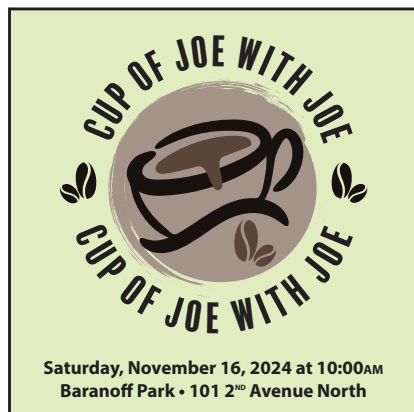


CityScape

Volume 34 | Issue 6
November/December 2024

www.CityofSafetyHarbor.com

Follow us...



CUP OF JOE WITH JOE

Please join Mayor Ayoub and City Manager Josh Stefancic for a “Cup of Joe with Joe” townhall-style meeting at our beautiful Baranoff Park on Saturday, November 16TH at 10:00AM.

If you have not already met our new city manager, this will be a great opportunity to do so. Complimentary coffee will be provided. If you can’t make it, you can view the event live and ask questions at [Facebook.com/MayorJoeAyoub](https://www.facebook.com/MayorJoeAyoub).

This is a great opportunity to join the conversation about the direction of our city and to hang out with your neighbors. I hope to see you there!

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN!

Safety Harbor Fire Department is happy to announce another collaborative holiday event with none other than Old Saint Nick. For anyone recently joining us, the Santa Tour is a celebration held annually for over 50 years when local firefighters invite Santa Claus to ride atop a fire engine and spread Christmas cheer around the community. This family-friendly Santa Tour is largely a success due to the community’s strong support and commitment to observing safe practices as the fire engine passes.

As a reminder, we will not travel down dead-end streets, cul-de-sacs, and narrow roads to avoid potentially dangerous situations and remain on schedule. The real-time Santa GPS Tracker will also be available on the City’s website and Safety Harbor Fire Department Facebook page. Please see below for this year’s Santa Tour schedule, which includes four opportunities to join the fun. We look forward to the celebrations!



SANTA’S APPROXIMATE SCHEDULE:

- Friday, 12/13: South of Enterprise & East of 9th Ave
- Saturday, 12/14: South of Enterprise & West of 9th Ave
- Friday, 12/20: North of Enterprise & East of RR Tracks; North of 580 & West Oldsmar
- Saturday, 12/21: North of Enterprise & West of RR Tracks; South of 580

Questions?
Contact Public Works:
724-1550 x 2002



Quarterly Clean-Up Schedule

December 9 – 11: Holiday Cleanup

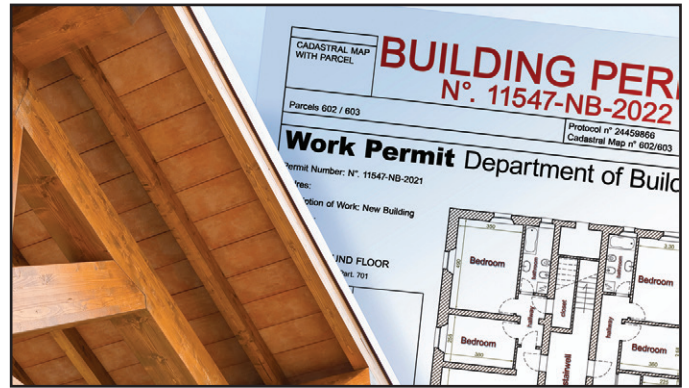
for more details: CityofSafetyHarbor.com/sanitation



AROUND SAFETY HARBOR

BUILDING PERMIT FEE WAIVERS & EMERGENCY PERMITTING

In the aftermath of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, the City of Safety Harbor will waive certain plan review and inspection fees for residents and business owners whose properties have been impacted by storm damage. The fee waiver will be in place until December 6, 2024. Property owners and contractors will be required to obtain permits and staff will expedite permits for those affected by the storm. Residents and business owners who need repairs are reminded to always use licensed contractors.



Contractors and residents can apply for building permits at:

City Hall
750 Main Street

Monday – Friday
8:00am – 4:30pm

For more information on the permitting process, call 727-724-1515 or email: ebpermits@cityofsafetyharbor.com.

