In Memoriam Andrew Munch Robert Stiehl

Out and About

By Sara Barbee

Gardens for the eye and the palate

Tryon Palace offers behind-the-scenes tours featuring the palace gardens, the costume shop and the conservation lab. These meet on alternating Tuesdays at 3 p.m., and I highly recommend all three.

In May, the Crystal Coast Women's Club garden group toured the Tryon Palace gardens with Hadley Cheris, the gardens and greenhouse manager. Our tour was peppered with the usual lore of founders and plantings, supported by many volunteers. Sixteen acres of gardens have a mere six paid staff, and Ms. Cheris stressed how much appreciated (and needed) volunteers are.

We started in the Kellenberger garden, named for Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kellenberger, two of the original benefactors of the palace restoration. Mrs. Kellenberger liked pink, and this garden had predominantly pink and purple tones. At both entrances, aromatic Confederate jasmine covered the arches. There were Japanese irises with variegated leaves, spirea, lilies and lilacs. The gardeners try new varieties, and one success has been a reblooming lilac called "Bloomerang."

As we meandered through contemplative settings, which included formal and edible (kitchen) gardens, Ms. Cheris talked about plants that would come back each year and those that added color and interest. There were exotics like dwarf pomegranate and many beautiful plants arranged in perfect color schemes and patterns.

A strong warning was given to be aware of the mature size that trees and shrubs might reach as they grow. One thing I will plant is a serviceberry, a shrub or small tree with scrumptious berries, also known as a "shadblow" or "shadbush" because it blooms during the time that shad return to their spawning grounds. Ms. Cheris let us enjoy some of the berries as we walked through one of the gardens.

Check out the Events Calendar at tryonpalace.org to find a behind-the-scenes tour that may interest you.

Variety at your fingertips. The Carteret County Local Food Network sells Veggie Van CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) boxes of assorted locally grown produce. Boxes must be ordered ahead of time for pickup on Tuesdays. To find out about this resource, visit CarteretLocalFoodNetwork.org and click on CSA Boxes, or call 252-777-2359. There's nothing quite like farm fresh produce.

At the Library

By Ellen Childress, MLS Branch Manager, Down East/Bogue Banks

Our annual Summer Reading Program, Tales & Tails, is in full swing. All ages are encouraged to participate, and you can drop by any of the branches in the Carteret County Public Library system to register. Pick up a reading log, keep track of the minutes you read, and simply turn in your completed logs at your local branch to qualify for prizes. All completed reading logs will be entered into our grand prize drawing for four tickets to the NC Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores.

The Summer Reading Program lasts until August 6. Special thanks to the Friends of the Carteret County Public Library and the Friends of the Western Library for their continued support of the summer reading program.

Summer programs remain virtual out of an abundance of caution, but that doesn't mean there aren't exiting things happening. Virtual programs include Really Grim Tales for Adults, Facts & Snacks with Frogs, Animal Defenses—and don't miss your chance to play Animal Trivia. Program information is available under the appropriate age group (Adults, Teens or Kids) on our website at carteretcountync.libguides.com and social media pages. We also have take-and-make crafts available at all of our branches.

Our Knit 2gether series continues. Join Bogue Banks Branch Manager Ellen Childress as she continues to work on her ongoing knitting project, answers your questions about the craft of knitting and shares recommended resources and books that have helped her along the way. The next program is July 27 at 11 a.m., live on the library's Facebook page.

New books are coming in daily, but we are also adding new formats. We have recently introduced Playaways, which are preloaded digital audiobooks for you to enjoy on the go. Don't hassle with CDs anymore; now you can simply check out a small audio device that fits in the palm of your hand. Plug them into your car, your stereo, or your headset. Go to the library website as shown above, and search for Playaways using the magnifying glass search tool at the top. On the next screen, enter Playaways in the keyword box and click Search for a list of available titles. There is an instructional video on the library's YouTube channel as well.



Fresh CSA produce ready to be delivered—Photo courtesy of Carteret County Food Network