

newsletter volume 20/ issue

The Leslie Greising

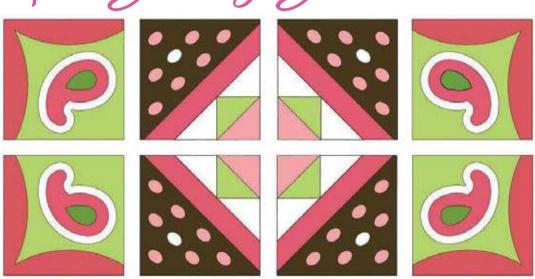
Linton's Enchanted Gardens in Elkhart has had a close business connection with Vera Bradley for the past 7 years that their Home and Garden Centre has been offering Vera Bradley products.

Linton's loves the association that they have with Vera Bradley because they are known world wide for producing highly desirable quality products featuring beautiful floral quilt patterns which fits well with the type of products that are offered in our store.

The Linton's business has had a much more personal connection to Vera Bradley on a totally different level as

well. Brothers Mark and Kirk Linton, and their mother Ruth Linton became personally connected with the Vera Bradley Foundation after their sister/daughter was diagnosed with a rare disease of inflammatory breast cancer. Leslie Greising was diagnosed with a rare form of breast cancer in 2005 and she was expected to live for just six months. Her battle with this disease lasted for seven and one half years. Her life was extended seven years longer than expected with the help of the Vera Bradley Foundation, along with the experts at Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis. The Vera Bradley Foundation featured Leslie as a spokesperson in one of their informative videos which can be viewed on YouTube. On August the 16th, 2013, Leslie lost her battle with cancer.

Shortly before her passing, Leslie shared her story with over 500 of her life time friends and family by hosting a "Celebration of Life Service". This event was covered by the local Elkhart media and the news article and photos were posted on line. A few short days later, other news agencies picked up on it and featured Leslie's story. Her story was read and viewed by millions of people across the United States just prior to her passing. It was Leslie's



goal to inform others about her strength in God to deal with her rare disease.

Linton's Enchanted Gardens hosts annual charitable events raising funds for cancer research. One event, The Big Pink Weekend,features a surprise makeover for a cancer survivor provided by Hello Gorgeous. In 2012, Leslie was selected as a recipient of the Hello Gorgeous makeover. During these events, Linton's invites the American Cancer Society to meet Linton's guests and pass out information about their organization and the services they offer.

Linton's Enchanted Gardens maintains a display and selection of pink ribbon-themed jewelry, accessories and gifts for survivors and supporters.

The Linton family wishes to dedicate the 2014 Vera Bradley Quilt Garden to their late sister and daughter, and to thank the Vera Bradley Foundation for all their efforts and financial support for pledging donations of over 20 million dollars for breast cancer research. The Linton family reaches out to all of the millions of women who have been affected by this disease and hopes that one day a cure will be found that will save lives!

# "Restricted Area"

Roswell at Linton's? No, but it is a "Restricted Area" for serious UFO (Unusual Flowering Objects) plant collectors! At the landing gear of the alien space ship located in our Garden Centre you'll find the products from our 'Research Facility' in Bristol. The cover-up has been blown and the whistle-blowers have demanded we disclose the presence of these results to the public. This area, previously off-limits, has been opened up to customers classified as 'Top Plant Collectors.' We are seeking 'test sights' to help our Research Facility. Each UFO has been properly identified and tagged with its unique statistics. Test Sights will be charged a fee to obtain the UFOs to cover discovery and development costs. The UFOs scheduled to be released for Test Sights from the Research Facility are:

Mighty Pip Astilbe Branford Rambler Fern Hay Scented Fern Dutchman's Breeches Dalmatian Peach Foxglove White Barrenwort Pink Barrenwort Yellow Barrenwort Hardy Broom Virginia Bluebells Eastern White Pine "Stonybrook" Raspberry Queen Poppy Red Raspberries Brazil Berries Woodland Poppy Painted Trillium Etta Rose Chinese Evergreen Sunny Swirl Cypress Dish Garden Croton Dredlocks Croton Magnificent Bush Croton Magnificent Jungle Fire Excoecaria Spindle Palm Blue It Holly Nana Blue Juniper Sculptured Tropical Banana Whitney Mother-In-Laws- Tongue Silver Splash Pothos

### Experience the growing difference in lawn care

Linton's lawn care team has the experience you can trust to carefully inspect and manage the health of your landscape, trees, and shrubs. Many services are available: mowing, fertilizing, pruning, trimming and weeding, along with disease and insect control.

