



Leaflet



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Garden Centre • Floral & Interior Décor Shoppe • Landscaping • Lawn Care • Nursery

Changing The World

by Mark Linton

At Linton's we are changing the way we do things to make a positive impact on the world. As most of you know, we have had our pot recycling program for over 20 years. This program saves thousand of nursery pots from going into the landfills and many of our containers have had over half a dozen plants grown in each one.

A couple of years ago, we started our vase recycling program with our Floral Shoppe. Many thanks to all of you who have helped us clean out your basement or garage!

At our Nursery in Bristol, we have the area's largest compost pile where we compost all biodegradable products and utilize the compost in our potting mix.

This past year with the construction of Linton's Enchanted Gardens, we felt that this was a great opportunity to use green building materials. Whenever possible, we used green products to create an eco-friendly facility. Most are hard to see, so I'd like to mention a few of them to you. We are utilizing 99% compact florescent lighting throughout the entire facility and have been impressed with the results! We have numerous water-saving devices installed as well as the largest commercial geothermal heating and cooling system. We just updated all of our brochures for our new location and utilized recycled fiber products as well as soy based inks. We contracted with a Canadian firm to build a state-of-the-art glass conservatory which utilizes the latest technology to minimize environmental effects and conserve energy.

When I started to design our new facility, I wanted to incorporate as much of our old buildings and improvements into our new location as possible.

The County's plan was to tear down everything and haul it to the landfill. Since our structures had plenty of life left in them, I chose to relocate them down the street. This of course, is the ultimate form of recycling - we are recycling our sign, gazebo and two buildings.

We also have teamed up with Himco Waste Removal and have a special dumpster where we separate all of our paper and cardboard product to be recycled. At Linton's we're continuously looking for ways to reduce waste and help the environment.

Linton's is committed to reducing our environmental impact through increased use of post-consumer related materials. This spring, we will be offering an even wider selection of organic insecticides as well as fertilizers. We want to challenge you to help us help the earth. Together we can make a huge impact on the environment. Living green helps consume less energy, saves money and helps you live healthier!



As a service to our customers, Linton's offers complimentary wedding consultations. Please call Ruth Linton at Linton's, 293-9699 to set up your appointment!



Christina's Corner

Spring. It has been slow in coming, but it is finally in the air. This is a time to pack up the last of the winter items, the heavy scented candles and replace the dark warm colors with light and bright ones.

To add a splash of spring to your home, open the curtains to let the wonderful sunlight fill the room. Add a scent of spring to the air with scented candles such as Yankee's Sweet Violet or Woodwick's Lavender. For a splash of color, incorporate either fresh or potted spring flowers into a favorite room.

With each season, fashions and hot colors change as well as accessories and colors for the home. This season is no different. Yellows are hot this spring! To brighten up a sofa, add a striped pillow. Introduce a bit of yellow in a throw placed over

the back of chair or over an ottoman. Use brightly colored placemats, table runners and towels, to add a sunshine feeling. If you can't make yellow work in your home, try a variation such as yellow-green, orange-yellow or gold tones. The possibilities are endless.

It's easy to incorporate yellows into your decor using fresh flowers. Daisies, Gerberas, Daffodils, Stock, Alstroemeria, Snap Dragons, Lilies and Tulips are all excellent choices to make spring come alive in your home without completely remodeling.

Visit the Floral and Interior Decor Shoppe at Linton's Enchanted Gardens to see our full line of candles and home decor to brighten up your world!

So happy yellow and happy spring!
Christina Pairitz

LINTON'S 2008 Calendar of Events!

May 3-4 (Sat.-Sun.)..... Spring Open House
May 10-11 (Sat.-Sun.).....Mother's Day Open House
June 7-8 (Sat.-Sun.).....Garden Party
July 12-13 (Sat.-Sun.)Pirate Treasure Hunt
Aug. 2-3 (Sat.-Sun.) Hawaiian Luau
Sept. 13-14 (Sat.-Sun.)..... Birthday Salebration
Oct. 4-5 (Sat.-Sun.).....Octoberfest Open House
Nov. 4 & 6 (Tues. & Thurs.)....Red Carpet Open House
Nov. 8-9 (Sat.-Sun.)Christmas Open House

Saturday & Sunday hours for all events:
8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Red Carpet hours:
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

The Wonderful World Of Webkinz!

What is Webkinz? Webkinz pets are lovable plush pets that each come with a unique secret code. With it you enter Webkinz World where you care for your virtual pet, answer trivia, earn KinzCash and play the best kids games on the net!

Webkinz will be arriving at Linton's Enchanted Gardens in May! Come in and share in the excitement!! Watch for our ads and newsletters for special Webkinz Events!!

