

# Events at J.J.'s

## July Events

### Story Hour *Little One* - with Sarah

Saturday July 7th ,  
11:00 or 2pm. No cost



### Maker Day— Make a birdfeeder

Tuesday July 7th - 1 pm

Space limited call for reservation. Cost \$16

### Look Up Club “for those with a curious mind”

Saturday July 21, 2 pm - 3pm

Flower pressing No cost

### Craft Day - with Abby

Sunday July 28 , drop in anytime from 12:30 to 3 pm

- no cost

(garden tours, continued from front page)

wife since the mid 60's. It was just over a half acre but it seemed so much larger because they had done an excellent job of adding paths and rooms. At another I saw the best collection of head planters that I have ever seen. Another was a vegetable & pollinator garden. His specialty was mulch & compost His garden beds were so soft you could push your bare hand into the soil. One garden lost a large tree so they transformed a shade garden into a glorious sun garden with a beautiful gazebo, an angel garden with two waterfalls.

So the next garden tours on my radar are one in Clarkston July 18th from 11 am to 7 pm. & Goodrich has it's garden walk on July 28th. It is definitely worth the time.

The only problem with having gone is now I am ready to start some new projects and I still have not finished the ones I have started. :)

# NEW ITEMS AT JJ'S



We are now carrying pottery from T & J Clay . Tim and Judy are residents of Grand Blanc We have a wonderful collection of

bowls, cups, small ceramic plates and vases . There is a raku piece that keeps tempting me to take it home, but I think I should share. Michael Macone from Spooner Creek has expanded his collection to include artwork printed with archival ink on archival paper attached to wood and UV coated to last a life time with beloved quotes or magnetic picture frames. We purchased one of his extruded lamps



for our counter. We also brought in a few of his mood lamps that provide a lovely ambiance. Our Zen Puzzle collection has expanded both with a larger size, new im-

ages. We also carry the children's Peapod Puzzle for 4 to 8 years old's. Come in to see them for yourself. We look forward to seeing you soon. Thanks gretchen giles



## MAGIC LIGHTS

For me 4th of July and fireflies go together. As a child I loved to catch them in a mason jar to watch them light up. I though it was magic. My parents made me let them go before I went to bed. I did so want to keep them in the jar for a night light but I never won that debate. As an adult it still makes me smile to watch them at night. Many evenings before I go to bed I sit out on the front steps to watch.



We have a book in the store on fireflies; *The Fireflies Book* so here are some tidbits of information from the book .

- There are 2000 species of fireflies, they are found on every continent except Antarctica, but not all are luminescent
- 150 species are found in North America, but only a few light up west of the Rocky Mountains
- Different species of fireflies have different blinking patterns. The Great Smokey Mountain National park draws thousand of visitors to watch a species of synchronous fireflies that light up all at once
- The primary reason for flashing is for mating. The males flash to let the females know of their presence. If the female is interested she flashes back to invite him to come closer. ;-)

If you are interested in knowing more stop by the store to see the book .

# J.J. Cardinal's Calendar



July 2018

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

## SUMMER BIRD WATCHING

I am lucky to have a screened in porch that over looks my gardens, feeders, fountain and a 40 acre woods. I came in from watering to take a break from the sun and to have an ice tea.

I was watching all of the different birds and reflecting on my start of my birding journey. Three years ago I came in to JJ's and met Louise. I loved the feeling of the store and Louise was so sweet and full of information. My first purchase was a simple suet feeder and a case of hot pepper suet. Ken and I both enjoyed watching the birds and we returned to the store to learn more. The next purchase was a thistle feeder, then a pole set up. Our collection has now grown to 3 pole systems, 2 shepherd hooks & 14 different feeders. Then 9 months ago we bought the store. :) Who would have guessed what would follow that simple first purchase.

I am a big fan of diversity and we see so many different birds. Our feeders are busy now the parents bring the fledging to the feeders. The orioles are my favorite to watch when they are eating the jelly. Did you know that many species have more the one clutch each year? Eastern Towhee, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Barn Swallows, Bluebirds, Sparrows and Humming birds just to name a few. So as dad brings the juveniles to the feeders and teaches them the ways of the world mom is



back at the nest hatching the next batch.

If you are looking to improve your space there are 4 basic needs; food source(s), water, shelter and space. Each species has a unique pattern of space or territorial needs. This can be hard for us to modify. One of my benefits is the old woods behind the house. It has several dead trees which the woodpeckers have cored out so we have homes for many cavity dwellers. But I do not have a large open area so I don't have barn swallows and blue birds. So I work with what I have. My other recommendation is to create as much diversity as possible in the space you have available. Diversity in the plant life and structure, such as feeders & housing and add layers in the garden from ground level to shrubs and trees or vines. Increasing the diversity of your landscape will increase the diversity of birds that come to your home. So on these hot summer days, grab a glass of ice tea, find a shady spot and just watch.

## GARDEN TOURS & WALKS



I went to my first garden tour of the season—the Genesee Master Garden Tour which featured 7 Grand Blanc gardens. It was wonderful. The garden were so diverse and the master gardeners had educational components at each location. I was able to speak to most of the home owners to learn about the history of their gardens. One of my favorites was a garden that has been loved and tended by a husband and

*Garden walks, continued on page 2*

## OUR STORE

Visit our website for the latest info: [www.jjcardinal.com](http://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

