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**PBC CODE ENFORCEMENT**  
(561) 233-5500

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

**Christine Curry**  
1st Vice President  
561-853-7755

**Sarah Harmes**  
2nd Vice President  
561-876-5596

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

**Keegan Gwin**  
Treasurer  
floridagardensca@gmail.com

## DIRECTORS AT LARGE

**Spencer Palmer**  
561-685-4229  
**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)

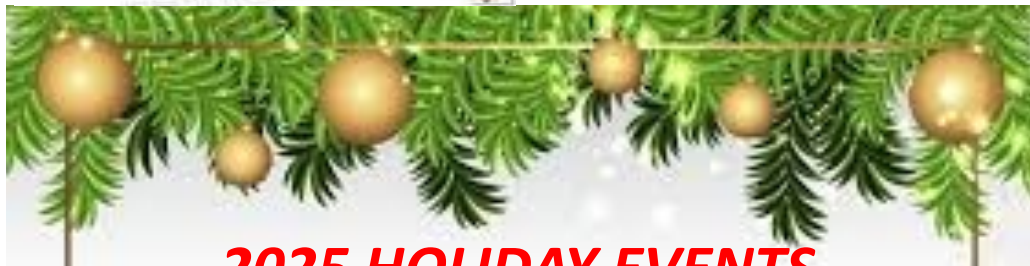
**MAILING ADDRESSES**  
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# Florida Gardens Newsletter

November 2025 / Volume 56 - Issue 5

**OUR FINAL FULL-FORMAT NEWSLETTER**  
**QUARTERLY BULLETINS BEGIN IN JANUARY**

See Page 7 for more details



## 2025 HOLIDAY EVENTS DECEMBER 13th

### KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY & TOY DRIVE

PROMPTLY AT 10:00 AM. SEE PAGE 3

### DAY & NIGHT GOLF CART PARADES

1:00 PM AND 7:00 PM

**ALSO IN DECEMBER:**  
**HOLIDAY DECORATIONS CONTEST**  
**& CHRISTMAS EVE LUMINARIES**



## STREET REPS

UPDATED 9/21/25

STREET  
REPRESENTATIVE  
CONTACT #

AKRON (N)  
JESSICA TEETS  
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BRIAN KATZ  
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BARBERTON  
ANGELA BUCKLEY  
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CANTON  
TAMMY TWOREK  
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CLEVELAND  
MARIAN FRENCH  
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COCONUT  
L BELCHER  
561-797-3334

CUYAHOGA  
MEGAN BAUER  
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AMANDA OLMSTEAD  
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ALANNA HARMAN  
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MINDY HINDERBERGER  
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OHIO (S)  
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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 ZAPP  
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SPRINGDALE  
CHRISTIE BANKES  
christiebankes@yahoo.com



## ANNUAL FLORIDA GARDENS CHRISTMAS DECORATING CONTEST

*A NEIGHBORHOOD TRADITION FOR OVER 35 YEARS*

**Judging on SUNDAY, December 21st from 7:00 pm to 10:00 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.

### **SPONSORED AGAIN BY ABLE PLUMBING**

As in previous years, judges will select the 6 best community-wide holiday 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 SUNDAY, December 21st, from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm.

Signs will be placed in the winning yards.



- ANNUAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS
- NEW CLUBHOUSE RENTAL RATES
- LUCERNE LAKES UPDATES
- HALLOWEEN EVENTS RECAP
- NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME REPORT

### • -- IMPORTANT --

**THIS IS OUR FINAL HOME-DELIVERED  
FLORIDA GARDENS NEWSLETTER .  
PLEASE SEE PAGE 7**

### **Connect With Us:**

Follow the happenings in Florida Gardens through our Social Media postings :

Join Nextdoor : Sign up at [nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com)

On Facebook @ Florida Gardens Civic Association

On Instagram @ [fla\\_gardens\\_civic\\_association](https://www.instagram.com/fla_gardens_civic_association)

CHECK OUT THE FLORIDA GARDENS WEBSITE  
AT [floridagardens.net](https://www.floridagardens.net)

### **Upcoming Residents Meetings**

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. The next scheduled meetings are December 11th, January 8th and February 12th.

