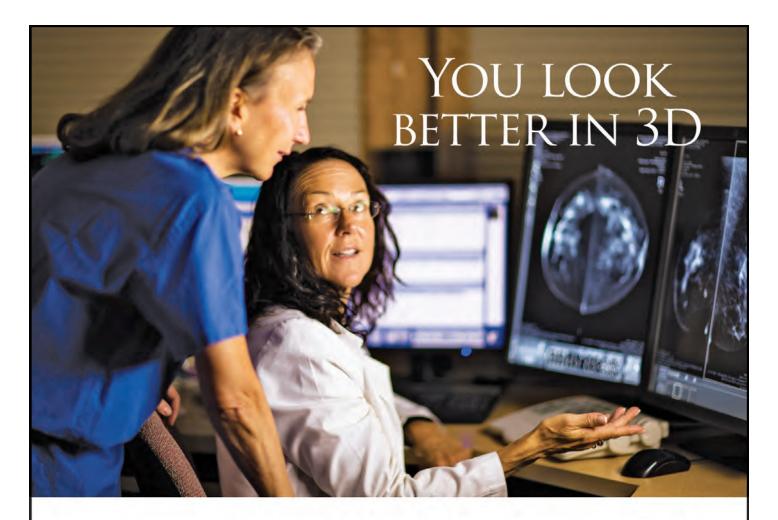


KNIPPENBERG CENTER FOR EDUCATION

Dedication 2015





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^{*} For more details, visit: http://montclairbreastcenter.com/resources-outcome studies.php



WELCOME

Welcome to the Knippenberg Center for Education. This is an exciting moment for Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum (FOLA). After years of planning, collaborating, fundraising, designing and construction, we are proud to dedicate this beautiful new facility at Laurelwood Arboretum.

The Knippenberg Center for Education will welcome visitors and host a menu of educational programs and activities for Wayne and surrounding communities. It has a horticultural research library and seating areas where visitors can relax and browse through the collection of books and magazines. There are also handicapped-accessible restrooms.

The adjacent Educational Greenhouse will provide opportunities for hands-on horticultural experiences to complement programs at the Knippenberg Center. The Native Plant Demonstration Garden will serve as landscaping for the center complex and will feature plants that are native to northern New Jersey. Our Executive Director, Elaine Fogerty, is developing programs that explain the role of native plants in the environment and their creative use in home landscapes.

The dedication of the Knippenberg Center is a momentous occasion for all of us – Wayne Township and Passaic County officials, generous members and supporters, the board of Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum, FOLA's many volunteers, and all those who gave their time, energy, and money to bring this building to life. Thank you for making it happen!

A word of special thanks to those who funded the project with grants: the Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust, Wayne Township, and FOLA. We are indebted to Samuelson Furniture and the Chalfin family for donating the center's beautiful furniture, Haier America for the high-definition television sets, and WB Wood for the office furniture. We also thank the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and the Ira A. Roschelle, MD Family Foundation for their grants for the Native Plant Demonstration Garden. This is private/public collaboration at its best.

A walk through Laurelwood Arboretum is a journey of discovery. After stopping at the Knippenberg Center for maps and information, you can begin at the beautiful Sensory Garden. Then walk up the hill and past the brilliant display of azaleas, stop at the handsome Knippenberg Gazebo, continue to the historic South Rock Garden and then walk back along pathways that feature rare trees and stunning displays of rhododendrons. We invite you to make this journey in all seasons of the year to enjoy the ever-changing display.

Thank you again for supporting Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum and making the dedication of the Knippenberg Center for Education a reality.

Alice Mokowitz

President, Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum

lea Mos Rourle

PRESERVING THE LEGACY

John and Dorothy Knippenberg purchased parcels of land across the street from their Pines Lake home in Wayne, New Jersey from the Pines Lake Company in the 1940s and 1950s. They operated their 30-acre woodland, known as Laurelwood Gardens, as a commercial nursery that specialized in rhododendrons and azaleas. They soon became widely known among growers on the east and west coasts for specializing in hybridizing.

Dorothy Knippenberg began hybridizing rhododendrons in 1955. She strove for interesting and improved plants, such as hardy large-leaved varieties and those with greater flower substance and later bloom. She was a knowledgeable horticulturalist who encouraged others to appreciate rhododendrons and enjoy growing them. Dorothy and John hybridized and named eight cultivars of rhododendrons that were registered by the American Rhododendron Society and Royal Horticultural Society: "Blush Button," "Caroline Gem," "Hardy Giant," "Big Willy," "Burgundy Cherry," "Laurel Pink," "Laurelwood Snow Bunting" and "Wayne Pink."

