

AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

NEWSLETTER



**GARDEN
WISH LIST**

Our Garden wish list continues to grow as we identify more areas for beautification and education. Your contributions, on every level, enable us to expand our Oasis in the Panhandle.



CHRISTMAS IN THE GARDENS 2023

Christmas in the Gardens 2023 was an enormous success and provided much needed entertainment and joy to the community. With a generous donation from our title sponsor Atmos Energy, we were able to increase our lights, add new decorations and offset expenses! Thank you to our other large donors, M&R Liquors and River Falls Lodging for the additional support.

We were able to add two new ABG features: The 12 days of Christmas and The Singing Trees! We also hosted our second “Brunch with The Grinch”, sponsored by Atmos Energy; the event was a huge success, especially with our younger members. We received so much support from a host of new sponsors and donations from our community this season. We are humbled and grateful for all of the generous support. Look out for Santa and The Grinch to return December 2024.



POINSETTIA LUNCHEON AND STLYE SHOW

Thank you to all of our amazing partners and sponsors that brought our Poinsettia Luncheon to the next level of elegance: Janey's at 2500, Marcella's Furs and Leather, Esquire Jazz Band, Black Fig Catering, and Anderson Modeling and Talent Agency. A special mention to all of our members and non-members who created the center pieces for the event. The decorations and table settings were absolutely captivating. We look forward to seeing you all on December 3rd, 2024 for our next one!



Holidays in a Flash and A SEASON OF GROWING

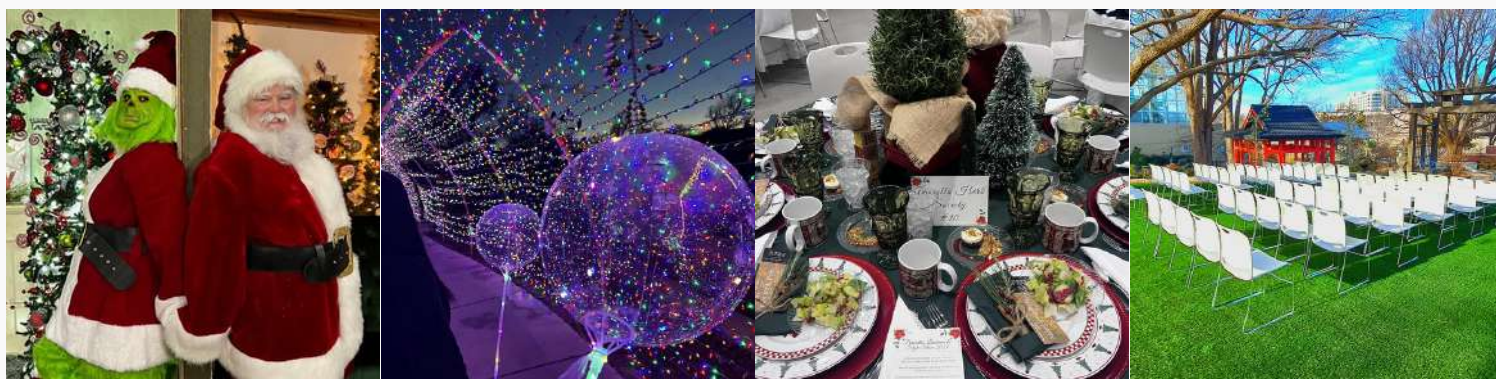
By: Greg Lusk

Raising funds for a botanical garden is always a very difficult task and in doing so for a garden on the high plains of Texas is as challenging as coping with the weather. Thank you for your support by giving to CITG, the Panhandle Gives, end of the year gifts, and memberships. The staff works on a very tight budget making the most of every dollar. We are able to pay our bills through what we bring in from our events and rentals but are dependent on the generosity of the community for funds to expand and grow our gardens and educational outreach.

We had a very good Christmas season with high attendance and more lights and activities ever. The community response has taught us that if you build it, they will come, but you must improve it each year to keep them coming back. All the upgrades were made possible by our community investing in us through sponsorships and their investment paid off for them as well, through high exposure from our large Christmas crowds.

