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## Jensen Beach Garden Club donates a regal Royal Poinciana tree

**Lisa Oster** 

Jensen Beach Garden Club

JENSEN BEACH — Every year, in honor of Arbor Day, the Jensen Beach Garden Club donates a tree to one of Martin County's public gardens, parks, or public facilities. For this year's Arbor Day, the club purchased and planted a tropical, 15-foot tall Royal Poinciana tree on behalf of the Log Cabin Senior Center at Frances Langford Park in Jensen.

With help from Tom Lynch and his Martin County crew, the club selected a spot to plant this gorgeous tropical ornamental near the entrance of the park where everyone can see and appreciate its vibrant red-orange flowers and fernlike leaves. It's a fast-growing tree that can reach 30 to 40 feet tall with a broad crown that be anywhere from 60 to 70 feet wide. It's soon to be a flamboyant beauty.

Jensen Beach Garden Club is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization with members of all ages, backgrounds, and gardening skill levels. Some are expert horticulturists. Others are new to planting but eager to learn. A shared appreciation unites all for the natural beauty of Southeast Florida and a desire to give back to the community in meaningful ways.

If you've strolled through the Butterfly Garden at the Hoke Library, admired the beds at Langford Park's Log Cabin, or noticed the cheerful planters lining downtown Jensen Beach, then you've already seen the Jensen Beach Garden Club in action. These spaces — and many others — are maintained entirely by our volunteers through an active gardening committee that pours love, sweat, and soil into making public areas greener, more inviting, and more vibrant.

Through fundraisers like our annual Jensen Beach Garden Expo, we support a wide range of charitable efforts, including youth education, conservation, and environmental outreach. Proceeds have helped fund: • Scholarships for local students pursuing careers in horticulture, botany, marine biology, and conservation.

- Summer camp sponsorships for children at the Environmental Studies Center, Florida Oceanographic Society, and US Sailing Center.
- Youth programs such as the Junior Master Gardeners, Boys & Girls Clubs, and the Boy Scouts.

• Community food and education gardens, including support for House of Hope and Project LIFT.

Our Garden Expo, first launched in 2022 at Indian Riverside Park, has quickly grown into a signature event on the Treasure Coast. Featuring vendors selling plants, trees, orchids, tools, and garden art, as well as free demonstrations and expert talks, it brings together gardening enthusiasts from across the region. The next one is scheduled for March 7, 2026 at Memorial Park (located on East Ocean near Stuart Middle School), so mark your calendars!

For more information about Jensen Beach Garden Club, visit www.Jensenbeachgardenclub. com.

Tom Lynch with crew members from Martin County Parks & Recreation Department. PROVIDED

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