

"Away in a meadow all covered with snow
The little old groundhog looks for his shadow
The clouds in the sky determine our fate
If winter will leave us all early or late."

- Don Halley

Campbell's

Notes From The Garden

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GROUNDHOG DAY FEBRUARY 2

Groundhog Day is a popular tradition in the United States. Myths such as this tie our present to the distant past when nature did, indeed, influence our lives. It is the day that the Groundhog comes out of his hole after a long winter sleep to look for his shadow.



- If he sees it, he regards it as an omen of six more weeks of bad weather and returns to his hole.
- If the day is cloudy and hence, shadow less, he takes it as a sign of spring and stays above ground.

from groundhog.org

VALENTINES DAY February 14

Every February candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine. But who is this mysterious saint and why do we celebrate this holiday?

The history of Valentine's Day — and its patron saint — is shrouded in mystery.

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. While in prison, Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself. It is believed that Valentine fell in love with a young girl. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed 'From your Valentine,' an expression that is still in use today.

from history.com



February Garden & Yard Care Reminders

GETTING A HEAD START ON ANNUALS

Do you remember our December weather? We endured cold, snow, winds, ice and sub-zero wind chills. There were errands to run and last minute shopping before Christmas. Planting spring flowers probably wasn't on your "to do" list.

During the week of December 15th, planting spring pansies ***WAS*** on the "to do" list for Gaylen Sysel and the annual production staff at Campbell's Nurseries' 40th and Normal Boulevard location. Pansies love cooler temperatures. In greenhouses warmed to just above freezing, pansy starts established nice, compact foliage and strong roots in their containers. With continued growth, ample blossoms will soon follow.

Pansies aren't the only annual bedding plants that get an early start at Campbell's Nurseries. Geranium production began the week of January 5th. Plants will mature in warmer greenhouses and be ready for upspacing by the time you read this edition of "Notes from the Garden".

Annual bedding plant production at Campbell's is a large scale process similar to what you may do at home to start a few of your favorite bedding plants. The schedule is planned in stages to grow about 100 varieties of annuals. Gaylen monitors the progress of each plant variety and adjusts growing temperatures and water needs as the annuals grow and mature.

Petunias, Geraniums, Salvia, Impatiens, Alyssum, Marigolds and Zinnias are started at set intervals. Batches of herbs, tomatoes, peppers and other vegetables will be started in early March, then again in April. If all goes as planned, we will have our bedding plants ready for you in time to plant after the last frost day for our region. Campbell's Nurseries strives to produce well-rooted, healthy bedding plants that will be successful in your garden or containers. When you see our varieties of fruits, vegetables, herbs and other annuals

this spring, think of all of the time and care put in by Gaylen and his production staff to grow such wonderful plants.

We look forward to seeing you at either of our garden center locations. If there are some annual varieties that look especially good, let us know. We will pass along your comments to Gaylen.

Remember, pansies make you smile! They will be ready for early planting this coming spring!

CUSTOMER INPUT

Success for Campbell's Nurseries and Garden Centers depends on our customers. We do our best to meet your needs and expectations. However, we don't always know what you want as seasons and trends change.

We are starting a new segment in "Notes from the Garden" to give you the opportunity to make suggestions or ask us questions about concerns you may have with landscaping, gardening, lawn care, pond care, water gardens, houseplants and other topics. In our "Question & Comments" column, we will list your question or topic and provide helpful information for you. Email your questions and topics for discussion to us at: askus@campbellsnursery.com. We will gather input from our landscapers, planting crews and garden center staff to get the answers to you in future issues. We appreciate your input and interest.

COLORFUL & FUN PLANTS FOR FEBRUARY

Typically, February is a "late winter" month. The daylight gets progressively longer despite the snow and cold. A new tropical or ornamental plant can bring a fresh look to home and office spaces. Both of our garden centers have a nice selection of tropical plants in pot sizes ranging from 3-inch to 10-inch.

Campbell's Nurseries and Garden Center, Inc.

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NURSERIES ~ GARDEN CENTERS ~ LANDSCAPING ~ GIFTS ~ EXPERT ADVICE

Campbell's Nurseries and Garden Centers does not sell or ship plant material outside of Lincoln, Omaha or the surrounding communities via our website. Advice on lawns, plants and their care applies only to Zones 4 and 5, which is roughly from South Dakota to Kansas and Wyoming to Illinois

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