



2023-2025 VOL 8 SPRING 2025

Magnolia Messenger

DISTRICT DIRECTOR:

KAY HAGLER

P. O. BOX 436, Buena Vista, GA
31803 Cell 706-566-8540 text,
Email: haglerkay@gmail.com

CO-DIRECTOR:

MARILYN ALDRICH

Cell: 229-314-0892
Email: mwaldrich1@aol.com

RECORDING SECRETARY:

ANN HOWELL

Cell 229-939-1766
Email: ahowell01@windstream.net

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

MARY ANN PARKS

Cell: 478-244-1566 Email:
marymandy5565@outlook.com

TREASURER: JANIS WEBB

Cell: 229-938-1451 Email:
webb2048@bellsouth.net

PARLIAMENTARIAN:

BESS HARTLEY

Cell: 229-942-9490
Email: bessbhartley@gmail.com

CHAPLAIN: CAROLYN H.

CULPEPPER

Cell: 229-942-8649
Email:
carolyn.hartley41@yahoo.com



Male and female Ruby-throated
Hummingbirds

Content This Issue:**Magnolia District News P 1****Club News P 9****GCG News P 13****NGC News P 14****Calendar of Events P 14**

DIRECTORS CORNER

Spring 2025

The Magnolia District has been busy as usual. This District Director has thoroughly enjoyed visits during October 2024 to the District's annual meetings. Wow! What a whirlwind of travel! Each District was unique but also alike as they represent the communities of Georgia which are a part of The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. We are all southerners and Georgians, alike and different in many ways.

GCG is hosting the Deep South Convention on March 11-13, 2025, in Valdosta and each District was delegated a job. Magnolia District's job is to see that each District has a design entry to represent the states of the Deep South Garden Club, Inc. Magnolia District must construct a design to represent Florida. We have this managed! Other Districts will construct flora designs to represent other states. GCG is happy to let everyone see how lovely Georgia is and we know that everyone attending the Deep south Convention will have a marvelous time.

Magnolia District's Garden Clubs worked on many community projects this year, and some turned in award applications for the community work they achieved by November 15th, 2024 (hopefully).

Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

DIRECTORS CORNER continues

Magnolia does an outstanding number of community projects but do not complete applications for awards. That is simply fine. The Community knows how the local garden club impacted the local community. This was the year of a date change for when the applications were due to the Awards Chairperson. (The GCG Awards Chairperson has a hard job, and we appreciate her and her Co-Chairman very much.)

The Camellia and Magnolia District Flower Show held at the Georgia National Fair in Perry, Georgia was cancelled for 2024 due to a hurricane striking Georgia. The program will be held in October of 2025 barring any hurricane events impacting the Georgia areas who participate in the event.

Magnolia District has made a difference in promoting such things as pollinators, native, plants, bees and butterflies, and other programs of GCG and The National Garden Club. We know that in Georgia, we are concerned about the Okefenokee Swamp, and other environmental factors. Different Garden Clubs have different concerns. Knowledge is where it begins. We obtain knowledge and sow the seeds to make a difference. We are Magnolia District making a difference in our communities and learning about the environment as we go in order to promote Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

MAGNOLIA DISTRICT NEWS

Business discussed during the Magnolia District Board Meeting held on February 13, 2025. For a full copy of the report, email Kay Hagler requesting a copy. (haglerkay@gmail.com)

Unfinished Business: Director Kay Hagler reported that:

- a. The Roselyn Carter Memorial Marker is in progress of completion (hopefully July) at an estimated cost of \$3,530.00 - \$4,000.00.
- b. The GSW Foundation has awarded a \$500.00 scholarship to Kemia “Key” Starling.
- c. In anticipation of the upcoming 100 Year GCG Birthday Celebration each District and Garden Club are encouraged to plan a special project. The Magnolia District 100 Year Celebration Committee Chairman is Janice Cliett and Co-Chairman is Nilsa Summey. All garden clubs are encouraged to participate.

