

Events at J.J.'s

April Events

Story Hour- with Sarah- *Verdi*

Saturday April 7th, 11am & 2 pm

Look Up Club “for those with a curious mind”

Saturday April 21, 2 pm

“Bird Feeder Review & What did you see this week?”

Preregistration required. No cost

Craft Day - with Abby

Sunday April 29th, drop in anytime from 12:30 to 3 pm

Rainbow Pots for Mom- no cost

Garden Design Class / Workshops

Thursday evenings 6 to 7

4/5 - Line, Shape, Texture & Form

4/11/18 & 25 Design Workshops

You bring your ideas we will provide the supplies.

Limited seating -Preregistration required. Cost \$25

(Courtship, continued from front page)

days. At this point they will go to the top of the cap and become a “J” form and attaches itself with a silk thread from its mouth. Soon the caterpillar skin will split for the last time to become a chrysalis. Now the next part is right out of a science fiction movie. The caterpillar becomes completely liquid and reforms itself into a butterfly. How mind blowing is that. After about 2 weeks the process is complete and out emerges a butterfly. TADA!!

To see why they are called painted ladies you need to see them with their wings open. The underside is a dull brown.

The butterflies can be released to start the process all over again.

They are cold tolerant and early pollinators. You can stop by and watch the process take place at the store. Or take a cup full of wonder home with you.

NEW ITEMS AT JJ'S



As March comes to an end so does our spring

painting projects. Paints are stored, brushes are clean and my paint clothes are packed away. (at least for a while :) The garden are coaching is all set. The lime green table and chairs with pink and orange flowers have been put to use as we started our series of classes on garden design. The second week in April be conducting designer workshops. We will provide the drawing supplies, the reference books & materials You will bring ideas with some basic notes on the size & location. We will help you become your own garden designer. The project can be a container for the front porch or a special bed, or the plans for a graduation party display. It is up to you. Space is limited so please register.

As our Easter gift selections move from our store to your home we continue to bring in new supplies. We are now carry a line of cards and coloring books from Hester & Cook, in Nashville. The look is fun, detailed and nostalgic. One of their birthday cards is shown at the top of the article.

Another one of my other favorites are some new coasters that fit into your car's cup holder. They are very absorbent. I love it when form meets function. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Thanks gretchen giles

ROBINS DID YOU KNOW?

Robins are the most recognizable bird (at least that is what I read). They are a sign of spring. The early spring songs are familiar to all of us even if we don't know who is singing. It is my favorite because I have a daughter named Robyn. We picked her name because she was born on the first spring storm and had beautiful blue eyes.



Last week I was reading a children's book “Robins! How They Grow Up” by Eileen Christelow and I learned some new facts. Here goes with **DID YOU KNOW**

*Robins can fly 20 to 30 miles an hour. Their wings beat 3 to 4 times per minute.

*The males are the first to arrive and start scouting out nesting sites.

- That even though the female incubates the eggs it is the father that takes the fledglings out to teach them the ways of the world. In the evening the fledglings roost with their dads while Mom is tending the next brood
- The average robin lifespan is 6 years. The oldest known wild robin lived to be 1yrs old.

J.J. Cardinal's Calendar



April 2018

A Unique Store For Those Who Enjoy the Care & Feeding of Wild Birds

FINALLY SPRING IS HERE !!!



March 20th is the first day of spring astronomically speak. It is the day when the sun has moved to a point that we have 12 hours of daylight and 12 hours of night. As the days go on the amount of day light increases until we get to the first day of summer. Which technically is when we start moving to winter. But no reason to obsess on that right now.

Now is an excellent time to start working in your garden. I do most of my pruning now before foliage fills in. There are two reasons. One is that I can clearly see the structure of the plant that I am pruning. The second is the roots are just getting ready to push up the stored carbohydrates for growth. I prefer to take off plant material before the stored energy is wasted on leaves that I plan to remove.



I want to note that not all plants are good candidates for pruning this time of year. Plants that make there flowers on old wood. The

rule of thumb to determine if the flowers are made on old or new wood is when they bloom. If the shrub/tree blooms before May 15th it set its buds last year (old wood) If you prune now you will loose the flowers. Oak trees should not be pruned this time of year due to the potential spread of oak leaf wilt.

If you need help with your understanding your shrubs pruning needs schedule a coaching session. I can help. If you are not sure about when or how to prune a prized tree it is a good idea to seek the advise of a certified arborist. (not the same as a guy with a chain saw) A mature tree can not be replaced. It takes years to get there. The investment of working with qualified specialist is worthwhile. April 15th to May 15th is the time frame I use to plant my perennials, shrubs and trees. As long as the plants have not been forced in a warm green house they can handle the cold and the cool wet weather helps them get established before the heat of summer sets in.

Wojo's Ortonville location opened for the start of the planting season on March 26th. This year the Grand Blanc Bordines is expanding their garden shop to be more like their other locations. They will be opening April 1st. (later to be placed in the garden). Ready, Set Go.....

PAINTED LADIES HAVE ARRIVED.



We now have painted lady butterfly larva on our counter. This is my first experience watching the larvae become a butterfly. These butterfly go through a complete metamorphisms. They start as eggs then larvae then a chrysalis which turns into a butterfly. Our larvae are in containers with a food source. So they are easy to watch. The larvae will eat, grow and shed their skins 4 times. They will grow from egg the size of a pin head to a 2 inch black and yellow caterpillar in about 10

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OUR STORE

Visit our website for the latest info: www.jjcardinal.com—and “Like” us on **Facebook** where you may post your nature stories & photos.

Monday through Friday

10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday

Noon - 4:00 pm

