

# Reflections

*Take Root. Grow. Flourish.*

Friends of the  
**GARDENS**  
on Spring Creek







## FROM THE DIRECTOR **MICHELLE PROVAŽNIK**

Four years ago, we embarked on a journey to complete the Master Plan of the Gardens on Spring Creek. On September 19, we got final approval of the project and the funds needed to start construction. It was a momentous day in the history of The Gardens!

Now the fun begins! We are working to get the contract signed between the City of Fort Collins and our contractor and plan to break ground in late October or early November. We are sure to keep you apprised of important dates and milestones as we move forward.

In addition, City funding for the Visitor's Center is allocated in our budget for 2018. That means we are issuing a Request for Proposal for a design/build contractor for the Visitor's Center expansion with the hopes of having the company hired in early 2018. We still need to raise \$750,000 before construction can start, but we are optimistic our community will support this project—the excitement over butterflies is truly unbelievable.



## FROM THE PRESIDENT **DULCIE WILLIS**

As fall sets in, we are just beginning to grow our Gardens!

On September 19, thanks to the undaunted support of the board, staff, volunteers, members, donors and community-at-large, we achieved a major victory with City Council approval of final expansion plans. We are so thrilled to move forward, break ground and finally see a 30-year vision come to its true fruition. The board wishes to thank everyone who supported us through advocacy - your phone calls and emails to City leadership, speaking and appearing at meetings, and generous donations of time and treasure truly made an enormous difference! Together, we cleared a major hurdle and gave voice to our community's value of the Gardens on Spring Creek. Thank you!

As we move forward, please consider how you can continue to be a part of this legacy. We still have \$750,000 to raise, and there are many ways you can help us get to the finish line. Consider purchasing a limited edition butterfly through The Butterfly Project, a permanent sculpture in the future Visitor's Center. Or participate in our fundraising events such as Garden a'Fare Beer Tour and/or Blossoms and Butterflies, an art gallery exhibit and cocktail reception coming in April. Or consider volunteering as a board member as we continue our efforts in advocacy and fundraising.

The momentum we have now is unstoppable! It is so exciting to be a part of this amazing time at The Gardens. I look forward to continuing our work together as we make this a true centerpiece of our wonderful city. Thank you for your support now and in years to come!



## BOARD MEMBERS

**Dulcie Willis** PRESIDENT  
**Jesse Eastman** VICE PRESIDENT  
**Jeff Cullers** SECRETARY  
**Randy Morgan** TREASURER  
**Nathaniel Budd**  
**Marcia Petrun**  
**Alex Stern**  
**Roger Warren**





# COOL CLASSES

Ashley Young, Education Coordinator



Fall is creeping into The Gardens and with it a whole host of adult and family classes to enjoy.

Learn how best to prepare your yard for winter bird feeding or practice training your own bonsai with author Richard Bender.

Or, if the bountiful harvest has you neck deep in veggies, explore new ways to put your produce to work in delicious creations from soups and comfort food to your very own scratch-made bacon.

Finally, an annual favorite, Nancy Frank will lead you in creating breathtaking mini-pumpkin succulent centerpieces and holiday wreaths.

For both of these classes, we offer something new this year—the morning session is open to students 12-18 years at a reduced rate of \$15. So bring your creative teens in for some seasonal bonding!

Don't wait to reserve your spot, classes fill up fast. Check out the whole list of classes and register at [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens).



## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT **PHILLIP GRUBE**

This past summer, Eagle Scout candidate Phillip Grube donated his time, money and talent to the Gardens on Spring Creek. He led a team of fellow scouts to build an ADA accessible picnic table and compost bin for the Senior Center Community Garden. Thank you Phillip and your scout team!





# INDOOR WINTER HERBS

*Sherry Fuller, Curator*



There's nothing quite like fresh herbs to make recipes pop in the winter, bringing back fresh garden memories. Some herb varieties can be kept indoors in a sunny location throughout the winter. Tender herbs like rosemary, lemon verbena, bay laurel and aloe vera can be potted and moved inside before frost.

