

Fairway Focus

Strengthening community, fostering communication

Fairway Estates Community Association (FECA) www.fairwayestates.org

Upcoming Events

The FECA Board requests anyone attending Board supported events to use safe health practices including distancing and appropriate PPE based on their circumstances. For event sponsorship and questions, contact Kelly Dixon at Events@FairwayEstates.org. Watch Facebook, NextDoor, email before events.

Fall Festival - October 24



Sunday, October 24th, 2-5pm at Lake Saundra Park. There will be kids' activities, a costume contest with prizes, food, and alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. A fall-themed photo booth sponsored by resident Whitney Kiehn will be available 3-4pm. Bring a spooky dish to share! The Chili + Cornbread Cook-Off is returning. Contact Todd and Michelle Brooks at Brooksto@pcsb.org for details and registration.

Neighborhood Yard Sale - November 6

Saturday, November 6th, 8am-3pm. General signage will be displayed and ads will be placed in the newspaper and free yard sale websites. Residents are encouraged to place signs as well. No permits required.

Holiday Festival - December 5



Sunday, December 5th, 2-5pm at Lake Saundra Park. Look forward to kids activities, food, refreshing alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks for all. Bring a holiday treat to share.

FEWC/Women's Social Events

The Fairway Estates Women's Club no longer requires a membership fee! However, annual donations are encouraged to support neighborhood initiatives that improve our community. Women residents can join at the [Facebook website](#). Flyers were recently distributed with future luncheon and happy hour dates. The Events Calendar on page 6 also lists dates. Watch Facebook and NextDoor for details.

Note from the President - Matthew Stevens

Hello friends & neighbors! Your newsletter team has been diligently working on an issue that I believe you'll find useful.

Covid continues to be challenging with all the physical and mental complications surrounding it. The Board does keep this in mind when conducting neighborhood business and asks you to remember safe health practices and respect for others' situations. With this in mind, we are reviving our fall/winter events: annual garage sale, the Fall Festival, Holiday Party, and the February annual meeting.

Not all of our events are planned and welcomed. A recent incident with the Sheriff/SWAT team should remind us to be aware of suspicious activity, look out for neighbors, and lock our vehicles and homes. The Board is again considering the initiation of a Neighborhood Watch program. Please reach out to a [Board member](#) if you are interested in being the liaison with the Sheriff's Office for the program. See more on page 2.

The Sheriff's office is actively reaching out to our neighborhood and a representative has attended a couple of our monthly Board meetings. Recently, they specifically asked for our help to curtail after hours and non-golf related use of the golf course grounds. The golf course is owned by the city and is closed at sunset. It is not open for strolling, dog walking, biking or short cuts.

We continue to work on projects to enhance our neighborhood. You may have noticed the poor condition of the Lake Saundra Park sign and supporting area. The Board gathered quotes for a new sign and will move forward with this project. Also, the City of Dunedin is planning infrastructure improvements of selected water mains in Fairway Estates. The city will inform residents of the project scope, details and timeline when more information is available later this fall. We plan on having a City/FECA town hall meeting when details are solidified.

Lastly, I hope everyone remembers civility when working and visiting with others. Please find time to decompress and appreciate our wonderful neighborhood and City. What did the FECA President tell the Board about the newsletter? Nailed it. (Board? Nail? We need to be able to laugh at dumb puns.)

Neighborhood Safety

Neighborhood Watch The Neighborhood Watch program operates on the concept that effective crime prevention requires cooperation between communities and law enforcement. Neighborhood Watch is a coalition of citizens who are concerned about the neighborhood where they live and are willing to become involved in the betterment of their community.

Please reach out to a [Board member](#) if you are interested in being the liaison with the Sheriff's Office for this program. <http://fairwayestates.org/officers-and-committees/>

The Sheriff sent us some tips that we can do today.

Speeders No neighbor or pet is a match for a vehicle going the allowed 25 mph speed limit or faster. Please drive with your neighbors' safety in mind.

