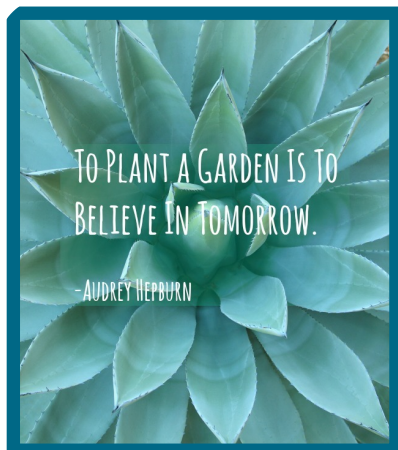


# GARDEN SCOOP



## WGC Events

All events **On Hold** until further notice. Porter Library is now open for curbside pickup.

## Nearby Plant Sales

Olmsted Falls plant sale has been **cancelled** until next year.

North Olmsted Garden Club's sale has been rescheduled and relocated. See opposite.

The June 6 **Master Gardener** sale in Independence has been put **on hold**. Check their website [cuyahogmg.org](http://cuyahogmg.org) for possible rescheduling.

## Dates to Remember

Container Vegetable Gardening, Master Gardeners Online, May 16 from 10 to 11 a.m. See p. 2.

Cleveland Garden Walk, July 11 & 12, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. See p. 2.

The Chataqua House/Garden Walk in July was featured in our last newsletter. It has just been **postponed until 2021**.

## A Message to all of our members

We miss you and hope that you are well. The board is busy brainstorming ideas on how to keep in touch during our time of confinement and social distancing. Right now it looks as if most of our summer meetings will have to be canceled but we will be in touch: check your newsletter and watch your inbox.

Many of you have responded to the request to let us know how you are coping and the responses are included in this newsletter. It is good to hear from all of you. The variety of creative ways in which people are filling their time is amazing and inspiring. Please keep the notes coming and if we did not hear from you, please chime in next month—we even accept gripes if you feel the need to vent!

It will soon warm up—we hope—and May is the perfect time to dig those emerging perennials and divide them. If you have some to give away or exchange, let me know and I will send out an email telling people what you have and when you will have them ready to set out for pick-up. A photo would be good. If you do not think that you have room for perennials, do not forget that some will work very well in a front porch pot.

Kathy Bruening

## Garden Club Plant Sale in North Olmsted

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the **North Olmsted Garden Club Annual Plant Sale** has been postponed until **Saturday, May 30, 2020**. We have picked a new location so that we can allow for social distancing.

The plant sale will be held in the **parking lot of Ace Hardware, 23200 Lorain Road, North Olmsted**. The sale will open to the public at **9:00 a.m.** and stay open until everything is sold, approximately two hours. Most plants are perennials dug from members' gardens.

We are also selling raffle tickets for a basket of items worth over \$250. Members will be wearing masks & gloves and request that everyone respect safe distances.

## Memorial Day 2020

Although the **Memorial Day Parade** in Westlake has been cancelled because of the nationwide effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, residents are still encouraged to display their American flags and red, white and blue colors at their homes the week of May 25 in recognition of the holiday. In fact, such displays are a welcome sight any time of the year.

Please continue to refer back to the city's website and social media pages for updates on new developments as the city continues to work to do its part to keep everyone safe and healthy.



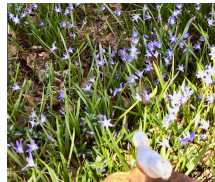
## Answers to last month's Garden Scoop photo identification quiz



1. Snowdrops



2. Lenten rose, Hellebore



3. Chionodoxa, tiny ephemeral bulb; naturalizes readily



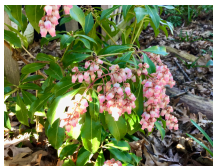
4. Winter aconite, Eranthis Hyemalis, buttercup family



5 & 6 Rainbow spurge and tiny early daffodils



7. Hepatica Americana, a native wild flower, early spring



8. Piers Japonica, a good shade shrub, deer-resistant



9. Arum: dies back in summer, returns in fall; green all winter; orange seed pods

### Cleveland Botanical Garden:

WGC Affiliate dues have been paid. The Affiliate Council will meet via ZOOM May 21. No updates as of yet on the October Fall Forum but the theme for GLOW 2020 will be "Hearth and Home for the Holidays".