New Business:

1. Magnolia District Poetry Contest Chairman, Sherrell Bailey reported that 76 youth poetry entries third through twelfth grade, of which 15 Magnolia District winners were sent to the GCG State Chairman to be judged there.
2. Magnolia District Smokey Bear and Woodsy Owl winning certificates were presented to participating clubs to be distributed to winners.
3. Magnolia District Sculpture Contest, no entries were submitted.
4. Magnolia District Essay Contest was not held this year.

Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

5. Request from Annette Wise, Executive Director of the Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail: Submitted by District Director, Approved by Executive Committee: Recommendation: The Butterfly Trail is requesting Magnolia District be a sponsor for the May Symposium. The request is for \$250.00. The recommendation was approved by vote.
6. Recommendation: GCG requested that Magnolia District support The Deep South Convention being held in Valdosta by a contribution of \$250.00. The recommendation was approved by vote.
7. From: GCG Board Members and Jan Thiese, Blue Star/Gold Star Marker Chairman; Diane Hunter, President-Elect and Lisa Hall, President. Recommendation: Each District provide \$250 and The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. provides \$650 for a total of \$2400 to purchase a Blue Star Marker for the Carter Center. GCG support to come from the Contingency Fund. Following approval by the Carter Center and placement of the marker, additional money can be discussed to fund the landscaping, dedication and reception which will be considered to be funded by GCG. The contribution is based on The Carter Center approving the request. Nilsa Summey seconded the recommendation. It was approved by vote.

Committee Reports:

1. 100th Anniversary Committee, Co. Chairman: see attached
2. Installation of 2025-2027 Officers: Bess Hartley, Parliamentarian and GCG Second Vice President thanked Kay Hagler for her dedicated service to the Magnolia District as District Director for the past 2 years then installed the 2025-2027 Magnolia District Officers: Director, Marilyn Aldrich; Co-Director, Ann Howell; Recording Secretary, Drenda Sternenberg; Corresponding Secretary, Marideane Maxwell; Parliamentarian, Bess Hartley and Chaplain, Carolyn Culpepper.

Announcements:

1. Faye Frazier: A Basic Design class will be held at the AG Center in Americus, GA on March 18, April 22, June 3 and 24, 2025. Awaiting attendance confirmation, the class is filled but there may be a second class. Contact Faye Frazier for information.
2. Nilsa Summey: On April 5, 1:00 p.m. the Columbus Council of Garden Clubs will present a Gold Star Marker in honor of Spouse Day at the Welcome Center on Interstate 185. Contact Nilsa Summey for information at nilsa.summey@yahoo.com.
3. Magnolia Garden Club of Fort Valley will present a Table Scapes demonstration at Massey Lane Gardens on May 24th. Contact Sandra Haga for information at sandraanitahaga@gmail.com.

Chaplain, Carolyn Culpepper said grace and lunch was served by the Butler Garden Club, then the meeting was adjourned.

Magnolia District Co-Director Report

Marilyn Aldrich, Magnolia District Co-Director, Membership Development Chair

February 13, 2025, Magnolia District Board Meeting

Prior to the 2025 registration, Magnolia District had 498 members and 26 subscribing members. As of February 6th, seven of our 23 Magnolia District clubs registered for the year 2025-2026. Club treasurers are reminded that club registration should be completed online before March 1. After completing the online registration, you must print an invoice. You can choose to pay the dues through a Zelle account online or print the invoice and mail it with your check to the Garden Club of Georgia. The process for registration is the same as it was for 2024-2025. The Member365 portal on the gardenclubofgeorgia.org website will take you through the full process. There is also a video on the portal where you can review the process.

Also, remember that new members can be registered at any time by your Club President or Treasurer. Dues for new members are then sent to the state. All dues for the Garden Club of Georgia are \$10 per year per member unless someone joins after September 1 when the dues are for \$5.00 for the remainder of the year. New members will not get communications from GCG or receive Garden Gateways until they are registered. If you are having problems with registration, contact your District Director or Co-Director.

Recently, Magnolia District received 2 inquiries for potential members through the National Garden Club website. Local Clubs have contacted those two individuals. Butler Garden Club is in talks with a group from Crawford County about starting a Garden Club in that area.

