



WINTER HAVEN
The Chain of Lakes City
News Splash!

Don't miss the
Central Park Art
Festival.
March 16 & 17

City of Winter Haven City Manager's Office dsheehan@mywinterhaven.com Visit www.mywinterhaven.com "Like" us on Facebook Follow mywinterhaven on Twitter

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City of Winter Haven News Splash E-Newsletter

March 1 - 31, 2019

Explore the City's website at <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/>

Click for updates on the many new projects under construction in Winter Haven.

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/government/community-projects/>

SNAPSHOT OF UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE WINTER HAVEN AREA:

- March 1 **Light Up the Night 5K and Community Celebration!** 7 p.m. – 5K
Downtown Central Park; 7- 10 p.m. Party and Food Truck Rally at Grove Roots. To register and more info: <http://jlgwh.org/lightupthenight>
- Mar. 1 First Friday Music (Central Park, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/first-friday-music-5/>
- Mar. 1 Light Up the Night (BB&T Bank, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/light-up-the-night-5k/>
- Mar. 2 Hot Rods and Hot Dogs, Lake Ship Baptist Church,; 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 293-9572
- Mar. 2 1st Saturday Community Fest (Ave. A SW, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/the-gathering-goose-2019/>
- Mar. 2 Crusin' (Central & South Central Park, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cruisin-winter-haven-3/>
- Mar. 2 2nd Saturday Market (Central Park, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/2nd-saturday-market-2019/>
- Mar. 2-3 Tennis Pro/AM (Tennis Center, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
- Mar. 6 Senior Center Dedication Ceremony (Senior Adult Center, 10:00 a.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/senior-adult-fitness-area-dedication/>
- Mar. 8 Praise in the Park (Central Park, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/praise-in-the-park/>
- Mar. 9 Community Fest (Central & South Central Park, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/community-fest/>
- Mar. 9 WHPD Special Olympics 5K (Virginia Miller Park, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/winter-haven-police-departments-5k-benefitting-special-olympics-florida/>
- Mar. 9 Lake Shipp Tournament (W.G. Roe, 6:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/lake-shipp-tournament-2/>
- Mar. 10 Cycling Classic (Downtown Winter Haven, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)
https://www.mywinterhaven.com/?post_type=tribe_events&p=19940&preview=true
- Mar. 15 Dulcimer (Central Park., 5:30 -7:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/dulcimers-in-the-park/>

- Mar. 16 St. Patricks Day Street Celebration (Central Ave, 4:00 – 11:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/st-patricks-day-street-celebration/>
- Mar. 16 Pamper Me Pretty (WHRCC, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
https://www.mywinterhaven.com/?post_type=tribe_events&p=19945&preview=true
- Mar. 16 Cypress Gardens Water Ski Show (MLK Park, 5:00 p.m.)
- Mar. 16 -17 Central Park Art Festival (Central & South Central Park, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
https://www.mywinterhaven.com/?post_type=tribe_events&p=19947&preview=true
- Mar. 17 FBN Pro/Am (Lake Shipp Park, 6:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
https://www.mywinterhaven.com/?post_type=tribe_events&p=19949&preview=true
- Mar. 22 Jug Brother Band (Central Park, 6:30 -8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/jug-brothers-band-in-central-park/>
- Mar. 23 4th Saturday Market (Central Park, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/4th-saturday-market-2019/>
- Mar. 23 Beat of Unity (WHRCC, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/beat-of-unity/>
- Mar. 23 All American Ski Tournament (MLK Park, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cypress-gardens-all-american-water-ski-tournament/>
- Mar. 29 -31 Cardinal Flyers Fly –In (WH Airport, 3:00 – 7:00 p.m.)
- Mar. 29 James & John Songs (Central Park, 6:30 -8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/james-john-songs/>
- Mar. 30 Fat Man Frank (Central Park, 6:30 -8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/fat-man-franks/>

Going to a downtown event? All-day parking is free in the Parking Garage on Avenue A NW.

