

## Drought Tolerant Grasses for the Next Decades

**O**RNAMENTAL GRASSES are a great choice for landscaping and gardening. They are sophisticated and intriguing with high visual drama. They offer year-round interest but seem to have the most to say in autumn and in the middle of winter when other plants are declining or have become dormant in the garden. Grasses move with the slightest breeze, and they sing the softest whisper or they interrupt with a low rustle in the quiet of a wintry day. They stand strong and architectural. Their pale stems glow like ambers when backlit by the sun low in the horizon. They invite you into the garden when other plants are resting underground. They offer so much, asking so very little in maintenance and resources.

Grasses play an important role in our increasingly stressed and fragile ecosystem. They are a natural choice during a time when we must become more sensitive to our environment and limited resources. Grasses are recognized for their beauty, durability and easy culture, and most require no pesticides, fertilizers, or watering.

Early in 2013, with the help of NASA's satellites, scientists identified six hot spots for drought in the United States. Surprisingly, among the six areas of concern is our own mid-Atlantic region where ground water levels have been declining. Scientists predict that



Photo by Green Spring Master Gardeners

without strict water management our aquifer will run dry within the next few decades. (J.S. Farmiglietti, "Water in the Balance," *Science*, June 13, 2013)

Grasses with deep roots are drought resistant. Once established, they tolerate prolonged periods without rain or supplemental watering. Many, especially warm season grasses, are very heat tolerant as well. Among the best is our own native switch grass *Panicum virgatum*. It grows easily in full sun and in any soil including heavy clay. With its extensive roots that penetrate up to eight feet into the soil, it reaches the subsurface water resources.

The general appearance of *Panicum virgatum* is architectural with erect growth and somewhat stiff habit. It serves well as a contrasting landscape element that holds its form even in severe winter weather. The cultivar 'Northwind' has the most characteristic upright form that extends into its narrow and less feathery inflorescence. A strong advantage of this cultivar is its disease resistance.

Are you looking for something less formal? There are many cultivars of switch grass that offer lovely variations on the parent. A favorite is 'Cloud Nine' introduced by Bluemont Nursery in Maryland. This very tall cultivar grows up to seven feet with a literal cloud of fine-textured inflorescence dancing above the blue-green foliage that turns deep golden color in fall. With strong stems, it holds the upright form and stands up well to winter breezes and snow.

According to Rick Darke, a foremost authority on grasses, one of the best cultivars of switch grass is 'Dallas Blues' with wide steel-blue-gray foliage and oversized purplish flower heads. It is bold and textural, up to six feet tall with flowers turning deep red purple and then drying to light amber in autumn and fading somewhat in winter. 'Dallas Blues' is best grown in full sun and will tolerate extreme heat and drought.

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## Manager's Message



### Garden Supports

**T**EETERING ON THE EDGE of the coffee table are gardeners' staples: magazines, catalogs, and lists of plant desires—all clamoring for a piece of my wallet. How will I support my 'needs' for the coming growing season? I began to think about that word "support." What is support in a garden? Trellises? Stakes? Fencing? Twine? Friends? Money? Topic for my next Manager's Message?

I have just received a report for the proceeds from this year's annual appeal to complete phase II of the gazebo renovation. I am overwhelmed by the *support* you, as Friends of Green Spring, as FROGS, have generously given. Over \$21,000. That is phenomenal! According to the data I have seen, at least 247 of you contributed. That's the largest annual appeal with the largest number of contributors to date. Thank you.

As I sit at my desk, and look out the window, I have a direct view of the white gazebo. Its gleaming white paint and newly shingled roof are a reminder of the support Clark Construction and FROGS gave to make the first phase of the gazebo renovation possible. With your generous support and additional funding from FROGS, the Park Authority, the Mastenbrook Volunteer Matching Support Grant and possibly other sources not yet confirmed, the second phase, which includes a new expanded patio, fencing, accessible ramp and artistic focal point, will happen. I'm excited!

Green Spring Gardens is beautiful year-around because your support comes year-around. I see many familiar faces at the Winter Lecture Series and other programs. Your attendance helps build our revenue coffers. It is quiet in the garage right now, but soon enough our garden volunteer support will return in full force to complement the front desk and programs volunteers who greet you year-around. As I scurry from my office to the library, I see lovely merchandise ready to find a good home, either at yours or mine.