Always remember that you as a member are our best recruiters. To quote Nilsa, "Membership is the key to GCG. Recruit, Retain, Revitalize." We must work together to keep our clubs alive, lively, and growing.

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. 100th Anniversary

Nilsa Summey, Magnolia District 100th Anniversary Co-Chairman, gave a report of the GCG committee proceedings. The year of the event is 1928. A theme has been chosen for the event. There will be a Century Club with benefits at a cost of \$100.00 to be a member of the Club. Planning is ongoing for the event. Watch emails to update your District and Garden Club about the event.

Each district should produce a celebration project. Dogwood District, for example, will plant 100 dogwood trees in their district. Send suggestions of what Magnolia District should do to celebrate the 100th Anniversary to Nilsa Summey, and Janice Cliett, Magnolia District, 100th Anniversary Chairman. Nilsa Summey: nilsa.summey@yahoo.com
Janice Cliett: jhcliett@gmail.com.



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

Bess Hartley, Magnolia District Parliamentarian and GCG's Second Vice-President installed the 2025-2027 Board Members to take office on May 1, 2025.



For Bess, it was “**all about the diamonds.**” What a great installation! Bess Hartley, Parliamentarian and Installation Officer! Now, if you do not see some of the people listed in the line up who are in the following list, it is because they have stand-ins! From Left to right: 2025-2027 District Director: Marilyn Aldrich, Co-Director: Ann Howell (Stand-in Sandra Haga), Recording Secretary: Drenda Sternenberg, Corresponding Secretary: Marideane Maxwell (Stand-in Willie Maxwell), Parliamentarian: Bess Hartley (Stand-in Janice Cliett), Chaplain: Carolyn Culpepper and the glorious Mistress of Ceremonies, Bess Hartley! She gave everyone a diamond!

Bess Hartley Gave Kay Hagler A Diamond!



Bess gave Kay Hagler, retiring District Director on April 31, 2025, a wonderful end of term speech and the biggest diamond of all.

Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

SAVE THE DATE

Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail Spring Symposium

May 2, 2025, Plains, Georgia



Join us for the annual spring symposium in Miss Rosalynn's hometown of Plains, Georgia. The keynote speaker will be **Dr. Allan Armitage**, a well-known writer, speaker, and horticulturist. Enjoy other informative speakers as well as a plant sale. Registration information and details to follow. Dr. Allan Armitage is a well-known writer, speaker, and horticulturist. Born and raised in Quebec and Ontario, he later lived in East Lansing, MI and now resides in Athens, GA. He has worked with landscape plants and greenhouse crops in the North and South and travels the world speaking and sharing his passion for plants. Armitage holds

his B.Sc. from McGill University in Montreal, his M.Sc. from University of Guelph, and his Ph.D. from Michigan State University.

Register at: <https://rosalynncarterbutterflytrail.org/events/2025-rosalynn-carter-butterfly-trail-spring-symposium/>

Basic Design Course

Faye Frazier, Magnolia District's Basic Design Course Chairman announced a basic design course to be held in Americus, Georgia on potentially March 18, April 22, June 3, and June 24, 2025. The cost is \$125.00. The first class is full but there may be another class. Check with Faye Frazier for further classes in the Americus area.



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!



Butler Garden Club (Butler), Camellia Garden Club (Cuthbert), and Beautiful View Garden Club (Buena Vista) Students Win Magnolia District top Awards in Youth Woodsey Owl, Smokey Bear, and Poetry Contest.

Photo: Kay Hagler left, presents, Sylvia Harris with certificates for youth awards!

The Magnolia District Garden Clubs sponsored poster and poetry contests as a part of the National Garden Clubs, Inc., and Garden Club of Georgia youth projects. The Magnolia District gives a big Thank YOU to all of the students and faculty who helped to make this year's contest a success.

Sylvia Harris, Butler Garden Club Youth Chairman was presented certificates for the student winners from the Butler area who participated in the above contest. Camellia Garden Club and Beautiful View Garden Club were also presented with certificates for Magnolia District student winners. The student's entries in each division will go to The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. for competition, to Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc., and potentially to The National Garden Club level. We are proud of all of the winners.

There is still time to make your Tabs count!

