



Florida Gardens

May 2017

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www.floridagardens.net

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439-2050

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For more than 30 years, the Florida Gardens Civic Association has awarded one or more scholarships each year to graduating high school seniors from the Gardens who will be continuing their education beyond high school. This is done both as community recognition of their accomplishments, as well as offering some assistance in meeting their college expenses. Thanks to the generosity of our Florida Gardens neighbors who contribute annually to the Association, since 1984 we have been able to award scholarships to 59 Florida Gardens students.

This year, the Florida Gardens Civic Association Scholarship Award goes to Casey Ohman, the son of Ronald and Gena Lee Ohman of West Pine Tree. Casey is graduating from Seminole Ridge High School and will attend the University of Central Florida, where he will major in Nursing and ultimately serve in the Peace Corps. At Seminole Ridge Casey was a member of the Science Honor Society, the Construction Academy, won first place in the AICE writing contest, and was three times Master of Ceremonies for the annual ASL show.

We are proud to be able to present this award to Casey, and we want to wish him much success as he continues his education, as well as much success in his future career.



C.O.P. It spells cop, but it stands for Citizen Observer Patrol, and it's just what the name implies. The police can't be everywhere, so concerned citizens of a community volunteer to keep an eye on their neighborhood through the C.O.P. program. We don't have an overwhelming amount of crime in Florida Gardens, but we do have minor incidents now and then, such as mail being stolen from mailboxes, thieves rummaging through unlocked vehicles for valuables, and the occasional theft of lawn equipment, etc., being left outside or unlocked.

The COP program started in 1989, and now has over 3500 citizens in 80 units acting as the "eyes and ears" of the Sheriff's Department in unincorporated Palm Beach County. There are different groups within the program, with the most recognizable being the roving COP vehicles and the Bike Patrols. All the various units work to assist the Sheriff's Department in minimizing criminal activity throughout the County.

The Florida Gardens Civic Association would like to implement a COP program in Florida Gardens, but only if there is enough interest from the neighborhood. As with any program, there are certain qualifications that must be met before the program can get started. We need a minimum number of dedicated volunteers, at least 30 to begin with, who would be able to devote at least three hours a month to the program. Volunteers then undergo a short training program to familiarize them with their duties, and there are a few other minor requirements, but nothing major or too time consuming.

Dave Finkle, a member of our community, has stepped forward to volunteer to head up the program if enough community minded residents would like to become involved. It's a worthwhile program, and one which could have great benefit to Florida Gardens. You can reach Dave at 561-644-6617. We hope to hear from you.

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Street Representatives

<u>Street Name</u>	<u>Representative</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
N. Akron	Michael Teets Corbin Johnson	319-0563 275-6649
S. Akron	The Applegate's	965-5311
Arch	Carol Culberson	642-9832
Barberton	The Harsh's	964-5690
Canton	Tammy Tworek	308-9436
Cleveland	Marian and Michelle French	434-4362
Coconut	Kim Saunders	767-6183
Cuyahoga	The Vargo's	236-9926
Cypress	Christi Ragsdale	254-4090
Dayton	Peter Gagliardi	305-345-5752
Mango	Chuck Sacher	433-5875
N. Ohio	Mackenzie & Cheryl Smart	586-1900
S. Ohio	Dave Finkle	644-6617
W. Palm	Penny Spring	(786) 436-2222
Palmetto	Angela Bermudez	649-5651
Pine Tree	Gary Oliwa	641-9549
Plumosa	Sara Ridolph	967-2197
Rubbertree	Jessica Dale	432-8951
Springdale	Phillip Shelly	634-0307

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Terry Crosby
(561) 968-9970

Residents who pay their dues/donations by April 15th get a discount!

Newsletter Submissions

This newsletter is distributed to every home in Florida Gardens. It's a great way to advertise your business! If you have paid your dues/donation, then you may submit an ad for an item you're selling, free of charge.



Contact:

Sue Guthrie
President

(561) 439-2050

From the President,

I was told the Easter party was another hit this year. More children and families were there. That is great as we always look forward to meeting the parents and seeing the children and want to see them have a good time. I know they loved having an Easter Bunny there also. Sorry I had to miss it. The workers Friday night and Saturday A.M. responsible for making this happen were Angela Bermudez, Aubrey, Jessica & Sandra Dale, Marian & Michelle French, Sue Guthrie, Corbin Johnson, Kim Kahant, Thomas Marsh, Casey Ohman, Kim Palmer, Fran, Rachel, Rebecca & Robert Phister, Kim Saunders, Hailey Smallwood and Nick Soley. Thank you to each of you for making everything possible for the kids to have a great time.



This will be our last Newsletter until September. We want to thank each of you for so generously supporting your neighborhood by paying your dues and for everything else you do to help our neighborhood functions be a success. The dues paying residents are also posted on our website at www.floridagardens.net. Remember the dues have to be paid by April 15, each year in order for you to get the cheaper residential rate to use the clubhouse. Otherwise you will pay the full amount. Many of you have done that this year. Thank you. The dues are used for many different things in the neighborhood, such as all of the children's parties, the scholarships we sponsor each year and different things we have to do to maintain the clubhouse. This year so far, we had High Impact Windows and Doors installed and a new Interior door that goes into the store room and Gary Oliwa widened the ramp leading into the storeroom. The old brown blinds have been replaced with white ones to go with the rest of the décor. We do take off July and August so nothing will be added to the Web Site at that time.

We are trying to get the Street Representatives to come to the meetings. The qualifications are Street Representatives must be an Adult, as you are also Board Members and we ask you to not miss more than 3 meetings out of 10 meetings a year, to be at the December meeting for the elections as being a Board member you are eligible to vote. Pass out the newsletters and to take telephone calls from the neighbors on your street if they have a question that you can answer and if not you can notify one of the 4 Officers. Do not put the newsletters in or around the mail boxes, as that is a Federal Offense, and there have been issues in the past when some were putting them in the mail boxes. Leave it up by the front door, under edge of mat, or inside screen door if possible. You can roll them up and put a rubber band around them and hang them on the door knobs. If you are a Street Representative now, and wish to continue delivering the newsletters, that is fine, but we also need to find a co-person who is willing to come to the meetings. If you know anyone that will work with you and share the responsibility, have them call Sue Guthrie at 561-439-2050.

Have a safe and fun summer. Please remember it is illegal to shoot fireworks in residential areas in the State of Florida and consider your neighbors on the 4th of July. Remember also school will be out soon so please watch out for the children. Many of them will be riding their bikes in the streets, etc.

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