



# Hasting Plants



1500 Hasting Lane Mt. Vernon, IN 47620 838-2164

*We're Well Worth the Drive!*

---

## BUSINESS HOURS

### March 14 to April 09

9-4 Mon-Sat  
Closed Sunday

### April 11 to May 14

9-6 Mon-Thurs  
9-8 Friday  
9-4 Saturday  
1-4 Sunday  
(open the last 2 Sundays in  
April, the first 2 Sundays in May)

### May 17-May 31

9-6 Mon-Fri  
9-4 Saturday  
9-4 Memorial Day  
Closed Sunday (no late  
Fridays)

### June 1 until closing

9-6 Mon-Fri  
9-4 Saturday  
Closed Sunday

---

## NOTES FROM NANCY

What a year this has been, from the hottest summer to the longest winter... and then the river came up! As I write this newsletter it is finally receding after cutting us off for 1 ½ weeks! We would have opened on March 14, but couldn't open until the 23<sup>rd</sup> this year! I'm really excited about all we have to offer this year, from plants to merchandise in our building, I think you'll have fun scouting out all the new and unusual items this year. Please read about some of those highlights in other articles of the newsletter.

We have a special event this year; we are celebrating **Sheila Majors** working for **20 years** at Hasting Plants. We are so happy to have had her helping us for that long. Please read more about Sheila in another article in this newsletter.

One new thing we are trying is MagniMoist. It is a special insert that we have placed inside all of our Hanging Baskets. MagniMoist helps increase the water holding capacity, and evens out the water in the basket. We hope it will make it easier for you to care for the baskets throughout the summer. Let us know what you think.

I should note that this newsletter should come out around the first or second week of April. Many of you get worried when those first warm days hit in March that you've been left off the list and I didn't send one to you. I try to time the newsletter so that when you receive it, it is almost time to come visit us for plants. If I send it out too early, you want to come both before the weather is warm enough and before we have everything really ready.

And finally, just a note to tell you how much we love your kind comments about our business. It is one of the things that keep us going and striving to offer new and different plants each year. For example, I still enjoy the comment made several years ago by a customer on a beautiful spring day with the plants at peak color that "I think this must be what Heaven is like!" More recently in e-mails with questions for us, we were called "A Magical Place!", and a place "we fell in love with". Those kind comments feed our souls! Thank you so much. It is that appreciation that makes it fun for us to work ourselves ragged each spring!

---

## 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.

**At Hasting Plants, LLC,  
we price our perennials with blue tags and our annuals with white tags.  
We hope this helps prevent any confusion.**



## 2011 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

**Amsonia hubrichtii**  
**Arkansas Blue Star/Thread Leaf Blue Star**



This year's Perennial Plant of the Year, **Amsonia hubrichtii** (am-SO-nee-ah hew-BRIK-tee eye), has a full three seasons of interest. In the spring it is topped with 2 to 3 inch wide clusters of light blue star-shaped flowers. The bright green ferny foliage is attractive all summer long and gives a nice contrast to neighboring broad leaved plants. Amsonia really shines in the fall when the foliage turns a bright golden-yellow.

Amsonia grows best in full sun or partial shade with well-drained soil. At full size, it is 36" tall and 36" wide, giving the appearance of a small shrub. Once established, this Blue Star is drought tolerant. The foliage and stems contain a milky sap, which seems to make this plant unappealing to deer!

Arkansas Blue Star can be used in sunny borders, cottage plantings, native gardens, and in large container plantings. The ornamental qualities and many uses make Amsonia an invaluable perennial garden plant. This perennial workhorse provides three splendid seasons of ornamental features.

## 2011 Seminars and Events

Please sign up in advance, even if there are no fees for your particular class. Classes that don't fill will be cancelled, so if you just show up, you may be disappointed. If no fee is listed, that class is free.

