

# Garden was a star during Quilt Show

By Diane Goble  
Correspondent

Sisters Community Garden was in full bloom to welcome quilters and visitors to the “Quilts in the Garden” home and garden tour earlier this month — confirming its status as a true community asset.

For this second year as part of the tour, members of the Community Garden donated and prepared couscous, black bean salad, chicken curry, rhubarb/walnut bread and a variety of tasty desserts, all with products grown in their garden plots.

Ruthie Douglass, who does community outreach for the garden, and several other members helped serve lunch to the steady stream of guests who made their way around the tour route.

“I’m so grateful to the Quilt Show for letting us piggy-back on their garden tour,” she said. “The funds we raised from this event last year helped us with some important needs for the new greenhouse. This year our watering system is a priority.”

A variety of colorful quilts were on display on the fence that surrounds the garden and were a perfect compliment to the multicolored flowers and vegetables growing within. Guests were given tours of the garden area by go-to gardener Donna Parker, who described the variety of vegetables and flowers that filled the 44 plots and populated the newly built greenhouse full of tomatoes, peppers and other vine plants.

A couple of Community Garden members were also on hand selling their crafts.



PHOTO BY DIANE GOBLE

The community garden took a star turn during Quilt Show, with the colors melding with the vivid green of the planting boxes.

Lucy Chamberlain and her 10-year-old daughter Sienna were selling their decorative hand-painted garden rocks, flowerpot bells, and metal quails for the garden. Penny Elson had her beautiful heat-embossed, hand-colored garden note cards and gift bags available for purchase. All proceeds went to the Community Garden.

Visitors were pleasantly surprised by the variety of plants that can be grown in this region. Lunch conversations were about some of the amazing home gardens they had seen on the tour, not just the kind and variety of colorful flowers, but the creativity of the gardeners with all the amazing creatures and structures they add to their gardens.

“I’ve gotten some great ideas for my garden at home,” said Gale from Wisconsin.

Garden manager, Marvin

Benson, is very proud of the work that was done on the greenhouse. He said, “We are learning as we go about what we can grow and when, about soil and temperature and moisture, how to control the hungry critters and bugs.” He says they don’t use any pesticides: “We pull all the weeds by hand.”

His son Benny Benson and Benny’s wife, Julie, are the owners of Sisters Eagle Airport and donated the land on the property for the Community Garden.

“I’m so happy to see people growing their own healthy organic food and enough extra to share with the food bank,” Julie said.

Benny was “happy to see a community asset flourishing.” He said plans for next year include a bike path along the new road being put in to make a safe route from the garden into town.

# ‘Jammin’ for Nepal’ will aid Ten Friends

Potter Michelle Deaderick is organizing “Jammin’ for Nepal,” a benefit concert and night of entertainment for Ten Friends on Thursday, August 13, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the lawn at Hood Avenue Art.

Doug and Katy Cavanaugh, along with Gary Miller and Friends, will be performing on stage.

Ten Friends, started in Sisters schools, is an organization that works to bring small libraries in to the remote village in the mountain of Nepal. In addition, they have worked with potters in Nepal to craft ceramic

water purifiers. Their efforts have contributed to improving the birth survival rate by 50 percent over the last 10 years.

Six potters are making cups for the event. Buy a cup and get it filled with the beverage of your choice. Non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages along with appetizers will be served.

Mark Lamont is checking out damage from the Nepal earthquake. He will be there to show recovery efforts that show the people and places benefitting from Ten Friends’ funds.

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