

WINTER HAVEN

The Chain of Lakes City

News Splash!



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

July 1 – August 2, 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:

- July 3 **Rock N' Freedom Fest** (MLK Park, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/rock-n-freedom-fest-july-3/>
- July 6 Cruisin' & 1st Saturday Market (Central & South Central Park, 4 – 8 pm)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cruisin-winter-haven-3/>
- July 13 Polk Stand Up Paddleboard Invitational (MLK Park, 6:00 am – 4:00 pm)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/special-olympic-sup-invitational/>
- July 20 Cypress Gardens Water Ski Show (MLK Park, 5:00 p.m.)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cypress-gardens-water-ski-show/>
- July 20 Treasure Hunt Downtown (Downtown, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm)
https://www.mywinterhaven.com/?post_type=tribe_events&p=22283&preview=true
- August 9 Annual Jamboree (Sertoma Park, 8:00 am – 4:00 pm)
- August 29 Ladies Night Downtown (Downtown, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm)
https://www.mywinterhaven.com/?post_type=tribe_events&p=22286&preview=true

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 (July 17) at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall. July 3 Review Session is canceled due to Rock N' Freedom Fest at MLK Park. Bring the family and join the fun from 6 – 9 p.m. on July 3!
- **City Commission Regular Meetings** – Monday, July 8 and 22 at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT – Heather Reuter, 291-5600 asilwal@mywinterhaven.com

- **A Special Message for our Neighborhood Residents from Anita Silwal**

Does your neighborhood have any organized meetings? Are you interested in organizing one? We encourage our neighborhood associations to register with the City of Winter Haven and participate in a Neighborhood Advisory Council, receive staff support services, and engage in exciting neighborhood programs. Follow us on Nextdoor for updates. Contact me at (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/
- 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 (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.
- SUMMER HOURS: 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.

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

- Basketball skills camp. <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.
- **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

- The Library now offers Kanopy streaming services! The world's finest cinema, now streaming FREE with your Library card, giving you access to over 30,000 movies and documentaries! Also, see what's available for the kids – look for the 'GO TO KANOPY KIDS' option. <https://mywinterhaven.kanopy.com/>
- The Summer Reading Program 2019 offers a *Universe of Stories!* In addition to regular programs, see what crafts, performances and more offered this summer! <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/library>

- Pardon our appearance while the Library's Youth Department is being renovated. <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/library/youth-department-renovations/>
- 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.

PUBLIC WORKS, Natural Resources Division – 291-5600

Natural Resources Division staff hosted City summer camp groups at MLK Park and Lake Maude Nature Park for kayaking, and educational plant & animal stations. Kids learned the value of our local watershed and received first-hand experience of what our lakes have to offer.



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 – 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.

GREAT NEWS! Theatre Winter Haven and The Ritz have partnered together with one goal in mind, to supply the greatest entertainment to the Polk County area! New shows are being announced and there is so much more to come! Theatre Winter Haven and The Ritz are bringing new series such as a Comedy Series and a Concert Series along with special events every month. For a full listing visit: www.RitzWinterHaven.com

The Public Education Partnership of Winter Haven, Inc.; Audrey Nettlow 863-289-9502

The PEP pilot first grade tutoring program, **Ready, Set, Read!** data is fantastic. Give Audrey a call at 863-289-9502 to learn about the program and ways you can be involved with influencing the educational growth of our local students. audrey@whpep.org www.whpep.org

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

Come Swim With Us this summer! now – August 9 for kids ages 6 – 16 at the Rowdy Gaines Pool. Choose from 8 – 10 a.m. or 5 – 7 p.m. Coaches are USA Swimming Certified. \$180 for 10 weeks. Call (573)355-2578.

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 - 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/>

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.

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.