



THE GARDEN CLUB



A Garden 31 Newsletter



RECENT NEWS

Chris and Garden 31 were featured on a recent episode of KPBS' *Fresh Glass* with Cassandra Schaeg!

KPBS Fresh Glass




This was an awesome opportunity to get our message and mission out there and we are so thankful to Cassandra, the *Fresh Glass* team, and PBS for allowing us the opportunity to do so.

Check out the episode: pbs.org/video/cassandra-gets-down-and-dirty-pzkq1b




HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH!

The Seeds They Sowed



From George Washington Carver's hands,
To the fields where cotton once did stand,
He sowed more than crops in the soil—
He planted knowledge, he made it toil.

Maggie Lena Walker, with vision so bright,
Built paths for others, brought hope to the fight.
And Booker T. Washington, with his steadfast grace,
Founded the future with a humble embrace.



The legacy of farmers, of workers, and more,
Like Fannie Lou Hamer, who opened the door—
To fairer lands, where all could thrive,
Their voices still echo, keeping dreams alive.

Each seed they planted, each row they tilled,
Is part of the future, a promise fulfilled.
In every garden, on every farm,
We honor their courage, their hands, their charm.

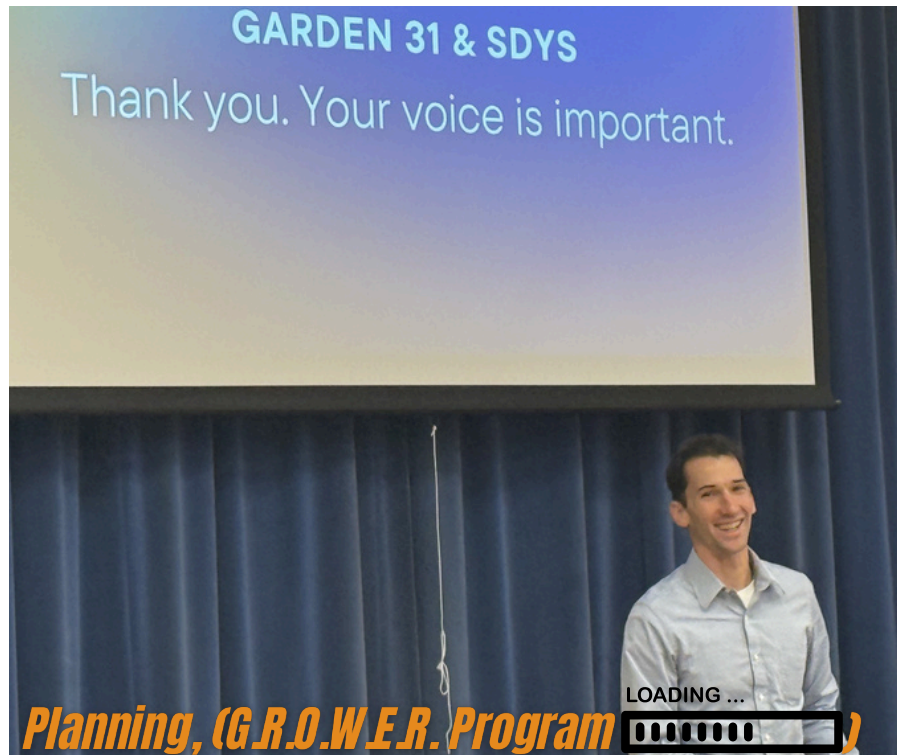
**BLACK
HISTORY
IS
WORLD
HISTORY**



WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...



We've been taking the conversation outside,



Planning, (G.R.O.W.E.R. Program



Coming together,



Designing,



Future garden site

and planting.





WHAT SHOULD I BE PLANTING?

FEBRUARY-MAY ZONES 8-10

New year new plants! Between the Southern California fires and the cost of everything rising at an alarming rate, now is a great time to start growing your own food! It is time to take back our power and we can start today by planting some seeds.