## Join the Cuyahoga County Master Gardeners for another free online program....

"**Container Vegetable Gardening**" is a presentation designed to help those who are downsizing from a home with a regular, in-ground vegetable garden to an apartment or condominium with limited patio or balcony space. The desire to continue to grow a few vegetables has made this a popular subject. Topics covered will include the basic requirements, types and sizes of containers, cultural practices and tips for growing popular vegetables. This talk is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced gardeners.

Presenter Christine Harris is an outstanding teacher and was the first Master Gardener from Cuyahoga County to win the award for Master Gardener of the Year at the state level. She lives on an acre of land filled with fruit trees, flower beds and vegetable plots has been a Master Gardener Volunteer since 2004

Check the website: [cuyahogmg.org](http://cuyahogmg.org) for registration. This free ZOOM webinar will take place on May 16 from 10 to 11 a.m.

contact: [mgcc.event@yahoo.com](mailto:mgcc.event@yahoo.com)

**July 11 and 12, 2020, 10am – 5pm**

**GardenWalk Cleveland 2020** is here! Come out, enjoy the sanctuary of urban residential gardens. Plans are well underway for this year's tours that will feature over 300 gardens in eight Cleveland neighborhoods. Similar to the 2019 tours, half the neighborhoods will be open on Saturday, and half will be open on Sunday. On Saturday, July 11th tour these neighborhoods: Fairfax, Broadway Slavic Village, West Park, and Glenville and then on Sunday, July 12th tour these neighborhoods: Detroit Shoreway, Collinwood, Little Italy, and Old Brooklyn. Gardens on the tour will be open from 10am to 5pm –RAIN or SHINE.

The Walk is a free, self-guided tour of private and community urban gardens in the City of Cleveland. As visitors tour at their own pace they can meet other garden enthusiasts and enjoy a variety of gardens and urban farms in the city's neighborhoods. Each neighborhood will have a garden headquarters where visitors can pick up printed maps. Online maps will also be available. For further information visit our website at [www.gardenwalkcleveland.org](http://www.gardenwalkcleveland.org) or our Facebook page, GardenWalk Cleveland.

## Keeping up with our friends in the garden club . . .

Sally Knurek 5/2

Photo of Sessalie Trillium, 10" from leaf tip to tip

5/ 8 In addition to Chinese brush painting and gardening, I am taking this time to read a very interesting book about mosses. Written by Annie Martin, a resident of mountainous North Carolina, it is called "The Magical World of Moss Gardening". The book is a comprehensive tome with glorious pictures on every page. It details the natural history of the plant (it was one of the first to invade the land and was here in the age of dinosaurs). Not only does it grow anywhere and everywhere, but it has a great number of species second only to orchids. Reproduction can occur in any of three ways: spore dispersal (sexual reproduction), fragmentation (asexual reproduction) and by gemmae (Vegetative reproduction). Annie details a selection of both public and private moss gardens, how to plant your own and a sampling of the different kinds of mosses. This book is a treat to read or even just browse through. I must find an unused corner of my garden to try a moss garden myself!

5/9 Would you believe, I put out my oriole feeder the other day and as of 12:30 this morning I have seen 7 of them. This is the first time I have seen them in my yard!



Lynn Motsch 5/3

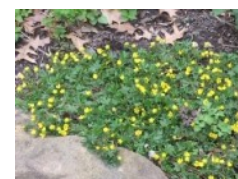


This Iris is the first of the season. The only one so far. I have been helping my husband. He had a knee replacement. They were supposed to replace the other knee last week but couldn't because of the virus. The surgeon called Friday and wants to see us tomorrow to reschedule it soon. I'm afraid for him to get it done right now. But he's in so much pain he wants to go ahead with it. We'll see. I haven't gotten bored yet. I'm going to get my herbs and annual flowers next week. It will be nice to plant them. Keep cheerful.

Deb Dougherty 5/4

I am learning to make masks—it ain't pretty, but it gives my wonderful husband some much needed space. On the nice days, I have been weeding. Anybody know the name of this lovely spring bloomer?

