

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
December 2, 2019 – January 6, 2020

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:

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.

- Dec. 04** City of Winter Haven Job Fair (Nora Mayo Hall; 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/25353/>
- Dec. 05** Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony (Central Park; 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/christmas-tree-lighting-2/>
- Dec. 06** Havendale Christmas Parade (Havendale Blvd; 7:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/havendale-christmas-parade-3/>
- Dec. 07** City of Winter Haven Fire Truck Pull (Winter Haven Regional Airport; 9:00 a.m.-noon)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/city-of-winter-haven-fire-truck-pull/>
- Dec. 07** Carols in the Park (Central Park; 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/carols-in-the-park-2/>
- Dec. 7** Hazardous Waste & Electronics Disposal Event, Chain of Lakes parking lot, 8 a.m. – noon
- Dec. 13** 2019 Snow Central (Chain of Lakes Stadium; 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/snow-central/>
- Dec. 13** Praise in the Park (Central Park; 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/praise-in-the-park-4/>
- Dec. 14** Jingle Bell Classic (Winter Haven Public Library; 7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/27th-annual-jingle-bell-classic-december-14/>
- Dec. 14** 2nd Saturday Market (Central Park; 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/2nd-saturday-market-2/2019-12-14/>
- Dec. 18** Carols Downtown (Central Park; 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/carols-downtown-2/>

- Dec. 20 Dulcimer Night** (Central Park; 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/dulcimers-in-the-park-2-2018-05-18/2019-12-20/>
- Dec. 20 Holiday Extravaganza** (Winter Haven Recreation & Culture Center; 6 – 8 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/holiday-extravaganza-2/>
- Dec. 20 Jewett Alumni Association, Inc. Parade** (Sportsman Park; 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/semi-annual-jewett-alumni-association-inc-parade/>
- Dec. 21 Santa’s Run For Our Kids** (Virginia Miller Park; 5:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/santas-run-for-our-kids-2/2019-12-21/>
- Dec. 21 Cypress Gardens Ski Show** (Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Park; 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cypress-gardens-water-ski-show-5/2019-11-16/>
- Dec. 21 4th Saturday Market** (Central Park; 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/4th-saturday-market-2019/2019-12-28/>
- Feb. 27, 2020 Voices: “A Tribute to Motown & The Queen Of Soul”**; hosted by Program Filling The Lane, Theatre of Winter Haven, Brothers United, and The Winter Haven High School’s Culture Connection Club. The Ritz, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: <https://www.universe.com/events/voices-a-tribute-to-soul-music-tickets-451C8N>
- March 7 CommunityFest 2020**; 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Downtown Winter Haven

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

SAVE THE DATE! Winter Haven Fieldhouse and Conference Center!
Saturday, January 4, 2020! Located on the Chain O’ Lakes Complex property at 210 Cypress Gardens Boulevard, this iconic facility has become a distinguishing landmark at this gateway to the City. Please call the Parks, Recreation and Culture Department at 291-5656 for further information. Mark your calendar for January 4 when the facility will be officially opened to the public with a “Ribbon Cutting” Ceremony! More info to come!



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 |

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| 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 (December 4) at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.
- **City Commission Regular Meetings** – Monday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall. The December 23 Regular meeting is canceled due to the Christmas Holiday.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT – 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 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
- 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/

Rowdy Gaines Olympic Pool (RGOP) – 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd. – Adam Butler, 291-5659

- Aquatic Information: www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/aquatics/
- **RGOP FEES:** Residents - \$2; Non-Residents \$3. Aquatic passes are available at various rates.
- **HOURS:** Long Course Lap Swim: Mon. - Fri. 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- Recreation Swim/Short Course Lap Swim: Mon. - Fri. 12 - 2 p.m.