NOTE : Association Officers elections for 2026 will be held at the December 11th meeting.

## **2025 CHRISTMAS EVENTS DETAILS - Saturday 12/13**

Christmas has always been a special, fun time in Florida Gardens. This year we will again have the Kids Christmas Party, Toy Drive and Day & Night Golf Cart Parades.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - People like to attend these events but few ever want to **HELP**. If you would be willing to volunteer to help with Christmas Party support (before, during AND after), please contact Kimberly Serio (561) 762-4356 (**Setup is FRIDAY, 12/12 from 6-8 pm and the Party needs support Saturday from 9:30 am until clean-up is complete**). High School students - this is an opportunity for Community Service hours.

### **KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY and TOY DRIVE**



Our annual Kids Christmas Party for the residents of Florida Gardens will take place on Saturday, December 13th. The Party will begin PROMPTLY at 10:00 a.m. at the Clubhouse.

Be there on time to see Santa's arrival. Free drinks and snacks will be provided

**IMPORTANT:** If you want your child to receive a gift from Santa, please have it wrapped, tagged with the child's first and last name and delivered to the Clubhouse either Friday night between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm or Saturday morning after 9:30 am but before the party.

**TOY DRIVE** : Again this year, we are asking everyone in the community to donate a toy for a needy child. Please bring an UNWRAPPED toy to the Clubhouse on that Friday night or Saturday morning (see times above). Collected toys will be given to



Bridges of Palm Beach County.

### **CHRISTMAS GOLF CART PARADES (Day 1:00 pm & Night 7:00 pm)**

On Saturday, December 13th, we will have our annual Christmas Golf Cart Parades. **GOLF CARTS ONLY, PLEASE.** The daytime parade will begin at 1:00 p.m. with the nighttime parade for lighted carts starting at 7:00 p.m. If you have a decorated cart, please join in the fun. **The parade will follow the traditional route used for the past several years.**

**SAFETY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - We need safety volunteers to block automobile traffic at intersections as the parade passes. Contact Mike Misko at 561-629-6121 or email [floridagardensca@gmail.com](mailto:floridagardensca@gmail.com) to volunteer and keep our parades safe.



### **IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARADE PARTICIPANTS**

Once again we beg parade participants to complete the **WHOLE** route so those at the end get to enjoy **ALL** the carts. In the past, too many carts have cut out early and deprive residents near the end of the route of the enjoyment of seeing all the carts. **PLEASE** complete the whole parade route. Thank you!

### **CHRISTMAS EVE LUMINARIES**

If you are interested in working to light your street with luminaries on Christmas Eve, you must contact your Street Rep by December 17th. Each Street Rep will be responsible for determining if the number of volunteers is sufficient and will coordinate the work for their street.





# 2025 HALLOWEEN EVENTS RECAP

## SPECIAL THANKS!

To Kimberly Serio, Alanna Harman, Mike Misko and their teams of volunteers who staged another remarkable evening of Halloween fun this year.

We had almost 200 kids who enjoyed food and games at the Halloween Party and Trunk-or-Treat.

Special Thank Yous - to Little Caesars Pizza in Jog Plaza for giving us a great deal on all the pizza (see their ad in this Newsletter), and Community of Hope Church for the popcorn and the assistance of their volunteers.

We had about 24 Golf Carts handing out treats.

We also had 36 Golf Carts at the start of the Halloween Golf Cart Parade.

We had a great turn-out for the movie which concluded the evening of fun.

