## The April 2017 Newsletter Gardens Gate



Port St. Lucie **Botanical Gardens** 



## LADYBUG RELEASE **CELEBRATES EARTH DAY**



What happier experience is there to celebrate Earth Day than watching children release hundreds of Ladybugs into nature? Join us on April 22nd for a special experience. Smiles will be aflutter on everyone's face as these beneficial "bugs", which are really flying beetles, move out to look for a new home. When they locate their very special plant - perhaps in your yard, they will be your own garden assistant. Ladybugs are "good bugs" and help eliminate "bad bugs". They serve as a natural pesticide by feeding on insects that could harm the health of our gardens, trees and shrubs.

Give these tiny, helpful guests a hearty and protective welcome to your home.

President's Message Board & Committees Video Of The Month **HS Horticulture Club News** Propagation Garden Center Update Out & About with The Gardens

Become A Member April Calendar Wacky Weeders April Planting Calendar What's Flowering / Edibles To Plant Can You Dig It Gardens Wish List Appreciation Night Anglers Kids Fishing Tournament Earth Day Ladybug Launch

RemindeR

EARTH DAY LADYBUG LAUNCH SATURDAY • APRIL 22ND 11AM - NOON



2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd.

Port St. Lucie, FL 34952 Phone: 772.337.1959 Fax: 772.237.5952

E-mail: info@pslbotanicalgardens.org

Web: www.pslbg.org

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 10am - 4pm

Sunday Noon - 4pm

Closed Monday, Tuesday & Holidays

Suggested Donations:

Adults \$5 Students \$2

Children 12 & Under Welcome Members and Active Military (with family) Welcome (IDs required)

### Mission Statement . . .

Friends' mission is to create and maintain a beautiful, serene sanctuary in the center of Port St. Lucie that is environmentally sound and naturally diverse and to provide educational, cultural and recreational opportunities for all who visit.

### Officers & Directors . . .

President: Joleen King
Vice President: Illona Christie
Secretary: Claire Clark
Treasurer: Cheri Mabry
Directors: Mike Alexander

Brenda Gustafson Gloria "Gigi" Norelli Jeffrey Policar Glenn Ryals Tim Sutton

### Standing Committee Chairs . . .

Election Committee: TBD

Finance Committee: Cheri Mabry
Gift Shop Committee: Mike Aleander
Horticulture Committee: Brenda Gustafson

Membership & Volunteer

Committee: Illona Christie

Resource Development

Committee: Claire Clark Strategic Planning Committee: Glenn Ryals

### Newsletter...

Editor: Judy Nash-Wade Design: Mark Barnes

The Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens is managed and operated by Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc. The Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc. receives no funding from any government agency. Your admission donations help us maintain and grow The Gardens.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

Spring! While the arrival of Spring in South Florida is a subtle awakening of our trees and wildlife, lacking in some of the spectacular shows of green and color that many of us remember from "back up north", our Tropical Spring is very much here. There is an increase in bird song and the oak trees



are breaking out in bright, healthy green. While the pollen accumulation on cars and screens can be troublesome and inconvenient, it's part of the passage of the seasons.

April in the Gardens brings two of our most anticipated children's events: the Kids Fishing Tournament on Saturday, April 8, hosted by the PSL Anglers Club, and second, our 'Ladybug Launch' on Earth Day, April 22 (Saturday). Both events are great fun – Consider joining us!

Joleen King President





If you Plant They will come!

# CLASSES

**Complete List Of All Classes At** www.pindersnursery.com **Must Register Online** 



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## High School Horticulture Club News

The Somerset Preparatory Academy Horticulture Club recently learned and practiced pruning. A workshop demonstration and hands-on practice was conducted by St. Lucie County Master Gardener Lynda Salsbury.

The Horticulture Club meets for six sessions over a three-month period to learn and practice a variety of gardening basics in the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens. An area of the Gardens is designated for the students to maintain practicing skills. while their This provides continuing learning а experience well valuable as as community service - and they receive official community volunteer service Students are welcome and hours! encouraged to become a regular ongoing volunteer of the Gardens after their workshop series is complete.













Our new and improved Propagation Garden Center (previously known as Propagation Area) is ready and waiting for all to visit!

The volunteers have propagated and cared for a plant or two just for you!

View the large variety of plants for sale at very reasonable prices. Plant cost varies, with the majority priced from \$1.00 to \$5.00. All proceeds benefit the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens and the valuable programs we provide for the community.

Whether you are planting a new garden, looking for an unusual plant or need gardening advice we are there to assist.

Volunteers are available to help you in the Propagation Garden Center, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 10AM – 1PM.