Support goes both ways. We hope we support you in your pursuit of knowledge, beauty and serenity. There are many of you who do what we want to see most, visiting and enjoying the gardens. If we are lacking in some manner, do let me know. We want you to know that your support is appreciated and returned through all that we do. 🌿

Mary Olien  
Park Manager

### Art at Green Spring: First Timers and Returnees

**Green Spring welcomes three artists** who will show their works for the first time at from February 25–April 27. In the Horticulture Center:

**Kathy Bodycombe** exhibits oils and acrylics in the atrium and main events room.

**Jeff Garell** presents his watercolors created on yupo on the ramp.

**Diemhang Thamto's** Asian brush painting and porcelain plates are featured in the Historic House.

**April 29–June 29** welcomes back the annually delightful exhibit by the **Potomac Valley Watercolorists** in both the Historic House and the Horticulture Center. Their reception is Sunday, May 4, 1–3pm.

## Gardenline

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Mary Olien

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Contributions? Comments?  
The editorial staff would like to hear from you.

Please contact us through

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703-642-5173

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If accommodations or alternative formats are needed, please call 703-324-8563 at least 10 working days before the event.

## DOUGHT TOLERANT GRASSES

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If you cannot wait until fall to enjoy a lovely wine-red color, you want to choose 'Rotstrahlbusch', the antique switch grass cultivar introduced by Karl Foerster in the 1930s in Germany, or the newer, even more intensely red-colored 'Shenandoah', with lush green leaves that turn deep tones of red and burgundy with delicate blooms in July into September. These two cultivars are smaller in stature, standing up to 4 feet, making them ideal for backyard gardens.

Switch grass is often considered the workhorse for challenging landscapes. A more refined cousin, the prairie dropseed, *Sporobolus heterolepis*, is a fine-textured low-growing grass. The open prairies of North America are its home, yet it is elegant enough to grace formal gardens. Glossy light green summer foliage turns deep orange in fall, and open delicate panicles glow deep amber in October. An unexpected pleasure of the prairie dropseed is an inviting soft aroma reminiscent of crushed coriander. While this fragile looking grass is slow to mature, it is extremely tough once established.

In moist and irrigated soils, the exuberant river oats, *Chasmanthium latifolium* is challenging to control, but in dry environments it is extremely restrained. In its natural habitat it grows in full sun near rivers and streams as well as in high shade in rich deciduous forests. It could be called the chameleon grass because it acquires different color and habit depending on where it is sited. River oats in full sun is light green and upright; in shade it is dark green and arching. It turns deep amber in fall and fades to celadon gray in winter. The gently nodding, ironed-flat spikelets emerge chartreuse and



## Talk

Susan Voss, FROGS President

SPRING IS ALMOST UPON US with an exciting new year at Green Spring. The FROGS board of directors has a lot to live up to after receiving Special Recognition at the Elly Doyle Park Service awards in November. In addition, the Park Authority Board adopted a resolution recognizing FROGS 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and presented the FROGS board with a plaque of recognition.

Equally important, FROGS vice president and longtime board member Clint Fields received an Outstanding Volunteer Award at the Elly Doyle awards event. In addition to serving on the board since 2006, Clint is a Green Spring Master Gardener and an active volunteer in the children's program. From my perspective, I view Clint as a co-president and could not manage without his enthusiasm and knowledge.

2013 was a big year for FROGS. We saw the classroom renovation completed as well as the first phase of the gazebo revitalization. Thanks to the generosity of our members, the annual appeal raised

over \$21,000 which will be used for next phase of the gazebo revitalization! This was the most successful annual appeal ever, both in the amount raised and the number of participants. We thank you for such marvelous support.

Our first annual meeting inspired us to try to find ways of involving the membership in more of our activities. To that end, included in this issue is a list of the board members and their contacts, as well as a list of the committees that need volunteers. We look forward to increased membership involvement and welcome any ideas on how FROGS members can be more a part of our activities.

As for what's ahead, we hope by the end of 2014 to have an updated, user-friendly website and will begin Phase II of the gazebo revitalization. The Garden Gate Plant Shop opens April 5<sup>th</sup>, and Spring Garden Day is just around the corner on May 17<sup>th</sup> (see insert).