**A. 20 Year Reception for Sheila Majors**—Join us for refreshments on Sheila's Birthday to celebrate her 20 years at Hasting Plants. Please see other article in the newsletter. **April 27, 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

**B. "Late Night at the Greenhouse"** - No need to sign up, I just want to remind you to put it on your schedules! See article for details. **May 13, 8 p.m. to 12 midnight!**

**C. Make a Stepping Stone** – This has been a popular class these last few years. Come, choose a mold and pour a stone. You can leave it to pick up later, or carefully haul it home. The mold is yours to keep and reuse again and again. **May 14 or 21, 9:00 a.m.** Fee: Cost of mold plus \$2.00

**D. Beginning Perennial Gardening** – Everything you need to know to start your adventure into perennial gardening. This will be beginning information. **May 14, 10:00 a.m.**

**E. Perennial Varieties** – In this class, we will discuss some of the new varieties we have this year as well as recommend some of the tried and true plants. A great sequel to the Beginning Perennial Class. **May 14, 11:00 a.m.**

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

V

**Simply Salad** is a unique mixture of fresh greens you can cut back to 2" for your salad and allow more to grow for later. We have these available in larger pots ....hopefully enough for your salad! There are 3 different mixes of **Simply Salad**.

We always try to add some new vegetables each year (not that we don't grow an amazing number of peppers and tomatoes already). In **Peppers**, we added **Peperoncini**, **Tabasco**, **Orange Blaze** the All-America Selections Winner (which will be ready late), **Orange Bell**, **Park's Orangesicle**, **Chocolate Habanero**, and **Cajun Bell**. For Tomatoes, we added **Tomato 'Goliath Early'**. I also asked my nephew, Michael Stevenson (from Gibson County) what his favorite Heirloom varieties were...he's grown a huge variety of them as a hobby for several years. So we added, from his advice, **Tomato 'Kellogg's Breakfast'** and **'Amish Paste'**.

Hasting Plants, LLC 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."



## ALL-AMERICA SELECTIONS 2011



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-americaselections.org](http://www.all-americaselections.org)

- ♣ **Gaillardia ‘Arizona Apricot’** offers a new and unique apricot color for Blanket Flowers. The 3 to 3.5” yellow edged, daisy-like flowers, deepen to a rich apricot in the center. This Gaillardia will bloom from early summer into autumn. The 12 inch compact perennial plant is relatively maintenance free, and drought tolerant once established. Grow these easy, long blooming, perennials in full sun.
- ♣ **Salvia ‘Summer Jewel Red’** bears bright red flower spikes of 1/2” blooms. It blooms early and stays a tidy 20” in height at full maturity. This densely branched flower in bright red is great to attract hummingbirds, and as an added bonus, goldfinches love the seeds. Plant ‘Summer Jewel Red’ in containers or flower beds in full sun for a great display.
- ♣ **Bell Pepper ‘Orange Blaze’** is an orange bell pepper that is easier to grow than previous varieties. It boasts early maturity, sweet flavor and disease resistance. It matures to a beautiful orange color in about 65 to 70 days from transplant. Fruit is 3 to 4” long and about 1.5” wide with 2 to 3 lobes. Note: This selection wasn’t announced until late February, and I’m waiting on seed as I write this newsletter, so we will grow this variety, they will just be late.
- ♣ **Tomato ‘Lizzano’** is a vigorous semi-determinate variety with low growing trailing habit. It will grow well in hanging baskets or patio containers. In the garden, the plants do best if staked and grow 16 to 20” tall with a spread of 20”. Lizzano produces abundant yields of high-quality, bright red, baby cherry sized 1 inch fruits(.4 ounces). Lizzano is Late Blight tolerant, so plants should last longer into the growing season. 63 days from transplant.
- ♣ **Tomato ‘Terenzo’** is a high yielding red cherry fruited trailing tomato. The round red fruit is 1 1/4” (.7 ounces) with a high sugar content. Determinate plants grow 16 to 20 inches, which makes it suitable for hanging baskets or patio containers. This easy to grow variety requires little maintenance. 56 days from transplant.
- ♣ Other AAS Selections that we won’t have available are: **Ornamental Kale ‘Glamour Red’**, **Viola ‘Shangri-La Marina’**, and **Pumpkin ‘Hijinks’**.

## NEW ROSE SELECTIONS FOR 2011

We always have some gorgeous roses. Here are a few of the new ones for this year:

**Dick Clark** – AARS Selection 2011. Cream and cherry blushed burgundy flower on a Grandiflora type rose

**Colorific** – Salmon blend blushing scarlet flowers. Floribunda.

**Grande Dame** – Super saturate rose pink blooms. Hybrid Tea.

**Pink Home Run** – joins ‘Home Run’ as a black spot, powdery mildew and rust resistant carefree rose. In the tradition of the Knock Out brands.

