

## News Release

# Dedication of the Shaver Butterfly Garden to Take Place during NWSA Reunion at the U of M Crookston

By Corby Kemmer, Elizabeth Tollefson on Saturday, June 30, 2007



Dan Svedarsky, Tom Baldwin and June Shaver at the dedication of the garden.

CROOKSTON, Minn. (June 20, 2007) – The Shaver Butterfly Garden will be dedicated on Saturday, June 30, 2007, at 9:30 am on the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) campus during the Northwest School of Agriculture reunion. The Shaver Butterfly Garden, a unique horticultural display located between Owen and Hill Halls, contains a special mixture of plants selected because of their preference by butterflies.

As a tribute to long-time Crookston resident June Shaver, and in recognition of her ongoing support of the University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), UMC named the Shaver Butterfly Garden – a legacy garden celebrating the memory of Shaver's parents, Willis H. and Harriet (Ridley) Shaver.

June Shaver has a history with the University of Minnesota, Crookston as she is a 1976 graduate and was named an Outstanding Alumni in 1995.

Natural Resources Department naturalist, Laura Bell, manages the garden and has initiated a tagging project for Monarch butterflies to track their incredible migration. Monarchs are especially fond of milkweed plants, not just for the nectar from the delicate flowers but their larvae exclusively eat milkweed foliage which interestingly makes them inedible to birds.

"We are so grateful to June for this generosity in honoring her parents, celebrating the wonders of nature in this way and assisting with the on-the-job education of interns in our horticulture program," according to Dan Svedarsky, Natural Resources Department head and project advisor.

For more information about the Shaver Butterfly Garden or UMC's horticultural program, contact Dan Svedarsky at 281-8129 or Laura Bell at 281-8131.

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