I look forward to seeing you in the Gardens in 2014. ☺

mature to pink-copper. They flutter like glittering ornaments when touched by gentle breeze. It is one of the few grasses that prosper in shade.

Visually dynamic and stimulating to the senses, low maintenance, adaptable, attractive to birds, pollinators and wildlife, enhancing biodiversity, and conserving resources, grasses deserve to be

welcomed in our gardens and landscapes.

To learn more about grasses and suitable plant companions, pull up a chair in the Green Spring Gardens library and peruse *The Encyclopedia of Grasses for Livable Landscapes* by Rick Darke. ☺

Lydia H. Fravel  
2013 Summer Intern



# A Civil War Connection

IN 1861 FOUNTAIN BEATTIE enlisted in the First Virginia Cavalry at Abington, Virginia, and there met John Singleton Mosby. Both Mosby and Beattie participated in the Battle of First Manassas as members of the First Virginia Cavalry. They became good friends, and Fountain became one of the original 15 Mosby's Rangers. Mosby's campaign crossed Northern Virginia during the early part of the War Between the States. Beattie and Mosby remained good friends throughout their lives.

"Whether Fountain Beattie saw or visited Green Spring Farm during these rides with Mosby's battalion is not certain. There is reason to think he may have been in the neighborhood because of references to engagements in Alexandria. However, he may have heard of the farm from one of the descendants of its owners, since on one occasion he escaped imminent disaster only through the intervention of one Thomas Moss of Alexandria."\*

The region must have made a strong impression on Beattie because, after moving several times in the years following the war, he purchased Green Spring Farm in 1878 from the County Court, which had ordered it sold to satisfy a judgment for debt.

Fountain Beattie and his wife Anne lived in the house with their twelve children, six boys and six girls. To provide heat there was a coal stove set in the living room fireplace. A pot-bellied stove provided the heat in the dining room. There was no heat upstairs except what rose from the lower floors or was supplied by upstairs fireplaces. In order to accommodate their large family, Beattie converted the attic

level to living space by finishing off the space for bedchambers. Dormer windows were installed sometime after 1878 that provided additional light and air. It was at this time that a porch was added to extend along the southern facade of the house to reflect the design of the times.

"During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, Green Spring Farm was identified with dairy products and orchard and garden produce. Fountain Beattie directed his efforts to the expansion of the orchards and herd of dairy cattle as rapidly as it was feasible."\* Fruit trees included pears, cherries, and apples in two 25-acre orchards—one located on each side of Little River Turnpike—which provided the principal produce of the farm. Farm produce was regularly marketed in Washington, Alexandria, and local grocery stores, as well as at a roadside stand during the harvest season.

"Not all of Fountain Beattie's orchard produce went to the market in this way. The spring house on the farm contained presses, storage facilities, and other equipment needed to make apple cider, applejack, and apple and peach brandy. Apples

picked in the ripening season were stored in large barrels until the fall and winter months, when they were made into fermented or distilled beverages."\* Ironically, Beattie was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue for the Sixth District of Virginia and raided moonshiners though he possessed his own government licensed still. He served in this position from 1875 to 1914.

"Fountain Beattie's operations at the farm ended in tragedy one day when he returned home to find that his barn had caught fire and been completely destroyed. The contents of the barn, which included all of his livestock and much of the farm equipment, were also lost. Only the horse he was riding at the time remained to start rebuilding the farm. It turned out that too much had been lost; Fountain Beattie never did more than acquire a few horses to perform the most necessary tasks. The dairy herds and field crops were never developed to the previous thriving level of activity."\*

Fountain Beattie sold the farm in 1917 and moved to the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

\*Excerpts from Green Spring Farm by Nan and Ross DeWitt Netherton, an ebook available at [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org). ☼

*Dotty Stahl*

*Historic Site Committee Chair*

## See the Rock Garden in Bloom Now

THE ROCK GARDEN at Green Spring offers some of the earliest signs of spring, with plants beginning to wake up as soon as February. By March many of its low-lying perennials are emerging, offering new colors and growing vibrancy daily. Visit the garden weekly from March and throughout spring to see rapid

changes in plant activity as the weather warms up.

Heaths, (also called Heathers), are one of the most rugged and early blooming rock garden plants. *Erica x darleyensis* 'Kramers Red' bursts with tiny urn-shaped magenta flowers as early as November. A welcome sight in dreary weather, its

blooms lasts through March. The cultivar ‘Margaret Porter’ is distinguishable by its lighter pink flowers.

