

September 2021

CENTRAL
GARDENS
of NORTH IOWA

What's Growing On!

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

Every leaf speaks bliss to me, fluttering from the autumn tree. – Emily Bronte

Come and see the spectacle this month as the Gardens transition to fall! Across nearly 3 acres of gorgeous landscaping with stunning architectural features, and more than 20 uniquely themed gardens that are recklessly, beautifully, turning to seed, Central Gardens is sure to delight and inspire even those who lament the change. The gates are open from dawn to dusk each day and there is still so much to discover and experience in this wondrous space. Come, drink in summer's end, and enjoy the show!



There's been a force of some 120 volunteers that have maintained, beautified, and looked after Central Gardens this season. They've planted gardens, tended to the grounds, and enthusiastically responded to cries for 2 shifts of watering duty each day during the harsh days of July. They dedicated themselves to committee work where they planned and plotted designs, improvements, activities, and events; and then they executed them. They worked to ensure visitors to Central Gardens had opportunities to learn, grow, rest, exercise, to connect with nature, and to connect with others.

Simply put, it's been an awesome season because of our beloved volunteers. On Sunday, September 12, Central Gardens will celebrate them and their accomplishments. We ask that volunteers bring their significant others and join us on the Activity Lawn at 5 PM for a performance by Planet Passengers, followed by a picnic at the Nature Education Pavilion. Please RSVP by Monday, September 6, to info@centralgardensnorthiowa.com or by calling the office at 641-357-0700.

Not a Central Gardens volunteer? Visit our website at www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com to find out how you can get plugged in to the Gardens. Volunteers are needed year-round. Join us today!

SUPPORTING CENTRAL GARDENS WITH A QCD

Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference. – Kathy Calvin

Persons 70½ or older can use their IRA assets to create a charitable fund that supports their favorite charities through a qualified charitable distribution (QCD). A QCD is the direct transfer of assets from an IRA account, payable to a qualifying charity, such as Central Gardens, in which donors can transfer up to \$100,000 each year. The amount transferred can be used to meet required minimum distributions (RMDs) from an IRA.

There are several potential tax advantages of giving QCDs:

- The QCD amount directed to Central Gardens is not included in adjusted gross income.
- Directing IRA assets to Central Gardens rather than taking RMDs may enable you to avoid certain disadvantages that can come with higher adjusted gross income such as higher Medicare premiums, self-employment or social security taxes, etc.
- There is typically no income tax due on IRA distributions to a charity such as Central Gardens.
- Because QCDs are not subject to percentage limitations on charitable deductions, they can be an ideal strategy if you have either exceeded maximum charitable deductions or don't itemize deductions.



Contact your wealth advisor to learn more about QCDs and how to designate Central Gardens for yours.



Stroll the winding, brick pathways across Central Gardens and soak in the sentimental messages you'll find along the way. Let them inform and inspire your own personalized brick or paver and take advantage of our back to school special. **Save \$50 when you order a standard size brick for just \$200. Save \$200 with your order for a 16" granite paver for \$800.** Placed in the beauty of the Gardens, embedded in a pathway of choice, your brick or paver will honor, commemorate, or memorialize the special people and events in your life for years to come.

Have a seat at the Council Ring and leave a legacy with your purchase of a limestone cube for just \$1,500. Just 5 cubes remain to form the 12-seat Council Ring. The cubes are made from native Iowa limestone and measure 18" on all sides. They will be custom engraved with a memorial or dedication as desired.

For more information about bricks, pavers, and the limestone cubes, please visit our website at <https://www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com/bricks-pavers/> or contact us at info@centralgardensnorthiowa.com.

Membership Support FOR CENTRAL GARDENS



Central Gardens would like to thank the many individuals, families, and the following companies for their membership support this year:

Bonnie Hall, Realtor; Clear Lake Bank and Trust; CL Tel; ControlPrint Creative; Don's Body Shop; Farmers State Bank; Gabrielson Agency; Hansmeier Mowing; Hearing Associates; Images Photography; Lake Liquors; Larson's Mercantile; Laurie Cook Photography; McQuaid Agency; Metalcraft; Pla-Ground Family Farms; Rahm Investments; Sail Inn; Schupick and Associates; and The Basic Birder.

Not a member of Central Gardens?

Log on to <https://centralgardensnorthiowa.com/member.../become-a-member/> to join us today.

Flowers are the proud assertion that a ray of beauty outvalue the utilities of the world.
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

the 2021 Preservation Celebration

Join us in the Gardens for the 2021 Preservation Celebration on Sunday, September 19, 2 PM to 5 PM. In collaboration with NetZRO, Iowa Waste Exchange, Seed Savers Exchange, and the Association for the Preservation of Clear Lake, this free event is designed to educate about various facets of preservation, depleted resources, and ways in which we can reduce waste. We will celebrate efforts to advance preservation in our homes, around Clear Lake, across the Midwest, and throughout the world. There is no charge for this event.





Central Gardens of North Iowa
P.O. Box 735
Clear Lake, IA 50428

Address Service Requested

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE GARDENS

Though events and activities are winding down, we're not quite finished for the season. Join us for the final Fresh on Friday of the year on September 3, featuring gorgeous bouquets for sale at Mother Earth's Workshop. The sixth season of Picnics and Performances continues on Sunday the 5th with north Iowa musicians Paul Weitzel and the Hats entertaining the audience with a mix of original and classic Americana. Fresh bouquets will be available for purchase during the show and again on Sunday, September 12, the last show of the series with Planet Passengers. Line dancing continues every Tuesday morning and the Preservation Celebration will round out the season on September 19.

Friday, September 3, 9 AM – 11 AM *Fresh on Friday Bouquet Sales*

Sunday, September 5, 5 PM – 6 PM *Picnics & Performances – Paul Weitzel and the Hats*

Tuesdays, September 7, 14, 21, & 28, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM *Line dancing with Mary Jo*

Sunday, September 12, 5 PM – 7 PM *Volunteer Appreciation*

Sunday, September 12, 5 PM – 6 PM *Picnics & Performances – Planet Passengers*

Sunday, September 19, 2 PM – 5 PM *Preservation Celebration*

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com for more information about what's going on at Central Gardens.

