

# History of the Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park

In 1995, inspired by a visit to Botanica in Wichita, Kansas, City Councilman C. Shane Wilbanks proposed the Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park. The city purchased the property south of Heritage Park, including the home of the late Mrs. Bessie Mitchell, and converted it into the Bessie Mitchell House—a community facility. Led by Parks and Recreation Director Doug Evans, the gardens were designed by landscape architect Oliver Windham in 1999. Construction by Randall & Blake, Inc. of Southlake completed the three phases from 2000 to 2005. The entire park, spanning eight acres, is adjacent to Heritage Park. Redesigned in 2020, the Bessie Mitchell House now caters to your meeting and event needs, offers a large kitchen, abundant natural light, and an outdoor patio with stunning views of the gardens.

## Address

411 Ball Street, Grapevine, TX, 76051

## Website

[GoGrapevine.com/BotanicalGardens](https://Grapevine.com/BotanicalGardens)



**GRAPEVINE  
PARKS & REC**



# Grapevine Botanical Gardens at Heritage Park



**JULIE'S GARDEN**

Built in 2008 as dedication to Julie Yancey Florence, a valued member of the Grapevine Garden Club, this garden offers a place for reflection and tranquility.



**ED & EDITH PEWITT  
EDUCATIONAL PAVILION**

Built in 2007 in celebration of the Grapevine Garden Club's 75th Anniversary, the pavilion is a permanent outdoor teaching venue named in honor of Ed and Edith Pewitt.



**BOTANICAL GARDEN CREEK -  
MOREHEAD BRANCH CREEK:**

Running through the Garden, this creek supports various wildlife and depends on seasonal rainfall.



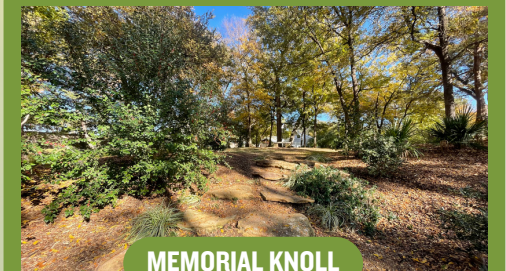
**BRONZE SCULPTURE - NEW SEASON**

Created by Gary Price in 1998, this bronze sculpture (#7 of a limited edition of 50) celebrates Grapevine's location on the yearly migration path of Monarch butterflies.



**GREENHOUSE**

Built in 2017 with grants and donations from the Grapevine Garden Club and parks and recreation department, the greenhouse serves educational purposes and propagates garden plants.



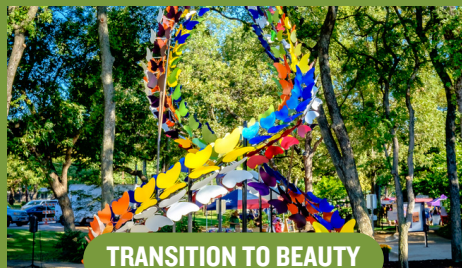
**MEMORIAL KNOLL**

Shaded by three Mexican Plum trees planted by the Grapevine Garden Club, this area is dedicated to symbolism, reflecting on the Oklahoma City bombing and 9/11 tragedies.



**AMPHITHEATER STAGE &  
GARDEN COURT LAWN**

The amphitheater stage, covered in redwood, functions as an altar for wedding ceremonies and hosts concerts in the garden court. The Tuff Tuff Bermuda grass-covered garden court lawn serves as a sitting area during events, concerts, and educational stations.



**TRANSITION TO BEAUTY**

Designed by Joetta King, a Grapevine Garden Club member, and installed in 2002, this garden is a certified Monarch Waystation (#190 in 2004). It crucially supports the lifecycle of various butterflies and other pollinators, aiding Monarchs during their reproductive and migratory cycles.



**BICENTENNIAL POST OAK**

This tree, dating back to the signing of the Constitution, is marked with a stone marker and plaque. The Bicentennial Post Oak in the Botanical Gardens holds special significance after the loss of the Bicentennial Pecan in Parr Park.