

# The Bimonthly Journal of the Friends of the Garden

VOL. 13, NO. 5

REACH US AT 417-891-1515

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2018

## Fall at the gardens is festival time



Karin Amano, a Japanese storyteller, will perform her highly animated art form all three days of the Japanese Fall Festival.

### Celebrating our Ozarks pioneers and friends from Isesaki takes center stage in September

There's always something new to add to the enjoyment of the Japanese Fall Festival in the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden.

This year it includes the long-awaited widening and upgrade of the north access road (details in box at right) that links the entrance to the Springfield Botanical Gardens to the parking lot between the Ozark's three-decades old serene garden sanctuary and the Gray-Campbell Farmstead, site of the Pioneer Expo set for Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 15-16.

A week earlier, the Springfield Sister Cities Association, Friends of the Garden, the Springfield Regional Arts Council Springfield-Greene County Park Board and the City of Springfield present the 23rd annual Japanese Fall Festival.

Admission for adults is \$7 Friday and Sunday, \$10 on Saturday; kids 12 and under are \$3 each day; toddlers 3 and under enter free.

Groups planning to attend should contact Cindy Jobe at least 10 days prior to the event. Cindy can be reached by e-mail at [CJobe@SpringfieldMo.gov](mailto:CJobe@SpringfieldMo.gov).

Besides the cultural fun and visiting guests from Isesaki, Japan, the event is the fund-raiser for the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, which celebrates our relationship with Sister Cities partners in Japan and Tlaquepaque, Mexico.

Friends of the Garden is an enthusiastic supporter of cultural events with both cities.

Please see page 4 of this newsletter >

### Paths and a road to progress

Access to the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden and the Gray-Campbell Farmstead just got a lot easier for visitors familiar with the narrow paved north road running along the park's northern edge of the Springfield Botanical Gardens. The road has been rebuilt to accommodate two-way traffic and improve drainage. Blevins Asphalt Construction Co., Inc. is the contractor.

A separate project is taking place outside the entrance to the park: a [shared pedestrian/bicycle path along Scenic Avenue](#), from Battlefield Road to the gardens. Details are online.

Later this year, long-awaited work will begin to replace the aging path from the entrance to the garden to the ceremonial tea house.

**VISIT FOG  
ONLINE  
CLICK HERE**



### Profile: Kaila Harden

**Page 2:** Along with her 3-year old son, Preston, and younger sister, Holly, the Hardens have taken on the Mosaic Garden as volunteer adopters.



### Climate Chaos

**Page 6:** Katie Keith shares your frustration when plants suffer from weather and other fungal threats.

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



# AboutFOG

Vol. 13, No. 5

AUG/SEPT 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 Spring Botanical Garden at Nathanael Greene/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](http://www.FriendsoftheGarden.org).

## Officers:

President: Kim Chaffin  
Vice-president: Becky Morgan  
Secretary: Morey Mechlin  
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**Honorary Lifetime Member:** Marthe Close

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

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



Photos by  
William Aldrich

## Profile: Kaila Harden (and Preston)



Kaila Harden and her son, Preston, 3, enjoy one of the resting benches near the Mosaic Garden. She's passing along the importance of nature and the outdoors by volunteering as an adopter. Above is a close of a mosaic created by Christine Schilling.

Preston Harden is pretty darn cute all by himself, but when he comes to the Springfield Botanical Gardens with his mother, Kaila, you can bet he's decked out in his "garden work shirt."

Kaila Harden signed up to volunteer at the gardens this spring and when Katie Keith, Parks' Botanical Center coordinator, told her the Mosaic Garden needed an adopter, Kaila agreed.

"I really like the outdoors and nature and I think it is important to teach my son as well," Harden said. Is Preston, 3, picking up on mom's interest? "Not at all," Kaila responds in jest. "I'm hoping it will be easier when he is older."

Kaila received a green Volunteer T-shirt to wear when working at the garden and it gave her an idea. "A friend of ours has a printing company in Strafford," she said. "I took pictures of the logos and sent them to her, she copied them and put them on the smallest T-shirt she had. It's way too big on Preston but he'll grow into it. He loves it."