## SEE YOU THERE!



**Volunteers At Work** 





### Friends' Welcomes the Treasure Coast Bonsai Society



## Treasure Coast Bonsai Society









### Eagle Scout Butterfly House Project & Phyllis with the finished Butterfly House







### **EXPERIENCE COUNTS - AND SAVINGS ADD UP**



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## **Wacky Weeders**











## Continued from Pg 9





**Junk in The Trunk Community Trunk Sale** 

























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## Are you a Member of Friends? Friends Membership is...



Become a Member of a Growing Community... Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens, Inc.





Click Here to Join or Renew Your Membership Today





| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Horticulture Club Meeting                   | 8:00 am - 12 Noon     | All Welcome                    |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Intermediate Spanish Class                  | 10:00 - 11:30 am      | All Welcome                    |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | German American Club Board Meeting          | 2:00 - 4:00 pm        | Members Only                   |
| 5 <sup>th</sup>  | Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams           | 6:30 - 9:30 pm        | \$5 Members<br>\$6 Non Members |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | German American Chorus                      | 2:00 - 4:00 pm        | Members Only                   |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Horticulture Club Meeting                   | 8:00 am - 12 Noon     | All Welcome                    |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | PSL Angler's Kids Fishing Tournament        | 8:00 - 11:00 am       | All Welcome                    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Board of Director's Meeting                 | 4:30 - 6:00 pm        | Members Welcome                |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> | PSL Orchid Society Mtg.                     | 12:00 - 3:00 pm       | All Welcome                    |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> | Intermediate Spanish Class                  | 10:00 - 11:30 am      | All Welcome                    |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> | PSL Angler's Meeting                        | 6:00 - 9:30 pm        | All Welcome                    |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Crosstown Chapel – Good Friday Service      | 4:00 - 9:00 pm        | All Welcome                    |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Wacky Weeders                               | 8:00 am - 12:00 Noon  | All Welcome                    |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> | Crosstown Chapel – Easter Sunday<br>Service | 5:00 - 11:00 am       | All Welcome                    |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Somerset Academy NHS/SNHS                   | 7:00 - 8:30 pm        | Private Event                  |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Intermediate Spanish Class                  | 10:00 - 11:30 am      | All Welcome                    |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> | Ft. Pierce Jazz & Blues Jazz Jams           | 6:30 - 9:30 pm        | \$5 Members<br>\$6 Non Members |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | Hibiscus Society Meeting                    | 10:30 am - 1:00 pm    | All Welcome                    |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> | German American Chorus                      | 2:00 - 4:00 pm        | Members Only                   |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Earth Day Celebration                       | All Day               | All Welcome                    |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Children's Ladybug Launch                   | 11:00 am - 12 Noon    | All Welcome                    |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | Horticulture Club Meeting                   | 8:00 am - 12 Noon     | All Welcome                    |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> | TC Bonsai Society Meeting                   | 10:00 am - 12:00 Noon | Members Welcome                |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> | So Florida Daylily Society                  | 2:00 - 4:00 pm        | Members Welcome                |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> | Intermediate Spanish Class                  | 10:00 - 11:30 am      | All Welcome                    |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | Horticulture Club Meeting                   | 8:00 am - 12 Noon     | All Welcome                    |

The Gardens is closed Monday's & Tuesday's • For more information on events, please call 772.337.1959



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## Welcome to All Garden Goers...

This month our Jazz Jams will be held on April 5th, & April 19th starting at 6:30 pm

## JAZZ JAMS

## At The Gardens

Donation \$6 per person. Gardens & Jazz Society Members \$5 per person.

Sponsored by the Fort Pierce Jazz & Blues Society





772.801.8800 Mark@MarkBarnesMusic.com

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## ENLIST: Join the Saturday

Wacky Weeders'

When: April 15, 2017

Where: PSL Botanical Gardens

8:30AM - 12:00PM Time:

## LUNCH Served

Earn Double volunteer hours (Core & School Students)

The Gardens need your help! The Weeds are still winning the war! And the vines are strategizing for a world take-over! Let's show 'em who's boss. They've had all winter to strengthen their ranks, but enough is enough! It's time to continue sprucing up the Gardens for Spring & Summer events!



## Join US For a Fun Morning - ALL Volunteers Invited

Consider yourself less than able-bodied? There are jobs for everyone, no matter age or ability. Bring gloves, clippers and any personal tools you prefer.



## **Propagation** thing for Garden Center

If you enjoy gardening and want to learn more about propagating your Florida plants, increase plant knowledge and other gardening techniques, then join our team at the Propagation Garden Center. We're there to work and learn together. We're a friendly group who would like you to join us even if it's for only a couple of hours a week. Call Brenda Gustafson at 772-678-8523 or visit us any Thursday, Friday or Saturday from 9:30AM to 12:00PM.