We are planning for a very busy growing season and making changes to the gardens to improve and expand. One of our most noticeable improvements will be synthetic sod on the wedding lawn. This area sees a lot traffic and is under several very large trees. Grass just will not grow there anymore, and events are left standing in the mud. The upgrade will also help by saving thousands of gallons of water, fertilizer, and time mowing. We are also planning on building a seasonal butterfly house focusing on native butterflies. It will contain educational opportunities as well as being a delight for visitors. There will be more on this project and how you can be involved coming up.

We have grown into a very nice garden with much to offer our visitors. We are always in need of more volunteers to help tend our gardens. Volunteers don't have to be skilled gardeners and our volunteer hours are very flexible. Please consider supporting our Oasis on the plains through giving, volunteering, sponsorship, and memberships.



South West Garden Club

Our Pledge:

I give my pledge, as an American, to serve and to faithfully defend from waste, the natural resources of my country - its soil and minerals, its forests, waters, and wildlife.

Come join us on the third Friday of the month from 9:30am -11:00am. Most meetings are held at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens, but it is best to confirm the location prior to attending. Please call *Kamron Atkinson* for more information at 970-581-1237. The Southwest Amarillo Garden Club is composed of ladies with a love of gardening and a desire to propagate this knowledge through educational presentations, fellowship, and field trips. We welcome all ladies with a curiosity and desire to garden in the unique and often tough Texas panhandle region.

Plant Sale:

Join us at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens for our annual plant sale during GardenFest, April 27th, 2024 from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Timber Creek Garden Club PG.2

Our Mission:

To serve the Community in which we live and to help the citizens of Timbercreek establish gardens and plantings that are adaptable to our Canyon setting and compatible with the wildlife and weather that is found here.

The Timbercreek Garden Club is affiliated with the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. This affiliation with the Amarillo Garden Clubs helps us through training and information that is available to us as a member. The activities of the Club include landscaping and maintaining our three gate areas & decorating them at Christmas; providing information to residents; assisting annual cleanup activities; hosting family dinners for the residents; summer picnics in the park, and the annual garage sale.

The primary fund-raisers for the Club are the Timbercreek Phone Directory & the Annual Chili Cook-off as well as social evening dinners for the residents and their families.

The Timbercreek Garden Club meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the members' homes. Locations will be posted at Gates and on the website. These monthly meetings include guest speakers and various programs to educate and enlighten us about our special locale. We encourage anyone to attend, whether you are a new or experienced gardener or not even interested in gardening. We want you to join our fun and friendly group! Club fees are only \$20.00 per year.

2023-2024 Officers

President: Terrance & Tracy Sommers
V. President: Doug Messer
Secretary: Shelly Hanes
Treasurer: Karen Latta

Amarillo Herb Society



Our Pledge:

Our purpose is to protect and conserve the natural resources of the earth and will endeavor to promote education so that we may become reliable caretakers of our air, water, forests, lands and wildlife.

Our meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month from 11:30am to 1:00pm at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens.

Lunch will be provided by one of the volunteer hostesses/hosts followed by an informational program about the different variations of herbs and their uses. Interested in a membership with us, but not sure if you'll like it? Your first meeting is free! Once you want to join, membership is only \$30.00 for the year. Contact us via email at amatxherbs@gmail.com.

Meeting Dates:

January Meeting: 01/16/2024 - Past
February Meeting: 02/20/2024 - Past
March Meeting: 03/19/2024
April Meeting: 04/16/2024
May Meeting: 05/21/2024
June Meeting: 06/18/2024

Herb of the Month: **Rosemary**
Name: **Salvia Rosmarinus**
Family: **Lamiaceae (Mint Family)**
Uses: **Antispasmodic, mild analgesic, headaches, migraine, insomnia emotional upset, depression, and as a seasoning.**

North Plains Iris Society

Iris Show and Sale Info:

North Plains Iris Society will have our annual iris show April 13th, 2024. Located at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens. Open to public from 2:00pm - 4:00pm, admission is free. Show chair for this years show is *Dawn Boyer*. If there are any questions email Dawn at dawn.boyer@yahoo.com. We also will have our iris sale July 13th, 2024 in the basement of the Amarillo Botanical Gardens office building.

