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649-9770

**Mike Misko**  
1st Vice President  
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**Danny Wood**  
2nd Vice President  
722-0353

**Kimberly Serio**  
Secretary  
762-4356

**Christine Jenson**  
Treasurer  
373-8900

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

**Ed Ridolph**  
**Kim Kahant**  
**Gary Oliwa**

**STREET REPS**  
See Page 2

Also on our WEBSITE

[www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net)

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# Florida Gardens Newsletter

September 2021 / Volume 52 ; Issue 4

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



## STREET REPS

UPDATED 5/9/21

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PRIMARY REP  
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AKRON (S)  
BILL APPLGATE  
(561) 965-5311

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MEGAN BAUER  
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(561) 433-5875

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(561) 568-2459

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SARA RIDOLPH  
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RUBBER TREE  
HEATHER ZAPF  
piheatherz@gmail.com

SPRINGDALE  
XIMENA COKER  
xacoker@yahoo.com

## From the President

By Spencer Palmer

Hello neighbors:

Time is ticking and the Florida Gardens elections are fast approaching. I find it extremely heart wrenching that with over 1500 residents, we only get the consistency of just over 20 volunteers to help with our neighborhood. You don't have to be a homeowner, just a resident of Florida Gardens. I just realized that my wife and I have spent over 21 years volunteering as a Street Rep, Vice President, and the last four years as President. We do have a good amount of volunteers as Street Reps, the most we have ever had. We are still looking for a Street Rep for Arch. We do have a great bunch of volunteer Board members.

Now I would like to welcome our new volunteer, adult event coordinator Brian Katz. Brian and his girlfriend and rescue dogs just moved into the neighborhood on Akron and he has already stepped up to volunteer into this position and looking to help more. Just think how many more events/activities we could be having if more neighbors stepped up. I would really like to have at least one event a month, even it was game night, darts, poker, or just a hot dog and meet your neighbors day.

We have a great Clubhouse and a manager, Terry Crosby, that takes great care and pride in taking care of it. Yes she gets paid, but Terry goes above and beyond in scheduling and making sure the Clubhouse is clean and ready for the renters. She makes multiple trips to the Clubhouse to show the renters, multiple phone calls that she responds to, cleans up after almost every party, pressure cleans the outside and helps set up for almost every event we have. I do have to admit that some of the cleanups she has to do for some outside renters and sadly enough even inside renters is gut wrenching. The whole part of requiring renters to clean up is to have the clubhouse turnkey ready for the next renter, and that hardly ever happens. I have filled in for Terry, and what people say is clean is not even close. We had an in-neighborhood renter rent the clubhouse and was to be out by 11 pm. Terry showed up and the place was a mess, vomit outside the front door, tables and food still set up and the Clubhouse was rented the next day. Terry had to stay to clean up so the clubhouse was ready for the next day. This does not happen every rental, but almost every time it needs to be cleaned up some. I know it is really hard to want to stay after to clean up after setting up and having your event, but maybe think about hiring a cleaning company ahead of time and find out how much that costs you and you will not complain about how much we charge to clean up after you.

BEFORE YOU COMPLAIN HAVE YOU VOLUNTEERED LATELY?

Remember, Please drive through your neighborhood like your kids are playing there.

Hoping to see you at the next Residents Meeting on 10/14/2021 @ 8pm in the clubhouse at 134 Ohio Rd

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

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

Like us on Facebook @ Florida Gardens Civic Association

Wishing you all the best, and be safe.

## 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. If you're not already 'connected', go to [www.floridagardensfl.nextdoor.com](http://www.floridagardensfl.nextdoor.com) and join. It's FREE.

## UPCOMING RESIDENTS MEETINGS

All adult residents in Florida Gardens are Members of the Florida Gardens Civic Association. Residents meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 8:00 pm in the Clubhouse. All residents are encouraged to attend. Attendance by the Association Board of Directors is mandatory. The next three scheduled meeting dates are October 14th, November 11th and December 9th (ELECTION OF 2022 FGCA OFFICERS).

# 2021 HALLOWEEN EVENTS DETAILS

Florida Gardens Residents Only, Please

Halloween has always been a special, fun time in Florida Gardens. This year, your Board of Directors has elected to have a Kids Carnival, again conduct a Golf Cart Trunk-or-Treat, and we will still have the Halloween Golf Cart Parade and outdoor movie showing following that. **All these events will all be held on Saturday, October 30th.**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - People like to attend events but few ever want to help. If you would be willing to volunteer to help with event support, please contact Kimberly Serio (561) 762-4356 for the Carnival Event or Alanna Harman at (561) 248-3151 for the Trunk-or-Treat. High School students- this is an opportunity for Community Service hours.