**Purple Splash Climber** – Wine purple striped with bright white. Large Flowered Climber.

**White Licorice** – Fragrant lemon cream. Floribunda.

## LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE

Be sure to join us for our 4<sup>th</sup> annual “**Late Night at the Greenhouse.**” We’ve had to **change the date** this year due to a scheduling conflict. We will have ‘Late Night’ on **May 13, from 8 p.m. to 12 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.



## ANNUALS TO TRY FOR 2011

We have a lot of new plants this year, but whenever you ask me in person to name them, my mind goes blank. I have to walk in the door of the greenhouse and “eyeball them” to remember what’s there. Here is a listing:

A couple of the plants that impressed me last summer at the trade shows were **Calibrachoa ‘Coralberry Punch’** (Million Bells) with its beautiful peachy-pink flowers with a red eye, and **Verbena ‘Superbena Royale Chambray’** which boasts a beautiful small cluster of light purple flowers.

**Lavender Trailing Lantana** is a plant we haven’t grown for years, but since all Lantana loves the heat of summer, we added this one back in our line-up.

Speaking of summer heat, one of the stars of the hot weather last summer were **Ornamental Peppers**, we have several, including some with all yellow fruits, **‘Salsa Yellow’** and one with all orange fruit, **‘Salsa Orange’**. We also grow one several of you asked about last year: **‘Black Pearl’** which was an All-America Selection several years ago.

**Rudbeckia ‘Denver Daisy’** is a selection of Black Eyed Susan that is not dependably hardy, like ‘Indian Summer’, but it makes up for it with its long summer showy flowering season. It has large deep gold flowers with a chocolate center ring around the cone.

**Clivia ‘Golden Dragon’** is a great house plant, very easy to grow, and thrives on neglect. The yellow blooms of Golden Dragon are rarer than the common orange flowers. These plants with strap-like leaves loves to be root bound, and will bloom in late winter.

An attractive trailing foliage plant is **Oplismenus ‘Dragonfly’**. It looks like a small wandering jew with white, pink and green striped leaves. It will be great in mixed containers!

We have some unusual colors in **Caladium**. **‘Bicolor’** with dusky green leaves splotted with bright lavender, **‘Cerise’** bears dusky purple leaves with black veins and flecks of pink, and **‘Hot Lips’** has rich red glossy leaves.

**Heliconia stricti ‘Sharonii’** just looked cool in the catalog! It has banana-like leaves and a unique bloom similar to Bird of Paradise. The description says it will bloom all summer long, and once it is 3’ tall it will bloom April to December (that would be inside...it’s tropical). It prefers part sun.

**Cristia – Swallowtail** is the cool leaf plant we had last year. The striped leaves look like butterfly wings.

**Impatiens ‘Butterfly Salmon Eye’** is a unique hybrid with a full-trailing habit and delicate blooms, **‘Patchwork Peach Prism’** has blooms with WOW factor. The base color starts light peach/pink and transforms to white, with a darker peach/pink center eye.

We have a lot of cool “Supertunias” (my phrase for all the vigorous petunias from cuttings) **Petunia ‘Black Velvet’** which has deep black blooms, **‘Phantom’** with black and yellow striped blooms, **‘Sun Spun Yellow’** a nice trailing yellow variety, **‘Rhythm and Blues’** with blue blooms edged in white, and novella **‘Martha Washington’** whose double blooms resemble the geraniums of the same name.

I really went overboard in the Salvia department! **Salvia ‘Mystic Spires’** continues to be one of our favorites with foot long, true blue, blooms, **S. ‘Hot Lips’** has a unique white top petal with a pink fall, **S. ‘Wendy’s Wish’** has large magenta blooms and dark green leaves with maroon stems, **S. ‘Marachino’** is our all-time favorite for hummingbirds, **S. blepharophylla** (Eyelash-leaved sage) has bright scarlet flowers and eyelash, glossy, green leaves.

**Coreopsis ‘Coloropsis Jive’** is a plant normally thought of as perennial, but there are some really great colorful blooms on some of the non-hardy plants. ‘Jive’ puts on a great show of white daisy flowers with a burgundy eye and orange center, blooming all summer. They are worth using as annual varieties

**Phygelius ‘Candydrops Deep Rose’** grow 12 to 18” tall and bear cluster of deep pink tubular flowers. The dark green foliage gives a great contrast. I love the unique look of the flowers.