For more information on permitting requirements visit Permit Requirements page at: cityofsafetyharbor.com/95/Permits

THE FOLLOWING FEE WAIVERS ARE AVAILABLE:

CITY ONLY PERMITS

- Fences
- Accessory Structures not requiring County review
- Signs no requiring County review
- Tree removal for damaged and/or hazardous trees

CITY/COUNTY PERMITS

- Signs
- Screen Enclosures
- Accessory Structures

EMERGENCY PERMITTING PROCESSES

Property owners who make emergency storm related repairs prior to obtaining a permit will not be required to pay penalties for “After the Fact Review” (2x review fee) when a permit is obtained.



DIVERSITY ADVISORY BOARD SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Our Diversity Advisory Board joined the Safety Harbor Recreation Division on September 7, 2024, at the North City Park Community Picnic. The Community Picnic was an opportunity for neighbors to come out and connect with each other over lunch, games, and fun.

DAB took this opportunity to introduce themselves to the neighborhood and talk about their mission and hand out information on services available to our residents.

DAB's purpose is to help create a welcoming and inclusive community that respects all citizens, giving them full access to resources and promoting equal treatment and opportunity.

HARBOR HAPPENINGS

Check cityofsafetyharbor.com for meeting locations

NOVEMBER

CITY MEETINGS

- 4 City Commission, 7pm
- 11 *Veterans Day - All City Facilities Closed; Trash Collection Occurs as Usual*
- 12 Library Advisory Committee, 7pm
- 13 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30pm
- 14 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30pm
- 18 City Commission, 7pm
- 20 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30pm
- 28 *Thanksgiving Day - All City Facilities Closed; No Recycling*
- 29 *Day after Thanksgiving - All City Facilities Closed; Thursday & Friday Recycling Collection Occurs*

SPECIAL EVENTS

- 1 1st Friday Flicks (Waterfront Park), 8pm
- 9 Folly Faire (Folly Farm), 9am-12pm
- 11 Veterans Day Ceremony (Vets Memorial Park), 11am
- 15 3rd Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10pm
- 16 Tree Give Away (City Park), 8-11am

DECEMBER

CITY MEETINGS

- 2 City Commission, 7pm
- 10 Library Advisory Committee, 7pm
- 11 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30pm
- 12 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30pm
- 16 City Commission, 7pm
- 18 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30pm
- 24 *Christmas Eve - All City Facilities Closed; Trash Collection Occurs as Usual*
- 25 *Christmas - All City Facilities Closed; No Trash Collection*

SPECIAL EVENTS

- 6 Tree Lighting (Gazebo), 6pm
- 7 Holiday Parade (Main Street), 10am
- 8 Kiwanis Arts & Crafts Festival (Main Street), 9am-4pm
- 14 Folly Faire (Folly Farm), 9am-12pm
- 14 Santa's Twilight 5K (Marina), 7pm
- 20 3rd Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10pm

Join a Safety Harbor Board or Committee

cityofsafetyharbor.com/52/Boards



Board of Appeals



Code Enforcement Board



Diversity Advisory Board



Finance Advisory Board



Library Advisory Committee



Parks & Recreation Board



Personnel Review Board



Planning & Zoning Board



Public Art Committee

City of Safety Harbor celebrates diversity
November is
NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



Safety Harbor
Diversity Advisory Board

The City of Safety Harbor is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program and Community Rating System (NFIP/CRS).

Flood Zone Information

We offer FEMA flood map determinations and information regarding wetlands and other natural systems 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.

SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY

WELCOME TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON @ YOUR LIBRARY *by: Lisa Kothe, Library Director*

When November and December roll around, the air is filled with excitement for the traditions the season brings to the library. Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and the beginnings of the new year, provide opportunities for connection and community building. As a community hub, your library plays a unique role in embracing the magic of the season and sharing it with you.

Library Traditions: Look for us in the Holiday Parade on December 7. We'll be with Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, Book'in Betty our book bike, and a 1931 Model A Ford, giving out holiday pencils, courtesy of the Friends of the Library. The Friends of the Library will hold their annual Holiday Gift Basket Fundraiser in late November thru mid-December, with opportunities to win a fabulous basket to keep or give as a gift.

Musical Celebrations: Meet us at the Gazebo for a Celtic Holiday Concert with Emily Ann Thompson & Kel on Wednesday, December 11, 6:30pm. You are invited to a Holiday Ukulele JamALONG on Wednesday, December 18, 6:15pm at Harborside Christian Church featuring holiday dance and music. Come to listen and enjoy or grab your ukelele and join in.