*Alyssum sibiryni* lights up the garden with its brilliant yellow flowers. You can see clusters of it cascading over the rock walls of the garden. Another sunny yellow flower can be found on the *Draba*, or Whitlow Grasses. One of the earliest plants to bloom in the rock garden, its little pincushions of vegetation are covered with pretty yellow flowers. Look for them in the lower rock wall.

*Pulsatilla vulgaris*, Pasque Flower, puts on a stunning show in March and April. Finely dissected leaves form low-growing clumps from which lovely bell-shaped purple flowers grow. After blooming, the flowers transform into silky plumed seed heads that dance in the breeze. Neighboring the *Pulsatilla* you will find *Dodecatheon poeticum*, Narcissus Shooting Star, named for its white flowers that look as if they are rockets plummeting toward the earth. *Dodecatheon meadia* ‘Goliath’, has a similar flower structure with magenta flowers. *Anemone blanda* and *coronaria*, the brightly-colored Windflowers, bloom near the Chamaecyparuss in April. They are joined by Candytufts, *Aethionema grandiflora* and *saxatile*, which complement them in shades of pink and white.

The rock garden features a wide range of Columbine that bloom from March to May, distinguished by their red and yellow drooping, bell-like flowers. Look for our native *Aquilegia canadensis* and its dwarf version, ‘Little Lanterns,’ in areas throughout the garden. Keep an eye out for the whimsical *Frittilaria meleagris* which features intriguing checkered, purple flowers nodding on long stems. Its common names, Checkered Lily and Guinea Hen, reference the flower’s speckled appearance.

Don’t miss the variety of pint-sized Narcissus that brings sunshine to the rock garden on gray spring days. You will find: *Narcissus bulbicodium*, Hoop Petticoat Daffodil, *Narcissus* ‘Hawera’, ‘Jumble’ and ‘Little Gem’, *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* and the diminutive *Narcissus willkommii*, whose flowers are smaller than a dime. Take some time to seek out the Species tulips scattered through the garden. They include yellow ‘Tinka’, bright orange ‘Shogun’, hot pink ‘Little Beauty’, purple ‘Persian Pearl’, the lovely lavenders ‘Odalisque’, and ‘Helena’, and pink and white striped ‘Lady Jane’.

Several plants blanket the rock garden in spring, providing a dynamic foundation for plants with taller blossoms. The vibrant pink *Oxalis braziliensis* has charming leaves that continue to cover the rocks with a green-textured foundation even after its blooms drop. The carpet phlox include the bright pink *Phlox subulata*, a U.S. native found in the open woodlands of Appalachia and from West Virginia to Georgia. Cultivars offer varied

hues including ‘Blue Hills’ and pink and white ‘Candy Stripe’. ‘Schneewittchen’ or ‘Snow White’ takes its name from its pure white color. *Phlox nivalis* has unnotched petals and a trailing habit. Phlox offer a lush pastel groundcover in the rock garden throughout the spring.

The iris blooming season starts with *Hermodactylus tuberosus*, the Snake-Head Iris, which is not a true iris but whose name comes from its flower that closely resembles an iris. A tremendous diversity of iris soon follows, including *Iris cristata*, a dwarf-crested pale blue and its cultivar, ‘Dick Redfield,’ with its exceptionally unique, rich purple flowers with frilly crests. A range of purple hues is seen in many others, including *Iris hookeri*, *missouriensis*, *sintenisii* and *bucharica*.

Don’t forget your camera! Green Spring’s rock garden is a paradise for photographers throughout the spring. 🌸

Heather Hare  
Green Spring Gardener and  
former Rock Garden Intern



Photo by Kathy Triche; all rights reserved

Vivian Eddy admiring her family’s gingerbread house

## Gardener’s Holiday Gingerbread House Contest Winners

Congratulations and thanks to all who entered

Adult category:

1st: Susan Maldonado

2nd: Becky Van Meter

3rd: Christine Braswell

Family Category:

1st: Marian Villasenor

2nd: Tricia Schwering

3rd: Alison Gramann

Youth category:

1st: Nico Granieri

# Honoring our Volunteers

ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2013, 55 Green Spring Gardens volunteers were honored with a "Beyond the Garden" luncheon. Volunteers enjoyed lunch, were musically entertained, and heard how their efforts are such an encouragement to those who enjoy the gardens. The event was hosted by the Green Spring Gardens staff and coordinated by volunteer coordinator Ralph Weitz.

