

May 2010

Volume 1,  
Issue

**Logo Contest**

**Prize for Winning**

See Newsletter Committee for  
details

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# East Brunswick Community Garden New Jersey, USA

*"There are no gardening mistakes, only experiments" Janet Kilburn Phillips*

## How to Use the Garden Hoses:

- 1) Lift the blue handle all the way up,
- 2) Turn on the appropriate valve, and
- 3) Start watering.

*When you're finished, please ...*

- 1) Turn off the appropriate valve (yellow or blue),
- 2) Lower the blue handle all the way down,
- 3) Wind the hoses up **neatly** in one direction only, and
- 4) Bleed the pressure from the hose.

We have A LOT of water pressure, so be careful, especially with the green valve.

## Garden Grand Opening

On Saturday May 14th under incredibly blue skies and perfect spring temperatures, the second phase of the Community Garden was officially opened!

The event was attended by about 50 gardeners all sharing in the excitement of the beginning of the spring gardening season.

Thanks to a great idea by Liti

Haramaty, the ceremony featured a vine cutting, instead of a ribbon cutting which was the perfect way to open a garden.



Mayor David Stahl and Town Council President Ed Luster join the gardeners in the official opening of the second phase of the Community Garden

Mayor David Stahl and Town Council President Ed Luster attended and shared in the grand opening.

The event was also filmed by EBTV and many gardeners were interviewed. The

story will be running on Channel 3

any day now.

### Cross Word Answers

1. Tomato	8. Zones
2. Peat Moss	9. East Brunswick
3. Organic	10. Strawberries
4. Gloves	11. Trellis
5. Compost	12. Bean
6. Weeds	13. Rotate
7. Chili Pepper	14. Watering Can
15. Sun	

## Spotlight: The Grimando Garden of Eatin'

By Peter Grimando

When we moved to East Brunswick 21 years ago from New York, one of the focal points for us was Kelleman's farm and the rural feel that it gave to EB. It is a great irony that I am now able to "farm" my own piece of that same land at the Community Garden. Given the limited size of the plot, I try to exploit vertical gardening techniques. The curved arches are ideal for growing vining plants such as

cucumber or squash. I added "tee pees" this year for pole



beans. Under both the arches and tee pees I'm growing cool weather crops including

lettuce, broccoli rape, escarole and swiss chard that will appreciate the partial shade as the heat of the summer approaches. There is nothing more relaxing to me then taking an early weekend morning bike ride with my wife and ending up at the Grimando Garden of Eatin'.

## Garden Insects: Black Swallowtail Butterfly

If you are growing dill this year, you may be lucky enough to find some black swallowtail caterpillars on your plants as a number of fortunate gardeners did last year. They typically wont eat your entire plant, but since they are so cool, it might be worth the sacrifice anyway. The swallowtail caterpillars change each time they grow and molt their skin (each successive size is known as an



Photo Credit  
[http://farm1.static.flickr.com/18/23286437\\_8c728cda34.jpg](http://farm1.static.flickr.com/18/23286437_8c728cda34.jpg) (osmeterium)

instar). Early instars look like bird droppings, a perfect camouflage. Later instars are bright green and quite visible on the plant. In order to be protected and not eaten by birds, they feature an orange forked organ that rises out of the head and is called an osmeterium. This organ smells awful and it is thought the bright

green colors of the caterpillar are a warning sign to potential predators that the insect is foul smelling and likely awful tasting too. If you are lucky enough to find the caterpillars, the caterpillar can be easily persuaded to extend the osmeterium by gently pushing on the body with your finger. Then simply get close and personal with the caterpillar and check out how awful it smells. it's harmless but smelly.



Photo Credit: <http://www.glorious-butterfly.com/black-swallowtail-caterpillar.html>

## East Brunswick, Victoria, Australia

Howdee ALL in East Brunswick, New Jersey...It's your friends from the Merri Corner Community Garden in East Brunswick, Victoria, Australia reporting. Wow !!!!...How exciting it is for us to be included in your newsletter...We feel very honoured. We are so thrilled to have you guys as our sister garden. I'm sure we'll have much to share in the future....Amazing times ahead.

It is a really exciting time for us..... After over 3 years we have finally set a date to 'break the ground' on our garden site (Seedat=-37.759757 lon=144.980800). So much has had to be done to get us to this point. We have had to convince the council to let us use a piece of their vacant land, organise a lease, as well as raise a whole lot of money. We are so proud of all our members (now over 30 financial members). To actually commence digging on our plot means a lot to us all. I guess that is the amazing thing about community gardens. Most of us started with a desire to grow veges

amidst our urban jungle. Something far more precious has been cultivated and we haven't even swung a hoe. The friendships and connections that have formed by being part of the garden have changed our lives and most importantly enriched our community.

