

{ August 2017 }

What's growing on

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

Upcoming Events

AUGUST 4, 11, 18, 25
Fresh On Fridays
8 am - 11 am

Fresh bouquets for purchase.
Kids programming - see the
entire line up of activities on
page two. FREE

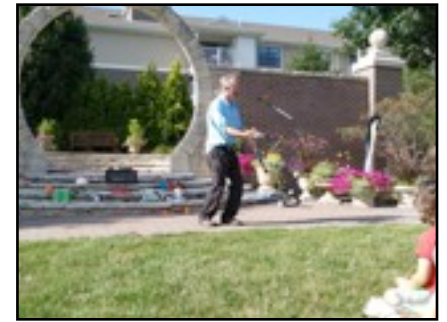
AUGUST 6, 13, 20, 27
Picnics & Performances
5 pm - 6 pm • FREE

Picnics and Performances Debuts for Second Season



Thanks to generous grant awards from the Bertha Stebens Foundation and AvanGrid Renewables, Central Gardens is again able to provide north Iowans with free, family-friendly entertainment every Sunday evening from 5-6 pm from now through September 10th. Pictured here are our July performers, Dean Franzen, The Dean

of Juggling, whose appearance was sponsored by Donna Dull and B.J. Huffman, whose appearance was sponsored by Clear Lake Bank and Trust.



Here is our line-up for the rest of the summer:

August 6 – Jesse Allen, country singer; August 13 – Spenser Rahm – country rock/modern; August 20 – Jon & Jen – variety of music; August 27 – Mary Chambers – 2nd Chances – vocals/guitar/keyboard/drums; September 3 – Heartland Marimba – classical/jazz/tango, ragtime/pops; September 10 – Dennis Root – violin/cello. Bring your lawn chair, picnic, and beverage and settle in for an hour of entertainment on our beautiful Naturalist Terrace. It's free!

For the Beauty of the Earth



Did you know that any church group (of any religion or denomination) in north Iowa is eligible for one rent-free service in the Gardens per year? One such group is pictured having its service on July 24. We can't always guarantee that a tent will be available, but we can ensure a natural cathedral setting! Contact Jody at 641-357-0700.

Quotes from the visitor log

"We would like to move this garden to our area!" – Adams, MN

"Love this garden. Children enjoy and learn." – Clear Lake, IA

"Very enjoyable stop!" – Cedar Rapids, IA

Correction: Craig and Susan Lakose's memorial was in honor of Michael "Mike" Byrne. We apologize for the error.

Volunteers 'R Us

IOWA ARTS COUNCIL
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

If we did a word search in our newsletters, it would be a good chance that the word "Volunteers" would show up most often. Ninety-five percent of the work done in the Gardens is due to the generosity, talent, and sweat equity of people who "just want to help." Recognizing their commitment, the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs has awarded Central Gardens of North Iowa a \$2500 grant award to provide general operating support that will "enhance the volunteer experience at the Gardens" through the purchase of easier-to-handle tools and equipment such as leaf blowers and tillers, better tables and carts for volunteers at Fresh on Fridays, pruners, scissors, coffee makers, and similar supplies that are needed to keep the Gardens beautiful. Thank you, Iowa Arts Council!

“Everything that slows us down and forces patience, everything that sets us back into the slow circles of nature, is a help. Gardening is an instrument of grace”. - May Sarton

Fresh on Friday's Children's Programming



It's so heart-warming to see all of the kids participating in our Fresh on Friday's programming this year. Supported by a grant from the Reinhart Foundation, our volunteers have organized a wide variety of events and experiences, all designed to help kids appreciate nature and its wonders. Here is the schedule for August:

- August 4** 9 to 11 am - Bubbles in the Garden for kids of all ages!
10 am - Walk with a Beekeeper Cindy Richardson – all ages
- August 11** 9:30 am – Kids Come Dance in the Garden with Tiffany – Dance Arts Centre
10 am – Your Fridge is your Medicine Cabinet with K. Nicholson, Public Health Dietician
- August 18** 9:30 am – Growing Yoga – Bond and Breathe with your Little One with Mary Hopper!
- August 25** 9 to 11 am – Preservation Celebration! Taste test a variety of pickles and preserves, learn about seed saving, preserving flowers, preserving food, kombucha, bees and more!

Bring your children and grandchildren to enjoy the fun. There is no charge for participating.



Fresh on Fridays Fresh Bouquets

What could be better than getting a fresh-picked bouquet of beautiful flowers, arranged by artistic volunteers for a reasonable price? That's what's available every Friday morning from 8-11 am at the Mother Earth Workshop in the Gardens. This is a popular feature at the Gardens; come early for the widest array of choices!

Our Town A Huge Success



Over 400 people enjoyed this year's outdoor theater experience, the production of *Our Town*, directed by Craig Rule and acted and supported by an all-volunteer cast and crew.

Offered as a joint collaboration with the Clear Lake Arts Center, this enduring play about life in Grover's Corners, New Hampshire (and, really, about life any where) was a huge hit. We appreciate the many sponsors who underwrote this event for the north Iowa community.

Always a Work in Progress

The design committee of the board has established a schedule for rehabilitating the various gardens within Central Gardens. This year, thanks to a significant memorial from the Dorenkamp family, the Lily Garden will be one of the gardens to be re-done. Look for a beautiful wind spinner to be added there as well. In addition, because of support from Alliant Energy, we will be adding ground cover and some additional plantings to the Woodland and Meadow Garden. We're also re-working the concept of the Plant of the Year garden and making room for additional plantings in the cutting garden to meet demand for Fresh on Friday's bouquets.

Wish List Update to Appear on Website

The Central Gardens Board has discussed ideas for an updated wish list to be placed on our website. Needs are constantly changing as the gardens are improved and further developed. Look for this list in the near future!

Love Those Bloomin' Gardeners!

We're having a special promotion for brick sales to honor that special gardener in your life. Reduced to \$150 from a regularly priced \$250, you can purchase a brick inscribed with the person's name and a short tribute. The brick will be placed in the Gardeners Walk which is located in front of the Mother Earth Workshop. This special promotion runs through September 1. To order, please contact Jody at jody@centralgardensnorthiowa.com or call 641-357-0700. Order forms can also be downloaded from our website www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com under the Support tab.