The Mosaic Garden is one of the entry points to the Botanical Gardens in Nathanael Greene/Close Memorial Park. It is at the southernmost end of the long parking lot along the western edge of the park. "I really liked it because of the mosaic, it's so pretty," Harden said. The artwork is a 20-foot diameter circular concrete patio containing a tapestry of glass, tile and marbles. It was created by

Springfield artist Christine K. Schilling and was the gift of the late Ruth Kelley, who was a friend of park namesakes Major and Marthe Close.

The Closes visit the park most days, sometimes to drive through, sometimes to stroll through the Mosaic Garden to the Hosta Garden. Not surprisingly, they have crossed paths with the Hardens, who now know the history and origin of the artwork and the Closes' friendship with the donor. Also not surprisingly, Marthe Close has been impressed with Harden's enthusiasm for the garden.

When Harden comes to the garden, she knows she won't get much done if she keeps one eye on a 3-year-old at all times. So she often recruits sister Holly Friend to come along, sometimes to watch Preston at the playground, but usually Preston plays around the Mosaic while Holly helps in the garden. "Holly is my right-hand man," Kaila says. "She is two years younger and we have been thick as thieves since we were young."

At home, Kaila has grown vegetables and raised ducks and chickens. Currently, the Hardens have 14 chickens. "They're Preston's chickens," Kaila jokes. "He gets eggs everyday, it's part of his chores." Seems like he is picking up his mother's interest in the great outdoors just fine.

William Aldrich is FOG's Garden Volunteer Liaison. He profiles noteworthy volunteers as a regular feature. Reach him at [Info@FriendsoftheGarden.org](mailto:Info@FriendsoftheGarden.org).



## 'Learn to Grow in the Garden' classes continue into fall

Any gardener with his or her Epsom Salt (magnesium sulfate) will tell you that gardening is a lifelong process of learning. No one is exempt; there is always something to learn, relearn or unlearn.

That's why the continuing series, "Learn to Grow in the Garden" is suitable for wannabes, novices and those with many growing seasons under their fingernails.

Three sessions remain in the series, and you can be sure that the Master Gardeners are already planning for the next round of sessions, which includes Potting Shed University in the spring.

All of the sessions run from 6-7 p.m. on Mondays in the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic, Springfield.

Instructors are either professionals or advanced presenters with best practices to share. More information is at 417-891-1515. Cost is \$5 per person per class, payable at the door. Registration for each session starts at 5:30 p.m., 30 minutes before each class.

Here's the remaining class schedule:

• **Aug. 13: Learn about Crepe Myrtles with Becky Nicholas**, Garden Center and Landscape Designer from Wickman's Garden Village. Becky will share information about the types and care of these lovely hot-weather bloomers.

• **Sept. 10: Twilight Gardens with Katie Keith**, Botanical Center coordinator. Learn about the most fragrant and vibrant plants at sunrise and sunset, garden accessories and building materials that will help you maximize the use of your great outdoor room.

• **Oct. 8: Creating A Garden Sanctuary** with Master Gardener Tom Lakowske, president of the Greater Ozarks Hosta Society. Tom will share ideas and inspirations for your garden, building better paths, rooms, beds, and borders as well as tricks to make your garden appear larger, six gazebo tips, and how to add finishing touches.

The Master Gardener program is a statewide volunteer community service organization administered through University of Missouri Extension. Learn more online at [MGGreene.org](http://MGGreene.org) or contact the MU Extension Center in Greene County at 417-881-8909. And if you're serious about becoming a lifelong dedicated gardener who cares about learning and sharing knowledge, consider enrolling in classes to become a Master Gardener this winter.

## From the President:

### Why we need your membership

Calling all members, and that includes the forgetful among us who have let their memberships lapse. We certainly understand, but we need you, your family, and your friends, neighbors and business associates to just our great cause.

