



September 2022

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## Ben Franklin Community Garden News

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# Garden Closing Check-out Procedure



**In order to be in good standing for the 2023 season, you must check out of the garden with Greg, the Garden Coordinator, or with a Committee Member. Garden check-out will take place the first two weeks of October. Schedule will be available on the bulletin board, the white board and via Remind message. During this time, a check-out sheet must be signed by both you and the Garden Coordinator or a Committee Member, confirming the plot can be successfully plowed.**

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## Plot Preparation for Check-out and Volunteer Hours

- Ground must be level. Rake smooth all mounds and fill in all holes.
- All manmade materials, including weed-blocking material and staples/pins, must be removed. Gardeners must haul away their own trash: broken hoses, tomato cages, stakes or unwanted weed blocker materials.
- Any straw in bales must be spread evenly across the plot.
- Remaining vegetation (including vines and plant stalks) must be cut to lengths/heights of 2 feet or less, and distributed evenly across the plot. It is not necessary and not recommended that vegetation/organic material be removed. If you choose to remove the vegetation from your plot and are putting it into the compost bin, you must cut the vegetation to a 2 foot length.
- Gardeners are encouraged to leave flowers in place to provide for our pollinators.
- Please leave your name board and brown plot stakes in place.
- Volunteer hours are due at the end of the season and will be documented during check-out.

**Gardeners who fail to complete the checkout process by the end of the final day may be denied gardening privileges in future seasons.**

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## Pumpkins, Straw Bales, Leaves & Cardboard

Please leave your cardboard at the garden to build up our 'browns' in the compost bins. **Flatten, no staples or plastic tape/labels.** Cardboard can be left in the first bin which contains brown leaves.

We will also take your leftover straw bales, leaves and pumpkins. We will be having a pumpkin drop off at the garden again after Halloween. Details forthcoming.



# Harvest PARADE

Sororii **KIDS** Music Show

**Sunday, September 25th | 2 p.m.**

This summer, BFCG was very fortunate to have esteemed local artist, **Hector Castellanos** lead a children's summer art series. Hector has impacted our community through numerous artistic endeavors including the **Cleveland Museum of Art's Parade the Circle**.

Led by Hector, the children have been creating masks, drums, crowns and ponchos for a Harvest Parade. On Sunday, September 25th the children will **Parade the Garden** donning their creations!

**Please join us for this celebration! A children's musical performance by Sororri will follow the parade.**

This program is funded by **MyCom** with the help of the Old Brooklyn Community

Development Corporation.



Gateway Church of Old Brooklyn and Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation will be hosting a "Trick or Treat Trail" at the garden again this year! The event will take place on Saturday, October 22nd from 1-3 p.m.

If you would like to donate candy or trinkets for treat bags we will be passing out at the Garden's station on the trail, please contact Elicia at [440-666-6101](tel:440-666-6101).

We will also be in need of volunteers to stuff the bags on Thursday, October 20th and Friday, October 21st, and to help at the event on Saturday.

## Harvest Picnic and Annual Meeting

In case you missed it, BFCG held its annual Harvest Picnic and Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 10th.

Gardeners brought side dishes to share and Denise and Paul Provenzale grilled burgers, brats and hot dogs!

Thank you to the fabulous volunteers who helped make this an enjoyable event, and thank you to the gardeners who attended.



The Operating Committee elections took place at the picnic. Re-elected to their seats for the next term were Mark Tapajna and Jennifer Terry. We welcome newly elected members Lisa Young and Tom Sergeant. Congratulations to all!

*Havest Picnic photos below.*



### Summer Concert Wraps Up

Our summer concert series wrapped up on Saturday, September 17th with a wonderful evening of folk music performed by **Morgan Mecasky and Jessica Miller**.

In August we hosted beautiful performances by vocal quartet, **Red Champion**, and by **North Coast Winds**,

featuring Ben Franklin Gardener, **Arleigh Savage** on bassoon. Arleigh, who serves on our Arts and Music subcommittee was key in acquiring the talented musicians who performed this summer. Thank you, Arleigh! In September, **Renovare** provided a powerful performance.

We are extremely grateful to the **Old Brooklyn Community Development Corporation** for funding our concert series this summer. We are also thankful to all of our gardeners and community members who attended the concerts.

Finally, a **huge thank you** to Garden Committee Vice-Chair, **Mark Tapajna** for facilitating the concerts. Mark's dedication to making the garden an even more beautiful community space is unwavering!



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### Items of note and reminders:

#### **Bulletin Boards and White Board**

Remember to check the bulletin board on the shed and the white board regularly.

#### **Garden Plot and Pathway Maintenance**

Garden plots and pathways must be maintained. Pathways must be clear of objects and weeds. If you receive a notification your plot OR pathway needs work, please tend to it as soon as possible. If you are having trouble keeping up with your plot, reach out to a

committee member.

### Garden Opening & Closing

Please note that garden hours are Monday-Saturday 9a - 7:30p and Sundays 9a - 4p.

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## BFCG 2022 Calendar

[View Calendar](#)

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## Monthly Garden Committee Meetings

Unless otherwise indicated, committee meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Garden classroom. **All gardeners and members of the public are welcome to attend!**



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