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

- **Chess Club** 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

- **Walk With Ease** a six week class geared towards improving health. Join our certified instructors in walking and learning ways to improve overall wellness for FREE. This six week class will be held at Polk State College Trail (Meet in Parking Lot across from DiamondPlex Softball Complex Entrance Off PSC Access Road) Time: 9 – 10 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays For more info please call 863-291-5870 or 863-291-5675.
- **Senior Dance Social**, the Third Tuesday of the month from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Residents \$3 and Non-residents \$4. Singles & Couples welcome December 18.

- **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.
- **Strength and Cardio with Marie** on Mondays at 10:45 a.m. \$1 residents and \$2 non-residents
- **Strength and Cardio with Isabel**, 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

- **Join us for our 5th annual Lecture Series, *Art and Florida!*** Registration is open for the first event, December 5 at 5:30 p.m. For the full schedule and to register: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/library/2019-20-lecture-series/>
- **Friends of the Library 2019 Book Review Series** Join us for the final review of the series, featuring Max Strang, <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/fof-book-review-series/2019-10-09/>
- The Library will be closed Monday and Tuesday, December 9 & 10 for annual Building Maintenance.
- **27th annual Jingle Bell Run, benefitting the Children's Department of the Library, December 14** Register today for the 10k, 5k or 1 mile walk/jog with your dog! <https://fitniche.com/event/jingle-bell-run/>
- Join the new **Winter Haven Order of Adventurers** (ages 10-17) and play Dungeons and Dragons, December 19 at 4:30 p.m.
- 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Join us for special lectures, starting January 30 (registration opens January 2) For the full schedule and to register: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/19th-amendment-centennial-lecture-event/>
- **Saturday Afternoon Movies** <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/saturday-afternoon-family-movies-5-2019-12-28/>
- 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/>
- **Computer & Technology Classes**, offered monthly at various dates and times in the Library's SEEDLab. <https://sites.google.com/site/whplseedlab/schedule/calendar>
- **Technology Help Desk**, every Thursday 5-6:30 p.m. in the SEEDLab.

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

- Take a look at the **open bids** with Procurement:
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/business/purchasing/active-bids/>
- 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

- **Don't miss the City of Winter Haven Job Fair** at Nora Mayo Hall on Wednesday, December 4 from 3 - 7 p.m.) Call HR at 291-5650 for more info. <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/25353/>
- Click the link for **career opportunities!** New opportunities are added daily!
- http://www.mywinterhaven.com/city_employment.htm

WINTER HAVEN PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT – 291-5858

- **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 THEATER WINTER HAVEN – RITZ THEATRE 263 W. Central Ave.

Theatre Winter Haven and The Ritz have partnered together to supply the greatest entertainment to the Polk County area! For a full listing visit: www.RitzWinterHaven.com

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 the WINTER HAVEN STINGRAYS SWIM TEAM Call (573)355-2578 to learn more about getting involved.

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 the Winter Haven Stamp Club - The **Winter Haven Stamp Club** meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7 p.m. 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 - info@winterhavenelitebaseball.com for more information.
<https://www.facebook.com/Winter-Haven-Elite-Baseball-279645045900225/>
<https://www.winterhavenelitebaseball.com/>

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

Click the link for the latest Schedule:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18MHsCynXcFPO301AdVk4ZvSxBonu_uRFrvX3PmZDH5A/edit?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: www.PolkFCS.eventbrite.com
Click the 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.

UPDATE From FDOT – Work along SR 542 (Central Avenue) continues. Expect daytime closures with workers and equipment close to the road. Use caution. This project includes widening and adding a center turn lane, sidewalk and bike lanes; upgrading existing signal equipment; placing two mid-block crosswalks; and installing new water and sewer lines. Expected completion is fall 2020.

HAVE YOU HEARD? The best international show water skiers will compete in Winter Haven in 2022 on Winter Haven's Lake Silver as part of the **2022 IWWF World Water Ski Show Tournament**. The tournament is considered the capstone event celebrating the 100th year of the sport. The IWWF is recognized by the International Olympic Committee as the sole authority governing all towed water sports. The IWWF has more than 90 affiliated member Federations worldwide.