



Master Gardener Thymes

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MAR / APR 2011

Learn During Lunch at **GREEN AND GROWING** Seminars

Green and Growing, a series of lunchtime gardening seminars, will be presented from 12 noon to 1 p.m. on the first three Thursdays in March at the Kingsport Public Library Mead Auditorium. In these free sessions, both beginners and experts alike will learn how to work with nature to create beautiful, healthy gardens. The seminar topics are:

March 3 – Notable Trees of Tennessee - Learn about these trees selected for their beauty, longevity and historical distinction from Tom Simpson, East Tennessee Regional Urban Forester, an ISA Certified Arborist, and Tennessee Urban Forestry Council's Landmark and Historic Tree Register Chair. Tom will share insights into their history and how we can ensure their continued preservation, as well as discussing the importance of urban forests, the benefits they provide and the threats they face.

March 10 – 50 Years with Wildflowers - Tour the amazing East Tennessee garden of Betty and Neil Ottenfeld through the stunning photographs of Allen Duffield and learn how to plant and nurture these woodland treasures in your own landscape led by Master Gardener and wildflower enthusiast Joy Moore.

March 17 – Four Season Gardening - The Four Season Garden adds excitement and interest to gardening with flowers, foliage and vegetables. Learn how to push the seasons to gain a month of gardening time with Jeanne Cope, Tennessee Master Gardener and Kingsport Times News gardening columnist.

Bring a bag lunch and spend your noon break learning how to make your landscape greener. Each session will include free handouts with recommended plants for Northeast Tennessee and lists of books and web sites for further reference. This series is sponsored by Keep Kingsport Beautiful, Southern Appalachian Plant Society (SAPS), Kingsport Public Library, and Sullivan County Extension. For more information call Keep Kingsport Beautiful 423-392-8814 or e-mail jinjmoore@embarqmail.com.

IS IT SPRING?

Spring may not be here yet, but hopes and dreams of Spring abound. This issue of the MG Thymes is filled with workshops, classes, seminars, sales and events celebrating the return of warm weather and gardening. Enjoy selecting your favorites from the many opportunities that are included. Yea Spring!



Hard Work Pays for MGs

Congratulations to the following Master Gardeners who have maintained their volunteer hours and earned their CEUs for several years in a row! These hard workers were acknowledged at the annual recognition dinner in February.

10 Year - Jack Cope, Jeanne Cope, and Juana Quinones

5 Year - Elizabeth Blakely, Johnda Burdette, Don Davis, Nancy Kavanaugh, Judy Penley, and Jean Green

3 Year - Cheryl Broome, Ray Chandler, Cathy Ciolac, Sara Elsea, Jim Hayes, Sandra Hayes, Tom Lane, Ann Moore, Joy Stewart, Linda Talley, Marcia Vandermause, Stanley Wiedenhaupt, Jim Wilson, Barbara (BB) Woods, and Reg Mitchell.

The following MG Interns have earned their titles as Master Gardeners after completing 40 hours of volunteer work in addition to their classes held in 2009. The new MGs are: Gail Adkins, John Brown, Harold Burns, Linda Carr, Carol Collins, Celia Cox, Candy Davis, Teri Duffield, Tammy Fletcher, Billie Hoover, Peggy Humphreys, Natalie Manor, Vicki Martin, Lawrence Maston, Jeanie Musson, James Phillips, Imogene Randall, Dorothy Seek, Carl Voigt, Anne Williams, Dr. Robert Williams & Mary Zamiska.

