



KELLY PFEISTER PHOTO

2019-2020 Sandhills Community College Horticultural Scholarship winners, including Christian Carter (back row, right of center), recipient of the Southern Pines Garden Club Scholarship made possible by the annual Home and Garden Tour

## Local Garden Club Members Set Date for Tour

Contributed

The date of the 72nd annual Home and Garden Tour presented by the Southern Pines Garden Club (SPGC) has been set for Saturday, April 18.

It follows on a tremendously successful 2019 event, chaired by Kea Capel, which raised record funds for new project funding of the Native Pollinator Garden in the Village Arboretum, and the Sunrise Theater's open-air stage venue beautification.

Proceeds from the tour also provide continuing support for the Healing Garden at the Clara McLean House, landscaping projects for the historic Weymouth Center, and a full scholarship for a Sandhills Community College horticultural student.

"We are so thrilled with the response of the community and thankful to the Southern Pines Garden Club for helping us to make the Pollinator Garden a reality," says Beth Stevens, of the Village Heritage Foundation. "It



DENISE GUTSCHMIT PHOTO

Beth Stevens, founder of the Village Heritage Foundation, and Lynda Acker, co-designer of the new Pollinator Garden and member of the Southern Pines Garden Club, prepare for another beautiful season in the Village Arboretum.

will serve as a wonderful haven for pollinators and a showcase that will inspire visitors to establish more pollinator

gardens throughout the Sandhills."

Each year, SPGC members and volunteers welcome more than 800 visitors from around the region. The annual tour showcases six elegant home interiors, featuring creative flower arrangements and some of the Sandhills' loveliest gardens.

It begins at the historic Campbell House in Southern Pines, and tour stops take visitors to Southern Pines, the village of Pinehurst and Horse Country for a true taste of all this unique area has to offer. Ticket holders also receive dis-

counts from choice area restaurants on the day of the tour. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the tour. Online ticket sales begin Feb. 1, at [www.southernpinesgardenclub.com](http://www.southernpinesgardenclub.com).

Since its founding in 1948, the Southern Pines Garden Club has been active in the cultural landscape of the Sandhills. "Knees in the dirt" members established the mature trees and shrubs that now define the downtown Southern Pines landscape, and their voices shaped the preservation and development of the exceptional standards that the town enjoys today. Throughout the organization's rich history, their generosity has elevated the community through countless beautification projects and educational opportunities.

Konni McMurray, president of the Southern Pines Garden Club, says, "For 72 years, our tour has provided exclusive access to the area's most beautiful homes and gardens. It's a privilege to host such a high-quality experience while also raising awareness and funds for so many worthy causes that, in turn, continue to contribute and give back to the community."

For more information and updates about the tour, visit the Southern Pines Garden Club online at [www.southernpinesgardenclub.com](http://www.southernpinesgardenclub.com) or email [southernpinesgardenclub@outlook.com](mailto:southernpinesgardenclub@outlook.com).