



Although the gardens have may have lost some of their summertime luster, there is still much to see and even more to contemplate as we observe the holidays.

As Peter Longley described it in his blog: "Our Christmas tree is up, garlands light our staircase railings, and a sleigh full of packages, guarded by elves with suspiciously familiar names, is ready to take off into cold night skies."

The Ozarks Garden Railway Society has finished installing the annual holiday model train exhibit. Young and old train watchers need only push a button to observe the trains in action around the track.

An exciting project is the latest architect's rendering of the Sensory/ Kitchen Garden on page 7, showing the latest thinking that has gone into the project. Although there are still funds to be raised, Phase I is likely to begin construction next spring, along with the amphitheater in the Dogwood Garden.

"With renewed interest expressed from people in our community wanting to learn more about growing their own food," writes Katie Steinhoff, Botanical Center Coordinator, "then needing to know how to preserve or prepare food grown in home gardens, we realized that the sensory garden and kitchen classroom would be the next most important stage for programs that Parks or Extension could offer."

The latest plans were prepared by Dennis McMann, senior Parks planner.

Other projects include completion of the Magnolia Garden, expansion of the Succulent Garden around the east side of building, and construction of the amphitheater in the Dogwood Garden, for which ground was prepared this fall.

Donors have so far contributed \$35,000 for Phase I of the Sensory/Kitchen Garden. Lisa Bakerink estimates another \$10,000 to \$15,000 is needed.

VISIT FOG ONLINE CLICK HERE



Profile: Ric & Jean Mayer

Page 2: Hardly the retiring type, the Mayers helped bring music to our ears to help develop the Kickapoo Edge Prairie.



Breakfast with Santa:

Page 5: The Jolly Old Elf invites good little children for brunch at 10 & 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 13.

If you're reading this newsletter online, many items are hyperlinked to the Internet for further information.

About FOG

Vol. 10, No. 6, DECEMBER/JANUARY 2015-16 P.O. 8566, Springfield, Mo. 65801

Friends of the Garden is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation founded in 1999 to develop the Close Memorial Gardens, located at 2400 South Scenic in Springfield, home of the Springfield/Greene County Botanical Center. We seek a dynamic relationship with other organizations working to benefit the park gardens. This newsletter is now published six times a year in print through Ozarks Living Magazine and delivered online as well to members. Past issues and other information can be found at

www.FriendsoftheGarden.org.

Officers:

President: Tom Finnie Vice-president: Vacant Secretary: Avis Holloway Treasurer: Christy Yoakum

Board of Directors:

Terms ending October 2016:Jack Crabb, Tom Finnie, Tom Lakowske, Don Snyder.

Terms ending October 2017: Jessi Beauchamp, Brent Bothwell-Palmer, Susan Cardwell, Marthe Close, Dr. Pam Duitsman, Christie Eden, Avis Holloway, Christy Yoakum.

Terms ending October 2018:

Maggie Black, Kim Chaffin, George Deatz, George Freeman, Karolyn Holdren, Barbara Lucks, Gail Melgren, Becky Morgan, Heather Parker, Betty Shook and Matt Wolfel.

Advisory Board:

Don Akers, Deanna Armstrong, Ruth Arneson, Patrick Byers, Major Close, Stan Horsch, Bob Kipfer, Bob Lovett, Chris Barnhart, Carla Beezley, Bob Childress, Jeanne Duffey and Bill Roston.

Ex-Officio:

Katie Steinhoff, Botanical Center coordinator; Peter Longley, Botanical Center horticultural interpreter.

Our Mission:

To inspire the discovery, understanding and appreciation of nature, by creating and maintaining the Springfield Botanical Gardens at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park and by supporting the mission of the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center and Park Board.



"You might not appreciate what a hard worker he is because he always looks like he is having too much fun. He has a special talent for teaching, mentoring and creating memorable experiences, whether it be a prairie tour for students or coordinating the Americana concerts in the garden setting."

- Katie Steinhoff

Ric Mayer retired as an arborist after 17 years with the Springfield/Greene County Park Board, where he supervised many of the plantings that created the Ozarks Greenways, now a model for other communities who want to serve runners, walkers and the bike-riding community.

Then came the Joplin tornado on May 22, 2011, a brutal twister that made history.

In March 2012, The Missouri Department of Conservation named Ric Mayer to be the Community Forestry Recovery Coordinator for Joplin. Working out of the Joplin Parks and Recreation Office, his task was daunting.