A select group of tireless MGs have accumulated 100 volunteer hours during the past year. These hard workers are: Jeanne Cope, Doug Hilton, J.P. Barrett, Barbara Voigt, Harold Burns, Don Davis, Carl Voigt, Johnda Burdette, Lawrence Maston, Karen Drought, Carol Collins, Ben Hunter, Ray Chandler, Joy Stewart, Nina Hedrick, Tammy Fletcher, Blenda Anderson, Susan Cadwallader, Cathy Ciolac, Jerry Long, Marcia Vandermause, Tom Lane, Ann Moore, Reg Mitchell, Dennis Marshall, Sandra Hayes, Johnny Suthers, Jerry Cunningham, Stanley Wiedenhaupt, Kathy Wagner, Jim Hayes, David Doan II, Bill Grigsby, Jr., Sally Richard and Sara Elsea.

The honor of earning the most volunteer hours went to Jeanne Cope, Doug Hilton, Barbara Voigt and Harold Burns. Honorary Master Gardeners are Laura Fitzgerald and Tiffany Bryant



Are There Really *WEEDS FOR OUR NEEDS*?

Naturalist, herbalist, storyteller, and author Doug Elliott will present, *Weeds for Your Needs*, on Thursday, March 17, at 7 p.m. at the Jonesborough Visitors Center, 117 Boone Street in Jonesborough. With his broad, practical, scientific and cultural knowledge of wild plants, Elliot will entertain and enlighten with details of their botany, natural history and folklore, as well as their traditional and contemporary uses.



His lively, informative slide-illustrated program will include stories, songs and outrageous personal narratives celebrating some of America's favorite, edible, medicinal, and otherwise useful wild plants. Elliot is the author of five books and many articles in regional and national magazines and has recorded a number of award winning albums of stories and songs. Copies of his books and recordings will be available for purchase and signing before and after the presentation.



PURCHASE NEW PLANTS AND SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Sullivan County Soil Conservation District will hold their annual plant sale to raise funds for scholarships that are awarded each year to local high school students. This year the sale will be held on April, 2nd and 9th at Earhart Station, located across from the Bristol Motor Speedway, from 9:00 A.M. till 2:00 P.M.

There will be a great variety of plants to choose from - both bareroot and containers, including shade and flowering trees, fruit trees and shrubs. The bareroot trees will be 4-5' and the potted plants will be in 3 gallon containers. Red maples, Forest Pansy, Cleveland Select Pear, Yoshino Cherry, Autumnalis cherry, apple and peach trees will be available. Also, there will be a good variety of containerized plants such as Gold Mop, Sky Pencil, Green Giant and Nandinas. For more information call the SCSCD office at 423 -323-8012.

Become WISE at MIZE

Two new seminars have been added at the Mize Garden Centers this spring. The first will be Saturday, March 19, when Barbara Desso will talk on *Organic Gardening Plus*. Her presentation will run from 10:00-11:30 a.m. at Mize Garden Center in Gray, TN. The talk is free but participants are asked to call 423-467-2300 to reserve a place.



The second new workshop will also be held on Saturday, March 19, but it will be in Johnson City. This is a **Hyper Tufa Workshop** and runs from 10:00 - 11:30 am. It will be held at the Mize Garden Center in Johnson City and there is a \$10 fee for materials. Call 423-434-1800 for details and to reserve a place. Space is limited.



Chris' Corner

CHRIS RAMSEY
SULLIVAN COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT
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2010 was a year of growth for the Northeast TN Master Gardener Program. Our local communities benefitted from 13578 volunteer hours submitted by 155 volunteers. At an hourly rate of \$20.85, that is over \$283,000 in value. Keep up the great work for 2011! Remember, 2010 class members should submit at least 40 ACT hours and 8 CEUs. Certified MGs should submit at least 25 ACT hours and 8 CEUs.

Our local program continues to grow thanks to a great group of volunteers and our local NETMGA. I would encourage each Master Gardener to support NETMGA as it is officially rec-

ognized by University of Tennessee Extension. This organization pulls everybody together to enable great accomplishments. Membership gives MGs a great resource for staying connected with local MG volunteer and CEU opportunities.

