

Community Partners Help Central Park Gardens Grow

The next time you go to the Farmers Market, don't forget to visit the west side of Central Park to explore the recent renovations of the gardens along B Street. Community volunteers have been hard at work for the last two years transforming the gardens into themed demonstration plantings. Volunteers from the UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Yolo County, Davis Farm to School Connection, Davis Garden Club, and UC Davis Arboretum have partnered with the City of Davis Parks & General Services Department to spearhead these renovation efforts.

The recent plantings were strongly influenced by a 2006 survey of over 100 Central Park visitors, in which respondents indicated their preferences for how this public demonstration garden should be developed. Not only can you now stop and smell the roses, but you can also see hummingbirds visiting salvias. You can enjoy your picnic on a stone bench accompanied by the fragrance of lavender and the soft texture of lamb's ears. You can watch meadow grasses sway in the breeze and marvel at tiny native bees collecting pollen from yarrow. You can taste a cherry tomato fresh off the vine and compare the scents and flavors of different basil varieties.

You can also take advantage of the Central Park Gardens as a place to learn. Free monthly workshops led by UC-trained Master Gardener volunteers offer practical advice for how to have a more successful garden with less water, fertilizer, and pesticides. Easy-to-read plant labels allow you to explore the plantings on your own and gather ideas for what to plant in your home garden. In the coming months, look for new interpretive signs and a self-guided tour brochure to learn even more about



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leveraged through partnerships to enlist hundreds of hours of volunteer service and to raise over \$37,500 in grants and donations to support garden renovation, maintenance and educational programs.

Although great progress has been made, the renovation is still not complete. The Central Park Gardens volunteer team is seeking additional help from the community.

Funding is still needed for the construction and installation of beautiful metal archways to frame and define the entries of the Rose and Flower Garden near the 3rd & B Building. The new archways will support climbing roses and flowering vines and create a lush and inviting gateway to the gardens. If you enjoy the gardens, please consider sponsoring an archway.

Additional volunteers are also needed to help with garden maintenance and renovation projects. Community members are welcome to join biweekly volunteer work days on Wednesday evenings in the spring and summer. Projects are also available for service clubs and volunteer groups.

For additional information, visit the Central Park Gardens website at www.centralparkgardens.org or contact Bob Stephenson at (530) 757-5656.



Manor Pool to Open Soon

After many months of anticipation, the Manor Pool Grand Opening will take place some time in June. Neighbors and the Davis community will be notified soon about the grand opening ceremonies in Slide Hill Park at 2850 Temple Drive.

From every direction, Manor Pool looks to be the "coolest" place in Davis this summer. The renovated complex will feature amenities for all ages. In addition to relaxing by the pool in a lounge chair and having a snack at our new concession stand, guests can also enjoy an impressive waterslide, a zero entry pool, one and three meter diving boards and a splash pad complete with playful water features.

For more information call the Community Services Department at (530) 757-5626.

Friday Night Concert Series in Downtown Davis

- Every Friday from, May 23 to the Labor Day weekend
- E Street Plaza on E Street between 2nd and 3rd Streets
- All concerts are free and take place from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

For more information visit: www.davisdowntown.com or call (530) 756-8763

