



Notes from

HORNBAKER

GARDENS, Inc.

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ROCKS • GARDEN DÉCOR • KATHY'S KITCHEN • WOOD FIRED PIZZA • WORKSHOPS



ROCKS FOR SALE

We recently brought in a whole semi load of boulders and have lined them out for display in the median of The Barn parking lot. Selling rocks seems to have come naturally to me. When I was seven years old, I picked up white rocks from the church gravel parking lot next door in the small town of Blandinsville, Illinois. I crawled inside a wooden barrel and sold the rocks to Paul and Ernie, two younger neighbor boys, through a hole in the side of the barrel. Really, we were just playing “Store” I suppose, but Paul and Ernie both got a swat on their bottoms from their mother when she discovered that they had rocks in their pockets for which they had parted with a few pennies and nickels, which were now in my pocket.

Dave is a chip off the old block, apparently. He has gone to some gravel pits in the area and hand-picked interesting boulders that would look good in your gardens. We call them specimen boulders or accent boulders. But one creative customer called them sex rocks, by which he meant, I suppose (hope), that they look sexy or cool in the garden. Some of them have a flat side that make them good for sitting on.

These boulders weigh up to a little over one ton, which is what our equipment can handle. We can load a boulder into your truck for you if you have the equipment to handle it when you get it home. We can also deliver and dump a boulder for you. If we do that, and you have no equipment to maneuver and position the boulder, you will have to “leave ‘er lay where Jesus flang ‘er”, as a friend of mine used to say about an object too heavy to move. And these rascals are heavy.

The third alternative is to have us load the boulder in the back of our truck and then load our mini excavator onto a trailer and deliver, place and position the boulder for you. This may cost nearly as much as the boulder, but then it will be set just the way you want it.

Kathy's Kitchen

Back during those warm days in early March, when it seemed as if spring was coming soon, we built a playhouse in the Children's Garden. Ever since, it's either been too wet (with snow, no less) or too cold to get it painted. But soon, we will get Kathy's Kitchen painted a bright yellow with white trim. We already have a couple of kid sized picnic tables on hand, and plan to add two for adults. So this will not only be a place for children to play, but will also be an additional picnic area, especially suited to families.



PIZZA ON MOTHER'S DAY SATURDAY

The BackYard Party Guys will be here on Saturday, May 12, from 11:00 to 2:00, serving their wood fired pizza. So buy your lunch here that day. Jim and Doug Robbins had people constantly telling them "You should do this for a living!" So they started a catering business. Check them out on Facebook.

HOURS:

From April 10 through July 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5:00 p.m. From July 11 through October 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and we will be closed on Sundays.

NEW GARDEN DÉCOR

We have several new and interesting items in and around The Shop about which we are pretty excited.



Fish in the Garden are created by Maine artist Tyson M. Weiss. These brightly colored ceramic fish can stay outdoors in any climate and will not break in the cold or fade in the sunlight.

They come with a rod for placement in the garden, but also look great sitting on a table or submerged in water. Groupings are stunning in any setting, and the tail left and tail right options allow you to make them follow each other in a serpentine design. Schools of these fish bring a fluid aesthetic to any garden space. Where there is no water, they imply water, as in a dry creek bed, and make any mossy/ferny area into an instant Japanese garden. They come in three sizes, so get one for each family member.





Suncatchers from Cazador-del-sol

are created by artist Rene Hildebrand. The fluorescent, wavy-edged, flower-like creations transform light energy and thus glow all by themselves without electricity or other energy source. They need a minimal amount of UV light, so their glow seems most noticeable on a rainy day or at dusk. Mounted on a flexible rod, the suncatcher sways softly in the wind. We've never seen anything like these. First they catch the sun, then they catch your eye. Make a bouquet with a grouping of three or more. Suncatchers come in yellow, green and red.

Cast Iron Benches:

We have a new line of sturdy cast iron benches with designs on the backs with themes such as butterfly, cardinal, Celtic, farmstead, koj, horse, and tree. These high quality benches are sand cast in iron by foundry artisans. Then two layers of rust inhibiting powder coat primer are applied, followed by two applications of durable, powder coat paint in a bronze hue. Hand painted gold highlights are then added, giving the designs an even more three dimensional look. The result is a comfortable, great looking bench that is built to last.





Le Primitif Wall Sculptures are created by artists in Haiti from flattened steel oil drums. Each design is cut out using mallet and chisel. The designs come in a wide variety of animals, plants, suns and moons, and in various sizes. These works grace such prestigious institutions as the Museums of Modern Art in Paris and New York. They can be used indoors or outdoors. Outdoors, they can be allowed to weather, or if the original look is desired, they can be sprayed every 3 or 4 years with any clear gloss varnish found at your local hardware store.



Daydream Paintings are made in Portland, Oregon on Northwest Cedar and use all-weather ultra violet ink so they can be placed indoors or out. If left outside, the wood will weather, creating a naturally beautiful piece of art.



Pottery: We brought in another huge load of pottery this spring, so the pottery yard is bursting at the seams. By buying in large quantities, we are able to offer pottery at extremely reasonable prices. If you want to have plants growing in the pots, you are usually best off to pot up a liner pot that fits nicely into your piece of pottery. That way, you can pull out the liner pot at the end of the season and pitch the annuals, and you won't have to deal with the combined weight of the pottery and potting soil. This pottery can be left out all winter if you don't leave it full of moist potting soil and don't allow water to accumulate in the bottom of the pot where it might freeze before it drains out. We turn ours upside down for the winter, but you could also put a weighted board on top to keep water out.

Learning Together

We hope you can join us for an upcoming workshop or event.
Get all the details on Facebook or our website.

May 5 at 10 am
New Plants for 2018
with free continental
breakfast 9:30 am

May 19 at 10 am
Arboretum Walk

June 2 at 10 am
Terrarium Make & Take

June 8-9-10
Open House
& Hosta Walk

May 11 at 10 am
Kids Container's for
Mother's Day

May 26 at 10 am
Miniature Gardens
Make & Take

June 9 at 1 pm
Hypertufa
Make & Take

