



The Giving Garden Of Carrollton

Volume 10, Issue 2

April—June 2019

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Buzz from the Board by Laura Margadonna

We've been busy as bees these past few months with the additional mid-week harvests that we've added to Sign-Up Genius. That really helps to space out the CCA deliveries, so they are not overwhelmed on Saturdays. We think it has also resulted in less waste since we're harvesting more frequently.

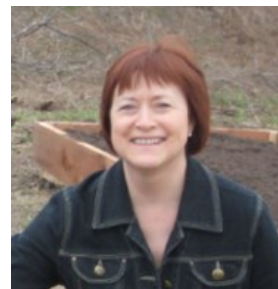
The Board really appreciates those of you who make time to come to the garden to help on harvest days even when you aren't the one who signed up! It's a great way to get to know other gardeners, see what they have growing, and share a few laughs.

The picnic on June 1st was fun and the food was great. Especially the Blackberry cobbler! We've also had a bunch of visitors this year including preschoolers, boy scouts and girl scouts as well. Thanks to Terri who keeps track of requests and gives most of the tours. She's such a great Public Relations rep for the garden.

We tried our first restaurant fundraiser at Chipotles in May and raised over \$372. Barbara and Angela T. are now working on a cookbook which will feature vegetables and/or herbs that we grow in our garden. If your recipe is used, your name is automatically included in the cookbook!

You all have been such good stewards of the garden this year, that we are far ahead of where we were this time of year in 2017, which was our best year ever with 3,200 pounds donated! In June alone, we donated 916.5 pounds. And the Blackberry patch that T.C. and Carolyn maintain produced a hundred pounds! As I walk around the beds and see all the watermelons and cantaloupes, I can envision all those happy families who will get to enjoy the fruits of our labor.

At our June board meeting, I was honored to be selected to fill the position of President. I still have the original e-mail from our former president, Willie Lane, inviting me to join the Board in September 2011. I think he would be pleased to know that I am following in his footsteps. And bed 17 will always be Willie's bed to me.



What is Wrong With My Peppers?

Submitted by Laura Margadonna

Problem: Tan to dark spots appear on the lower leaves. Spotted leaves turn yellow and drop off. Brown, corky wart-like raised spots appear on the fruit.

Analysis: Bacterial Spot



This disease is caused by a bacterium that also attacks tomatoes. The bacteria are most prevalent after heavy rains and in very warm weather (75 to 85 degrees). Bacteria are spread from plant to plant by splashing rain and by touching and handling wet plants. The bacteria can enter the leaf through stomata and wounds. Fruit is unsightly but edible if blemishes are removed.

Solution:

The most important sources for bacterial spot are infested seed and diseased transplants. In addition, the pathogen is soil borne both on dried plant debris and, possibly, in the soil itself for at least 1 year. Remove all infected plant debris from the garden. Spray the plants with a fungicide containing basic copper sulfate when first fruit forms or at first sign of disease. It is important to have a protective film of copper fungicide on the plant surface so that most bacterial cells will be killed before they enter the leaf or fruit. Sprays should be applied before and during periods of rain and high humidity. Sprays are not effective against bacteria inside the tissue. Spray every 10-14 days if weather conditions are favorable for the spread of the disease. Fertilize the plants to help them replace lost leaves and avoid overhead watering. Clean and disinfect pruning shears when touching diseased plants.

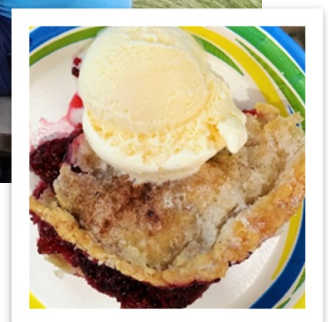
http://vegetablemdonline.ppath.cornell.edu/factsheets/Pepper_BactSpot.htm

<http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/archives/parsons/vegetables/pepper.html>

