



IN THIS ISSUE:

<i>Director's Message</i>	page 1
<i>Presenting: Mike McGrath</i>	page 2
<i>Pollinator bed expansion</i>	page 2
<i>Farmers Market continues</i>	page 3
<i>Garden Sprouts update</i>	page 3



A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings from the height of the growing season, as we head straight into the hot and sunny heart of a northwestern Pennsylvania summer (yes, it's nearly August already!); a summer I've been affectionately referring to as the 'summer of Murphy's Law.' From decidedly strange and oscillatory weather patterns, to odd and ill-timed equipment failures, to a seemingly more-prevalent-than-average rash of medical misfortunes amongst our family of Directors, staff and members, the summer of 2011 has brought with it a flourish of adversity. But, 'that is life,' as they say, and despite a dollop of gloom and doom here and there, 2011 is turning out to be a truly remarkable season.

For starters, Education Coordinator Heather Zimmerman's "Garden Sprouts" preschool classes, which you'll read about in more detail in this issue and which has been made possible by an Education Grant from the Erie Community Foundation, has shown itself to be a wonderfully-uplifting success. It is truly something special for staff members, parents, grandparents, etc. to behold preschool children, eyes wide with wonder, eagerly taking in every drop of information conveyed by the narratives and activities of Heather and her supporting staff. I, for one, am looking very much forward to the continued success of this program for the remainder

of this season and for seasons to come. Just the same, the Farmers Market at Goodell Gardens simply keeps getting better and better. My hat is off to the myriad, passionate vendors, members, community and staff who are making this burgeoning program a success. The Farmers Market is one to watch, folks, as we hope to continue developing it as a bountiful asset for the community.

Capital improvement at the Gardens is moving forward at a prodigious pace: the Tenant house is undergoing an architectural feasibility study, funded in part by an ArtsErie/Kresge Foundation Capacity-Building grant, the result of which will likely see a capital campaign to renovate the Tenant house as administrative space; the Pollinator Garden Expansion project, along with its attendant tree plantings, is well under way and will continue throughout the season with finale planting of several more large trees and shrubs. Do keep your eyes on the Pollinator Garden Expansion for the remainder of the 2011 season, as we are making and will continue to make significant strides in developing the landscape surrounding the Performance Barn.

Best wishes, and I hope to see you at the Gardens,

Dana A. Atwood
Executive Director



The Casa Blanca Lillies, (Lilium 'Casa blanca') at Goodell Gardens were recently transplanted to the sunken garden, near the Japanese Maple. These beautiful white lillies have a lovely fragrance and large blooms. Be sure to seek them out if you stop by in the coming weeks.

GOODELL GARDENS PRESENTS: MIKE MCGRATH - ORGANIC GARDENING EXPERT

BY AMBER WELLINGTON
Media Relations

Goodell Gardens is excited to host organic gardening expert and talk radio show host Mike McGrath.

A Philadelphia native, McGrath has worked for Marvel Comics, as a science writer, and most recently as an organic gardening expert, writing and talking about organic gardening.

Education Coordinator Heather Zimmerman was very excited to have the opportunity to book McGrath to speak at Goodell, having read his columns when he was the Editor of *Organic Gardening* magazine and having attended his lecture offered by the Crawford County Master Gardeners in the past.

During an interview late last month, McGrath revealed to our staff that he never thought he would become a gardener. But a chance encounter at a party held in the 1970s led to his current career path.

"I met the most beautiful woman I'd ever seen at a party. All she want-



ed was somebody who could grow raspberries for her," McGrath said. "So I became a gardener."

He admits that he still grows raspberries for his wife today, while sneaking in some garlic for himself. And through careful research combined with a lot of experience, he's learned how to yield two crops out of his raspberry plants, something he shares with the listeners of his nationally-syndicated radio show,

"You Bet Your Garden."

McGrath also said that during his weekend in Edinboro, he will prepare our members and visitors for tending to their fall lawn, focusing on chemical-free lawn care and organic sustainability.

McGrath will speak as part of our Tea Time Talk series on Sunday, July 24 from 3-5 pm, when he will present "Get Your Yard Off Drugs." Admission to this class will be \$5 for members, \$8 for nonmembers, and will include light refreshments.

On Saturday, July 23, from 7-9 pm, McGrath will host a Book Signing and Reception, featuring live music, Mazza Vineyards wine and artisan cheese from Conneauttee Creamery. To show our appreciation, members of Goodell Gardens will be admitted to this event free-of-charge. Nonmember admission will be \$20.

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WESTWARD, HO! Pollinator Bed expansion keeps garden staff busy



As our garden staff continues toward completing the landscaping around the Events Barn, the extended pollinator beds have begun to take shape. This fall, planting of the new beds will commence. The existing pollinator-friendly plants currently onsite will be thinned, with the excess placed in the new beds, and many new plants will also be added. According to Landscape Manager Brooke Harrison, these plantings will include trees (like Red Oak, Yellow Buckeye, Shagbark Hickory, Hemlock and Birch) and pollinator-friendly shrubs. Harrison added that this expansion will really begin to develop the western portion of the property that was used as a crop field by the Goodell Family.