Again, THANK YOU to everyone who helped put together this memorable group of events. More photos on our website: [www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net)



129 Cleveland Rd  
1st Place

## HALLOWEEN DÉCOR CONTEST WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of this year's Halloween Decorating Contest that was again sponsored by Able Plumbing. See photos of all the winners on our website ([www.floridagardens.net](http://www.floridagardens.net))

First Place - 129 Cleveland Rd

Second Place - 85 W Plumosa

Third Place - 139 W Mango

Honorable Mentions -

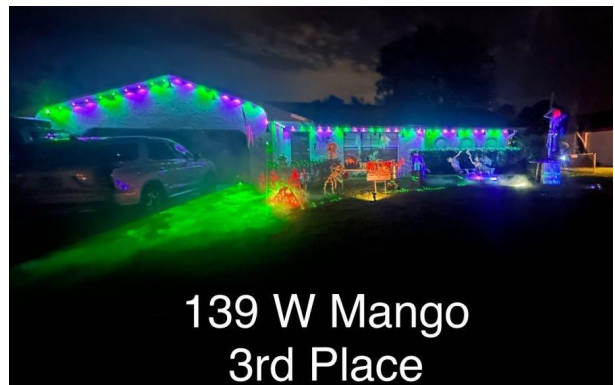
55 Rubber Tree

70 W Cypress

236 Ohio



85 W Plumosa  
2nd Place



139 W Mango  
3rd Place



# FLORIDA GARDENS CRIME REPORT

05/01/25 – 10/31/25

	AKRON	BARBERTON	CLEVELAND	CUYAHOGA	DAYTON	OHIO	PALMETTO	PLUMOSA	SPRINGDALE	NO STRE
	ARCH	CANTON	COCONUT	CYPRESS	MANGO	PALM	PINE TREE	RUBBER TREE	LK WORTH RD	
Abuse	1	1	1		1	1	1			
Alarm										15
Animal Call										1
Assault										2
Buisness/Res Check	7	2			1	3			2	
Burglary Vehicle										1
Civil Matter							1			1
Conduct Investigation	4				3	1				
Dead Person	1									
Disabled Vehicle						1				
Disturbance					1					1
Domestic		4		2			1	1	1	18
Embezzlement		1	1	1				1	2	
Fire										1
Fireworks					2					
Hit & Run										1
Information	1		1						1	2
Juvenile Trouble										1
Lost/Found Property				1					2	
Man Down										3
Mentally Disturbed Person									1	
Missing Person										2
Motor Vehicle Crash						1			2	2
Neighbor Trouble									3	
Noise		1	1	3	2	2			1	1
Obscene/Harassing Calls										1
Police Service Call	2	1			2	2	1	1		3
Problem Solving Misc										1
Resident Check								8		
Serving Civil Process	7				3	4	2	5	1	3
Serving Warrant									1	
Shots Fired		1								
Suspicious Incident						1	3		2	1
Suspicious Person	1	2							1	1
Stolen Tag						1				
Stolen Vehicle										1
Surveillance	1									
Theft	1					1				
Unwanted Guest	1									
Vandalism						1				1
Vehicle Stop			1						1	
Welfare Check		1	2		1					4
911 Hang Up										48

## **CLUBHOUSE RENTAL RATES FOR FLORIDA GARDENS RESIDENTS TO RISE IN 2026.**

Given that our annual resident contributions have failed to keep pace with rising operating costs, after discussions at the June Residents Meeting, a motion was made that we raise the rental rates for resident rentals (only). The vote by the full Board of Directors was nearly unanimous. The new rates will be \$400 on Saturday and \$350 on Sunday. Here is the justification:

For many years now, we have had a \$250 rate for Saturday and \$200 for Sunday rentals to Florida Gardens residents. With increasing expenses for maintenance and supplies, the replacement of the air conditioning system last year and deferred improvements like the needed kitchen renovation, we have little choice but to increase our basic Saturday and Sunday residents rental rates. We will keep the non-residents Saturday rate at \$1000.

The Saturday resident rental rate will increase to \$400 (from \$250), 8:00 am to 11:00 pm. The Sunday resident rate will increase to \$350 (up from \$200), 8:00 am to 8:00 pm. These rate increases begin 1/1/26 since all remaining dates are already booked through the end of the year. Rental rates to outside renters remain the same. Rentals for 2026 dates already under contract will not change.