We will 'break ground' on Saturday July 3. We plan to celebrate this with a range of activities including a barbeque (we are Australian), games for kids, an official ribbon cutting/opening with the essential dignitaries, some beer, and of course lots of hard work. To top it all off we are planning a good 'ol fashion Barn Dance

### *Liti, "How I eat fresh radishes"*

My father was visiting us in April. One nice afternoon he came with me and my son to the garden. Grandpa remembered our stories about the new community garden from last year, and we sent him the issue of the Sentinel with his grandson's picture at the garden. My plan for that day was to start preparing the plot for planting. Dad insisted on tilling the soil. I think being on the farm



reminded him of his days on the kibbutz, some fifty years ago, when he was a truck driver, delivering cases of fresh apples and vegetables to the market. As he was digging and tilling my plot, I followed and planted seeds of peas and radishes. I picked the first radishes from the garden in mid-may, and made a delicious salad. This is description, not a detailed recipe.

in the evening. Yeeeee-Haaaaa !!! We are also hoping to coordinate a Skype hook-up with you guys in the morning (your Friday evening) so that for just for a little while you can share in our excitement. We had an 'Induction Day' last Saturday to introduce our plans to some more people. We had a great turn-up with several new members joining. It was great to meet some more locals that share the vision for our garden and also for our community. Until next time. Lots of love from all your friends down under.

### Radish Salad

#### Ingredients

A bunch of fresh radishes  
Olive oil  
Fresh lemon juice  
Salt  
Dill (optional)

#### What to do

Slice the radishes thinly and place in a bowl. Add olive oil and lemon juice. Sprinkle with salt and chopped dill, if you like. Mix. You can - add other herbs such as Italian parsley, cilantro, thyme or any other fresh herb. Add black pepper, and toasted sesame seeds. Eat as a side salad, or add to a sandwich.

## East Brunswick, NJ meet East Brunswick, Australia!

In a quick Google search for our East Brunswick Community Garden, Dave accidentally came across a similar name from Australia...the Merri Corner Community Garden which is in their East Brunswick. Since then, Dave has been in contact with our Aussie counterparts and a dialogue has developed.

After chatting it up about gardening in our respective climates, both groups decided to sign a resolution joining our communities in supporting community service and community building through gardening.

See their website ([www.merricorner.org](http://www.merricorner.org)) to learn more about them and their plans.

### Fun Facts:

**Distance Between Two Cities:** 10,400 Miles

**Time it would take to drive:** 56 Days 7 Hours

**Seasons are reversed:** While it's summer in NJ it's Winter in Australia

#### A Resolution East Brunswick Community Gardening Across The World

This Resolution joins the *East Brunswick Community Garden in East Brunswick, New Jersey, United States of America* with the *Merri Corner Community Garden in East Brunswick, Melbourne, Australia* in a gardening partnership based on a shared passion for gardening, community service, volunteerism and environmental awareness. Although separated by 10,400 miles (16,737 kilometers) and two oceans our gardens are linked by the Earth we share, a strong commitment to locally grown produce, the desire to develop a greener community and a desire to foster a unique gardening friendship. By linking our East Brunswick community gardens across the world, we hope to share ideas, interests, successes and failures, and forge lasting friendships. We also hope that joining our gardens and gardeners will raise awareness in our communities and across a broader front, about the importance of community gardening and a shared gardening experience. Linking our two East Brunswick gardens through this seemingly small step, can help promote community gardening, community service, volunteerism and environmental awareness that could not be achieved by our individual organizations. With this resolution, we therefore bind our gardens together and pledge to develop a *joint gardening community* based in our shared ideals and interests.

So, be it resolved on this day April 16, 2010, that the East Brunswick Community Garden in East Brunswick, New Jersey, United States of America and the Merri Corner Community Garden in East Brunswick, Melbourne, Australia join each other in a partnership of shared gardening interests and friendship, separated by vast distances but connected by our common goals and ideals.

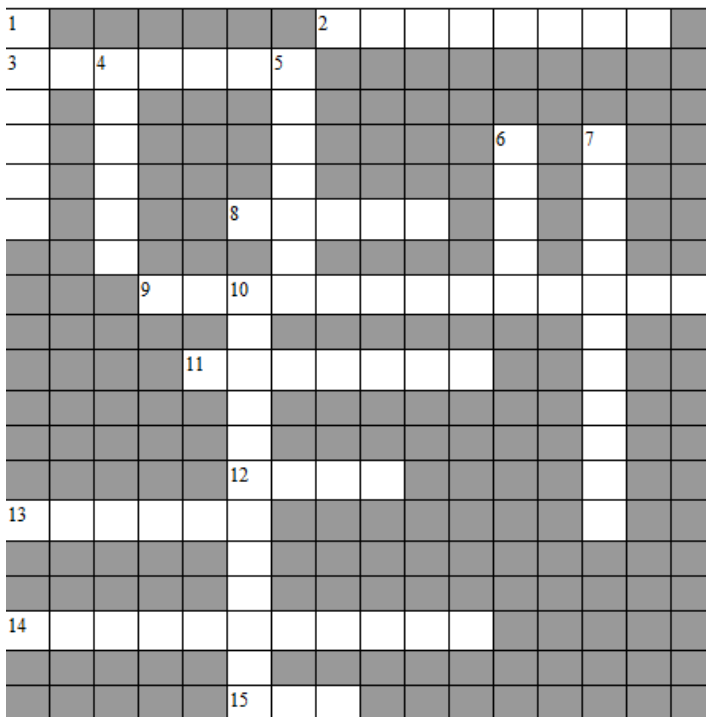
East Brunswick Community Garden  
East Brunswick, Middlesex County, New Jersey

