| FORM 4 | |
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| Check this box if no |
|-----------------------|
| longer subject to |
| Section 16. Form 4 or |
| Form 5 obligations |
| may continue. See |
| Instruction 1(b). |
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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL 3235-0287 OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| (Print or Type Responses) | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--------------|------|--|---|---|--|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting P Machek Howard | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTRAL GARDEN & PET CO [CENT] | | | | | | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director10% Owner | | | |
| (Last) (First) C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & COMPANY, 1340 TREAT B SUITE 600 | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/09/2016 | | | | | X_Officer (give title below) 0 Chief Accounting C | ther (specify bel Officer | ow) | |
| (Street) WALNUT CREEK, CA 9459 | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |
| (City) (State) | (Zip) | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned | | | | | | | | |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | (Instr. 8) | tion | A. Securities Acqui (A) or Disposed of (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | of (D) | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) | Ownership Form: | Beneficial |
| | (Month/Day/Year) Code V Amount (A) or (D) Price | (Instr. 3 and 4) Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | | | | | | | | |
| Class A Common Stock | 05/09/2016 | | М | | 3,200 | А | \$ 9.26 | 27,438 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 05/09/2016 | | F <u>(1)</u> | | 2,186 | D | \$ 18.82 | 25,252 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 05/09/2016 | | М | | 9,000 | А | \$ 9.54 | 34,252 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 05/09/2016 | | F <u>(1)</u> | | 6,231 | D | \$ 18.82 | 28,021 | D | |
| Class A Common Stock | 05/09/2016 | | S | | 6,000 | D | \$ 18.75 | 22,021 | D | |
| Units - Class A Common Stoc | :k | | | | | | | 1,461.80 | Ι | By 401(k) Plan ⁽²⁾ |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| | (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|--|------------------|--------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1. Title of | 2. | 3. Transaction | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 4. 5. Number | | 6. Date Exercisable and | | 7. Title and Amount | | 8. Price of | 9. Number of | 10. | 11. Nature | |
| | Conversion | | Execution Date, if | | | | of Expiration Date | | | of Underlying | | Derivative | | Ownership | |
| - | | (Month/Day/Year) | | Code | | | ivative | (Month/Day | /Year) | Securities | | - | Securities | | Beneficial |
| · / | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8 |) | | urities | | | (Instr. 3 and 4) | | | | Derivative | |
| | Derivative Security | | | | | Acq (A) | uired | | | | | | | Security: Direct (D) | (Instr. 4) |
| | Security | | | | | | osed | | | | | | | or Indirect | |
| | | | | | | of (| | | | | | | Transaction(s) | | |
| | | | | | | (Ins | tr. 3, 4, | | | | | (Instr. 4) | (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | and | 5) | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | Amount | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Date | Expiration | | or | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | Exercisable | | Title | Number | | | | |
| | | | | Cada | v | (1) | (D) | | | | of Shares | | | | |
| | | | | Code | v | (A) | (D) | | | | Snares | | | | |
| Stock | | | | | | | | | | Class A | | | | | |
| Option | \$ 9.26 | 05/09/2016 | | М | | | 2 200 | <u>(3)</u> | 04/13/2017 | | 2 200 | \$ 0 | 0 | D | |
| (Right | \$ 9.20 | 03/09/2010 | | IVI | | | 3,200 | <u>197</u> | 04/13/2017 | | 3,200 | \$0 | 0 | D | |
| to buy) | | | | | | | | | | Stock | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stock | | | | | | | | | | Class A | | | | | |
| Option | \$ 9.54 | 05/09/2016 | | Μ | | | 9,000 | <u>(4)</u> | 03/26/2018 | Common | 9,000 | \$ 0 | 9,000 | D | |
| (Right | | | | | | | | | | Stock | | | | | |
| to buy) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Reporting Owners

| | Relationships | | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|--------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | | |
| Machek Howard C/O CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY 1340 TREAT BOULEVARD, SUITE 600 WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597 | | | Chief Accounting Officer | | | | | |

Signatures

| /s/ Howard Machek | 05/11/2016 |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Shares withheld by the Issuer in payment of the aggregate option exercise price and withholding tax liability incurred upon the above-reported exercise of options. The amount of shares withheld is based on the respective average of the high and low sales prices on the date of exercise.
- (2) The units represent interests in the CENTA Stock Fund in the Issuer's 401(k) Plan, which consist of shares of CENTA stock and cash.
- (3) Options were granted on April 13, 2011. The 4,000 shares of Class A Common Stock did not vest.
- (4) Options were granted on March 26, 2012 and all shares of Class A Common Stock are vested and exercisable.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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