The Knippenbergs maintained a test garden in which they planted rhododendron cultivars sent to them from all over the country to be subjected to the New Jersey climate and cultivated for east coast growers. At one time, they raised 6,000 seedlings on the hillside at Laurelwood. They imported plants from England and donated cuttings, seeds and pollen to growers all over the world. Over the years, they raised and/or hybridized approximately 50 new rhododendrons.

Dorothy's commitment to rhododendrons was formally acknowledged in 1973, when she was awarded a Bronze Medal by the New York Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society in appreciation for her devotion to the genus *Rhododendron*. In 1992, hybridizer Nathaniel Hess of Sands Point, New York, named and registered the "Dorothy Knippenberg" rhododendron in her honor. Blooming in mid-May, the fragrant shrub displays heavy, openly funnel-shaped flowers that are white with reddish orange dorsal spotting.



"Burgundy Cherry" named and introduced at Laurelwood Gardens by Dorothy Knippenberg in 1974 and registered by her in 1980.

Dorothy and John
hybridized and named
eight cultivars of
rhododendrons that were
registered by the
American Rhododendron
Society and Royal
Horticultural Society



The new
Knippenberg
Center for
Education is
home to many of
Dorothy's books
and records and
will offer
educational
tours and
programs as
Dorothy did
years ago. 29

John and Dorothy helped continue the legacy of such renowned hybridizers as Charles O. Dexter, one of the first to undertake a massive hybridizing program in Sandwich, Massachusetts; Joseph B. Gable, who made rhododendron hybridizing look deceptively simple at his nursery in Stewartstown, Pennsylvania; and G. Guy Nearing, who developed many hardy hybrids at his nursery in Ramsey, New Jersey. Laurelwood Gardens displayed many rhododendrons hybridized by these pioneers, and Wayne became known countrywide as an important location for hybridizing rhododendrons.

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum is dedicated to preserving the Knippenberg legacy. The new Knippenberg Center for Education is home to many of Dorothy's books and records and will offer educational tours and programs as Dorothy did years ago. Volunteers are working on a project to identify and document the locations of the many rhododendrons in todav's arboretum. They are digitizing hundreds of Dorothy's photographs of rhododendrons and azaleas. Their goal is to locate and identify her hybrids, including those she registered (although it is unlikely that all have survived over the years). They also hope to replace some of the important hybrids that are no longer in the arboretum by reaching out to hybridizers and arboreta across the country that might be able to provide cuttings.

Members of the American Rhododendron Society met at Schrafft's Restaurant in New York City in 1964 to visit Laurelwood Gardens by way of a slide presentation by Dorothy Knippenberg. Using many slides of the rhododendrons and azaleas scattered throughout Laurelwood, she talked about each cultivar. Her narrative has been preserved in the *Journal of the American Rhododendron Society* and is archived at the Virginia Tech Digital Library and Archives. FOLA's volunteer study team plans to create a walking tour using photographs and Dorothy's own words from this meeting.

A GENEROUS GIFT TO THE TOWNSHIP OF WAYNE

In 1960, the Knippenbergs entered into an Agreement of Understanding with the Township of Wayne to donate the entire 30 acres of Laurelwood to the township in order to create a public park after their deaths. One condition of the agreement was that they be allowed to cultivate and maintain the property without restrictions as long as one of them lived. The agreement provided for the property to be conveyed in parcels over time, which they did between 1961 and 1975. Dorothy expressed her vision for the property she and John had so lovingly developed when she told the American Rhododendron Society gathering that Laurelwood Gardens would, in her words, "become a public rhododendron park following our lifetime."

After John's death in 1994, Dorothy continued to supervise and work in the gardens. During this time, a small grassroots community group formed to support Dorothy in maintaining the property and ensuring its future as a public park. In 2003, this group was formalized as Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum (FOLA), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

After Dorothy's death in 2006, a formal partnership was formed between FOLA and the Township of Wayne. Laurelwood Arboretum became part of the park system, and FOLA assumed responsibility for maintaining and improving the property's horticultural inheritance.





SPECIAL GARDENS

SENSORY GARDEN

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum has created a unique, barrier-free garden where visitors of all abilities can experience nature. It is designed with wide pathways that can be negotiated by wheelchairs and raised flower beds that encourage the use of all five senses—touch, taste, smell, sight and sound. Although the design of the Sensory Garden addresses the needs of visitors with challenges, it also provides volunteer and educational opportunities for the general public. The "learning circle" is a place for quiet contemplation and can also be the setting for educational gatherings.

Laurelwood Arboretum is one of very few public parks in the area that features a space designed specifically for children and adults who are visually, physically or emotionally challenged. This special place was funded by the Passaic County Open

Space and Farmland Preservation Trust, the Lions Clubs of Wayne and West Milford, Wayne Township, and FOLA. All the planning and planting was done by volunteers. The garden is recreated anew each year and maintained by the horticultural staff and FOLA volunteers.





Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum has created a unique, barrier-free garden where visitors of all abilities can experience nature.

SOUTH ROCK GARDEN

Dorothy Knippenberg had a special interest in rock gardens and created what is known as the South Rock Garden at Laurelwood many years ago. The Watnong Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society is partnering with FOLA's staff and volunteers to restore this display garden, which has deteriorated over the years.

The first group of Watnong Chapter volunteers came to Laurelwood in the spring of 2014 to begin an initial exploration in a small area of the rock garden. They excavated in an effort to uncover the tufa, the limestone rocks that were integral to the original design. The designated area was dug to about three feet down, and any plants that could be saved were potted up. All rocks were set aside for later use. The group later returned to rebuild the area with tufa and quality soil. In 2015, they will begin restoring and planting.



Volunteers from the Watnong Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society working with FOLA volunteers to restore the South Rock Garden at Laurelwood Arboretum.

The Watnong Chapter is committed to the renovation of the South Rock Garden as a five-year project that will offer its members and FOLA volunteers opportunities for hands-on experience in planning, building, planting and maintaining a rock garden. The chapter expects to schedule workshops and demonstrations at Laurelwood in the future. When their work is completed, the South Rock Garden will reflect Dorothy's original vision.



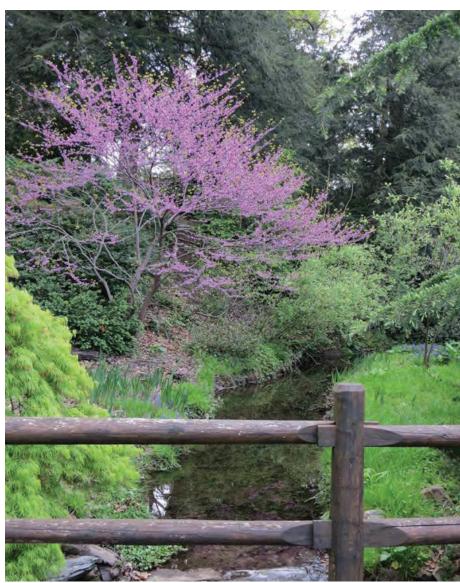
NATIVE PLANT DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum has been awarded a \$14,500 grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust for the development of a Native Plant Demonstration Garden at Laurelwood Arboretum. The funds will be supplemented with a \$5,000 grant from the Ira A. Roschelle, M.D. Family Foundation.

The California-based Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust supports education and research in ornamental horticulture in publicly supported, tax-exempt organizations, primarily in North and South America. "We are very pleased to have secured this grant after a very competitive application process," said FOLA President Alice Moskowitz. "The Native Plant Demonstration Garden will help to position Laurelwood as an important center for horticultural education in northern New Jersey and most particularly in Passaic County."

FOLA is creating the 6,000-square-foot Native Plant Demonstration Garden at the front of the Knippenberg Center for Education. Interpretive signs will direct visitors around the garden, describing the plants, their value to the environment, and their role in home landscapes. FOLA's Education Committee will work with Executive Director Elaine Fogerty to develop a variety of programs for children and adults that explain the role of native plants in the environment.

Homeowners are becoming increasingly aware of the critical role of native plants in the environment and want to learn which native plants are suitable for their own landscapes. The Demonstration Garden will showcase the best native plants for home landscapes in our region.



Eastern Redbud (Cercis canadensis), native to eastern North America, is noted for its stunning pea-like rose-purple flowers which bloom profusely on bare branches in early spring before foliage emerges.

Kathleen Salisbury, President of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey, developed the original concept design and plant list for the garden. Elaine Fogerty is finalizing the design and plant selection and implementing the project. Rutgers Master Gardeners and FOLA volunteers will assist with planting and maintenance of the garden.

What Are Native Plants?

According to a Rutgers Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet entitled, "Incorporating Native Plants in Your Residential Landscape," native plants are species that were present at the beginning of the European settlement of North America. These are plants that, over time, have evolved to grow in a specific region.

VOLUNTEERS

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum is an all-volunteer organization. We rely on our volunteers to help us maintain and beautify the arboretum and to work behind-the-scenes to support our organization. Volunteers work in the gardens and greenhouse and serve on our Board of Directors and its committees to help manage the arboretum, plan programs, encourage membership growth, raise funds and much, much more.

Our volunteers come from many walks of life and range in age from teenagers to seniors. A core group are Rutgers Master Gardeners of Passaic County. Each volunteer brings to FOLA his or her own special blend of talents and experience.

