

When Gardening with Kids, **THINK BIG!**

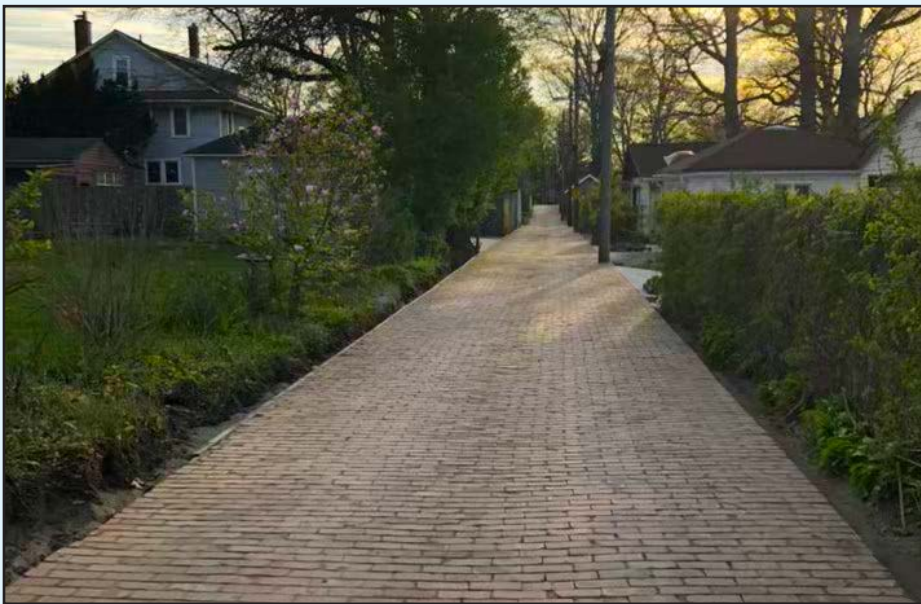
By Dianne and Simon May

Nothing gets kids excited about gardening more than growing something really big! Of course, sun flowers and tree seedlings are classroom staples, but here are some of our favorites for single season greatness that are easy to grow in the Indiana climate.

Colocasia or Elephant Ears: This bulb grows anywhere from 3 to 5 feet

in a single season and will produce large leaves shaped like elephant ears. Depending on the variety, the leaves can be as large as your hand in a single season, or as large as a child, after several seasons of growth. This is a tropical plant however, so the corm or rhizome will need to be dug up and moved indoors during the winter. Be careful about yard placement, because

See **GARDENING** inside >>>



Brick Alley Redone

Construction on the brick alley from Beaver to Indiana between Wildwood and Kinnaird is finished, and it looks great! This historical asset to our neighborhood will serve us for many years to come. If you would like to see other infrastructure projects in our neighborhood in the future, your Historic South Wayne Neighborhood Association is your connection to City resources who can get them done. Attend a future meeting or contact us at hswna.newsletter@gmail.com to give us your ideas!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Historic South Wayne ARCH 2020 Home Tour

We have set a tentative date for our Historic South Wayne home tour for **June 27, 2020**. We are still looking for more people interested in either volunteering for a committee or having your house be on the tour. Please contact us at hswna.newsletter@gmail.com and let us know how you would like to be involved.

We are hoping to have at least 10 homes on our tour, but just a reminder that volunteering your home as a tour stop does not guarantee it will be chosen.



KITE DAY FINALLY GETS OFF THE GROUND!

After three straight cancellations, we were finally able to have Kite Day on May 26. The weather still wasn't perfect, but we had around 100 people show up. We also had some surprise media coverage. Looking forward to doing it again next year!

Check out historicsouthwayne.com/news/kite-day for an awesome drone video and links to the Journal Gazette's front page story and photos (left) and ABC21's news story (right).



Summer Tall Grass/Weed Program

The City of Fort Wayne's Tall Grass/Weed Program kicked off Monday, May 20. Neighborhood Code Compliance is responsible for enforcing this program, which calls for weeds or grass to be no taller than nine inches.

Reports of high grass or weeds that exceed nine inches can be made by calling 311 or 260-427-8311. Online reports may be filed at www.city-offortwayne.org/citizen-services. Individuals reporting a violation will

need to have the property's specific street address to register the concern.

"The Tall Grass/Weed Program is designed to improve the appearance of our neighborhoods and protect property values," said Susan B. Eisenhauer, Neighborhood Code Compliance director. "By helping remove blighting influences, the Tall Grass/Weed Program can improve the quality of life for all residents."

When Inspectors determine there is a violation, they take date-stamped electronic photos and post a placard on the cited property. As a courtesy, an abate notice is mailed to the owner of record who then has five days to correct the violation. After five days, the City's mowing contractors will inspect to see if the property is in compliance and if not, they will mow and also take date-stamped before-and after-photos. The owner will then be charged for the mowing; if the invoice is not paid within 30 days, a lien will be placed on the property.

>>> GARDENING

continued from front

wind can damage the very large leaves.

Castor Bean Plant: This plant also puts on a big show in one season, growing 6 to 9 feet tall with large oak like leaves and strange bright tubular flowers. Wind is less damaging, but should be avoided. The beans are poisonous if ingested, so be careful if involving very young children. This is considered an annual plant in our climate and not suggested for overwintering inside the home due to allergy and asthma concerns because of the amount of pollen it produces, outside though it shouldn't be a problem.

Zucchini: There is nothing more fun to watch grow than zucchini. It is also such a great opportunity to teach children about growing fruits and vegetables to eat themselves. Be sure to have plenty of room for the leaves to spread, and don't plant too many, a single plant can produce 4-12 zucchinis, and sometimes more with good fertilizer.

If you try any of these plants with your children and family, please send pictures to the Historic South Wayne Neighborhood Association Facebook page for us to share! Happy gardening!

Neighborhood Walk with Geoff Paddock

City Councilman Geoff Paddock, our 5th District representative, has invited us to participate in a neighborhood walk once the weather improves. The purpose is to take a tour of our neighborhood with him and talk about what City Council has been working on and let him know what is important to us.

Our walk has been scheduled for **Saturday, June 15, at 10:30 a.m.** Meet in the parking lot of LifeWay Bible Fellowship at 3000 South Wayne Ave.

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