We perform spring cleanups, lawn de-thatching, overseeding and lawn aeration, as well as planting of annual flower beds. During the summer, we provide power edging, line trimming, aeration and over-seeding and turf renovation. Fall clean up, bulb planting and gutter cleaning are offered.

Additional winter services include snow plowing, salting sidewalks and drives, and installing outdoor Christmas lights and decorations.

Our maintenance program provides an alternative for homeowners who want a beautiful yard and yet want to enjoy their leisure time. Business owners use our services to keep a wellmaintained landscape, adding professionalism to their company. Contact us for a free analysis of your lawn and a maintenance quote.



Stop by Linton's Enchanted

Gardens Conservatory and say 'hello' to our newest team member, Bloomer! Bloomer is a Blue and Gold Macaw that joined our team in November 2013. He was born in August 2013. At maturity, Bloomer will reach 36" tall and weigh approximately 4-5 lbs.

Macaws are considered a large parrot and are native to the South American rainforest. Blue and Golds are widely kept as pets since they are a gentle bird that bonds easily to humans. Macaws are known for their ability to mimic human's words. Some of Bloomer's favorite sayings are 'hello' and 'I love you!'

Bloomer has a large habitat in our Conservatory. He has many toys to keep him stimulated and loves to climb around on the many branches in his enclosure.

Proper nutrition is a very important part of keeping Bloomer healthy and happy. Our animal care staff feed him twice daily with snacks in between his meals. Some of his favorite things besides his special feed mix are oatmeal, almonds, apples, and bananas.

Linton's Special Events for 2014

Saturday & Sunday, May 3 & 4 Our Spring Fling Saturday & Sunday, May 10 & 11 Mother's Day Extravaganza Saturday - Monday, May 24-26 Memorial Day Sale: Red, White & Bloom! Saturday & Sunday, June 7 & 8 Pirate Adventure Saturday کی Sunday, June 14 کو 15 Father's Day Sale Saturday & Sunday, June 21 & 22 Big Pink Weekend Saturday & Sunday, July 12 & 13 Wheel of Fortune Weekend Saturday & Sunday, July 26 & 27 Dog Days of Summer Saturday کی Sunday, August 9 کی 10 Kids are a BIG deal! Saturday- Monday, August 30- Sept. I Labor Day Sale Saturday & Sunday, September 13 & 14 Birthday Party- 32 years! Saturday & Sunday, October 4 & 5 Oktoberfest Saturday & Sunday, October 11 & 12 Fall Festival Saturday & Sunday, October 18 & 19 Fall Festival Tuesday & Thursday, November 4 & 6 Red Carpet Open House Saturday & Sunday, November 8 & 9 Christmas Open House and photos with Santa Saturday, November 15 Pet Photos with Santa Friday & Saturday November 28 & 29 Photos with Santa Saturday December 6 Photos with Santa Saturday December 13 Photos with Santa Saturday December 20 Photos with Santa Saturday, November 29 Small Business Saturday- Mystery Discount Tree!

Floral (Trends



#### By: Ruth Linton

"Wake up!" Floral trends for this Spring are encouraging the home owner to do just that as the long, dreary winter is, according to the calendar, coming to a close. Spring may not yet be in full swing, but you can bring it inside your home now by adding a vibrant burst of color that has been absent throughout the winter season. Evoke freshness with a pop of Spring green and colors inspired by crisp Spring breezes with lake life inspired by shades of blue and the pink blossoms of Spring.

Pastel butterflies and feathered birds added to your decor announce that Spring is in the air. See our botanically correct Pussy Willows, Iris, and other bulb plants that will last year after year for many Springs to come.

Linton's real-to-life florals are available to help you create this palate. Linton's design team can help you in interpreting the exact Spring look you desire. Or, arrange to have the design put into your own favorite container.



