

# CityScape

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photo by: Dennis Wyrick

[www.CityofSafetyHarbor.com](http://www.CityofSafetyHarbor.com)

## A Message from Mayor Joe Ayoub



Reflecting on the last year and what it meant for Safety Harbor, I realized that some years are not particularly distinguishable. Often times, years, like trips to the grocery store, all run together. But not 2020, a year that will leave behind a permanent mark on history.

The most obvious reason is that the coronavirus presented our city with challenges that most of us will never forget. The city had to close down many of our facilities for a period of time and most events were either canceled or rescheduled.

In addition, we have all been impacted by the virus one way or another. Many of us know someone who contracted it, someone who lost their job, or perhaps there were simply added stresses from uncertainties of having children not going to school. But with these challenges came many reasons for me to be inspired, particularly by how well we came together as a community.

I must give credit to our current business owners who found creative ways to serve their customers and to the entrepreneurs who found the courage to open a new businesses in our downtown and are already getting great reviews!

So whatever challenges you faced in 2020, I am optimistic that 2021 will be a year that will be remembered for how well we bounced back and came together to make our city better than ever!

Let's keep Safety Harbor special.

## Mayor's Award of Excellence

by: Marcie Stenmark, Community Development Director

At the October 19, 2020 City Commission, Mayor Ayoub presented Dr. Edward Deutscher with a "Mayor's Award of Excellence for Beautifying Safety Harbor" plaque for recent enhancements at Tonicity Health and Wellness, located at 324 Main Street. This space was completely transformed through interior and exterior renovations from an empty restaurant to a medi-spa use. Renovations included new plumbing, electrical, framing, insulation, HVAC system, windows, doors, and floors in the interior of the building and lighting, parking, painting, and signage on the exterior of the building.

At the November 16, 2020 City Commission meeting, the Mayor presented Kent Runnels with a "Mayor's Award of Excellence for Beautifying Safety Harbor" plaque for recent enhancements to the Café Vino Tinto located at 509 Main Street. The two-story building was constructed in 1920 and has had several uses over time. The last use was an art cooperative, and for over fifteen years, this building sat empty. The owners of Café Vino Tinto (Kent and Logan Runnels) transformed the first floor through interior and exterior renovations. In addition, they added a covered outdoor seating and ordering area. This renovation activated a very important portion of Main Street.

The Mayor's Award of Excellence recognizes efforts by residents and businesses to beautify Safety Harbor through landscaping and renovation projects.



## ***Ring in the New Year at the Library by: Lisa Kothe, Library Director***



Have you been putting off visiting your library? What could be better than starting 2021 with a visit in person or virtually to our website? If you are new to our City or haven't visited the Library lately, how about a New Year's Resolution to get a library card? They are free to all residents, can be used at any library in Pinellas County, and open a world of new resources from e-books to downloadable movies and magazines, music, audiobooks, a tool library, WIFI hotspots, themed backpacks for youth, and more. You can learn how to speak a new language online with Pronunciator, trace your ancestry, or even get a high school diploma. If you are homebound, we can deliver materials to you. Do you need a quiet, safe place to work or study? We have that, too. Give us a call, 724-1525 or visit our website, SafetyHarborLibrary.com to see how we can make your new year better.

## ***What's a Firefighter's Day Like? by: Josh Stefancic, Fire Chief***

The Safety Harbor Fire Department is staffed by 27 firefighters. This includes three District Chiefs, six Captains, two Firefighter/EMTs, and 16 Firefighter/Paramedics. All personnel are assigned to working one of the department's three shifts. Each shift is 24 hours long and starts at 8:00 AM each day. Each firefighter will work one 24-hour shift, and then have 48 hours off before coming back again. During the day, our firefighters ensure our fire trucks are maintained and ready to respond to calls, maintain our fire stations, complete training, work on special projects, and of course, respond to 911 calls around the clock. In the last 12 months, the Safety Harbor Fire Department responded to 4,130 emergency incidents - just over 11 per day.



## ***Esports - Be In Control by: Tyler Serpo, Recreation Program Coordinator***



Esports is an online competition-style game play through various video games. Over the past few years, esports has been increasingly popular, racking up over 496 million followers worldwide! It has picked up so much steam that colleges, sports professionals, and other public figures around the world are incorporating esports into their daily regimen and are having a great time doing it. The City of Safety Harbor sees the positive impact it brings to the community, and we are jumping in!

