



## CONTACT INFO

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**PBC CODE ENFORCEMENT**  
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### 2022 FGCA OFFICERS

**Mike Misko**  
President  
561-629-6121

**Susan Jenkins**  
1st Vice President  
561-570-0421

**Brian Katz**  
2nd Vice President  
646-338-5668

**Kimberly Serio**  
Secretary  
561-762-4356

**Justin Gwin**  
Treasurer  
305-505-0541

### DIRECTORS AT LARGE

**Spencer Palmer**  
561-649-9770  
**Danny Wood**  
561-722-0353  
**Gary Oliwa**  
561-876-6415

**STREET REPS**  
See Page 2

Also on our website  
[www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net)

**MAILING ADDRESSES**  
134 Ohio Road  
Lake Worth 33467-3828

[floridagardensca@gmail.com](mailto:floridagardensca@gmail.com)

# Florida Gardens Newsletter

January 2022 / Volume 53 ; Issue 1

The Florida Gardens Newsletter is currently published 5 times per year:  
January, March, May, September and November



**MARK THE DATE!**

## **EASTER FESTIVITIES**

**MARK THE DATE!**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

Event details will be in the March Newsletter, on  
our Facebook page (Florida Gardens Civic  
Association) and our website  
([floridagardens.net](http://floridagardens.net)).



**COMING LATER THIS YEAR — OUR THIRD ANNUAL**



## **TOURNAMENT**

and

## **COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER**

We haven't scheduled it yet, but when we do, event details will be in the  
Newsletter, on our Facebook page (Florida Gardens Civic Association) and our  
website ([floridagardens.net](http://floridagardens.net)).

## ***STREET REPS***

UPDATED 1/1/22

STREET  
PRIMARY REP  
PHONE

AKRON (N)  
MICHAEL TEETS  
561-319-0563

AKRON (S)  
BILL APPLGATE  
561-965-5311

ARCH  
DIANNE BERTRAND  
561-385-5876

BARBERTON  
GARY MARCINKOSKI  
561-301-7775

CANTON  
TAMMY TWOREK  
561-308-9436

CLEVELAND  
MARIAN FRENCH  
561-762-3222

COCONUT  
CHRISTINE CURRY  
561-853-7755

CUYAHOGA  
MEGAN BAUER  
561-315-6976

CYPRESS  
-- VACANT --  
----

DAYTON  
ALANNA HARMAN  
561-248-3151

MANGO  
CHUCK SACHER  
561-433-5875

OHIO (N)  
CHERYL SMART  
561-586-1900

OHIO (S)  
SARAH HARMES  
561-876-5596

PALM  
PENNY SPRING  
786-486-2222

PALMETTO  
ANGIE BERMUDEZ  
561-649-5651

PINE TREE  
TERRY CROSBY  
561-968-9970

PLUMOSA  
SARA RIDOLPH  
561-967-2197

RUBBER TREE  
HEATHER ZAPF  
piheatherz@gmail.com

SPRINGDALE  
XIMENA COKER  
xacoker@yahoo.com

## **From the President**

By Mike Misko

Hi neighbors. I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself. My name is Mike Misko and my wife and three daughters have been Florida Gardens residents for 7 years.

I've had the pleasure of being a part of the Civic Association for many years and have loved getting to know each one of you.

We have many great and exciting events planned for you all this year, none of which would be possible without the amazing people who volunteer to plan, coordinate and work these events. We are always in need of new volunteers, it's such a great way to get to know your community.

I'd like to take a moment and thank Spencer Palmer for his time and dedication as President over the past years. You've done an amazing job and I look forward to our continued work together.

This is such an amazing neighborhood and I look forward to serving you as your President.

## **CRITICAL NEED FOR STREET REPS - AT LEAST READ THIS**

Every resident in Florida Gardens is a member of the Florida Gardens Civic Association, Inc. The Association is governed by a representative Board of Directors, which consists of five elected Officers, three appointed Directors at Large, and 19 Street Representatives. The Street Reps are the voice of the residents. Their input helps shape the function, activities and direction of the Corporation. Without their representation, the residents have no voice. But as critical as the position of Street Rep is, it takes very little time or effort. You don't even have to be a resident of the street you represent (although that is always the preference). The 'duties' of a Street Rep are simple and outlined in the By-Laws. First, since you represent the residents, attend the monthly Residents Meeting. There are only 10 (we don't meet in July or August) and last about an hour or less. There can even be two people acting as a Street Rep for a street - a Primary and a Secondary so if one can't make it the other can take their place. Second, the Street Rep is responsible for insuring that the community Newsletter, published 5 times per year, gets delivered to all the houses on the street. This doesn't mean you have to do it yourself (but it is a good way to connect with the people you represent). If necessary, you can find someone to do it for you. Your responsibility is simply that it gets done. That's about it. So why, with an average of about 44 houses per street, is it so difficult to find a few people willing and able to support this community by filling the current and pending Street Rep vacancies? If this simple but vital activity is something you would be willing to volunteer for, please contact Mike Misko.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Upcoming Residents Meetings**