Todd Brooks will continue to send speeder information, provided by you, to the Sheriff. Please send an email reporting the time, day of the week, and street location, to ReportBadDriving@FairwayEstates.org and Todd will send them to the Sheriff for follow up.

Walkers and bikers Dark mornings, early sunsets, no sidewalks, and speeding are a dangerous combination. Walkers, bikers, and drivers must ALL be extra careful to prevent accidents.



*Walk *facing* traffic. Bike *with* traffic. (Its the law.)

*At dusk and later, carry a light and wear reflective clothing so you can be seen.

*Don't focus on your cell phone while walking or riding on the street.



Neighbors Your neighbors are the most aware of your typical activities and notice when something doesn't look right. If you don't know your neighbors, this is a great excuse to introduce yourself.

*Get to know your neighbors.

*Tell your neighbors when you leave town.

*If you see something odd, call the Pinellas County Sheriff via 911 or the Sheriff's north station at 727-582-6200.

Vacation If your neighbors are not available when you are out of town, you can call the Sheriff's office to do house checks until you return. Call 727-582-6177 to set this up.

Break-ins We don't have many break-ins, but when they do occur, they tend to be opportunistic.

*Keep your garage door closed when you are not in or around it.

*Do not put valuable items in your vehicle.

*Keep your vehicle locked.

Golf Course Despite the park-like setting, Deputy Terrance Fallahee noted to the Board recently that the golf course is open only during daylight, and only for golfing. It is not a park, and is not available for dog walking, bicycling or skateboarding along the golf cart trails.

Only golf carts actively used for playing golf are allowed. This is to protect the public and the course since golf balls easily reach 50 - 100 mph, and the course is easily damaged by traffic, especially after rains.

Crime reports Pinellas County tracks all crimes by address on their website: the [Pinellas County Crime Viewer](#). You can get notifications directly from the site to your email. www.pinellascounty.org/crimeviewer/



Welcome New Neighbors

Dania Batista & Alberto Perez	2233 Snead Ave.
Isabele Botello	2359 Middlecoff Dr.
Lorraine & Larry Burleson	2327 Middlecoff Dr.
Nicole Buskirk & Tiffany Williams	1150 Fairway Dr.
Kelsey Champion & Anthony Delaura	2388 Jones Dr.
Hae Nee Lee & Isaiah Chang	2397 Watrous Dr.
MaryBeth & Robert Deer	1419 Hagen Ave.
Margaret & Thomas Jones	2370 Jones Dr.
Nancy Lucas	2352 Mangrum Dr.
Stephen Menke	2390 Harrison Dr.
Lynn Marie Rancourt & Howard Cheney	1498 Fairway Dr.
Rita & Norman Williams	2319 Middlecoff Dr.

Neighbor Spotlight: Bobby Johnson



We have a sports endurance athlete living amongst us. He is Bobby Johnson on Watrous Dr.

Bobby and his team, Mile Marker 0 or Mmzero, won first place - beating the speed record held for eighteen years - in the grueling Mississippi 2320.

As the name suggests, the race requires paddling 2320 miles down the dangerous Mississippi. Just imagine three men (two over the age of 60) and one 20 year old woman in a 23 foot canoe, rowing in shifts (three rowing nine hours while one sleeps for three) while maneuvering through barges and ships, weathering storms, and watching wolves howling on the shore.

Bobby found his passion when he discovered “ultra-distance paddling” five years ago when, as a novice, he experienced the thrill of paddling a fast kayak.

Bobby moved to Fairway Estates in 2012 from Clearwater where he was born and raised and owns a car dealership. Bobby and his wife knew of Fairway Estates and decided to move after falling in love with their house. Bobby’s wife Kerri and their ten year old daughter travel to some races to show their support.

Bobby’s first race was the Everglades Challenge; 300 miles from Fort Desoto to Key Largo. He had to carry everything he needed in his kayak for the five days it took to finish. He came in fourth out of 100 racers and has paddled this race four more times, becoming more proficient each time. His last race took only three days.

