



Now three decades old, the venerable Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden is a living sanctuary in the Springfield Botanical Gardens for contemplation.

Although now closed for the season, the garden is the centerpiece for a "Peace Through People" relationship between Isesaki, Japan and Springfield.

Just as any garden is a "work in progress," so it is with the venerated Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden. Most recently, the garden received another round of extraordinary attention from the Isesaki Gardeners Association. Working with parks staff, a traditional bamboo fence was created to guide visitors through the Meditation Garden, a sea of contemplation created when crushed white stone and

character boulders are combined with sparse plantings meant to bring serenity to the soul.

The visiting gardeners also created an ornamental bamboo fence as a backdrop for a Japanese lantern on the stone pathway. One of the most enduring sanctuaries since Nathanael Greene Park was created, the delegation from Isesaki included city leaders and citizens. Traditional Japanese dancers performed, and each delegation exchanged gifts at an elaborate dinner.

Last year, Springfield celebrated the 30th anniversary of our Sister Cities relationship by planting a dogwood tree in a park setting in Isesaki.

In a ceremony on on Saturday, Oct. 28, the Isesaki gardeners reciprocated by planting a Japanese maple at the entrance to the Meditation Garden. The tree was donated by Myron Royce Gardens of Ozark after owner/landscaper Michael Fessenden heard about the event.

Among many conversations was the fate of an azumaya, a traditional summer pavilion erected between the Busch building and historic Springfield City Hall as a gift in 1996 from Isesaki.

Ben Kellner, park supervisor at the Springfield Botanical Gardens, says the azumaya will be carefully disassembled and relocated just outside the entrance to the stroll garden amid rolling berms and plantings.

VISIT FOG ONLINE CLICK HERE



Parks Perspective

Page 7: Botanical Coordinator Katie Keith offers a much-needed guide for visitors to the gardens.



Profile: Mike Lamkin

Page 2: A tireless problem solver at every event is urban arborist Mike Lampkin, a man of few words and much productivity.

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

About FOG

Vol. 12, No. 6, DECEMBER 2017/JANUARY 2018 2400 S. Scenic, Springfield, Mo. 65807

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: Kim Chaffin Vice-president: Gail Melgren Secretary: Becky Morgan Treasurer: Christy Yoakum

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Advisory Board: Chris Barnhart, Carla Beezley, Bob Childress, Jeanne Duffey, Christie Eden, Bill Roston

Ex-Officio and Staff: Lisa Bakerink, FOG Executive Director; Katie Keith, Botanical Center Coordinator; Alexandra Saner, FOG Associate Director.

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 will likely see Mike Lamkin at virtually every special event throughout year at the Springfield Botanical Gardens. The chances of your seeing him without his cowboy hat firmly in place are not easily calculated. It just doesn't happen.

At a recent dinner honoring a delegation of visitors from Isesaki, there was Mike, comfortably seated in his dress cowboy hat next to Ben Kellner, park supervisor at the Springfield Botanical Gardens.

A native of Springfield, Mike attended Ohio State University and graduated from MSU. Forestry Team Leader at the Springfield Botanical Gardens, where he supervises the arborists, mowing crews and gardeners for Park Operations.

"Mike's a certified arborist," says Ben, "but his title doesn't really do him justice."

He also holds certifications in pesticide application, playground inspection and urban forestry.

Along with Mike Mills and Jason Shaw, the crew constructed a wood and concrete bridge, a zig zag bridge to the island waterfall.

Soon he will be involved in relocating the "Azumaya" in Friendship Park between the Old Springfield City Hall and the Busch Municipal building.

In late October, Mike worked along side the visiting Japanese gardeners on a traditional bamboo fence in the meditation garden.

"Mike is a multi-talented guy," says Cindy Jobe, Executive Director of Springfield Sister Cities Association. "Yes,



he's a plant guy; yes, he's a landscape guy, but if we need something for one of our events, it's Mike or Ben we call first for anything."

He has been with the Park Board since 2006.

"Mike is great for coming up with a solution for just about anything," says Katie Keith, Botanical Center Coordinator. "The Botanical Center counts on him to help with everything from plumbing to electrical issues to staffing events, not to mention he is a good plantsman."