If you are reading this, chances are you have already become one of "us"... a member of Friends of the Garden. If so, thank you! If you've stopped receiving our newsletter, renew your membership online or by mail, or stop by.

Your membership brings much needed support for the many, many projects at our the Springfield Botanical Gardens. It's pretty simple – without the funds provided by our membership, our gardens could not thrive.

You may have noticed, the Garden is buzzing with activity. We have a lot going on. Just a few examples:

- There was record-breaking attendance at last month's Butterfly Festival;
- The 2018 concert series at the Peace through People Pavilion returns for four weeks in October (becoming *the* thing to do on a Sunday afternoon);
- New wider pathways have been installed in the English and Federated gardens, allowing more access for our visitors;
- A new Grape Demonstration Garden has been planted at the Gray-Campbell Farmstead at Nathanael Greene Park, teaching visitors about the Missouri root stock which saved the French wine industry – and the list goes on. As you can tell, this place is constantly changing and growing to become an even more vital part of our community.

How does your membership fit in? Membership dues, which start at just \$35 annually for an individual, help us provide everything from supplies for a child's butterfly craft to fliers promoting the latest festival. Your dues might help purchase a much-needed shovel for our volunteers, or perhaps signage that identifies what precise Iris varietal you are admiring.

How does your membership fit in? Dues helps provide everything from craft supplies for a child's butterfly wings to flyers promoting the latest festival. Your dues help purchase a much needed shovel, or signage that identifies what precise Iris varietal you are admiring. The dollars provided through our membership are the life line of our projects, ideas and growth.

A Friends of the Garden membership is even more rewarding when you consider your benefits of membership. As a member you receive a subscription to Ozarks Living Magazine, which includes this newsletter (also available online), complimentary admission into the Japanese Stroll Garden discounts at the Botanical Center gift shop, free or reduced admission into 300 accredited public gardens throughout the U.S., and invitations to special garden events.

The Board of Directors of Friends of the Garden identified increased membership as one of our goals for 2018. You can help us accomplish that goal? We need you to help us spread the word about Friends of the Garden and how your friends and family can be a part of this extraordinary place.

Kim Chaffin is president of Friends of the Garden. Reach her by e-mail at [Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org](mailto:Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org), follow us on Facebook at Friends of the Garden, on [Instagram@SGFBot](https://www.instagram.com/SGFBot), or on [Twitter@SGFBot](https://twitter.com/SGFBot).



Kim Chaffin





The young descendants of our pioneer ancestors compete in sack races on the lawn of one-room Liberty School, reconstructed and furnished by the Gray-Campbell Farmstead Association.

Photos by George Freeman

## Two fall festivals celebrate cultural friendships and Ozarks

Continued from front page

The very next weekend the Gray-Campbell Farmstead Association celebrates the rustic lifestyle our forebears brought to the Ozarks, even as Civil War battles were being fought at what is now Wilson's Creek National Battlefield. Nearby is the Kickapoo Edge Prairie Garden, restored to its native habitat. Volunteer re-enactors in costume will be cooking over the hearth and open campfire, baking popcorn, cookies and apple butter.

On Sunday, the day opens with outdoor services under the new pavilion completed last year, with music, hymns, and a resumption of the activities ranging from rope-making to sack races on the lawn outside the one-room Liberty School.

### Japanese Festival events

The Japanese Fall Festival will begin at 5 p.m. Friday, Sept. 7, with opening ceremonies and featured performers, following by an evening stroll at dusk featuring hundreds of torches and candles.

Returning to tell her tales is Karin Amano, a Japanese storyteller and the popular St. Louis drum troupe, Osuwa Taiko. Each will each perform all three days. A schedule of events is available at [PeaceThroughPeople.org](http://PeaceThroughPeople.org), the Springfield Sister Cities Association web site. A printed schedule will be available at the festival.

The cultural tent will again offer T-shirts and souvenirs. The food court will be offering Asian-style cuisine all three days. Proceeds benefit the SSCA's "Peace



Lydia, left and her friend, Lizzie, picked a shady place to play checkers during the 2017 Pinoneer Expo. No batteries, computers or downloadable apps are required to play.