*(Deb has been very busy taking care of her dad who has been in and out of hospital.)*

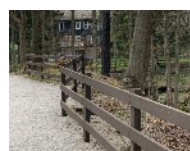


Barb Fabinak 5/4 How We Cope

Good morning

Every morning I read scripture. I am going through the whole bible! Then I plan the day with my kids. They have the Bible stories on tape and listen and follow along. I also have weekly bible study group we Zoom studying Galatians just ending. Our couples group has been on Zoom. We're 4 couples

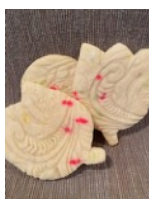
but we met for the first time last night to start our book discussion: You Will Get Through This. We walk every day if nice. If not, we exercise free on YMCA 360 yoga, Zumba and Ti Chi!





### Cathy Garlitz 5/4 Pandemic Kitchen

Hello Everyone, I've been keeping myself busy in the kitchen during these times. I never thought yeast and flour would be hard to find! Thankfully some Foodie friends shared their stash with me! I've made Cookies, Pretzels, Coconut Cupcakes, No Knead Bread, Shellfish Stew, and Homemade Pasta just to mention a few! Hopefully, the nicer weather will bring more exercise other than using my Kitchen Aid Mixer. I also planted my own Lettuce Bowl yesterday. Dean's had a sale Saturday for 99 cents for a 3 pack! I planted one bowl, and now I need more lettuce to complete my second bowl. Mangia! Enjoy!



### Carolyn Steigman 5/4

I'm so glad it's finally warmer and in the garden the plants are all up and blooming right on schedule regardless of whatever craziness might be going on in the world. In March, feeling a hunger for green and growing things, I started coleus and lantana (which takes forever to germinate) from seeds that I collected from my plants in the fall. Later this month they will be ready to plant outside. I

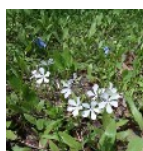
have also been doing more Chinese brush paintings. I usually have a few students for private lesson from my home but for now that has, of course, been put on hold. So instead I gave a few lesson to my husband. Since I'm not Chinese I paint with an American accent. I hope there will soon be a treatment and/or vaccine for Corona virus and we will stop being potential sources of infection for each other. Be safe- Be well.



### Marsha McEntee 5/6

During the Covid quarantine I have looked for new places to walk my dog Bear. Today we were at Cahoon creek which runs behind Village on the Park Apts. where I live. It is an unknown bit of nature tucked in the Middle of Westlake. We found a family of deer nestled down in a meadow around the bend of the creek. So picturesque!

### Jean Smith 5/6 Nature Therapy



Roger and I hike frequently, but during this time of sheltering-in-place it has taken on a whole new meaning. We have been getting out at least two times a week to hike in the parks, avoiding weekends when it is crowded and difficult to maintain social distancing. Now is a great time to visit the parks because the wildflowers are fairly abundant, although I think we are about a week or two behind last year. I want to share

some photos from a hike on May 5 in Rocky River Metroparks. The Virginia Bluebells are blooming in large sections and are lovely. The Sessile Trillium, also known as Toad Shade, are always a treat and seem to bloom in clusters. The Wild Phlox are just starting and still a pale blue. I almost missed spotting the first Jack-in-the-Pulpit this year because it is still green, no purple showing yet. when not in the parks, we walk around our development, spotting many birds on these

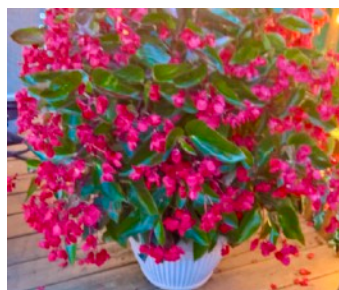
walks. I hope you have all found something to do to keep busy and entertained during this difficult time. Look forward to seeing everyone soon.



## Thea Steinmetz 5/7

Spring - Where is it? My nine window boxes on the deck are spartanly planted. The nights are too cold to get most of my herbs outside.

Dean's greenhouse has so many wonderful plants that is hard for me not to buy tons. Their root system is more developed than plants from big box stores. The colorful hanging plants will bring me much joy for months to come. Spearmint and peppermint will be welcome for herb tea. Spearmint is supposed to be a tad stronger than peppermint but to me it does not matter. Hot tea with a touch of honey and lemon are still a treat. Phone calls are always welcome.