We had a great Annual MG Recognition Program at the February 7 NETMGA meeting at the Appalachian Fairgrounds. Service pins, name badges, and 100+ hour certificates will be mailed along with the MG Discount Cards in March. To reduce postage expenses, MG Certificates for 25 to 99 hours will not be mailed unless you request the certificate. The MG Discount Card will serve as confirmation of 2011 certification.

Spring is almost here! It's time to get involved in a local project.

COME SMELL THE FLOWERS

A Herb and Wildflower Day will be held Saturday April 2 in Townsend, TN at the Townsend Visitors Center. Sponsored by the Smoky Mountain Convention and Visitors Bureau, the event will offer an array of wildflower talks by botanists and naturalists, walks in the Smokies, plus a gardening class taught by UT Extension agents. In addition four garden centers will be on site with plants for sale—ranging from lilies to herbs to nursery-grown natives. There will also be pottery and baked goods for sale.

For a complete schedule visit the webpage http://www.smokymountains.org/info/herb_wildflower.html



VISIT SEVIER COUNTY'S INDOOR PLANT AND GARDEN SALE

The 6th annual Flower and Garden Show and Sale will be held April 9, 2011 from 9:00 am to 4:00 PM at the Sevier County Fairgrounds, 754 Old Knoxville Highway in Sevierville.

Sponsored by UT Extension Service and the Sevier County Master Gardeners, the event features flowers, shrubs, trees, yard art, lawn and garden equipment, kids' crafts, music, snacks, and an auction.

A series of speakers and demonstrations will begin at 10:00 and includes the following:

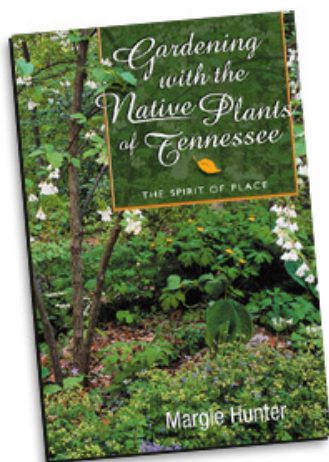
10:00 am Jim Brown "Ten Herbs You Can't Live Without"

11:00 am Elizabeth Budzinski "Multifunctional Landscapes"

1:00 pm Sevier County Beekeepers "The Importance of Raising Bees"

Admission is \$3.00 per person, or \$2.00 with a nonperishable food item. Children under twelve are admitted for free. Remember, come rain or shine because it's indoors. Contact www.scamga.org for more information

Discover the Secrets of *Native Plants Through the Seasons*



Margie Hunter, author of *Gardening with the Native Plants of Tennessee: The Spirit of Place*, will speak on *Native Plants Through the Seasons*, on Thursday, April 14, at 7 pm at Kingsport Renaissance Center, 1200 E. Center Street in Kingsport. In this presentation, Hunter will show how native plants, with their lovely flowers, colorful fruits, and intriguing forms can add interest and excitement to the landscape throughout the year, while also attracting wildlife to the garden. She will highlight many native species well suited to upper east Tennessee.

A member of the Tennessee Native Plant Society, Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council, Southern Appalachian Botanical Society, and Perennial Plant Society of Middle Tennessee, Margie leads hikes at the Spring Wildflower Pilgrimage in Gatlinburg each April and is assisting in the development of the Tennessee Naturalist program.

Sponsored by Southern Appalachian Plant Society, the program is free and the public is invited. For more information, call 423-348-6572, e-mail injmoore@embarqmail.com or see www.saps.us. 1 CEU.

Celebrate Spring at Warriors' Path State Park



Start Spring in a great way by attending the 32nd annual Spring Nature Festival at Warriors' Path State Park on April 15 – 17, 2011. The event begins at 7:00 pm Friday April 15 and continues until afternoon on Sunday April 17, 2011. The weekend includes seminars taught by professionals and walks led by park naturalists. For more information contact park ranger Marty Silver at 423-239-8531 or by emailing Marty.Silver@tn.gov.

