



Mike and Nancy Biggs have raised three sons, welcomed six grandchildren, and taught three decades while simultaneously operating Biggs' Nursery for the past 38 years.

## Biggs' Nursery celebrates 38 years

Mike and Nancy Biggs know what it takes to plant seeds in the minds of children and in Tennessee dirt. For 30 of the 38 years Biggs' Nursery has been in operation, the couple were also teachers at Greenfield High and Elementary Schools.

Now retired from teaching, the owners continue to devote the majority of the year to running the prosperous Greenfield nursery that draws customers from across western Tennessee and Kentucky.

While the parallels between developing healthy minds and healthy flowers and vegetables are "easy pickin's" for some, Mike, known for his slow Southern drawl and quick laugh, admits, "I'm pretty pitiful when it comes to metaphors. I leave that up to my

wife."

The success of the operation, which now includes eight greenhouses of annuals, perennials and various vegetables, is the result of a group effort.

"I've been blessed to have good people and good help for all these years. That's why we've been successful," said Mike. "I have had lots of outstanding young men - college and high school - who have gone on and had good careers in business, banking, medicine, sales."

Both the young and the "more experienced" have found the nursery to be a nurturing environment. For example, former GHS staff member Ruth Betts worked the summers for close to 30 years, and Jan Gibson has potted the plants for nearly

28 years.

Once open all year for both wholesale and retail sales, the nursery now is retail only and begins working in the middle of January sowing seeds and potting. In early March, the focus is on vegetables such as cabbage, potatoes and onions. From April to June the facility located at 3411 N. Meridian St. is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

"April 15-May 15 is our busiest time of the year," said Mike while adding with a grin, "But when it's 30 degrees at night, it slows the traffic down."

"I've had a pretty full life," Mike concluded. "We raised three boys here, and

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