BRING YOUR PULL TABS TO ALL MAGNOLIA DISTRICT MEETINGS! Or get them to Magnolia District Pull Tab Chairman: Tricia Welch: pkwelch5@yahoo.com: 1249 Jake Smith Rd., Oglethorpe, GA 31068, 478-472-8800. The **time period is April 1 to March 31** of each year to determine the GCG winner and the Magnolia District winner. Now Pull Yourself Together and lets collect!!! Bring them to every Magnolia District Board Meeting for the District Tab Chairperson!!!



2025 Awards and Leadership Workshop

Presented by The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. and the Camellia and Magnolia District.
Special Guest: 2025-2027: Diane Hunter, GCG President Elect

JUNE 16, 2025

Plan to attend and watch for the Call Letter!

Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

8th Annual Plant Sale and Festival

Ball Ground Garden Club

[Video Introduction](#)

Free for the whole family!

Saturday, May 10th, 2025 9AM to 3PM

The 8th Annual Ball Ground Garden Club Plant Sale and Festival
"A True Community Celebration"

Find plants including Native and Heirloom that are carefully cultivated and nurtured by club members then offered for sale exclusively at the Festival. Visit with over 40 local vendors representing unique Arts & Crafts, delicious foods, snacks, beverages, desserts, children's activities, and much more. Don't miss the popular Garden Club Raffle to win cool prizes and plants.

- Festival Address: 215 Valley Street, Ball Ground GA 30107
- Offering a Huge and Varied Supply of Plants to Purchase
- Free Gardening Advice and Suggestions
- Guided Tours: Beautiful Ball Ground's Botanical Garden
- Great Raffle Prizes to Win and Memorial Bricks to Buy
- 40 Vendor Booths (Food, Beverage, Shopping)
- Children's Activities

[Check out the Vendors!](#)



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

Butler Garden Club of Butler, Georgia Hosted the Magnolia District Board Meeting



The Ladies and Gentlemen of Butler Garden Club hosted the Magnolia District Board meeting held on February 13, 2025, at the Reynolds Trinity Church, Reynolds, Georgia. Sybil Willingham, President Butler Garden Club, welcomed the board members and guest with a happy tone and valentine theme! The board members reported on their respective areas of responsibility, allowing us to learn and to plan for the coming months.

“Save the Date” announcements were made related to activities in the District. Thank you to the Butler Garden Club for hosting a delightful day! We enjoyed a delicious lunch with beautiful

presents and camellia flowers as we met to make many decisions for the district.

Magnolia Club News

The Winchester Garden Club, Columbus

November 2024: Members of the Winchester Garden Club collected and donated to

the Valley Rescue Mission, Columbus Georgia. Our Club members filled the back of a pick-up truck with blankets, throws and cold weather gear (coats, jackets, hats gloves and sweaters). Upon delivery, the residents enthusiastically unloaded and thanked us for the generous donations.



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

December 2024: Winchester Garden Club crafted homemade, unbreakable Christmas ornaments for miniature Christmas trees to be given as BINGO prizes **for a nursing home**. BINGO winners received a zip lock bag of ornaments and a tree to decorate either on their own or with a club member. It was a fun project for the residents and a nice way to start the Christmas season.



Members of the Winchester Garden Club participated in the **Wreaths Across America on December 14th, 2024**. 1,000 wreaths placed on gravesites at Fort Moore Main Post Cemetery. Along with other volunteers, Remembrance wreaths were laid to remember and honor the Veterans and the Country's fallen heroes. By coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery and at more than 3,100 other participating locations around the country, Wreaths Across America strives to remember our fallen heroes. The day honors those who serve and it instructs our children about the sacrifices made by veterans and their families to preserve our freedoms. Remember. Honor. Teach.

