



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

March 2020

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

SNAPSHOT OF UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE WINTER HAVEN AREA:

- 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/>
- Feb. 29** Casino Night and Silent Auction, 7 – 10 p.m., Lake Ashton Clubhouse Ballroom, 4141 Ashton Club Drive, \$25 benefiting area elementary schools.
- March 1** Chain of Lakes Cycling Classic (8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; Downtown Winter Haven)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/chain-of-lakes-cycling-classic-2/>
- March 6** Pickin' In The Park (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/first-friday-music-5-2020-02-07/>
- March 6** Junior League of Greater Winter Haven's Light up the Night 5k (6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.; Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/light-up-the-night-5k/>
- March 7** CommunityFest 2020; 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., Downtown Winter Haven; Central Park
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/community-fest/>
- March 9** Annual Johnnie Patterson Memorial Ceremony in Patterson Park, 9:30 a.m.
- March 11-12** City Works (X)po, Ritz Theatre <https://www.cityworksexpofl.com/>
- March 12** Annual Public Safety Awards Banquet at Nora Mayo Hall, 6:30 p.m.
- March 13** Praise In The Park (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/praise-in-the-park-4-2020-03-13/>
- March 14** WHPD 5K for Special Olympics Florida (8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.; Virginia Miller Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/winter-haven-police-departments-5k-benefitting-special-olympics-florida/>
- March 14** 2nd Saturday Market (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/2nd-saturday-market-2-2020-03-14/>
- March 14** Central Tavern's St. Pats Street Party (5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.; Downtown Winter Haven)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/st-patricks-day-street-celebration/>
- March 17** Main Street's St. Patrick's Day Show (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; South Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/main-streets-st-patricks-day-show/>
- March 17** St. Patrick's Day Celebration; by Main Street Winter Haven, 7:30 – 7:30 p.m., South Central Park. <https://www.mainstreetwh.com/event/st-patricks-day-celebration/>
- March 17** Presidential Preference Primary Election <https://www.polkelections.com/2020-PPP>
- March 19** Oath of Office and Promotional Ceremony; Police Department Community Room, 10:30 a.m.
- March 20** Dulcimer Night (5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/dulcimers-in-the-park-2-2018-05-18-2020-03-20/>

- March 21** **Cypress Gardens Ski Show** (5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Martin Luther King Jr. Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cypress-gardens-water-ski-show-5/>
- March 21-22** **Central Park Art Festival sponsored by Victor Smith Law Group**, organized by Ridge Art Association, downtown Winter Haven, 10 a.m. <https://www.facebook.com/CentralParkArtFestival/>
- March 27** **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-2019-2020-03-27/>
- March 28** **Kirkland Wedding Ceremony** (4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.; Lake Howard Dock)
4th Saturday Market (9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.; Central Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/4th-saturday-market-2019-2020-03-28/>
- March 28–29** **Cardinal Flyers Winter Haven Fly-in** (12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Winter Haven Airport)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/cardinal-flyers-winter-haven-fly-in/>
- March 29** **Tray Day 2020** (10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.; Lake Maude Park)
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/tray-day-2020/>
- April 3** **Sizzlin’ Smokin’ BBQ Cook-off!** A Saucy City of Winter Haven Event! More info to come!
- April 25** **Purge Your Pills & Shred Your Stuff**, WH Police Department, April 25, 10 am – 2 pm.

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

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 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 March 4 and 18, 2020) at **5:30 p.m.** in City Hall.
 - **City Commission Regular Meetings** – Mondays, March 9 and 23, 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, Florida Citrus Building, 500 3rd Street, 291-5656

- **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 – Marissa Barnes, 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

AdventHealth Fieldhouse & Conference Center, 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd, Scott Eilers, 268-6733

- **Fieldhouse & Conference Center Rentals-** Give Tabatha Clock a call at 268-6733 or email at tclock@mywinterhaven.com. Click the link for the AdventHealth Fieldhouse & Conference Center Guide with recreation hours and rental information. www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/facilities-parks/fieldhouse-and-conference-center
- **Instructional Classes**—For information on all instructional class information visit www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/
- West Coast Swing classes, (Moving to the AdventHealth Fieldhouse in April!) Winter Haven Senior Adult Center (250 S. Lake Silver Dr.) 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, (Moving to the AdventHealth Fieldhouse in April), Winter Haven Senior Adult Center (250 S. Lake Silver Dr.) 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, coming soon to the AdventHealth Fieldhouse in April 2020!

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

- Don't miss the following events at the Winter Haven Recreational and Cultural Center. Call 291-5675 for details.
 - Angels of Destiny Pamper Me Pretty, March 14 noon – 4 p.m. Tickets on sale now.
 - All For Teens - Every Tuesday and Friday from June 9-July 31
 - Back to School Bash August 8
- Spring Break School's Out Camp
(<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/parks-and-recreation/programs/16655-2/>)
- 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. April 6-May 14 Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays FREE at the Advent Fieldhouse and Conference Center and registration is at the senior center. For more information please call 863-291-5870.
- **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 Greear; 291-5880

- **2019-20 Lecture Series: Art & Florida. Final event March 19 at 5:30 p.m.**
<https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/lecture-series-the-highwaymen-floridas-african-american-landscape-painters/>
- **19th Amendment Centennial** 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment. Join us **March 26 at 5:30 p.m.:** <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/19th-amendment-centennial-lecture-event/>
- **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=2020-02-26&tribe-bar-search=movies
- **Mat Yoga, Chair Yoga and Meditation!** FREE; all are welcome. For information visit <https://www.mywinterhaven.com/event/yoga-for-a-better-life/2020-03-03/>
- **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

- **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

WINTER HAVEN PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT – Jamie Brown, 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. 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.