

November 2016

Next Meetings

November 9
6:30 p.m.

Topic: Where the Wild Things Are

Speaker: Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp,
The Hoosier Gardener

December 14
6:30 p.m.

Topic: GPMGA Website
Speaker: Joe Kunkel;
Annual Holiday Pitch-In

Meetings occur the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Garfield Park unless otherwise noted.

Purdue University is an equal opportunity/ equal access/affirmative action university.

If you require an accommodation or special assistance to attend these programs due to a disability, please contact Steve Mayer at 317.275.9290. Some accommodations may require 2 weeks notice.

Newsletter Editor:
Oren Cooley
pastpfct@aol.com

Learn more at:
IndyMG.org
IndyHorticulture.org

GARFIELD PARK MASTER GARDENERS

Garfield Gardener



President's Letter

Hello Fellow Gardeners:

A special "Thank You" to Barbara Jablonski for a job well done in securing the candidates for the upcoming club election.

In case you missed the last meeting when the candidates were introduced, below are their names and intended offices:

President: Nancy Boettner
Vice President: Carrie Alumbaugh
Secretary: Lane Judkins
Treasurer: Cindy Maude
Program Co-Chairs: Kay Martin-Pence,
Penny Place
Hospitality: Sue Hoyt, Jean Corder,
Betty Hurn Johnson
Historian: Jayne Queck
Conservatory Tour Coordinator:
Victoria Metheaux
Newsletter/Publicity: Oren Cooley

Nominations will still be accepted from the floor for each position at the next meeting.

As we approach the Thanksgiving Holiday, I wish one and all a safe and happy holiday.

Boynton Robson
President, GPMGA

Conservatory Crossing Nov. 25-Jan. 1

Come enjoy the winter wonderland at Conservatory Crossing, when the Garfield Park Conservatory will be decked out in its holiday best with a brilliant display of poinsettias, thousands of twinkling lights, model trains and a train village.

Conservatory Crossing will occur from November 25 to January 1. The hours are from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Monday through Saturday and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Special evening hours (until 8:00 p.m.) on December 16, 17, 21, 22 and 23.

The cost is \$4 per person or \$10 per family (2 adults maximum). For more information, visit www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org.

November Meeting: Agenda

- Welcome
- Speaker: Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp
- Break
- Committee Reports
- Election of Officers
- Website Update
- The Good and The Welfare



2016 GPMG Officers and Committee Chairs

President

Boynton Robson
robby2931@gmail.com

Immediate Past President

Bill Bernstein
billbe19@comcast.net

Vice President

Nancy Boettner
nancyboettner@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

James Scherschel
gpmga.treasurer@gmail.com

Secretary

Nancy Boettner
nancyboettner@sbcglobal.net

Program Directors

Kay Martin-Pence
guitargirl929@gmail.com

Cira Coates

ciracoates@comcast.net

Newsletter/Publicity Director

Oren Cooley
pastpfct@aol.com

Historian

Ed Myers
emyers3670@aol.com

Hospitality—Pitch-In Coordinator

Cira Coates
ciracoates@comcast.net

Hospitality—Snack Coordinator

Sue Hoyt
msue3@hotmail.com

Hospitality—Set-up Coordinator

Alane Judkins
APJ44@sbcglobal.net

Please contact the officers and chairs of the Garfield Park Master Gardeners Association if you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about the organization.

Questions about Reporting Hours

Debbie Schelske
dschelsk@purdue.edu

GPMGA Next Meeting: November 9

Topic: *Where the Wild Things Are*

Speaker: Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp,
The Hoosier Gardener



Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp will speak on *Where the Wild Things Are* at the next meeting of the GPMGA at 6:30 p.m. on November 9, at Garfield Park Conservatory.

Discover ways to make sure wild things are in your landscape—where they can pollinate plants, eat bugs and add beauty to the scene. During the presentation, you will learn which plants provide food and shelter for butterflies, birds and other wildlife.