"Mike is a man of few words but much productivity," adds Lisa Bakerink, Executive Director of FOG. "He truly cares about the garden and does things with excellence. He takes great care in the details of his work and has great skills in landscaping and construction."

"Mike knows what works and what doesn't work – a wisdom that comes with experience and hard work," says Miles Park, Assistant Director of Parks. He is a solid asset to the Park Board as he serves our community in doing his part to make Springfield a better place to live."

Farden Votes from your friends



Christmas at Gray-Campbell Farmstead

Join volunteers at the Gray-Campbell Farmstead from 1-3 p.m. Dec. 2 to celebrate an genuine old-fashioned Christmas,

with carols and sweets and fellowship while you admire the new pavilion. Join in the singing and fellowship and learn how our Ozarks ancestors lived and celebrated.

Create your own wreaths and centerpieces

If you've dreamed of creating your creating your own wreath or centerpiece for the holidays with fresh greenery and dried natural ornaments from the gardens, Katie Keith will help you learn the craft from Noon-2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10.

Class size is limited to 12 persons, so registration and a \$25 fee is required to cover the cost of materials.

Participants must be at least 12 years old.

'School's Out' Gift and Decoration making

See what you can create from dried natural material from the gardens from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 22. All ages are invited to choose from dried flowers, cones and pods to make ornaments, table decorations, wall hangings and more. Paints, ribbons and accessories will be provided for the \$5 fee.

Angela Keith, left,

and Shelly Key,

put the finishing

Christmas tree in

touches of a

magnificent

the atrium.

Cookbook Committee seeks nominations

A committee made up from the Federated Garden Club is at work on a cookbook. Deadline is Dec. 31 for recipes, with publication by Feb. 1. Joan Bowen, chairing the committee, hopes for 300 recipes in eight categories: Appetizers and Beverages, Soups and Salads, Vegetable and Side Dishes, Main Dishes, Breads and Rolls, Desserts, Cookies and Candy and This and That. The committee consists of Debi Hunget, Jan Hayden, Pat Swackhammer, Angela Keith and MaryFran Di Girolamo.

From the President:

All decked out and growing to please

There are many ways to measure how far we've progressed during the past 12 months, and not all of them involve walking in the park that is Springfield Botanical Gardens.

Inside the atrium, we're decked out for the holidays with a tree (at left below), countless poinsettias and the annual model train display by members of the Ozark Garden Railway Society.

Katie Keith and David Middleton have been working their magic with an \$8,000 grant from the Missouri Department of Conservation.

A portion of the funds have been spent on character boulders, mulch, shrubs and perennials. The goal is to attract more songbirds and pollinators, while discouraging the Canada Geese. If you haven't walked along Lake Drummond lately, try to fit that into your stroll.

We've made some exciting progress that will soon be visible as we roll out a new software



Kim Chaffin

program to enhance communication with our members.

We are also organizing for an exciting campaign that will bring in funds for garden maintenance and enhancement, more uniform signage and new community partnerships. It looks like 2018 will be a very exciting year. Please mark your calendar for the annual meeting on Thursday, Jan. 11, and expect some important announcements.

Despite our first hard frost, please don't think all the beauty of the gardens is dormant for the season. In the Winter Garden, for example, colors abound from berries and colorful plant features you might not notice during the warm seasons.

We have something new to bring you details about the gardens. At **SGFBot.org**, you can now access specific information on individual gardens from anywhere you have

Internet access, on your smart phone, tablet or your home computer. There are beautiful photos by Aaron Scott and print and audio narratives describing each garden.

Even if you are a seasoned observer, we welcome your feedback as this new feature continues to grow. Special thanks to Pamela Montanez, the web designer at the Springfield/Greene County Parks. This new tour replaces the old Guide-by-Cell technology.

Unless you visit the Springfield Botanical Gardens regularly (and we hope you do), you might have missed any number of improvements. Most recently, a delegation of gardeners from the Isesaki Gardeners Association arrived Oct. 25 along with city council members and citizens. The highlight of the Sister Cities events was the ceremonial planting of a beautiful Japanese maple tree adjacent to the entrance to the meditation garden. Upon reading about the visit, Royce Gardens stepped in to donate a beautiful specimen, and we thank them for joining us to celebrate 31 years of our relationship of "peace through people" with Isesaki, Japan.

