

THE Messenger

Flower show to take place in Fort Dodge

Garden Club members show their creativity in weekend event



-Messenger photo by Kadin Luhmann

The National Garden Club Standard Flower Show will be held this weekend by the Fort Dodge Federated Garden Club. The show will be at The Lions Den in Armstrong Park, 731 Exposition Drive. Show hours are 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday. The show is free and open to the public. This display shows the "What's Cooking" theme, where participants will incorporate common kitchen amenities into their designs

Vibrant flowers and creative designs will take center stage this weekend when the Fort Dodge Federated Garden Club presents its annual flower show.

The event, called the National Garden Club Standard Flower Show, will take place at The Lions Den, located in Armstrong Park at 731 Exposition Drive.

The event hours are 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m on Sunday. Admission for the event is free to the public.

This year's event features the "What's Cooking" theme, where participants will incorporate common kitchen amenities into their designs, according to Nancy Phillips, a longtime member of the garden club.

"You could decorate table accessories like a napkin holder, candle holder, a placemat or anything that's a dinner accessory," Phillips said. "We use our own plants, fresh plants and dried plants. We don't buy things."

Phillips said that the show is divided into three categories: horticulture, design and botanical art.

Participants in each section will receive ribbons based on their designs. Their work will be reviewed by professional judges.

"In each class, there will be multiple ribbons and a larger ribbon," Phillips said. "We have plaques made out of wood and when you get one of the big ribbons, your name goes on the plaque."

Phillips encourages anybody to attend the flower show, saying people always have a good time at the event.

"For anyone that comes to the event, they are always very surprised to see all the exhibits and all of the specimens from different plants and roses," Phillips said. "They say that they never knew that the flower show was this big."

"It's something to do on a Saturday and Sunday afternoon and it's for the family," she added.

"Husbands come, grandpas come and people become really interested in flowers."

The Fort Dodge Federated Garden Club has been active for 96 years, with a history of community involvement and donations.

Phillips said that this year, the club raised \$1,800 at its annual plant sale to donate to local organizations.

The club holds meets on the third Tuesday of each month at The Lions Den. It has 23 active members.

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