

The Growing Scene Gazette

The Growing Scene, Inc. 17009 Harmony Rd, Marengo, Illinois

Volume 10, Issue 1

April 2005

Celebrating our 10th year!

By Kathi Carr

April 12 marked our 10th Opening Day for our garden center. As with most Anniversaries, it brought back many great memories. Our first sale on April 15, 1996 to Debbie Piske and her daughters (we still have that first dollar hanging up in our office). My husband, Chris, sends me flowers on the first day of every year with a great funny card attached (Wow, it's only been 8 years? Seems like 20!). On year

5 a good friend and her 4 year old brought me doughnuts to celebrate our first day. They live in Texas now, so it makes that memory even more special.

Please join us this year in making new memories.

Advice from a tree

*Stand tall and proud-
Sink your roots deep into
the earth-
Be content with your
natural beauty-*

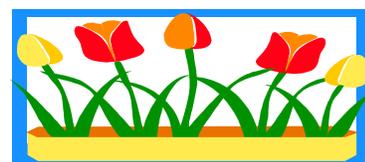
We have 2 special mornings each week. Wednesday is Senior Citizen Day. Seniors can enjoy coffee and doughnuts from 10am-12pm each Wednesday. All cash and carry purchases will receive a 10% discount. Friday Mornings are reserved for Mom and their children. We will be serving coffee, juice and doughnuts. Please join us!

We look forward to celebrating this year and all it brings with you.

**Don't Miss Our Spring
Open House
May 14th & 15th**

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WELCOME NOELLE!

Noelle Landwehr has joined The Growing Scene, Inc. family. Noelle has accepted the position of Financial Secretary. Noelle brings to us 15 years of working with financial and insurance institutions. This background enables her to efficiently handle

all of our accounts payable, accurately track all cash, credit card and check transactions and file monthly sales tax reports.

Noelle and her husband, Danny have been married 15 years. They have 3 adorable children, Erin, 7,

Lauren, 5 and Andy 3.

Although most of this work will not involve customer contact, I did think that it was important to introduce her through this format. You may see her at the garden center on Saturdays. Welcome Noelle!

Dates to Remember:

- *May 8 Mother's Day*
- *May 15th and 16th
Spring Open House*
- *May 30 Memorial Day*
- *Wednesdays Sr. Citizen
Day 10-12*
- *Fridays Mom's Morning*

What's New?

Each time a customer asks for something we don't normally stock, chances are, we can get it from the local nurseries that we deal with. If enough people request the same item we try to keep it in stock. We also keep a running list of those items that our customers ask for that we do not immediately have available for them. The following is a small list of some of the new items you

can find at our garden center thanks to customer requests: Concrete statuary and fountains, Hibiscus with dinner plate size flowers, Endless Summer Hydrangea- it blooms on new AND old wood, a larger selection of shade trees, ornamentals, and evergreens, Wheelbarrow planters, and Whishing well planters.

We need your assistance...

Help!

Please check the name and address on the back of this newsletter. If there are any mistakes or if you do not wish to receive this publication any longer or if you know someone who would like to get a monthly copy, please call, write, or stop by.

Spring Lawn Care

By Erica Larson



Spring has sprung at last! Or has it? It's hard to tell with the crazy weather we've been having lately, but never fear, nature knows it's course. I spend a fairly good amount of time on the road on my way to and from work and I find it incredibly refreshing to see the grass greening up nicely and the trees budding despite the forecasted April snow showers. With the onset of spring comes the dread of spring-cleaning. I'm here to persuade you to put it off for one more week, slip a sweater on, grab a rake, and head outdoors. Just like the inside of the house the yard also needs a good once-over after the long cold winter season and it feels good to be outside again. Start by raking your yard, this will clean up the dead grass and allow air and rain to reach the roots. Re-seed any bare spots and apply a fertilizer that is high in nitrogen for strong root development. As the grass is now beginning to grow, it is the time to give it a

good feeding. This also promotes healthy new growth.

May begins the peak of grass growth, and also that of weeds. You will want to purchase a pre-emergent weed control to spray on the lawn. Pre-emergents do exactly what the name implies; the weeds are hit with weed control before they are able to push out of the ground and spread their seeds, making your lawn a mess. Always apply fertilizer and chemicals to your lawn early in the morning or later in the evening to avoid over exposure to the sun, which can lessen the effect of the fertilizer/chemicals, and result in unsightly burnt grass.

There are more steps to be taken to keep your lawn beautiful for the rest of the year, but I will follow up with those in our June newsletter. Soon the weather will be nice enough that you can enjoy being outdoors more often, and with these simple steps, you will have a show-piece lawn to take pleasure in.

