



Leaflet



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Winter Edition 2004 • Vol. 10/Issue 4

Garden Centre • Floral & Gift Shoppe • Landscaping • Lawn Care • Nursery

"Nuances Of Christmas"

The beauty of the season lies in its color or absence thereof. Nature's paintbrush gives way to etchings in black and white, softened by pillows of snow with patches of color provided by birds and accented with the startling beauty of ice-coated trees.

The joy of the season echoes in the laughter of children playing outside at the sign of the first snow or finding and cutting down the perfect Christmas Tree.

The glow of the season shines through the windows from trees and candles and sparkles on the freshly fallen snow that blankets the earth with soft fluffy flakes.

The magic of the season resides in our hearts. From the pleasure we take in our family traditions, to the pride in our home baking and delight in finding just the right gift. Our homes are decorated to the hilt with lush garlands, wreaths and ornaments added to lovingly year after year.

Please join us for our annual Christ-

mas open house. Let us be your guide through the most natural "settings of perfection", to ensure that your holiday home will be ready for all of your most festive occasions.

Christmas Open House:

Saturday, November 6, 2004
8 am - 5 pm

Sunday, November 7, 2004
10 am - 4 pm



Poinsettia Care

Plants should be removed from their sleeves as soon as possible to prevent drooping of the bracts and leaves due to ethylene buildup, though this problem is not as common with the endless varieties on the market.

Maintaining bright light is important to keep the leaves healthy and the bracts properly colored. However, direct sunlight is not recommended, as it fades the bracts.

Purchase plants with the bracts fully colored and with the small yellow flowers in the centers just beginning to show pollen. Leaves should be green and extend the full length of the stem.

Keep the plants slightly moist at all times, but do not let the plants sit in water, as root rot will develop very quickly. Dry, wilted plants may drop their leaves or some colorful bracts.

Poinsettias are chill sensitive and should not be exposed to temperatures below 50 degrees. A general wilted appearance, leaf drop, or a blackening of the bract edges are possible indications of chill damage.



Poinsettias are not poisonous as is sometimes proclaimed.

Linton's Floral Shoppe has a large selection of poinsettias for your home or office. We offer delivery to anywhere in the United States.

Gifts For The Host

Covered Dishes

If you bring a holiday dish, be sure it will be trouble-free at dinner time by packing it in a simple, attractive serving dish-one that can go from oven or refrigerator straight to the table.

Drinks

Wine is always appreciated-especially if you bring a bottle chilled with another for the host to enjoy later. Another option in autumn is to bring cider with mulling spices, which can be served with cocktails or dessert.



Presents

Gifts shouldn't add last-minute effort for the host. Flowers, for example, make a lovely gift, so bring them prearranged in a vase that you can leave behind.

Happy Holidays



to all of our
wonderful
customers!

Windy Sites

by Geoff Fleenor

Winter winds can increase heating bills and cause snow drifts around homes and driveways that can be difficult. Use evergreens such as spruce and pine on west and northwest locations to redirect and slow the winds. Planting evergreens is also a good investment in energy savings and labor. See us at Linton's Garden Centre for questions about placement for maximum effectiveness and appeal.



LINTON'S 2004 Calendar of Events!

November 2 & 4..... Red Carpet Open House
(6-8 pm)

November 6 & 7..... Christmas Open House
Saturday hours for all events • 8 am - 5 pm
Sunday hours for all events • 10 am - 4 pm

“ One touch of nature
makes the whole world kin.
William Shakespeare ”

Linton's Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 - 6:00 • Saturday 8:00 - 5:00 • Sunday 10:00 - 4:00



America's Favorite Roses

Give thanks and celebrate the season with family and friends. Beautiful centerpieces, fresh pumpkins and gourds filled with roses in exquisite fall colors and other seasonal harvests. Our specialties feature the unusual and unique beauty of *Rio Roses*. It's not just flowers, it's *Rio Roses*, an unforgettable experience.



We invite you to call Linton's Floral Shoppe at 293-9699 and let us bestow more beauty to your Thanksgiving Celebrations.

Welcome to Linton's Floral & Gift Shoppe!