Iris Society Meeting Info:

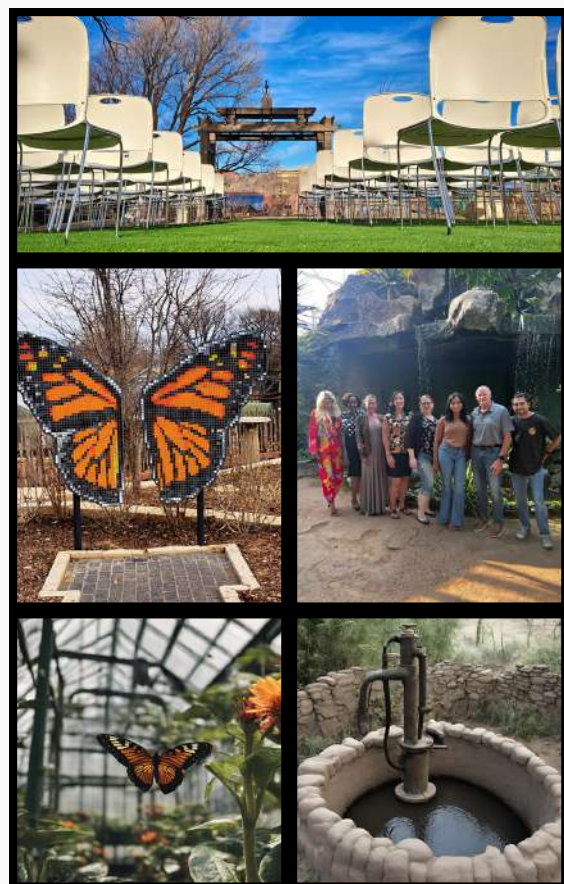
Bill Pittman is the current club president.

We have our meetings on the 2nd Sunday of the Month at 2:00pm. We meet at ABG in the Sybil B. Harrington Gallery.

If you would like to learn more about growing irises, please come visit our meetings. Email Bill Pittman at bpit1968@gmail.com for more information.

NEW OR COMING SOON....

- GET YOUR OWN WINGS AT OUR NEW MONARCH MOSAIC
- EDUCATIONAL BUTTERFLY HOUSE
- ABG WATERWELL
- SYNTHETIC ASTRO TURF FOR THE WEDDING LAWN
- FRIENDS OF THE GARDEN VOLUNTEER GROUP
- AMPHITHEATRE RETAINING WALL
- NEW MURAL BEHIND THE WALL AT THE SOUTHWEST GARDEN



Garden Wish List

- ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER
- NEW CARPET DOWNSTAIRS
- EVENT VOLUNTEERS
- EVENT REFRIDGERATOR
- GOLF CART

Fun Plant Fact!

Did you know that during the 1600s in Holland, tulips were so valuable that their bulbs were worth more than gold. The craze was called tulip mania, or tulipomania, and caused the crash of the Dutch economy.

Winter Hours.....

The Amarillo Botanical Gardens are still in winter hours.
Monday through Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday 1:00pm to 5:00pm - Closed on Sunday

Be on the look out in mid to late March for a change not just in sunlight, but in our spring hours.

Monday through Friday - 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am to 5:00pm - Sunday 1:00pm to 5:00pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

Mad Hatters Ball

GALA AND SILENT AUCTION

JOIN US FOR DINNER, DRINKS, DANCING AND MORE

Saturday - March 23

7-11 PM

TICKETS
\$75 PER PERSON
\$600 PER TABLE
21 and up

CATERED BY: *grasol*

CALL CATHY FOR INFORMATION
(727) 318-7322

2nd Impression

AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

GARDENFEST 2024

JOIN US FOR GARDENFEST 2024!
COME AND ENJOY OVER 30 VENDOR BOOTHS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, GERANIUM SALES, FOOD, AND MORE AT THIS YEARS GARDENFEST.