Another demanding race Bobby has competed in twice is the Great Alabama 650. This tough event is a 650-mile haul through the Alabama Scenic River Trail to the Gulf of Mexico. Competitors face dams, sleepless nights, sometimes 100 degree heat and encounters with gators. Bobby won first in his class for his second time in this race.

It’s not all hard work though. Bobby loves bantering back and forth with other paddlers, seeing interesting sights like a bald eagle catching and eating its fish and the amazing black night sky glittering with stars.

Bobby tests his strength and mental fortitude each time he races. As he says, “I want to quit but I can’t. I want to find out what I’m made of.” He just finished the Great Alabama 650 again in Sept. And guess what? He had another great race. He finished second overall with a time of four days and 22 hours. Way to go, Bobby!

Golf Club Continues Dinner Drawing

FreeDinnerDrawing

The monthly “FREE” dinner drawing for Fairway Estates residents continues through December. Stop by the club and fill out an entry form to win a dinner for two!

New Fall Menu

A new fall-inspired menu will be launched mid-

October and will include some of the club’s favorites.



Thursday, October 28th is a special dining evening at the club. On this “Throwback Thursday,” an iconic dinner featuring The Kapok Tree Inn favorites will be served. Select from fried chicken, stuffed flounder, coconut shrimp and a beef entrée. Peppermint stick ice cream with hot fudge sauce for dessert will delight the palate. Reservations are a must and, to date, there are already fifty coming as this event was recently advertised in Tampa Bay Magazine!

Holiday Meals

On Thanksgiving the club will be offering their traditional buffet along with a “to go” option. The club will be closed at 4:00pm so staff can enjoy dinner with their families. Prices and serving times will be available soon and reservations are required. The club will be closed at 3:00pm on Christmas Eve and all day on Christmas.

Event Plans

If you need a location for a small or large event for family or work, please contact the club. Accommodations for 20 to 200 are available with a full array of delicious foods, drinks, and great service. Please note that December is filling up fast!

Please visit www.dunedingolfclub.com to locate golf specials, calendars, and menus. Call 727-733-2134 for reservations.

Thank you to Fairway Estates members who recently paid

Rafael Bona	Frani Melda
Emily & Alex Buric	Chris & Rudy Michalek
Jennifer Coll & Kevin Frink	Brenda & Terry Saturday
Gina & Brian Day	Barbara & David Sloan
Jay & Harold Good	Ragnheidur Stefansdottir & Luther Gudjon

Alligator Safety

Alligators inhabit all 67 Florida counties so it is no surprise that Lake Sandra is now the residence of a three-foot alligator. Serious injuries caused by alligators are rare in Florida but they can happen. Below are guidelines to follow to ensure the safety of all.

- Watch for alligators when near any water. Alligators are most active between dusk and dawn.



- Closely supervise children when around water. Tell them the alligator safety guidelines.
- Do not allow pets to swim, exercise or drink in or near waters with alligators. Dogs resemble the natural prey of alligators and barking dogs may attract an alligator.

• Never feed or entice alligators – *it is dangerous and illegal*. When fed, alligators overcome their natural wariness and associate people with food. State law prohibits killing, harassing or possessing alligators except under permit. The penalty is a \$500 fine and/or 60 days in jail.

- Dispose of fish scraps in garbage cans – do not throw them in the water.
- Observe and photograph alligators from a safe distance.
- Never remove an alligator from its natural habitat or accept one as a pet. It is illegal. Handling even small alligators can result in injury.
- If an alligator bites you, fight back and provide as much noise and resistance as possible. Hitting the alligator or poking it in its eyes may cause it to release its grip.
- Seek immediate medical attention if bitten by an alligator to avoid infection.
- If you encounter an alligator that is believed to pose a threat to people, pets or property, call the FWC's Nuisance Alligator Hotline, toll-free at 1-866-FWC-GATOR (392-4286).

The FWC contracts with alligator trappers to remove alligators four feet in length or greater that are believed to pose a threat. Be aware that captured alligators are always euthanized. For more information, go to the [Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission](http://www.floridafishandwildlife.com) website.