Dogwood Garden Club, Americus

By Lisa Simpson



The Sumter County Extension Office developed **Sumter County Ag Day** to aid in educating local youth on the agriculture industry and the many facets that surround the industry. On Nov 15, 2024, nearly 300 Sumter County and Southland Academy 5th grade students and Sumter County Middle School FFA members attended the daylong event. Students enjoyed a crop duster fly over, Sumter EMC Power Town, animals to learn and pet (calf, pig, and

chickens), stations that focused on row crops (corn, cotton, and peanuts), UGA water demonstration, hands on gardening exercises, agriculture spray drone demonstration, and a fun cotton bale trivia game. Students were able to take home their potted seed as well as a goodie bag filled with additional educational materials. Teachers



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

were also given a small gift and educational material to use in their classroom. Dogwood Garden Club members helped with the seed planting station and attested to a wonderful experience for everyone. The Dogwood Garden Club members that worked at the Agriculture Day event: Dogwood members Cindy Williams, Elaine Henderson, Pat Booker, and Azalea Garden Club member Sharon McFarland.

The Dogwood Garden Club worked with Sumter Middle School AG teacher **Mr. Brinson Brock** on an after-school activity for middle school FFA



students. Students were instructed to **decorate a wreath**. They were given their choice of a wide variety of ribbon, ornaments, and flowers. The 15 students who participated were creative and extremely proud of their finished product! Dogwood Club president Sherrell Bailey organized the event. The garden club participants were Sherrell Bailey, Elaine Henderson, Cindy Williams, and Lisa Simpson.



2025 Hummingbird Migration Map (Find Out When to Expect Them)

Put out your feeders ! The hummingbirds are coming.

Check out when:

<https://empressofdirt.net/hummingbird-migration-map/>

Spring is migration time for hummingbirds travelling from their winter homes to breeding habitats in the United States and Canada. Use this tracking map to know when to expect them in your area.

Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

Camellia Garden Club, Cuthbert



Snow in Southwest Georgia: Up to six inches of snow was reported in Cuthbert, Georgia in late January which turned the holly bushes of Shirley and Hamp Ward into a scene from a postcard! Shirley is a member of the Camellia Garden Club.

Yes, children and adults played and had fun with the snow. Winter angels, snowmen, and many beautiful sights! The birds, bees, flowers, and trees were shaking with their wintry white coat. See the coat it left in Cuthbert, Georgia at no additional charge!

NEED A MEETING PROJECT: PROGRAM?

CONSIDER: Awards Workshop: Let your fellow clubs know the fabulous work you're doing. It may be an inspiration to them for a project. Apply for one or more of the 90 awards recognizing the club's and members' work each year. Many awards are categorized by size of club. It is not hard to apply for an award! Check out the links below for more information. There are samples to go by. GCG Awards Guide 2023-2025 at <https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/membership-awards>. It is easy and not a problem.

Memorial

With Sympathy, Magnolia District extends our heartfelt sympathy to clubs who had members pass away during the past years. We extend our sympathy to their families, friends, and club members.



Nancy "Nan" Wilson Thompson of The Butler Garden Club (Butler) entered into heaven on Tuesday, January 28, 2025. Graveside services were held on Saturday, February 1, 2025, at 11:00 am at Wesley United Methodist Church Cemetery, Butler, GA. Nan was born along with her twin sister on July 16, 1941, in Columbus, Georgia. Photo left.

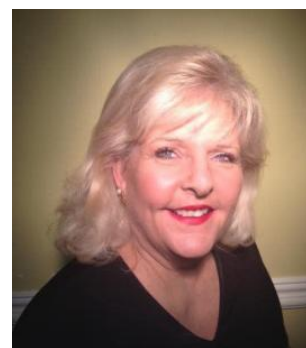
Lula Mae Riley of the Butler Garden Club (Butler) left this mortal life on November 23, 2024. Lula Mae Riley was born in Carsonville, Georgia on December 6, 1929. She was an Officer in the Community Floral Club and participated in numerous community organizations and projects. She benefited all of the organizations she participated in. Photo right.



Billie S. Patterson (May 15, 1942 - June 14, 2024) was a very active member of the **Magnolia Garden club of Fort Valley**. Billie S. Patterson, 82, passed away on Friday, June 14, 2024. Mrs. Patterson was a Master Gardener and a remarkably busy participator in all this community and Garden Club.

Photo left.

