



Volume 34, Issue 5

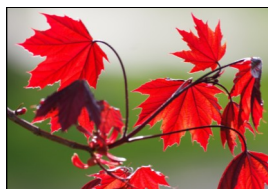
The Gabby Gardener



President's Corner

I have moved to a survival of the fittest approach in my garden – no more covering of plants except those being started in the

nursery. It's evolved from gardening in Virginia where covering did almost nothing. Frost cloth begone! While my introduction to Florida plants included experimenting with tropicals, my garden has matured to rely mostly on natives. The maples' red leaves have never looked lovelier.



I still find it is such a juxtaposition from this very cold January to thoughts of Spring. The signs of hope are there – [Me Strong](#), [Master Gardeners' Veggie sale](#), [DeLand's Dog Parade](#). I must admit there are still a few dune sunflowers, tropical sage, starry rosinweed and spotted horsemint blooming



I am very ready to see their friends.

Circle Around

Firecrackers -*Mary Ripple on Van Gogh: Inspiration or Intoxication? Hmm, did plant-based medicines and absinthe effect his color choices?*

Magnolia – *Scheduled to learn about Herbs and Salves*

Marigolds - *Enjoyable monthly meeting at [Sweet Tea Cafe](#).*

Milkweed Topic: Beekeeping with Nick Johnston of [Kairos Landscaping](#) who shared interesting facts from his progression through UF's Beekeeping program.

Rose -*Soothe the Soul- the magic of water in the garden. Speaker: Bob Faircloth.*

Wild Coffee - *Sensory Butterfly Garden Work-day*

Let's Do This.
February 1, 2025

Join us on an empowering journey at the [2025 ME STRONG](#) United in Strength 5K supporting the Florida Cancer Specialists Foundation. Save the date for a day filled with unity, strength, and hope.

We can't wait to see you there!

E-mail: gcdeland@gmail.com

The Florida Wildflower and Garden Festival



The Florida Wildflower and Garden Festival will be on Saturday, March 29th, from 9 to 3 on West Indiana Avenue. The Garden Club has been at this event for years. It is a lot of fun, and a great way for us to reach out to the community. The lovely and amazing Norma Thomas is the "Queen Bee" and will also be helping out.

We need your smiling face to talk about our Club and sell **caladium bulbs**. Those picked for this year are: Pink Sky, *Pink Symphony*, Florida Tapestry, and White Queen. This year we will have garden art from the "Yardists" and we will also be selling milkweed plants; thank you to the Milkweed Circle for their help. We will also have someone there from the membership committee to help answer questions.



Barbara Merriam has already sent out an email with the sign up sheet attached to it. Most of the shifts are filled already, so thank you to all of the volunteers who have already signed up to help in our tent/booth. We have one more spot for 1 to 3pm and two more for breakdown at 3pm that need filled.

Thank you,

Mary Ripple

ocmemory@gmail.com



The Garden Club's parking lot is paved!



Before Thanksgiving, Norma Thomas, has been trying to understand the difference between millings, asphalt and concrete applications. Concrete was far too expensive. Millings are ground up asphalt and are more for residential applications. The large companies said the job was too small for them, but they gave Norma a few names to contact. Our first bid for asphalt was a stunner- \$76,500, followed by \$47,500, \$42,000. and \$32,000. Our little parking lot gets a lot of wear and tear. The garbage truck with its 3-point turns is the major cause of the damage by running over the area where the old oak tree was removed a decade ago.



M&S Asphalt and Paving,

a local contractor, gave Norma a bid of \$22,500 for asphalt but he needed an answer fast. This we could afford so hence the rush to get approval from the Governing Board.

Marshall and Norma met with two members of the City and the owner of M&S. A permit was pulled; the fee waived. We now have a parking lot within budget that should last a good 15 years with normal use. When you use the lot for the next few weeks, come in with soft turns and gentle starts or stops. Four piggyback handicap spaces are at the patio door.



**Thank You Norma
for taking on this adventure!**

The Garden Club of DeLand

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DeLand, FL 32724



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Gabby Editor: gaillafayette@hotmail.com

Gardening for the Future

UF IFAS Extension
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INVITE YOU TO THE....

**5TH ANNUAL
SPRING EDIBLE
PLANT SALE**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM

Location: UF/IFAS Extension Volusia County Office
3100 E. New York Ave., DeLand FL 32724

Bring a wagon!!!
We accept CASH or CHECK ONLY!

Make all checks payable to:
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

We will have a wide variety of tomato, bell pepper,
eggplant, and herbs available.
A limited number of flowering plants will be available.

For more information, contact Brittany A. Council-
Morton via email at bcouncil@ufl.edu

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ADMISSION
FREE
PARKING

An Equal Opportunity Institution. UF/IFAS Extension, University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Andrea Johnson, Dean. Single copies of UF/IFAS Extension publications (excluding e-IR and youth publications) are available free to Florida residents from county UF/IFAS Extension offices.

GCD Classes and Gardening Opportunities

Tuesday, February 4, 1 PM, Master Gardener Plant Clinic in the DeLand Regional Library Auditorium, 130 E. Howry Ave,
Topic: Good Bug/Bad Bug and How to Attract Beneficials, Presenter: Jennifer Condo

* NO Seed Packaging. Packaging will restart in March

Saturday, February 8, 7:30am, **Downtown Planter and Pedestal Maintenance.** **Contact Persons:** Margaret Gillen mgillen@cfl.rr.com and
Julia Neumann julianeumann2@proton.me

Tuesday, February 11, 7:30am, **Sensory Butterfly Garden Workday** at Bill Dreggors Park (230 N. Stone St.) **Contact Person:** Gail LaFayette gaillafayette@hotmail.com

Thursday, February 13, 10:30-12 at the Clubhouse, **Creative Corner Origami/Folding Money Crisp dollar bills or play money** Maureen will supply. \$5 donation to the Garden Club of DeLand.

Presenter: Maureen Miller-Calamo. RSVP to Maureen Miller-Calamo text to 516-445-2338

Wednesday, February 19, 10:30am at the Clubhouse. **Creative Corner Presenter: Jenna Workman Container Garden - Theme: Houseplant Container Garden.** Cost \$30. (Includes \$5 donation to the Garden Club of DeLand.) Check for \$30 payable to Garden Club of DeLand. Due by Feb 12. **Contact Person:** Carol Roddenberry karolqueen@aol.com or text to 386-235-0370.

Mail payment to Carol Roddenberry, 529 N. Sans Souci Ave. DeLand 32720 (Guests welcome.)

Thursday, February 20, 1 PM, **GCD Book Club: The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane** by Lisa Lee
Contact Persons: Cindy Davenport cindy@davenportmail.com or Sara Zollinger sarazollinger@att.net

Tuesday, February 25, 7:30am, **Sensory Butterfly Garden Workday** at Bill Dreggors Park (230 N. Stone St.) **Contact Person:** Gail LaFayette gaillafayette@hotmail.com