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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

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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)

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# Florida Gardens Newsletter

May 2022 / Volume 53 ; Issue 3

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



## *Memorial Day* *Monday, May 30th*

*Remember our fallen heros. They are the reason we are free.*

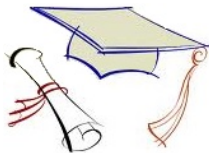
**HONOR OUR VETERANS** - Once again this year, on the Sunday before Memorial Day, volunteers will place flags on every one of the 30,000 graves currently in the South Florida National Cemetery on State Road 7. It's a massive effort. Drive through the cemetery some time during Memorial Day week to see all 30,000 headstones each adorned with an American flag and pay your respects. The flags are removed Saturday.

Flying the Flag on Memorial Day - Full-Staff after Noon, Moment of Silence at 3:00 pm.

Just a reminder, per the U.S. Flag Code, on Memorial Day the flag is flown at half-staff until noon only, at which time it is raised to full-staff. We also honor the memory of our military heroes with a National Moment of Remembrance at 3:00 p.m, for one minute.

For an article on the history of Memoria Day, see the May 2019 issue of the Newsletter, available on our Florida Gardens website.

### *Congratulations to the Class of 2022 !*



The Board of Directors of the Florida Gardens Civic Association wishes all our graduating Seniors the best of luck in their future endeavors.



### **A NOTE TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS :**

Our next Newsletter will be in September. Until then, the Board of Directors of the Florida Gardens Civic Association wishes everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

## ***STREET REPS***

UPDATED 3/15/22

### 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

PATRICK BUCKLEY  
561-202-4704

### CANTON

TAMMY TWOREK  
561-308-9436

### CLEVELAND

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561-762-3222

### COCONUT

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561-853-7755

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561-315-6976

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### DAYTON

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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

CHRISTIE BANKES  
christiebankes@yahoo.com

## **From the President**

By Mike Misko

Hello everyone, hope this letter finds everyone well.

We had a great turn out for the kids Easter party. The kids had a great day. Special thank you to Kimberly Serio and all the volunteers for your hard work.

We have a great group of members and volunteers who show up time and time again, from coming to meetings, helping with events, to passing out newsletters. Thank you for your time.

Thank you everyone for your financial contributions. These contributions help fund these amazing events.

As always hope to see you at the next meeting on 6/9.



THE WAY WE WERE - A rare aerial view of the north half of Florida Gardens as the roads were being installed in 1954.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Upcoming Residents Meetings**

Mark your calendar for the next scheduled meeting date, which is **June 9th**. 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. **There are no meetings in July or August.** Meetings resume September 8th.

### **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

Join Nextdoor - Sign up at [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com)



## **KIDS EASTER EGGPALOOZA 2022**

Thanks to Kimberly Serio (Kids Party Coordinator Extraordinaire) and her amazing team of volunteers, the Florida Gardens annual Easter festivities returned this year. Over 100 kids gathered thousands of eggs (over 1200 donated by Community of Hope Church). Special thanks to Florida Gardens Baptist Church who provided a bounce house and Sno-Cone machine, and of course to Danny (E.B.) Wood for putting all the smiles on faces of the young attendees. We have 41 pictures of the event posted on the Florida Gardens Website.



## **ADULT GAME NIGHT**

**THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH @ 7:00 p.m.**



Hi neighbors. In April we started an Adult-only Game Night at the Florida Gardens Clubhouse for those 21 and over. It was well received! We are planning to have these once a month, the third Tuesday of every month, starting at 7:00 pm. If the attendance grows then we will look to have them twice a month. We will also revisit the start time if needed. The idea is to make this as welcoming and open to everyone as possible. We set up a few tables and have some games available. If you would like to bring your own games, please do so. We will have Rummikub games going amongst others. This will be a great time to come hang out/meet Florida Gardens neighbors whether or not you want to play. To get a sense of who is going to come and what games people would like to play, you can email [FloridaGardensEvents@gmail.com](mailto:FloridaGardensEvents@gmail.com). Please feel free to reach out with any questions, thoughts or suggestions. We hope to see you there!

Thank you.

Brian Katz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Adult Event Coordinator.

## **CLUBHOUSE RENTAL INFO**

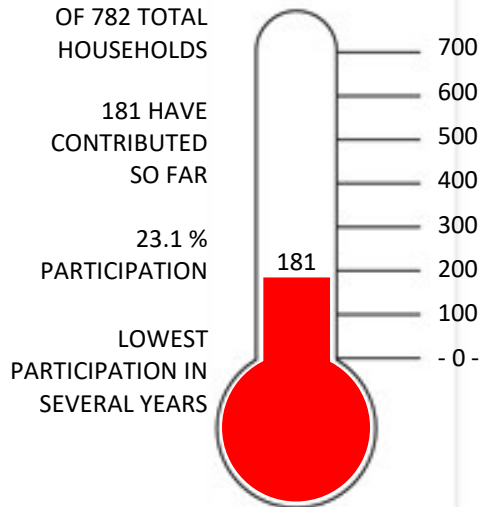
FOR INFORMATION ON RENTING THE CLUBHOUSE, FIRST VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net) AND CLICK ON THE CLUBHOUSE TAB. THEN CALL TERRY AT 968-9970 TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT.