Through People" programs as well as improvements to the stroll garden.

The stroll garden is one of the oldest in Nathanael Greene Park (now three decades old, and joined seamlessly with Close Memorial Gardens, together known as the Springfield Botanical Gardens).

Friends of the Garden volunteers will be on hand to greet visitors at the gate. If you would like to volunteer for this event, call FOG at 417-874-2952, or SSCA at 417-864-1191.

This year's festival features the traditional Japanese *Minbuza Dance Troupe* with the Japanese Performing Company from New York.

Also performing will be local bands The Creek Rocks, The Shandies and Uke 66. A traditional Japanese Tea Cafe and tea ceremonies will again be offered. Several concession vendors will be serving Japanese-style food and beverages.

Other performers include a familiar visitor, Hiroshi Tada (top-spinner); Kizuna folk dancers (Japan/America Friendship Club); Tracy's Karate and the Springfield Cosplay Council. Origami (paper folding), calligraphy writing and gyo-taku (fish painting) will be demonstrated by visiting artists.

Children's activities will be offered by the Kickapoo High School language classes from 5-7 p.m. Friday; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Saturday, and 11-6 on Sunday. Some groups will be presenting children's workshops.

A ceremonial stroll through the garden at dusk illuminated by torchlight will conclude Friday and Saturday events.

For more information, please visit [PeaceThroughPeople.org](http://PeaceThroughPeople.org) or [FriendsOfTheGarden.org](http://FriendsOfTheGarden.org). The Friends of Gray-Campbell Farmstead are at [GrayCampbellFarmstead.org](http://GrayCampbellFarmstead.org). You may reach us by e-mail, [Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org](mailto:Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org), or at

# Memberships, memorials, tributes and garden donations\*

## Memberships

Adams, Jim  
Atkins, Catherine\*  
Baldwin, Karen\*  
Bell, Marilyn\*  
Bendure, Jessica  
Bendure, Keith  
Blacksher, Dona\*  
Bohannon, Darin\*  
Bohannon, Kristi\*  
Borja, Remedios\*  
Bounds, Cynthia\*  
Brown, Cyril\*  
Brown, Gerre\*  
Calton, Carol\*  
Caringer, Roberta\*  
Culbertson, Dixie\*  
Cummins, Sue  
Dolan, Alice\*  
Flynn, Carolyn L.\*  
Ford, Nola M.\*  
Hall, Janna  
Han, Tao  
Harris, Sherry\*  
Haws, Layne  
Hayden, Janice\*  
Holloway, Avis\*  
Holloway, Wallace\*  
Hood, Ulla\*  
Hough, Mary Ann\*  
Howell, Cindy  
Johnson, Kaitlyn  
Jones, Charles  
Key, Shelly  
Lammert, Jim  
Lammert, Suzanne  
Lengyel, Mary Ann  
Malin, Beth  
Malin, Chase  
Marcusky, Lisa  
Masterson, Sharon\*  
Matthews, Gail\*  
McAfee, Gordon\*  
McAfee, Marilyn\*  
Menchetti, Joan E.\*  
Moran, Susan\*  
Morton, Susan  
Nance, Jill\*  
Nance, Jon\*  
Nelson, Denise  
Nickols, Rebecca\*  
Nosbisch, Linda  
Nunley, Jennifer\*  
O'Rourke, Peggy\*  
Peiter, Charles\*  
Peterson, Juana  
Pitts, Debbie\*  
Purevdorj, Ganbaatar  
Rhein, Carol Van  
Rice, John\*  
Rice, Sandy\*  
Roberts, Bill\*  
Saylor, Rebecca\*  
Schmidt, Alma

Sharp, Elmer  
Sharp, Terri  
Sheets, Doris F.\*  
Shook, Gail  
Smith, Sally\*  
Springfield Host Lions Club\*  
Stein, Karen  
Stewart, Dulcy\*  
Sundvold, Cathy  
Vinson, Norma\*  
Wright, June\*  
Wu, Hong