Alligator Fun Facts

- Alligators can consume a quarter of their weight in one meal.
- An alligator's stomach can dissolve bones.



- Alligators are toothy. They have up to 80 teeth that fall out and are replaced. An alligator can go through over 2,000 teeth in its lifetime.
- Male American alligators average 8 to 10 feet long, while females tend to be slightly smaller. Very old males can get quite large, up to 15 feet long and weighing over 1000 pounds.
- They can use tools. They balance sticks and branches on their heads, attracting birds looking for nesting material.
- Alligators create small ponds known as alligator holes that retain water during the dry season and provide habitats for other animals.
- Female alligators are devoted moms that protect their young for up to a year.
- Their sex is determined by temperature. Eggs exposed to temperatures above 93°F (34 °C) become males, while those at 86 °F (30 °C) become females.
- Alligator courtship is sophisticated. Males bellow to attract females. Other courtship rituals include head-slapping on the water's surface, snout and back rubbing, and blowing bubbles.

Pet Safety and Etiquette

We love our pets at Fairway Estates! Their safety is our priority, as is respect for our neighbors. City of Dunedin ordinances help keep pets safe and neighbors happy.



Remember to clean up after your pet, each and every time. Keep your animal on a leash when on public property. And make sure your pet is not disturbing neighbors with noise or offensive odor (one can only imagine how that ordinance was discussed!).

The city does have up to \$500 fine for each violation. If you want more details, here they are: [Animal Control Ordinances](#)

Beautification Updates

Fall Yard of Season Awards



Ed and Rita Kelb, 2356 Watrous Drive, were awarded 2021 Fall Yard of the Season for their well-maintained yard. Rita and Ed have

done their own landscaping since moving here over 6 years ago. Coming from Dayton, Ohio, they have learned Florida growing techniques by trial and error, getting ideas from other yards. Their favorite plants are their native and tropical milkweeds that attract beautiful monarch butterflies. When you drive by, notice the little angel on the front porch that is in remembrance of their grandson Carter.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Steve and Cindy Pettinger, 2230 Demaret Dr, and for a second time, Ron and Karen Bowen, 2121 Mangrum Dr.



The Pettingers relocated here in 2019 from northwest Arkansas. Steve works for WalMart and is able to work from their completely renovated home.

As part of the renovation process, they hired Lucas Landscaping and Design for hardscape and plantings. The plants you will see include African Iris, Triple Foxtail palms, Pygmy Date palms, Blue Day flowering shrubs, Pink Indian Hawthorne and Clusia shrubs.



The Bowens, originally from Michigan, have lived in Florida 20 years. Ron's love of golf helped draw them to Fairway Estates almost 2 years ago. In that time, they have almost completely replanted their yard, concentrating on using non-invasive tropical and Florida native pollinator plants. More butterflies and bees!

Summer Yard of the Season Awards



Ron and Elaine Tucker, 2351 Middlecoff Dr, built their home on the last undeveloped Fairway Estates lot in 1999. They designed the home around a large old oak tree in the front yard. The day

after the foundation was poured, lightning struck the tree and it had to be removed. Ron, a Florida native, adapted his landscaping to this change and personally planted everything you see. He regularly changes out his front planting beds, but only when he's not playing golf.

Honorable Mentions were awarded to Elana Parker, 2310 Jones Dr, and Ron and Karen Bowen, 2121 Mangrum.

Elana loves working on her yard, and thinks she got this from her parents who were passionate gardeners. Elana moved to Fairway Estates about two years ago



and she has explored yard and planter flowering plants and bushes since. Her sunny yard includes low growing Emerald Blanket Carissa, colorful Vinca, Pentas, Irises, Silver Buttonwood and Crotons. Elana enjoys ideas, encouragement, and the occasional hand from her neighbors.

Yard of Season Logistics

Our neighborhood Yard of the Season (YOS) and Season Honorable Mentions are presented four times a year: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Holiday in December. Recognition is made to active FECA homeowners whose property is especially well-maintained, or very holiday-spirited for the Holiday award. A homeowner can be awarded YOS only once, but Honorable Mentions have no limits. If a YOS winning home is sold, it can be considered for YOS again. The Holiday award is open to all FECA homeowners, including YOS winners.