A 25-year veteran of newspaper journalism, Jo Ellen has been writing a weekly gardening column for *The Indianapolis Star* since 1989 and a frequent guest on television, radio and web broadcasts. In addition to contributing to *Indiana Gardening*, *Edible Indy* and *American Gardener*, Jo Ellen owns *Write for You!*, a freelance writing business. To enjoy a wealth of gardening information, visit her website at www.hoosiergardener.com.

GPMGA Meeting Minutes: October 12

Program

- IMA's Irvin Etienne presented a program called *A Little Jungle*.

Business Meeting/Board Reports

- President-Boynton Robson . . .
- Asked Barbara Jablonski to introduce the 2017 slate of officers and board members: Nancy Boettner-President, Carrie Alumbaugh-Vice-President, Lane Judkins-Secretary, Cindy Maude-Treasurer, Kay Martin-Pence & Penny Place-Program Co-chairs, Sue Hoyt, Jean Corder, Betty Hurn Johnson—Hospitality, Jayne Queck-Historian, Victoria Metheaux-Conservatory Tours, and Oren Cooley-Newsletter/Publicity (Good work Barb!)
- Distributed certificates to Oren Cooley for Growth Award and Betty Hurn Johnson for bronze level MG
- Thanked Debra Boyer for procuring cabinet for historical documents and hospitality supplies
- Secretary-Nancy Boettner: Minutes accepted as printed in the newsletter
- Treasurer- James Scherschel: Checking balance is \$5,781.68; Charge for filing cabinet not yet deducted
- Hospitality-Cira Coates, Sue Hoyt, Lane Judkins: Snack providers needed for November; Sandwiches from Costco to be provided at Dec. pitch-in
- Newsletter/Communications-Oren Cooley: Thanks for suggestions for newsletter; Website under development, designer Joe Kunkel to present
- Programs-Cira Coates, Kay Martin-Pence: Jo Ellen Meyers Sharp in November; Website development in December; Send photos to Debra Boyer for slide show at December meeting

Other Business

- Plant Sale-Kay Martin-Pence: May 20, 2017
- Demo Garden-Boynton Robson: Steve Mayer to advise about sign location
- Northside Evening Meeting –Nancy Boettner: Thanks to the northside group for a great joint meeting on October 5.

Opportunities

- Seed swap at Brown County Library on Saturday, October 15
- Baskin Robbins cake available for \$12 (Barb J.-left over from silent auction)
- Linda Profitt is closing site at fairgrounds; Has worm casting compost available, Will deliver (Debra Boyer)

—Nancy Boettner
Secretary, GPMGA

Make Time to Winterize the Garden

Properly winterizing the garden will not only help plants survive the short gray days and bitter nights that winter brings but also will ensure the garden will produce colorful flowers in the spring. The following checklist may help ensure your garden is ready for winter:

Chop, clip, cut and clean. Tidy up the garden by removing spent stalks and other plant debris that might become a winter incubator for pests and diseases. Removing dead and dying foliage will give your garden a cared-for look all winter and free you up from grooming chores in the spring.

Remove invasives. Pull out any weeds or other unwanted plants. Take special care to place invasive plants — especially the seed heads — in a covered garbage container (not your compost pile).

Divide perennials. Fall is a good time to divide a wide variety of plants. The general rule is to divide them at least six weeks before the ground freezes so they get established before freezing weather arrives. Candidates for division are plant clumps that don't flower as vigorously as they once did or those that have bare spots in the middle.

Give the bulbs some love. Dig up and store tender bulbs that may not survive freezes. Dry them out on newspaper for several weeks and then put them in a container and cover them with sawdust, sand, perlite or vermiculite until they are ready to be replanted. When a hard freeze is predicted, add an extra layer of mulch to hardy bulbs left in the ground.

Baby the beds. After tidying up the garden and replanting divided plants, add compost, as much as 3-4 inches, to the beds. Nutrients from the mulch will leach into the beds during winter rains. The remnants of the compost can be turned into the soil in the spring.

Spread mulch. This is especially important for newly planted perennials that haven't had time to develop an extensive root system. If you can, wait until the ground has started to freeze to add a thick layer of mulch to your late-season garden additions. The mulch will help keep the ground consistently cold or frozen until spring and prevent freeze/thaw cycles in the soil that may cause the ground to heave and uproot new plants. Check the mulch in January and February to see if it has thinned out because of winter winds or other reasons and add more mulch if necessary.

Hydrate evergreens. Deep soaks in the fall are important if autumn has been dry. Conifers, such as yews, and broadleaf evergreens, such as hollies and boxwoods, are susceptible to winter burn because they release moisture through their leaves year-round. Pay particular attention to broadleaf types that have a south/southwest exposure to the afternoon sun, and give them extra water as needed.

Protect bark on young trees. Newly planted trees, especially fruit trees, have thin bark that can suffer sun scald or crack from fluctuating day/night temperatures. Tree wrap "tape" and spiral tree protectors can help prevent this problem.

Create wind breaks. Exposed evergreens are also susceptible to wind burn. In the fall before the ground freezes, drive three stakes into the ground on the windward side of plants you want to protect. Put the stakes in a "V" formation with the front stake facing the wind and wrap burlap or landscape fabric around the stakes. It is not necessary to wrap the entire plant.

Saving the shrubs. Tender shrubs can be wrapped in burlap or agricultural fabric when hard or prolonged freezes are forecast. Remove the fabric when temperatures warm up to prevent overheating the plant. Don't use plastic. Plastic doesn't breathe and can result in high temperatures that will "cook" the plant.

Service & Training Opportunities

November 7 (6:30 p.m.)

Poinsettias

Holliday Park Nature Center
6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis
www.hollidaypark.org

November 12 (1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.)

Holiday Topiary

Garfield Park Conservatory
2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis
www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

November 21 (6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.)

Trends in Urban Beekeeping

Central Indiana Beekeepers Association
Holliday Park
6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis
www.indyurbanbeekeeping.org

Garfield Park Conservatory Tour Guide Schedule

November 12 (2:30 p.m.)

Arlene Bow
Oren Cooley
John Montgomery

November 26

No tour offered during launch of
Garfield Park's Conservatory Crossing

Anyone interested in becoming a tour guide should contact Boynton Robson at robby2931@gmail.com.

November Hospitality Help

The following GPMGA members will supply snacks at the November meeting:

- Judy Beninger
- Sue Hoyt
- Becky Nowlin
- Boynton Robson

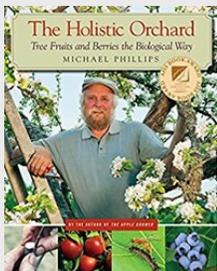
The annual Christmas pot luck dinner is December 14. This year, the club will provide assorted sandwiches, shrimp cocktail and all paper supplies. Please sign up at the hospitality table during the November meeting to bring a side dish, a salad, dessert or another holiday delight.

If you wish to help with a future meeting, please contact Sue Hoyt at msue3@hotmail.com.

From the Bookshelf . . .

The Holistic Orchard: Tree Fruits and Berries the Biological Way by Michael Phillips

More and more gardeners are catching the urge to go pesticide-free. For fruit lovers wanting to tend an orchard on a small scale, Michael Phillips, author of *The Apple Grower* (2005), offers a wealth of tips and tricks in *The Holistic Orchard* on growing berries and tree fruits without resorting to toxic sprays.



Eight information-packed chapters cover such basics as orchard design, seeding and growing schedules, and soil varieties, all using natural methods to resist attacks by garden pests and plant diseases. Phillips also provides an exhaustive directory of fruit varieties, from pome fruits, such as apples and pears, to stone fruits, such as cherries and nectarines.

On the Web . . .



Old House Gardens
<http://oldhousegardens.com>

Old House Gardens is America's only mail-order source devoted entirely to heirloom bulbs, many available nowhere else. The company searches the world for "great old bulbs" that are at risk, researches their histories, recruits small farmers to grow them and then shares them with gardeners across America through the company's mail-order catalog and website. The owners serve their customers extremely well—which has resulted in the company becoming an international leader in the preservation of these fabulous bulbs.

Do you know a great Website? Send info to www.pastpfct@aol.com.

Indiana's Sandhill Cranes Fall Migration

Celebrate Indiana's Bicentennial by viewing one of the state's greatest wildlife spectacles at the Jasper-Pulaski Fish and Wildlife Area near Medaryville, Indiana. The property's suitable habitat provides an ideal stopover for many migratory birds.



For example more than 10,000 sandhill cranes stop during their fall migration. The magnificent, noisy flocks are usually seen in the shallow marshes from mid-October through mid-December. The numbers of sandhill cranes that visit this area's shallow marshes typically peak in mid-November.



When visiting the site, the best times to see the sandhill cranes are either at sunrise or at sunset. At sunrise, gigantic flocks rise and fly out of roosting marshes to nearby Goose Pasture. The cranes socialize in the pasture for awhile before flying out to feed in surrounding agricultural fields. Near sunset (usually one hour before), flocks of cranes return from all directions to socialize again before returning to the roosting marshes at dusk.

As of October 31, more than 6,800 cranes have been seen at the Goose Pasture Viewing Area—the best area to see the crane spectacle. (The roosting marshes are closed to the public.) During the day, cranes can be spotted feeding and dancing in nearby harvested farm fields.

The Jasper-Pulaski Fish & Wildlife Area provides quality hunting and fishing opportunities while maintaining 8,142 acres of wetland, upland and woodland game habitat. Acquisition of the land for Jasper-Pulaski began in 1929.

During the 1930s, Jasper-Pulaski was designated as a game farm and game preserve. Hunting began at the property in 1958 and, in 1965, the area was designated as a fish and game area. In 1972, the name again was changed to fish and wildlife area.

For more information on the sandhill cranes fall migration, call 219-843-4841 or visit: <https://secure.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3109.htm>.

For more information on sandhill cranes, visit www.savingcranes.org, www.bringbackthecranes.org or www.operationmigration.org.



America Recycles Day November 15

It's not too late to start planning — and to register for — America Recycles Day— which this year will occur on November 15.

America Recycles Day (ARD) is a nationally recognized day dedicated to promoting and celebrating recycling in the United States. Every year, people in communities across the nation pledge to locally increase efforts to recycle. In addition, many organize events to educate neighbors, friends and colleagues about recycling and community recycling programs.



This year, the Indiana Recycling Coalition has increased promotion of America Recycles Day with the organization's partners across the state. The following percentages of surveyed Hoosiers have indicated to the IRC that they plan to increase efforts to recycle the following items:



The mission of the Indiana Recycling Coalition is to support source reduction, reuse, composting and recycling activities in Indiana. The organization supports policies and programs that advance sustainable materials management. The goal of this support is to conserve natural resources, reduce energy use, encourage environmental responsibility and create green jobs through recycling.

For more information on the Indiana Recycling Coalition or to review the official toolkit for America Recycles Day, please visit:

www.indianarecycling.org/america-recycles-day-2016.

IMA's Evergreen Wreath Workshop

The Indianapolis Museum of Art will offer an Evergreen Wreath Workshop from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 3.

Using a mix of fresh, fragrant greens, each participant will make an evergreen wreath in this "get your hands dirty" workshop. The wreaths will last the entire holiday season.

Fee charged. All materials and supplies (including ribbon) are provided. Class is limited to 10 adult participants.

For more information or to register, visit www.imamuseum.org.



Indiana Recycles

The Indiana Recycling Coalition has achieved the following results for Hoosiers last year in the indicated areas:

Awards

- Received the National Recycling Coalition's Outstanding Recycling Organization Award

Statehouse Advocacy

- Advocated for policies that increase Hoosiers' access to recycling which in turn grew the state's recycling industry— creating new jobs and conserving energy and resources
- Led the campaign for Indiana's successful e-waste law
- Secured grant funding for recycling investments
- Helped pass Indiana's 50% recycling goal
- Defended the important work of Indiana's solid waste management districts

Public Access to Recycling

- 236,000+ Hoosiers were able to recycle via the organization's Lend-A-Bin program
- 907,000+ attendees recycled 86,600+ pounds at the Indiana State Fair
- 40,000+ attendees recycled 4,700+ pounds at two 500 Festival events

Technical Support/Resources

- On the IRC website, more than 21,000 visits of which 14,000+ searches were on the EcoPoint Recycling Locator
(The top searches were cardboard, styrofoam and TVs)
- 2,817 Facebook followers with 280,000+ visits
- 1,295 Twitter followers with 72,265+ Twitter impressions



Extension Horticulture Hints—November 2016

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, Purdue Extension-Marion County

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, for Purdue Extension-Marion County, serves as coordinator and instructor for the Purdue Master Gardener program in Marion County.

November Garden Calendar Tips

Note: Letters and numbers following the tip refer to Purdue publications; other reference links on the topic may also be supplied.

- First Week: Finish planting spring flowering bulbs as soon as possible (HO-86). <<http://extension.illinois.edu/bulbs/planting.cfm>>
- Second Week: Test your garden soil for pH and fertilizer needs every 3 to 5 years (HO-71). <<https://extension.purdue.edu/Marion/Pages/article.aspx?intItemID=4487>>
- Third Week: Mix the materials in your compost pile to speed up the process (ID-182). <<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/yardandgarden/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2016/10/ID-182.pdf>>
- Fourth Week: Cut your own Christmas tree at an Indiana tree farm. <http://indianachristmastree.com/>

Follow me on Twitter @purduehortindy (or view at: <http://twitter.com/purduehortindy>) for more tips. You don't have to be on Twitter to simply view my comments.

Report Master Gardener Hours

If you don't regularly report your hours through the year, spend some time this month reporting. Many people have not reported yet. If you wait until late December, it makes it more difficult to compile the totals at the end of the year. Marion County Master Gardeners need to report by December 31, 2016, for the hours to count towards 2016. Reporting helps show impact of the Master Gardener program.

Last year Marion County Master Gardeners volunteered 22,392.5 hours educating others and impacting communities, according to reports submitted by 263 volunteers last year. The dollar value of time contributed by Marion County Master Gardener volunteers amounted to over \$500,000 in 2015. For info on the results of the 2015 Master Gardener classes, go to: <<https://api.ag.purdue.edu/api/DepotWS/File.ashx?t=f&i=46108>>.

Demonstration Garden Update

No freezes have occurred yet in the demonstration garden through early November. We are still harvesting some vegetables and some flowers are still looking good.

We have expanded our cover crop plantings this fall. Last year we had one bed. This year we planted 7 beds (one of them in the flower growing area). We planted four different cover crops (alone or in combination with others): cereal rye, oats, hairy vetch and crimson clover. Tomato leaf diseases affected the results of our cover crop trial planting this past year. However, overall, we saw improved plant vigor and a small increase in production of the four tomato plants that grew in the cover crop bed versus the four tomato plants that grew in an adjacent bed without the use of any cover crop.



Seven beds of cover crops were planted this fall in the demonstration garden. (Photo: Steve Mayer, 11/4/16).



Congratulations Marion County Master Gardeners!
You received the 2016 Marion County Friend of 4-H Award for your work at the county fair and in other youth activities.

Extension Horticulture Hints—November 2016

Steve Mayer, Extension Educator-Horticulture, Purdue Extension Marion-County

The Question Box



Heavenly Blue morning glory did not bloom until October this year in the Purdue demonstration garden. (Photos by Steve Mayer, 10/2016)

Q. My morning glory didn't bloom until late in the season. What happened?

A. There are a number of factors that affect bloom. First, some varieties may bloom earlier than others. Of course, it also depends on when you planted them, whether they were direct seeded into the garden or grown inside and transplanted, and how quickly they germinated. To speed germination, scarify the hard seed by nicking it with a file or by soaking in warm water for 24 hours before sowing. Seed directly outside after frost, or for earlier blooms, sow seed inside 4-6 weeks before transplanting outside. The plants may adapt better to transplanting if the seeds are sown in peat pots.

Morning glories are best grown in full sun and well-drained soil. Water moderately after the plants are established since they tolerate dry soil. Use little to no fertilizer. High fertility and plenty of moisture tend to produce abundant foliage and little bloom. The plant growth can be aggressive and may sometimes take over a garden. Morning glory can also self-seed prolifically in the garden although some of the newer hybrids reportedly are less likely to do that. Watch closely during the early growing season and remove any unwanted plants immediately. Morning glory seeds are considered poisonous.

Q. I have been getting a dirty orange dust on my mud boots when I take our dogs outside. This has been happening for about a week now. What is this?

A. It sounds like you have one of the rust diseases common in lawn grasses, especially if they are not fertilized enough and are not growing vigorously. It also develops more under wet conditions. The fungal spores get on shoes, mowers and pets but are not harmful to humans or animals. Fertilizing your lawn may help prevent the disease in the future. Below are two links for further reference.

<<https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-110-W.pdf>>

<http://turfdisease.osu.edu/news/rust-turfgrass>

Q. I missed the last lunch & learn on protecting pollinators. Do you have information on this subject?

A. Purdue publications on the subject are online: <<https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/pubs/bee.html>>

A Minnesota publication on Insect Pollinator Best Management Practices is found here: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/protecting/bmps/~/_media/Files/protecting/bmps/pollinators/pollinatoryardbmps.pdf>

Q. Is it OK to mulch tree leaves into the lawn?

A. Yes, our Purdue turf specialist has indicated that research results at Purdue and other universities demonstrate that:

Tree leaves (both oak and maple) can be mulched without any detrimental effects on the soil or turf and usually results in improvements in soil structure.

Mulching leaves into the turf will not increase thatch or disease.

Leaves have no effect on soil pH and no measurable effect on nutrient availability.

Mulching leaves will not result in increased weed pressure and some recent research in Michigan suggests that mulching leaves back into your lawn can reduce dandelion populations.

Other tips are available at: <<http://purdueurftips.blogspot.com/2013/11/what-to-do-with-all-those-falling-leaves.html>>.

Show / Event Calendar

November 5 (8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.)
Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society's Annual Conference
 502 East Event Centre
 502 E. Carmel Drive, Carmel
 www.inpaws.org

November 13 (2:00—4:00 p.m.)
 Holliday Park Celebrates America Recycles Day Early
 Holliday Park
 6363 Spring Mill Road, Indianapolis
 www.hollidaypark.org

November 19 (10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.)
Greening the Statehouse
 Boone County Fairgrounds
 1300 East 100 South, Lebanon
 www.hecweb.org

November 25-January 1 (Mon-Sat: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 1:00-5:00 p.m.)
Conservatory Crossing
 Garfield Park Conservatory
 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis
 www.garfieldgardensconservatory.org

December 11
Indiana Birthday Bash: 200th Anniversary - Indiana Statehood
 Multiple locations statewide
 www.indianabicentennial.org

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

November 12 (9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)
 Ringgold Park Greenspace
 1513 Ringgold Ave., Indianapolis

Help engaged residents of the Bates-Hendricks neighborhood finish turning a small city park into a unique, beautiful and vibrant community greenspace that they can use and cherish.

For more information, contact Abby Dennis at 264-7555, ext.123, or at adennis@kibi.org.



2017 GPMGA Membership Dues

Renew your membership in the Garfield Park Master Gardeners Association. Dues are \$15.00 per year and help pay for special activities, speakers, the newsletter and donations to community projects.

Monthly meetings occur on the second Wednesday of the month and begin at 6:30 p.m. Unless otherwise noted at the prior meeting or in the newsletter, meetings are held at the Garfield Park Conservatory, 2505 Conservatory Drive, Indianapolis.

Date _____ Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Completion date of Master Gardener Training Class ____/____/____

Volunteer with: _____

_____ I wish to be included in the 2017 GPMGA Member Directory.
 _____ I wish to receive future newsletters by e-mail only.

Submit this form and your \$15.00 annual membership fee to:

James Scherschel 1416 N Leland Ave Indianapolis IN 46219

**GARFIELD PARK MASTER GARDENERS
 THE SOUTH SIDE MASTER GARDENER
 ASSOCIATION IN MARION COUNTY**



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 Phone: 317.275.9290; FAX: 317.275.9309
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