Laura Webb Byrd (February 3, 1954 - November 4, 2024) had been a member of the **Magnolia Garden Club of Fort Valley** for only a few years but was highly active helping with projects. She was also a member of the Fort Valley Study Club. She was the "life" of the party and always brought her southern charm and wit with her wherever she went. Photo right.



Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. News

Garden Club of Georgia 97th Annual Convention 2025



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

National Garden Club, Inc. News

For new Club Presidents please make use of the National Garden Club's guide for New Presidents.

<https://gardenclub.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/guide-for-club-presidents-may-2021.pdf>

The Year of Conventions Near Georgia

“Charms of the South”

Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. Convention:

March 11-13, 2025, Valdosta, GA., www.deepsouthgardenclubs.com/convention

“Gather on the River”

The Garden Club of Georgia, Inc., 97th Annual Convention,

April 29-30, 2025, Augusta, GA:

<https://gardenclubofgeorgia.org/annual-conventions/>

National Garden Clubs, Inc., Annual Convention 2025,

May 18-22, 2025, North Charleston, SC

www.gardenclub.org/2025-national-garden-clubs-convention

SAVE THE DATE & PLAN TO ATTEND

Club Presidents, please email the MAGNOLIA MESSENGER to your members as the newsletter will not be sent out by any other method. Thank you for distributing Magnolia Messenger! Check the Garden Gateways calendar and the Garden Club of Georgia, Inc. calendar for more event options.

| | | | |
|------------------|------|--|---|
| March 1 | 2025 | Club, Councils, Federations Dues | Dues Due to GCG |
| March 4 | 2025 | Capitol Conservation Day | Plan to Attend |
| March 11, 12, 13 | 2025 | Deep South Garden Club Convention and Tri Fresher; Flower Show | Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc. March 11-13, 2025, in Valdosta, Georgia |
| April 5 | 2025 | Gold Star Marker, installed in honor of Spouse Day, Columbus Council of Garden Clubs, Columbus | Welcome Center on I 185, One (1) PM, Columbus, Georgia |
| April 20-26 | 2025 | Garden Week in Georgia | |
| April 22 | 2025 | GCG F&E meeting is April 22 at 1:30 | via Zoom |
| April 25 | 2025 | Arbor Day 2025 | National Day, Georgia Arbor Day 3 rd Friday Of February |
| April 29 | 2025 | GCG Board 10:00 AM at the Augusta Convention. | Augusta, GA |
| April 29- 30 | 2025 | Garden Club of Georgia 97th Annual Convention | Augusta, GA |
| May 2 | 2025 | Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail Symposium and Native Plant Sale | Plains Georgia, Register on The Rosalynn Carter Butterfly Trail website |
| May 18 - 22 | 2025 | National Garden Club Annual Convention | Embassy Suites, North Charleston, SC |

Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!

| | | | |
|------------------|------|--|---|
| May 24 | 2025 | Magnolia Garden Club, Ft. Valley, presents a Table Scape demonstration | Massee Lane Gardens |
| June 2-8 | 2025 | National Garden Week | |
| June 16 proposed | 2025 | Awards And Leadership Workshop | Watch for the Call Letter as to date, time, site, and other information |

MAGNOLIA DISTRICT**Magnolia Messenger**

Kay Hagler,

P O Box 436,

Buena Vista, Ga 31803

Telephone: Cell for text or voice

706 -566-8540: Email: haglerkay@gmail.com

Magnolia Messenger Deadlines:

Fall Issue (Sep. Oct. Nov.) August 15

Winter Issue (Dec. Jan. Feb.) November 15

Spring Issue (Mar. April May) February 15

Summer Issue (June, July, August) May 15

ONLY IN GEORGIA!!

<https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/nature/georgia/millions-monarch-butterflies-ga-spring>**Written by: Marisa Roman.**

CHECK OUT THE ABOVE WEBSITE!

“Millions of Monarch Butterflies Are Headed Straight for Georgia this Spring For the month of April and into May, you will be able to catch millions of monarch butterflies in Georgia. It's one incredible spring show you don't want to miss!”

“The good news for Georgians — the path of migration back for the monarchs comes straight through our state.”



Plant your Community with Beautification, Conservation, and Education!