Apples
Beets
Blackberries
Blueberries
Broccoli
Cabbage
Carrots
Cauliflower
Kale
Lettuce
Peas
Spinach



Don't have a ton of space? No worries! You can always start your veggies/fruits/herbs inside and then transplant them outside about a month later or let them thrive in a larger pot indoors!



Basil
Beans
Brussel Sprouts
Corn
Cucumber
Parsley
Pumpkin
Sage
Squash
Thyme
Tomato

A MOMENT OF GRATITUDE

FROM OUR FOUNDER:

My Dearest Garden 31 Family,

Blessings for today and the days ahead. Thank you all for being an integral piece of this Community that is Garden 31. It's the blessings from all of you that make up our Cipher. We are all part of this earthly and spiritual community of mind, body, spirit, and love.

2024 was a year of much growth for G31. Somebody said, "it's by attraction, not promotion". I don't have words that can say anything more than I am so very thankful for all of you, I love our family, and we are the bizness!

One of our former high school students called me recently after something traumatic. He was crying, struggling, and desperate for change and help. He said Garden 31 is the only thing that helps him. He said to me "I see the fruits in your life I see what God is doing with you and I want to do that, I want to help my community". We all have fruits to share.

It is how we show up in the community that facilitates the impact. What we are doing is not a small lift. We are seeking to help people redirect their lives in real and authentic ways which is not a simple thing. OUR COMMUNITY IS STRONG!

My hope is that we soon have our own property that Regenerates and Inspires Growth, Acceptance, Stewardship, Confidence, Self-Worth, Hope, Love, and Grit! A 200-acre academy that supports job development, career advancement, entrepreneurship, life achievement, systemic change, health, culture, community empowerment, wealth accumulation, family support, and all other good things through agriculture and food. Not to mention one of the most beautiful places on Earth.

As we bid farewell to 2024, I give thanks for the countless blessings this year has brought and turn my soul toward 2025 with gratitude and anticipation, excited that it will be another year of connection, abundance, resilience, compassion, growth, achievement, and, of course, the challenges that lead us to meaningful solutions.

I send my love and peace to each of you, my heartfelt gratitude, and the big hugs. All glory to God for creating something so beautiful for allowing us to be a part of it and for allowing me to be a living testament to the grace that is available to us all.

We wake up, we breathe
Open eyes, and see
Open minds, we think
Open souls, we believe.

With Gratitude,
Chris Burroughs

A HEARTFELT THANKS TO CALIFORNIA'S FARMERS: RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

In the midst of the ongoing wildfires and the smoke that has blanketed much of California, it's easy to forget the untold stories of those who continue to work tirelessly to feed us. We want to take a moment to honor the farmers of California—especially the immigrant farmers—whose dedication and strength are nothing short of extraordinary.

Despite the overwhelming challenges, including the threat of deportation, the loss of homes, and the hazardous air quality caused by the fires, these farmers are out there, day after day, ensuring that our fields are tended to and our crops continue to grow. For many of these workers, farming is not just a job—it's a way of life. Yet, they face some of the toughest circumstances, all while remaining committed to their work, their communities, and their families.

These farmers, many of whom are immigrants, are the backbone of California's agricultural industry. Their contributions to our food systems are invaluable, and their resilience in the face of such adversity is a powerful reminder of the strength and spirit that define our state.

To the farmers of California, especially those who have faced the added burden of fear and loss this month, we offer our deepest gratitude. You are the unsung heroes who ensure we have food on our tables, and we stand with you in solidarity and support.



THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE GARDEN CLUB!

Please check out our website, follow us on all of our social media platforms, and reach out to us with any questions you may have at community@garden31.org!



<https://garden31.org/>



[garden.31](https://www.instagram.com/garden.31)



[Garden.31](https://www.facebook.com/Garden.31)



[garden.31](https://www.tiktok.com/garden.31)



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/garden31>

We are always happy to receive one-time and recurring donations!
Donate here



https://www.paypal.com/donate/hosted_button_id=J2CYJRBQCKVAW

Garden 31 Merch is live!



Go to <https://www.garden31.org/donations>
to check it out and get your Garden 31
Merchandise!