We have a huge selection of **Succulents** these plants are quite popular since they thrive on heat, sun, and low water needs! They are perfect for our summers! They look great mixed together in easy to care for planters. – We have some cool **Agave, Echeveria**, and many others. Several of these are smaller starts that are spectacular when they begin to grow. We saw a lot of these at a trade show last summer and had to have them!

**Lucky Ribbon Plant** is a unique flat stemmed foliage plant that is nice by itself or in a mixed planter. We had this one several years back.

**Cat Whiskers – White, and Lavender.** We have grown cat whiskers for years. The white is such a pure white and the whisker-like flowers are great all summer long. We added Lavender ones this year.

**Snowbush** is a bushy foliage plant with green leaves dusted with pink and white. It will make a great accent plant in a mixed container.



## ANNUALS TO TRY FOR 2011 - (CONTINUED)

**Euphorbia ‘Diamond Frost’** with it’s tiny white blooms and heat tolerance, has been a winner for the past several years. This year we also have a variety that has a pale pink bloom called **‘Blush’**.

We kind of went crazy on Begonias this year. We have several different **Angel Wing** types. We also have **B. ‘Art Hodes’** which has green leaves with purple fuzz that give it an iridescent appearance. **B. ‘Bonita Shea’**, from the Southern Living Plant Collection, has dainty white/pink flower and curly green leaves with a red underside. Heat loving, it thrives in sun or part shade. A new Begonia this year, **‘Gryphon’** is an awesome spotted leaved variety that looks similar to a Rex Begonia. The large leaves have attractive jagged edges...it is a real showstopper! It can tolerate a little drier soil than Rex Begonias.

You know I can’t list everything! You know there are a lot more new and different plants to be found if you just come and look around!

## NEW IN THE BUILDING

This year we found a new trade show and have lots of great new additions to the building that we are excited to offer.

One of my main arbor suppliers has developed miniature scale models of all of their arbors. This way, you can see what they all look like and special order the perfect model for your yard.

We have several benches, gliders, and swings that we couldn’t resist. Some have wonderful metal scenery that forms the back of the bench. Others are made from peeled logs. Still more are child size and brightly painted. If you want a perfect bench or swing, come check these out!

There are some large uniquely shaped topiaries to place in large pots or directly in the ground. We have beautifully glazed and decorated Fire Pots that can burn citronella to keep insects away from your outdoor enjoyment. There is also a neat “spring” hanger that can help tell you when to water your hanging baskets.

There are some wonderful greeting cards with seeds in the paper, so after the event, they can plant the card for further enjoyment. We found some awesome wind sculptures. There are hanging bird carvings with bells, glow in the dark gazing globes and stakes, attractive plaques and pot covers to decorate plants. We found some great metal art – rooster planters, balancing birds, topiaries and more.

You really need to come and look at all of our “finds”. I can’t list them all!

One other note; I have several items that I am putting on a special sale this year....I’m calling it “Make Me an Offer (MMAO)”. I will have them labeled with “MMAO”. Most of what I’m thinking of are some rather big ticket items, like the bronze girl and horse, the bronze boy and girl, a fiber/bronze finish boy, and the Lion Fountain. These are items we have had for several years and just need to find homes for. The company that made the bronze statues is no longer in business, so they are one of a kind buys.

**At Hasting Plants, LLC,  
we price our perennials with blue tags and our annuals with white tags.  
We hope this helps prevent any confusion.**



**We’re on the Web!**  
**[www.hastingplants.com](http://www.hastingplants.com)**





## PERENNIALS TO NOTE IN 2011

A plant everyone went wild over in our flower bed last year was Baptisia, so we have great starts for you. Baptisia (False Indigo) doesn't like to be moved once planted. It forms a great shrub-like mound with early summer bloom. **Baptisia 'Purple Smoke'** has charcoal grey stems and 1 ½ ft. long smoky violet flower spikes, **B. 'Twilight Prairieblues'** has purple buds opening to violet purple flowers with lemon yellow keels, and **B. 'Solar Flare Prairieblues'** bears lemon yellow flowers that take on an orange blush as they age.

I went overboard on **Shasta Daisies** this year. **Leucanthemum 'Becky'** is our all-time favorite with long bloom, strong stems and classic white daisy flowers, **L. 'Banana Cream'** has huge 4-5" flowers that open lemon yellow, brighten to light buttery yellow and finally turning creamy white, **L. 'Crazy Daisy'** bears fringed and frilly semi to fully double blossoms, **L. Sunnyside Up** have an extra high dome that reminds you of a fried egg, **L. 'Lacrosse'** is a compact plant with unique spoon-shaped or fluted petals, **L. 'Daisy May'** is a Proven Winners selection that is free blooming and compact.