Help Plan A New Event

...ARBOR DAY!

North East Tennessee Master Gardeners are invited to plan and attend a new gardening event at the Appalachian Fair Grounds on April 22 and 23, 2011. Replacing the annual Garden Fest, this new happening celebrates Arbor Day.

From The Roots Up runs from 9:00 to 4:00 Friday and Saturday and offers a 5K run, a Miss Arbor Day pageant, a bicycle rodeo, inflatables for the children, vendors of all sorts, and demonstrations by the local power board. Admission is free!

Many, many Master Gardeners will be needed to continue the planning and execution of this event. For those who want to assist, a meeting will be held

March 3rd at the fairgrounds at 6:00 pm.

This is a great opportunity to meet other MGS, have fun and earn volunteer hours. Contact Doug Hilton at 423-239-9433 for more information.



COME TO CUMBERLAND COUNTY

The Cumberland County Master Gardeners in Crossville, TN are sponsoring their 2011 Spring Flower & Garden Show on Thursday April 21 through Saturday April 23. The show will include gardening clinics, sales of plants, garden furniture and art, garden displays, and **Ask A Master Gardener** information sessions. The event will be held at the Cumberland County Fairgrounds, 1398 Livingston Road, Crossville, TN 38555. For more information contact www.ccmgo.org



STEP BACK IN TIME AT EXCHANGE PLACE

The 27th Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair will be held Saturday, April 30, from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 1, from 12 - 5 p.m. at Exchange Place Living History Farm, 4812 Orebank Road in Kingsport, Tennessee. The oldest garden

fair in the region will feature thousands of plants for sale - perennials, annuals, trees and shrubs - with the emphasis on herbs, natives and heirloom plants (including a wide variety of heirloom tomatoes), along with garden related arts and crafts.

The Fair is also an educational and family event that fills the grounds and buildings of the historic site. Gardening/farming experts will lead "Talks and Walks" and area Master Gardeners will be on hand to answer home gardening questions throughout the weekend. Heritage breeds of animals and the spring activities on a mid-1800's farmstead will be featured as volunteers plow the fields with Suffolk draft horses, shear the sheep, spin and weave the wool, cook over the hearth, and shape iron over the forge.

There will be children's activities, music, food and a "Baaaa...ck Porch" Yard Sale filled with garden items, linens, pottery, furniture, doodads, gizmos, and thingamadoodies. Proceeds from the Baaa...ck Porch Sale help feed the animals at exchange Place.

The Fair strives to be as environmentally friendly as possible. Visitors are encouraged to bring their own plant carriers and to bring used nursery pots for recycling/reusing. Admission is \$1 for adults and \$.50 for children. For more information, call 423-288-6071.

To volunteer to staff a shift at the Master Gardeners' booth, please call Joy Moore at 348-6572 or e-mail at jonmoore@embarqmail.com. Volunteers are also needed to help with set-up, hospitality and take-down/clean up. To volunteer, call Sue Cadwallader at Exchange Place 288-6071 or e-mail cadwallader@embarqmail.com.

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President's "I Spy" Corner

By Blenda L. Anderson

As your new president I wanted to start adding some information on the MG Thymes. I can't always be a participant in every project but I would like to come and see all the projects at one time or another. However, I really need your help. As you plan to have work days on your projects please send me as much advance notice as you can through netmga2009@yahoo.com. This will help me and NETMGA in two ways. First you will give me time to send out the notice to all our wonderful volunteers and second I can add to my calendar to "SPY" on the projects. I will post all pictures to the NETMGA website, so check often to see if "I SPY" you.