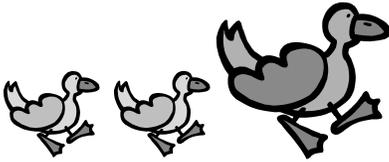
“ Spring is sooner
recognized by plants
than by men. ”
Chinese Proverb

Linton's Hours: Monday through Friday 8:00 - 7:00 • Saturday & Sunday 8:00 - 6:00

An Enchanted Meeting

If your garden club, civic group or organization would like an enchanting place to meet, our beautiful new Linton's Enchanted Gardens is open for both tours as well as meetings Monday through Friday.

Arrangements can be made by calling our office at (574) 293-9699. Our entire facility is on one level with easy access ramps as well as ADA equipped restrooms.

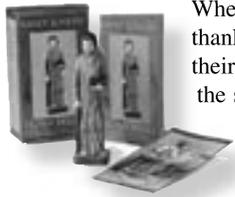


Can't Sell Your Home?

Then let St. Joseph sell your home! The custom of burying a St. Joseph statue to sell your home has been around for centuries.

The custom most likely began when European nuns buried medals with St. Joseph's likeness on property they hoped to acquire for convents. Over time, the medals were replaced with statues and the focus changed from buying to selling.

Custom has it that the statue should be buried upside down in the front yard with feet pointing to heaven. It may face toward your home-or toward the street if you want your neighbor's home to sell!



When your house is sold, thank God and St. Joseph for their blessings. Then, retrieve the statue and give St. Joseph a place of honor in your new home!

Linton's has St. Joseph statues for only \$13.99! They also make great gifts!!!

Help Save Mother Earth

Every year millions of nursery pots are used just once and then hauled away to the landfill. By recycling and re-using the pots, we can all do our part to help Mother Earth.

For each used plastic nursery pot returned to us, Linton's will reward you with a credit of 5¢ per container. (1 gallon or larger). And we don't mind if the container was purchased elsewhere.



At Linton's, every day is Earth Day!

Note: Pots must be in relatively good condition.

ASK IRIS!

Dear Iris,
How do I control weeds in my landscape beds?

Signed, Over Grown

Dear Over Grown,
Weeds and non-natives are often opportunistic invaders in the garden. They occur from lack of competing species, who would eat them or their seeds, soil nutrition excesses or deficiencies, and also when they have found space for growth and light for seed germination.

Early detection of stray weeds is best. Eliminate them before they become a multitude. Seeds can blow in with wind, are dropped by birds and wild animals, hitch rides on clothing, or arrive in unclean soil of nursery stock. Many weeds use runner roots to spread. Often, simple tilling of the soil is enough to inhibit seed germination. Raising soil temperatures is almost always certain death to overwintered weed seeds.

Use Fabric Weed Barrier, available in rolled stock, to cover your area a few months before planting. Soil testing may also prove beneficial for larger affected areas. Any nutrient imbalances will show up in a professionally done soil test. Eco-friendly controls that have failed, are labor intensive, or are cost impractical can be supplemented with use of chemical controls.

Pre-season products, like Treflan, can be applied 6-8 weeks prior to planting, so they have time to work and decompose too. Care must be taken prior to any chemical usage, to consider soil type, current weather conditions, and square footage involved to get the proper ration for an area. All chemical applications eventually find their way downward in soils, and ultimately affect local ground water. Read all labels carefully and use common sense when applying any chemical.

Signed, Iris

Let Your Career Bloom At Linton's

Linton's is the premier Landscape, Garden Centre, Floral Shoppe and Nursery in the country! We are currently seeking people who would like to see their careers blossom with our company.

Would you enjoy working around thousands of flowers or being outside and working with the great smell of dirt? Do you like to meet new people? How about making our customer's days more enjoyable and satisfying by helping them create beautiful surroundings?

If this sounds interesting to you, please contact us today!

Rainy Day Sale

Rainy days need not get you down. Next time the heavens pour liquid sunshine, plan a trip to Linton's. You can shop in the comfort of our covered greenhouses. When our Rainy Days Flag is flying, you'll save 10% off your day's purchases.



We even have a supply of umbrellas for our customers who like to stroll through the gardens. You can visit our website rain or shine at www.lintons.com.

What are FreeBees?

What are Free Bees? If you are a regular customer of Linton's, then you already know. But if you're new to the area, you might just think that we are passing out those pesky pollinators that sometimes may sting us. Well, you are wrong!



Every week during the Garden Centre season, we pass on HUGE savings to our customers with our weekly Free Bee Sale. These are healthy plants that we have grown at our own Nursery in Bristol and have over produced.

When we need to get our inventory level down, we pass on these unheard of savings to our customers! Where else can you buy one or two plants and get three free? Linton's Enchanted Gardens of course! Just watch our weekly ads in the Elkhart, Goshen and South Bend newspapers, or just simply stop by and pick up a weekly sales flyer and look for the red sale flags throughout the Garden Centre.

