

# Newsletter



**Don't miss out on any upcoming 2026 events:**

GERANIUM SALES, GARDEN WORKSHOPS,  
LOCAL VENDORS & KIDS CRAFTS

THE AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS  
***Garden Fest***  
SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2026 • 9AM-2PM

*Tickets: \$5.00 EACH*  
MEMBERS & CHILDREN  
5 & UNDER ARE FREE  
\*PURCHASED UPON ENTRY

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**

Are you following us on Facebook and Instagram yet? Be sure not to miss out on a thing! Our pages are being updated constantly with upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and happenings around the garden. Follow us today!

 Amarillo Botanical Gardens  
 @amarillobotanicalgardens

THE AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

**MUSIC IN THE Gardens**

**7PM-9PM**  
EVERY THURSDAY IN JUNE, JULY & AUGUST



SPONSORED BY:  
RICK LOOBY Homes  
AT SUNSET ACRES

6/04: Insufficient Funds	7/16: Old Dog Tray
6/11: Big G & The Tradewinds	7/23: Solano Project
6/18: Rien Nash Band	7/30: Touching VooDoo
6/25: Tennessee Tuckness	8/06: Cameron James Smith
7/02: Logan Ellis & The Fever Dream	8/13: Kickback 2
7/09: Broken Echo	8/20: Joe Trevino Band
	8/27: Geezers Gone Wild

**TICKETS: GENERAL \$10 | MEMBERS \$5 | CHILDREN 10 & UNDER ARE FREE**



# 2026 EVENT CALENDAR

## **Garden Fest - Saturday April 25th, 2026 | 9am- 2pm**

A day full of flower sales, garden workshops, 25+ local vendors, kids crafts & food trucks. Kick off spring in the Gardens! General admission \$5.00 each | Members and Children 5 & under are FREE.

## **Music in the Gardens - Thursday, June 4th - Thursday, August 27th | 7 - 9pm**

The Music in the Gardens summer series is back! The concerts take place every Thursday night through June, July and August. Thank you to Rick Looby Homes for being the Music in the Gardens sponsor again this year, and making this event possible.

General admission \$10.00 each | Members \$5.00 each Children 10 & under are FREE.

## **Day with the Butterflies - Saturday, September 12th, 2026 | 9am - 2pm**

A one of a kind event featuring an individual butterfly release, educational activities, and more! Ticket pricing to be announced.

## **Trail of 1000 Jack- O'-Lanterns - October 21st - 24th, 2026 | 6:30 - 9pm**

See the Gardens in a whole new light, with an evening lit by 1000 Jack- O'-Lanterns. More details and ticket prices to be announced.

## **Poinsettia Luncheon - December 1st, 2026 | 11:30am - 1pm**

This event features a catered lunch and a style show. Each attendee will receive a poinsettia to take home. Ticket prices to be announced.

## **Christmas in the Gardens - December 2026 | 6:00 - 8:30pm**

Christmas in the Gardens is back for another magical season of lights. Join us in the month of December for the best light show in town. Every day December 10th-23rd & December 26th. Ticket prices to be announced.

## **The Grinch Brunch - December 21st, 2026 | 10:30am - 12:30pm**

Enjoy a fun-filled morning of food, games, and crafts with the Grinch at the Amarillo Botanical Gardens! Ticket prices to be announced.



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GARDEN WORKSHOPS,  
LOCAL VENDORS  
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THE AMARILLO BOTANICAL GARDENS

# *Garden Fest*

SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2026 • 9AM-2PM

*Tickets* : \$5.00 EACH \*PURCHASED UPON ENTRY  
MEMBERS & CHILDREN 5 & UNDER ARE FREE

# ABG

## SPRING HOURS:

The Gardens is currently observing our spring hours starting March 14th.

### Spring Hours:

Monday-Friday: 9am-5pm

Saturday: 9am-5pm

Sunday: 1pm-5pm

\*We will be observing spring hours until Memorial Day.