Keep in mind that I must work for a living and cannot visit during most work days but you never know! **Honored to serve as your president.**

****Sunday, January 23, "I SPY" the following smiling faces at Meadowview helping folks at the Farm and Home Expo:



Jeanne Cope



Mayme Pectol,
Sharron Lane,
Linda Day



Philip Ramey and
Mary Forbes

BRING HISTORY ALIVE BY VOLUNTEERING AT EXCHANGE PLACE

For years Master Gardeners have worked with other Exchange Place volunteers to help make history come alive for visitors young and old. There continue to be many opportunities for Master Gardeners to help educate the public about plants and gardening at the living history farm located in Kingsport. For example, volunteers are needed to help care for the heritage vegetable garden and herb garden and to adopt other areas; to help with planning, organizing and staffing the Spring Garden Fair, Farm Fest, and Fall Folk Arts Festival; to develop ideas for children's activities; and to research heirloom varieties.

Exchange Place is also in the midst of applying for arboretum status; lots of extra work will be done this Spring and then continue with maintenance and expansion. If you would like to volunteer to help with any of these projects, please contact Sue Cadwallader at Exchange Place 288-6071 or cadwallader@embarqmail.com

Exchange Place is scheduling Garden Work Days each Monday beginning on April 4 and continuing through the season. Come anytime between 10 am to 4 pm and work as long as you like. Tools will be provided. Bring a bag lunch; drinks and cookies will be provided. For more information call Ron Russom at 343-9111.

ARE WE STILL IN A LONG TERM DROUGHT IN EAST TENNESSEE?

By Sue Stanley

I was listening to a local radio station yesterday when an announcer caught my attention with his comment about the weather; he said we were still experiencing drought conditions and were 2 inches below normal precipitation levels in Tennessee. Curious, I looked up the US Drought Monitor website online to find a local drought forecast. They didn't offer an actual forecast, but did display detailed maps showing possible outcomes. I went to several other online sites and still couldn't come up with a solid forecast. I've come to the conclusion that it's just like politics, everyone has an opinion but nobody has the answers!

As a result, I've decided to be more proactive this year about watering and monitoring. The type of sub-normal rainfall we received during the 2010 growing season usually weakens trees and shrubs. This makes them more susceptible to insects and diseases that don't usually bother healthy plants. Starting now, I'll be taking more walks in the garden and looking closer. If the ground around the shrubs is too dry, I'll add some water. This is also a good time of year to apply treatments if necessary.

Watering perennial plants correctly is easy, trees always stump me. For years, we watered all our trees by putting the hose at the base and letting it run slowly for a period of time. However, that's not the right way to do it for all trees. According to information available from the UT Extension on watering trees, watering needs to take place beneath the crown of the tree and extend a few feet beyond the drip line of the crown. That means using a sprinkler to get water to the top 12 inches to achieve the maximum result. This is the area where most of the feeder roots are. For small trees or newly planted trees, they do suggest watering closer to the root ball.

Looking ahead, my best advice for anyone thinking about planting new trees and shrubs is to plant more drought-tolerant varieties that are able to survive during stressful weather conditions. If you're not sure which type is best for your area, call your local county Extension Service and ask. It's also helpful to add large mulched areas around the trees to keep the roots cool and hold in more moisture. Of course, adding a few colorful ground cover plants nearby never hurts either!

ASK HOSTA QUESTIONS HERE.....

Submitted by Nina Hedrick

Have a Hosta question or problem you need help with? Wondering what new hostas everyone is lusting after? Want to see or share some inspiring hosta photos? The hosta forum is the place to be! Hop on over to the American Hosta Society forum for a little hosta talk to help pass the cold winter days! You do not have to be a member of the American Hosta Society to use this forum, but you do need to Register. (see upper left hand corner of Webpage) The web site is: <http://www.americanhostasociety.org/forum/index.php>



**American Hosta Society
Forum**

2012 Perennial Plant of the Year Named

Submitted by Hugh Conlon



Brunnera macrophylla 'Jack Frost'

The Perennial Plant Association (PPA) has selected *Brunnera macrophylla* 'Jack Frost' as the 2012 Perennial Plant of the Year.

