



Growing Matters

Greetings

Nicole (Pippi) has successfully completed 3rd grade and is fully immersed in summer activities. I remember what it felt like to be her age. The feeling of a whole summer stretched out in front of me. Summer's then, lasted forever.

As parents, we work hard trying to plan activities for Nicole that will provide opportunities for fun, growth, and learning. She plays organized sports, takes horseback riding lessons and this summer music lessons.

Although these are all valuable activities, they do not compare to how Nicole spent a recent Sunday morning. She spent a few hours absorbed in an activity that was one of my favorites as a child. It

Memorial Gardens

Webster's dictionary defines *memorial* as 'something that keeps remembrance alive'. I love that definition. It sounds so incredibly powerful and moving. Create a memorial garden, and you have the potential to make something not only powerful and moving, but beautiful as well.

Memorial gardens need not be elaborate, to be effective. Some of the most meaningful memorials are no more than a single plant passed down through the generations. A great grandmother's peony, a grandmother's hosta, or a mother's iris placed thoughtfully in the garden can provide living reminders of our loved ones.

My mother created a small memorial garden dedicated to her husband of over 50 years. She placed a statue of an angel, a stone engraved with a passage meaningful to her, and a few perennials. It is not an elaborate garden, but I know that tending that little garden has brought her comfort.

Memorial gardens don't have to be about remembering people, they can also be great reminders of events. A couple of years ago my husband and I purchased a frog fountain on a trip we took to celebrate our 15th wedding anniversary. That

did not require taking her to a playing field, it did not require a fee, or any equipment except a small fishing net and some containers.

Nicole spent the morning going back and forth between our two man made ponds catching pollywogs, tadpoles and small frogs. Observing each of the stages, of development and letting the small frogs hop along her bare arms.

We couldn't have planned a better activity. It was a great reminder, not only of my own childhood, but that we all need free time so that we don't overlook the wonderful things that are happening all around us.

-Vicky Hilleges

fountain now provides a focal point in one of our water gardens and is a pleasant reminder of our trip.

When I walk through my gardens, I feel as though I am taking a stroll down memory lane. This morning's walk took me back to Long Island where I attended plant camp many years ago and purchased the Bleeding Heart that is now coexisting nicely with a Christmas Fern along our split rail fence; the yellow *Corydalis* filling in the available space in the shady spot along the garage made me think of the Wescott women who shared a little snippet during a community garden tour; and the burgundy Asiatic Lilies shouting out to me from the back of the garden are the ones I bought for my mother-in-law just before she died. The garden is filled with memories.

The spots that bring me the most joy in the garden are the areas that have a story to tell me. Tips for creating memorial gardens are easily available on the Internet, but don't get so caught up in the how to, that it becomes another task. You know best what speaks to you, and what reminds you of a special person or event. Garden with these things in mind and you are sure to create a garden to remember.

Pippi's Plant Spotlight

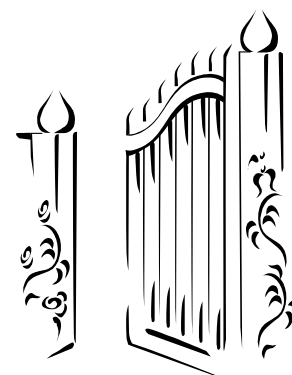


Heucherella
'Stoplight'

a.k.a. (Foamy Bells)

Heucherella is a hybrid genus produced from a cross between *Heuchera* and *Tiarella*. 'Stoplight' has radiant 4 inch yellow leaves with a large, dark red blotch in the center that feathers out through the veins. Airy white flowers are produced in spring.

- ❖ Part Shade
- ❖ 7" tall/16" wide
- ❖ Zones 4-9



Pippi's Perennials

perennials • waterplants • shrubs

12 Sherry Lane
Kirkville, NY 13082-9212

315-656-0842

hilleges@twcny.rr.com

www.pippis.net

*Gift Certificates
Available*

"I garden, therefore I am"

Special Events

Pippi's Garden Club Meetings:

Monday, July 28th @ 6:00 pm:

In Tune with Nature – Gardening with Native Plants

Monday, August 25th @ 6:00 PM:

Proven Winners® Shrubs for the Mixed Border

Monday, September 22nd @ 6:00 PM:

Fall Planting & Winter Garden Preparation

Pippi's Fall Open House:

Sunday, Sept. 14th, 10 am – 4 pm

10% off all purchases ♦ Refreshments ♦ Display Gardens

Special Note: In an effort to be more green, Pippi's will be reducing the number of paper copies of our newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving *Growing Matters*, please send us an email so that we may send it to you electronically or a note saying that you would like to be kept on our mailing list.

Pippi's Locations & Hours

CNY Regional Market Authority:

2100 Park Street
Syracuse, NY

Open: May 1st – Oct 30th

NEW **Tues. 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Shed A/18)**

Thurs. 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM^{+/-} (Shed A/18)

Sat. 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Shed D/10+12)

Home Location:

12 Sherry Lane
Kirkville, NY 13082
(Sherry Ln. is located off Fyler Rd.,
¼ mile east of N. Kirkville Rd.)

Open: April 25th – Oct. 31st

Fri. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Or By Appointment



Member:

Perennial Plant Association

New York State Nursery/Landscape Association