

The Seneca Gardens NEWSLETTER

Proud Member of the Jefferson County League of Cities

July, 2018

Meet Your Neighbors, Marlena & Lelan Woodmansee

How long have you lived in Seneca Gardens?

We moved here from Cleveland, Ohio in August, 1980. So, it's been a little over 37 years.

What was it about Seneca Gardens that caused you to choose your home?

We fell in love with the setting—it was as lovely then as it is now. We also liked the location. Seneca Gardens is close to everything!

What are your work or hobby interests?

Lelan retired two years ago from the Greater Louisville Medical Society where he served as their Executive Director for 35 years. Marlena is a psychologist, and continues to practice part-time, focusing primarily on child and family concerns. We love gardens—both trying to create one and touring gardens on vacation trips. We also love being with our grandchildren. They are the joy of our lives. We take care of Izabella two days a week while her parents work. Lelan is active in the downtown Rotary Club and serves on the board of Christian Care Communities. Most of all we enjoy just being together.

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If you have changes to your contact information, as it appears on the mailing label, notify us at info@senecagardens.com

A Neighborhood Arboretum, by Michael Hayman

Seneca Gardens is a Neighborhood Arboretum with more than 1,500 diverse trees planted in the last 30 years.

In 1987, a downburst destroyed 100 mature oaks and maples in our city. The following year, Mayor Jim MacDonald asked me to replace the fallen hardwoods. The City of Seneca Gardens subsidized new plantings and in 1988, we planted red oaks and red sunset maples. Later, we added ginkgos, sassafras, magnolias, beeches, black gums, poplars, oaks, and

others. Each year the collection broadened as I met other arborists around the country and obtained their unique trees.

Our collection of beautiful, unusual and sometimes rare trees continues to expand to this day. There are durable, unique and beautiful trees on each block of Seneca Gardens.

I'm happy to consult with Seneca Gardens residents about tree issues.

Contacts For Seneca Gardens

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From the Desk of Mayor Brown

Common Areas

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer! The rain has kept our lawns green and our flowers blooming. As Mother Nature continues to do her job, our neighborhood takes a beating. Heavy rains cause waterways to overflow into streets and yards. I want to assure everyone that we are continuously working on our common areas to improve aesthetics and also to prevent damage from overflowing creeks and waterways. We are moving slowly but surely on these improvements. The Board feels our waterways are a "signature feature" of Seneca Gardens and we will address all of them.

Our plan is to first repair all the walls throughout our city. After completing these restorations, a concrete bottom will be poured and smoothed to help prevent future deterioration. Our long-range landscape plan then calls for us to address the tops. They will be made level with the contour of the adjoining land, once again, to help prevent future deterioration.

Mayor James F. "Jim" MacDonald

Former Mayor Jim MacDonald passed away on May 9th at the age of 81. He served Seneca Gardens for 35 years. Heaven surely has a spot for a man like that. Please keep his loving wife Barbara and all his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Barking Dogs

While we are a pet friendly neighborhood, we must be considerate of our neighbors' desire for peace and quiet. Unfortunately, I've received several complaints over the past months about barking dogs. Thus, this article.

What are Seneca Gardens rules and regulations? Seneca Gardens ordinances align with Jefferson County's, as it pertains to a barking dog. My summary of those ordinances follows:

Dogs will bark and are allowed to do so. However, "Excessive/Continuous/Nonstop" barking is not allowed at any time, day or night. Owners should be extra sensitive to their dogs' barking during the early morning (any time before 8:30 AM)

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Mayor Brown

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and evenings (after 8:30 PM). Dog owners should also keep in mind a dog's bark can be heard from quite a distance. Complaints have come from next door neighbors, as well as neighbors one to two streets away.

If anyone has a problem with a neighbor's barking dog, please contact Strathmoor Village Police at (502) 432-8900 or strathmoorvillagepolice@gmail.com. Needless to say, it is very helpful if you can provide the address of the dog's owner. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (502) 664-7275 or at d.l.b.2547@gmail.com.



Seneca Gardens residents socialize with their canine friends

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Seneca Gardens Block Watch

The Seneca Gardens Block Watch exists to help keep our small city safe. We encourage neighbors to be aware of what is ordinary on their street and contact the police and Block Watch if anything seems “just not right” or if a crime has occurred or is in progress.