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



## NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS THAT HAVE CONTRIBUTED

## ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION STATUS



In the January Newsletter, we kicked off our annual contribution drive. We detailed how your contributions fund the various community activities and children's holiday parties. We asked that you check with your friends that live in HOA communities and see what they pay annually in mandatory HOA dues and what they receive in return. We also have a safe, simple method to make a contribution online through our website or even on your phone if you have the Venmo app if a mailed check is too inconvenient.

As of May 10<sup>th</sup>, we have the lowest contribution rate we have had in several years. Only 181 of our 782 households in Florida Gardens have recognized the need for their involvement and have been generous enough to contribute. Most have contributed \$50. Some have contributed more. To everyone who has contributed thus far, we say THANK YOU!

We try to maximize our contribution receipts at the beginning of the year so we have some idea of the money available to fund the organization for the year, however you can make a contribution at any time. All contributions received, regardless of the receipt date, are for the calendar year in which they are received. The Association fiscal year runs from Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>.

Please consider what this great community has to offer and, if you have not yet done so, make a donation to help keep our activities funded.

REMINDER : We have several ways to contribute. You can make your annual contribution to the Florida Gardens Civic Association by a check mailed to the Association at 134 Ohio Road. You can use any credit card online from our website ([floridagardens.net](http://floridagardens.net)). Simply select "CONTRIBUTE" from the main menu and follow the directions. Finally, new this year, you can also pay using Venmo. Enter @Floridagardensca as payee. If prompted, use 0541 as the last 4 digits of the payee phone.

As of May 10th, the percentage of households ranked by street who have contributed this year is as follows:

Canton	12/33	36.4%	Palmetto	11/46	23.9%
Coconut	15/44	34.1%	Barberton	8/34	23.5%
Cleveland	10/34	29.4%	Springdale	7/31	22.6%
Plumosa (E & W)	12/42	28.6%	Rubber Tree	9/46	19.6%
Palm	12/44	27.3%	Akron (N & S)	15/79	19.0%
Cuyahoga	10/38	26.3%	Arch (E & W)	10/66	15.2%
Mango	11/42	26.2%	Ohio (N & S)	12/79	15.2%
Cypress	11/44	25.0%	Dayton	5/36	13.9%
Pine Tree	11/44	25.0%			

## **NEXTDOOR and FACEBOOK** - Our Neighborhood Social Media Sites

Use Nextdoor and Facebook to keep up with day-to-day happenings in our community as well as the communities around us. If you have a Facebook account, check out our page at "Florida Gardens Civic Association". Make sure you're on the "Community" page.

For Nextdoor, if you're not already connected, go to [nextdoor.com](http://nextdoor.com) and join. It's FREE. You can connect thru the Nextdoor website or download the Nextdoor App to your mobile device. 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.

## 2022 FLORIDA GARDENS SCHOLARSHIP



Each year the Florida Gardens Civic Association presents a scholarship to a deserving Florida Gardens student. This year's recipient is Adan Ashley from Pine Tree Avenue. Adan is a graduate of Palm Beach Central High School. He took summer classes over the past two years and completed his graduation requirements in December, which allowed him entry into the Palm Beach State College Welding Technology Program in February. We wish Adan well as he embarks upon his career.

Pictured at left, Terry Crosby (Grandmother), Mike Misko (FGCA President), Adan Ashley (Award Recipient) and Sandra Dale (Scholarship Coordinator).

## A FEW PRE-HURRICANE SEASON PREP ITEMS.

Unfortunately, it's that time of year again. We have been fortunate to have avoided any major storms for several years now. We have many new residents who perhaps have never experienced a hurricane, and some who may have forgotten some basic preparatory checks to complete. Here are a few important things to do BEFORE the season arrives so that any problems can be addressed:

**Accordion Shutter Check** - For those of you who have accordion shutters - a word of caution. These shutters need regular (yearly) maintenance to make sure they are ready to be closed in the event of a storm. If you have not checked your shutters yet this year, do it now before the storm threatens. Simply go around and close and lock, then re-open every shutter to be sure they will work easily when needed. The worst offenders are the type that have the aluminum rods that engage in holes in the upper and lower tracks. These rods usually have stainless steel thumbscrews to keep them in place, which, if they have not been lubricated periodically, will seize and prevent the rods from moving. If you have this type of shutter, please check them and make sure they are all loose. If you don't have the lock keys handy, find them now and check that the locks work. Some types of accordion shutters rely only on the locking handle to keep them closed. Accordion shutters are great, but only if they are in working order. Make sure yours are.

