



**LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT**

On October 18, we held a “Volunteer Appreciation and Season Review Celebration” at Tantasqua Regional High School to recognize all the work our volunteers did during the garden’s growing season. A brief presentation listed all our accomplishments including 3,107 pounds of vegetables donated to the Saint John Paul II Food Pantry. All the work of tending the garden was performed by 485 volunteers logging in 1,114 hours from May 1 through October 9. **WOW! Thank you everyone!** If you didn’t attend, you missed all the great food prepared by committee member, Chef Adam of Tantasqua and one of the students.

In the October Dirt Bulletin, we mentioned the scarecrow we were getting for the Publick House contest held each year. The news gets better because on the last day of the Harvest Festival on the Sturbridge Common, the scarecrow WON in the group category. Thanks go to Ms. Annalisa Sciuolo and the students in her sculpture class at Tantasqua. We plan to host a pizza party for the students in early November in appreciation for their work. (Scarecrow)



We also held our last work day on October 26 to put the garden to bed for the winter. It was a nice crisp fall day and we managed to accomplish our task. Thanks to everyone who participated. Members of the Southbridge Garden Club also attended the work day and planted a variety of plants, shrubs and a decorative tree around the base of the CFC sign and the bank in front of the sign. We are anxious to see what spring will bring us when everything starts to grow. Committee members Pauline and Roberta also planted a few flowers in front of the small shed and the water tank. I think that’s a hint for me to get moving on re-siding the remainder of the shed so it won’t look so bad.

The garden committee is having a meeting next week to critique our season – the good points and what could be improved on next year. We always welcome new members and new ideas. If you would like to join the committee, please send us an email at [CFCGarden357@gmail.com](mailto:CFCGarden357@gmail.com).

We are not resting this winter. We are busy getting quotes for the fence and planning for the remainder of the irrigation system in the garden. We’ll keep you updated as the winter months go by so you’ll know what to expect in the spring. Try not to ‘get soft’ this winter. We’ll need your strength to pick our crops next year including increasing the production of our biggest crops.

This year we harvested the most vegetables with the following variety:  
**1,624** pounds of Tomatoes, **246** pounds of Summer Squash, **205** pounds of Eggplant, **201** pounds of Winter Squash, **141** pounds of Zucchini, **118** pounds of Salad Cucumbers, **117** pounds of Pickling Cucumbers...to name a few.

Sincerely,  
 Joe C. (Head Cabbage)



(Volunteer Celebration Food)



(Last work day!)



(Southbridge Garden Club planting near sign)