## Garden Friend

Crow, Janet\*  
Crow, John\*  
Manis, Danny\*  
Manis, Tanya\*

## Garden Contributor

Bone, Duane  
Eichholz, Ralph\*

## Tribute Bricks

Coxsey, Victoria  
Ever Green Garden Club  
Johnson, Kaitlyn  
Keith, Daniel  
Keith, Katie  
Key, Shelly  
Morris, Wade  
Nelson, Dellene  
Sundvold, Cathy

## Tribute Shrubs/Trees

Viebrock, Deanna

## Tribute Benches

Brunskill, Dorothy  
Brunskill, Richard

## Gift Membership Donors

Adams, Jim  
Atkins, Catherine  
Chaffin, Kim  
Crow, Janet  
Crow, John  
Eichholz, Ralph  
Haws, Layne  
Malin, Chase  
Marcusky, Lisa  
Moran, Susan  
Morton, Susan  
Nickols, Rebecca  
Nosbisch, Linda  
Purevdorj, Ganbaatar  
Schmidt, Alma  
Sharp, Elmer  
Shook, Gail

## Gift Membership

**Recipients**  
Adams, Carol  
Blackburn, Mark

Blackburn, Shari  
Carr, Jim  
Chaffin, Ross  
City of Springfield-DES  
Dexter, Gretchen  
Dexter, Phil  
Eichholz, Randy  
Enkhtaivan, Erdenedalai  
Hatfield, Sarah  
Hilton, Matt  
Hilton, Sarah  
Lambert, Brian  
Lueders, Lori  
Macdonald, Lydia  
McElroy, Natalie  
Moran, Phil\*  
Morton, Thomas  
Mudbug Creations  
Ozark Soul  
Schelsky, Sandy  
Schmidt, Diane  
Smiling Sun Gardens  
Step Up For Tea  
Stewart, Ashley  
Strickland, Michelle  
Viebrock, Deanna

## General Donations/Gifts

Federated Garden Club of Missouri

## Restricted Donations/Gifts

Finnie, Tom

## Garden Sponsorship

Hogan Land Title Company  
Pearson, Jessica  
Pearson, Joel  
Trotter, Janet  
Trotter, Yates

## Butterfly Festival Vendors

- Amanda Clavin's Origami Owl
- AR Workshop Springfield
- Beekeepers Association of the Ozarks
- Concessions by Springfield-Greene County Park Board
- Cox South Trauma Services
- Eden's Flower Truck
- Hillbilly Gardeners
- Jim Carr Creations
- Master Gardeners of Greene County
- Missouri Community Forestry Council
- Missouri Prairie Foundation
- Mudbug Creations
- Ozark Soul Native Plants and Landscaping
- Sarah Hatfield Arts and Crafts
- Smiling Sun Gardens
- Springfield Area Herb Society
- Springfield Conservation Nature Center
- Springfield Plateau Master Naturalists
- Springfield Sister Cities Association
- Step Up for Tea

Live Broadcast at the 2018 Butterfly Festival was provided by E.W. Scripps radio stations.



A special thank-you goes out to the sponsors above who helped make the Friends of the Garden Butterfly Festival our most successful ever in 2018.

\*Indicates renewing members. If you see a correction, please bring it to our attention at [Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org](mailto:Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org)





United Way volunteers spent their time weeding and mulching in the gardens during the 2018 Day of Caring. Inset, Brian Fogle, and Louise Knauer with Community Foundation of the Ozarks take a quick break to cool off with David Hall, Missouri State University. More than 2,000 volunteers from 126 businesses and organizations completed 298 projects at 76 non-profit agencies and schools. That's more than 12,000 hours of service with a community value of \$296,280.