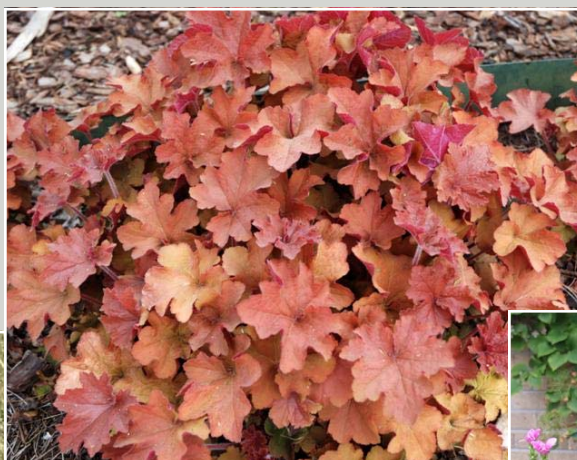
The silver-gray foliage is deer resistant and grows to a height and width of 12-15 inches. Plants produce racemes of blue star-like flowers in mid to late spring. Grow 'Jack Frost' brunnera in a compost-rich, well-drained soil. For best results, water plants regularly during summer dry spells. Mulching around plants is also helpful. Brunnera grows well in the shade garden alongside other favorites as hostas (*Hosta spp.*), lungworts .

Brunnera 'Jack Frost' was commercially introduced in 2000 by Walters Gardens in Zeeland, Michigan.

Runners up for 2012 are *Panicum virgatum* 'Northwind', *Heuchera* 'Caramel' and *Chelone lyonii* 'Hot Lips'. The 2011 Perennial Plant of the Year is Arkansas Bluestar (*Amsonia hubrichtii*)



Arkansas Bluestar (*Amsonia hubrichtii*)



Heuchera 'Caramel'



Panicum virgatum 'Northwind'



Chelone lyonii 'Hot Lips'

VISIT THE ARDINNA WOODS ARBORETUM

by Brenda Warner



Located in Jonesborough, TN, the Ardinna Woods Arboretum and Butterfly Garden exemplifies a garden which features trees and shrubs native to Tennessee. Started in 2000 by Ms. Frances Lamberts, the arboretum and butterfly garden has gained the support of the Town of Jonesborough, the Mountain Empire Butterfly club, community members, businesses and civic organizations and NE Tennessee Master Gardeners. Students from Daniel Boone High School painted rain barrels to help the arboretum be more water wise. An Advisory Board lends their expertise and support to the project also.

In 2008 the Butterfly Garden was dedicated and designated as a Monarch Waystation. Future plans include a rain garden, ongoing redesign of the Butterfly garden, propagating of rare plant species and promoting their use by gardeners.

Serving as an educational tool for native plants, the arboretum provides the scientific names of native trees and plants. Perhaps the best way to enjoy this lovely site is simply to stroll through the area, enjoying the flowers and watching the butterflies that alight to feed, lay their eggs and pupate.

The garden is located at the Pliny Fisk Environmental site on Highway 81. For more information contact Frances Lamberts at 423-753-5288.

LEARN HOW TO CERTIFY AN ARBORETUM

Submitted by Brenda Warner

Master Gardeners are often asked to help certify an arboretum. A website with much helpful information is www.state.tn.us/agriculture/forms/arboreta.pdf. If an entity wants to be a certified arboretum with the State of Tennessee specific requirements must be in place. There are four different levels of certification, each with specific requirements. These are listed on the above website.

Best Management practices must be in place to protect the trees from weed whackers and lawnmowers. These must also include the safe use of pesticides and herbicides. Once certification has been received, a recertification must be done every 5 years. Although not difficult, these requirements are in place and for an arboretum



BECOME A GARDEN REPORTER

Forwarded by Hugh Conlon

Jennifer Estes, Associate Publisher and Managing Editor of *State-by-State Gardening Magazines* in Ruston, LA., is starting a new section in the magazine. The new area deals with "gardening tidbits." If any NETMGA member has an idea that might fit into this column, please submit it to Jennifer at editorial@statebystategardening.com or use the following numbers: phone 318.255.3149 ext 111, FAX 318.251.8882, toll free 888.265.3600.

