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**For Immediate Release**  
Press Contact: Mary Keselica  
973.744.4752  
[m.keselica@vanvleck.org](mailto:m.keselica@vanvleck.org)

## **ANNUAL VAN VLECK PLANT SALE-MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> 9AM-4PM**

Sprucing up the garden this spring just got a lot easier! Visit the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Van Vleck House & Garden Benefit Plant Sale, Saturday May 2nd from 9:00 am to 4:00pm, where garden enthusiasts can conveniently find the *finest local plant selections*, *expert landscape advice* and *novel garden accessories* all in one location. Join us and support this very wonderful educational and historic Montclair landmark. Admission is free, plants go fast and people line up early for the best selection. This is a rain or shine event.

In an effort to keep things fresh and green, Van Vleck staff will bring an exciting new take on “What’s Hot” for 2009. This year there will be an extensive array of *tree peonies* and great *spring blooming perennials* that will give your garden the instant gratification you crave. Since spring is all about color, there will also be an amazing collection of boldly colorful and wildly creative *potted* annuals arranged by local designers and other Van Vleck volunteers. What a great gift idea for Mom!

Van Vleck House & Gardens will also be hosting a special preview event on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> from 6pm to 9pm. It’s a great night to dress down, enjoy a spring cocktail, and most importantly, get an *early-bird opportunity* to purchase your plants before the Saturday rush. Make sure you’re wearing your *favorite garden boots* as our theme is “Wellies and Jellies”. Additionally, the Plant Sale will be conveniently located on the main terrace, making it easy to enjoy the festivities and shop at the same time. To purchase tickets for “Wellies and Jellies” please call 973.744.4752.

Proper planning will help customers make informed purchasing decisions, and Van Vleck is excited to announce that the Plant Sale inventory is posted on [www.vanvleck.org](http://www.vanvleck.org) so customers can browse the extensive list of plants in advance and come to the sale prepared to purchase all of their garden needs. In addition to providing customers with the inventory in advance, the sale will be staffed with “Horticultural Experts”: local expert gardeners, designers, and landscapers to help shoppers make the most educated plant buying decisions.

Need that special accessory for your garden? Don’t forget to browse our Garden Boutique, conveniently located in the main house. The boutique will feature fabulous spring items from Garden Cottage and other local vendors.

All visitors are invited to enjoy a tranquil stroll through the six acres that were lovingly developed into elegant yet understated gardens over the past century by three generations

of the Van Vleck family. Among the many springtime highlights is the fragrant and colorful Chinese wisteria that entwines the columns on the rear porch. When the wisteria is in bloom, typically in early May, clusters of blue-purple flowers cascade dramatically, scenting the air and creating a magical display.

To learn more about programs and volunteer opportunities offered at Van Vleck House & Gardens, visit [www.vanvleck.org](http://www.vanvleck.org). Van Vleck House & Gardens at 21 Van Vleck Street in Montclair is dedicated to preserving for public enrichment the spirit and beauty of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century house and gardens. Continuing the Van Vleck family's commitment to the community and horticultural excellence, the house serves as a center for non-profit organizations and the gardens are open to the public for display, education and research.

Van Vleck House & Gardens  
21 Van Vleck Street  
Montclair, New Jersey  
(973-744-4752)  
[www.vanvleck.org](http://www.vanvleck.org)

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