## Chris Borzak 5/8

I have been doing a lot of cleaning and organizing in my house! I cleaned our deck getting ready for staining if the weather ever cooperates! I'm planning what I'm going to plant in my yard. I haven't started yet! I'm sending a picture of a huge dragon wing begonia from last year!! Also my daisies which are my favorite flower.



## Lavinia Cozmin 5/8

Besides working a little (mostly phone and video calls, now), I did visit Gale's and Marc's for a few spring annuals that are not yet doing too great. Some are still in the garage due to night freezing alert. I and my husband Dan "were out" a few times to get food (take out and curb delivery) from a couple of favorite places. It felt almost like an adventure...No cultural events, I am embarrassed to admit. I spent a lot of time worrying, talking to friends, to relatives overseas. Went to church also "on line" (I am sending pictures from our Easter service). On a positive note, it was sooo much easier to drive and to rest, due to the low traffic. The air feels also much cleaner.

## Ruth Bertrand 5/11

Ruth is in the Westlake Village Retirement Community and along with all the other residents is on lockdown. They are all doing their best to ward off the virus by wearing masks in the common areas and respecting social distancing. No more big group events; meals are delivered to their apartments. Ruth did have a good Mother's Day with visits from all three of her children—she gave each one a time to come stand outside the glass door along with the grandkids. They communicated by phone but were able to see one another and pass her a few gifts and flowers. Ruth has a special birthday coming up in June and unfortunately, she and her twin sister in California will not be able to be together for the event—but they are probably going to ZOOM. Yes to keeping up with technology.

## Claire Evangelista 5/11

Claire has been watching old movies on you tube : Last Time I saw Paris and Foreign Correspondent; on TV: Under Cover Boss.

*Claire's notes from phone calls to some of our members who do not do email:*

Cathrin Peter: missing grandchildren, listening to the Mass on TV and radio, reading and cooking.

Margaret Schulz: scrapbooking family pictures, baking cookies, making beaded jewelry, driving scenic areas along Lake Road into Rocky River and Lakewood.

## Cathi Peter 5/11 It's May After All



In spite of the snow showers, this May is especially beautiful. Have you noticed the green the grass, a deeper shade and more lush than usual in the gardens on your walks? The pine trees' fronds more luxurious? The weeping willows along the lakes of Bay Landing—now a pale yellow-green—swaying in the cool and gentle breeze. The crab apple trees splashing purple to a lighter pink against the very blue sky as the sun shines on them.

My quince bushes in front of the windows have the brightest richest red flowers that they have ever had. The hosts and Stella d'Oro leaves are just tall enough for the deer to nibble on. It's good that the peony bush is behind the pine shrubs—growing great—not yet noticed by the deer.

Periwinkle covers the ground—blue stars interspersed with lily of the valley ready to start growing their little heads into the sweetest smelling bells. They are not part of the garden salad so far.

While we are enjoying the beauty of God's creation—many of us in our comfortable homes—reflecting on times past, may we always remember how truly blessed we have been and are—in family, friends, church and country. Especially at this time in our lives—"the good life".



### City of Westlake newsletter

In his May/June newsletter message, **Mayor Clough** encouraged all Westlake residents to take part in **Westlake in Bloom**. He hopes that every household will display at least one flower or plant prominently outside the front door from July 6 to the 8th.

Gardening is a very good way for us to stay connected as a community.

Residents—especially the younger ones—are encouraged to continue their positive driveway and sidewalk CHALK messages—maybe some floral scenes to coincide with Westlake in Bloom.

Deadline for Westlake in Bloom entries is Friday, June 26 at 5 p.m.

## Kathy Bruening 5/11

Early May garden photos: serviceberry to the right of the bench, narcissus that lasted forever this year on the left—they didn't mind the snow at all; the forsythia in the background also put on a very long show in the cool spring; the tiny flowered epymedium is a reliable shade ground cover; Mrs. Moon pulmonaria (lungwort) in the middle; Jack Frost brunnera has flowers that resemble the forget-me-knot and rough-textured leaves that deer do not like.