The gardeners crafted a traditional bamboo fence in the meditation garden, and shared their techniques with our parks staff.

Kim Chaffin is President of Friends of the Garden. Reach her by e-mail at Info@FriendsoftheGarden.org, and follow us on Facebook at Friends of the Garden, on Instagram@Springfield Botanical Gardens, or on Twitter @Friends_Garden.

Feedback:

Employee volunteers from Expedia lend a huge helping hand

To Expedia employee volunteers: We just wanted to say thank you to all the volunteers that made it possible to host the volunteer group from Expedia.

I am always humbled by your willingness to give to the Springfield Botanical Gardens. We as a park and gardens would not be successful without each of your talents and the gift of time you continually offer to make the Springfield Botanical Gardens a testament of what a community can achieve.

Thank you for all that you did in leading and working on projects that greatly benefited our gardens. I am not sure you may realize how successful your efforts were despite the warm temperatures.

- Moving and spreading 9 tons of pea gravel along the pathways of the formal gardens (Iris, Daylily, and Annual displays).
- Mulching all but one of the daylily beds with 16 yards of mulch.



- Cutting back the remaining 2/3 of the peonies and organizing their cages.
- Moving and spreading 8 yards of path mulch in the audubon garden along with weeding out 2 heaping trailer loads of weeds and other debris.
- Shoveling out 1 ton of 2" gravel into erosion gullies in and around the Winter Garden to help aid in maintaining the edging stone.
- Painting the north end of the house at the Gray/Campbell Farmstead along with touch-ups to the schoolhouse, weed-

eating around the vegetable garden and general weeding/cleaning

• Removing old mulch and weeds from the common area and re-mulching the space, and pulling many weeds in the vegetable garden of the MG Demonstration Garden.

Many thanks to all that made this possible!

David Middleton, Staff Horticulturalist and Landscape Designer Springfield Botanical Gardens

New and renewing* members, memorials, tributes, garden donations

Membership Bailey, Chuck & Gail Melgren Bender, Harold & Lee Ann* Burton, David* Byers, Patrick & Michele* Byrd, Nancy H' Carney, Jon* Carson, George & Sherry* Chittenden, Kevin* Clark, Charles* Coverdell, Ron & Elizabeth* Crain, M. Elise* Cunningham, Elijah Daugherty, Susan*
Davenport-Kabonic, Katie
Dogwood Trail Garden Club* Doyle, Michele Elliott, Amanda Ervin, Patricia* Espelien, Jill Fearn, Joseph Flanagan, Tom & Judy* Fort. Patricia' Frazier, Sarah Funkhouser, Robin & Brenda* Glass, Topper* Gordon, Jacque Guffey, Sharon Hall, Barbara & Phillips* Hart, Bill & Debbie Haynes, Rick & Sherry*

Hillbilly Garden Club

ller, Anne & Steve*

Hoeman, Nancy & Michael' Holland, Chris

Hinck, Susan*

Inman, Michael Jenkins, Heather* Jenkins, Max & Peggy* Jimenez, Ann Johnson, Frank & Pamela* Kean, Naara Kelly, Linda* Kittle, Steve & Linda* Kristi Kittleson & Tom Cornett* Lamberghini-West, Alicia* Lejeune, Wendall & Grace* Mallamo, Nancy McCoy, Cathy* McHaffie, James* Mechlin, Norman & Morey* Miller, Debra* Monday, Patricia* Moore, Patti & Bruce* Morriset, Marcia* Owens, James* Owens, Marilyn* Pearson, Mary Peck, Leslie Peele, John* Pruitt, Donna* Raborar, Art & Josie* Riley, Carol* Rouse, Tom & Jeanette* Rutherford, Clara' Sachs, Bill* Shaw, Bob* Simpkins, Wanda* Singer, Harold* Skibiski, Jeanie & Kevin* Staub, Jonathan Stiles, Francis & Barbara*