9:00AM TO 2:00PM
APRIL 27TH, 2024
ADMISSION - \$5.00 PER GUEST
MEMBERS FREE!

QUIGLEY BUILDERS
BUILT DIFFERENT
806-877-3636

INSIDELL LAW FIRM

stewart
TITLE

1400 STREIT DR. AMARILLO, TX 79106

AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

Music in the Gardens 2024

EVERY THURSDAY IN JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST
**EXCLUDING JULY 4TH, 2024

Band Line Up:

06/06 - Big G and the Trade Winds	07/18 - Andy Chase and the Rhythm Cats	08/15 - Jack Cryver
06/13 - Solano Project	07/25 - Sadie's Rangers	08/22 - TBD
06/20 - Insufficient Funds	08/01 - Cameron James Smith	08/29 - Geezer's Gone
06/27 - TBD	08/08 - RAK-45	
07/11 - Tennessee Tuckness & Friends		

1400 STREIT DR. AMARILLO, TX 79106
7:00PM TO 9:00PM - RAFFLE @8:00PM
\$10 GEN. & MEMBERS \$5.00

Sponsored By:

RICK LOOBY HOMES
AT SUNSET ACRES

AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

JULY JAZZ 2024

MUSIC BY: ESQUIRE JAZZ

WINE TASTING | HORS D'OEUVRES

JULY 19TH, 2024
GATES OPEN AT 6:30PM
CONCERT FROM 7:00PM TO 9:00PM

\$30 PER TICKET
OR
\$50 PER COUPLE

PURCHASE TICKETS AT
EVENTBRITE.COM
OR CALL 806.352.6513

Weddings and Events

By: Mason Whiteside

I am happy to announce that last year we hosted a combined total of **172** weddings and events! This year, we are excited to continue our tradition of helping create unforgettable moments for our clients. From elegant weddings to corporate events, we strive to make each occasion special and memorable. As we embark on this new year, we are filled with gratitude for the wonderful opportunities that lie ahead. Our commitment to excellence remains unwavering as we look forward to curating more enchanting experiences for our clients. Whether it's a grand wedding celebration or a sophisticated corporate event, we are here to bring your vision to life.

Our dedicated team of professionals will work tirelessly to ensure that every detail is perfect, so you can relax and enjoy your celebration. Here's to another year of love, laughter, and joy shared with all who walk through our doors. Let's make more magical memories together!

Out Door Venues



Wedding Lawn
Capacity: 200 people at tables, 300 people stadium style
Price: \$1,000.00 - \$500.00 deposit
\$500.00 final payment.



ABG Entrance Terrace
Capacity: 80 people
Price: \$725.00 - \$325.00 deposit
\$400.00 final payment.



Attebury Amphitheatre Lawn
Capacity: 300 people at tables, 600 people stadium style
Price: \$1,500.00 - \$500.00 Deposit
\$1000.00 final payment.



Sybil B. Harrington Garden
Capacity: 80 people
Price: \$400.00 - \$200.00 deposit
\$200.00 final payment.



Japanese Tea House
Capacity: 20 people, 4 6ft tables
Price: \$395.00 - \$190.00 Deposit
\$205.00 final payment.



Mary E. Bivens Conservatory Atrium
Capacity: 64 People
Price: \$500.00 - \$250.00 deposit
\$250.00 final payment



Pavilion
Capacity: 32 people, 4 round tables
Price: \$495.00 - \$200.00 deposit \$295.00 final payment.



Indoor Venues

ABG Event Room/Bridal Suite
Capacity: 40 people
Price: \$595.00 - \$300.00 deposit
\$295.00 final payment.



Conservatory Lawn
Capacity: 250 people
Price: \$895.00 - \$450.00 deposit
\$445.00 final payment.