We invite you to come and celebrate our new collections and ...

imagine

a place where retail wishes come true

Jean and our other qualified staff will assist you with your choices.

inspire

the magic of the season with Linton's extensive gift selection

surprise

with creative and original characters for Christmas Gifts

express

the season's trends through your individual style with items from Linton's Floral & Gift Shoppe.

enchant

in the spirit of fun and whimsy

Preparing your Pond for Fall and Winter

Stop feeding the fish when daytime temperatures stay below 50 degrees. Clean up dead tops of plants after frost has killed them back. Shut off pumps in late October and install a pond heater. In November, if the leaves are a problem, cover your pond with pond netting. Check the heater throughout the winter. The heater should keep a small opening around itself. Some snow removal may be necessary around the heater. Restart everything in April and start feeding the fish again as the winter temperature goes above 50 degrees.

Symbol of the Wreath

The Christmas wreath has decorated many a door with fresh greenery. Wreaths are often made of evergreens, including holly, mistletoe, pine and fir. Because they are green and bear fruit in the winter when other plants appear lifeless and bare, evergreens signify God's immortality and everlasting life. The wreath's circular shape reminds us of the circles of life, family and love.



“ There are spaces between our fingers so that another person's fingers can fill them. ”

FOOLED AGAIN!

If you think just any fruit will suit a fool, think again. Fruits, according to botanists, are “the usually edible reproductive body of a seed plant” - meaning they contain seeds. But in 1893, the United States Supreme Court decided that certain fruits-those usually served as part of dinner - would be classified, henceforth, as vegetables. Fruits remaining classified as fruits are those generally served as dessert, the court said.

So, the following fruits probably wouldn't adapt well to a fool's dessert:

- Eggplant: Actually the berry of a plant originating in India.
- Avocado: Holy guacamole! The pear-shaped fruit of the avocado tree.
- Cucumber: This fruit appears after the parent vines' large yellow flowers have faded.
- Sweet Pepper: A berry you wouldn't expect to show up in fruit salad or pie.
- Okra: The fruit of a blooming vegetable plant related to hibiscus.



- Tomato: This fruit confused French and Italian cooks, too, who called them “pommes d'amour” or love apples, and “pomodoro” or golden apples, respectively. The tomato is not related to the apple at all.
- Squash: This includes zucchini, pattypan, butter-nut, acorn and pumpkin.



Seven Simple Steps to Fresher Flowers

- Use a sharp knife, not scissors, to trim flower stems. Scissors don't produce a clean cut and can bruise tender stems. For woody-stemmed flowers, sharp, heavy-duty clippers work best.
- Submerge flowers in a sink filled with tepid water and floral preservative for 30 minutes before arranging - this will hydrate stems, leaves, even blossoms. Skip this step if you're working with delicate flowers such as cosmos and pansies.
- Remove all but the uppermost leaves, since foliage deteriorates quickly in water and produces an off odor.
- Use floral preservative in your vase water, too. You can make your own by mixing a capful of bleach and two teaspoons of sugar in a gallon of water. The bleach impedes bacterial growth; the sugar provides nutrients for the plant.
- Cut stems diagonally before arranging to create more surface area for the plant to drink.
- Nip dead and tightly closed buds - both leach nutrients from healthy blooms.
- Change and recondition water every two days.



2005 Color Forecast

Violet Variance

Purple tones will polarize in 2005 toward deep or light shades with very little in the middle. Many forecasters are placing their bets on the lighter, violet shades to come out on top. Violet is born of the combination of red and blue. The color violet thus possesses a double personality. It is this double character that makes violet a mysterious, seductive color. The predominance of red and acceptance of it in the market has affected purple. It has morphed into this plum/lilac. The lilac is different from lavender, the lilac is a red-cast purple.



How to Steady a Wobbly Chair

Once they've done their duty as wine-bottle stoppers, corks can come in handy elsewhere in the house. In the kitchen or dining room, they are a simple solution to an exasperating problem: a wobbly chair. Simply cut a slice of cork horizontally and slip it under the troublesome chair.



Geoff's Secrets For Beautiful Acid Loving Plants

Dogwoods, broadleaf evergreens, river birch, many woodland plants and evergreens all prefer acidic soil. If you are preparing an area that holds mostly these types of plants, try the following.

Kill grass, etc. by spraying Killz All. Place a 4" layer of sphagnum moss over dead grass and moisten to prevent it from blowing away. Roto-till soil thoroughly, now add 3" - 4" of black peat and re-till. Install all plants and water the entire area and each plant. Mulch with cypress pine needles and shredded oak leaves; if available. Use acid based slow release granular fertilizer with added iron. Your plants will thrive!