## University of Florida IFAS Extension Central Florida Gardening Calendar — April

## What to Plant

**Annuals/Bedding plants**: Plant heat-tolerant annuals, such as coleus, vinca, and portulaca. **See** *Annuals*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic annual landscape plants">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic annual landscape plants</a>

**Bulbs**: Cannas thrive in the heat of summer. New varieties have colorful leaves as well as flowers. **See** *Bulbs for Florida*: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic bulbous flowers

**Herbs**: Some to start now include basil, coriander, cumin, and mint. **See** *Herbs*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_herbs">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_herbs</a>

**Vegetables**: Beans, Chinese cabbage, Southern peas, and sweet potatoes can still be planted. Mulch beds well and monitor irrigation if the weather is dry. **See** *Vegetable Gardening in Florida*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic vegetable gardening">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic vegetable gardening</a>

### What to Do

**Pests**: Monitor insect activity and learn which bugs damage plants and which do not. **See** *Landscape Pest Management*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic landscape pests">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic landscape pests</a>

**Beneficials**: Identify and conserve beneficial insects. Some insects should be encouraged in your yard! **See**Beneficial Insects: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_beneficial\_insects">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_beneficial\_insects</a>

**Tomatoes**: Watch for pests, disease, and nutritional disorders on developing tomato plants. **See** *Home Tomato Gardening*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic tomato gardening">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic tomato gardening</a>

**Palms**: Identify and treat environmental and nutritional disorders in palm trees. **See** *Palm Care*: http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic palm care

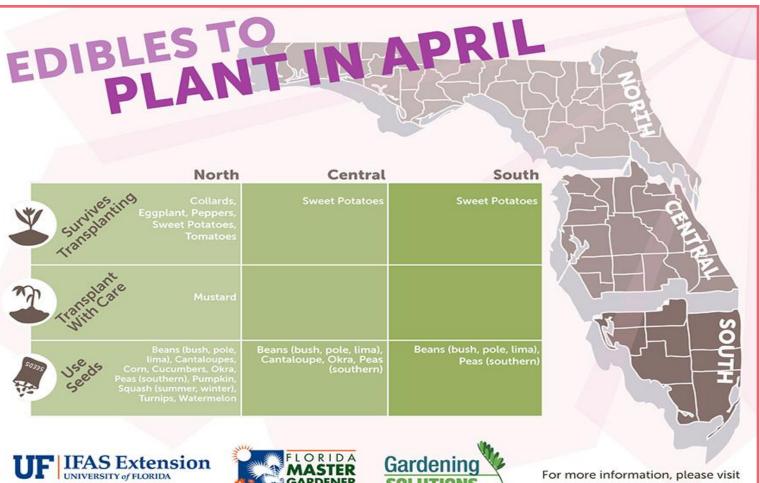
**Oleanders**: Inspect chewed or ragged leaves for oleander caterpillars at work. **See** *Oleander Pest Management*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic oleander">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic oleander</a> ipm

**Fruits**: Propagate fruit crops by air layering and grafting. **See** *Propagating Fruits in Florida*: <a href="http://www.solutionsforyourlife.com/hot">http://www.solutionsforyourlife.com/hot</a> topics/lawn and garden/propagating fruits.shtml

**Perennials and bulbs**: Divide clumps of bulbs, ornamental grasses, or herbaceous perennials to expand or rejuvenate garden beds or to pass along to friends. **See** *Bulbs for Florida*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers</a> and *Perennial Landscape Plants*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers</a> and *Perennial Landscape Plants*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers</a> and *Perennial Landscape Plants*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic\_bulbous\_flowers</a> and *Perennial Landscape Plants*:

Shrubs: Choose from a wide variety of shrubs to add to the landscape now. See *The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Guide to Plant Selection & Landscape Design*: <a href="http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN Plant Selection Guide v090110.pdf">http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/FYN Plant Selection Guide v090110.pdf</a> and *Shrubs*: <a href="http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic shrubs">http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/topic shrubs</a>





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GARDENER



## THE HISTORY OF EARTH DAY

Each year, Earth Day—April 22—marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

The height of counterculture in the United States, 1970 brought the death of Jimi Hendrix, the last Beatles album, and Simon & Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Water." War raged in Vietnam and students nationwide overwhelmingly opposed it.

At the time, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. "Environment" was a word that appeared more often in spelling bees than on the evening news.

Although mainstream America largely remained oblivious to environmental concerns, the stage had been set for change by the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller Silent Spring in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries, and beginning to raise public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and links between pollution and public health.

Earth Day 1970 gave voice to that emerging consciousness, channeling the energy of the anti-war protest movement and putting environmental concerns on the front page.