Lunch was catered by Agape Catering, owned by Sue Agazzi. The lunch included three-bean chili, a variety of sandwiches and salads, a celebration cake, and additional desserts provided by volunteers. The creative centerpieces on each table were provided by the Horticulture staff.

The Burke Acoustical Music Society played stringed instruments such as ukulele and guitars, plus drums and tuba. They performed and sang many entertaining songs. The musical group is composed of four pastors and two staff members from Immanuel Bible Church, located just two miles from Green Spring.

One of the highlights of the luncheon was the recognition of the volunteers who have served 10, 15 and 20 years at Green Spring. The supervisors presented special name tags to each volunteer being honored. Volunteers with 10 years serving: Julie Cosentino, Carol Dickerson, Glynda Hurley, Jeanne Zabel; 15 years: Camilla Clocker, Coletta Hein, Joyce Kinnecom, Camille Reilly, Margaret Shulter; 20 years: John Dudzinsky and Dorothy Norpel. Green Spring Gardens manager Mary Olien spoke on how valuable the volunteers are in accomplishing Green Spring's mission and how

their impact goes beyond the gardens.

The closing praise for the volunteers was presented by Dottie Britton. The Brittons lived just a mile from Green Spring and often walked the grounds while Dottie's late husband Ed Britton was battling leukemia for two years. Dottie's praise was for the inspiration Green Spring represented to her family and how Ed was rejuvenated by his many walks around the gardens. Britton's praise reflected the impact the volunteers make beyond the gardens. Ralph stated that if his friend were alive to attend the luncheon, he would demonstratively

say, "OH MY GOSH, these volunteers are wonderful!"

Ralph distributed eleven door prizes including a large basket of beauty products provided by his daughter, an autographed book, *A Living Treasure: Seasonal Photographs of Arlington National Cemetery* by Robert Knudsen, and two glass wall hangings. As a reminder of the luncheon and their volunteering, all the volunteers received a Beyond the Garden bookmark created by Janet Hammes and Rachel Gomez. The Beyond the Garden luncheon committee was composed of Sandy Rittenhouse-Black, Janet Hammes, Rachel Gomez, Ralph Weitz and Lorraine Latham.

Ralph Weitz  
Volunteer Coordinator

## FROGS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FEBRUARY 2014

Susan Voss (President)

Clint Fields (Vice President)

Liz Promen (Secretary)

Ivy Sinaiko (Treasurer)

Thornton Burnet

Camilla Clocker

Sunny Greene

Coletta Hein

Tatiana Lisle

Mary Jane Medeiros

Sarah Munroe

Dorothy Norpel

Sandra Reichert

Eileen Rollyson

Jim Schroeder

Bevan Shimizu

Dotty Stahl

Kathy Trichel

Betsy Washington

Please contact any of us regarding FROGS issues!



## FROGS Welcomes Your Volunteer Involvement

Please contact the FROGS chairperson listed below or FROGS president Susan Voss (susanlvoss@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering for one or more of the following:

### Standing Committees

#### Marketing:

Sarah Munroe  
[REDACTED]

#### Membership:

Kathy Trichel  
[REDACTED]

#### Fund Raising:

Eileen Rollyson  
[REDACTED]

#### Historic Site:

Dotty Stahl  
[REDACTED]

#### Library:

Liz Promen  
[REDACTED]

#### Gardenline:

Sunny Greene  
[REDACTED]

### Seasonal Event Committees

Spring Garden Day

Summer Concert

Fall Garden Day

Gardener's Holiday

Winter Lecture Series

Bake Sales

Mailing

Susan Voss  
[REDACTED]

We look forward to hearing from you!



**T**HE GARDEN GATE PLANT SHOP will be busting at the seams with plants for your garden when we open on April 5, 2014! For camellia lovers out there, we'll have a wonderful variety of fall and spring bloomers with pink and white blooms. Spring blooming peonies will also be available. These include the gorgeous tree peonies, *Paeonia suffruticosa* 'Hanakiso' and 'Shimadaijin'; herbaceous hybrids, *P.* 'Coral Sunset' and *P.* 'Paula Fay'; and the highly sought after intersectional peony *P.* 'Cora Louise'.