"It (was) the first time anyone, anywhere has done this and we had all the right pieces in place to do this," explained Nick Kuhn, MDC Community Forestry Coordinator.

In 2011, Jeanie Mayer, an outdoor skills specialist coordinating hunter education efforts in eight counties in the Ozarks, was named the Missouri Department of Conservation 2011 Hunter/Bowhunter Education Staff Instructor of the Year. (She also teaches muzzle-loader, rifle, shotgun, Red Cross, CPR, first aid and wilderness first aid classes.)

When Jeanie learned three of her fellow instructors lost everything in the Joplin tornado, she and Ric donated one of their vehicles to an instructor and coordinated the donation of another vehicle from a neighbor, led efforts to help hunter education instructors affected.

After that ordeal, you might think Ric and Jeanie Mayer would have retired to their farm in rural Dade County. Not likely.

Ric organized yoga classes in the gardens. They have been stalwarts at the Missouri Prairie Foundation booth throughout the FOG Butterfly Festival.

Both of them volunteer at the Kickapoo Edge Prairie, a small but thriving vestige of the native prairies that used to cover much of the region.

"Ric Mayer is the personification of positive energy," says Katie Steinhoff, coordinator of the Springfield Botanical Gardens. "His joy in connecting with nature and sharing nature with others is uncontainable. You might not appreciate what a hard worker he is because he always looks like he is having too much fun. He has a special talent for teaching, mentoring and creating memorable experiences, whether it be a prairie tour for students or coordinating the Americana concerts in the garden setting."

The Americana in the Gardens Concerts were an effort to raise funds to pave a pathway through the Kickapoo Edge Garden to accommodate those with small children, disabilities and limited mobility.

Stay tuned, and next year when the concert series rolls around, don't miss it.

-George Freeman

Garden Notes from your friends

Highlights from recent board action:

Here is a collection of brief comments heard at the most recent board meeting on Nov. 11, 2015.

Tom Finnie announced the new slate of officers for 2016, as follows:

- Tom Finnie, President
- Kim Chaffin, Vice-President
- Barbara Lucks, Secretary
- Christy Yoakum, Treasurer
- The proposed slate for members to serve on the advisory board with terms expiring in 2018 was accepted as follows: Chris Barnhart, Carla Beezley, Bob Childress, Jeanne Duffey and Bill Roston. Pat Ware and Betty Coe Manuel have resigned from the FOG Board and Jacklyn Skaggs from the Advisory Board. Don Snyder was approved as member of the Executive Board.
- The shrub garden needs one or more volunteers to maintain and further develop the plants that often serve as specimens for visitors looking for the right cultivars to plant in their own yards.
 - A Thanksgiving letter is almost ready, which will include
- a copy of the FOG history (see cover below) written by Louise Knauer with photos and design by Aaron Scott. Any remaining expenses will be funded by a generous donor.
- The board agreed to join the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce.
- Members were invited to reserve Thursday, Jan. 14, 2016 for the annual meeting, beginning at 5 p.m.
- Volunteers are needed for the Lawn & Garden Show all three days, Friday through Sunday, Feb. 26-28, 2016, in the E-Plex at the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds.
- "Four Fridays with Peter (Longley) and Winter Fridays with Peter are on the calendar. These free events follow the botanical drawing classes this fall. For details, please call 417-891-1515.
- The new succulent garden on the south side of the Botanical Center will likely be expanded next spring, pending an evaluation of the current plantings through the winter.
- Spring flowering bulbs are still being planted in a variety of gardens, especially in locations around the Botanical Center.

From the president:

The gift that keeps on giving

The countdown to the giving season is well underway and, if you're like me, there are a handful of people who seem impossible to shop for and who don't really need more "stuff."

May I suggest a gift that doesn't take up space and that continues to gives all year long? With a Friends of the Garden membership, your giftee can...

- Relax and unwind while strolling in the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden at any time all season long*.
- Enjoy over 270 public gardens across America at free or reduced admission.
- Explore the Ozarks by diving into each issue of the popular *Ozarks Living* magazine delivered directly to their mail box every other month.

Even if someone lives outside of the Springfield area, they can certainly take advantage of visiting other botanic gardens and they can enjoy the articles, tips, and helpful information found cover to cover in *Ozarks Living*.