## Volunteers are more than just a volunteer at the Gardens.

There are many special individuals that help make the Gardens what it is, and Tommy Jones was one of them. Tommy began coming to the Gardens after his retirement from Pantex, and found it to be a place of great joy and peace. He was eager to share the Gardens beauty through his lens and love for photography. Many days you would find Tommy and his camera wondering around the Gardens, and he had recently decided to further his volunteering to help in the office. Even though his time was cut short, he still spread his desire to create and serve through all of the beautiful images he captured. All of the images in this quarter and in past newsletters are thanks to Tommy.

We will greatly miss him!

The Amarillo Botanical Gardens would like to honor:

**Tommy Ray Jones**

June 8th, 1962 - March 17th, 2026





## **New & Exciting things for the Gardens**

Spring is upon us and the gardens are beginning to come alive. We are excited to announce that not only are the beautiful garden beds getting a face lift, but so are a few of the indoor rooms & feature gardens. The renovations of the large indoor ballroom have been completed just in time for wedding season to begin.

Our staff has been hard at work readying the gardens and cleaning the much loved koi pond in the Dusty McGuire Japanese Garden.

Come out and see all of the hard work and love that has been put into making the gardens a special place.



# In the Garden

The Amarillo Botanical Gardens is pleased to announce our next coming attraction. The John P. Connell Butterfly Sanctuary, given as a memorial by his wife Betty, and family. Betty Connell, also known as Ms. Betty, or Nana, here at the Gardens, is one of our dedicated volunteers and supporters.

Betty has assisted us with everything from weeding, taking admissions at the gate to, perfectly timed pep-talks. We love and appreciate all our volunteers, and she makes it easy to do so.

The twenty-six by thirty foot free-flight butterfly house will provide an interactive and educational experience adapted for all ages. This facility is sure to captivate our audience while promoting an appreciation of our native butterflies. In addition, the conservation of pollinators and their role in our lives will also be taught.

The sanctuary will be covered with screens to feel like the outdoors while containing and protecting the butterflies who will be feeding and completing their entire lifecycle within the enclosure. All stages of reproduction will be visible and the ability to interact with the butterflies will make this a highlight for our visitors.

This attractive structure will contain planters with a variety of plants utilized for nectar, foliage for feeding caterpillars, areas for the chrysalis to develop and hatch while visitors observe. The brick paved space will have educational signage, places to sit and observe; as well as educational and identification materials.

The surrounding garden will showcase butterfly and pollinator plants in a beautiful way that can be reproduced in our own backyards. We are looking for a sponsor for the butterfly/pollinator garden.

All of this is to expand the educational base of the Gardens for our community. In fact, we are looking for volunteers to work in the sanctuary to assist in the care and education of the public, on a regular basis. Please contact the office if you are interested in this volunteer opportunity.

## **Greg Lusk**

Executive Director & Horticulturist



## 2026 Monetary Donors:

Thomas & Barbara Burnett  
Huley Joe Horn  
Amarillo National Bank  
Dr. Brian Pruitt  
Warner & Becky Reeder  
Kenneth & Jean Harris  
Dennis & Karen Plummer  
Quality Mechanical  
Marine E. Cole

## 2026 In Honor of Donations:

Christopher McMillan in honor of Bonnie McMillan  
The Propheteers from St. Paul's Methodist Church in memory of Nancy Lindergren  
Mr. & Mrs. Ollie Burnett in memory of Karen Robard  
Mike & Diane McLain in memory of Kenneth Harris  
William & Juliana Hoke in memory of Kenneth Harris  
Terry Ford in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Philip Huffman in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Erich Grebel in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Tamara Packard in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Darrell Schmidt in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Tommy Morris in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Julia Koumalats in memory of Tommy Jones.  
The Carl & Vesla Jones-Lewis Family in memory of Tommy Jones.  
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Jones in memory of Tommy Jones.

Your donations are greatly appreciated. It is because of generous donors like you that we get to continue our work here at our oasis of the plains.

If you would like to donate please visit our website [amarillobotanicalgardens.org](http://amarillobotanicalgardens.org) or give us a call @ 806-352-6513. Thank you.

