



A Community for All Ages

Updates from Kathy

This month we join in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons on October 1st!

The theme for the event is Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – which recognizes the reciprocal impact of the environment on aging persons. We too recognize the importance of our homes and community - and all that it means to us!



A no-step entrance, covered entryway and one-story living helps make this home age-friendly.

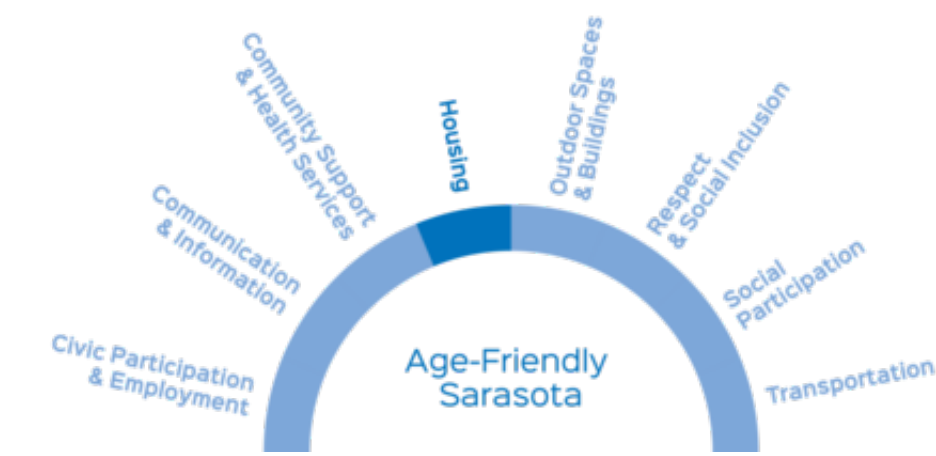
Home is certainly extremely important to us - and becomes even more important as we age. Research consistently reports that people overwhelmingly want to stay in their homes and communities for as long as possible, yet many will need assistance or require alternative living arrangements to best meet their needs or preferences.

Have you considered the following:

- Your future self in terms of your health conditions and how that might impact your independence and mobility?
- Your goals for remaining healthy, mobile and independent in the upcoming years?
- The living arrangement you would like to have and how you will manage your home?

You can learn more about your aspirations for the future and help us better understand the housing preferences of our community by sharing your thoughts in our survey. Click [here](#) to take the survey.

- Kathy Black, Age-Friendly Sarasota Initiative Consultant



Domain of Livability: Housing

Age-friendly communities recognize the importance of housing. Although many of us prefer living independently in our own homes as we age, doing so will only be possible if a house is designed or modified for aging in place via principles of universal design (see side bar for more things to know about universal design). Age-friendly communities also include housing options for varying life stages and price points. Nationally and globally innovations in housing are emerging that provide considerable benefits to enhance wellbeing and economic status as well.

Age-Friendly Innovation

Housing
The City of Portland, Oregon has brought age-friendly concepts into its city planning process. The city is prioritizing new accessible housing in close proximity to "neighborhood hubs" where existing services, transit, and amenities make it easier for people to live independently.

The Hong Kong Housing Society set up the Elderly Resource Center to promote the concept of aging in place. The resource center and website offers education, training, assessment and advice on age-friendly housing design to improve the quality of life for older Hong Kong residents.

Celebrating Age-Friendly Sarasota

Universal Design Coalition (UDC)

The **Universal Design Coalition (UDC)** advocates Universal Design concepts and use in our community and beyond. The UDC is a local group of professionals including architects, builders, remodelers, product representatives, health professionals, realtors, designers, lifestyle consultants and property managers. Their goal is to educate the public on the beneficial aspects of Universal Design – connecting all age groups with accessible housing options. The UDC meets on a monthly basis at the Center for Arts and Humanity in Sarasota.

Contact Larry Hale, Chair, for more information: larry@hale-edwards.com.

Upcoming Events

Sarasota Farmers Market

Age-Friendly Sarasota will have an informational booth at the following Sarasota Farmers Markets:

- Saturday, October 17 from 8:00am-12:30pm
- Saturday, October 31 from 8:00am-12:30pm



Stop by to learn more about the age-friendly journey, pick up a paper survey or drop off your completed paper survey. We look forward to seeing you there!



Conversation on Housing with Author Beth Baker

Please join us for a conversation on housing options, community and aging with **Beth Baker**, author of *With a Little Help from Our Friends: Creating Community as We Grow Older*, on Tuesday, October 20 at 3:00-4:30pm at Selby Auditorium at USESM, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail.

The event is free but you must register to attend. Click [here](#) to register.

Join one of our October Focus Groups

Enjoy a complimentary lunch while you share your thoughts with Age-Friendly Sarasota. If you are 50 years or older and a resident of Sarasota County, we invite you to participate in one of our October Focus Groups held at Sarasota County Libraries.

Registration is required due to limited seating. To register, send an email to info@AgeFriendlySarasota.org.

Click [here](#) for a list of times and locations for the upcoming Focus Groups.

Did You Know...

Here are the top ten things to know about Universal Design (UD)!

Universal Design...

- 1: Strives to improve the original design concept by making it more inclusive
- 2: Products can have a high aesthetic value
- 3: Is much more than just a new design trend
- 4: Does not aim to replace the design of products targeted at specific markets
- 5: Is not a synonym for compliance with accessible design standards
- 6: Benefits more people than older people and people with disabilities
- 7: Can be undertaken by any designer, not just the specialists
- 8: Should be integrated throughout the design process
- 9: Is not just about "one size fits all"
- 10: Products are the goal; Universal Design is the process

SOURCE: [National Disability Authority's Centre for Excellence in Universal Design](#)



Get Connected

Provide us with your feedback about housing and more! Take our survey! You can access our survey by clicking [here](#) or via our [website](#).

Please be sure to click "DONE" at the end of the survey! Also note that the survey will take at least 20-30 minutes or more – so please allot enough time.

Surveys (paper and online) are available at all [Sarasota County Libraries](#).

Submit Ideas

Have an upcoming event or program related to making Sarasota County age-friendly that you want to share with the Age-Friendly Sarasota network through this newsletter? Please share by sending to:

Erika Kelly
ekellytpe@gmail.com

Connect

#AgeFriendly
@AgeFriendlySRQ
AFS Facebook Page
AFS Website
Newsletter Sign Up



Universal Design

-- a phrase coined by American architect Ronald Mace in the 1980s -- is the design of products and environments to be useable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptations or specialized design.

- Lisa Higgins

Supported by



Age-Friendly Sarasota Partners



Member of the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-friendly Cities and Communities

For questions, please contact info@AgeFriendlySarasota.org or call us at (941) 444-0243

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

[View this email online.](#)

2 N. Tamiami Trail Suite 206
Sarasota, FL | 34236 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.