

# The Seneca Gardens NEWSLETTER



Proud Member of the Jefferson County League of Cities

November, 2018

## Meet Your Neighbor, Steve Makk

### How long have you lived in Seneca Gardens?

I lived here for eighteen years, while I was growing up, then moved back eight years ago.

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

I love the location and convenience of living here. Like my neighbors, Jackie Gulbe and Peter Thurman, I moved into my parents' home where I grew up.

### What are your work or hobby interests?

I'm an orthopedic surgeon who focuses on hip and knee replacements. We have a farm where we enjoy spending free time there in our garden and orchard.

### Can you tell us a little about your family?

My wife Cheryl and I have a blended family with a total of 7 children between us.

*continued on page 3, "Steve Makk"*

### Commissioner Needed!

Seneca Gardens is searching for a new commissioner to join the board. If you are interested in this position and would like information on what the job entails, please contact Mayor Brown at (502) 664-7275.

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

## Save the date: Light Up Seneca Gardens! Sunday, November 25

Join us as we kick off the holiday season with *Light Up Seneca Gardens!* on Sunday, November 25th, at the corner of Seneca Valley Road and Trevilian Way.

We will have light snacks, desserts and hot coco, along with horse carriage rides and holiday carolers. Plus, a visit from SANTA CLAUS himself! Our festivities will begin at **4:00 pm**, we will light it up at dusk and wrap-up around **7:00 pm**. Bring the whole family and celebrate the holiday season with us!



## Contacts For Seneca Gardens

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**Engineer: Chris Crumpton**  
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## From the Desk of Mayor Brown

Please find the "2017 Independent Audit" (ALG-CL-5.2 Communication with Those Charged with Governance at the Conclusion of the Audit) insert from Charles J. Neeneman, CPA, PSC. The audit procedures require a response to the audit's findings. Below is the board's response.

### Road Fund Activity Should Be Clearly Indicated on the Monthly Financial Statements and KY Municipal Aid Deposits Should Be Made Into Road Fund Account

**Response:** \$18,055.00 - This transfer of funds occurred as a result of General Fund payments made on Seneca Gardens' (SG) entry way improvements. The improvements were later determined to be part of road maintenance and improvements. The improvements were later determined to be part of road maintenance and improvements: thus, the transfer/reimbursement.

\$601.28 - SG's accounting firm LT Roth handles the road fund deposits. This firm acknowledged this error and appropriate actions were taken.

### Compensating Tax Rate Should Be Calculated Each Year

**Response:** This increase was primarily due to the PVA's 2014 evaluation of homes within SG. Because of the downturn in property values from 2007 through 2014, the PVA did not perform such evaluations. The SG board did realize the increase in property tax revenues exceeded the 4% limit. SG did advertise a "Public Meeting". Attendees were told that if timely evaluations were done by the PVA through 2007-2014, the yearly increases would not have reached the 4% threshold. Attendees were advised that the board uses part of the property tax revenues to improve SG's infrastructure; thus, improving home resale values. As a result, attendees agreed not to lower tax rate.

*continued on page 3, "Mayor Brown"*

## Wet, But Fun - The Seneca Gardens Annual Gathering

On Sunday, October 14, we held our Seneca Gardens Annual Gathering under gloomy skies at the Plantation House on Denham Road. Though the day was cool and wet, we had a lot of fun.



From L: Steve Guenthner, Mayor David Brown, Steve & Laura Chalson



SG kids love Halloween!



Nora Taylor shows her face painting



Emily Burch never disappoints with her costume selections!



A little rain won't hurt us!

Did you miss our last newsletter? Visit [www.cityofsenecagardens.com](http://www.cityofsenecagardens.com) and click on NEWS and INFO-NEWSLETTERS on the far right-hand side of the page.

## Mayor Brown

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### Insurance Premium Taxes Should Be Reconciled To The Department of Insurance Report Annually

**Response:** Unbeknownst to auditor, SG uses an independent service, RVS, to track and verify the accuracy of the insurance premium tax collection. As suggested, SG will ask our contracted accounting firm to obtain the DOI's annual report. SG is also evaluating the FISCAL to CALENDAR year suggestion with contracted accounting firm.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (502) 664-7275 or [d.l.b.2547@gmail.com](mailto:d.l.b.2547@gmail.com).

### Call The Vacation Patrol!

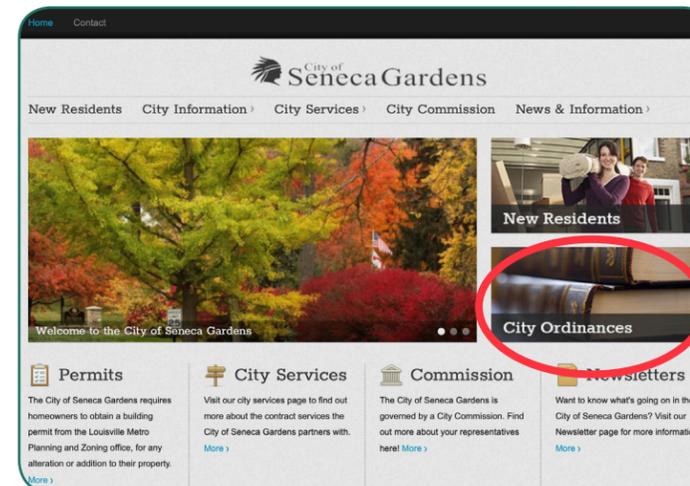
Planning a vacation? Give the fuzz a buzz. The Strathmoor Police Department will gladly stop by and check on your home while you are away.

There's no need to stop in or fill out a bunch of paperwork. Just give them a call at (502) 432-8900.

### Planning A Home Improvement?

Seneca Gardens is a beautiful neighborhood and we all work hard to maintain & improve our properties. It's definitely a never-ending process.

So, If you are looking to add-on to the exterior of your home or build a separate structure, please cross reference our neighborhood ordinances and have our neighborhood architect, Jason Hoppe, review your blueprints to ensure they follow the guidelines established by SG. Go to [CityOfSenecaGardens.com](http://CityOfSenecaGardens.com) and click on the "City Ordinances" button to learn more.



## Steve Makk Profile

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### What do you like most about Seneca Gardens?

I love the beauty, convenient location, and proximity to Seneca and Cherokee Parks.

### How has Seneca Gardens changed since you moved in?

The wonderful trees have matured. Arborist Mike Hayman has done a great job since I was a child, giving us this gift.

### What has remained the same about Seneca Gardens?

The architectural elements provide a timeless charm.

### Can you tell us about a neighbor who has made an impact on your life?

I met one of my very best lifelong friends when I was four years old and my parents were looking at the house, which they ultimately bought. He lived next door. Although he now lives in California, it's fun to text him pictures of his old bedroom window when we catch up on the phone!



Steve Makk(L), with Elise, Emily, Jack and wife Cheryl at the recent Seneca Gardens Gathering

## Your Pooch, Your Poop

We love our canine companions, who are a welcomed part of our neighborhood. Still, we need to be mindful of their natural bodily functions...especially when we take them for walks around Seneca Gardens.

If your pooch leaves a little present on someone's property, please be courteous and remove the waste and dispose of it in your own receptacle. It's not very neighborly to leave your dog's mess in someone else's trash can and let it fester all week long. Yuck! Remember - your pooch, your poop!



Be sure to like our "city of Seneca Gardens" Facebook page and keep up with what's going on.