

JULY 2023

CENTRAL
GARDENS
of NORTH IOWA

What's Growing On!

at Central Gardens of North Iowa

RECORD-BREAKING TICKET SALES FOR THE GARDEN PARTY

On Sunday, June 25, while Central Gardens got some much-needed rain, the Summer Garden Party, a mission-critical fundraising event, went on as planned at the Legacy Grill next to the Surf, and what a party it was! Record-breaking ticket sales translated into a great turnout and we didn't miss a beat.

Volunteers decorated the dining rooms beautifully, as fresh-cut flowers from the Gardens and other décor adorned the tables. Mr. Jeff Music entertained the crowd while guests ate a delicious pulled pork meal. Several volunteers from Central Gardens' youth program, Gardeners of Tomorrow, served lemonade and cleared trays, lent a hand when they could, and had some of the greatest smiles in the place. Gary Heydt orchestrated a fun and lively auction with a generous crowd. The bar was buzzing, and guests sipped on white wine or enjoyed a beer.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to all who helped make the 2023 Summer Garden Party a success and, this year, that begins with the Legacy Grill for opening its doors for

us to be able to host this event. To our generous donors who purchased tickets in advance or at the party, donated to the auction, and bought items at the auction, thank you! To those who purchased memberships while at the party, thank you and welcome! To all those who tipped the bartenders - don't worry, all proceeds went to Central Gardens - thank you!

Our heartfelt thanks as well to Clear Lake Bank and Trust for awarding funds for the Garden Party for the second year in a row. And to our corporate sponsors including Bonnie Hall, Brothers Ace Hardware, ControlPrint Creative, Country Landscapes, Hearing Associates, Images Photography, Lake Liquors, and LC Photography, thank you!

A core group of Central Gardens volunteers worked for months planning all of the details of this important event so that dozens of volunteers could orchestrate it. They were all phenomenal, their time and talents poured out for Gardens. Well done!

Our hearts are full.

Interested in volunteering at Central Gardens?

There are a number of volunteer opportunities available!



CENTRAL
GARDENS
of NORTH IOWA



*I have only to break into the tightness of a strawberry,
and I see summer, its dust and lowering skies.*

- Toni Morrison

FREE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

KICKS OFF July 16th

Join us at Central Gardens this summer on Sunday afternoons, 5 PM – 6 PM, for the eighth annual Picnics and Performances from July 16 through September 3! The eight-week concert series promises a little something for everyone, with a diverse lineup of performances, and a whole lot of fun.

Bring a picnic, a beverage of choice, a comfy seat, and settle in on the Activity Lawn around the School Bell Gazebo for the shows. There's no charge to attend though we do ask for donations to support the maintenance and upkeep of the Gardens.

JULY 16 *J. Jeffrey Messerole brings his songs to life with engaging storytelling, a powerful voice, and the frequent utilization of a rack harmonica.*

JULY 23 *Jane Todey and Ed Kelly are Vintage Café, offering a mix of light jazz and easy listening that promises to please any musical appetite.*

JULY 30 *Carter Guse is a 17-year-old singer/songwriter who plays genres ranging from the 1950's to today. He received rave reviews at the Gardens last season and is back by popular demand.*

AUGUST 6 *Kris Karr is also back by popular demand to perform an acoustic solo with music from the 70s including the Eagles, Neil Young, CCR, and mixed with original tunes.*



AUGUST 13 *Come Back Buddy's repertoire includes music from the 50s including Elvis Presley, Chuck Berry, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Ricky Nelson, and, of course, Buddy Holly.*

AUGUST 20 *Jim and Dave perform hits from the 60's and 70's as well as country, blues, and pop.*

AUGUST 27 *Juni and Betty are north Iowa singers/songwriters whose music dances from Americana to indie to folk to country with original tunes in the mix.*

SEPTEMBER 3 *Enjoy jazz in the Gardens with Clear Lake High School Jazz Ensemble featuring Lauren Jurgens, Owen Smith, Finley Nyhus, Boston Winters, Emily McLaughlin, Asher Morrow, and Brody Morrow.*

Bertha Stebens Charitable Foundation has financially supported Central Gardens work with Picnics and Performances from the time it started in 2015 and it has again this year, making it possible to pay a modest sum to the performers. Corporate sponsors this season are Country Landscapes, Don's Body Shop, and Bergland + Cram Architects.