**Generators** - Many of us have a generator sitting in the garage, but unless it's been maintained it may not function when you need it. Generators should be operated at least about every 4-6 months and stored properly. With the season approaching, take the time now to fire up your generator (ethanol-free fuel recommended) and make sure it works. If it does, fully drain the fuel and follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper storage. Also, be sure you have motor oil for your generator. Reminder: If you purchased a new generator or stored your existing one empty (you shouldn't), make sure you buy enough crankcase oil for it. New generators don't come with oil in them. They generally use a little less than 2 quarts of SAE-30 weight oil. Don't use multi-viscosity oil. Consult the owner's manual to see exactly how much oil you will need. If your generator is new (never been used), you should plan on changing the oil right after the first few hours of operation. All generator engines should have the oil changed after a certain number of operating hours (my manual recommends every 25-50 hours of operation depending on load). If we're without power for a week and you run your generator full time, you should plan on 3 oil changes. Make sure you have enough oil on hand for that.

**Hurricane Panels** - If you have panels or other window coverings, make sure they are accessible and that you have all the necessary installation hardware handy. You don't want to be searching for that bag or can of wing nuts at the last minute.

**Assistance** - Some residents may need assistance with labor-intensive tasks such as hurricane shutters. Now is the time to identify a family member, neighbor, friend, or someone else you can rely on to come and assist you if you need help with these tasks. It is not uncommon to hear stories of people who paid laborers large fees to install shutters at the last minute (and sometimes larger fees to have them removed). Identify your help now and check with them well before a potential storm threat becomes a reality.

FLORIDA GARDENS CRIME REPORT						03/01/22-04/30/22			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	
Disabled Vehicle												1						
Fire	1																	1
Business Check																		1
Assist to Another Dept	1	1									1			1				
Resident Check	12	6	2		1	2		3		15	1	5	1					3
Domestic/Civil	4									1				2				
Fraud					1		1											
Neighbor Trouble											1							
Police Serv. Call Info	2	1										3	2					1
Noise							1											
Welfare Check	2				1							1						
Residential Burglary										1								
Suspicious Incident	1																	
Vandal/Theft/Trespassing				2														
Call on Animal Information	1								1						1			
Disturbed Person									1									
Suspicious Vehicle														1				
Conduct Check									1									
Shots Fired					1													

### HIRE A NEIGHBORHOOD CONTRACTOR

by Brian Katz, 2nd Vice President

Hi neighbors. In the spirit of neighbors helping neighbors, and as I always see people asking for recommendations for a contractor, a plumber, a pet sitter, etc., I am creating a local listing of businesses that are owned by Florida Gardens residents. I am still working out the details as to how this list will be shared, but I want to start collecting the names and contact info now. I have created an email to be used, [FloridaGardensBusinesses@gmail.com](mailto:FloridaGardensBusinesses@gmail.com).

If you would like to have your business listed, please email me your name, home address so I can verify you are a Florida Gardens Resident, your business name and type of business and I will add it to the list. I will not be verifying any licenses, certifications or insurance of the business/contractor, that is still up to you to find out those details. In the meantime, as we figure out how to best have this information available, you can always send an email to this email address, and I can send you the list.

Any questions, ideas or suggestions please share them with me at this email address as well. Thank you!

### LUCERNE LAKES GOLF COURSE CONVERSION UPDATE

by Gary Oliwa

As mentioned in the past Newsletters, the battle against the conversion of the Lucerne Lakes Golf Course to houses is continuing in court. As of this writing, not much has changed, with both sides still submitting the necessary documents to the court before a hearing can take place. The Lucerne Lakes community continues to struggle to raise the necessary funds to support the legal team. To support their fund raising efforts, they have set up a GoFundMe page. The link to that page is

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/Enviromental-Preservation> [Copy the (incorrect) spelling exactly as shown]

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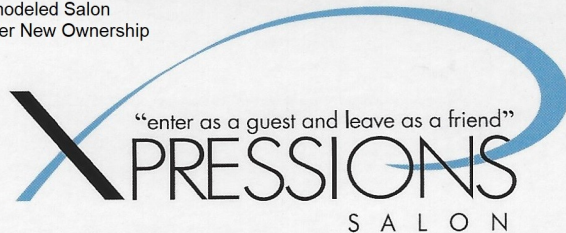


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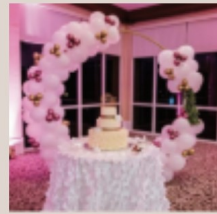
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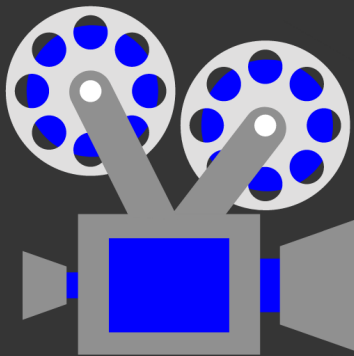
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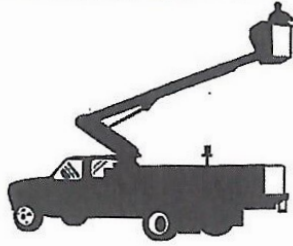
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