



# FRESH ON FRIDAYS IS BACK!

Nothing says summer at Central Gardens more than Fresh on Fridays! Whether it's getting a floral arrangement, engaging in kids programs, or visiting over coffee and a sweet treat, there's something for everyone in the Gardens from 9 AM -11 AM every Friday morning through August.

Come for the flowers! Who doesn't love a fresh bouquet of flowers to beautify a weekend table or send to a shut-in? Volunteers arrive early every Friday morning to select, assemble, and arrange fresh flowers into beautiful bouquets for just \$10. Large bouquets are available on a limited basis for \$20. Come to the east entrance of Central Gardens at Mother Earth's Workshop. Each week's beauty is unique!

Bring the kiddos! Garden Explorers is back in the Bee Happy Discovery Garden to help young gardeners learn to appreciate the wonders of nature by getting involved in watering flowers and vegetables, and exploring plants up close and personal. Plus, special activities are offered by visitors from a variety of organizations including North Iowa Landfill, Clear Lake Arts Center, Clear Lake Public Library, Healthy Harvest of North Iowa, and ISU Extension. Follow Central Gardens on Facebook for each week's specific activities and sponsors. All activities are free, although donations to support these events are always welcome!

Bring your friends or meet new ones! Meet friends on the patio at the Nature Education Pavilion overlooking the beautiful Ceremonial Lawn for complimentary beverages and sweet treats. Sit at an umbrella-shaded table, surrounded by rich flowers and plants, and bask in the beauty of Central Gardens.

As an added bonus, the Gardeners of Tomorrow youth group will be selling organically grown produce and providing tastings fresh from the Bee Happy Discovery Garden.

**Fresh on Friday is sponsored by Bergland + Cram Architects (June), Hearing Associates (June), Holdredge Construction (June), Jane Fischer & Associates (July), and Metalcraft (August).**

All of Fresh on Fridays' activities are run by volunteers. If you appreciate all the good things that Central Gardens offers the north Iowa community, please consider helping out. Find out more about volunteering at Central Gardens here



# COME TO A GARDEN PARTY!

Join us on the Ceremonial Lawn for Central Gardens' annual Summer Garden Party on **SUNDAY, JUNE 23, FROM NOON TO 3 PM**. This signature event will feature a delicious luncheon, refreshing drinks including wine, beer, and lemonade, a fun and lively auction, and live music by Mr. Jeff. Tickets are just \$40 in advance or \$45 at the gate. Tables of 8 can be reserved for \$320.00.

The Summer Garden Party is Central Gardens' only ticketed event and a mission-critical fundraiser that allows us to purchase plants and flowers, pay the water bill, host a variety of free activities, programs, and events, and so much more. "This is a time for the community to come together to support Central Gardens," said Becke Dorenbush, chair of the Summer Garden Party planning committee, "and it's always a lot of fun!"



*John Larsen Piece*

Few towns in Iowa the size of Clear Lake can boast a beautiful, free public garden space like Central Gardens. With over 20,000 annual guests, more than 20 themed gardens, and a wide array of free seasonal events, Central Gardens is truly a community treasure. Summer Garden Party ticket holders help ensure that Central Gardens continues to be a north Iowa showcase.

Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com/event/central-gardens-summer-garden-party-and-auction/>, at any Central Gardens' event, or by calling or texting Becke at 515-290-5558. In case of rain, the party will move to the Ventura Community Center.

Generous support comes from the following Garden Party sponsors: Clear Lake Bank & Trust, CL Tel, Country Landscapes, Bonnie Hall, Sail Inn, Stellar Industries, Brother's Ace Hardware, ControlPrint Creative, Lake Liquors, and Laurie Cook Photography.

## CENTRAL GARDENS *Receives Grant Support*

Central Gardens is grateful for the following organizations who provided essential funding through grants and sponsorships in recent weeks. Fleet Farm awarded Central Gardens a gift card for use on supplies needed to maintain the grounds in May. Alliant Energy Foundation and Bertha Stebens Charitable Foundation provided funding for Picnics and Performances. Clear Lake Bank & Trust awarded funding for the Summer Garden Party.



# THE MANY BENEFITS OF BEING A MEMBER!

Whether you're new to Central Gardens or have been around for years, and whether you're a corporate or individual/family member, we encourage you to take advantage of your member benefits. Here's a reminder about the benefits available to you.

**CORPORATE MEMBERS** receive sponsorship publicity for one to four events, depending on membership level, a 50% discount on Summer Garden Party tickets, and rental time (Designer and Gardener levels). All corporate members receive and are recognized in each newsletter and in the Annual Report.

**INDIVIDUAL/FAMILY MEMBERS** enjoy free admission to over 360 gardens and arboretums across North America and the Caribbean through the Central Gardens' membership to the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program. For a list of participating gardens, visit <https://ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/rap/>. Additional benefits include an exclusive discount on bricks and granite pavers, newsletters, and recognition in the Annual Report. Higher level members receive discounted Summer Garden Party tickets and rental time.

Any questions about your membership to Central Gardens can be directed to Joni Frederick at 641-357-0700 or [jonif@centralgardensnorthiowa.com](mailto:jonif@centralgardensnorthiowa.com)



## 2024 Corporate Members

### DESIGNER (\$2,500 + UP)



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



### CARETAKER (\$500 - \$999)

Bombie (Bonnie Hall)  
Clear Lake Bank & Trust  
Laird Law Firm, PLC  
Larson's Mercantile  
Sail Inn  
Stellar Industries  
Ward Van Slyke Colonial Chapel

### PLANTER (\$250 - \$499)

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



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

**Address Service Requested**

## ACTIVITIES & EVENTS AT CENTRAL GARDENS

Follow us on Facebook or visit our website at [www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com](http://www.centralgardensnorthiowa.com) for information on activities, events, and programs at the Gardens this season. Gates open daily from dawn to dusk through October 31. Admission is free. Donations are appreciated.

**FRIDAYS, JUNE 7, 14, 21, AND 28, 9 AM – 11 AM**

*Garden Explorers (kids). Free.*

**FRIDAYS, JUNE 7, 14, 21, AND 28, 9 AM – 11 AM**

*Fresh on Friday Bouquet Sales and Refreshments.*

**SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 12 NOON**

*Summer Garden Party. Ticketed event.*

**SUNDAYS, JULY 14 - SEPTEMBER 1, 5 PM – 6 PM**

*Picnics & Performances. Free.*

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2 PM – 4 PM**

*Bugs, Bees, and Butterflies. Free.*

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 4 PM – 7 PM**

*Pumpkin Palooza. Free.*

