2. Working with the schools of Concordia County has been a goal of the Happyville Garden Club (HGC) for quite some time. The HGC worked with the Happyville Upper Elementary (HUE) and the Happy Lower Elementary to involve youth in our clean-up efforts during the “Let’s Clean Up Happyville” campaign. Students in the fourth and fifth grade of HUE were asked to make posters that would encourage a litter free environment. These posters were judged and the winning posters were displayed in the businesses throughout our town.

The second grade students at HLE help with the clean-up effort by picking up litter on a field trip throughout an area close to their school. All these efforts from the HUE and HLE were started in November of 2010 and because of this prior relationship HGC was invited in April of 2011 to come on board to clean up an area of campus where parents and visitors entered the building. This unsightly area did not give a good first impression.

In April of 2011 HUE was given a Building Healthy Communities Grant of $2500, sponsored by Home Depot. The project was to involve students not only create pride in the project but also their school and their neighborhood. Positive self images were created as a result of their involvement, efforts and accomplishments.

3. Helping with this project were twelve HUE students, three school sponsors, two school maintenance workers and eight HGC members that help with the planting. There were five other HGC members that provided water and refreshments.

4. There were no out of pocket expenses for either the school or garden club but in-kind contributions were made by both organizations.

5. Because of the good working relationship of the HGC, the HUE students and school staff, a Junior Garden Club was formed “Planting Pride in HUE” and the HGC would be their sponsor. The HGC members will work with the junior club on programs and activities throughout the year. A “Bat Program” was given by one of the HGC members and the students accompanied our club on a tour of a Christmas tree farm. And each student planted a “baby” evergreen and will visit the tree farm again to see how their trees have grown. The junior clubs has grown to 20 members and one of the prerequisites for being a member is a good conduct grade must be maintained by each member. The year 2011 looks to be very promising for HUE as their and the association that HGC has with the Concordia County Schools has begun to accomplish the goals that were set when we started this program.

“Wow, A Job Well done”          Something the students and Teachers and HGC can be proud
Before – Large amounts of concrete had to be removed

Entrance into school for student and visitors.

FERRIDAY GARDEN CLUB President Sherrill Sasser helps Ferriday Upper student Dealiny Perkins remove a tree from a container at a recent visit to a Christmas tree farm.

Students tour Christmas tree farm with FGC

The Ferriday Garden Club's October meeting included a tour of Martha's Trees, a tree farm that specializes in offering live trees for sale during the Christmas season.

It also included hands-on planting of “baby” evergreens by approximately 20 fourth and fifth grade students from Ferriday Upper Elementary. The students were accompanied by their teachers, Pam Atkins and Emity Gooden.

Following the planting experience, the children were treated to a tour of the farm led by owner Marie Potas, who explained how she grows, trims and sprays the cypress, pine and other evergreens. She also demonstrated the process she uses when making live Christmas wreaths, which are available for sale in addition to the trees.

To the delight of the children, a miniature Christmas train pulled by a tractor was available to transport them from the tree farm to a refreshment area. Lemmunda and cookies were served by hostesses Ann Dyer, Sandie Gibson and June Vegas.

The club members waved good-bye to the children then assembled for a short meeting.

President Sherrill Sasser announced that this month's winner of the “Golden Broom Award” was won by Susie Drive-In. The award is given to the downtown business that presents the most attractive and cleanest building and surrounding grounds.

Mrs. Sasser called attention to a misprint in the club handbook. The next meeting will be November 11 instead of the date printed.

The membership will gather at Jeffrey's Flower Shop in Ferriday for a “Holiday Design” program presented by Jeffrey.

Hostesses for the meeting are Joya Redin, Marthe Perkins and Melba Rice.

SUE STUDENTS TOUR TREE FARM IN MINIATURE CHRISTMAS TRAIN

STUDENTS GET HANDS-ON PLANTING OF “BABY” EVERGREENS
FERRIDAY UPPER ELEMENTARY
LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT

MATERIALS USED:

24 Encore Azalea ‘Autumn Embers’ Azalea x ‘Conleb’ PP#10581, 3 gal.
21 Cleyera, Terastroenia gynanthera, 3 gal.
8 Knock-out roses ‘Double Pink’ ‘Radtko’ PP#18507, 3 gal.
8 Knock-out Roses ‘Double Red’ ‘Radtko’ PP#16202, 3 gal.
2 Knock-out Roses ‘White Out’ ‘Radwhite’ PPAF, 3 gal.
6 Daylilies, (Hemerocallis) ‘Stella De Oro’, Yellow, 1 gal. (Substituted for Agapanthus)
100 pine straw bales
164 potting soil, 1.5 cu. Ft. bags
1 Osmocote fertilizer, 20 lb. bag
20 Square years of St. Augustine sod