**HULL**

Continued from E1

by hummingbirds. The horticulture department garden at the college has the largest collection of salvias in North America.

A pre-sale for Friends of the Garden will be 3-7 p.m. today. It will feature a silent auction and refreshments. Memberships will be sold for $25 at the door.

The public sale is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday. The sale is at the Cabrillo College Environmental Horticulture Center & Botanic Gardens, 6500 Soquel Drive [top of campus] in Aptos. A link to access the 2012 sale plant list, and more details about the sale including where to park is available at www.cabrillo.edu/academics/horticulture/plantsale.html.

For next weekend, consider this: Have you ever driven around on the scenic roads in Bonny Doon and gotten intriguing glimpses of the secret gardens there? Here is your chance to explore some of the best: Attend the Hidden Gardens of Bonny Doon Garden Tour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, or Sunday, May 20. Tickets are available locally prior to the event for $20. You also can purchase tickets at Bonny Doon Elementary School [1492 Pine Flat Road] the days of the event. Gourmet box lunches by Bonny Doon Catering will be available for purchase. All proceeds go to support programs at the school.

I have attended this tour in past years and never failed to come away inspired with the creative spark and full of new ideas for my own garden. Visit www.bonnydoonartandwinefestival.com and click on the garden tour link, or call 469-0688 or 423-7728.

And a reminder: While the soil is still moist from winter rains, it is a great time to get new plants into the ground and off to a fast start. All of the local garden centers are overflowing with flowering and fruiting things with the best selection of the year, so if you have any bare spots in your garden, act now: Don’t wait until the weather turns hot and dry to fill them.

Garden tips are provided courtesy of horticulturist Sharon Hull of the Pro-Build Garden Center. Contact her at 423-0223.

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**Upcoming events sure to keep area gardeners busy**

This weekend and next are two benefit garden events that you absolutely won’t want to miss, if you are an avid gardener.

This weekend is the 34th annual Spring Plant Sale at Cabrillo College which actually starts today and continues Saturday and Sunday. Experienced local gardeners always attend this event because they know it as the source of primo starts of vegetables, including many hard-to-find tomato varieties. They also enthusiastically go to purchase plants from the fantastic selection of ornamentals, all appropriate for growing in the Santa Cruz area, including many mites-resistant species fuchsias, and the most amazing salvias, including choice reds and blues, all of them beloved.

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**SHARON HULL**

This Week in the Garden

The image contains a headline for the Home & Garden section, followed by an article about the Cabrillo College horticulture department garden. The article mentions upcoming events such as a silent auction and membership sales. There is also a mention of a benefit garden event at Cabrillo College's Spring Plant Sale, which is attended by experienced local gardeners for its wide selection of vegetables and ornamentals. The article concludes with a reminder about the best time for planting new plants. Additionally, there is a mention of the Hidden Gardens of Bonny Doon Garden Tour, with details on how to purchase tickets and the garden tour link. Finally, there is a note about garden tips provided by Sharon Hull of the Pro-Build Garden Center, along with her contact information.