



WELCOME TO KATE'S GARDEN



**Brought to You by:
The City of Mishawaka
&
The St. Joseph Valley Master
Gardeners Association
Purdue Extension - St. Joseph
County**

KATE'S GARDEN: A Demonstration Garden

Welcome

The St. Joseph Valley Master Gardeners Association (SJVMDGA), welcomes you to Kate's Garden, a decades old perennial garden in Mishawaka, IN. We are pleased to have the opportunity to care for this very special garden. We are also happy to share our knowledge of home horticulture to the members of our community.



Mission Statement

The St. Joseph Valley Master Gardeners Association will provide an Outdoor Learning Center for our community. This will be accomplished through frequent garden workshops and presentations, as well as hands-on training in how to plant and maintain the current garden beds. Master Gardeners will be present at all events to answer questions and to identify plants in the garden.



The Garden Setting

The Garden is nestled in the southwest corner (1202 LWW and Logan St.) of the city's new 2.6 mile Riverwalk. The Riverwalk is a circular system of pedestrian/bicycle trails on both sides of the St. Joseph River. If you are walking or biking this shady urban trail, Kate's Garden is the ideal place to stop along the way to relax and take in the scenery. Or, if Kate's Garden is your destination, there is convenient, free parking off Lincoln Way West.

A Community Project

Since it's inception in 1993, the development of Kate's Garden has truly been a community project. It is operated and administered by the Mishawaka Parks and Recreation Department. The Mishawaka Lions Club built and maintains the Gazebo that is the centerpiece of the Garden. The SJVMDGs are cultivating Kate's Garden into an outdoor classroom. Our purpose is to educate the public about growing plants and to more effectively extend information related to plants and home horticulture.



Who was Kate?

Catherine "Kate" Kosanovich was a long-time community leader. In the early 1970's she served on the Town Board in Osceola, 20 years later, when Robert C. Beutter was elected mayor of Mishawaka, he hired Kate to be his administrative assistant. She later became Director of Human Resources, and after that, was named City Controller. Throughout her life Kate was active in local organizations such as Real Services, United Way, American Cancer Society, Disability Rights Commission, and the Substance Abuse Task Force. Kate died in 1993.

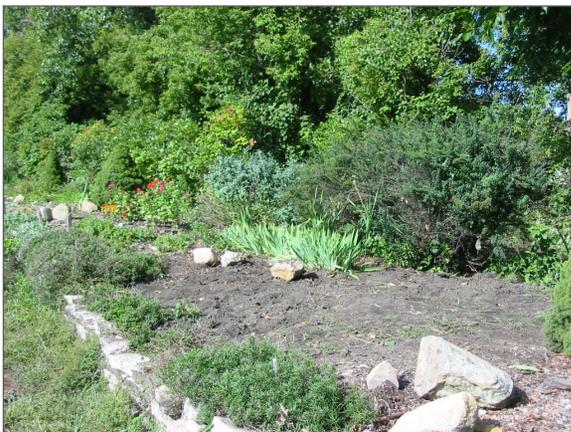
Kate was an avid gardener. It was noted by Mayor Beutter at her funeral that, "her garden would live forever in the 'starts' of various plants she had given her friends over the years." The park at the corner of Logan Street and Lincoln Way West was named Kate's Garden in her honor. The original concept was to have local gardeners bring perennial cuttings from their own gardens, this would make Kate's Garden truly a community effort. On July 23, 2001, a memorial stone was dedicated to Kate in honor of her years of community service. The stone is located near

the east sidewalk entrance of the garden. Look for it on your next visit. Our current Mayor, Jeff Rea, continues in the tradition of former Mayor Beutter in taking an active role in promoting and supporting Kate's Garden, and now – in 2010 – *Kate's legacy* continues – it is flourishing.



Come and Join us!!

We encourage the public, those who have been digging in the dirt for years and those new to gardening to come join us at Kate's Garden for our Open House, Plant Sales and Workshops. Volunteers are more than welcome to join the Master Gardeners in helping with the care of the garden during the growing season. Volunteers have the satisfaction of knowing that they have become part of a legacy – *Kate's legacy*.



Educators Sculpture

The remarkable sculpture placed in Kate's Garden in 2000 is called *Educators*, by Harold "Tuck" Langland. Tuck Langland is an author, nationally recognized sculptor and professor emeritus at Indiana University South Bend, where he taught in the Fine Arts Department for more than 30 years.

The *Educators*, a silicon bronze sculpture stands as a tribute to all of the teachers, mentors and parents, who have been influential in the lives of others within the Mishawaka community. The two figures form an arch with their arms and hands. One is a teacher, the other a student, reaching out to each other symbolizing a gateway of learning. Langland was quoted as believing, "a teacher can point the way, but the child must make the journey."

Educators is part of a series of public art pieces in our city. The Mishawaka Art in Public Places Commission selected Kate's Garden to be the sculpture's home because of its visibility to passing motorists and its contribution of beauty to a major gateway to the city. The project was funded by a prominent group of local citizens to honor the importance of educators in our community.

For further information about Kate's Garden, please contact Sherry Wagley, Coordinator of Kate's Garden at: 574-256-3035 or slwagley@att.net

The SJVMGA is an integral part of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension. Our purpose is to educate the public about growing plants and to more effectively extend information related to plants. Our specific aim is to provide information and technical assistance in the areas of gardening and home horticulture through the use of trained and certified volunteers.



Find us on the Web at:
www.stjoemastergardeners.org

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