At the beginning of the most school years, students visit their City Schoolyard Garden to harvest summer and fall fruits and vegetables, plant fall and winter vegetables, explore, and put the gardens to bed for the winter. City Schoolyard Garden is a program of Cultivate Charlottesville, the umbrella organization for three programs: City Schoolyard Garden, the Urban Agriculture Collective (UAC) and the Food Justice Network. While the three programs work in different areas of the community and in different systems, they work together to build a healthy and just food system.

This year, students worked, played, and explored in their community garden: the UAC garden at the corner of 6th street and Monticello Ave. The produce in this garden is harvested and sent to rotating market day locations throughout the summer. UAC celebrated their last market day for the 2020 growing season on October 17th.

While following COVID safety guidelines, students visited the garden twice a week for 6 weeks. Students planted lettuce and radishes during their first week of garden club. Each week they watered their plants and watched them grow. During their time in the garden, students also looked for bugs, explored the soil, went on scavenger hunts, and looked for birds with binoculars.

Over the course of 6 weeks, students watched the rest of the garden change. Tomatoes, peppers, and greens were all harvested and pulled from the garden by UAC staff: Michael James, Nik Lewis, Jenifer Minor, and Richard Morris. As we watched the garden change, students learned that warm season fruits and vegetables like peppers and tomatoes, will not last through the winter, while cool season vegetables like lettuce, kale, and broccoli actually prefer cooler temperatures.

On their last day in the garden, students will harvest the rest of their lettuce and radishes and make a salad to celebrate their time together in the garden and celebrate the end of the growing season!
Friendship Court Info: The leasing office and community center will be closed December 24, December 25 and January 1.

Snacks for kids - Monday through Thursday, Starting at 2:30; Community Center Charlottesville City Schools Lunch Program; Community Center Monday - Friday, 11:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. (noon)

Royalty Eats Dinner; Community Center

Thursday & Friday
5:00 - 5:30

Charlottesville Parks & Rec Dinner; Community Center

Monday - Wednesday - Friday
4:00 - 7:00 pm

Saturday Food Boxes - Distributed by Portico Church
1st and 3rd Saturday in December
10 a.m.

Friendship Court Brag Board!

- If you or anyone in your family has done something great and would like to recognized for it, please email Jessica or Shawna at the community center and tell them about it. It will be posted on our Brag Board and within our monthly newsletters.
  
  - Jessica: Jeldridge@piedmonthousing.org
  - Shawna: swells@piedmonthousing.org

IMPORTANT:

ALL persons who enter the community center will have to be masked at all times and temperatures will be taken upon entry.

- In order for youth to receive a lunch and snack, they will have to wear a mask to the community center or they will be sent back home until a mask is worn.