**Echium amoenum, (Red Feathers)** is a "new to me" perennial with feathery russet red flower spikes in the spring. It reblooms if deadheaded, tolerates drought, and is deer resistant!

**Epimedium 'Sulphureum'** is certainly not a new plant, but they are exceptionally nice this year. The heart shaped leaves dance in the breeze on this great shade ground cover. Light yellow flowers in the spring and bronze tinged foliage in the fall give this a great all season appeal. It can tolerate dry shade once established.

**Lychnis 'Gardener's World'** has bright magenta, fully double blooms that contrast nicely with the silvery foliage reminiscent of dainty lamb's ears.

We have several **Gaillardia** this year, and I'm impressed with what I've seen already. Gaillardia are always great since they bloom all summer and require little care. **Gaillardia 'Gallo Red'**, and **G. 'Gallo Orange'** both plants in this series have huge blooms on super compact plants, **G. 'Sunburst Tangerine'** is a semi-compact plant with light lemon-yellow flowers that have a small tangerine ring around the center, **G. 'Mesa Yellow'** was last year's All-America Selection, and, **G. 'Arizona Apricot'** is this year's All-America Selection.

I can't get enough Peonies! I want one of every kind and color. **Peony 'Gay Paree'** is a Japanese single type with cerise-pink outer petals cupping a creamy white center, prolific bloomer and fragrant; blooms late. A new peony type to come on the scene is the **ITOH Peonies**. They are a cross between different peony types, like garden peonies and tree peonies. This gives the benefits of both parents, the hardiness and herbaceous habit of garden peonies and the intense new colors and flower size from tree peonies. As with all "new" types of plants they are very "pricey", but I'll admit I paid a whole lot more than I'm selling them for to get one mail order last year! **ITOH 'Bartzella'** has very large 6" lemon yellow fragrant flowers varying from double to semi-double; **ITOH 'First Arrival'** is a semi-double bright pink with lavender flower that is very floriferous. They are great collector plants. Another Peony we have is **P. 'Peter Brand'** which is listed as one of the best red doubles.

**Gelsemium 'Margarita'**, or Carolina Jessamine, is a native vine with a profuse display of clear yellow trumpet flowers in late spring with mostly evergreen leaves

**Meehan's Mint** (*Meehania cordata*) is a great native groundcover substitute for Ajuga or Lamium. In late spring the green carpet is covered with beautiful blue flowers with spotted throats.

We always have lots of Garden Phlox, but here are a few new ones: **Phlox Carolina 'Gypsy Love'** is one of the lower, early flowering spring species. This one has long blooming clusters of bright pink flowers over compact narrow foliage. In the tall garden phlox **Phlox paniculata 'Jenna'** boasts outstanding mildew resistance with varying shades of sweetly scented, lavender pink flowers, **P. 'Blue Paradise'** has flowers opening pale blue, darkening to deep violet blue with red violet edges as they age.

**Rudbeckia maxima** is a "cabbage leaved" Black-Eyed Susan that will amaze you for the foliage effect alone. The tall plants are topped with flowers later in the summer., **R. 'Henry Eilers'** has quill shaped petals that make it very distinctive, and **R. triloba** is a Georgia Gold Medal winner with small deep-gold flowers blooming for up to 3 months over summer.

We have some newer "Premium" varieties of **Clematis**: **'Anna Louise'** which produces 5-6" violet flowers with a contrasting red/purple bar, **'Clair de Lune'** has 6-7" flowers with a base color of white suffused with pale lilac becoming darker at the edge of the wavy petals and dark anthers, **'Rebecca'** boasts very large bright red flowers with creamy yellow anthers.

**Dicentra 'Valentine'** is a selection of the Old Fashioned Bleeding Heart that is really red rather than pink.

**Bignonia 'Tangerine Beauty'** or **Cross Vine** is a native, semi-evergreen vine. It has showy tangerine-orange and yellow trumpet shaped blooms borne in clusters. This choice vine is self-clinging and prefers full sun to part shade. It blooms in the early spring and again in the fall on old wood, so it will take a year or so to get established.