Merri Corner Community Garden  
East Brunswick, Melbourne, Australia



Joining Our Gardens and Gardeners Across the World

## Garden Crossword



### ACROSS

2. Retains moisture in soil and keeps it loose
3. Without synthetic chemicals
8. Regional growing climates
9. 08816
11. An architectural structure often used to support plants
12. commonly known as string, pole, green
13. Every year you have to (blank) crops
14. Portable container, usually with a handle and a spout
15. Provides energy for plant

### DOWN

1. Heirloom come in all shapes and sizes
4. Protects gardener's precious fingers
5. Decomposed organic matter
6. Makes everything spicy
7. You remove these from the garden
10. Fruit that has all the seeds on the outside

\*Answers on page 1

# Meet the EB Garden Committees...

## Community Garden Plot

Committee Chair:

**Tony Riccobono**

The shared portion of the Community Garden affords us an opportunity to show people what can be grown on their plots as well as an opportunity to grow things that would not be a good fit for a 10'X10' area; asparagus, grapes, large melons or squash and berries. It will also give us a chance to display a variety of gardening techniques such as raised bed, wide row, single row, container etc. We can also introduce people to different varieties of plants with different

colors, flavors or textures to broaden their horizons. More compost was delivered late last week and I will be purchasing some peat moss, cow manure and adding lime. Once this has been tilled we can dig in (pun intended). I have onions and shallots and potatoes of various types and a number of seeds. Several people have expressed an interest in planting corn on several plots as well as asparagus. Please let me know if you have any particular interests, would like to try a spe-

cific method or would like a plot to try something totally different (growing a giant pumpkin?). I will try to set up some type of formal meeting date soon, although we may not find that necessary. Now that the compost has been delivered we will need people to move it to the plots before the next tilling takes place. I will do my best to keep you informed and please contact me if you want to help or join the committee.

## Senior Center Garden Plot

Committee Chair:

**Daphne  
Speck-Bartynski**

The Senior Center plot is being planted this weekend. We are going to grow dill, parsley, eggplant,

string beans, tomatoes, zucchini, and cucumbers. We are looking forward to donating 100 pounds of produce to

the Senior Center this year. We will keep you posted about our progress.

## EB Garden Newsletter Committee

Committee Chair:

**Gabrielle  
Saylor-Moore**

Hello my name is Gabrielle and along with the EB Newsletter Committee we will be bringing you updates from the garden. We hope to keep you all informed on East Brunswick news developments, recipes, and anything important to our fellow gardeners.

We welcome you to email us for any questions, comments or articles that you

would like to see included in the newsletter. In the coming weeks you can look forward to hearing from us and we look forward to hearing from all of you.

Permanent columns are: **Spotlight**, where we take a look at individual plots and growers. **Garden Insects**, where insects usefulness or harmfulness to gardens are explained. **Recipe Corner**, where gardeners let us

know what they are growing and how they plan to use it. **Crossword puzzle**, please let me know if you have something that you would want to be included.

We Look Forward to Hearing From Everyone!!!!

## *A Note from the President...*



Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Garden Newsletter. Our newsletter editor is Gabrielle Saylor-Moore and special thanks are due for all the effort she has put in to get this first one off the ground (ie. emails sent out at 4:22 AM!). We plan on sending it out every few weeks during the summer but it will need your help for it to be truly successful. We want it to become an interactive source of information and encourage everyone to submit photos, notes and ideas for it. On behalf of the Friends of the East Brunswick Environmental Commission, I also want to thank everyone for helping to get the garden ready this spring. It looks great and I am confident that this year's garden will be a huge success, both from the standpoint of gardening and also as we develop our "community of gardeners" and share the fun together. There are so many exciting things to look forward to and I am particularly excited about transitioning from the Friends running the garden to a committee-based structure run by the gardeners themselves. I encourage everyone to get involved with at least one (or many) of the committees and help steer the garden's future. I also encourage you to join the Garden Google Group and the joint East Brunswick, New Jersey and Australia Community Garden's Facebook page and become active participants in both. Consider joining the Friends as well and share in our fun programs like moth nights, birding big days and winter bird counts, salamander crossings, lectures, field trips, butterfly park and so much more. And, don't forget that we have a goal this year to donate 100 pounds of produce to the Senior Center for their fresh cooked meals. Details will follow shortly, but through this program, we can make a difference in our community and for our elderly residents. So, have a great time, meet new people and revel in the sun and dirt and fresh vegetables. See you at the garden...Dave

Dave Moskowitz

President, Friends of the East Brunswick Environmental Commission