



# BLOOMING NEWS

Volume 2 Issue 2 Summer 2020

Caitlin Koval, Editor



## Retail Plant Nursery

Open to the public 5 days a week!



all proceeds support employment and enrichment  
for adults with disabilities

**Our Spring Fair was cancelled due to the pandemic, but we have stayed open in the sunshine for socially-distanced business. Thanks to our customers and supporters, we have had record plant sales!!!**

## Summer Hours

July - September 6



Monday - Thursday 8am - 12pm  
Saturday 9am - 3pm  
CLOSED FRIDAYS &  
SUNDAYS!

## The John Bean Memorial Garden

A few month ago, the employees and volunteers at GROW-HUB got together to plant a memorial garden in honor of their friend and co-worker, John Bean, who passed away unexpectedly in this past December. After the workers finished planting the memorial garden in honor of John, I had the pleasure of talking to two of John's sisters. When I talked to his sisters, this is what they said. "First of all, we are so touched by the idea of a memorial garden in our brother's name. Everyone is finding a way to help to create this beautiful and functional area of GROW-HUB. John would have loved being right in the middle of all the digging and planting. We hope everyone can feel at home to relax, smell the flowers and enjoy the moment here."

They continued the conversation by saying this: "Outside of GROW-HUB, John Bean enjoyed time visiting at his family's homes while sharing his vast knowledge of plants and a passion with their yard projects while also offering to help neighbors. He enjoyed going to the beach, riding bike trails, visiting parks and historic sites. John was a big fan of sci-fi movies and classic horror films, and of course, he was a 'trekie'. John always loved a good cookout with burgers or steaks, especially after a good time swimming in the lake or in waves at the beach. But John really enjoyed just hanging out and sharing laughs with family and friends."

John Edward Bean was fifty-three years old at the time of his unexpected death on December 9, 2019. John spent his entire life in Gainesville. Even though he had developmental disabilities, he never allowed them to stand in the way of accomplishing his dreams and goals. John was a quiet man, and he did not say much. However, what he did say was very meaningful, and he liked to tell jokes. He loved sports, and he especially loved the Gators. He loved working at GROW-HUB because it is a quiet and peaceful place. He loved interacting with the nature that is there. The memorial garden will be a living reminder of John and what an impact he had on all of us here at GROW-HUB.

GROW-HUB is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

Visit us on FACEBOOK @GROWHUBGNV

See our website <https://www.grow-hub.org/>

Find us on the Amazing Give

<https://www.theamazinggive.org/organizations/growing-real-opportunities-to-work-harvest-of-urban-business-inc>



*"I think he would be proud. Come visit us and sit on the bench."*



*"John would have loved being right in the middle of all the digging and planting. We hope everyone can feel at home to relax, smell the flowers and enjoy the moment here."*



## Meet our knowledgeable supervisors:



DORIS KLEMM

My name is Doris Klemm, and I have been working at GROW-HUB since August 2019. I have been in Gainesville, Florida, since 1983. I found out about GROW-HUB from Melissa DeSa when I was volunteering at Working Food. GROW-HUB

sounded like a great organization to work for so when the job was offered to me, I took it. I work on Saturdays during the plant sales. I keep track of the inventory of the plants. In addition, I keep track of the availability of the plants. Moreover, I communicate with David about things that need to be done around the nursery and I check to make sure that the plants do not have any diseases or pests on them. I also keep up with the signage at GROW-HUB. I work there eight hours a week. Thankfully, the corona virus has not stopped me from working at GROW-HUB.



CRYSTAL TAYLOR

My name is Crystal Taylor, and I have been at GROW-HUB since February 2020. I found out about GROW-HUB when I taught at the Growing Educational Training Program at the Farm to School to Work Hub. GROW-HUB provides such a meaningful and wonderful service to

the community. I am responsible for helping care for the plants, assisting customers, and providing instruction to workers and volunteers. Because of the virus, we have not been able to work as much as we would like to work. Fortunately, due to the open-air environment and large open spaces, GROW-HUB has been able to remain open to the public for sales. We have adjusted our operating procedures to include thorough sanitizing of restrooms, buildings, carts, and tools. We have been completing sales transactions with a no-touch system. We are taking card numbers verbally, and we have a drop jar for the customers who are paying with cash. We are maintaining proper social distancing from customers, staff, and volunteers. I usually work at GROW-HUB fourteen hours per week. As revenue increases, we will be able to hire more individuals from the community. I think that a big sign on East University Avenue would help increase the customers. There are a lot of people who do not know about GROW-HUB. My hobbies outside of GROW-HUB include gardening and being a mother to my two-year-old. I am originally from Gainesville, and currently living in Micanopy.





## ART WALK

On February 28, 2020, the employees of GROW-HUB had an art show at Cypress and Grove Brewery. Thanks to the people from the Arts in Medicine program at the University of Florida, the workers at GROW-HUB have an opportunity to express themselves by using different forms of art, including painting, drawing, and tie dye. At Cypress and Grove Brewery, we had our paintings on sale. There were fifteen artists, and there were fifty-four pieces of artwork on display. Approximately thirty-four paintings sold. The event lasted for at least two hours. The money that was raised supports the pay for us workers. Thank you to everyone that came out to support us, and to Cypress & Grove Brewing Co., UF Center for Arts in Medicine, and Working Food.

## WHAT'S NEW? – Signs, signs, and more signs.....



## THE AMAZING GIVE

August 19-20, 2020

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
of North Central Florida

### Our sponsors and supporters include, among many others:

Santa Fe College

Working Food

School Board of Alachua County

Keep Alachua County Beautiful

UF Arts in Medicine

Dr. Kim Kazimour

Patti Shively Foundation

Magnolia Garden Club

Publix

Steven A Bagen & Associates

Family of John Bean

Cypress & Grove Brewery

Lost Valley Farm

Beaten Path

Christ Community Church



### Growing Real Opportunities to Work – Harvest of Urban Business, Inc.

Field Site Location: 2900 NE 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Mailing Address: 9200 NW 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite # 130-62  
Gainesville FL 32606