Disinfecting Garden Tools

Most experts recommend using 70-100% isopropyl alcohol for an inexpensive way to sterilize pruning tools. No mixing, soaking or rinsing is necessary with alcohol. Tools can simply be wiped, sprayed or dipped in isopropyl alcohol for immediate effectiveness against most pathogens. However, it also has unpleasant harmful fumes and can be flammable so do this in a well-ventilated area and wear eye protection. Don't forget to wipe tools dry and lubricate moving parts (WD40) to help maintain tools. Some experts recommend bleach, but bleach is corrosive, can produce harmful fumes, and isn't as effective against viruses as some other products. If using bleach, soak tools and then rinse with water, dry and lubricate to prevent rusting.

June 1st Picnic



TO DO LISTS

JULY

Plant: food crops

- Okra, eggplant, peppers, corn, sweet potato slips, watermelon

Fertilize

- Foliar feed flowers and vegetables with liquid seaweed

Insects

- Watch for aphids and spider mites. Spray them off with a hard blast of water.

Prep

- Start planning the fall garden.
- Clean up debris in the vegetable garden.
- Late month, apply compost to future beds

Other tasks

- Deeply water new plants.

AUGUST

Plant: food crops

- Beans
- <http://dallas-tx.tamu.edu/files/2010/06/Vegetable-Planting-Guide.pdf>

Fertilize

- Foliar feed flowers and vegetables with liquid seaweed

Prep

- Apply compost & mix in organic slow-release granular fertilizer for fall plantings

SEPTEMBER

Plant: herbs

- Perennial herbs like thyme, rosemary, oregano

Plant: food crops

- Start winter seeds like lettuce, broccoli, kale and spinach in pots in shady areas
- <http://dallas-tx.tamu.edu/files/2010/06/Vegetable-Planting-Guide.pdf>

Prep

- Add compost to vegetable gardens along with organic fertilizer in prep for winter vegetables

Crunchy Pea Salad Submitted by Bill Rich



Prep: 20 min. Cook: 00 min. Total: 20 min. Serves 6 - 8

10 oz frozen peas, thawed & drained
1 cup chopped cauliflower
1/2 cup diced celery
1/4 cup diced green onion
1 cup chopped cashews
1/2 cup sour cream
1 cup Ranch dressing
Optional: bacon bits

Combine all ingredients. Chill. Garnish w/ additional cashews



Seed Donations from
ACE Hardware
And
Strong's Nursery



Garden Tips

Submitted by Laura Margadonna

"Most of us have heard that **marigolds** make excellent pest-repellant companion plantings - a backyard legend mostly unsubstantiated by research," writes **William Scheick**. "Proven: blanketing a field with French marigolds (*Tagetes patula*) suppresses nematodes, while a more typical garden sprinkling of them provides trap plants (diverting pests and attracting their predators). Now research data reported this year (in *Plos One*) confirm that French marigolds emit airborne limonene that limits whitefly populations around tomato plants. Good news!"



Baking Soda Fungicide

Mix 4 teaspoons (about 1 rounded tablespoon) of baking soda and 1 tablespoon of horticultural oil into one gallon of water. Spray lightly on foliage of plants afflicted with black spot, powdery mildew, brown patch and other fungal diseases. Avoid over-using or pouring on the soil. Citrus oil and molasses can be used instead of horticultural oil.

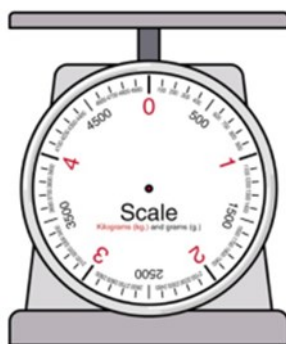
Potassium bicarbonate Fungicide

Mix 4 teaspoons (about 1 rounded tablespoon) of potassium bicarbonate into one gallon of water. Spray lightly on foliage of plants afflicted with black spot, powdery mildew, brown patch and other fungal diseases. Potassium bicarbonate is a good substitute for baking soda. There are commercial EPA registered as well as generic products available.