Sybil B. Harrington Gallery
Capacity: 80 people
Price: \$695.00 - \$300.00 deposit
\$395.00 final payment.

Event and Wedding Coordinator:

Mason Whiteside

Masonwhitesideabg@gmail.com

Office: (806) 352-6513



ABG Auditorium
Capacity: Up to 220 people seated at tables or up to 275 people seated in rows
Price: \$1,500.00 - \$500.00 deposit
\$1000.00 final payment.

The Panhandle Gives 2023 Donors

A very special thank you to all those who donated to the panhandle gives 2023. With your donations we raised \$29,270.00 this year with over 100 donors! If it weren't for the kindness of our community, volunteers, and sponsors we couldn't make our garden shine.

Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund	Judy Carter	Shauna Richburg
Juanita Kemper	Glenda Cook	Lori D'atri
Sue Lawrence	Jan Neal Connie Patrick	Judith MacDonald
Jack McCavit	Gail Bram	Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Watts
Marilyn Tarbet	Phillips 66	Charles McMillian
Mark Reinart	Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Ball	Elaine Hazlewood
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Bim	Tina Stewart	Susan Hearn
Kim Hooker	Mr. and Mrs. Scott Kritser-Howard	Cathy Hayne
Gerry Ault	Mr. and Mrs. Tom Merriman	Dr. and Mrs. Fred Kersh
Amy Robert	William Ware	Shirley Gibbons
Anne P. Stich	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Tillemans	Kay Bural
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Spivey	Mr. and Mrs. Steve Pennington	Dr. and Mr. Shannon Herrick
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Buckner	Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Douglas	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Ellerbeck
Carol A. Williams	Susie Spurlock	Ann Concoran
National Finace Services	Susan Hanners	
JoAnn Stoner	Jane Roberts	
Amarillo Herb Society	Melissa Kalka	
Mr. and Mrs. Warner Reeder	Southwest Garden Club	
Mary Dee Countiss	Mr. and Mrs. John and Karen Walker	
Janis Barnett	North Plains Iris Society	
Kathy Cunningham	Barbara Noah	
Melba Boydston	Phoebe S. Cole	
Linda Littlejohn	Marjorie Kromer	
Janis Lynne Billingsley	Susie Garcia	
Bill Pittman	Sherrie Elliott	
Karen Robards	Mr. and Mrs. Jeff King	
Mr. and Mrs. John Mozola	Mr. and Mrs. Bob Burnett	
Marian Cole	Avenelle Bjork	
Sara J. Meyers	Natalie Gouge	
HB Fricks	Dr. Victoria Thompson	
Annette Lusk	Mr. and Mrs. Steven Lange	
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Herpich	Marie Hatchett	
Mr. and Mrs. B.A. Stewart	Patricia Peterson	
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Morris	Claudette Landess	
Gayle and Peter Bickers Foundation	Cristy Miller	
Patsy Walker	Valerie Hansen	

Thank You!!!

Friends of the Gardens



Friends of the Gardens: Cultivating Community at Amarillo Botanical Gardens

At the Amarillo Botanical Gardens, friendships blossom alongside the vibrant flora. Our dedicated group of Friends of the Gardens plays a crucial role in nurturing this green haven. Let's explore how these passionate individuals contribute to events and fundraisers that keep our botanical paradise thriving.

Event Planning and Execution:

- **Garden Galas:** Our Friends organize seasonal enchanting galas under Amarillo's starlit sky. They will ensure every detail—from whimsical decorations to delightful menus—is just right. These events not only captivate attendees but also raise essential funds for the gardens.

Fundraising Initiatives:

- **Donations and Sponsorships:** Friends encourage community members, local businesses, and corporations to contribute. Whether it's a one-time donation or a long-term sponsorship, every dollar counts.

Volunteer Power:

- **Plant Sales and Workshops:** Friends roll up their sleeves during plant sales and workshops.

Advocacy and Outreach:

- **Spreading the Word:** Friends use their networks to promote upcoming events and fundraisers. Social media, community newsletters, and word-of-mouth—all channels are fair game.