We are excited to announce that we have the opportunity to partner up with Mission Control, a cloud-based esports platform. Mission Control allows us to set up esport recreation leagues for top video games across popular systems like PlayStation, Xbox, PC, and Nintendo Switch. Players who join our organization can expect a safe, fun way to stay connected virtually while competing in tournaments throughout the year. To keep players up to date with all the news, Mission Control has a free app that you can download from your smartphone or tablet. Once you download the app, open it and search "Safety Harbor Rec," then join our organization. After that, you can register for your favorite game and get live announcements throughout the week! Don't see your favorite game? Don't worry, we can make it happen. Come join us! What are you waiting for?

You can check out more on [MissionControl.com/GG](https://MissionControl.com/GG)

## ***Street Tree Program 2021 by: Ira Padgett, City Arborist***

The City of Safety Harbor is continuing the Annual Street Tree Program. City residents can sign up to have a free shade tree planted in their front yards. All requests will be reviewed to ensure the selected tree is appropriate for the requested location and will not conflict with utilities.

Available trees include Southern Live Oak, Sand Live Oak, Bald Cypress, Pignut Hickory, and Winged Elm. The trees will be planted by the City; however, applicants are responsible for watering the trees during the establishment period. A tree watering schedule will be provided to each applicant.

The deadline to apply is February 15, 2021. A waiver is required at the time of application. Applications and waivers can be downloaded from the City's tree page: [cityofsafetyharbor.com/774/tree-protection](http://cityofsafetyharbor.com/774/tree-protection)

# Harbor Happenings

[www.SafetyHarborEvents.com](http://www.SafetyHarborEvents.com)

## January

### City Meetings

Check [cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://cityofsafetyharbor.com) for meeting locations

- 4 City Commission, 7PM
- 7 Diversity Advisory Board, 6PM
- 12 Library Advisory Committee, 7PM
- 13 Board of Appeals/Planning & Zoning Board, 6:30PM
- 14 Finance Advisory Board, 6:30PM
- 18 All City Facilities Closed - Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- 19 City Commission, 7PM
- 20 Code Enforcement Board, 6PM

## February

### City Meetings

Check [cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://cityofsafetyharbor.com) for meeting locations

- 1 City Commission, 7PM
- 9 Library Advisory Committee, 7PM
- 10 Board of Appeals/Planning & Zoning Board, 6:30PM
- 11 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30PM
- 15 City Commission, 7PM
- 17 Code Enforcement Board, 6PM
- 19 Firefighters' Pension Board of Trustees, 9AM**
- 25 Diversity Advisory Board, 6PM

**SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION**  
Building a Legacy for the Future

THIRD ANNUAL

## LINKS FOR OUR LIBRARY

Save the Date!

**APR 17**

DOWNTOWN SAFETY HARBOR

INFO AND TICKETS:  
[SAFETYHARBORLIBRARYFOUNDATION.ORG](http://SAFETYHARBORLIBRARYFOUNDATION.ORG)

### Library Youth Programs

**Virtual Story Times**  
Wednesdays, 10:30 am  
[youtube.com/SafetyHarborLibrary](https://youtube.com/SafetyHarborLibrary)

**\*STEAM Time-To-Go**  
Registration/Material Pick-Up:  
1/4-9, 2/1-6 | Grades: 1-5

**\*Art Explore-To-Go**  
Registration/Material Pick-Up:  
1/11-16, 2/8-13 | Grades: 1-5

**\*Tween Cooking-To-Go**  
Registration/Material Pick-Up:  
1/25-30, 2/22-27 | Ages: 9-12

**Virtual Scottish Arts:**  
Bagpipes & Highland Drums  
Grades: 4-12 | 1/7 - 2/11 | 4:45PM

**\*Teen Sour Candy Challenge Take Home Kit**  
Ages: 13-18 | 1/12-16

**\*Teen Anime Club Take Home Kit**  
Grades 6-12 | 1/19-23, 2/9-13

**\*Teen Craft Home Kit: Terrarium**  
Ages: 13-18 | 2/2-6

\*Register at  
[events.safetyharborlibrary.org](http://events.safetyharborlibrary.org)

### LIBRARY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

**Spring into Reading:**  
Adult Reading Challenge\*  
2/1 to 2/28

**A Shot in the Dark:**  
Author Talk with Ben Montgomery via Zoom\*  
2/11 | 6:30 pm

**Links for Your Library**  
2/13 | 3:00 pm  
Library Foundation Fundraiser

**Luck of the Limerick:**  
Writing Contest  
2/15 to 3/18

**Literary Yard Sale**  
2/27 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Pen Pals Unite:**  
Homebound residents become pen pals with library staff. Call 727-724-1525 x4107 to register.