### **CLUBHOUSE RENTAL INFO**

FOR INFORMATION ON RENTING THE CLUBHOUSE, FIRST VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT [floridagardens.net](http://floridagardens.net) AND CLICK ON THE CLUBHOUSE TAB. REVIEW THE INFORMATION AND THEN CALL TERRY AT **561-968-9970\*** TO SCHEDULE YOUR EVENT. **RESERVE EARLY - WE ALREADY HAVE DATES BOOKED WELL INTO 2026 !**

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

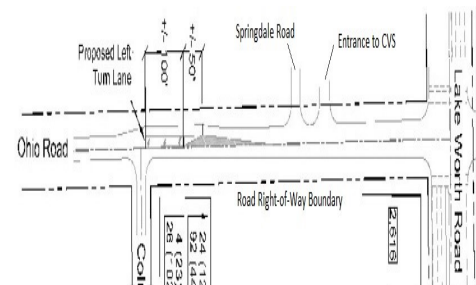


## **FLORIDA GARDENS ISSUES RELATED TO THE LUCERNE LAKES REDEVELOPEMENT :**

1. Believe it or not, after over 4 years since we negotiated with Mattamy Homes to finance and have installed two speed humps on Springdale, on September 24 they finally became a reality, putting an end to this saga !



1. The County-mandated left turn lane on Ohio Road southbound into Columbia Drive is a long way off. Mattamy paid the County \$166,384 over a year ago for the County to assume responsibility for the design and construction of the turn lane. As of this writing, County Engineering has still not finalized the design.





## **THIS IS THE FINAL FULL-FORMAT NEWSLETTER. QUARTERLY BULLETINS BEGIN IN JANUARY**

By Gary Oliwa

Back in May, I published an article titled "A PROPOSAL TO END THE PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER". In the article, I articulated the reasons why I felt it was time to transition the current 12-page publication to an ad-free digital only format which would be posted on our Website and also made available via the other social media platforms we use to disseminate neighborhood information (Nextdoor, Facebook and Instagram). Perhaps it was reflective of the limited number of residents who actually look at the Newsletter when they receive it, but I received absolutely no feedback, positive or negative, to the article. At the June Residents Meeting, the members of the Board of Directors who were present discussed the issue. The biggest concern raised was the fact that the distributed January and March issues were the main (actually only) vehicle by which information on how the essential annual residents financial contributions could be made. Those Newsletters contained a preaddressed envelope which could be used by residents who elected to make a contribution by check (which almost 70% of those 110 residents who did contribute used). There was also concern that without a distributed Newsletter, residents would not be made aware of the dates of the 3 main kids party events (at Easter, Halloween and Christmas). These concerns were offset by the amount of volunteer time and effort needed to generate the 12-page ad-driven Newsletter in its current form. At the September Residents Meeting, all these issues were again discussed and the following decisions were reached:

This November Newsletter is the final one in its current form unless there is someone else (or a group of people) willing to assume the involved task of its financing, generation and distribution. As mentioned in the May article, the cost of printing the current full-color, 12-page Newsletter is over \$1,000 for every issue, generated 5 times per year. Instead, we will generate and distribute a simple 4-page Bulletin beginning in January. This 4-page Bulletin will cost less than \$500. The January Bulletin will concentrate on our annual contribution drive which funds the neighborhood kids parties, the scholarships we award and the general operating expenses of the Association. We will still include a preaddressed envelope for mailing contributions for those who prefer that method. The remaining space will contain general neighborhood information. An expanded version of the bulletin will appear online. There will be no advertisements. A Bulletin in late March/early April will detail the planned Easter events, the status of the contributions received and other neighborhood news. Again, an expanded bulletin will appear online. The September Bulletin will detail the planned Halloween events and the November issue will list the planned Christmas events. We will try this for 2026 and assess its impact to determine if changes are necessary to achieve the desired goals.

I have voluntarily generated the content of the current Newsletter since 2018 and have agreed to shepherd this transition. I will still generate the content. Keegan Gwin has graciously taken over the distribution task of getting packets of the 2026 Bulletins to each of the Street Reps for them to distribute to the residents on their respective streets.



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Christmas Eve  
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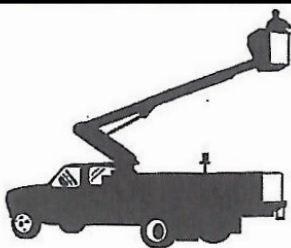
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