

Meet ICA Exec. Committee 2020-21 and their ways of making 2020 better!
Because, no matter how dark it gets, every cloud has a silver lining!!



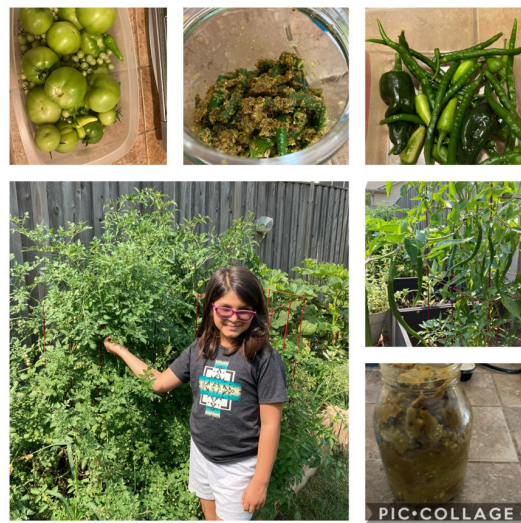
"I want to echo what a wise person once said, 'While gardening, we allow ourselves the time and space to truly feel ~ Peace, Pride, Satisfaction and JOY.' Looking forward to the next summer already!!" - Manu



"Floristry and growing my own flowers, is something I have dreamt for many years. Thus, was born the Instagram page - @Phulbaarrii. The page provides a sneak peak into my floral adventures. I am excited to see where this journey leads to." - Anu



"Being able to work with a group called "Ames Velo" to learn the basics of cycling and to do group rides." - Anand



Congratulations to our 2020 High School Graduates & Best Wishes for their Future!!

Listen to their friendly advice, Next Gen. High Schoolers!

Jinal Amin

**School: University of Iowa
Major: Global Health**

"[M]ake sure [you] are exploring [your] passions and keeping a balance of school, sleep, and socials. I think everyone should know that things do end up working out great especially if the effort and integrity is there :)"

Akshata Gandhe

**School: University of Iowa
Major: Environmental Engineering**

"I know this sounds cheesy, but you really don't need to map out your entire future in high school. It's okay to change plans as long as you know they're right for you."

Ritwesh Kumar

**School: Iowa State University
Major: Undeclared Engineering**

"[P]repare [your]selves for a much more rigorous work schedule. [You] can do this by taking college courses early to get early exposure to the environment."

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- If you are a high school student in Ames who has ideas to share and want to be a part of our newsletter, please contact us at contactus@icaiowa.org. We would be glad to have you on board!**

**Page managed by:
Shreya Reddy (Ames High Senior)**

Derecho

Poem: Sree Nilakanta

September 23, 2020

Roaring winds blew from the west
Razing trees, barns, and steeples
Lasting but a few mortal hours
Leaving us baffled and bruised for days

Crunching roofs, broken fences, broken limbs
Careening randomly across landscapes
Flattening fields of ripening corns
Came Derecho the treacherous.

While we search for a guiding light
Dark clouds gather ominously overhead
Dancing to a crescendo of drum rolls
Laughing at the hapless souls below
Caste nor creed, faith nor fast

Howling winds bind us together
Temples, churches, and mosques
All are same in times of despair
No bed nor sheet to rest or warm

No dish nor dairy to feed our needy and tiny
Yet we join hands and minds
To pray for a better morning
Land that pioneers claimed

Speaking pearls and gems of wisdom
Seeks your kindness and favor
A day's labor will help your brethren
My heart beats to the steps of

Brave men and women of the country
Amazing grace they bring
Oh, my adopted country, Salutations!

Green Corner

I have been amazed at the ease with which things grow in Iowa, with a just a little bit of work. It must be the rich topsoil left behind by glacial deposits and the deep deep-rooted prairie plants. This year saw a huge interest in gardening across the world as people try to stay proactive through tough times. As the growing season in Iowa winds down, don't be sad. There are still some quick things you can do to make sure your garden comes roaring back next year.

- Plant garlic! It is one of the easiest, fuss-free things to grow. Bury garlic cloves in the ground, water it well and get ready to show off by mid-summer next year. While it loves rich loose soil, it will do just fine in most places. You can find planting garlic online, or locally at places like Holub's and Earl May.
- Clean up your vegetable beds of spent and diseased plants. Diseased plants should not be added to compost bins. Bonus tip – get a compost bin if you don't have one already!
- Invest in soil health. Add compost and mulch to your garden to provide it with valuable nutrients for the next growing season. Fall raked leaves make great mulch besides providing a fun activity for kids.
- Finally, leave some plant material for beneficial insects and birds. Plants with flower and seed pods, tall grasses, shrubs and even small amounts of brush are great in providing food source and shelter for beneficial insects through winter. Your garden will thank you.

Got gardening questions that can't be answered by Mr. Google? Send them to your friendly Green Corner at contactus@icaiowa.org

Events of the Month



Happy Dussehra!!

We will have two Full Moons this month. A rare Halloween Blue Hunter's Moon occurs, once every 19 years. So try not to miss it!!

Find more information on "Events of The Month":



Announcements

- What is your silver lining in this roller-coaster of a year? Please share with us, we would love to share it on the ICA Facebook page.
- Please share children's drawings, poems, recipes or any informational articles to be published in our next ICA newsletter. The best entry will win a **\$25 gift card!**
- Want to be part of our next newsletter? Please send us pictures showing Diwali Spirit. We would like to feature them on the front page of the newsletter.
- **Send us all the entries, suggestions at contactus@icaiowa.org.**
- At 'Ames Velo,' they offer a class called Tech Tuesdays at the Workiva parking lot. They do group rides on Wednesdays and Thursdays for the more experienced riders.

Upcoming Events:

- Annual Membership Drive on October 17th
<https://www.icaiowa.org/ica-membership>
- ICA is very excited to present "**Karan Singh Magic: Live at Home**"
When: November 7th
To find out more, follow the QR
Stay tuned for more information!!!



In case you missed it

- Secretary of State of Iowa, Paul Pate, took questions from ICA community members about 2020 elections. To watch a recording of the event on YouTube scan the following QR code:

