we have wonderful Peonies! Some new varieties this year are **Peony 'Angel Cheeks'**, a soft pink double bloom, '**Candy Stripe'**, (which is a little pricey) with a unique white bloom edged with candy pink flames, and '**Edulis Superba'**, a purplish pink fragrant variety. We also have **ITOH** (the cross between tree and regular peonies) '**First Arrival'**, a lavender-pink semi-double flower that is fragrant, '**Bartzella'**, the yellow one, and '**Scrumdidleumptious'**, creamy yellow blushed pink. Unfortunately, there are no tree peonies this year. This year we have a **Lilac 'Bloomerang Dark Purple'** which is a reblooming purple Lilac.

Everywhere I look, there are wonderful perennials I could brag about! Please come look at ALL of them!

VEGETABLES AND GARDEN PLANTS

We have several new items in this category.

Peppers Pot-a-Peno is a new trailing Jalapeno pepper that can be grown in hanging baskets, and **Peppers from Heaven** are sweet

red peppers for basket culture as well. We have both these plants in baskets and pots. As I write this, they are already beginning to set peppers!!!!!

Tomato Pillar Catch Red is a small tabletop tomato, which can even be grown on a windowsill. New to us this year is **Tomato Mountain Magic** a campari type tomato, **Chocolate Sprinkles**, a red cherry with dark green stripes and rich flavor like a Cherokee purple, **Indigo Kumquat**, tangerine-orange, oval shaped cherry fruits, with indigo shoulders, **Dark Star**, a new hybrid heirloom type combines the flavor of heirlooms with the productive quality of a commercial variety. The attractive, dark purple fruit weigh 7 to 10 ounces, and has deliciously sweet and tangy flesh, **Red Deuce** tomatoes grow on a determinate plant with large fruit of good eating quality.

Eggplant Ichiban/Ichabod Vegetable plant varieties change over time, and Ichiban has been replaced with Ichabod – a similar long slender Japanese style eggplant. We have both this year, but my Ichiban seed has run out for next year.

Crimson King Basil is a new vigorous red leaved Basil that is an improvement over the older Red Rubin.

2023 SPECIAL EVENTS

- **KIDS PLANT A COLOR BOWL** Do you have a 1st through 4th 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 13, 9:30 a.m. Fee: \$25.00**
- FAIRY GARDENING We're having a class again!
 Come get inspiration, tips, and great ideas as we demonstrate the steps in making your own fairy garden. You will find your imagination has no boundaries with this fun project! Saturday
 May 13, 1:00 p.m. or Saturday May 20, 1:00 p.m. \$35.00 for seminar which includes making a fairy garden with provided fairy and plants.
- SHARON SORENSON on HUMMINGBIRDS We are happy to have Sharon back for this informative talk. She is very knowledgeable and entertaining. If you haven't heard her speak, you should! Saturday, May 13, 2:00 p.m.
- MORTON SOLAR EVENT Saturday, May 20 at 10:00 a.m., Morton Solar will host a "Solar is for Everyone" event at the greenhouse. It is a free informational event on solar benefits. Check <u>www.mortonsolar.com</u> or call 812-402-0900 for details.

LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE -Friday, May 19 at 8:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.



COUPON ETIQUETTE

We provide dated coupons 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...



OUR EMPLOYEE FAMILY

I think my employees are the best! I can honestly say I don't think I could do this without any one of them. They each add their own special skills that make this whole operation work! Be sure to thank them, and let them know you appreciate all they do to get Hasting Plants up and running!!!

Brenda Upshaw, Assistant Manager, 16 years, has a great knowledge of flowers. She does it all...transplant, move plants, water, clean, and work the register. She also does a lot of the outside displays. No one works harder! She cleans and straightens all the things I just step over. She plants up most of the perennials.

Jo Ann Holbrook, 21 years!!! is a great transplanter. She keeps us going on all those pepper and tomato varieties. She also loves flowering plants and is great at helping you find those unique varieties. With a great flower and vegetable garden at home, she gives good advice for both! She comes into each year with an unmatched excitement for our work.

Donna Anderson, 8 years, is a great transplanter, even tackling the tiny plants. She works at one speed.... fast! You might find her writing tickets at the wagon later in the season.

Dona Bergman, 3 years, does a great job of potting and getting plants carried out and displayed. She enjoys assisting customers.

Lori Schutz, 3 years, has been great with potting (she likes the tiny stuff) and moving those plants out. She will be working the wagon, assisting customers and running the register at times.

Tammy Loehr, 2 years. Tammy hit the ground running, and with years of plant maintenance, and sales experience, has caught on very quickly. She took over for Barb in the sales building pricing, displaying and selling our giftware.

Bob Sallee, Kathy Stevens, and Rhonda Schenk, 1 year, Three new employees in one year, and I couldn't be more pleased! They are all working out well and learning the ropes. It is great to have new hands to help with all our plant moving and transplanting.

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. My one requirement is that you be able to lift 50 pounds....this is very physical work!

WE LOST TWO OF OUR FORMER EMPLOYEES THIS YEAR

Lydia Lurker who celebrated 20 years of working in 2022, passed away in November. She was a great vegetable resource person and my tiny plant transplanter.

Jill Ellison who retired several years ago, passed away in the summer of 2022. She helped with purchasing garden art for years, going to shows and helping find the unique items she hadn't seen other places.

We will miss both of these lovely ladies!

And my family update:

Diane Haag, 30, and her husband, Scott Haag live near Austin Texas. She is now a stay at home Mom giving me my first grandchild, Luca in September of '21, AND a 2nd right away in September of '22! Welcome Brooks Erin Haag! (Erin is the Irish name given to his Great grandfather David Erin Hasting, his grandfather Michael Erin, and Uncle Daniel Erin!) **Daniel Hasting**, 35, works in computer programming for IU, which allows him to work remotely. He enjoys rock climbing

and mountain biking in his spare time. We have a hard time keeping up with where he is at any given time. Chattanooga, Red River Gorge, Wyoming, Utah.... wherever the climbing is good! He maintains my web page.

Husband **Mike** continues to run maintenance for me. He has certainly had an extra load these past two years building greenhouses. 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!

Our puppy, **Poppy**, is still young (she turned 6 on March 22). Poppy barks and is a bit timid with strangers, we hope she'll outgrow that with patience. During the real busy times she will probably be in my office. Later in the season, she can hopefully come out and socialize a bit. She might want to sniff you, but won't let you pet her....Please don't push yourself at her, and please teach your children to respect her space as they should with any strange dog.

Nancy really enjoys all aspects of the greenhouse season, the relatively quiet calm of potting plants, the moving and displaying plants and merchandise outside and in, seeing valued customers I've missed for 9 months, and watching the plants and garden art find new homes. It is a LOT of work each year...even in the "off" season, but it is always rewarding and fun.

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...



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