If you would like to become a FOLA volunteer, please contact Executive Director Elaine Fogerty at fogertyelaine@gmail.com.



Preparing the Native Plant Demonstration Garden - John Crowell removing non-native plants.









Top Left: Green Team volunteers work through the winter in the arboretum's greenhouse caring for tender plants and propagating new plants from cuttings. From left: Jeanne Pisatowski, Jean Reynolds, Sara McHugh, Bill Mains, Joan Scott-Miller, Carol Huber, Gerry Lowry, Kathy Hetherington, Audrey Malec and Betty Montagne. Green Team members not in the photo are: Nancy Alexander, Deb Bryant, Jane Van Eeuwen, and Margaret Kerstner.

Bottom Right: FOLA volunteers at Wayne Day – From left: Office Manager Dawn Healey, John Crowell, Vice President Jim McHugh, Bonnie Joachim, and President Alice Moskowitz.

the 2015 season. Back row, from left: John Crowell, Bharat Kona, Linda

Franco; front row, from left: Prabha Sahasrabudhe, Susy Libert, Linda

Ransom, Sunny Brennan, Audrey Malec, Helene Christie, June Ra and

Horticultural Manager Joan Scott-Miller.

Bottom Left: Volunteers at FOLA's annual plant sale.

ON- SITE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to noon, April to October

Work and learn alongside the horticultural manager and fellow volunteers. Help restore and improve Laurelwood's gardens and beautify our unique Sensory Garden. Meet in the pavilion. Bring gloves, your favorite garden tools, and water.

Land Maintenance Projects

Work with the site manager and other volunteers to improve the arboretum's drainage and infrastructure.

Tour Guides

Serving as a tour guide is a great way to meet the community and share your horticultural knowledge and enthusiasm for Laurelwood. FOLA will train anyone who would like to become a guide.

Greeters in the Knippenberg Center Welcome visitors and offer information and assistance.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

For those who don't wish to work onsite, there are many areas where volunteers are needed to support FOLA and Laurelwood.

Fundraising - Coordinate fundraising activities, head a subcommittee, or work on specific fundraising campaigns.

Volunteer Coordinators - Coordinate volunteer activities on site and off, keep track of volunteer information and develop initiatives to recruit, retain and reward volunteers.



At work in the gardens -Horticultural Manager Joan Scott-Miller, June Ra, Tom Hennessey, Nancy Alexander, and Audrey Malec.

Visits to the Arboretum - an estimated 10,000 people each year.

Please visit our newly redesigned website www.laurelwoodarboretum.org

Horticultural Research - Participate in our rhododendron identification research project to identify the various specimens in Laurelwood Arboretum. Work on other plant identification projects.

Newsletter Editor – Coordinate writing and production of the annual FOLA newsletter.

Writer – Write copy for brochures, newsletter, publicity and other materials.

Programs and Events - Help develop programs and events for the community.

Administrative Help - Data entry and general office work.

Public Relations and Marketing - Be involved in various outreach efforts such as newsletters, website, and social media.

Membership - Help us reach out to potential new members and nurture our existing members.

Board of Directors

Alice Moskowitz, President

Jim McHugh, First Vice President

Carol Huber, Second Vice President

Ruth Hayden, Recording Secretary

John Hegranes, Treasurer

Alex Fadynich

Barbara Hegranes

Margaret Kerstner

Bill Mains

Sara McHugh

Roland Reynolds

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Horticultural Manager

Joan Scott-Miller

Office Manager

Dawn Healev

Past Presidents

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Bonnie Joachim

Alexander Fitzburgh

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Nadine Bello

Richard Jasterzbski

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Kathleen M. Caren, *Open Space Coordinator* Ray Egatz, *Chairperson*

Master Gardeners Association of Passaic County

Regina Imperato & William Lauber, Co-Presidents

Cooperative Extension of Passaic County

Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

Marycarmen Kunicki, Department Head

Amy Rowe,

Environmental and Resource Management Agent

Claudia Kolster, Asssistant Agricultural Agent



Rhododendron



Hot Pink Peony



Pink Dahlia



Yellow Zinnia



White Peony



Rhododendron



LAURELWOOD AT A GLANCE

30 Acres - The size of Laurelwood Arboretum

6 miles of walking paths wind through the arboretum

Staff - Executive Director, horticultural manager and two seasonal gardeners Volunteers - More than 200 volunteers help maintain the gardens.

Number of FOLA Members - Almost 300 and growing!