\*Registration Required

Visit [SafetyHarborLibrary.com](http://SafetyHarborLibrary.com) for a complete listing or to register for our programs.

### REAL Family Fun!

**First Friday Flicks:**  
*Black Panther*  
2/5 | 7pm | Free Waterfront Park

**Outdoor Senior Expo** ❤️  
Date: TBA  
For more info: 724-1545

**Daddy Daughter Date Night**  
sponsored by: **Positively Dad at the Community Center**

**Fri, 2/19 | Ages: 10-14**  
6:30-9:30pm | \$20/Couple

**Sat, 2/20 | Ages: 4-9** ❤️  
5:30-8:30pm | \$20/Couple

**Multicultural Social:**  
**African American Culture**  
2/26 | 6-9pm | Free Museum & Cultural Center

**SafetyHarborRecreation.com**

**REAL Fit! REAL Fun!**  
SAFETY HARBOR FITNESS CENTER

Get your monthly or annual passes today!

**We Are Open!**

**REAL Fun!**  
Safety Harbor Fitness

Now Accepting

**SilverSneakers**

**FEES:**  
Monthly: \$10 R/\$15 NR  
Annual: \$100 R/\$150 NR  
R=Resident NR=Non-Resident

**HOURS:**  
Mon-Fri: 6AM-8PM  
Sat: 8AM-4PM  
Sun: 9AM-2PM

**SafetyHarborRecreation.com**

## ***CityScape***

CityScape is a publication of the City of Safety Harbor. For the latest updates on these and other stories visit us online at [www.cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com).

## ***City Officials***

Joe Ayoub, Mayor  
Cliff Merz, Vice Mayor  
Nancy Besore, Commissioner  
Carlos Diaz, Commissioner  
Andy Zodrow, Commissioner  
Matthew Spoor, City Manager

## ***City Directory***

City Hall: 727-724-1555  
Community Center: 727-724-1530  
Fire Station #52: 727-724-1520  
Fire Station #53: 727-724-1536  
Human Resources: 727-724-1555, Ext.1408  
Library: 727-724-1525  
Museum & Cultural Ctr.: 727-724-1562  
Public Works: 727-724-1550  
Rigsby Recreation Center: 727-724-1545

# **City of SAFETY HARBOR**

*Home of the Mineral Springs* Florida



750 Main Street  
Safety Harbor Florida  
34695  
(727) 724-1555  
[www.cityofsafetyharbor.com](http://www.cityofsafetyharbor.com)

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## ***Pinellas County Flood Plain Update***

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is updating the Pinellas County digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM), including the maps within the City of Safety Harbor. These maps are based on revised coastal flood modeling and may affect owners of properties susceptible to flooding from the Gulf, Tampa Bay, and inland areas near waterways connected to the Gulf or Bay. In 2021, FEMA will issue Letters of Final Determination (LFDs) making the flood hazard information final. The City of Safety Harbor will then adopt the revised FIRMs and update the floodplain management ordinances. The updated flood hazard information will go into effect six months after the LFDs are issued.

A link to the Pinellas County web site showing the current and proposed FIRM maps is below:  
[http://www.pinellascounty.org/flooding/fema\\_firm.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/flooding/fema_firm.htm)

### **Have working smoke alarms.**

Put them on every level of your home, in every bedroom, and outside sleeping areas.

U.S. Fire Administration



**FEMA**



## **Flood Zone Information**



The City of Safety Harbor is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program/Community Rating System (NFIP/CRS). We offer FEMA flood map determinations on property located in the city. Elevation certificates, if available, may be obtained through the Building Department. For more information regarding this program, please contact the City of Safety Harbor at 727-724-1555.