TIEDEMANN GRANDS ARE BACK IN THE GARDENS

Merlyn and Julie Tiedemann have grandchildren back at Central Gardens this season working part-time as summer groundskeepers. And we couldn't be more thrilled about it! Alex, age 15 and his brother Trent, age 16, of Northwood, gently coaxed Grandpa Merle out of retirement to mentor them in the Gardens. Now, just as he did in 2020 with grandson Drake, our beloved Merle is back in the Gardens teaching Alex and Trent all there is to know about the inner workings, the nuances and the nuisances, of Central Gardens. But Trent and Alex are no strangers to Central

Gardens. Alex and Trent are lifelong visitors to the Gardens, having come to Fresh of Fridays in the Bee Happy Discovery Garden with Grandma and Grandpa many times in younger years. They've grown into avid volunteers and were among five Tiedemann grandsons that organized a Tiedemann Family Volunteer Day here in 2021, along with their brother, Drake, and two cousins from Ankeny. Central Gardens is glad to have this crew back in the Gardens! Welcome!





GRANT SUPPORT FOR PUMPKIN PALOOZA

The Walmart Local Giving Team in Mason City has awarded Central Gardens a grant for Pumpkin Palooza, a celebration of all things pumpkin, on Saturday, October 14. The event is free and open to the public. Thank you, Walmart!

Where flowers bloom, so does hope. - Lady Bird Johnson

Friendship Walk IS TAKING SHAPE

Several commemorative bricks are now sprinkled along the Friendship Walk, Central Gardens newest designated pathway. Located at the northwest entrance of the grounds, the Friendship Walk lies between the Shade Garden and the Lily Garden. The walk is adorned with a bronze sculpture of a barefoot boy reading. The sculpture, which was donated by Donna Dull, who has served Central Gardens from the beginning, sits in the Lily Garden, and overlooks the Friendship Walk. The Friendship Walk is a celebration of friendship and all that bonds us as friends and as a community.

Bricks and pavers may be etched and engraved for placement in the Friendship Walk that honor and memorialize friends and friendship the world over. A standard size brick is just \$250. A 16" granite paver is \$1,000.

As a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization, your contribution to Central Gardens for a brick or paver is tax deductible. For more information, or to place your order, please visit our website at <https://www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com/bricks-pavers/> or contact us at info@centralgardensnorthiowa.com.



2023 Corporate Members

DESIGNER (\$2,500 + UP)



GARDENER (\$1,000 - \$2,499)



CARETAKER (\$500 - \$999)

Bombie (Bonnie Hall)
Clear Lake Bank & Trust
First Gabrielson Agency
Larson's Mercantile
Sail Inn
Stellar Industries

PLANTER (\$250 - \$499)

Bergland + Cram Architects
Brother's Ace Hardware
ControlPrint Creative
Farmer's State Bank
Glen's Tire Service
Jane Fischer & Associates
Lake Auto Service
Laurie Cook Photography
McQuaid Agency
Metalcraft, Inc.
North Iowa Community Credit Union
Pla-Ground Family Farms
Steve Wright Outdoor Lighting



Central Gardens of North Iowa
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Clear Lake, IA 50428

Address Service Requested

UPCOMING EVENTS AT CENTRAL GARDENS

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com for details on these and other activities, events, and programs coming up at the Gardens.

FRIDAYS, JULY 7, 14, 21, AND 28, 9 AM – 11 AM

Fresh on Friday Bouquet Sales & Refreshments

FRIDAYS, JULY 7, 14, 21, AND 28, 9 AM – 11 AM

Fresh on Friday Garden Explorers. Free.

TUESDAYS, JULY 11, 18, AND 25, 9:30 AM – 10:30 AM

Line Dancing. Free.

SUNDAYS, JULY 16, 23, AND 30, 5 PM – 6 PM

Picnics and Performances. Free.

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 6 PM – 7:15 PM

Cooking Up Culture. Free.

FRIDAY, JULY 21, 10:30 AM – 11 AM.

Yoga Buds Free.

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 3 PM – 5 PM

Garden to Glass Mixology Class. Ticketed event.



We are all beginners, starting fresh each day.

– Shelley Lucan