Photos by Lisa Bakerink



# 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!***



## 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 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  
*(Individual plus guest)*
- ☐ \$50—Family  
*(Three or more)*
- ☐ \$100—Garden Friend  
*(Includes the option to give one additional gift membership)*
- ☐ \$250—Garden Contributor  
*(Includes the option to give three additional gift memberships)*
- ☐ \$500—Garden Ambassador  
*(Includes the option to give six additional gift memberships)*

## Member Information

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ This membership is a gift: ☐ Wedding ☐ Birthday ☐ Holiday ☐ Gift Renewal  
☐ In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECIPIENT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**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](mailto:info@friendsofthegarden.org),  
 or go to [friendsofthegarden.org](http://friendsofthegarden.org)

## Corporate Sponsorships

Individual gardens, features and attractions are available for corporate sponsorship. Please inquire at [info@friendsofthegarden.org](mailto:info@friendsofthegarden.org) for more information.

# Evergreen Blues:

Trials and tribulations afflict our gardens as well as yours. Weather conditions in the Ozarks are totally unpredictable. And now comes the Boxwood Blight

A boxwood hedge around the Master Gardeners Turf Garden recovers from a risky haircut in a battle with spider mites. The next battle may be with Boxwood Blight.



Photo by Katie Keith

If you ever meet a gardener in their garden, relish the “real dirt” on their garden woes! We don’t often publicly admit our failures or struggles in the garden. So, this newsletter, I thought I would share some of our struggles in the garden with some of our prominent evergreen features.



**A Parks Perspective:**  
Katie Keith

When we conducted our tree inventory in 2015, we instantly had statistics and figures on our living collection. We could easily quantify the percentage of plants, note the health of the collection and discovered that the largest percentage of plants is in the Pine family. Maybe it was not a big surprise since the oldest part of the garden included the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden, whose backbone is in the Pine family.

One unfortunate aspect of plant collections is that plant diseases spread through them much easier than a diverse collection of plants.

For the past several springs, Parks staff has treated some of the spruce, Douglas fir and black and mugo pines for needle cast fungus. There is no cure. We could replace some plants with similar, more resistant species, but the struggle is real, and treatment or replacement is expensive.

As we move forward, I would recommend using Falsecypress, Arborvitae, White Pine, and Norway Spruce cultivars. I am trialing for myself, Cryptomeria for this area. It was a favorite plant when I lived in Georgia and Tennessee. I bought a small cultivar from Garden Adventures for my house this spring and hope to report reliable hardiness in this area.

Hollies are another plant group that we struggle with around the garden. The holly hedge around the White Garden is starting to outgrow its space and seasonally suffers from die out from various root rot problems. Some of our hollies stay chlorotic, yellow, around the garden. I see fine specimens of

Nellie R Stevens Holly around town, but we can’t seem to get it right.

From previous soil tests around the garden, we know that our pH is higher than desirable for many ornamental plants and nutrients like iron are not available to the plant when the pH is not ideal. I would love to see more hollies around the garden but understand the challenge at this location.

Earlier this spring, a team of Master Gardeners looked at the boxwood hedge surrounding the turf plot for the first time in a several years. A hedge that was planted with the intent of being maintained at 18 inches was now nearly 40 inches tall. The dense growth made a happy habitat for spider mites who were destroying the foliage.

Because of the condition of the hedge, we tested conventional wisdom and relying on our experience we dove in deep, cutting back more than half of the shrub with a best hope for rejuvenation. Shortly after pruning, we saw six more weeks of winter (*including the fourth coldest April and the hottest May on record in the Ozarks*) and the stems didn’t sprout. Some thought we made a mistake and plans were being made to replant the entire hedge.

With a little patience, however, by June the fresh foliage had emerged, the signs of mites diminished, and it was decreed that the hedge will stay. Unfortunately, I’ve seen signs around town that the fatal, Boxwood Blight might be here. We don’t know the final fate of the hedge, but hopefully it will be with us for many more seasons.

Part of the role of any botanical garden is to demonstrate what does grow well in our area, but in some cases elements of nature including weather, soil conditions, disease, the invasiveness of a plant, human stress and insects require us as the garden caretakers to make unpopular decisions to hopefully maintain a fair balance for people, gardens and nature.