Sutton, Alex
Sutton, Gabrielda
Throckmorton, John
Thurman, Dorothy*
Tilley, Josette & Mike*
Tirippe, Vicky*
Vermillion, Donna
Vermillion, Stephen
Vowels, Cheryl*
Weimer, Beth & Gary Fenton
Weston, Cheryl
White, Tuell & Marilyn*
Wilkey, Barbara
Wilkey, Keith
Wills, Cindy & Jeffery*
Wimberley, Kathy*

Garden Friend
Awbrey, Diane & David*
Bentley, Roseann & John*
Blake, Glenn*
Edwards, Gale & Becky*
Kinney, Dan*
Pepper, David & Pam
Shepherd of the Hills Garden
Club*
Simmons, Mike*
Steinhoff, Daniel & Michaeline*

Garden Contributor Boswell, Susan* Carter, Dr. Elaine*

Garden Ambassador Willson, Nida Tribute Brick Pavers Bowman, Jan Dogwood Trail Garden Club Earnhart, Jane Jenkins, Heather Newton, Tom & Kathleen

Tribute Shrubs/Trees Nyman, Charlene J Willson, Nida

Whitworth, Monica

Tribute Benches Handley, Cindy

Gift Membership Donors
Bailey, Chuck & Gail Melgren
Carter, Dr. Elaine
Davenport-Kabonic, Katie
Elliott, Amanda
Espelien, Jill
Inman, Emily Dake
Monday, Patricia
Riley, Carol
Sutton, Gabrielda
Vermillion, Donna
Wilkey, Keith

Gift Membership Recipients Cunningham, Elijah Doyle, Michele Gordon, Jacque Guffey, Sharon Holland, Chris Inman, Michael Jimenez, Ann Sutton, Alex Vermillion, Stephen Weimer, Beth & Gary Fenton Weston, Cheryl Wilkey, Barbara

General Donations/Gifts Redmon, Conchita Tilley, Josette & Mike

Restricted Donations/ Gifts Adams, Jodie Ambler, Marjorie & Hearld

Finnie, Majorie & Flearid Finnie, Allyson Springfield First Community Bank Steinberg, John & Katherine Trogolo, Candy

Memorial Donations for Claudette Millstead

Adams, Joanne Budde, Rex Luellen, Susan Mace, John Shay, Kathy Smyth, Jeanette Spies, Alicia Stock, Ryan The Fabulous Floozies Tiberend, Melissa







Tree planting renews three decades of Peace Through People

For many of us, to imagine a friendship that stretches half-way around a troubled world requires a leap of faith and courage born out of a desire to build bridges, not barriers, on a theme of "Peace Through People." It is not to be taken lightly.

Three decades later, the people of Isesaki, Japan and Springfield have labored

to build such a relationship. It is through the serenity of a sublime garden that the two cultures have come together.

Master gardeners from Isesaki have traveled time and again to share centuries of skill, most recently symbolized in the planting of one more tree in the name of peace. May it continue for a millennium.



Above, ceremonial shovels await plenty of use during the celebration of the planting of a Japanese Maple at the entrance to the Meditation Garden. Above left, creating a pattern in the crushed . stone surrounding a boulder. A year ago, a delegation from Springfield planted a native dogwood in a similar ceremony in Isesaki, marking the 30th anniversary of a friendship between the two cities.

Photos by George Freeman

Volunteers make the difference

You can become a part of an

amazing network of volunteers who develop and maintain the gardens.

Not a gardener? Tell us what you like to do and it's likely we can find a task for you to do it – maybe even at home.

Connect with friends and make new ones while you learn about plants, nature and our parks. Best of all, invite friends to join you and double the reward for all of you.

Some opportunities:

I want you to volunteer!

• Monday, Jan. 15: Noon; learn about park volunteer requirements and whether the gardens are a good fit for you!

Registration is required.

- Tuesday, Feb. 6: 10 a.m.; join us for "All About Gardens."
- Wednesday,
 March 14: 10 a.m.
 learn about being a
 docent in the
 Japanese Gardens.
 Wednesday, April 18:
- 5:30 p.m., and again Saturday, April 21: 9 a.m.; we'll be training docents to serve in the Bill Roston Butterfly House.





Above, Master Gardener volunteers selling donated plants in rain. At left, wash day at the Gray-Campbell Farmstead Pioneer Expo.