The Block Watch notifies Seneca Gardens residents via email when a crime has been attempted or committed in our city. If you would like to be added to this list, please email Jill Maurey at jwmaurey@gmail.com.

Tips for keeping our city safe

- Be aware of what is normal at your neighbors' homes (cars & people) without being too nosy.
- If you see a car, van or truck moving slowly, especially after dark with no lights, contact police.
- It's good to let neighbors know when you travel and what kind of activity to expect while away.
- Trust your intuition. The police are happier to check out a situation you feel funny about than responding to a crime already committed.
- Write down or photograph suspicious vehicles.

Contact Numbers

- For a crime in progress, call 911
- Strathmoor Village Police: (502) 432-8900 (We contract with this dept. for extra protection)
- Metro Police: (502) 574-7111 press 5 during message to be routed to dispatch (Report a suspicious person or vehicle)
- Nextdoor Highlands Douglas (nextdoor.com) is a great local resource for monitoring crime & safety.

***After notifying authorities of an incident, please also notify Jill Maurey via the email address above so an alert can be sent to all residents.*

5th Div. Council Crime Stats

Seneca Gardens is a safe place to live, but sometimes crime happens. If you'd like to keep up with crime in our area, here's the link to the 5th Division Council Crime Stats. The 5th Division includes Cherokee, Highlands, Seneca Parks and the Clifton neighborhoods.

1. Logon to <http://www.louisville-police.org>
2. Click the *LMPD Transparency* Tab at the top right
3. Click *Crime Mapping* in the drop-down menu
4. Click the *Crime Mapping Website* link
5. Next, type your address into the top left corner of the map, and it will show you all reported crime activity in the area around your home.

Woodmansee Profile

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Can you tell us a little about your family?

We have been married for 47 years and have two sons: Craig and David.

Craig has four incredible children and one step-daughter: Arwen (14); Harper (12); Violet and Lydia (both soon to be 10) and Izabella who is 19 months old. Craig and Dayna and the children live in Fern Creek. Craig has worked for the DooWop Shop for more years than we can count, doing everything from sales, to repairs, to installations. Dayna is a preschool teacher at the Waldorf School of Louisville.

David and Jessy have been married for two years—no children yet, but we are hopeful! David is the Chief Technology Officer of Oohology, a web design and marketing company that he and two partners founded. Jessy is working on a degree in photography and graphic design.

Harry, our Great Pyrenees/Shepherd mix canine family member turned 8 last March. He is our giant teddy bear!



Lelan and Marlena with their sons, David (L) and Craig (R)

What do you like most about Seneca Gardens?

It's a wonderful place to live. The setting is beautiful, and the residents take pride in their properties. Everyone is friendly—you can't pass someone on the street without receiving a warm greeting. We love being close to everything—let's face it, you can get anywhere in 15 minutes!

How has Seneca Gardens changed since you moved in?

When we moved here, we were the young couple with young children. We have become the grandparents with young families living all around us! That is exciting and shows how vibrant our community is. We don't notice major changes, just quality maintenance of what the Gardens was when we moved here. We attribute that to our residents, our board, and to the tireless efforts of Mike Hayman for preserving our garden setting.

Tell us about a neighbor who impacted your life?

There were three families who embraced and welcomed us when we first moved to Seneca Gardens.

Florence Koster lived at 2539 Trevilian, where Jim and Julie Morris now live. She and her housekeeper, Ms. Hallie, welcomed us and treated our young sons as though they were the greatest kids in the world. What parents wouldn't love that? Ms. Hallie is in her mid-nineties now, and we still keep in touch with her. Mr. and Mrs. Arch Carrell lived on the other side of us at 2543 Trevilian. They were our encouragers and helpers. Mr. and Mrs. George Crutcher lived at 2545 Trevilian, just two doors away. George and Arch were always free to give a rather young couple help when things weren't working. They were people we quickly grew to love and respect.

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Seneca Gardens
Annual Gathering
FREE Inflatables & Carriage Rides
Plantation House 2501 Denham Rd.
OCTOBER 14, 2018

ON SALE NOW!

NEW BOOK!

Bowman Field

By Charles W. Arrington
Arcadia Publishing
Images of Aviation

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To purchase, please contact Rick Tabb
502-445-2749 or ertabb@aol.com

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