Please go to www.mywinterhaven.com or call Parks, Recreation and Culture at (863) 291-5656 for more information regarding any of the events below.

Chain of Lakes Fieldhouse and Conference Center Now Under Construction

Located on the Chain O’ Lakes Complex property at 210 Cypress Gardens Boulevard, this iconic facility will become a distinguishing landmark at this primary gateway to the City. This first phase of the project is expected to open in November of 2019, and will focus on the new Field House/Conference Center with multi-court athletic and convention space. The existing Chain O’ Lakes Complex will undergo an extensive renovation with a greater focus on performing arts, banquet facilities, and aquatics.



Please call the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department at 291-5656 for further information. Interested in more information about the **Chain of Lake Fieldhouse** upgrades and improvements? Click the link to learn more and to see what it will look like! <http://straughntrout.com/portfolio/winter-haven-fieldhouse/>

CITY COMMISSION - Contact information:

Mayor Brad Dantzler	863-289-9947	bdantzler@mywinterhaven.com
Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Birdsong	863-289-9813	nbirdsong@mywinterhaven.com
Commissioner Pete Chichetto	863-289-2794	pmchichetto@mywinterhaven.com
Commissioner James “JP” Powell	863-308-2464	jppowell@mywinterhaven.com
Commissioner William Twyford	863-307-2291	wtwyford@mywinterhaven.com

City Manager Mike Herr

mherr@mywinterhaven.com

Assistant City Manager Michael Stavres

mstavres@mywinterhaven.com

CITY CLERK - Vanessa Castillo, 291-5600

- **City Commission Agenda Review Sessions** – Held Wednesday's the week prior to the City Commission meeting (March 20) at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall. (The March 6 session is cancelled.)
- **City Commission Regular Meetings** – Monday, March 25 at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT – Heather Reuter, 291-5600

- The **Capital Projects Report** is available at:
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/government/community-projects/>
- Have site plan questions? Call the Planning Office 291.5600.
- The **Business Tax Receipt (BTR)** office is at is 490 3rd St. NW across from City Hall. Call to Pat Johnson at 863.291.5695 or go to: http://www.mywinterhaven.com/building_tax_receipt.htm.

Engineering Services Division Director and Floodplain Administrator Amin Hanhan; (863) 291-5850

- Contact Senior Design Engineer and Floodplain Administrator Amin Hanhan at (863) 291-5850 or ahanhan@mywinterhaven.com for Floodplain Information or by clicking the following links. www.polk-county.net or <https://goo.gl/X97dJz>

PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE Andy Palmer, 291-5656

- **Facility Rentals** - Planning a Wedding, Baby Shower, Birthday Party or a special activity needing a **special venue**? Give Donna Nixon a call at 291-5656 for rental information and individualized guidance.

Special Events – Brittany Overstreet, 291-5656

- Interested in **planning an event** on City property? Click the link for the “how-to’s” of event planning in Winter Haven. <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/special-events/>
- Want to be up-to-date with Parks & Rec? “Like” the Page at www.facebook.com/winterhavenparks