MAJOR DONORS TO THE KNIPPENBERG CENTER FOR EDUCATION

Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust

Wavne Township

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum

Samuelson Furniture – complete set of furniture for the interior

Haeier America – large-screen televisions

Ira A. Roschelle, MD Family Foundation – Native Plant Demonstration Garden

Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust – Native Plant Demonstration Garden

WB Wood/NBC Studios – file cabinets and bookcases

DONORS OF GOODS AND SERVICES

William Darmstatter- Engineer

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Gianni Intili- Architect

Jones Hardware Store

Chris Kelly- Security Systems

Andrew Lawn - Engineer

Peter McHugh - Graphic designer

GT Mennitto Custom Carpentry & Contracting – Native Plant Demonstration Garden pathway

Pines Lake Woman's Club and Pines Lake Garden Club – Laurelwood entrance sign

Louis A. Salamone - Architect

Kathleen Salisbury – Native Plant Demonstration Garden consultation

Strawberry Blossom Home and Garden Center

Subway

Penny Tarpey Interiors – design consulting services

Wavne Tile

David Trinidad - Contractor

Virtual Forum, Inc. – Computer and information technology services

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Margaret Kerstner

Joan and Fred Knapp

Alice and Paul Moskowitz

Brian and Ginnie Myers

Partners \$500 or more

Carlee Bissell

Barbara and John Hegranes





DONATE

Donations are vital to helping Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum achieve our mission. Contributions from individuals and businesses are used to replace damaged trees and plantings, enhance the horticultural displays, maintain the bridges and pathways, and promote horticultural education through a menu of tours, programs and activities.

Give the Gift of Green

Our ongoing Gift of Green Campaign allows us to continue to maintain and preserve Laurelwood Arboretum and to develop new and innovative programming for all ages.

Matching Gifts

Many businesses have a matching gift program for their employees. We encourage donors to take advantage of this opportunity for doubling the value of their gift to Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum.

Tribute Gifts

Donations to Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum "in memory of" or "in honor of" are a thoughtful way of expressing condolences or congratulations while at the same time supporting our efforts to preserve and maintain Laurelwood Arboretum. We will send the person you name a note to let them know of your gift.

Patio Paver Project

Commemorate an occasion, celebrate a special person or simply show your support for Laurelwood Arboretum by donating an engraved paving stone for the Knippenberg Center to honor your family, business or organization.

Bequests - A Gift for the Future

Remembering FOLA in your will ensures that generations to come will benefit from the preservation of this unique natural habitat. We suggest that you contact your attorney, financial advisor, or estate planner to determine the most prudent way to make a charitable bequest.

Gifts in Kind

Donations of supplies, services, and/or equipment regularly used by FOLA can help reduce the expenses of maintaining Laurelwood Arboretum.

Join/Renew

Membership dues and donations to FOLA are critical to our success in maintaining and supporting Laurelwood Arboretum and increasing the visibility and public awareness of this unique horticultural property. FOLA volunteers manage the Laurelwood budget and maintain and improve the plantings and infrastructure. We also provide tours of the arboretum and host educational and community outreach programs and other special events. FOLA fundraisers include a plant sale each spring.

Membership makes a great gift!

To order a gift membership, please send a check made out to FOLA for \$25 to Box 2433, Wayne, NJ 07474-2433 along with the name and address of the gift recipient, who will receive a membership card and benefits information.

Membership Benefits

Members are entitled to:

- a 10% discount on plants at FOLA plant sales
- free admission or discounts on most programs, lectures and workshops
- discount at participating local establishments (listed below)
- annual newsletter
- email notification of programs, activities and events

Members can also take advantage of the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Program, which gives FOLA members discounts on admission and sales at more than 100 gardens and arboreta throughout North America. For information about this program, go to American Horticulture Society Reciprocal Program.

Receive a 10% discount on plants at:

Strawberry Blossom Garden Center Gro-Rite Greenhouse and Garden Center Blooms of Wayne Riverside Nursery Receive a 15% discount on plants at:

Receive a 15% discount on plants at:
Max is Back Home and Garden Center

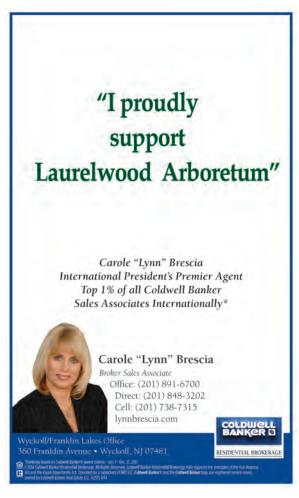
FRIENDS OF LAURELWOOD ARBORETUM (FOLA)

Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum was created by a group of Dorothy Knippenberg's friends who wanted to ensure that the arboretum would be preserved as a natural oasis as it transitioned to a Wayne Township public park. Gradually, this dedicated group began to collect donations and build membership. In 2003, FOLA was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. When Dorothy died in 2006, the organization assumed responsibility for management of the arboretum, in accordance with an agreement with Wayne Township.