Lisa Bakerink

May I also suggest that a membership is actually a gift that gives twice? In addition to the great benefits listed, your investment in Friends of the Garden supports our volunteers and

partners in maintaining and enhancing the Springfield Botanical Gardens which are visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors each year. Tribute and memorial gifts such as engraved bricks or benches and markers for gifts of trees and shrubs also make a great gift idea.

Everyone needs a garden! Gardens cross all boundaries of race, religion, age, ability, and social status. Gardens are a place where we can all connect and have our spirits lifted. They provide for those who need care and the caregiver alike.

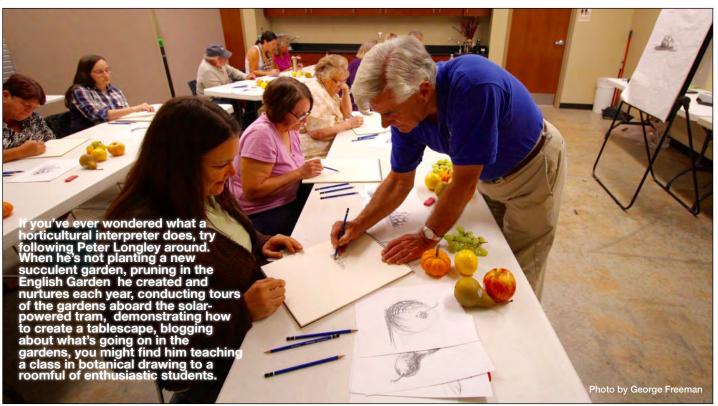
One more suggestion as I draw this to a close. Stretching your giving budget is always a great thing and for a limited time,

Friends of the Garden is offering a family membership valued at \$50.00 for that of an individual price of \$35.00, a savings of \$15.00 on each membership you purchase! In essence, if you buy three family memberships, the third membership is just \$5.

This special offer ends on Dec. 24, 2015 at Noon. Contact our office directly by calling the Botanical Center at 417-891-1515 and selecting option 8.

On behalf of Friends of the Garden, we wish you the best this season has to offer and we hope you take time to enjoy a walk in the park with your family and friends.

Lisa Bakerink is the new executive director of Friends of the Garden. Reach her by e-mail, Info@FriendsoftheGarden.org, or at 417-874-2952. You can also follow her on Facebook at Friends of the Garden or on Twitter @Friends_Garden.



Newsletter produced by FOG member George Freeman, editor of Ozarks Living Magazine and OzarksLiving.com.

Join Friends of the Garden!

We are a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide outstanding botanical, horticultural, environmental and educational opportunities for people of all ages. These activities are made possible by your membership and donations. You are a valued member of our volunteer team.



Your Membership Benefits begin the day we receive your form.

- Subscription to Ozarks Living Magazine which includes the Friends of the Garden Newsletter
- Complimentary admission to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden (excluding the Fall Festival)
- Discounts at the Botanical Center gift shop and select local businesses
- · Free or reduced admission to hundreds of public gardens across America
- Invitations to special gardening events

I would like to volunteer:

- in the gardens at the park
- in the Friends of the Garden office
- in the Botanical Center
- at events: Friends of the Garden booth
- at events: activities
- at children's activities
- as a Butterfly House docent
- in marketing/development
- in hardscaping/construction
- at whatever you need!
- I have a special talent for

Thou	inhts/(Tuestions

Sign me up as a Friends of the Garden member!

I choose this Annual Membership Level:
S35Individual
☐ \$45Individual plus one person & guest
S50Family (three or more)
□ \$100Garden Friend (includes option to give one additional gift membership)
\$250Garden Contributor (includes option to give three additional gift memberships)
□ \$500Garden Ambassador (includes option to give six additional gift memberships)
I choose this Corporate Sponsorship: (includes gift memberships for clients and/or employees)
S500Red Admiral
☐ \$1,000Tawny Emperor
S2,500Regal Fritillary
SS 000 Monarch

☐ Additional Donation

Address		
City	State	Zip
E-mail	Phone	
Gift Recipient	Give membership as a	gq.
FeeWeddingBirthd	layHolidayAnniversaryGift Renewal	In honor ofOther
FishWeddingBirthd	JayHolidayAnniversaryGift Renewal	In honor ofOther Zip



Ho³, Santa harkens to brunch, photos at Botanical Gardens

In recent years, the Springfield Botanical Gardens has become one of Santa Claus's favorite places to stop.

