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For Immediate Release:

## Herb Fair Returns to Boerner Botanical Gardens

Milwaukee, WI (May 13, 2015) — The Herb Society of America-Wisconsin Unit will present talks and demonstrations along with thousands of herb plants at the free 2015 Herb Fair, Saturday, May 23, from 9 a.m.–3 p.m. at Boerner Botanical Gardens. The Botanical Gardens, Milwaukee County’s “Living Museum,” is located in Whitnall Park at 9400 Boerner Drive.

At 10 a.m. in the Atrium, Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens will lead visitors, from age 3-93, in making seed paper. Participants will embed savory seeds in the paper to commemorate the Herb Society of America’s “Herb of the Year.”

At 11 a.m., event-goers will be encouraged to expand their culinary herb repertoire during the talk, “The Most Versatile Culinary Herbs: Thyme, Savory, and Marjoram.” Nino Ridgway, owner of Herbs and Everlastings at Barthel Fruit Farm, will discuss how to grow and use these herbs.

At 1 p.m., questions from the audience will be answered by a panel during “Ask the Herb Experts.” The panel includes Ridgway and Peggy Gibbs-Zautke, the horticulturist in charge of the Herb Gardens at Boerner Botanical Gardens.

At 1:30 p.m. in the Atrium, the art of using herbs in decorative arrangements will be demonstrated. Val Kupczak-Rios, the estate gardener at Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum, will discuss her techniques and artistic and practical considerations in creating herbal arrangements.

In the area surrounding the Education and Visitor Center, herb growers, artists, and vendors will present their wares. In addition to perennial and annual herb plants, jewelry, clothing, and other items with herb or gardening themes will be for sale. At “Thyme Square,” additional items and baked goods made by Wisconsin Unit members will be for sale. For weary shoppers, a tea room will serve herbal teas and sweet and savory treats.

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The Botanical Gardens are open for visitors to discover early spring blooms. Wildflowers, spring bulbs, magnolias, and daffodils are followed by forsythias, tulips, and flowering trees.

Regular admission to the Botanical Gardens is \$5.50 for adults age 18 and up; \$4.50 for students of any age with IDs, Milwaukee County seniors age 60 and up with IDs, and people with disabilities; and \$3.50 for youths age 6-17. Members of the Herb Society of America receive free admission to the Botanical Gardens. Admission to the gardens requires wearing the official daily wristband.

For other events in the Milwaukee County Parks, call (414) 257-PARK (7275) or visit [countyparks.com](http://countyparks.com)

[http://www.herb-society-wisconsin.org/Herb\\_Society\\_Wisconsin/Herb\\_Fair\\_2015.html](http://www.herb-society-wisconsin.org/Herb_Society_Wisconsin/Herb_Fair_2015.html)

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