All adult residents in Florida Gardens are Members of the Florida Gardens Civic Association. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month except July and August. All regularly scheduled meetings are held at 8:00 pm in the Clubhouse. Attendance by the Board of Directors is mandatory, but all residents are encouraged to attend. Mark your calendar for the next three scheduled meeting dates which are February 10th, March 10th and April 14th.

### **Connect with us**

Email - [floridagardensca@gmail.com](mailto:floridagardensca@gmail.com)

Visit our website @ [floridagardens.net](http://floridagardens.net)

Like us on Facebook @ Florida Gardens Civic Association

## Election of the 2022 FGCA Officers

The election of the 2022 FGCA Officers took place during the December monthly meeting.

With Spencer Palmer stepping down, Mike Misko was nominated for President and accepted the nomination. Susan Jenkins was nominated but declined the nomination. There being no other nominations or opposition, **Mike Misko was elected as the new President for 2022.**

With Mike Misko advancing to President, Susan Jenkins was nominated for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations or opposition, **Susan Jenkins was elected as the new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.**

Danny Wood declined to run for re-election as 2nd Vice President. Brian Katz was nominated for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations or opposition, **Brian Katz was elected as the new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.**

Chris Jenson declined to run for re-election as Treasurer. Justin Gwin was nominated for Treasurer and accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations or opposition, **Justin Gwin was elected as the new Treasurer.**

Kimberly Serio was nominated for another term as Secretary and accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations or opposition, **Kimberly Serio was re-elected as Secretary.**

With Susan Jenkins' election as an Officer, we will need a new Street Rep for south Ohio.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2022 FGCA Officers and THANK YOU to all the members of the Board of Directors for volunteering your time and efforts to support our Community.



Once again, it's time for any graduating High School senior in Florida Gardens who may be interested in applying for the annual Florida Gardens College Scholarship Award to start working on their application. Each year, the Civic Association is proud to award one or two scholarships to college or tech school-bound students from Florida Gardens who meet the qualifications, in recognition of their efforts and accomplishments.

In order to apply, the student must be a bona fide resident of Florida Gardens, graduating from high school in 2022, and entering college or tech school in the fall. There are a few other requirements prior to applying, which include family member contributions to the Association in the current and previous year, completion of 20 hours of community service to Florida Gardens, and submitting an application with supporting documents.

The absolute deadline to submit applications is April 15th. We hope to hear from you, so if you're interested in applying please phone our Scholarship Coordinator, Sandra Dale, at 561-432-8951 or email to [davidsdale@bellsouth.net](mailto:davidsdale@bellsouth.net).

## CLUBHOUSE RENTAL INFO

FOR INFORMATION ON RENTING THE CLUBHOUSE, FIRST VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net) AND CLICK ON THE CLUBHOUSE TAB. THEN CALL TERRY AT 968-9970 TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT.

**VOICE MAIL ONLY—DO NOT SEND TEXTS TO THIS NUMBER.**



# CHRISTMAS IN FLORIDA GARDENS—2021

Christmas has always been a special, fun time in Florida Gardens. This year marked the return of the Kid's Christmas Party and we again had the Golf Cart Parades, the Christmas Decorating Contest and the Christmas Eve luminaries. Thanks to all our volunteers without whose help these events would not be possible. And remember, your annual contribution to the Association funds the various community parties and events we hold throughout the year.



## CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of our 2021 Christmas Decorating Contest that was again **sponsored by Able Plumbing**. See photos of the Neighborhood winners on our website ([www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net)). Note that cash winners last year were ineligible for recognition this year.

