



# The Seneca Gardens NEWSLETTER

Proud Member of the Jefferson County League of Cities

September, 2023



## Save the Date: Gardens Gathering

# gardens gathering

Mark your calendar for this can't-miss event:

**Gardens Gathering**  
**Sunday, October 8, 2023**  
**4:00 - 7:00 pm**  
**Trevilian Way**

**between Meadow Road & Valletta Road**

*Morris's Deli, Ehrler's Ice Cream, Hot Jive Stew  
Blues Band, Door Prizes & Children's Activities*

## Contacts For Seneca Gardens

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**Treasurer: Jason Sanders**  
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**Arborist: Mike Hayman**  
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**Architect: Gil Stein**  
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**City Attorney: Keith Larson**

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## Meet Your Neighbors, The Stones

### How long have you lived in Seneca Gardens

We moved here in February 2016, while Jena was 6-months pregnant with Barrett.

### What is something you love about it?

We love being able to walk or ride bikes to Lakeside or the parks, and also love all the mature trees in the neighborhood. Last year, we were able to sponsor



the addition of bike racks to both Cherokee and Big Rock (see plaque left) so that others have a place to park their bikes while visiting the parks as well!

### What is an improvement you would like to see in Seneca Gardens?

Sidewalks at the end of Valletta, where we live, would be a great addition. And while it's not quite inside Seneca Gardens, getting sidewalks down to Big Rock would be a huge improvement as well.

### Tell us about yourselves

Jena grew up around the corner on Woodbourne and is an accounting & finance professional for an insurance company. She has a passion for helping animals in need, and recently served on the board of the Kentucky Humane Society.

Matt grew up in southern Illinois, and is an app developer for a small local communications company. He absolutely loves riding bikes wherever he can safely go, and trains for short triathlons whenever he can find the time and energy.

Harper loves to sing and play volleyball at school, and can usually be found rollerskating endless laps around the living room and kitchen.

Barrett is a big soccer fan, and enjoys playing it every chance he gets. He's a ball of non-stop energy and never passes up an opportunity to run around and make new friends.

### Do you have any pets?

Our dog Ruby is an incredibly cute Boston Terrier / Mini Pinscher mix, and was adopted from Camp Hi-Ho in 2021. She enjoys couch snuggles, chasing squirrels, and jumping up to pull leaves off low hanging branches of trees.

### Do you have favorite restaurants nearby?

Our family really enjoys Havana Rumba and Shiraz, but Matt is the adventurous eater in the house. He takes every opportunity to try a new local restaurant.



Harper, Matt, Barrett & Jena Stone



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



## A Word From Our City Arborist, Mike Hayman

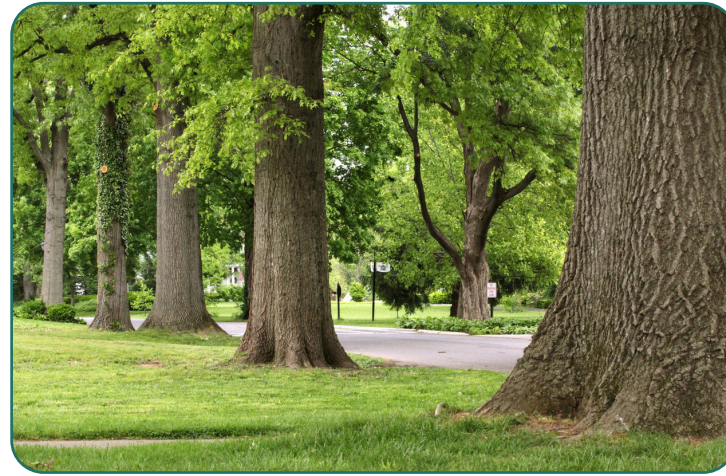
### Canopy Trees

There are trends in trees, just like clothes and cars. In recent years, nurseries are selling fewer large canopy trees and more decorative trees. The one week a year that those decorative trees flower makes a big impression and creates demand.

But canopy trees give Seneca Gardens a sense of stability and are the anchors of our Neighborhood Arboretum. They provide shade to cool our urban heat island, slow the runoff from large rains, and provide shelter and food for hundreds of animals up and down the ecological chain.

In our Seneca Gardens tree program, we have subsidized both for 30-years. Since there are fewer sites available for large trees, we support planting the big trees where there is enough air and root space and the small trees under or around the big trees.