If you've got chives or mint in your yard, you can dig a small piece to bring inside even if its top has frozen back. Dig a 3-4" section including roots and plant it in potting soil. In a bright location, they will regrow foliage and provide you with fresh leaves through the winter.

Oregano, parsley and basil are probably best started from fresh plants purchased at your garden center. Basil can be quite finicky indoors as it needs very warm temperatures and bright sun to thrive. The windows with enough light can also be too cold – but it's worth a try.

Thyme and sage can also be purchased or if you already have them outside, they stay semi-evergreen and leaves can be used throughout the winter.

There are a couple of pests and diseases to look out for on your indoor herbs. Rosemary tends to get powdery mildew. A spray of 1 teaspoon baking soda and 2 teaspoons olive oil diluted in about a quart of water used once a week can help prevent mildew. Also, keep any eye out for aphids. At the first sign of these tiny pests, rinse them off very thoroughly. If they get too bad, try a few drops of mild dish soap in a small squirt bottle of water.

Keep your herbs watered regularly but not soggy. If their pots have drainage, sit them in the sink and water them thoroughly when they get dry. Best watering advice for indoor herbs is to watch them and develop your own watering schedule based on their particular needs.

Happy Cooking!



## THE HOLIDAYS TRANSFORM OUR GIFT SHOP!

*Sherry Fuller, Curator*

In addition to our beautiful outdoor gardens, check out the gift shop in our Visitor's Center. For the holidays we transform the shop with festive and popular holiday ornaments, décor, and fun stocking stuffers.

Some of our best sellers include painted plaques, glass wind chimes, wooden bowls and vases, and cute coffee mugs. We try to find fair trade items including inexpensive baskets from Pakistan, bright fabric purses from Nepal and paper bead bracelets and ornaments from Uganda.

We also have several local lines including unique earrings from Fort Collins and handmade metal butterflies from a couple in Colorado Springs.



NEED HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS?

## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR GARDENS BENEFITS

The holidays are just around the corner and we are stocking our gift shop. Use your 10% member discount to purchase one of kind gifts, stocking stuffers and holiday décor. Also, consider sharing your love of The Gardens with your friends and family by purchasing them a membership. We can't think of a better gift that gives back all year!





## HOLIDAY PLANT SALE **POINSETTIAS**

*Ted Schaaf, Greenhouse Manager*



Since red is the focal point of most holiday décor, why not try our very playful Jester Red poinsettia? Jester's leaf pattern resembles a jester's hat. The bracts are held upright against dark green leaves. Jester has a very compact, narrow form suitable for smaller spaces.

Although red ranks #1, as far as color choices, why not consider burgundy instead? Cortez Burgundy is one of my favorites. It's beautiful, dark burgundy bracts contrast well against dark green leaves.

Poinsettias secrete a milky sap that can cause skin irritations, however they are not poisonous. They are very sensitive to cold temperatures so sleeve any poinsettia when temperatures are below 50 degrees outdoors. At home, bright indirect sunlight is suggested for a least six hours a day. No fertilizer is required while plant is in bloom. Remove foil wrapper on pot before watering and give the plant a good drink. When soil is dry to the touch, repeat watering.

Come visit our warm greenhouse this holiday season for your plant needs. Our plants are on sale starting in late November.

## WELCOME TO **JAMIE BURGHARDT** OPERATIONS AND HORTICULTURE MANAGER



Jamie most recently was the Horticulture Coordinator at the University of Georgia's Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens in Savannah, Georgia. Jamie studied environmental horticulture in Australia and obtained a MS in

Public Horticulture from the University of Delaware. His professional experiences include curating a private 10-acre estate in South Florida, designing and installing the Orchid Conservatory at Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden near Charlotte, NC, graduate internships at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA, and being an education coordinator at Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park, Oyster Bay, NY. Undergraduate garden internships were undertaken at the Denver Botanic Gardens and the Linnaeus Arboretum in St. Peter, MN.

