

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

February 2020

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

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.

Feb. 7 Mustang Sally and the Hamjos (6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)

Feb. 8 2nd Saturday Market (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Central Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/2nd-saturday-market-2-2020-02-08/>

Feb. 14 Praise in the Park (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/praise-in-the-park-4-2020-02-14/>

Feb. 15 First Missionary Baptist Church's Unity in Our Community Heritage Day Festival (10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Lake Maude Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/heritage-day-festival-2019/>

One Billion Rising (3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Central Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/one-billion-rising-2/>

Cypress Gardens Ski Show (3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.; MLK Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cypress-gardens-water-ski-show-5/>

Feb. 17 City offices are closed in honor of Presidents' Day - Trash services will run as normal.

Feb. 20 Spelling Bee Contest (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Winter Haven Recreation & Cultural Center)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/spelling-bee/>

Feb. 21 Dulcimer Night (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/dulcimers-in-the-park-2-2018-05-18-2020-02-21/>

Feb. 22 Reel'in Em in for Auburndale Sr. FFA Bass Tournament (5:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.; W.G. Roe Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/reelin-em-in-for-ffa/>

4th Saturday Market (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Central Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/4th-saturday-market-2019-2020-02-22/>

Feb. 27 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>

Feb. 28 Grant Piche & the Jug Brother's Band (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)

<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/jug-brothers-band-2019-2020-02-28/>

March 7 CommunityFest 2020; 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Downtown Winter Haven

April 3 Sizzlin' Smokin' BBQ Cook-off! A Saucy City of Winter Haven Event! More info to come!

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

CITY COMMISSION - Contact information:

Special appreciation is extended to Commissioner Pete Chichetto and Commissioner William Twyford for their service to the community as City Commissioners. We welcome Commissioner Brian Yates and Commissioner Tracy Mercer as they begin their four-year terms on the Commission.

Mayor Brad Dantzler	863-289-9947	bdantzler@mywinterhaven.com
Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Birdsong	863-289-9813	nbirdsong@mywinterhaven.com
Commissioner Tracy Mercer	863-291-5600	tmercerc@mywinterhaven.com
Commissioner James "JP" Powell	863-308-2464	jppowell@mywinterhaven.com
Commissioner Brian Yates	863-291-5600	byates@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 (February 5 and 19, 2020) at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.
- **City Commission Regular Meetings** – Mondays, February 10 and 24, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. in City Hall.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT – 291-5600

- 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.
- **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 Grear; 291-5880

- **19th Amendment Centennial** 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. For the full schedule and to register: <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/19th-amendment-centennial-lecture-event/>
- **2019-20 Lecture Series: Art & Florida**. For full schedule and to register <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/lecture-series-the-highwaymen-floridas-african-american-landscape-painters/>
- **Saturday Afternoon Family Movies** https://www.mywinterhaven.com/city-calendars/category/library/?tribe_paged=1&tribe_event_display=list&tribe_events_cat=library&tribe-bar-date=2020-02-07&tribe-bar-search=saturday+movies

- **Yoga for a Better Life** No experience necessary. All are welcome. For information visit <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/yoga-for-a-better-life/2020-02-11/>
- **Happy Seat Meditation** No experience necessary. All are welcome. For information visit <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/happy-seat-meditation/2020-02-12/>
- **Little Sprouts Story Time** Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/little-spouts-story-time/2020-01-07/>
- **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

- **Open House and Job Fair**, February 21, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., 401 6th St SW, call 863-298-5495 for more info.
- **Conservation Workshop**, Feb. 11, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. <https://wh-conservationseries-2.eventbrite.com>
- **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

- Click the link for **career opportunities!** New opportunities are added daily!
- http://www.mywinterhaven.com/city_employment.htm

PUBLIC WORKS, SOLID WASTE COLLECTION – 291-5757

- All trash services will run as normal during the Presidents' Day week (February 17). There are no interruptions in service.

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

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.

- SR 542 from 1st Street N/S to Buckeye Loop Road: **Access to Buckeye Loop Road will be closed at the intersection with Dundee Road from 10 p.m., Friday, February 7 through 7 p.m., Saturday, February 8**, to install utility lines across the roadway. Motorists will access Buckeye Loop Road from Country Club Road North back to Buckeye Loop Road or at 1st Street South to Avenue T NE back to Buckeye Loop Road. Use caution and follow posted detour signs.
- **The two-week closure of 16th Street NE at SR 542** (Dundee Road) has been changed to Monday, February 10 through Monday, February 24. Motorists will access 16th Street NE from 17th Street NE. The closure is necessary for underground work at the intersection.
- **Eastbound and westbound traffic lanes remain split** with construction activities occurring between them from 8th Street SE to west of Lake Elbert Elementary School. Use caution and watch for workers close to the road. Most driveway access and some side streets in this area are right-in and right-out only. Motorists wanting to turn left out of driveways will have to turn right and make a U-Turn at the nearest crossover during this phase of construction.

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.