Surprisingly, large trees take up less space at people height than small trees. A 50-year oak trimmed high



only uses only two feet of trunk space at people height, while a 50-year old dogwood - if it lives that long - uses 25 feet of your yard at people height.

This is not an argument to avoid decorative trees. We need both, but look for sites that support canopy trees first.

## Food Truck Fridays in Summer 2023, by Patty Anderson



Enjoying a perfect summer Friday, with friends and a food truck

On Friday, June 30th and Friday, August 18th approximately 125 people came out to sample items from several food trucks. Residents, family and friends enjoyed the camaraderie, food, and music.

Thanks to the Kessingers for the use of their tables, chairs, and music in June. Live music in August was by the J.Goldstein and the Gold Mine Canaries!

We were excited to have such good turn out and offer a variety of options for residents, friends and family. Trucks included Fistfull of Tacos, Boss Hog's Barbecue, Pivot Brewing, Big Mike's Ice, Monnik, 502 Café and Kona Ice.

Watch for info on next summer's Food Truck Friday in the Spring 2024 newsletter, website, and Facebook.

### What's Happening in Our City? Share & You May Win a Morris Deli Gift Card!

We want to hear from you and share the relationships you've made while living in the City of Seneca Gardens. Share a pic of you and another resident in Seneca Gardens. It can be a long time good friend, a new resident you recently met out walking or even a furry friend in the city.

**BONUS:** We will draw for 4 gift cards to Morris Deli, our local eatery, for all that submit a pic. Send pics to Seneca Gardens' Facebook messenger by 10/31. Winners and pics will be announced on Facebook.

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.

## Please Permit Me...

### Paving Project Complete

#### New Pavement

Milling and paving of streets has been completed. Thank you all for your patience as Seneca Gardens and Hall Contracting navigated through changing weather, plant breakdown, equipment breakdowns and hot weather.

This may be the largest project Seneca Gardens has undertaken since I became a resident 32 years ago. The streets have held up fairly well during that period, but it was time for a refresh. We were able to do this work using Seneca Gardens Road Fund monies that come from gas taxes supplemented by funds from the American Rescue Plan Act to get the work done without financing.

It may have seemed pretty chaotic at times, but there was a method to the madness. Efforts were made to pave in directions that would keep the asphalt loaded trucks off of the new pavement. At times I'm sure it seemed as though the effort were intending to block every path a driver could take.

Drivers waited patiently for openings, turned around when needed and slowly passed the workers when cleared to go. The contractor commented a number of times about the overall friendliness of Seneca Garden residents.

#### Speed Humps

Speed humps were restored in nearly the same locations as before with a few minor changes in location. One speed bump on Valletta Rd near Denham was removed as it was no longer seen as necessary the speed hump was installed prior to the stop sign at the intersection).

#### Meadow Road Patching

Meadow Road and various utility patches on the other streets were left in place to help save money on the overall project. Meadow Road was reviewed prior to the project start and deemed to be in reasonable shape. Patches were made on some of the MSD trench settlement areas to prolong the pavement life. We will keep an eye on Meadow and the other areas that were not paved to squeeze out the most value for all our residents.



Ted Niemann, P.E.  
City Engineer

### Clean-Up

We have asked the contractor to clean up excess asphalt that inadvertently spilled into the edge of yards, it is possible they may have missed some, if so, please scoop it up and dispose of it with your trash. For most public works paving jobs the spillage is left to be overtaken by mother nature in time, so we actually received better service from Hall Paving than most public agencies receive.

### New Stop Bars and Signs

New stop bars have been painted to be behind the sidewalk crossings that exist, a new sign configuration was installed at both Woodcreek Rd and Dell Road intersections with Valetta. The changes will hopefully provide a safer environment for the many pedestrians that use our sidewalks.

### Future Permits

With new pavement Seneca Gardens has a new look. Comments have been received that roads are smoother and look crisper. This brings to the forefront the need to protect the pavement as best we can. Some protection is in place with some recently adjusted ordinances that spell out more directly what work requires a permit, cost of permits and potential fines for non-compliance. Many of the changes spell out NO COST permits that are solely in place to help project our streets and sidewalks. Dumpster permits are one that is no cost, but could result in a fine for non-compliance.

## Welcome Our New Residents

We are happy to welcome the following new residents to Seneca Gardens. Be sure to say hello and make them feel part of our family. If you know a new resident or are one, please contact Patty Anderson at:

[senecagardenscommissionerpatty@gmail.com](mailto:senecagardenscommissionerpatty@gmail.com)

Summer Eliason and Peter Thurman, Jr.  
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