Let's Get Growing by Rebecca Wellborn

Create Your Own Rain Garden

Most of us have gutters to catch and divert rainwater away from our home's foundations and walkways. Typically, the rainwater ends up in the stormwater drains, along the way picking up residue from fertilizers, pest control, oil and fuel leaks. But what if you could capture that rainwater in your yard to create a habitat for wetland plants, birds and butterflies? You can...and it's easier than you might think.

I recently added a mini-rain garden to my front yard, in an area where my St. Augustine lawn was constantly stressed by foot traffic, weeds and not enough irrigation. A gutter ran along the roof line in front of the garage door, with a downspout into a bed of shrubs. I decided to move the downspout to the opposite end of the gutter, where it could be diverted into the rain garden instead.



There are several ways to construct a rain garden, but I chose to use an inexpensive 5 foot diameter round kiddie pool as my underground basin, and pipe the water from the downspout into the basin using flexible pipe created

specifically for this purpose with a fitting designed to connect to a downspout. I cut a hole in the side of the kiddie pool basin just large enough for the pipe to fit through, then terminated the pipe in the center of the basin with a pop-up outlet from the same kit. I perforated the bottom of the pipe section inside the basin to allow the water to drain all the way out of the pipe in light rain. Home Depot sells all the materials.



If you have a question about my rain garden or suggestions for future gardening articles, you can reach out to me

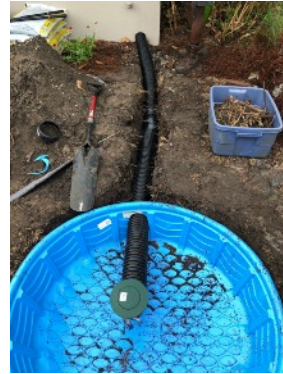
FairwayGardener@gmail.com.

For more information about rain gardens visit <https://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/design/types-of-gardens/rain-gardens.html>

Here are the steps I followed:

Relocate the downspout to the opposite end of the gutter, adjacent to the proposed rain garden. (You may need help with this).

Remove the grass, leaving an area of soil large enough for the 5' basin and 4 to 5' of landscaping around it.



Basin with pipe, pop-up outlet

Dig out a hole large enough to bury the basin a few inches below the surface. Dig a trench from the downspout to the basin to bury the pipe. Run the pipe from the downspout through the hole in the side of the basin. Install the pop-up outlet.

Fill the basin with a mixture of existing soil, compost and playground sand, creating a berm



Pipe attached to downspout

around the edge to prevent water from running out. I wanted the soil mixture to be rich, but drain quickly to capture and hold the water in heavy rain.

I Installed Florida native wetland plants including Pineland Hibiscus, Cardinal Flower, Water Hyssop, Water Dropwort and Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias perennis*) and mulched with pine straw.

The rabbits promptly ate the Pineland Hibiscus and Water Hyssop down to the ground (they love expensive hard-to-find native plants), but the other plants have flourished with all the rain this summer. The Cardinal Flower is just starting to bloom and is a huge hummingbird attractor.

The milkweed supports the Monarch butterflies to lay their caterpillar larva eggs. During dry spells the rain garden will receive irrigation twice a week with reclaimed water, but has survived on rainwater so far this summer.



New Lake Saundra Sign by Ed Kelb

The Florida sun, rain and ocean salt that we love in our small slice of paradise does take a toll on signs and related electrical hardware.



At the 2019 Fairway Estates Annual Meeting, residents voted on new signs to be placed at the entranceways of our beautiful neighborhood. We applied for and received City grant funds to offset some of the cost and the new entranceway signs were installed in March 2020. The Board elected to defer replacing the deteriorating sign at Lake Saundra until a later date to minimize our annual expenditures.

The time has come to replace the Lake Saundra Park sign as we are seeing significant deterioration in both the sign and the electrical outlet installed at the park.