For the native plant enthusiast, we'll have some lovely spring ephemerals including bloodroot, *Sanguinaria canadensis*; trillium, *Trillium grandiflorum*; and Virginia bluebells, *Mertensia virginica*. We'll also have a variety of native ferns and Solomon's seal, *Polygonatum biflorum*, to add interesting foliage to your shade gardens. To attract pollinators, flowering natives will abound in the shop, including *Asclepias tuberosa*, *Liatris microcephala*, *Eupatorium* 'Little Joe', and *Spiegelia marilandica*. If you are in need of a native groundcover, Alleghany spurge, *Pachysandra procumbens*, is a wonderful slow growing groundcover that will fill in those bare spaces in the shade garden. Another option for the shade garden is the widely popular woodland stonecrop, *Sedum terna-*

*tum*. New in the shop this year, we are providing a variety of beautiful blooming native azaleas, including 'Jack Melton', 'Kate', and 'Mal-lory'. We'll also have buttonbush, *Cephalanthus occidentalis*, to attract the butterflies. Come check them out and take one home.

For shrub lovers, we'll have a great selection of our tried and true hydrangeas: *Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight' and 'Little Lime', as well as a number of oak-leaf types, *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Alice', 'Little Honey', and 'Ruby Slippers'. We are trying some new dwarf winterberry hollies this year, including *Ilex verticillata* 'Mr. Poppins' and 'Little Goblin'. For interesting flowers, we will have Proven Winners', *Abelia grandiflora*, 'Sunny Anniversary', touted as a "true color breakthrough", with yellow blooms painted with a splash of pink and orange. For you dark foliage lovers, we'll have *Sambucus nigra* 'Eva' Black Lace and *Weigela florida* 'Bokrasivi' Spilled Wine. Simply stunning!

For your sun garden, we will have a variety of heleniums, asters, echinaceas and rudbeckias. This is only a taste of what you will find this spring in the Garden Gate Plant Shop! As we get in to the growing season, we'll continue to get new plants from our wonderful suppliers. So come see us in April and keep coming back to check out our new additions. Staff will be on hand to assist you and answer any questions. Happy Shopping!

The Garden Gate Shop is open 9:00–4:30: Monday–Saturday; and 12:00–4:30: Sunday. ☼

Diana Shannon  
Plant Shop Coordinator





# Gardenline

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Green Spring Gardens • 4603 Green Spring Road • Alexandria, VA 22312

## Children's Education

SCHOOL FIELD TRIPS, SCOUT PROGRAMS, weekend family offerings, the Children's Cherry Blossom Celebration and the new Let's Grow Garden Club share a full calendar which defines spring for Green Spring's Children's Education.

The Children's Cherry Blossom Celebration, scheduled from 1-3pm on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>, will coincide with a weeks-long series of events at Green Spring Gardens for the National Cherry Blossom Festival. The program will feature demonstrations, crafts, and family-friendly activities highlighting Japan-U.S. friendship, history, botany, and culture. Our 2014 festival activities will include paper lantern painting, origami, storytelling and scavenger hunts.

The Let's Grow Garden Club, a six-session gardening program for 3 to 8-year-olds, will meet every other Monday from 10:30 to noon, March 31 to June 16. The program, developed with the help of 2013 GSMG Janet Greenhaugh,

will emphasize hands-on gardening experiences for kids. Children will investigate soil, plant life cycles and the role of pollinators while weeding, digging, potting plants, tasting herbs and making pizza at Green Spring Gardens.

With spring come thoughts of summer—and registration for summer camps. Children's Education will debut two new weeklong camps this summer: *Living Wild: Animal Investigations*, for ages 5 to 11, and *All-American Girl: Living Dolls Camp*, for ages 5 to 9. Ever popular *Arts al Fresco Camp* returns along with *Eco Explorers Camp*, which debuted last summer to rave reviews. *Insect Safari* rounds out our exciting Green Spring camp offerings. Don't wait too long to register because camp spaces can fill up quickly. Call Green Spring Gardens at 703-642-5173 or go online at [www.greenspring.org](http://www.greenspring.org) to register for any coded Green Spring Garden program.

*Ann Di Fiore  
Children's Program Specialist*