“ If we had no winter,
the spring would not
be so pleasant.
Ann Bradstreet ”

Merry Christmas from Linton's!

We welcome you to stroll through our "Winter Wonderland" decorated with over 20 Christmas Tree Creations. You may select a beautiful ornament off of our "Thank You Tree". This is our way of saying "thanks" for your patronage and loyalty throughout the past year.

Linton's Gift Certificates are perfect for those who have everything. Including Good Taste!



What's Cooking?

Hummingbird Cake

(from Kimberly Linton, Mark's wife)

3 C. Flour 2 C. Sugar
1 Tsp. Salt 1 Tsp. Soda
1 Tsp. Cinnamon 3 Beaten Eggs
1 1/2 C. Vegetable Oil
1 8 oz. Can Crushed Pineapple
2 chopped bananas
1 1/2 C Pecans
1 1/2 Tsp. Vanilla



Mix dry ingredients. Add eggs & oil. (Just mix, do not beat). Add bananas, pineapple, nuts & vanilla. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 minutes. Makes 3 layers.

Hummingbird Icing

2 1 lbs. boxes Powdered Sugar
2 Tsp. Vanilla
1 C. Soft Butter
2 8 oz. Pkgs. cream cheese

Stack cake, icing between layers, on top & sides. Use 1 C. chopped pecans on top & sides of cake. Note: If you prefer, bake the cake in a 9x13 loaf pan, and cut the icing recipe in half.

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

Make Decisions

William McKinley, the 25th President, once had to choose between two equally qualified men for a key job. He puzzled over the choice until he remembered a long-ago incident.

On a rainy night, McKinley had boarded a crowded streetcar. One of the men he was now considering had also been aboard, though he didn't see McKinley. Then an old woman carrying a basket of laundry struggled into the car, looking in vain for a seat. The job candidate pretended not to see her and kept his seat. McKinley gave up his seat to help her.

Remembering the episode, which he called "this little omission of kindness," McKinley decided against the man on the streetcar. Our decisions - even the small, fleeting ones, tell a lot about us.

Adapted from *Presidential Anecdotes*
Paul F. Boller, Jr.
Penguin Books



How to Refresh Topsoil

Even a plant that doesn't need repotting should have its soil replenished yearly. Remove the top 2 to 4 inches of soil with a fork; avoid harming fragile feeder roots. Refill with fresh soil mixed with slow-release fertilizer, and if desired, top with grit.

DID YOU KNOW?

A snowflake's decent can be quite slow - easily several hours - since even the heaviest flake falls

How to Remove Melted Wax

Candlelight is romantic, but there's nothing lovely about prying or scraping melted votives out of their holder. Instead, place the glass holders in the freezer for a few hours; the wax should shrink just enough to pop out.



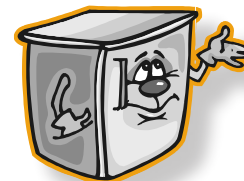
no faster than one mile per hour.



Food & Power Failure

Two things happen over the holidays that can make for gastric disaster; power failures from winter storms, and empty houses as people travel to be with friends and family.

Because of this combination, you may never know if power goes out while you are gone. Then, freezer contents can thaw enough to cause food poisoning in as little as a day.



Before you leave home this year, take an ice cube, slide it into a plastic sandwich bag, and put it in the freezer. If you see a misshapen blob when you get back, you can safely assume all perishables need to be thrown out. Other telltale signs of power failure: the scoop marks have disappeared from the ice cream, and frozen vegetables are a solid clump.

Welcome to our Holiday Open House

Sat., Nov. 6th - 8 to 5
Sun., Nov. 7th - 10 to 4

We welcome you to taste our selection of
Gourmet Foods and Sweets while
listening to the Sounds of the Season,
as you stroll through our
"Winter Wonderland" decorated
with over 20 themed
Christmas Trees.

Also...

- FREE Gift Wrap!
- Visit our FREE Petting Zoo!
- Door Prizes!
- Huge selection of YANKEE CANDLES
(Buy 3 and get the 4th FREE)
- Featuring: Byers Choice® Carolers

*Complimentary flowers for
the ladies and little girls!*

CR 17

(at 6 Span Bridge),

Elkhart

574/293-9699

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