### **Enchanted Railroad**

All Aboard! Linton's is proud to announce the arrival of our new 'Enchanted Gardens Railroad' Train. The Enchanted Gardens train takes guests on a 10-15 minute narrated & guided tour around the perimeter of the beautiful 9 acre facility, past the display gardens, quilt garden, 'Lake Linton', the petting zoo, and through the train tunnel before dropping back off at the Train Depot Loading takes place every ½ hour during Linton's open hours. The train will run May-December, weather permitting. Tickets are \$4.00 each for children and adults, and infants 12 months and under are free (must remain on adults lap). During Special Events, tickets will be \$5.00 each and include an extra activity. The Easter Eggstrordinaire includes an Easter Egg Hunt, the Pumpkin Patch Express includes a pumpkin and the Polar Express includes a ride with Santa and a candy cane.

### Kind Words from our Customers

Thank you for getting the golf cart to help me get around the Garden Centre and spend more money! The golf cart was money well spent. Kathy Honake

- Linton's Garden Centre Guest

#### Dear Mark,

Thank you for your wonderful design plan that turned our vision into the wonderful backyard we are now enjoying. The stone patio and all the plantings are perfect.

Your staff of workers is outstanding. Charlie was there to make sure everything was done to our satisfaction and helped in all the changes.

Juan and his workers were very good to let us see where everything would be placed. They were most courteous and good workers.

We will enjoy this for years and we look forward to working with all of you in the future.

– Judy and Dick Kennedy



Introducing our newest color, Clementine!

# Spring Yard to do list

'Spring into Action' to have a beautiful landscape.

- Cut Forsythia or Magnolia branches after buds have formed, bring indoors, put in water and enjoy some early Spring color.
- Remove winter mulches from beds
- Cut ornamental grasses back before new growth begins
- Divide & replant perennials before Spring growth has begun
- Prune Spring flowering shrubs immediately after blooming

Visit us sunshine! Decor Rainy Days from the **Raing Day Sale** the next time the heavens pour liquid Shop in the comfort of our Interior Shoppe or Conservatory! When our Flag is flying, save 10% on purchases Garden Centre! We have umbrellas

for you to use as you stroll through our gardens. Visit our website, rain or shine, at www.lintons.com.

# **Controlling Crabgrass**

By Jackie Weiss, Garden Centre Manager

Trying to eliminate crabgrass can be a frustrating project. Here are some helpful hints:

Crabgrass grows in full sun and loves warmer temps and will easily push aside cool season grasses. Proper mowing and a healthy fertilized lawn can effectively control up to 80% of weeds. Crabgrass usually germinates in early May when soil temps reach 60 degrees, so applying a pre-emergent before this happens is a great way to prevent the grassy weed from taking hold. A cool tip is when the Forsythia blooms, you know its time to put your emergent down and water in.

If the pre-emergent application is missed, there are post emergent applications that can be applied but are generally not as effective. Our professional Garden Centre staff are available to answer any questions you may have as well.

### What are Free Bees?

Regular customers of Linton's already know! If you're new to our Garden Centre, you might think we are passing out pollinators that sometimes sting.

During gardening season, we pass on HUGE savings with our Free Bee Sales. These are healthy plants, grown at our Nursery in Bristol. We just need to reduce our inventory, so we offer them to our customers at unheard of savings! Watch our weekly ads in Elkhart and South Bend newspapers, or stop by and pick up a sales flyer. You'll find red sales flags throughout the Garden Centre.

Our Free Bee specials may be found on our website at lintons.com and YouTube (search LintonsEnchanted). Sale information can also be viewed on WSBT 22 on Saturdays at 5:00am, ABC57 on Saturdays at 7:00am, WHME 46 Saturdays at 6:30am, WNDU 16 on Saturdays and Sundays at 6:00am and on FOX28 on Saturdays at 7:00am.



## **Employee Spotlight**

Linton's is excited to welcome Carol McKenzie to our management team!

Carol is the manager of our recently opened Garden Café. She is an Indiana native who graduated from John Adams High School and attended IUSB for her undergraduate

studies. Carol received her culinary training at Dumas Pere School of French Cuisine in Chicago. She has even had an original recipe published in Bon Appetite Magazine.

With over 30 years in the food service industry and experience owning a catering business, Carol brings a wealth of knowledge to our firm. Carol is an avid gardener who loves to grow vegetables, flowers and house plants.