"This has been just begging to be done," Harrison said, adding that he has long wanted to remove the straight line that currently exists between the Heritage Garden and what he calls the "west property." "We'll discontinue the straight border and really incorporate the barn into the landscaping."

While the expansion will eventually include existing and new plants, the first things "planted" in the new beds will be large stones (from the old foundation of the relocated sheep barn) and mulch. After the weather has changed and the plants are no longer in midsummer stress, they, too, will be moved to the new location.

2011 FARMERS MARKET – BIGGER & BETTER

BY HEATHER ZIMMERMAN
Market Manager

Goodell Gardens is pleased to announce that the 2011 Farmers Market has more than doubled in size from seven vendors in 2010 to 18 committed vendors this season. This means much more diversity of locally-grown produce and products for our Market customers. Six vendors from last year have returned, so if you had a favorite produce vendor, perennial plant grower, maple syrup producer, or bread baker – they're back! This year's new vendors offer a wider variety of sustainably-grown produce, artisan cheeses, gourmet salad blends, relishes, salsa, free-range chicken eggs, perennial plants, cut flowers and more!

We began the season Wednesday, June 22, with 11 vendors and

150 customers. Each week the number and diversity of vendors will grow as their produce ripens; so too, we hope, will the number of customers. Several of the vendors participate in the PA Dept. of Agriculture Farm Market Nutritional Program (FMNP) which provides produce vouchers to families in the WIC program and qualifying senior citizens. The farmers can use these vouchers same-as-cash to provide nutritional fruits and vegetables to families in need. Look for the FMNP signs on vendors' tables.

Be sure to stop by the Gardens

on Wednesday evenings from 3-6 p.m. and support our local farmers by buying fresh and buying local. Here are the local farmers that you

can support: B & R Greenhouse, Byler's Relish House, Vanco Farms, Pine Run Family Farm, Honeycutt's Greenhouse, Kantz Korner, Schultz Farm, Tender Acres, Hurry Hill Maple Farm, Lone Oaks, Windover Farm, Beelzebub Salsa, Showman Farms/Conneauttee Creamery, Dazzy's Handmade / Homemade,

Contented Boro Chix, Peace by Piece Farm, Karen's Garden Gate Salad Factory.

Also, the Gardens offer free admission on Market Day.



Cindy Beck, of Peace by Piece Farm on Boyd Run prepares her table for opening day.

GARDEN SPROUTS TEACHES YOUNGSTERS ABOUT GARDENS

BY HEATHER ZIMMERMAN - Preschool Teacher

The first class of the new Goodell Gardens preschool "Garden Sprouts" was fun for 4-year-olds and grown-ups alike.

The six weeks of lessons are based on the classic bug books by Eric Carle. We started with "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by listening to the story (most had it memorized!) and then dressing up as the caterpillar's life cycle from egg, to larva, to chrysalis, to adult. The children began making a six page booklet of all the "Carle Critters" we will study



and took home a beautiful egg carton caterpillar. The highlight of this week's Garden walk was to see Monarch caterpillars munching on Milkweed leaves.

Each weekly lesson includes a walk through the Heritage Gardens, looking for the good bugs and bad bugs Eric Carle wrote about. "The Very Grouchy Ladybug" and "The Very Busy Spider" will be featured next to teach the children (and their grown-ups) about beneficial insects in our gardens. Of course, we will plant seeds, pretend to be honeybees, and listen for "The Very Lonely Cricket" as he heralds the end of summer and the start of Kindergarten for some of these Garden Sprouts.



What we're working on:

- Pollinator bed expansion
- Event & programming development
- Upgrades to visitor services

How you can help:

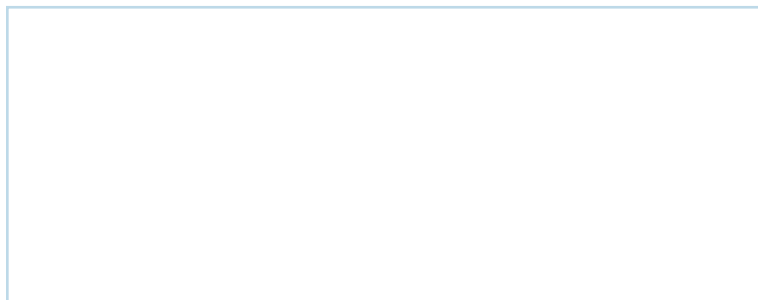
- Volunteer
- In-kind donations
- Gifts of stock
- Cash donations
- Sponsorship
- Spread the word

Contact our office at (814) 734-6699 or ggh_info@velocity.net for specific details on ongoing projects, the costs involved and how your contribution will be used.

GOODELL GARDENS & HOMESTEAD



221 Waterford Street
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HOURS
Wednesday - Sunday
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
May - October