Instructional Classes – Tabatha Clock, 291-5656

- **For instructional class information visit** www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/
- **Interested in starting a new class?** Email: tclock@mywinterhaven.com
- **Belly Dance classes**, Rotary Park Clubhouse (350 6th St NE, Winter Haven, FL). This is a great way to exercise while learning a fun style of dance. Mondays, 6 – 7 p.m. Ages 16 and Older. Fees: Resident \$6/class and Non-Resident \$7/class. www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/16655-2/
- **West Coast Swing classes**, Winter Haven Senior Adult Center (250 S. Lake Silver Dr., Winter Haven) beginner or experienced, No Partner Needed!!! Wednesdays, 5 – 6 p.m. ; Resident \$10/class and Non-Res. \$11/class www.mywinterhaven.com/wp-content/uploads/Dance-Classes-2018.png
- **Ballroom Dance classes**, Winter Haven Senior Adult Center (250 S. Lake Silver Dr., Winter Haven) beginner or experienced, No Partner Needed!!! 6 – 7 p.m. ; Resident \$10/class and Non-Res. \$11/class www.mywinterhaven.com/wp-content/uploads/Dance-Classes-2018.png
- **Tae Kwon Do classes**, Rotary Park Clubhouse (350 6th St NE), Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6 - 6:45 p.m. for 7 & under and 6:45 – 7:45 p.m. for 7 & up. Fees: Resident \$50/month and Non-Resident \$63/month. www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/16655-2/
- **Dog Obedience classes**, Lions Park Clubhouse (820 Ave L SW, Winter Haven, FL) Tuesdays, dogs must be at least 4 months old, call 291-5656 for schedule and to pre-registered, Fees: Resident \$50/8 weeks and Non-Resident \$63/8 weeks. www.mywinterhaven.com/wp-content/uploads/DO-2019-Schedule.pdf

Rowdy Gaines Olympic Pool–210 Cypress Gardens Blvd. – David Nugent, 291-5659

- **Aquatic Information:** <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/aquatics/Recreation/Lap Swim>: The “Rowdy” Gaines Pool Hours - Long Course Lap Swim Mon. – Fri. 10 a.m. – Noon; Short Course Lap Swim – Mon. – Fri. Noon – 2 p.m.; Recreational /Open Swim – Mon. –Fri. Noon – 2 p.m. Cost: Residents - \$2; Non-Residents \$3. Aquatic passes are available at various rates.
Recreation/Lap Swim: NEW HOURS Starting March 23:
Short Course Lap Swim: Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. & Mon. - Thurs. 5 - 7 p.m.

Recreational Swim: Mon. - Sun. 1 - 5 p.m.

Lifeguard Training: Pre-Rowdy Gaines Olympic Pool will be hosting two trainings. Session II – March 25th -April 11th. Classes will be held Mon., Wed., and Thurs. evenings from 5 - 8:30 p.m. Fees: Residents - \$150; Non-Residents \$188. Must be 15 years old to participate. Call Aquatics to Pre-register today or for more information at 291-5659.

Water Safety Instructor Training: Feb 25th – March 20th. Will be held at Rowdy Gaines Olympic pool Mon., Tues., and Wed. evenings from 5 – 8 p.m. Fees: Residents \$175; Non-Residents \$218. Must be 16 years old to participate. Call Aquatics to Pre-register today or for more information at (863) 291-5659.

Winter Haven Recreational and Cultural Center –Dwan Lawrence, 863-291-5675

- Basketball skills camp. Click to learn more.

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/basketball-skills-saturday/>

- Join in on the new **Chess Club**. There is one for adults and one for youth. Click the links to learn more!
Youth: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/wp-content/uploads/WHRCC-Free-Youth-Chess-Club.jpg>
Adult: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/wp-content/uploads/WHRCC-adult-chess-club.jpg>
- **Pool, foosball, and air hockey tables** use depends on scheduled activities. Please call for availability.
- Need a place to **burn some calories** and get fit at no cost? Exercise machines, a tread mill, weight benches, squat racks and free-weights are available from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. and Saturday, noon–7 p.m.
- Click for more info on **WHRCC's events**.

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/facilities-parks/wh-recreational-cultural-center/>