**Neighborhood Best Overall :** 1st Place - 175 Ohio      2nd Place - 110 Cleveland      3rd Place - 254 Akron

Honorable Mentions, no particular order :      68 Ohio      56 Dayton      244 Ohio

**Best-on-the-Street Winners** as selected by your Association Street Reps (exclusive of the top winners above) :

44 AKRON (N)	43 CANTON	67 CYPRESS	253 OHIO (S)	49 PLUMOSA
278 AKRON (S)	129 CLEVELAND	75 DAYTON	130 PALM	43 RUBBER TREE
109 ARCH	62 COCONUT	32 MANGO	14 PALMETTO	123 SPRINGDALE
81 BARBERTON	112 CUYAHOGA	98 OHIO (N)	38 PINE TREE	

## KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Special thanks to Kimberly Serio and her volunteers for putting together a great Kids Christmas Party. Santa handed out presents to over 50 kids. Also, THANK YOU to everyone who donated toys to the Toys-for-Tots drive and to the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office K9 unit.

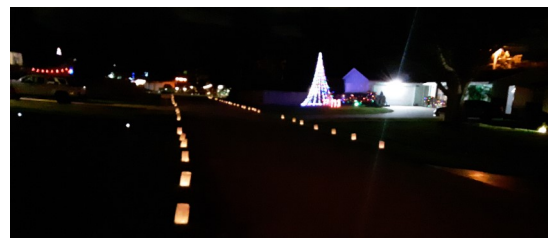


## CHRISTMAS GOLF CART PARADES (Day & Night)

Again this year we had our annual Christmas Golf Cart Parades. Turn-out for the night parade was incredible - with 43 carts participating. Special thanks to Spencer Palmer for coordinating the parades.

## CHRISTMAS EVE LUMINARIES

Once again this year, a number of streets were beautifully lined with luminaries on Christmas Eve. This photo is of Pine Tree Ave. Special thanks to those Street Reps and their volunteers who took the time and made the effort to make this happen.



## Lucerne Lakes Golf Course Conversion Update

by Gary Oliwa

As mentioned in the November Newsletter, the anticipated fight to retain the Lucerne Lakes Golf Course (or convert it into natural space) has moved to the courts. A coalition of Lucerne Lakes residents has been formed to coordinate the effort and they have retained a law firm to represent them. Several documents have been uncovered that were generated when ownership of the property was turned over which clearly state that the land must be used for recreational use "in perpetuity". Conversion of the property to residential housing would violate that restriction, and that is the basis for their argument. On 12/23/21, the law firm that has been retained filed a request for two rulings from the court. One is a Declaratory Judgement where the court would acknowledge the binding validity of those documents, and the second is an Injunction prohibiting the attempt to convert the land. The court case has been initiated with the next step in the process expected in mid-February. In order to fund the effort, the group has been soliciting donations from their residents. They currently have a goal of \$125K and have secured about \$30K of that so far. They have recently set up a GoFundMe page to assist in the fund raising effort. The link to that page is :

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/Environmental-Preservation>

for any individuals who wish to donate.

FLORIDA GARDENS CRIME REPORT											11/01/21-12/31/21				Compiled by Sue Guthrie			
	AKRON		BARBERTON		CLEVELAND		CUYAHOGA		DAYTON		OHIO		PALMETTO		PLUMOSA		SPRINGDALE	
	ARCH		CANTON		COCONUT		CYPRESS		MANGO		PALM		PINE TREE		RUBBER TREE		LK WORTH RD	
Suspicious Vehicle	1																	
Juvenile Trouble										1								
Special Detail										1								
Assist to Another Dept		2															1	
Resident Chk	37	9	1	4	2	13	5	7	1	5	37	12	6	8	9	6	6	9
Suspicious Person	1		1								1							
Domestic										1								
Serving Civil Process		2						2										
Police Serv. Call Info	1					2					1							
Noise	1			1														
Welfare Check							1											
Fraud/Embezzlement			1			1				1	1							
Lost & Found Property	1																	
Sick Person Down/ O.D.										1								
Conduct Check		1									1							

### **NEXTDOR** - Our Neighborhood Social Media Site

Use Nextdoor to keep up with day-to-day happenings in our community as well as the communities around us. As of November 1st, we have 581 households signed on. If you're not already 'connected', go to [www.floridagardensfl.nextdoor.com](http://www.floridagardensfl.nextdoor.com) and join. It's FREE. There are many options you can use to tailor your view of Nextdoor content. There have also been several articles in past Newsletters on this topic. See the Newsletter Articles Index on our Florida Gardens website ([floridagardens.net](http://floridagardens.net)).