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

Friends OF THE GARDEN

Bringing People, Nature & Gardens Together

We are individuals, families and businesses who support Springfield Botanical Gardens in its mission to provide outstanding botanical, horticultural, environmental and educational opportunities for people of all ages. Anyone with an interest in nature who wishes to support the progress of the gardens is encouraged to join. As a member, you're a partner in the future of the gardens. As a volunteer nonprofit organization, we rely on membership and donations to make the gardens and FOG activities possible.

Join online at friendsofthegarden.org!



BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

(Individual plus quest)

Membership Benefits

- Subscription to Ozarks Living Magazine, which includes the FOG 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 American Horticultural Society member gardens across the country
- Invitations to special gardening events
- Volunteering and education opportunities
- Donations are fully tax deductible

I would like to volunteer:

in the gardens at the park

- in the gardens at the pa in the FOG office in the Botanical Center at events: FOG booth
- at events: activities
 at children's activities
- as a Butterfly House docent
 in marketing/development
 in hardscaping/construction
 tell me what you need!
- ☐ I have a special talent:

Membership Levels

- \$35—Individual
 \$45—Individual Plus
- \$50—Family
- \$100—Garden Friend
 (Includes the option to give one additional gift membership)
- \$250—Garden Contributor
- \$500—Garden Ambassador

Corporate Sponsorships

Individual gardens, features and attractions are available for corporate sponsorship. Please inquire at info@ friendsofthe garden.org for more information.

Member Information

YOUR NAME:	
Address:	
Сіту:	
STATE: ZI	P: ///
EMAIL:	
Phone:	
This membership is a gift: ☐ Wedding ☐ Birthday ☐ Holiday ☐ Gift Renewal	

□ In honor of: □ □ Other: □ O

RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE: ZIP:

EMAIL:

Please send form and mail check payable to: Friends of the Garden 2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield, MO 65807

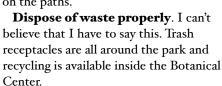
Questions? Call (417) 874-2952, email info@friendsofthegarden.org, or go to friendsofthegarden.org

'Leave No Trace Behind' requires consideration for the next generation

Especially after watching the feet of the Japanese Gardeners as they diligently worked on projects within the Meditation Garden, I have come to the conclusion that the best welcome or invitation to the gardens to new staff, volunteers, sponsors and visitors is not to, "make your mark on the world," and not to "create your own pathway" but rather, "leave no trace."

The Leave No Trace Center for Outdoor
Ethics was incorporated into the Summer
Family Adventure programming at Callaway Gardens 10 years ago, and I would like to share some of the principles you can set in your mind when visiting the Springfield Botanical Gardens at Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park:

Stay on durable surfaces. Please do not cut new trails or walk through planting areas. Don't even sit in flower beds or lay materials in landscapes as you might be crushing new plants that are trying to emerge from the soil. The waterfalls at the hosta garden and the Butterfly House entrance have suffered from people refusing to stay on the pathway. Remember, ticks carry Lyme disease; stay on the paths.



Confetti, silk flowers, anything really, if it says it decomposes or not, should never be thrown in the garden. Even if you intend on cleaning up after the party, we

find debris like this all the time in the water features, pathways and plantings.

As fun as it can be to find a painted rock at the park, that phenomenon has contributed to vandalism to our garden landscapes and accidents that harm other visitors.

We are not alone in the experience of feeling overwhelmed with "stuff" left behind. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has starting enforcing their administrative code that identifies taking, removing, destroying, defacing, tampering with rock, earth, gem, mineral, fossil, or other geological deposits an offense.

A lady in San Diego was banned from all national parks for pleading guilty to leaving painted rocks. While federal laws



might not be applicable in a city park, rules are made to help preserve the best of what we have.

Leave what you find. Do not touch or remove historic artifacts. While metal detecting is not against city ordinance, leaving holes or taking property off-site is illegal. Historic artifacts that support the Gray-Campbell Farmstead interpretation should be kept within the farmstead. Plant harvesting should be limited to the registered gardeners. Take a picture of plant signage and not the whole sign if you want to remember a plant name.

Respect wildlife and living plants. Observe wildlife from a distance. Never feed animals. Control your pets and keep them on a leash at the park.