Today, Friends of Laurelwood
Arboretum is an all- volunteer
nonprofit organization whose mission
is to preserve, promote and improve
the arboretum and provide
opportunities for horticultural
appreciation and education through
public programs and outreach
activities. Membership in FOLA has
grown to more than 300. The
organization is funded by
membership dues, plant sales and
donations from individuals and
businesses.

The FOLA Board of Directors and Executive Director Elaine Fogerty direct the activities of more than 200 onsite and off-site volunteers. Volunteers weed, plant, prune and help beautify the arboretum. Some volunteers keep Laurelwood safe and accessible by repairing its infrastructure. Others provide tours of the arboretum or lead educational and outreach programs. Last year, volunteers contributed more than 9,633 hours, valued at an estimated \$244,004. (based on the nationally accepted volunteer hourly rate).





Douglas I Schwartz, CPA/CFF/CGMA, CFE

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Congratulations
to our friends at

Laurelwood Arboretum
on the dedication of the
Knippenberg Center



Thank you Rutgers Master Gardeners for helping to make



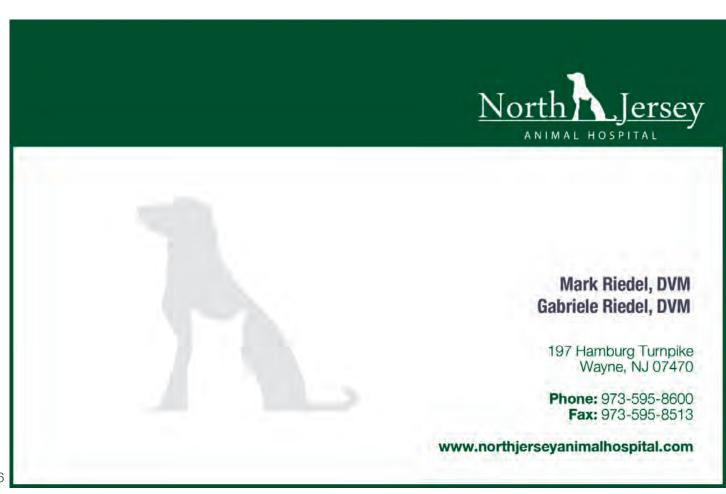
Laurelwood Arboretum beautiful.

Congratulations to
Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum
on the dedication of the new
Knippenberg Center for Education

The Landsberger Foundation

Verona, New Jersey

Providing children with hands-on educational opportunities in the environment, historic preservation and chess and proud sponsor of the Kurt and Anny Landsberger Scholarships for Environmental Studies



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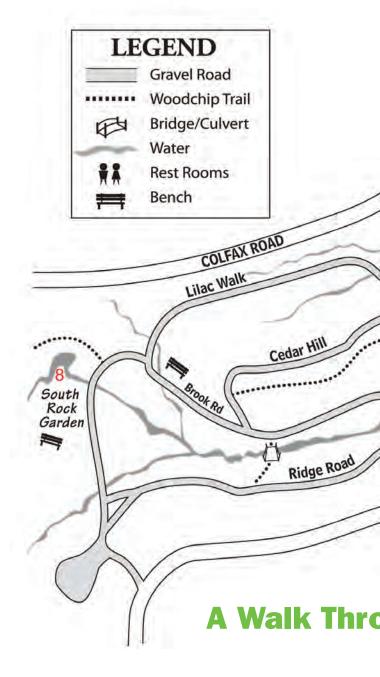
SELF-GUIDED TOUR

It all began more than 75 years ago, when Dorothy and John Knippenberg, who lived on Pines Lake Drive in Wayne, purchased a 30-acre property across from their home and developed a commercial nursery known as Laurelwood Gardens. Patches of lawn throughout the arboretum were originally planting beds for the nursery, which specialized in rhododendrons and azaleas. After they closed the nursery, the Knippenbergs began transforming it into what we now know as Laurelwood Arboretum.