It is suggested that submissions be sent at least two months before the magazine publication date. (Three to four months may be even better.)

2011 DATES TO WATCH

- March 1 Rocky Mount Opens
- March 3 Green & Growing Lunchtime Seminar, Noon - 1 pm, Kingsport Library, Tom Simpson, East TN Urban Forester
- March 5 Tipton-Haynes - Maple Syrup Making -Morning
- March 10 Green & Growing Seminar, Noon-1 pm, Kingsport Library - 50 Years of Wildflowers
- March 12 Mize Farm & Garden Seminars, Johnson City 10 am - noon, Perennials For The Garden - Nina Hedrick, What and Where to Landscape - Tim Holmes
- March 17 Green & Growing Seminar Noon, KPT Library, Four Season Gardening, Jeanne Cope, TN MG & Times News Columnist
- March 17 SAPS Meeting Jonesborough Visitor's Center, *Weeds for Your Needs*, Doug Elliot
- March 19 Mize Farm & Garden Seminars, Gray, 10am, *Organic Gardening Plus*, Barbara Desso
Mize Farm & Garden Seminars, Johnson City 10am, Hyper Tufa Workshop
- March 26 Mize Farm & Garden, Gray 10am, *Perennials for the Garden*, Nina Hedrick, *Planting By The Moon*, Valerie Hyme
- April 2 to May 15 Biltmore Estate Festival of Flowers, Asheville, NC
- April 2 Opening Day for Kingsport Farmers Market, 6 am to 2 pm
- April 2 Herb and Wildflower Day, Townsend, TN
- April 9 Tipton-Haynes, Andre Michaux Day 8 am to Noon, Breakfast with the Birds 8 am, Nature Walk with Charlie Williams, Native Plant Sale - Shy Valley Nursery
- April 9 Mize Farm & Garden, Johnson City 10am, Supporting Your Vegetable Garden, Martin Litz
- April 9 Sevier County Flower and Garden Show, 9:00 - 4:00, Sevier County Fairgrounds
- April 14 SAPS Meeting Renaissance Center - Kingsport, Native Plants with Margie Hunter
- April 15-17 Warriors Path State Park Spring Nature Festival
- April 15-16 Mid Atlantic Garden Fair - Abingdon, VA, SWVA Higher ED Center
- April 16 Sycamore Shoals, Plant Auction & Seminar with Keith Hart and Hugh Conlon, Auction Begins at 9 am
- April 16 Wooly Days at Rocky Mount
- April 16 Roan Mountain State Park Easter Egg Hunt Noon to 2 pm
- April 22 -23 Arbor Day Celebration Appalachian Fair Grounds, 10 am to 4 pm
- April 23 Community Plant Exchange, Abingdon, VA
- April 30 Exchange Place Spring Garden Fair and Plant Sale
- May 1 Netherland Inn Weed and Feed Event, 6pm, Contact John Scott 423-230-0654

Many thanks to
Jane Mullins
for creating the
Dates to Watch
section
for this edition.



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JOIN THE BRISTOL BOTANY CLUB

After correctly identifying two Metasequoia trees in Steele Creek Park in Bristol, plant lover Ruth Clark decided to start a botany club to see what other unique species could be identified. The club is scheduled to meet once a month and is open to anyone who is interested in the study of plants. For more information contact the Steele Creek Nature Center at 423-968-5616.



ANDRE TEAGUE/BRISTOL HERALD COURIER

Adrianna Hess, left, and Ruth Clark look at one of the two rare redwood trees, the Metasequoia glyptostroboides, in Steele Creek Park. The identification of the trees has prompted a botany club.