Curiously, his schedule has not permitted him to break bread (or biscuits or even a sticky bun) to the chagrin of his fans, many of them the youngest among us. Mind you, it isn't as if the Jolly Old Elf lacked an appetite, but milk and cookies along the way can be quite filling.

All about to change, for we have it on the best possible authority that the cherubic little fellow who has appeared as both Father Christmas and in his more traditional red garb, will have an Ozarks breakfast with us. And have his photograph made with each good little girl and boy on a tree ornament or some such. Cost will be a reasonable \$10 for adults and \$5 for those 12 and under. (Well, if "harrumph" is your reaction, obviously you haven't priced non-GMO reindeer fodder lately.

Santa has even arranged for the Springfield/Greene County Parks Concessions and Catering Department to organize not one but two "brunches" for all the little children of whom there are said to be so many that just counting them is a year-round job, especially since they must be sorted into such outdated and untested legal concepts as who has been naughty and nice.

"To solve this problem," says Katie Steinhoff, "we do want people to register for either the 10 a.m. breakfast or the 11:30 a.m. breakfast. This will let us feed people in shifts. It will be a typical Ozarks breakfast buffet with fruit, pancakes, eggs, sausage."

All this means you are invited to help us welcome the Rotund One whose reindeer



train year-round just so they can pull both Santa and his sleigh full of goodies.

Speaking of trains, the annual Christmas model train display has been installed in the Atrium by members of the Ozark Garden Railway Society should be running full tilt amid a display of poinsettias from Steinert's Greenhouse &

New and renewing* members, memorials, tributes, garden donations *If you see an error, omission or correction, please bring it to our attention at Info@FriendsoftheGarden.org

Memberships

Allen, Teresa* Baskins, Donald & Tamara* Bennitt, Patsy' Blackshear, Eva & Robert* Brannock, William* Burdett, Linda* Clark, Charles & Connie* Crum, Jamea S. Dixon, Rose* Ervin, Patricia Flammini, Diane* Giedd, Joanne* Glass, H.F. (Topper)* Greenfield, Alice* Kelly, Linda* Kulhanek, James* Lamberghini-West, Alicia* Mallamo, Nancy* McCoy, Cathy McHaffie, James* Moore, Gaylord & Beverly* Moore, Patti & Bruce* Odom, Minuen' Orchard, Jessamyn, James & Jene Owens, Marilyn* Owens, Peggy & James* Owens, Rebecca* Patterson, John & Lawver, Rhonda* Peele, John* Peterson, Juana* Pruitt, Donna* Ramsey, Anne Robertson, Paul* Robling, Kenneth & Katy Rozier, James & Susan Sachs, Bill* Schwab, Jane* Sewell, Jo Smith, Larry & Trisha*

Steinhoff, Debby Stiles, Francis & Barbara* Taylor, Nadine* Tilley, Josette & Mike* Trippe, Vicky Utley, Rose Van Horn, Patricia* Vann. James Lee White, Tim & Bonnie White, Tuell & Marilyn* Wilson, Penny* Witherspoon, JoAnne*

Garden Friend

Bechle, Jane* Brown, Barbara M* Long, Walt & Bev* Ruzicka, Judith Garden Contributor Carter, Dr. Elaine* Coverdell, Ron & Elizabeth*

Gift Membership Bakerink, Sarah E. Bell, Debbie & Kenneth Black, Maggie* Brown, Steve Budd, Dennis & Skinner, Sandra Byers, Patrick* Cardwell, Dan & Susan* Childress, Robert & Jan* Claxton, James & Nancy* Crabb, Robin & Jack* Deatz, George & Linda* Fleeman, Sue Ellen Harp, Brittany Harp, Cathy Helm, Therese Holloway, Avis & Wallace* Johnston, Tracy Kubera, Jill & Eric Lair, George & Rebecca*

Madenwald, Margaux & Brayt* McClain, Ryan Scadder, Ryan Schwartzkopf, Carol* Scott, Aaron J.* Sharpe, Sheila Thomas, Andv Thomas, Eloise Wood, Autumn