## **CHANGE IN CLUBHOUSE RENTAL RATES**

Inflation has taken its toll on our operating budget. We rely on income from Clubhouse rentals and Member Contributions to pay our expenses. The Clubhouse rentals do not cover the total cost of Clubhouse operations. To help with this yet not significantly impact the residents who wish to rent the Clubhouse, we are therefore going to raise the rental rates as follows:

Resident rentals will increase only slightly, from \$220 currently to \$250. This amount includes both the new base rental cost (\$234.74) and 6.5% sales tax (\$15.26). Note that sales tax is comprised of state tax on commercial rental space at 5.5% plus the 1.0% discretionary sales tax imposed by Palm Beach County. The refundable security deposit amount (\$200) will not change.

Non-resident rentals will increase from \$850 currently to \$1000. It was noted at the meeting that we often get comments from our outside renters how very inexpensive our Clubhouse is to rent compared to other facilities in the area. We believe that this increase will have no effect on the number of outside renters interested in our facility. The new \$1000 amount includes both the new base rental cost (\$938.97) plus 6.5% sales tax (\$61.03) as explained above. Again, the refundable security deposit amount (\$500 for outside renters) will not change.

The new rental rates will take effect on new contracts beginning immediately.

## **FLORIDA GARDENS HISTORY PHOTO - (and a Trivia Question)**

By Gary Oliwa

This is an undated photo of Mom's Diner shortly after it opened. Maybe someone with knowledge of antique cars can identify the vehicles parked out front that would help identify the timeframe.



And now for a trivia question. First compare the above photo with the building as it is today. What architectural feature seen above is missing today? And now the trivia question : What is that feature called?

ANSWER : The square structure on the top of the roof is no longer there. I don't know when it was removed, or why, but the trivia answer - it is called a "cupola".

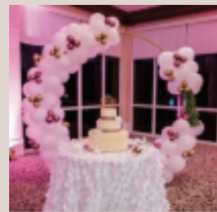
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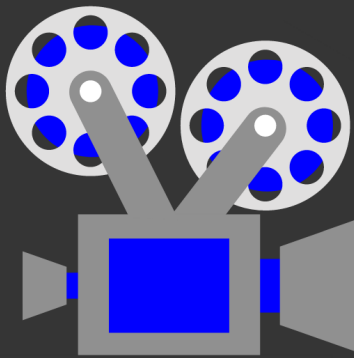
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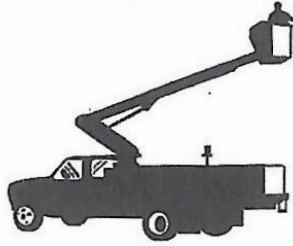
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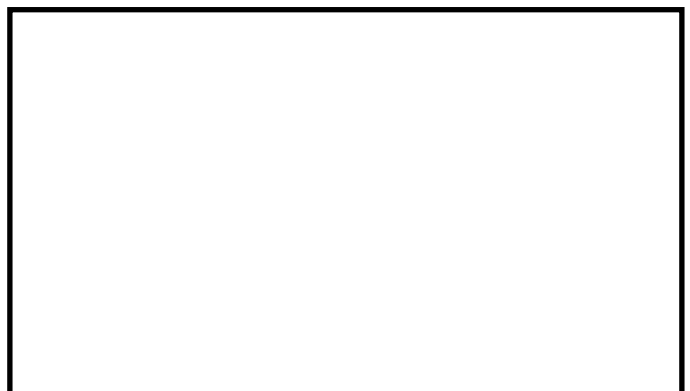
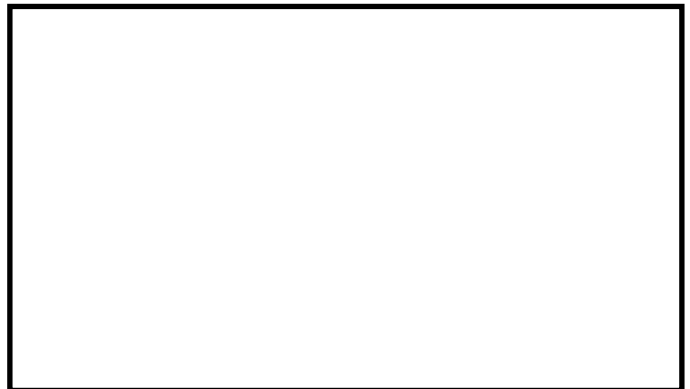
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