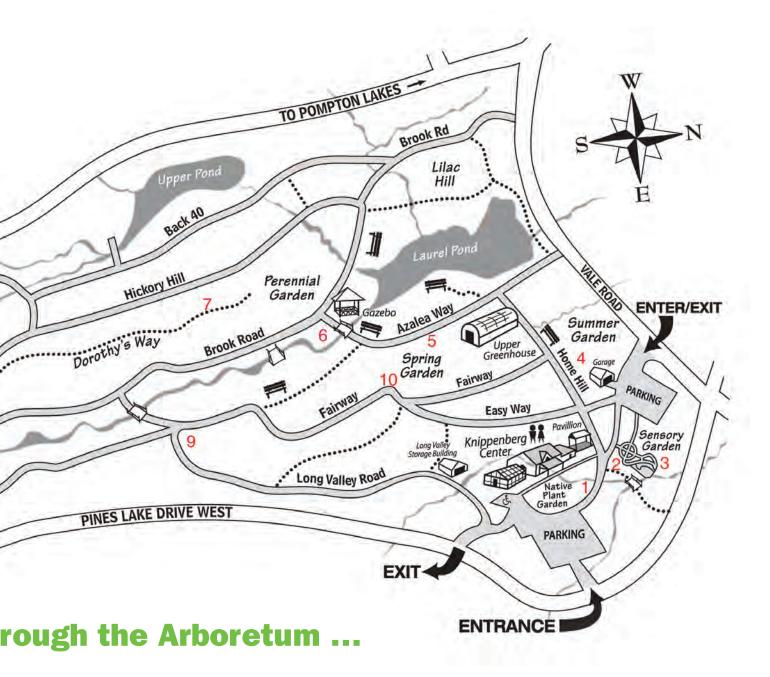
In the 1960s, the Knippenbergs deeded the property to the Township of Wayne. One condition of the agreement was that they could cultivate and maintain Laurelwood without restriction as long as one of them lived. Dorothy continued to maintain the gardens—with help from friends and volunteers—until her death at the age of 94. A grassroots group was formed to support her efforts, and in 2003 it was incorporated as the nonprofit Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum (FOLA).

When Dorothy died in 2006, FOLA assumed responsibility for management of the arboretum, in accordance with an agreement with Wayne Township. The arboretum is managed entirely by this all-volunteer organization with the fervor to match Dorothy's passion for Laurelwood.

Begin your visit at the Knippenberg Center for Education. Pick up some information about events and perhaps visit the Horticultural Reference Library. Sit in comfort, and browse through an interesting book or magazine. The center provides space for educational programs, exhibits, and community activities and has handicapped-accessible restrooms. Funding was provided by the Passaic County Open Space and Farmland Preservation Trust, Wayne Township. All the furniture, rugs, electronic equipment and more were generously donated by local supporters. The adjacent Educational Greenhouse complements the center, offering opportunities for hands-on programs and activities.



- 1. Step outside and watch "a garden in the making." The new Native Plant Demonstration Garden will provide landscaping for the center complex and opportunities for programs about New Jersey's native plants and how homeowners can support the environment by their landscaping choices. Funding for the garden was provided by the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust and the Ira A. Roschelle, MD Family Foundation.
- **2.** Turn left from the center, past the pavilion. Notice the magnificent Umbrella Pine on the right. Its size indicates it was one of the first rare ornamentals planted by the Knippenbergs.
- **3.** Continue toward Vale Road. On your right is the Sensory Garden, with its abundance of colorful blooms, interesting textures, and restful sounds. This unique space has wide pathways that can be negotiated by wheelchairs and raised flower beds that encourage the use of all five senses—touch, taste, smell, sight and sound. The gardens are created anew each year and maintained by the horticultural staff and FOLA



volunteers. This area once had a braille trail created by Dorothy Knippenberg and a local girl scout. The Lions Club of Wayne initiated a new plan that would better serve people with visual, physical and emotional challenges. The Sensory Garden was funded by the Passaic County Board of Freeholders, the Lions Club of Wayne, and FOLA.

4. Turn around and proceed past the pavilion and up Home Hill. At the top on the right is a beautiful Adirondack bench handcrafted by artist David Robinson and donated by a longtime friend of the Knippenbergs. Behind the bench is the colorful Summer Garden, created in memory of Dorothy.

Look for the small-leafed Guy Nearing rhododendrons on the left corner of Home Hill and The Fairway. Guy Nearing (1890-1986) was a gifted botanist, artist, chess master, poet, inventor, folk dancer and an internationally known expert in hollies, rhododendrons, and lichens. He owned two nurseries in New Jersey, where he hybridized hardy and dwarf rhododendrons.

Throughout the arboretum, many rhododendrons remain unnamed. FOLA's rhododendron identification committee is researching Dorothy's notes and other sources in an effort to identify them.

The original propagation greenhouse on the left is currently used by FOLA volunteers to propagate plants for display and replacement in the arboretum and for plant sales.

Ahead is Laurel Pond, one of the first construction projects in the arboretum. An expansion of an existing stream that helps to manage drainage and occasional seasonal high water, it is the primary irrigation source for the arboretum.

5. Turn left along Azalea Way. This is a spectacular walk in mid-May when hybrid azaleas bred by Joseph Gable (1886-1972) of Pennsylvania are in bloom. Among them are: Othello, Snow, and sweet-scented Rose Greeley, all planted by the Knippenbergs. Native orange deciduous Flame Azaleas cover part of the slope.