Join the Circle of Friends:

- **Becoming a Friend** means more than just enjoying the gardens; it's about actively shaping their future. If you're passionate about plants, community, and making a difference, consider joining our vibrant group.
- **Memberships Available**

Info:

Explore our beautiful gardens in a comfortable setting. Book a group tour and discover the magic firsthand. Let's continue nurturing friendships and cultivating green dreams at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens.

For inquiries and to join the Friends, **Contact us at (727) 318-7322.**



The 2024 growing season has started and do we have the varieties that you are looking for! Every year in our vegetable garden we are always so excited to be going through our seed catalogs and viewing other garden exhibitions to see what can be done differently and new. Nathan our Vegetable Gardener with the help of our director and horticulturalist, Greg Lusk, have put together a list of all the vegetables that we will be planting and the varieties of what is planted.

Greg and Nathan's expertise and passion for vegetables truly shine through as they carefully select the finest varieties for our garden. From vibrant heirloom tomatoes bursting with flavor to crisp tender lettuces perfect for salads, our garden will be a colorful tapestry of delicious possibilities.

As we prepare the soil and eagerly await the first sprouts, the anticipation of a bountiful harvest fills the air. Each seed planted represents the promise of fresh, wholesome produce to nourish both body and soul. We envision the joy of sharing our garden's abundance with friends and neighbors, spreading the love of homegrown goodness far and wide.

With the sun shining overhead and the earth beneath our feet, we embark on this journey of growth and discovery. Together, we cultivate not just vegetables, but a sense of community and connection to the land. As the 2024 growing season unfolds, we look forward to the beauty, flavor, and fulfillment that our garden will bring.

Tomatoes:

- Black See Man
- Queen of the Night
- Brads Atomic Grape
- Bread and Salt
- Oma's Orange
- Costoluto Genovese
- Alice's Dream
- Brown Sugar
- Orange Accordion
- Cherokee Purple
- Cream Sausage (Yellow)
- Giant Crimson
- Black Beauty
- Triple L. Crop
- Pineapple
- German Pink

Coming Soon:

- Onions
- Okra - 4-5 Varieties
- Snow Pea's
- Edible Gourds in the ABG Gourd Tunnel

Brassicas:

- Sapporo Giant #4 Cabbage
- De Cicco Broccoli
- Di Sicilia Violetto Cauliflower
- Early Snowball Cauliflower
- Red Ruben Brussels Sprouts
- Long Island Brussels Sprouts
- Copenhagen Market Cabbage
- Flat Dutch Cabbage
- Paris Island Cos Lettuce
- Filderkraut Cabbage

Edible Flowers:

- Dark Orange and Red - Safflower
- Corrales Azafran Safflower
- Blue Monday Sage Salvia

Celery:

- Pink Celery
- Tall Utah Celery

Eggplants:

- Rosita
- Thai Purple, Ribbed

Peppers:

- Greek Pepperoncini
- California Wonder Bell Pepper
- Tam Jalapeno
- Fire and Ice Pepper
- Lesya
- Napoleon Sweet
- Corbaci
- Marconi Red Pepper
- Healthy Pepper
- Martins Carrot Peppers
- Maules Red Hot
- Hinkelhatz
- Lilac Bell
- Lemon Spice Jalapeno

Herbs:

- Hyssop
- Horehound
- Anise
- Sage
- Toothache Plant (Buzz Button)
- Italian Flat Leaf Parsley
- Greek Oregano
- Vulgare Oregano
- Rosemary
- Thyme
- Triple Curl Leaf Parsley

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteering in your local community brings you closer to your fellow citizens and gives a deeper meaning to the area in which you help. We have opportunities throughout the year both inside during cold weather or outside in the warm sun. Volunteers come in all shapes and sizes. We would love to have you help us make our garden a beautiful success this coming Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. If you volunteer with us for at least 24 hours through the entire year of 2024 you will receive your own membership for free!