## **HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL - STARTING AT 5:00 pm**

The evening begins promptly at 5:00 pm at the Clubhouse with our first Halloween Carnival. Dress up in your best Halloween costumes and come and enjoy the fun. Free food and drinks will be provided.



## **HALLOWEEN 'TRUNK-OR-TREAT' - Behind the Clubhouse from 6:00 pm to 7:15 pm**



This has always been a very popular part of every year's Halloween festivities and we will again have a modified form of one this year.

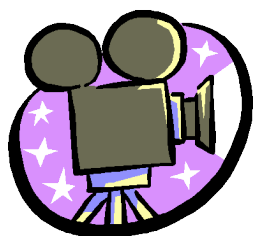
**CART OWNERS :** If you plan on participating in the Trunk-or-Treat, please call Alanna Harman at (561) 248-3151 by Wednesday, 10/21 so she can get an idea of about how many carts to plan for. On Saturday, line up your decorated golf carts in the designated area, spaced as directed, and bring candy (but nothing containing peanuts, please).

The kids will go cart-to-cart in single file (practicing social distancing) starting at 6:00 pm. Please have your carts in place by 5:45 pm. All participants should wear Covid-appropriate masks.

**KIDS AND PARENTS :** Participants will go cart-to-cart in single file (practicing social distancing) starting at 6:00 pm until 7:15 pm. All participants should wear Covid-appropriate masks. Please park your automobiles in the designated parking area.

## **HALLOWEEN GOLF CART PARADE beginning at 7:30 pm**

Immediately following the Trunk-or-Treat we will again have a Halloween Golf Cart Parade beginning at 7:30 pm. If you have a decorated cart (golf carts ONLY), please join in the fun. Cart line-up begins at 7:15 at the Clubhouse. The parade route will be the same as that followed during the annual Christmas parade. Participants : **MAKE SOME NOISE** so our residents can know the parade is approaching.



## **HALLOWEEN MOVIE SHOWING beginning at 9:00 pm**

The final event of the evening will be an outdoor Halloween movie on the rear lawn of the Clubhouse (weather permitting), beginning at 8:45 pm. Bring your golf cart, chairs or blankets to sit and enjoy the show. Free popcorn will be provided for the kids. Bring your own snacks and beverages.



## 4TH ANNUAL HAUNTED GARDENS HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST

Judging on Saturday, October 30th from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm

NOTE - To encourage more residents to participate, those who won cash prizes for their great displays in last year's contest are ineligible for cash prizes this year. Also, the Halloween House on Pine Tree has again recused themselves from this competition.

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As in previous years, judges will select the 6 best Halloween décor presentations. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top three, with honorable mention to the rest.

1st Place - \$300 / 2nd Place - \$150 / 3rd Place - \$50

To allow all our residents to put up last minute decorations, judging will not take place until the night of SATURDAY, October 30th, from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm.

Signs will be placed in the winning yards on Halloween morning.

## 2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

By Ed Ridolph - Scholarship Award Chairman

As many of our residents know, each year the Florida Gardens Civic Association awards one or two \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors from the Gardens who will be entering college or trade school in the Fall. This has long been one of the Association's most successful programs, and for more than 37 years, since 1984, the Association has awarded scholarships to over 60 students. Among the recipients are students who went on to success in a number of fields, including lawyers, teachers and school principals, health services, and other areas.

This year, the 2021 Florida Gardens Civic Association scholarship award was presented to Timothy Carpenter during the May 13 meeting at the Clubhouse. Timothy, who lives on W. Rubber Tree, is a graduate of Santaluces High School, where he was class salutatorian, graduating second in a class of 592 students. During his high school career he was a member of the National Honor Society, and received awards for his performance in Cybersecurity, and Spanish and Algebra honors. Timothy will be entering the University of Florida in the Fall, where he will major in computer engineering. We want to congratulate Timothy on his outstanding high school career, and wish him much success at the University of Florida.



Above, left to right: Danny Wood (FGCA 2nd Vice President), Tim Carpenter (Award Recipient), Lynn Carpenter (Proud Mom), and Spencer Palmer (FGCA President).