The new park sign design will be consistent with the new entranceway signs (font, coloring, design, etc.). As we did with the entranceway signs, supplemental City grant funds have been obtained to reduce the cost to our residents. We have started the repair work on the electrical outlet. We anticipate the sign replacement to be completed prior to the 2022 Annual Resident Meeting.

Lake Saundra Park is one of the gems that makes Fairway Estates so desirable. The Board intends to ensure it remains the beautiful centerpiece of our amazing neighborhood. We'll keep you posted on the progress!



Showing deteriorated sign and electrical outlet

Summer Food Truck Fun

Christmas in July neighbor get together with appropriate festive wear!



We Were Busy This Summer



The Mills kids earning their outdoor movie screen



Diane Kerfeld and Tom visiting friends on Chagrin River near Cleveland



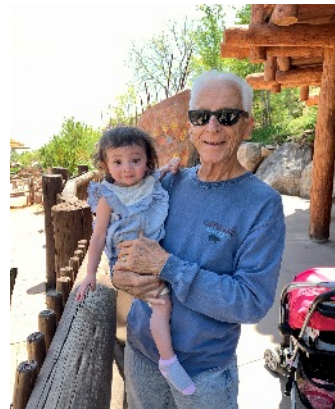
Laura Westley and fiance Joe Musco at Kaya Winery, Dahlonega, GA



Collin and Jack McKay working it with their lemonade stand



Kara and Neal Phillips in Cancun



Frank Makowski meeting granddaughter, Ronin, for the first time in Colorado.



Kelly Dixon picks up our 2nd place award for Dunedin Cares Food Pantry PBJ contest



Rebecca Wellborn on Schooner Clearwater



50th anniversary Bill and Cathy Greenwood



Fairway Estates Ladies Club on Dolphin Cruise, Clearwater

**Fairway Estates
Community Association
PO Box 563
Dunedin, FL 34697**



If you are getting this Newsletter in the mail, we don't have an email address for you. Catch more photos of neighborhood happenings in the online newsletter: Fairway Estates website.

Upcoming Events (check venues for updates)

Oct.-May	Sunset Stroll at 821 Victoria Dr. 2nd Fri of month, 5:30pm
Oct.-May	Downtown Walking Tour, 3rd Fri of month, History Museum, 10am
Sept. 30	Halloween Silent Movie, Andrews Memorial Chapel, \$20, 8pm-10pm
Oct. 19 Dec. 14	Fairway Estates Women's Club Luncheons, Dunedin Golf Club, 11:30am-1pm
Oct. 23	Haunted Hammock Park Hike 7:30pm-9:30pm
Oct. 23	The Great Pumpkin Drive Thru Highlander Park, 10am-1pm
Oct. 24	FECA Fall Festival, Lake Saundra Park, 2pm-5pm
Oct. 26 Oct. 28	History Museum Tiki Bus Ghost Tour, 7pm-9m, \$25, call History Museum for details
Oct. 29	Dunedin Downtown Treat or Treat 5pm-8pm
Nov. 6	FECA Neighborhood Garage Sale, 8am-3pm

Nov. 6-7	Art Harvest, Highlander Park 10am-5pm
Nov. 9 Dec. 14 Jan. 19	Fairway Estates Ladies Socials Dunedin Golf Club, 6-8pm
Nov. 10 Dec. 8 Jan. 12	FECA HOA Board Meeting Dunedin Golf Club, 6:30pm
Nov. 13	Dunedin Wines the Blues Downtown, 2pm-10pm
Nov. 20	Celtic Music/Craft Beer Festivql Highlander Park, 10am-6pm
Nov. 20-21	Dunedin Arts & Crafts Festival Downtown, 10am-5pm
Dec. 4	Dunedin Holiday Boat Parade and Tree Lighting, Marina, 6pm-9pm
Dec. 5	FECA Holiday Party, Lake Saundra Park, 2pm-5pm
Dec. 11	Old-Fashioned Christmas and Holiday Parade, Downtown Dunedin, 4pm-9pm
Dec. 16-20	Dunedin Express, call Dunedin History Museum for details