

{ July 2018 }

What's growing on

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

upcoming events

July 22: Picnics and Performances

5-6 pm. Free admission.

Entertainers: Jon and Jen (Folk, Soul, Country). Sponsors: POET and Shupick CPA, Mason City.

July 29: Picnics and Performances

5-6 pm. Free admission.

Entertainers: The Dean of Juggling and Denny's School of Dance. Sponsors: Donna Dull and First Gabrielson Agency.

Every Friday morning,

8:30-11 am: Fresh cut bouquets sold at the Mother Earth Workshop and refreshments on the Pavilion patio.

Every Friday morning, 9-11 am:

Kids BEE Happy programming

Picnics and Performances Series Begins Third Year July 22

Back by popular demand, the third year of Picnics and Performances kicks off on Sunday, July 22nd at 5 pm-6 pm at the Naturalist Terrace (on the west end of the Ceremonial Lawn). Designed as a come as you are (and bring your own lawn chair and favorite beverage) event, the series features talented performers from around the region. We are grateful for the generosity of our underwriters and sponsors who make this series available at no charge to attendees. The entire line-up is posted on our Facebook page and Website, and we'll be advertising in local media for each event. Hope to see you there!

Generous Support for Central Gardens

CGNI was recently the recipient of two grant awards, one from the Clear Lake Noon Lions in the amount of \$2000 to put towards safety improvements with bricks and pavers on the grounds; and the other a grant award of \$1100 from the Cerro Gordo Affiliate of the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa to be put towards the cost of powder coating eight trash receptacles. We are grateful to both entities for their support of Central Gardens.

Denim and Diamonds Delights



Hundreds of people turned out on June 24 to celebrate CGNI at our annual Summer Garden Party. This year's theme was "Denim and Diamonds," and was entirely planned by a committee of dedicated volunteers. Besides them, we also want to thank the following sponsors : CL TEL, Farmers State Bank-Clear Lake Branch, Bonnie Hall and Hall Reality, Hearing Associates, ITC Midwest, and Kohls . We also wish to thank these benefactors: Clear Lake Fire Station, Goodnature Store, Lake Lifestyle, Lake Liquors, Sue Golly, owner, and Justin Huffington, Manager, LakeTime Brewery-Bob Rolling, North Iowa Pork Producers, Randy's Neighborhood Market, and Titan Pro.

message from our director



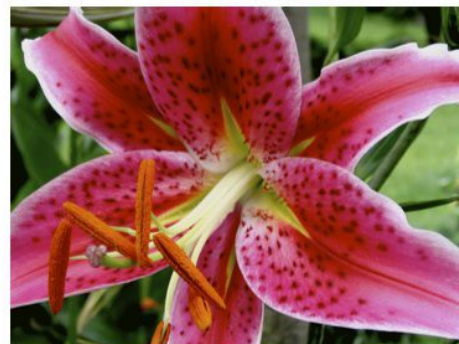
Hello everyone! I would like take this opportunity to introduce myself as I start my new role as Director of Development and Operations at CGNI. My

name is Halie Greenwood and I am a Mason City native. I studied Business Management, Marketing, and Entrepreneurship at North Iowa Area Community College and Central College in Pella, receiving my Bachelor's Degree May of 2017. I am passionate about small businesses and non-profits in North Iowa and excited to do all I can to spread the word on how amazing the Gardens are! I also love watching and coaching sports, spending time with family and friends, and photography. I am greatly looking forward to meeting and working with all the remarkable volunteers!



Meet Our Newest Board Member

We are pleased to welcome Gary Nyhus of Clear Lake to the CGNI board of directors. Gary is no stranger to many of you having lived in Clear Lake for 40 years with his wife Sandy and having been a volunteer for five years at the Gardens. Gary also gives generously of his time and talents to many other good causes, including Hospice of North Iowa, Mercy Hospital, the Clear Lake Noon Lions, Zion Lutheran church, Apple Valley, Harmony Ranch, the Newman Foundation, the Iowa Baseball Coaches Association, and Newman High School. Welcome, Gary!



Summer Time!

We love having kids visit the Garden! We've had dozens of kids (and their parents) participate in Kids BEE Happy Garden events already this season. Remember: Free activities every Friday in the summer from 9-11 am!



What Would We Do Without Volunteers?

Thanks to these generous volunteers and residents at Courtyard Assisted Living for their expert help folding copies of the June newsletter and stuffing them into envelopes. We shared some laughs and got the big job done in no time!



What's Blooming?

Late June and early July are the perfect times to stroll through the Lily Garden at the NW side of the grounds to enjoy the Oriental lilies. Known as classic "late bloomers," these stunning flowering bulbs bloom after Asiatic lilies. Learn more about both varieties at <https://dengarden.com/gardening/growinglilies>

And, here's a source for learning how to grow them yourself: <https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/bulbs/lily/oriental-lily-plant-care.htm>

CGNI Wish List

Volunteers who help with "Down and Dirty" clean up sessions every Sunday afternoon often stay afterwards for a social time together. We're in need of a large table and six chairs to place on the east side of the MEWS that the volunteers can use as a gathering space. If you would like to donate towards that purchase (total estimated cost: \$1800), we'd welcome your generosity. Call 641-357-0700 for more details!

Help Us Get Greener

We love keeping in touch with our patrons and supporters through this newsletter. However, print and mailing costs have a significant impact on our bottom line. If you would provide us with your email address, you will get the same information electronically that you get in hard copy (and get it quicker!), and we'd have more resources for beautifying Central Gardens. Just send a request to info@centralgardens.com or call us and we'll make the change!

Busy June at the Gardens

In addition to our usual June events (Fresh on Fridays, Kids BEE Happy Garden, Summer Garden Party) we've welcomed people for four wedding rehearsals and weddings, four bus tours, a celebration of life, a luncheon, a church service, and a reunion. These events alone account for over 1500 visitors!

Major Announcement Coming in August

The CGNI board of directors recently approved a plan for a major upgrade to Central Gardens in honor of our upcoming 20th anniversary in 2020. We'll provide you with more details next month, but suffice it to say, the plan will delight and excite our patrons.