Yoakum, Jerry & Christy*

Anniversary Celebration

Arrowood, Cindy & Max Bakerink, Lisa & Randy Barber, Brenda Barnhart, Chris & Debra Beezley, Carla & Robert Belote, Bob & Deana Bentley, Roseann & John Black, Maggie Cardwell, Dan & Susan Carlie, Michael Carney, Jon Chaffin, Kim Childress, Robert & Jan Chiles, Mike & Mary Close, Major & Marthe Cochran, Steve Crabb, Robin & Jack Deatz, George & Linda Digirolamo, Mary Frances Finnie, Tom Freeman, George & Nancy Freyburgher, Kyle Garrott, Jay G. Garrott, Lynne Hall, Phillip & Barbara Harris, Carolyn Holloway, Avis & Wallace McGowan, Brent & Kelly

Melgren, Gail Menchetti, Joan E. Menchetti, Melinda Bothwell-Palmer, Brent Redfern, Jerry & Spencer Schied, Sally Schmidt, Don & Nancy Scott, Aaron J. Scott, Yuriko Mizumoto Simpkins, Wanda Snyder, Don Springfield-Greene County Parks Dept. St. Clair, Barbara & William Steinhoff, Katie Swackhamer, Pat **TLC Properties** Wright, Gail

Bricks, Benches & **Trees**

Courtney, Mary Deatz, George & Linda Grimm, Marjorie Helm, Dani Hillbilly Garden Club Holloway, Avis & Wallace Morris, Wade Schaffitzel. Pat Smith, Colleen M. Stewart, Dulcy Vaughan, Marty Williams, Beverly

Memorial Donations

Bowers, Judith DeWitt, Mike & Becky Ellis-Holdorf, Susan Knox, John & Janelle Long, June Needem, Verna Nicholson, Earl & Antoinette Sullard, Bill & Connie

Weaver, Paul & Denise Widhalm, Barbara Widhalm, Ruth Wilson, Edward & Linda

Restricted Garden Donations

Caldwell, Mariel Cardwell, Dan & Susan Deatz, George & Linda Home Pride Loughridge, Audrey

Speaker's Gift

Ever Green Garden Club Pink Dogwood Garden

Silent Auction Donors

Bekebrede, Matt Vino Cellars Riley, Tom Rebecca's Bird Houses Robin's Nest Stained Glass Stewart, Dulcy Arneson, Ruth Longley, Peter Corbin, Lynn, Berry & Branson Convention & Visitors Bureau Homestead Iron, Ava Fassnight Creek Farm Classic Rock Coffee Co. Mitchum Jewelers Springfield-Greene County Park Board MU Extension in Greene County Ozark Piecemakers Quilt Guild

Our expanding 'Library of Plants' still needs a 'Library of Books'

In the context of our Lois K. Boswell Memorial Botanical Reference Library inside the Botanical Center and the living collections that make up the Springfield Botanical Gardens, I conjure one of my favorite quotes by Baba Dioum

"In the end we will conserve only what we love; we will love only what we understand; and we will understand only what we are taught."

I hope that we are getting better at making a difference in your life by offering valuable services

and improving your quality

A Parks
Perspective:
Katie
Steinhoff

I hope you believe too that traditional libraries as well as our living library of plants store the energy that fuels your imagination. If you are considering different ways of supporting the gardens, I'd like to share a few books that I think will help inspire us as we develop the gardens and spaces for memorable experiences.

Friends of the Garden along with Parks staff are actively engaged in the creative process of the

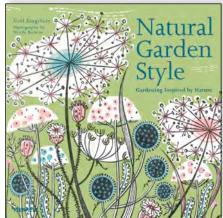
exciting contributions that will help us continue to grow, educate and invite people, who may never come to a botanical garden had they not been invited to a special event within our beautiful settings. The Inspired Landscape: Twenty-One Leading Landscape Architects Explore the Creative Process by Susan Cohen is a book that I think illustrates the art of functionality and beauty. As we develop the special event band shell within the Dogwood Garden, building attractions that will be functional and connect well with the other garden elements is very important.

steering the master plan. Donors have made some

One use for the above-mentioned band shell is to provide a covered venue for the Americana concert series. This monthly musical program was initiated by the volunteers who maintain the Kickapoo Edge Prairie and want to improve the accessibility and interest of the Prairie.