Winter Haven Senior Center – Jennifer Burke; 291-5870

- **Daily lunch program** (through Mid Florida Community Services) offers hot meals weekdays, 11:30 a.m. for 60 years or older. Pre-register 9 – 11 a.m. Monday – Friday, and eat at least two meals per week. The charge is a donation. Call 291-5870 for more information.
- **Low impact Boot Camp** beginning Friday, March 8 near the outdoor exercise equipment. \$5 residents and \$6 non-residents. Call 863-291-5870 for more information.
- **Ballroom Social** 3rd Tuesday of every month beginning October 16 from 7:30 – 9 p.m. \$4 residents and \$5 non-residents.
- **Strength and Cardio with Marie** on Mondays at 10:45 a.m. \$1 residents and \$2 non-residents
- **Strength and Cardio with Isabel** on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. \$1 residents and \$2 non-residents
- **Dominos**, Fridays at noon, FREE
- **Hand and Foot card game** played Wednesdays & Thursdays at noon.
- **AARP Defensive Driving Course**. Call Ms. Clay Kellam 863-293-6685 for available dates and registration.
- **Free card/tile game called Mah Jongg** is taught every Thursday at 12:30 p.m.
- The Senior Center is looking for **certified Silver Sneakers** Instructors to teach regular classes. Give Jennifer Burke a call at 291-5870 to learn how you can be involved.
- The **Winter Haven Shuffleboard Club** meets Wednesdays and Fridays at 1 p.m.
- **Mixed Media Painting Class**, Mondays at 1 p.m. Participants bring their own materials. The cost is \$10 for City residents and \$11 for non-City residents.
- **BINGO**, Wednesdays, 10:45 a.m. Cards are .25 each, and participants play for grocery items.
- **Senior Chess Club**, Wednesday and Friday, 1:30 p.m., no charge!
- **Beginner's Tai-Chi** class Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.; \$4 for City residents and \$5 for non-residents.
- **Beginner's Line Dance classes**; Thursdays, 1:30 p.m., \$4 for City residents & \$5 for non-residents.
- The **Quilting Social** is every Wednesday and Friday at 1 p.m. Bring your own materials and work on your own projects. An instructor provides assistance when necessary. Free.

Winter Haven Public Library – Cori Greear; 291-5880

- Do you have outstanding Library fines? Mark your calendar now for National Library Week, April 8-13, when we will offer our **Food for Fines** amnesty program! <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/library/food-for-fines-april-8-13/>
- Join us for a **Saturday Afternoon Family Movie**, the second and fourth Saturdays of every month. To see upcoming features, visit https://www.mywinterhaven.com/city-calendars/category/library/?tribe_paged=1&tribe_event_display=list&tribe_events_cat=library&tribe-bar-search=movies
- The library provides free access to online learning tools for languages, ancestry research, software and more! <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/library/resources/>
- **Computer & Technology Classes**, offered monthly at various dates and times in the Library's SEEDLab. <https://sites.google.com/site/whplseedlab/schedule/calendar>
- **Little Sprouts Story Time**, every week, Tuesdays 10:30-11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays 9:30-10:30 a.m., in the Multi-Purpose Room.
- **Technology Help Desk**, every Thursday 5-6:30 p.m. in the SEEDLab.
- **LEGO Club**, Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m. in the Story Hour Room. We supply the Lego blocks, you provide the imagination! Creations will be displayed during the following week. Open to ages 6-12.
- Stay updated on all regularly offered programs with our monthly 'making the connection' newsletter. To view and subscribe, visit: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/library/library-newsletter-august-2017/>

UTILITY DEPARTMENT, Water Conservation – 298-5495

- **Resident Grant Opportunities:** Receive a rebate of \$100 for a new low flow toilet. Click the link to learn more: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/utilities/water-conservation/grants/9250-2/>

FINANCIAL SERVICES Cal Bowen – 291-5667

Click the link for City of Winter Haven Budget information.

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/government/city-departments/financial-services/>

HUMAN RESOURCES Shawn Dykes - 291-5650

Click the link for career opportunities! http://www.mywinterhaven.com/city_employment.htm

WINTER HAVEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

Want to stay informed on what's going on with your Police Department? Download the **free Winter Haven Police Department smart phone app** – available for Apple and Android. Get breaking news and updates, read the latest news of everything happening near you, submit a tip and so much more.