**Our Lake Worth Campus in Florida Gardens is Coming Soon!**

**Please check out our new website at**

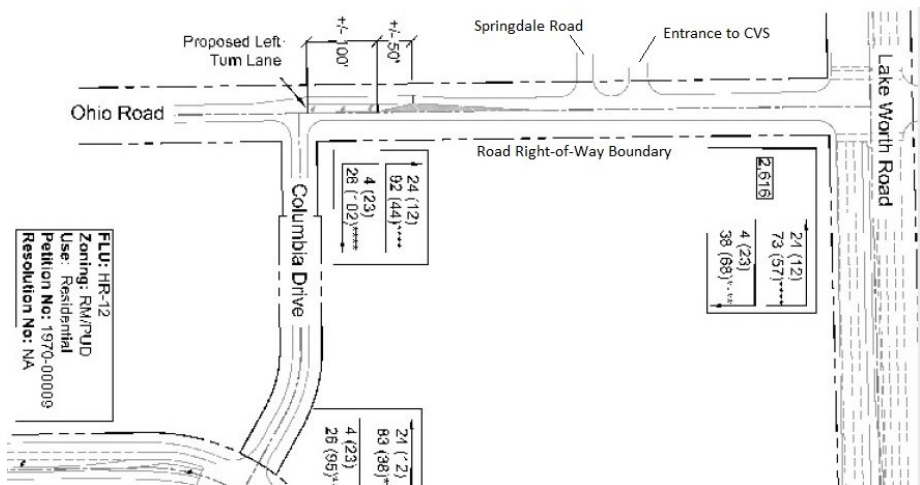
**<https://communityofhope.church/lakeworth>**

## **LUCERNE LAKES GOLF COURSE ELIMINATION UPDATE**

As most of you probably know by now, the Palm Beach County Zoning Commission met on September 2nd and voted 6-1 to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners that Mattamy Homes be allowed to proceed with the conversion of the Lucerne Lakes golf course to residential housing. The Board of County Commissioners will meet on September 29th for a final vote.

The approved plan is the third major iteration. On the plus side, the number of residential units to be added was reduced back to 450 and another access to Lucerne Lakes will be added off of Charleston Street (the road to the east that the fire station is on). However, a surprise change that will impact Florida Gardens was the reconfiguration of the intersection of Ohio Road and Columbia Road (the small connector road between Florida Gardens and Lucerne Lakes). The reconfiguration will widen Ohio Road there to the west to allow for the addition of a 150' left turn lane from southbound Ohio Road onto Columbia Road. This will affect the 5 property owners on the west side of Ohio and will be of little to no benefit to us. It will not address the ongoing issue of Lucerne Lakes residents cutting through Florida Gardens along Springdale to bypass the traffic lights on Lake Worth Road.

Unfortunately, with a 6-1 recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, it is unlikely that they will deny the project.



## EXTENDING OHIO ROAD?

By Gary Oliwa

A question was raised at this past month's Residents Meeting regarding the possibility of the County wanting to extend Ohio Road south across the canal to Lantana Road to help alleviate traffic congestion on Lake Worth Road. Ohio Road aligns with 2nd Road south of the canal. However, here's what would be required to have that happen. First and foremost, while there is road right-of-way for Ohio extending up to the canal, there is no road right-of-way on the south side of the canal leading to 2nd Road. There is only a narrow maintenance path from 2nd Road between two homes that allows for access to the canal and the large pipes which span it. To create enough space for a road on the south side of the canal, the County would have to purchase and demolish 2 houses, one on each side of the maintenance path. The pipes over the canal would likely need to be relocated to construct the bridge. Also, 2nd Road does not currently fully extend to Lantana Road. It terminates at Coconut Road (yes, that's how it's spelled), three blocks away from Lantana Road. There is however road right-of-way between the houses on those three blocks so 2nd Road could be extended between those houses to Lantana Road. Thus, while the extension of Ohio Road south to Lantana Road is technically possible, it does not seem likely that a simple 2-lane connection would be worth the expense even after adding the traffic from all the approved and future development along Lake Worth Road.

FLORIDA GARDENS CRIME REPORT											05/01/21-08/31/21				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	
Vehicle Stop					1	1				1								
Alarm															1	1		
Stolen Tag										1								
Assist to Another Dept								1						3				
Resident Check	19	3		3	1		2			15	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	
Domestic / Civil	1	1	1		1		1		2				1	1			1	
Missing Person														1				
Neighbor Trouble				1			2				1						1	
Police Serv. Call Info	1			1			1			1	1							
Fraud													1		1		1	
Welfare Check							1		1				1					
Employment Check													11					
Suspicious Person	1																	
Vandal / Theft / Trespass	2	1																
Conduct Check Lew d &							2				1		1				1	
Juvenile Trouble		1									1							
Suspicious Vehicle and Incident		1									1							
Dead Person	1											1						
Theft of Auto Parts				1														
Suicide Attempt	1																	
Noise//Fireworks															1	4	1	

## CLUBHOUSE RENTAL

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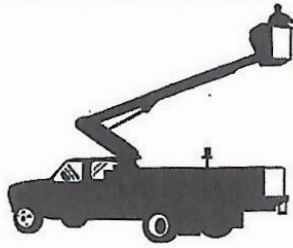
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