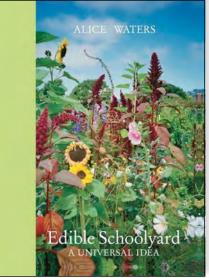
A reference guide for engaging more people to explore this area is *Natural Garden Style: Gardening Inspired by Nature* by Noel Kingsbury. If the concerts become successful, the plan is to pave a trail for strollers and wheelchairs to navigate this lively corner of the garden.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "adopt the pace of nature: her secret is patience." As we are anxious to expand the succulent garden that began in spring 2015 on the south side of the Botanical Center, we are purposefully being patient to see what plans will perform through the test of winter. A helpful









reference on our wish list is: Cacti and Succulents for Cold Climates: 274 Outstanding Species for Challenging Conditions by Leo J. Chance.

I love a good field trip that gives me the opportunity to show and tell about the peanuts Herb Batson grew at the Gray-Campbell Farmstead this past season. It is a wonder to see how disconnected many of our garden visitors are to the food they eat. A major element of the Future Sensory Garden will

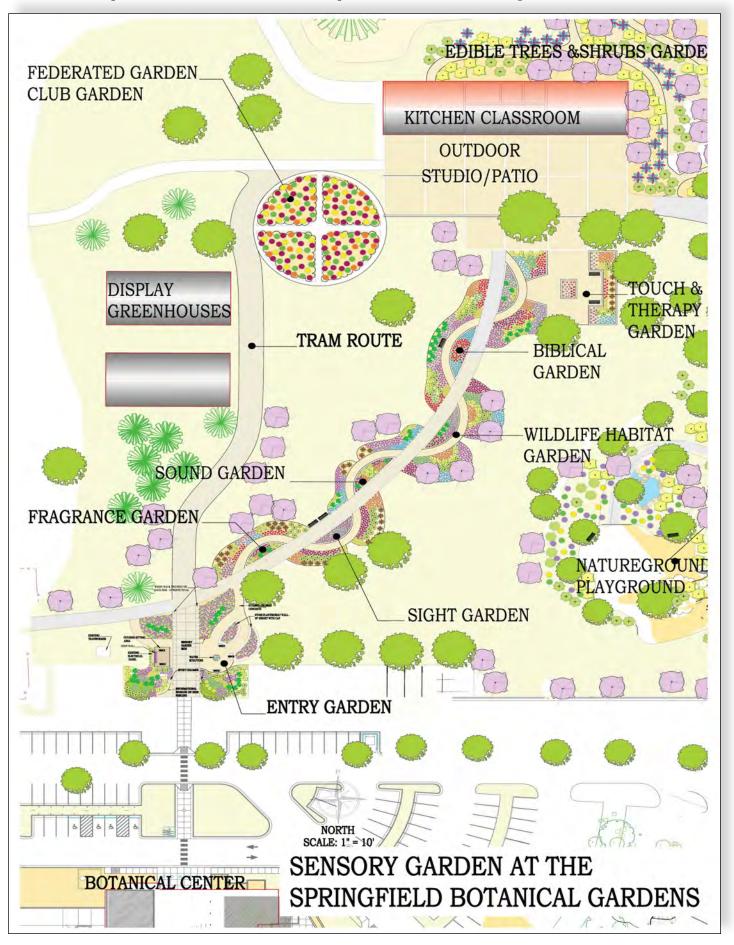
Four books Katie
Steinhoff hopes
someone might
donate to the Lois
K. Boswell
Memorial Botanical
Reference Library
inside the Botanical
Center.

be a place in the garden to see and interact with edible plants. *Edible Schoolyard: A Universal Idea* by Alice Waters would be a great reference for us.