Harvest Update

**June 2019 Year to Date
1,550 Lbs.**



Between 2010 and June 2019, The Giving Garden has donated 17,500 lbs. and is close to the NINE TON MILESTONE!!

June High Points

- ◇ **Donated a total of 916.5 lbs. of fresh organic produce**
- ◇ **Heaviest harvest day yet this year on June 1st of 186 lbs.**
- ◇ **Biggest mid-week harvest on June 26th of 110 lbs.**
- ◇ **Harvested over 100 lbs. of Blackberries through June**



Meet the Gardener . . . Annette Reese (Bed #4)



- Annette lives in Carrollton and is married with two adult daughters.
- She works at Hebron High School as a Special Education Department Chair and Science Teacher.
- Annette joined The Giving Garden because she thought it was a unique way to volunteer and support the people of our community. She has volunteered in the community in many ways.
- Annette says she is a beginner gardener.
- Besides gardening, Annette enjoys running and reading, just not at the same time!
- Her favorite thing about belonging to The Giving Garden is enjoying the fruit of her labor and the camaraderie of other gardeners with a common goal.
- Three adjectives friends and family use to describe Annette are: energetic, committed, friendly.
- Annette's favorite vegetable is the potato.
- The last movie she saw was "Wine Country".
- Her inspiration to garden is not so much the end product, but the process!
- If she could travel anywhere Annette would go to Ireland or Australia.
- If Annette could meet any three people, living or dead, they would be: Sir Isaac Newton, Martin Luther King, Jr, Prince Henry and Meghan (I know I will meet Jesus later)
- She wishes she knew how to play a guitar and speak another language fluently!

Meet the Gardener . . . Nico Nguyen (Bed #6)



- Nico moved to Carrollton from San Antonio and is engaged to be married.
- She works for CHRISTUS Health, a Catholic hospital system and is the Director of Population Health.
- She joined The Giving Garden in December of 2018.
- Nico joined the Giving Garden because she wanted to get more involved in the community when she moved to the DFW area and has always wanted to be part of a community garden.
- She is a beginner vegetable gardener.
- Her favorite hobby besides gardening is cooking.

- The three adjectives friends and family would use to describe Nico are: adventurous, practical, friendly.
- Nico's favorite vegetable is green beans.
- Nico's favorite thing about the garden is getting to know other gardeners and seeing the growth of the vegetables!
- The last movie she saw was "Always Be My Maybe".
- Her inspiration for gardening is: My parents who have gardened all my life. It has been fun to talk to them and share gardening tips.
- If Nico could travel anywhere it would be to Russia or Alaska.
- If she could meet any three people, they would be: Gandhi, Pope Francis, Elie Wiesel.
- Nico wishes she knew how to speak more languages. I can speak Vietnamese (native tongue) and have been wanting to learn Spanish.

Parting Shots



CEPTA Visitor 3/25/19—Lady Bug Release

Melanie Meijering's Mother



Continued...



Fisher family, and Terri showing some boy scouts how to clean onions.



The Giving Garden Board Members

Terri Barrett
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Angela Torres
Plot 26
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About The Giving Garden of Carrollton

The Giving Garden of Carrollton is a non-profit community garden that was jointly developed by Keep Carrollton Beautiful and Aldersgate United Methodist Church (AUMC). The goal for the community garden is to provide a sustainable community garden opportunity for the citizens of Carrollton, without regard to demographic or socioeconomic status.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

What:

Family Health & Wellness Fair

When:

Saturday, September 28th
from 10 am - 1 pm

Where:

Carrollton Public Library, 4220 N.
Josey Ln.



7/9
7/13
7/13
7/22
7/25

Nico Nguyen
Aruna Murugesh
Stephanie Halliday
Karen Pagan
Jill White

9/8
9/21
9/23
9/25

Jerry Bunch
Martha Grizzel
James This
Laura Margadonna

10/3
10/20
10/25

Terri Barrett
Doug Forbes
Annette Reese