Remember that botanical gardens are special places to see and protect trees. Consider that some of our trees are memorial trees or collected varieties that would be difficult to replace. We ask that you do not attach anything to trees, including hammocks. Hammock straps cause damage to the living tissue beneath the bark. This cambial layer may only be a few cells thick and hammock straps can damage the living tissue beneath the bark or strip the bark off. Damage to the tissue could result in the decline or ultimate death of the tree, especially for hammocks that are set up daily.

Remember it is not just your park, thousands of people are touching the same trees.

Be considerate of other visitors. Yield to other users on the trail. Pay attention to your surroundings. Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices or noises.

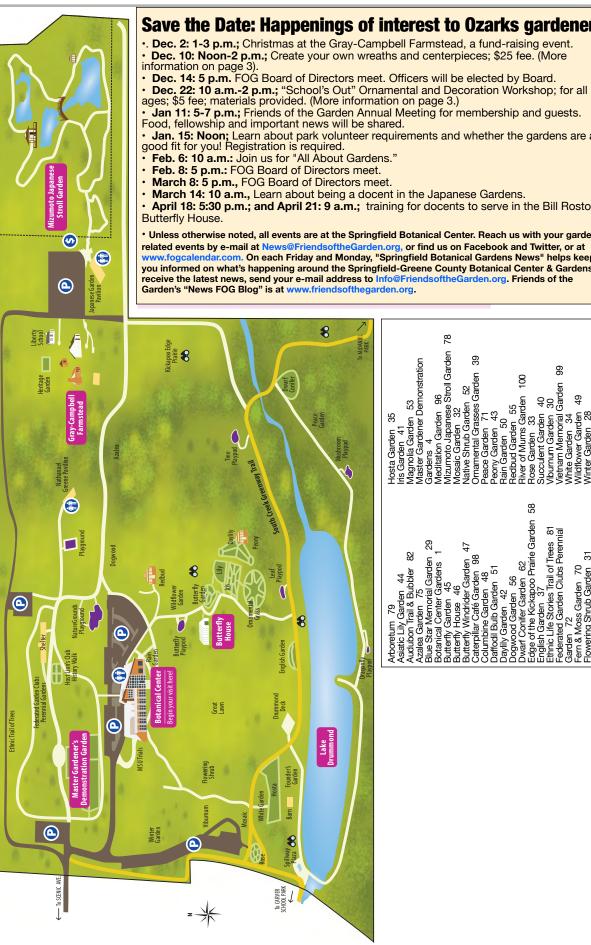
How you use the gardens plays into the sustainability of the gardens. Please be mindful of the policies and ordinances that we have at the Botanical Gardens. Come to the gardens in a "leave no trace behind" state of mind. Confetti and painted rocks might seem small, but they contribute to the mounting pollution. After all, we should all aspire to pay the garden we love forward for the next generation.

Katie Keith 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. Contact her at KKeith@SpringfieldMo.gov or 417-891-1515, Ext. 3.





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



Save the Date: Happenings of interest to Ozarks gardeners*

- Dec. 2: 1-3 p.m.; Christmas at the Gray-Campbell Farmstead, a fund-raising event.
- Dec. 10: Noon-2 p.m.; Create your own wreaths and centerpieces; \$25 fee. (More
- Dec. 14: 5 p.m. FOG Board of Directors meet. Officers will be elected by Board.

- Jan. 15: Noon; Learn about park volunteer requirements and whether the gardens are a good fit for you! Registration is required.

- March 14: 10 a.m., Learn about being a docent in the Japanese Gardens.
- April 18: 5:30 p.m.; and April 21: 9 a.m.; training for docents to serve in the Bill Roston
- Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Springfield Botanical Center. Reach us with your gardenrelated events by e-mail at News@FriendsoftheGarden.org, or find us on Facebook and Twitter, or at www.fogcalendar.com. On each Friday and Monday, "Springfield Botanical Gardens News" helps keep you informed on what's happening around the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center & Gardens. To receive the latest news, send your e-mail address to Info@FriendsoftheGarden.org. Friends of the Garden's "News FOG Blog" is at www.friendsofthegarden.org.

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