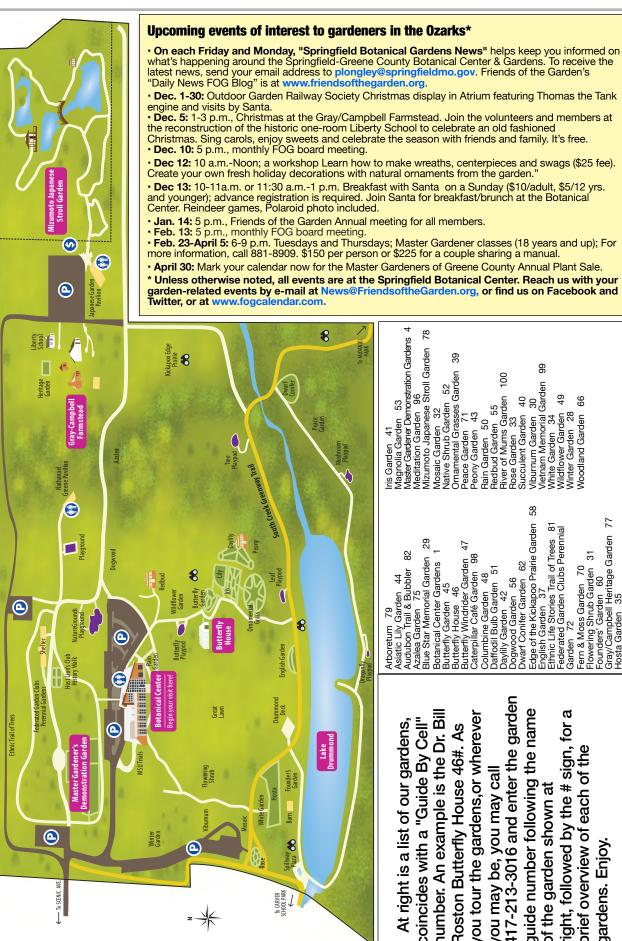
If you would like more information about our botanical reference library, would like to help with the titles above or have other books you would like to donate, please contact Katie Steinhoff at *ksteinhoff@springfieldmo.gov* or 417-891-1515.

Katie Steinhoff is coordinator of the Springfield Botanical Center at the Springfield Botanical Gardens, 2400 S. Scenic, Springfield, Mo., and an ex-officio board member of Friends of the Garden.

Landscape architect's conception for Sensory/Kitchen Garden



Take the right turn to get to enjoy the Springfield Botanical Gardens



"Daily News FOG Blog" is at www.friendsofthegarden.org. · Dec. 1-30: Outdoor Garden Railway Society Christmas display in Atrium featuring Thomas the Tank engine and visits by Santa.

• Dec. 5: 1-3 p.m., Christmas at the Gray/Campbell Farmstead. Join the volunteers and members at

the reconstruction of the historic one-room Liberty School to celebrate an old fashioned Christmas. Sing carols, enjoy sweets and celebrate the season with friends and family. It's free. • Dec. 10: 5 p.m., monthly FOG board meeting.

• Dec 12: 10 a.m.-Noon; a workshop Learn how to make wreaths, centerpieces and swags (\$25 fee). Create your own fresh holiday decorations with natural ornaments from the garden.

• Dec 13: 10-11a.m. or 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Breakfast with Santa on a Sunday (\$10/adult, \$5/12 yrs. and younger); advance registration is required. Join Santa for breakfast/brunch at the Botanical Center. Reindeer games, Polaroid photo included.

· April 30: Mark your calendar now for the Master Gardeners of Greene County Annual Plant Sale.

* Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Springfield Botanical Center. Reach us with your garden-related events by e-mail at News@FriendsoftheGarden.org, or find us on Facebook and

Asiatic Lily Garden 44 Audubon Trail & Bubbler 82 Azalea Garden 75 Blue Star Memorial Garden 2

Botanical Center Gardens 1 Butterfly Garden 45 Butterfly House 46 Butterfly Windrider Garden 4 Caterpillar Café Garden 98

number. An example is the Dr. Bil

Roston Butterfly House 46#. As

At right is a list of our gardens, coincides with a "Guide By Cell" 86

417-213-3016 and enter the garden

you may be, you may cal

you tour the gardens,or wherever

guide number following the name

right, followed by the # sign, for a

of the garden shown at

brief overview of each of the

gardens. Enjoy.

Magnolia Garden 53 Master Gardener Demonstration Gardens Meditation Garden 96 Meditation Garden 96 Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden 39 Mosaic Garden 32
Native Shrub Garden 52
Omamental Grasses Garden 3
Peace Garden 71
Peony Garden 43 66 Rain Garden 50
Redbud Garden 55
River of Mums Garden 100
Rose Garden 33
Succulent Garden 40
Viburnum Garden 30
Vietnam Memorial Garden 9
White Garden 34
Wildflower Garden 49
Winter Garden 28
Woodland Garden 66 100 28

Columbine Garden 48
Daffodil Bulb Garden 51
Daylily Garden 42
Dogwood Garden 56
Dwarf Conifer Garden 62
Edge of the Kickapoo Prairie Garden 5
English Garden 37
Ethnic Life Stories Trail of Trees 81
Federated Garden Clubs Perennial
Garden 72 77 Fern & Moss Garden 70 Flowering Shrub Garden 31 Founders' Garden 60 Gray/Campbell Heritage Garden 7 Hosta Garden 35