Parking ticket? Pay online at: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/police-department/online-services/>
(And don't forget, all day parking is free in the Parking Garage on Avenue A NW.)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

From FDOT - The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District One is **widening SR 542** from 1st Street to east of Buckeye Loop Road. Work involves widening SR 542 and adding a center turn lane from 1st Street to Buckeye Loop Road, adding a grassed median from Buckeye Loop Road to Woodfern Drive, resurfacing from Woodfern Drive to Florida Drive, adding sidewalk and bike lanes, upgrading signal equipment and placing mid-block crosswalks. Expected project completion is fall 2020. For more information, please contact Kirby Radford, Construction Project Manager at 863-519-4107 or Kirby.Radford@dot.state.fl.us.

From the Winter Haven Stamp Club - The **Winter Haven Stamp Club** meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, and welcomes all stamp collecting enthusiasts. The club, which was established in 1963,

begins each meeting with refreshments and socializing at 7 p.m. and concludes with an auction of stamps that have been acquired by the club or stamps that are put on sale by individual members. Meetings are held in the Education Building of the First Presbyterian Church, 637 6th St. NW, Winter Haven. For further information call Cliff Peeno at 863-438-4347.

From Winter Haven Elite Baseball - Click the links below for more information or email info@winterhavenelitebaseball.com.

<https://www.facebook.com/Winter-Haven-Elite-Baseball-279645045900225/>

<https://www.winterhavenelitebaseball.com/>

FREE Boat Safety Checks: Held the 2nd Saturday of each month, Flotilla 77 provides vessel safety equipment examinations at Lake Ariana, Auburndale and Lake Summit (and periodically Lake Shipp), Winter Haven, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. For individual on-site checks call 800-687-9639 or gthomas901@msn.com. Chain Life Website: <http://www.chainlifewinterhaven.com/boating-safety/>

From Main Street Winter Haven - Want more information on upcoming **shows and events at Gram Parsons' Derry Down**? Click the link: <https://www.gpderrydown.com/>

From Chat and Chew - For questions email Cathy at 54321health@gmail.com

- "Book Chat" on the March Skype Speakers book, The Alzheimer's Solution by Dr. Dean and Ayesha Sherzai,-Winter Haven Senior Center. March 12, Tuesday, 2 to 3 p.m. Learn more about their work at the Sherzai's YouTube page: <https://m.youtube.com/channel/UCx6t-OujOM9BPHPL7vq9QOQ>
- Skype Meeting with the researchers, Dr. Dean and Ayesha Sherzai, authors of The Alzheimer's Solution. Learn steps you can take to prevent Alzheimer's. Ask these researchers your question during the Skype-Friday, March 22, 2019, 11:30-1:30 p.m. Winter Haven Library, 325 Avenue A NW. Learn about the 5 Myths of Alzheimer's Disease: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCx6t-OujOM9BPHPL7vq9QOQ>
- "Chat and Watch" the taped version of the Dr. Dean and Ayesha Sherzai's Skype on line with Chat and Chew members from Winter haven and all over the country-plus Canada and Mexico. A chat box will be open as we "chat and watch" the taped Skype. April 2, 2:30 on line here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/ChatChewMorePlants>

Schedule:https://docs.google.com/document/d/18MHsCynXcFPO301AdVk4ZvSxBonu_uRFrvX3PmZDH5A/e/dit?usp=sharing

From Central Florida Health Care - Free Monthly Cooking Classes - Learn to make healthy meals the whole family will love--because the more we know, the better we feel! Call 863-444-0492 today for more information. Click the link to learn more: <http://www.cfhconline.org/nutritionalcounseling>

From UF/IFAS Extension Polk County - UF/IFAS Extension Polk County Family and Consumer Sciences offers a variety of food and nutrition **classes**! Click the link to see what is coming and to register. www.PolkFCS.eventbrite.com

Click the following link for gardening and landscaping classes. www.polkgardening.eventbrite.com

From the Polk County History Center - Myrtice Young, Historic Preservation Manager, (863) 534-4386
The Polk County History Center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at 100 E. Main St. in Bartow. Visit www.polkhistorycenter.org or call (863) 534-4386 for more information on exhibits and programming. All programs and events are free and open to the public.