Employee Spotlight

Introducing . . . Laura Sherman!!



Linton's Enchanted Gardens is proud to introduce our Garden Centre Manager, Laura Sherman. Laura is a Master Gardener with over 8 years of experience in the gardening industry. She hails from Chicago, where she had an award

winning garden and conducted 40 seminars a year on topics ranging from Annuals, Garden Design, Ponds, Herbs and Gardening For Children.

With her vast amount of knowledge she is able to well coordinate our excellent team of Garden Centre Staff. Please stop by to meet Laura, she will bring a little sunshine to your day!



Moses and the *Euonymus alatus* 'Compactus'

What's Cooking?

Strawberry Rice Pudding Risotto-Style

- 1 Qt. strawberries, rinsed and hulled
- 1 C. sugar
- 1 lemon, zest finely grated and juiced
- 1 Qt. milk
- 1 vanilla bean, seeds scraped
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 1 C. Arborio rice
- pinch kosher salt



Cut strawberries into medium-size dice. In a small saucepan over medium-low heat, add strawberries, 1/4 cup sugar, and lemon juice. Cook until berries are soft and the juices have thickened slightly, about 10 to 15 minutes. Set aside to cool.

Heat the milk in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat until it starts to steam. Remove one cup of milk, set it aside, and keep it warm. Stir into the larger pan of milk the remaining sugar, the vanilla bean and seeds, and the rice. Lower heat and cook, stirring constantly, until the rice is tender, about 20 minutes. Add the reserved milk, lemon zest, butter, and salt. Stir well and remove from the heat. This should have a more liquid consistency than regular risotto.

To serve, layer rice pudding and strawberry mixture in tall clear glasses. Chill.

As a service to our customers, Linton's offers complimentary interior accessory consultations. Please call Christina Pairitz at Linton's, 293-9699 to set up your appointment!

The Quilt Garden Tour

On September 21, 2007, the ECCVB (Elkhart County Convention and Visitors Bureau) officially announced the "First of Its Kind Quilt Garden Tour". This unique event, to open in Spring 2008 and continue through the first frost in October, will "unite quilting, gardening, and art in a common theme", and feature the area's AgriHeritage to "enhance the traditional destination brand in an...untraditional manner".

Quilt Gardens have been built in places such as the North Carolina Botanical Gardens, to feature special events focused on fabric quilting. Most of these are permanent structures within parks and public spaces, and have a changing floral display in the center of permanent sidewalks, walls, and stairways.

ECCVB's vision for the Quilt Garden Project was to have many giant "quilts on the land" made out of flowers, perennials, grasses, or shrubs using traditional, modern, or original quilt pattern designs. A minimum of 900 s.f. floral display was required per "quilt" to be considered a part of the project, so the visual impact would be stunning.

Similar to a Rose Bowl Parade Float, when a visitor comes see a Quilt Garden, he/she will get more than just the visual image, and will be able

to smell, touch, and in many cases, walk through the designs. The Gardens will be like huge, living quilts.

Linton's Enchanted Gardens was first to sign on, as Mark Linton saw from the start that the project would be "a wonderful opportunity to share our passion with plants and flowers and everyone else". Other participants quick to join included the Elkhart City Parks, The Old Bag Factory in Goshen, City of Wakarusa, and Middlebury Parks, with locations including downtowns Elkhart, Wakarusa, and Middlebury.

The Gardens together are called the Quilt Garden Tour. The project will be marketed and guided with bus tours, signage, and related educational programs to teach visitors from around the nation about the AgriHeritage of Elkhart County, and to showcase the creativity of participants around the area. Visit Amishcountry.org for a complete listing of 2008 participants including Linton's.

The Linton's Quilt Garden

Selecting a Pattern:

The project was turned over to the design staff of Suzi Sellers & Emily Johnson, who evaluated suggestions on the basis of historical significance, interest, & the feasibility to build. They discovered Traditional Amish Quilts were of

very simple form, & included rich & deep greens, blues, & purples.

The staff turned to more modern quilt patterns, and focused on the use of annuals for the Quilt itself. Selection had been narrowed to the "Dresden Plate" in a Yellow/Gold Sunflower arrangement, or the "Rail Fence" in a 4-color repeating design, when Laura Sherman, Garden Center Manager (& Quilter) suggested the "Childrens' Basic Heart", or "Pieced Heart Block".

It was, however, because Linton's had just moved from the County to the City of Elkhart, that Mr. Linton officially selected and named the pattern "Elk-Heart" to honor its new home. The Quilt Garden will be open for viewing beginning May 23.

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Spring

OPEN HOUSE

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& pop!*



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GARDENS**



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