*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 these dates: Happenings for Ozarks gardeners\*

- **July 6:** 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Family Fridays in the Garden – Neat Natives.
- **July 10:** 6 p.m.-8 p.m.; National Teddy Bear Picnic.
- **July 20:** 7:30 p.m.; Family Fridays in the Garden – From Trail of Tears to Greenway Trail.
- **July 24:** 4 p.m.; Second Annual Tomato Expo and Workshops (6-8 pm.; \$10 per person.)
- **Aug. 9:** 5:15 p.m.-7:45 p.m.; Friends of the Garden Board Meeting/Membership Drive.
- **Aug. 13:** 6 p.m.-7 p.m.; Learn to Grow in the Garden Series: Crepe Myrtle.
- **Aug. 17:** 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Insect-O-Rama at the Nature Center.
- **Aug. 17:** 7:30 p.m.; Family Fridays in the Garden: Gone Batty.
- **Aug. 31:** 7:30 p.m.; Family Fridays in the Garden: From Garden to Grocer.
- **Sept. 7:** 5 p.m.-10 p.m.; Japanese Fall Festival at the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden.
- **Sept. 8:** 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Japanese Fall Festival at the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden.
- **Sept. 9:** 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Japanese Fall Festival at the Mizumoto Japanese Stroll Garden.
- **Sept. 10:** 6 p.m.-7 p.m.; Learn to Grow in the Garden Series: Twilight Gardens.
- **Sept. 13:** 5 p.m.; Friends of the Garden Board Meeting.
- **Sept. 15:** 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; 1860s Lifestyle Expo at Gray-Campbell Farmstead.
- **Sept. 16:** 12 p.m.-4 p.m.; 1860s Lifestyle Expo at Gray-Campbell Farmstead.
- **Sept. 28-30:** Missouri Master Gardener State Conference at Chateau on the Lake.
- **Sept. 29:** 2 p.m.; Monarch Butterfly Tagging Event at the Roston Native Butterfly House.

\*Unless otherwise noted, all events are at the Springfield Botanical Center. Send garden-related events to [News@FriendsOfTheGarden.org](mailto:News@FriendsOfTheGarden.org), or find us on Facebook and Twitter, or at [www.fogcalendar.com](http://www.fogcalendar.com). Friends of the Garden's "News FOG Blog" is at [www.friendsofthegarden.org](http://www.friendsofthegarden.org). To receive the latest news, send your e-mail address to [Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org](mailto:Info@FriendsOfTheGarden.org).

## Fall Concert series:

We're thankful that Central Bank and Central Trust presented the *Sounds of Summer*, a free concert series at the Peace through People Pavilion located within the Dogwood Garden.

Next up is the fall concert series. Funding for the concert series is made possible through Central Bank and Central Trust's sponsorship of the Dogwood Garden.

Attendees are asked to bring their own lawn chairs and/or blankets for seating. Donations are encouraged and benefit the Springfield Botanical Gardens. In the case of inclement weather, the concerts will move inside the Springfield-Greene County Botanical Center.

The Peace through People Pavilion was constructed in late 2016 to encourage more cultural performances and community events in the Springfield Botanical Gardens. The Pavilion furthers the Friends of the Garden mission to bring people, nature, and gardens together as well as the Springfield Sister Cities Association mission of Peace through People.

Here is the fall schedule:

- **Sunday, Oct. 7,** 2 p.m., Molly Healey, a violinist/fiddle player, cellist, and singer-songwriter from Jefferson City now living in Springfield.

- **Sunday, Oct. 14,** 2 p.m., Casey Freeland & the Attaboys, performing original traditional bluegrass songs.

- **Sunday, Oct. 21,** 2 p.m., Shaun Munday, bass guitar musician with a rich and eclectic sound and a "buttery voice."

- **Sunday, Oct. 28,** 2 p.m., Dallas Jones, a folk rock guitar musician who performs often in Springfield, both solo and with his band.