I wish I could list every plant we grow! I could tell you the good qualities of a whole lot more, but then this newsletter would never get done! You'll just have to come and peruse our plant aisles.



## HASTING PLANTS HONORS 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Sheila Majors has worked at Hasting Plants for 20 years!** What an awesome feat, not only to put in that much time, but to put up with me for all those years!

I first met Sheila when she briefly moved next door while Mike & I lived in Mount Vernon. As we met over the backyard fence, her first question was where to buy plants in the area! Of course I laughed, and told her about Hasting Plants! Shortly after that, I asked her if she would be interested in coming to work for me. What a great move on my part. Sheila was the first employee I had (other than my Mother-in Law, Olive) that came back year after year. What a difference it made to have someone who knew the routine and was able to help manage Hasting Plants. Her knowledge of plants from years of gardening has been, and continues to be, an invaluable asset to the business. Sheila was also a wonderful help with my kids as they grew up at the greenhouse. They love her like a favorite Aunt. If I ever need to leave the greenhouse, I don't have to worry if Sheila is there. Several years back, when my Dad passed away, when Daniel spent a week at Shriner's Hospital in Chicago, and just a couple of years ago when Diane was in the hospital in Evansville, it was a wonderful feeling to know that I could leave the greenhouse with no qualms. Sheila's assistance has made it possible for me to grow Hasting Plants. I can't thank her enough for the time and effort she has put in during those 20 years.

She is talking about moving to North Dakota to be near her granddaughter next year, but I think we will make her come back at least for greenhouse season!

**Help us in honoring Sheila's 20 years of service on her birthday, April 27. We will serve refreshments all day.**

### OUR EMPLOYEE FAMILY

<p><b>Sheila Majors</b>, Assistant Manager, has been here 20 years! See separate article on this feat! She can run this place single-handedly, and has been known to do so. She plants most all of the perennials, and is great at selecting plant combinations for containers or beds.</p> <p><b>Jill Ellison</b>, 15 years, continues to help especially on the late Friday nights and Sunday afternoons. She is an avid gardener and can always recommend plants from experience.</p> <p><b>Susan Blue</b>, 13 years, really shines at straightening and primping the greenhouses during selling season. She is great at helping customers find just the right plant as well.</p> <p><b>Lydia Lurker</b>, 9 years, is one of my main transplanters. She</p>	<p>can do the tiny things no one else wants to tackle. She is also my vegetable expert!</p> <p><b>Jo Ann Holbrook</b>, 9 years, helps with transplanting and selling. She also loves plants and is great at helping you find those unique varieties.</p> <p><b>Brenda Upshaw</b>, 4 years, has a great knowledge of flowers. She does it all... transplant, move plants, water, clean, and work the register.</p> <p>All of my employees love plants, and you can tell it in the work they do. I couldn't ask for a better crew.</p> <p>We also had <b>Luke Rusher</b> and <b>Jake Duckworth</b> do some serious plant moving for us over spring break. They were great help!</p> <p>And my family update: <b>Daniel Hastings</b>, 23, will graduate from the IU Kelley</p>	<p>School of Business in May. It's a hard thing for die-hard Purdue graduates to accept that their offspring will actually accept an IU degree with pride. (You know we really are proud too!)</p> <p><b>Diane Hastings</b>, 18, will also graduate... from Mount Vernon High School in May. She has kept busy with the Mt. Vernon Dance Cats (high school dance team), having been a Co-Captain for 2 years. Her team's final competition at State merited a 5<sup>th</sup> place in Jazz and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Hip Hop. We're proud of that! Next year's college plans are still being decided.</p> <p><b>Crystal</b> (the dog) is our official greeter. She appreciates advance notice if you bring your dog on your visit. Once she greets a new dog she is fine, but if they come up un-</p>	<p>expectedly, she'll act like she wants to attack them. If she walks away, please tell your young children not to chase after her.</p> <p><b>Tiger, Socks &amp; Pizazz</b> (the cats) can usually be found lounging in a box on the wagon, or asleep in the building. They love the extra attention greenhouse season brings.</p> <p><b>Nancy</b> thinks every year she'll be more organized &amp; 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.</p> <p>You – my customers – are the real heart &amp; 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.</p>
--	---	---	--

**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.**



1500 Hasting Lane  
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620  
Phone: 812-838-2164



**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 the best display and selection.**