- **6.** At the bottom of a gentle descent is a magnificent Cedar of Lebanon tree on the left. Just beyond is the Knippenberg Memorial Gazebo, constructed on the site where Dorothy and her volunteers would sit on a ring of stumps after a long work session, eating crackers and cheese and enjoying the pond. The gazebo was created by artist David Robinson using wood of the native osage orange and red cedar. Funds were provided by a longtime close friend of Dorothy Knippenberg.
- 7. After turning right at the gazebo onto Brook Road, the start of Dorothy's Way is on the left, marked by a trellis at the edge of the woods. This 500-foot footpath traverses a gentle slope parallel to Brook Road. It is believed that many of the rhododendrons along its length were part of a Knippenberg hybrid trial area. The rhododendrons are usually in bloom in late May. The path takes you up close under and among the huge rhododendrons. What a way to see these fantastic blooms! The memorial trail was constructed by volunteers of all ages, and the wooden arbors at each end were Eagle Scout projects.

Alternatively, instead of turning right at the gazebo onto Brook Road, turn left and continue in the other direction on Brook Road past several bridges built by Boy Scouts. See if you can spot the "fairy tree" and the "door to nowhere." Along the way you will pass tall white oaks, magnolias, a river birch, and on the left, a magnificent climbing hydrangea reaching high into the upper story of the canopy.

8. At the far end of Brook Road is the South Rock Garden. One of Dorothy's favorite gardens, it has been maintained by Rutgers Master Gardeners of Passaic County volunteers and is currently being renovated by members of the Watnong Chapter of the North America Rock Garden Society and FOLA volunteers. The garden also features a bridge built by Eagle Scouts.

Each year, the arboretum benefits from the work of more than 200 volunteers who work 10,000 hours or so. It's a way of life at the arboretum – a unique public/private arrangement that's all about passion for plants and gardens and respect for those who have come before.

Curving to the left brings you up Ridge Road where acid-loving shrubs, tall hemlock trees and large-leaf rhododendrons dominate the garden vignettes. An Edith Bogue Southern Magnolia rises into view on the right at Long Valley Road – the cold-hardiest magnolia with huge, fragrant flowers in July.

9. A grove of Dexter Rhododendrons grows along the road on the right just past Long Valley Road. Charles Dexter (1862-1943), a Cape Cod hybridizer, created some of the most beautiful big-leaf rhododendrons in

the mid-Atlantic region. On the left side are rhododendrons hybridized by Nearing, Gable and then Dexter.

John and Dorothy were known for rare things and loved unusual varieties. There was no tissue culture in their time, so they propagated by taking cuttings and layering. They spread their rhodies throughout the community by giving them away. Many homes in the area have Knippenberg rhodies in their landscaping.

10. Proceeding along Ridge Road brings you to the Spring Garden. Directly facing you is a statuesque Kousa Dogwood, underplanted with a colorful display of bulbs in full bloom throughout April into May.

Turn right onto Easy Way, heading back toward the Knippenberg Center. The hillside is covered in early summer with White Foxglove, (but loyal to Dorothy's wishes, staff and volunteers remove errant pink ones that occasionally appear).



Azalea Way



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on the opening of the new innovative and educational Knippenberg Complex!
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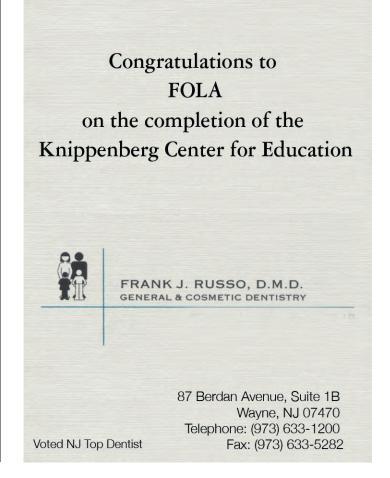
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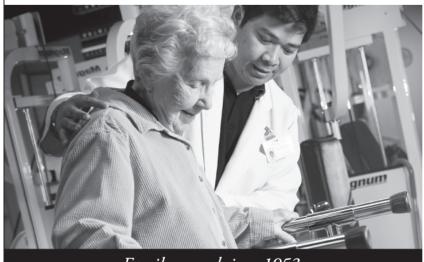
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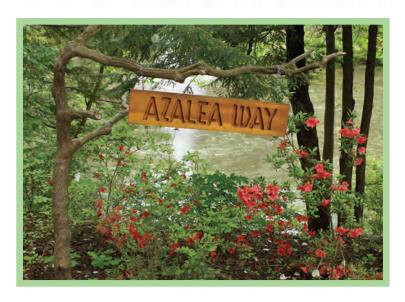
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