For opportunities call or come in and talk with Laura Avila or Mason Whiteside for more information at (806) 352-6513.

FUN AT THE GARDENS



Amarillo Botanical Gardens

Day with the Butterflies

Join Amarillo Botanical Gardens this upcoming Fall for an extravagant experience with our annual butterfly release. We are adding some new & exciting things! From Art, Education, Shopping, Brunch, and Food trucks! Breakfast times are 10:00am or 11:00am.

Saturday, September 9th
9:00am to 4:00pm

\$15 for Breakfast & Butterfly | \$10 for Breakfast & Butterfly for ages 10 & under
\$10 General Admission Per Person
1400 Street Dr. Amarillo, TX 79106
Butterflies available while supplies last for general admission.

THE HUCKABAY LAW FIRM, PLLC
MHB ATTORNEYS AT LAW
RUTHARDT



Amarillo Botanical Gardens

PUMPKINFEST

OCT 7th 10:00AM - 2:00PM

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOS, FOOD TRUCKS, CAVE WALK, PUMPKIN PAINTING, PETTING ZOO & SO MUCH MORE!

\$10 General Admission, \$8 Members, \$5 Children 5 and under
1400 Street Dr. Amarillo TX 79106



Music in the Gardens

Featuring:

- 6.1.23: Jack Cryer
- 6.8.23: Big G & The Trade Winds
- 6.15.23: Insufficient Funds
- 6.22.23: RAK-45
- 6.29.23: Solano Project
- 7.6.23: Lindsey Lane
- 7.13.23: Sidie's Rangers
- 7.20.23: Cameron James Smith
- 7.27.23: Buster Bledsoe
- 8.3.23: Texas Junction
- 8.10.23: Kayla Richardson & Byron Roberts
- 8.17.23: Touching VooDoo
- 8.24.23: Tennessee Tuckness
- 8.31.23: Geezers Gone Wild

EVERY THURSDAY 1400 STREET DR. AMARILLO, TX 79106
ADMISSION \$10 & MEMBERS \$5 7:00-9:00PM

Logos for: MIBACHI, ASYLUM, BBQ REVIVAL, LUMBERLOVE ART, COCINA, PREGO'S BARBECUE, RICK LOOBY HOMES AT SUNSET ACRES, SARDINIA, YOLO'S FOOD TRUCK, United supermarkets, CRAVE graze bar, REED.



In-Kind and Monetary Donations

Monetary Donations:

**Quality Mechanical
Paul Engler
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Buckner
Marian Cole
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tarbet
Bank of America
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Douglas
Green Plains Design
Blossom Cowan
Ms. Jean Parker
Atmos Energy
Gary Williams
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Kritser-Howard**

In Kind Donations:

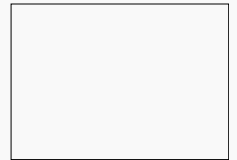
**Lusk Onion Co.
Amarillo Symphony
Little Bees Playhouse
Classic Cleaning
Guild Mortgage
AMC Mortgage
LaBelle Pizzeria
Sutter Homes**

**Strata Coffee
ATMOS Energy
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Phillips 66
Miss Piggys Bakery
Belmar Bakery
Rick Looby Homes at Sunset Acres
Elite Office Cleaning
M & R Liquor
Cathy Schick
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Kritser-Howard**

In Memory Donations:

**Mr. and Mrs. Uselton for Nancy Zimmerman-Masters
Melba Boydston for Nancy Zimmerman-Masters
Mr. and Mrs. Sell for Nancy Zimmerman-Masters
Erma Knapp for Nancy Zimmerman-Masters
Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn for Maxene Reid
Ms. Carrie Draper and Ms. Lisa Draper-Baker for Mary K. Clubb
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Cameron for Joan Amstrutz Clark
Raymond James Global for Don Schofield
Carolyn Whiteside for Jeffery Joe Whiteside**

**Amarillo Botanical Gardens
1400 Streit Dr.
Amarillo, TX 79106**



Mail To: