

The Gardener's Corner

Adding poetic beauty with a weigela

By Judith Rogers

Weigela is a desirable shrub for gardens as it can be found in various shapes and colours. Named after the German botanist Christian von Weigel, weigela florida is a 1.8 to 2.7 metre tall shrub with arching branches of dark pink tubular flowers in late spring and early summer that can spread up to 3.5 metres wide.

Weigelas prefer a location in full sun with a rich, well

drained soil but will tolerate partial shade. Flowering occurs in June with random blooms again in August and varieties that have deep red flowers are very attractive to hummingbirds. Through breeding, there are now compact forms of weigela, some that flower longer and others that are more cold hardy.

Red Prince grows upright with arching branches, reaching 200 centimetres at maturity, and is one of the

favourite nectar sources for the hummingbirds in my garden.

Also upright and with white flowers, White Knight is a little shorter at 150 cm. Pink Princess attains this same height but has pink flowers and glossy green leaves edged with purple.

Who can resist the romantic notion that Wine and Roses depicts with its spectacular dark burgundy-purple foliage and rosy-pink

flowers. Both the Variegated weigela that grows in a rounded, compact form with green foliage edged in yellow and Wine and Roses grow to 125 cm tall.

Even homeowners with a small yard can enjoy a marvelous dwarf weigela such as Midnight Wine, a sweet little 25 to 30 cm high shrub that forms a low mound of dark burgundy-purple foliage with light pink flowers. It is striking as a groundcover, in

containers as well as window boxes and perfect for the front of a border.

A new introduction from 2006, My Monet has a tight growing habit with colourful foliage of green and white with pink tinges on the edges. Dark pink flowers complete the poetic beauty this 30 to 45 cm tall shrub will create in any garden as well as add a splash of colour to a partial shady area.

After the shrubs have fin-

ished blooming, the flowering branches can be pruned back to a strong bud, and one third of the old growth can be cut back to the ground at this time too, to allow for new vigorous growth from the base.

Generally a problem-free shrub, occasionally scale insects, verticillium wilt or twig dieback will be experienced but overall, weigelas are a good hardy shrub to have.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A directory of what is happening in your community

The community event calendar is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce upcoming events. Deadlines are no later than Monday for that week's issue to

COMMUNITY EVENTS, P.O. Box 310, Beeton, Ontario L0G 1A0

Submissions by mail, fax or e-mail and will not be received by telephone.

ISSUES & INTERESTS

The York-Simcoe Naturalists is a young club looking for new members. Contact: Cathryn Rees at 905-775-7021, e-mail: wilcor@sympatico.ca.

South Simcoe Community Information Centre "CONTACT" at 146 Victoria St. W. Alliston. Call (705) 435-4900, Fax 705-435-1106. Website: www.csolve.net/-contact, or Email: contact@focusdc.on.ca.

Be a face in the fight against cancer The Innisfil Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society needs volunteers. Their involvement enables the Canadian Cancer Society to fund cancer research, provide information, services and to support people living with cancer. Call: 436-1060 or 726-8032.

The Canadian Mental Health Association of Barrie-Simcoe supports the development and continuance of self-help groups as a viable community resource for individuals experiencing difficulties. Self-Help groups can provide; support and understanding through difficult times; an opportunity to meet with others who have experienced similar difficulties; information and education; a safe and comfortable environment; suggestions regarding coping strategies that help to get through difficult times.

For further information contact the Canadian Mental Health Association, Barrie-Simcoe Branch at 705-726-5033 or 1-800-461-4319.

Donations are needed for Music Fun Night at the Gilford United Church. If you have any old or unused music instruments like tambourines, shakers, chimes, drums or other fun instru-

ments, call Dawn at (705) 456-2555.

MONDAYS

Friends of the Innisfil Library, Stroud Branch, meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

Gilford and District Horticultural Society meets second Monday of the month from March to November at Churchill Community Centre at 7:30pm. New members are always welcome. Call Judith Rogers at 431-9278 or Kathy Barraclough at (905)853-8785 for more info.

Al-Anon meetings take place every Monday at Innisfil Community Church at 8:00 p.m. If you have a problem with someone else's drink, come and join the discussion group.

Innisfil Pipes & Drums meet for practice at the Legion in Bell Ewart, 1017 Robinson St. at 7 p.m. Always looking for new members. Phone Ken at (705) 456-3717.

TUESDAYS

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance at the Thornton Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and the Alcona Library from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team call Marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897 for more information. This initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Cookstown Computer Club drop-in program for elementary students, 4 to 5 p.m. at the library.

T.O.P.S. (Take off Pounds Sensibly) from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Library, Robert St., Thornton. For information call (705) 424-9433 or (705) 458-0937.

Stroud Seniors invite persons 55 + to join them for an afternoon of bid and progressive euchre, refreshments and companionship. 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall, Painswick. Call 436-1628.

St Paul's Anglican Church, located on the corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street, has two new youth and young adult programs. From 6:30 - 8:00 pm will be informal musi-

cal jamming sessions for anyone with a voice or instrument. If you are learning to play an instrument or like to sing and would enjoy having some fun and social time with similar minded people, come and join us. For more information, please call (705) 722-7755

St. Paul's Church, Innisfil (corner of Mapleview and Younge Street), Playgroup for tots, moms, dads, caregivers, and grandparents from 9:30-11:30 am. Come for a social time, friendship, play and snacks. For information, call (705) 431-1694.

The Beta Classes will be held at the Innisfil Community Church starting January 9th at 1pm. Beta is a life changing program and the twelve week course will enable you to live free from fear, stress anxiety and the pain of past hurts and traumas. This program is offered at the Church from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. For more information, call Sherri McLaughlin at (705) 436-1611.

WEDNESDAYS

Friends of the Innisfil Library, Lakeshore Branch, meet the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. New members are most welcome.

Euchre, bid euchre, Scrabble and cribbage is played at Alcona Seniors club every Wednesday at 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the ABC Hall on the 25th Sideroad below Innisfil Beach Rd. Refreshments and fun days. Bring a bag lunch.

Euchre every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30, Newton Robinson United Church in aid of Gwen Taylor Library. Refreshments.

Weight Loss Group. The Alcona Chapter of TOPS meets at 7:15 at Goodfellow Public School. Call Joan Davies at 436-3197 after 6 and on weekends.

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance. On Wednesdays, the mornings are alternated between the Churchill and the Cookstown Libraries from 10:00 a.m. to noon., and every Wednesday afternoon at the Stroud Branch from 1:30 - 3:30. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team Please call marilee or

Kathy at (705) 728-0897. This initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Euchre at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Churchill is held every Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the parish hall. Please call Reg at 705-456-6801 for information.

The Cookstown Co-Operative Playgroup is at St. John's Anglican Church in Cookstown located on Hwy 89, east of Hwy 27. All pre-school children and their care-givers are welcome, as well as new members. The hours will be 9:30 to 12:00 every Wednesday & Thursday. Come out with your pre-school aged children (senior kindergarten and younger), have a snack, make a craft and meet some new friends. For more information please call Brian Haas at (705) 458-8468. See you there!!

THURSDAYS

Euchre - Progressive and Bid, every Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion - 1017 Robinson, Bell Ewart 705-436-1144, Betty.

Register for Book Book a six week afterschool program for ages 6 and up from 5-6 p.m. Call Innisfil Public Library, Cookstown Branch at 458-1273.

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance at the Alcona Library from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Please call Marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team 728-3757, this initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Barrie Chapter of Schizophrenia Society of Ontario family support group meets the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Canadian Mental Health Association, Barrie-Simcoe Building, 39 High St., Barrie. For info contact 726-5033.

Painswick Horticultural Society meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at St. Paul's Anglican Church. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. New members welcome. For info call Linda Lewer at 436-3908.

The Parish of Churchill and Cookstown youth group meets every Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Youth between the

ages of 9-12 years are welcome to attend regardless of denomination. Please call Pam Gervais for information at (705) 735-3484.

St Paul's Anglican Church, located on the corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street, has two new youth and young adult programs. From 6:30 - 8:00 pm we are beginning a study comparing the gospels and learning how and why they developed. For more information, call (705) 722-7755.

SATURDAYS

Barrie Farmers' Market, outside and inside Barrie City Hall. From 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fresh produce and fruit in season. For info please call 739-4204.

SUNDAYS

Overeaters Anonymoyus meets at the Mapleview Community Church at 7pm. Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? It's not what you eat, it's what's eating you! For more information, call Anne at (705) 436-7921.

The Teen Youth Group of the Parish of Churchill and Cookstown meet at St. John's Anglican Church every other Sunday in the parish hall from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. All teens aged between 13-18 years are welcome to join regardless of denomination. Please call Pam at (705) 735-3484 for information.

St. Paul's Anglican Church will be holding their Harvest Bazaar at 11:30. There will be a bake table, craft table and lunch for \$5.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15

The Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe County will host a monthly caregiver support group meeting to discuss issues and successes in a confidential and supportive environment at The Spoke in Sandy Cove Acres North, between 1 and 3 p.m.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

Annual Innisfil Christmas Bazaar from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Churchill Community

Centre. We have many very talented people with their homemade creations as well as some vendors with great gift ideas. There is something for every age. Lunch and beverages are available. All tables are booked.

Ivy Café - One Night Only from 7:30 until 10:30 p.m. at the Ivy Orange Hall featuring local talent and fellowship. Admission is \$5 plus one non-perishable food item for Youth Haven in Barrie. Proceeds will support the Ivy Presbyterian Church mission fund. For more info call 424-4675.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 23

Come join the Newtones for A Candlelight Christmas at the Tec. WE. Gwill.W.I. Hall in Newton Robinson, beginning at 8 p.m. The hall is located on County Road 27, between Highways 88 and 89. Adult admission is \$10, children under 12 are \$3. Refreshments will be served after the show. The Newtones will also host shows at the hall Nov. 24 and 25. For more information, call Mary Orr at 905-775-3890 or Sheila McPhail at 905-939-2179.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 24

Innisfil Eastern Star, a non-profit group, will host a roast turkey dinner at the Masonic Hall in Stroud, beginning at 6 p.m. Admission is \$15 per person. The hall is located at 2156 Victoria Street. For more information, call Hilda Neely at 722-6275.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27

The Bond Head Olde Tyme Fiddle Club will host its monthly jam session. The event will take place at the Bond Head Community Hall, located at the Highway 27 and 88 intersection, beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is \$4. For more information,