Jamie has a passion for unusual plants to add to a landscape, whether they are new annual flower introductions or cultivars of shrubs and trees. He has a great understanding of landscape design history and applying them in creating dynamic and unique garden rooms and experiences. Notable career accomplishments include the planning, design and installation of an accurate 18th-century colonial garden as well as seven outdoor theme gardens for a new botanical garden, creation of a 13,000-plant Tillandsia arch conservatory display and creation and expansion of an experiential holiday lights display that produced 6-figure profits for a botanical garden.

Jamie's abilities and past experiences are an asset to our growing botanic garden!

# NOT TO MISS EVENTS

For complete details and tickets, please visit us online at [fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens).

## **SPECIAL EVENT!**

### **HALLOWEEN ENCHANTED GARDEN**

Sat, Oct. 21 ▪ 10 a.m.–2 p.m. ▪ \$5 per child

## **NEW CLASS!**

### **MINI PUMPKIN CENTERPIECES**

Sat, Oct. 28 ▪ 10 a.m.–noon & 1–3 p.m. ▪ \$30

### **MAKIN' YOUR OWN BACON**

Sat, Nov. 11 ▪ 10 am–noon ▪ \$30

### **WINTER COMFORT FOODS**

Sat, Nov. 11 ▪ 1–3 p.m. ▪ \$30

### **CREATE YOUR OWN INDOOR BONSAI**

Sat, Nov. 18 ▪ 10 a.m.–noon ▪ \$45

### **CREATE A CHRISTMAS WREATH**

Sat, Dec. 2 ▪ 10 a.m.–noon & 1–3 p.m. ▪ \$30

## **SPECIAL EVENT!**

### **GARDEN OF LIGHTS**

Dec. 1–Jan. 7 ▪ Every evening from 5–9 p.m.  
\$5 adult/\$2 child

## **SPECIAL EVENT!**

### **HIGH PLAINS LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP**

Sat, March 10, 2018 ▪ 8:30 a.m.–3 p.m.  
Drake Centre



## GARDEN OF LIGHTS

THANK YOU  
GALLEGOS SANITATION!

*Kelly Kellow, Horticulturist*



The hints of the upcoming holiday season are here, which must mean Garden of Lights is just around the corner! For the past three years, we have partnered with Gallegos Sanitation to bring unique, botanically inspired light sculptures to this event. Gallegos employee and local artist, Josh Jones designs and constructs these larger than life sculptures.

Josh uses scrap metal and salvaged materials from area construction sites and transforms them into beautiful sculptures for thousands of visitors to enjoy. His original coneflower sculpture for our tenth anniversary was created using scrap metal from the deconstruction of the former Foothills Fashion Mall.

Josh has fabricated coneflowers, columbines, and daffodils that have brought smiles and enjoyment to everyone at the show. Our sincerest thanks to Josh and Gallegos for their generous donation and partnership for Garden of Lights. We invite you to come see this year's newest transformation, the hollyhock, on display from Dec. 1 through Jan. 7.





## ADMISSION

is a suggested donation of \$5 per adult and \$2 per child, aged two and over. As always, members enjoy free admission.

## HOW TO FIND US

2145 Centre Ave.  
Fort Collins, CO 80526  
970-416-2486  
[fcgov.com/gardens](http://fcgov.com/gardens)



## OUR HOURS

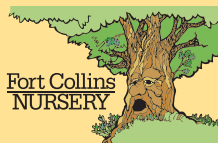
9 a.m.–5 p.m., Mon.–Fri.  
9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat.

*Friends of the*  
**GARDENS**  
*on Spring Creek*

2145 Centre Ave. Fort Collins CO 80526

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## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING, SUSTAINING, AND DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE MEMBERS

(JUNE 4–SEPT. 21)

Barbara and Albert Leung  
Dorothy Olsen  
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Marsha and Jerry Krygier  
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