Memorial Day Hours

Memorial Day weekend is usually a great weekend to spend gardening! We will be open on Saturday, May 28 from 9-6, Sunday from 10-5 and Monday from 10-4. Please celebrate and remember those who have fought and died for our country. Remember-we are open on Memorial Day!

Spring Open House

Join us on Saturday, May 14 and Sunday, May 15 for our 10th Annual Spring Open House. We promise refreshments, great sales on our plants, and free giveaways.

Chris, Kathi, Mary, Sarah and Christopher Carr

It is utterly forbidden to be half-hearted about gardening. You have got to love your garden whether you like it or not!"

-W.C. Sellar

2005-New and Improved

By Kathleen Carr

We continue to improve all aspects of our company. The first change that you may notice when you visit us is that we have moved our entrance. ***Please use the entrance just West of our old entrance.*** We have developed a more defined parking area. This entrance is more conveniently located in relationship to our bagged and bulk material areas and to our new, much larger tree and shrub area. Please come out and browse in our new, larger display areas. The Redbuds, Serviceberries, Crab trees and ornamental Pear trees are all in bloom! All of our trees and shrubs are also on a drip irrigation system this year.

Our landscaping crew worked diligently to install a Paveloc paver patio for us next to our office. They are available to install your next patio as well! We have a great selection of fountains and

statuary on display on and around the patio.

We also have a greenhouse filled with Annual and perennial flowers as well as vegetable plants and seeds. My daughters have been begging for the opportunity to plant seeds outside. I keep telling them it is too early, but never the less, they are anxious(as we all are!) Tonight I opened up a grocery bag filled with seeds from last year. They were so excited! They divided them up and carefully stored them in special places in their room. As they were enjoying all of the wonderful packets of seeds, I was wondering why they are so enamored by them. I think seeds, flowers, shrubs and trees represent an investment in the future. A eternal hope that when we plant something it will grow and nourish us through either it's beauty or the food that it provides for us. Why are 5 and 7 year old girls so giddy over a few packets of seeds? Thankfully they

see a world of possibilities, four o'clocks blooming in their yard, hot peppers for Daddy's salsa, pumpkins to carve at Halloween. All really great things to look forward to. At the time, I was just looking forward to getting them tucked into bed!

We look forward to sharing our new facilities with you!

How to Reach Us?

- **Phone:** 815-923-7322
- **Fax:** 815-923-7319
- **E-mail:** tgsinc12@msn.com
- **Website:**
- **Store Hours:**
Monday-Saturday 9-6
Sunday 10-6

"What a man needs in gardening is a cast iron back with a hinge on it." -Charles Dudley Warner

GRANDMA' RECIPE BOOK

From Grandpa's Garden to Grandma's Kitchen

By Jean Britton

MILE HIGH STRAWBERRY PIE

Ingredients:

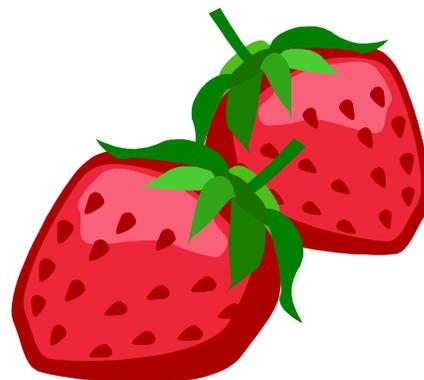
1 quart fresh strawberries, cleaned and sliced
1 cup sugar
3 1/2 Tablespoons cornstarch
2 Tablespoons white corn syrup
1 cup water
2 Tablespoons strawberry jello(dry)

Crust:

1 1/2 cup flour

1/2 cup salad oil
2 Tablespoons milk
2 Tablespoons sugar
Pinch of salt

Prepare crust. Mix flour, salad oil, milk, sugar and salt. Pat into a 9 inch pie plate. Bake at 350 degrees until brown,(approximately 15 minutes); cool. Prepare filling. Cook sugar, cornstarch, syrup and water until thick and clear. Add dry Jello. Mix well and cool. Add strawberries to cooled mixture. Pour into a prepared pie crust. Top with whipped cream.

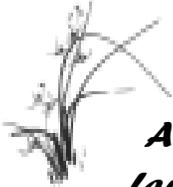




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Hours:
Monday-Saturday 9-6
Sunday 10-5



*A Garden Center and
Landscaping Company*

**JOIN US FOR OUR SPRING OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, MAY
14th AND SUNDAY, MAY 15th FROM 9:00AM-6:00PM
REFRESHMENTS, SPECIAL SALES AND GIVE-AWAYS!**

The Growing Scene Gazette, is a publication of **The Growing Scene, Inc.** **The Growing Scene** is a garden center and landscaping company located at 17009 Harmony Road, Marengo. The phone number is 815-923-7322.

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Nic Cortez, Landscape Professional

Noelle Landwehr, Financial Secretary