### The Idea

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" to the national media; persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair; and recruited Denis Hayes from Harvard as national coordinator. Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land. April 22, falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, was selected as the date.

On April 22,1970, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment. Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values.

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Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. By the end of that year, the first Earth Day had led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts. "It was a gamble," Gaylord recalled, "but it worked."

As 1990 approached, a group of environmental leaders asked Denis Hayes to organize another big campaign. This time, Earth Day went global, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting environmental issues onto the world stage. Earth Day 1990 gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide and helped pave the way for the 1992 United Nations Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro. It also prompted President Bill Clinton to award Senator Nelson the Presidential Medal of Freedom (1995)—the highest honor given to civilians in the United States—for his role as Earth Day founder. Earth Day Today

As the millennium approached, Hayes agreed to spearhead another campaign, this time focused on global warming and a push for clean energy. With 5,000 environmental groups in a record 184 countries reaching out to hundreds of millions of people, Earth Day 2000 combined the big-picture feistiness of the first Earth Day with the international grassroots activism of Earth Day 1990. Earth Day 2000 used the power of the Internet to organize activists, but also featured a drum chain that traveled from village to village in Gabon, Africa. Hundreds of thousands of people gathered on the National Mall in Washington, DC for a First Amendment Rally. Earth Day 2000 sent world leaders the loud and clear message that citizens around the world wanted quick and decisive action on global warming and clean energy.

Much like 1970, Earth Day 2010 came at a time of great challenge for the environmental community. Climate change deniers, well-funded oil lobbyists, reticent politicians, a disinterested public, and a divided environmental community all contributed to the narrative—cynicism versus activism. Despite these challenges, Earth Day prevailed and Earth Day Network reestablished Earth Day as a relevant, powerful focal point. Earth Day Network brought 250,000 people to the National Mall for a Climate Rally, launched the world's largest environmental service project—A Billion Acts of Green®—introduced a global tree planting initiative that has since grown into The Canopy Project, and engaged 22,000 partners in 192 countries in observing Earth Day.

Earth Day had reached into its current status as the largest secular observance in the world, celebrated by more than a billion people every year, and a day of action that changes human

behavior and provokes policy changes.



Today, the fight for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more manifest every day. We invite you to be a part of Earth Day and help write many more chapters—struggles and victories—into the Earth Day book.

2020 marks the 50th anniversary of the first Earth Day. In honor of this milestone, Earth Day Network is launching an ambitious set of goals to shape the future of 21st century environmentalism. Learn more here.



Volunteers for the Welcome Center, Gift Shop and our Propagation Garden Center

Volunteers in the Gardens! Help us keep the Gardens beautiful!

Pots for use in the Propagation garden

Lumber and materials for raised propagation tables

Yard and garden tools

Handymen & Handywomen to assist with Fix-It Jobs

# Appreciation Night at First Data Field

525 NW Peacock Blvd.

Bring two nonperishable food items to receive a FREE TICKET to the St. Lucie Mets

April 7, 2017
GATES OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.
GAME STARTS AT 6:30 P.M.









Keep

Port St. Lucie

Beautiful



## WWW.PSLANGLERS.COM KIDS FISHING TOURNAMENT

Saturday • April 8, 2017

Sponsored by Port St. Lucie Angler's
Club and the Friends of the
Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens

\*\*\*\*\* FREE ADMISSION \*\*\*\*\*

8:00 - 9:00 AM Registration

9:30 AM Poles in the Water

Bring your own fishing tackle and eye protection. Bait will be provided and trophies will be awarded to each age group for biggest and most fish. Age Groups: 2 - 11yrs old and 12 - 16yrs old. First come first serve. Catch and release Event.

For More Information Please Call Dave Brigida at 772.834.7599 or Frank Gamber at 772.992.8428







Join the Friends of the Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens as we Celebrate Earth Day with a

Ladybug Launch
Ladybug Launch
Saturday o April 22, 2017
Saturday Noon
11am - Noon

Ladybugs are beneficial in nature. Come explore our gardens as we have fun releasing Ladybugs and discover fun facts about them.

Botanical
Gardens

Free for Children Ages 5 - 12 & families



Port St. Lucie Botanical Gardens • 772.337.1959 2410 SE Westmoreland Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34952

## Keep Port St. Lucie Beautiful

WHAT WHEN TIME

Annual Cleanup Day SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017 WHERE CITY HALL 8am - 1pm

(REGISTRATION AT 7:30AM)

**Volunteers** will register for the event, enjoy a free breakfast, and then be transported by bus to several locations throughout the city that are most in need of cleanup.

After the cleanup, buses will bring volunteers back for free lunch, raffles and lots of fun for the whole family.