Feeling Good: Wholistic Wellness Lifestyle weekly discussions with Wellness Psychologist, Dr. James Y. Lin, include *Six Mindsets for Wellness Holidays* - November 12, *Thanksgiving for What We Have and What We Don't* - November 26, and *What to Let Go and What to Let in for 2025* - December 10. All discussions at the Safety Harbor Museum, 1:15pm.

Holiday-Themed Craft Workshops: The SHPL Foundation invites you to a *Gingerbread House Decorating Party Fundraiser* at the Museum on Thursday, December 12, 6:00pm. Donation of \$40 provides everything needed to create a holiday masterpiece. Pre-registration required.

Giving Back: Holiday Donation Drives: We are holding a donation drive for *Suncoast Animal League* in December and our annual Giving Tree, supporting the children of the Mattie Williams Neighborhood Family Center. Take a tag off the tree and return the gift, unwrapped with the tag attached to the library.

Holiday Story Times: Story Tots themes include *Grateful* on November 20, *Winter* on December 4, and *Holiday* on December 11. Story Times are held at Harborside Christian Church, 10:30am. Visit our website, social media, or call the youth department for other Story Time information, including a Hanukkah themed program.

For information on these programs and other events, please visit: SafetyHarborLibrary.com or call the Answers Desk, 724-1525 x4112.

Second Story Construction Update:



Construction is on schedule for a spring 2025 completion. A new roof is being installed on the entire facility along with updated paint. We look forward to welcoming the community to the new space.

A festive poster for a Gingerbread House Decorating Party. The top features various gingerbread cookies shaped like houses, stars, and trees. The title "CHRISTMAS & HANUKKAH GINGERBREAD HOUSE Decorating Party" is prominently displayed. Below the title, text describes the fundraiser, including the \$40.00 donation per house and the registration requirement. The location is listed as the Safety Harbor Museum. The date and time are highlighted in a brown oval: Thursday, December 12, 6:00-8:00PM. The bottom of the poster features more gingerbread cookies and the Safety Harbor Public Library Foundation logo.

CHRISTMAS & HANUKKAH GINGERBREAD HOUSE
Decorating Party

Get into the holiday spirit with our Gingerbread House Decorating Fundraiser. Houses and all the fixings provided to create a holiday masterpiece. \$40.00 donation per Gingerbread House. Registration required. Info: SafetyHarborLibraryFoundation.org

Location: *Safety Harbor Museum*
329 South Bayshore Blvd.
Safety Harbor, FL 34695

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12
6:00-8:00PM

SHP LF SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION
Building a Legacy for the Future
SafetyHarborLibraryFoundation.org

Children's Programs

- ★ Zumbini: (Ages 0-5)
November 5 & December 3, 10:30am.
- Story Tots: (Ages 19 mos.-5 yrs.)
November 6, 13, 20, & December 4, 11,
10:30am.
- Baby & Me Story Time: (Ages 0-18 mos.)
November 8, 15, 22, & December 6, 13,
10:30am.
- Toy Swap & Face Painting in the Art Park:
(Ages 0-11) November 9, 10:00 - 11:30am.
- ★ Baby & Me Yoga: (Ages 0-1)
November 12 & December 10, 10:30am.
- ★ ICRE8-Art Class: (Ages 5-95)
November 18 & December 9, 5:30pm.
- ★ Kids' Book Bag: (Ages 4-7)
November 18 & December 9
- ★ Puppets, Tunes 'n Tea for Tots: (Ages 2-5)
November 19 & December 17, 11:00am



★ REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT: [EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG](https://events.safetyharborlibrary.org)

Tween Library Programs

Ages 8-12

Homework Help: (Grades K-8) Mondays except during school breaks, 3:00-6:00 pm

***Tween Creative Writers Group: 11/6 & 12/11, 6:00-7:00 pm**

***Tween Painting To Go:**

Pick up 11/12-11/16

***Tween Graphic Novel Book Club:**

11/19 & 12/3, 5:30-6:30 pm

Taylor Swift Celebration:

(All Ages) 12/13, 5:00-7:00 pm

at the John Wilson Park Gazebo



***Registration Required**

Register at events.safetyharborlibrary.org



TEEN LIBRARY PROGRAMS

AGES 12-18



***TEEN TAKE-HOME RAMEN TASTE TEST: 11/4-11/9**

***VIRTUAL SAT WORKSHOPS: 11/5, 11/19, 4:00 PM**

***TEEN CREATIVE WRITERS GROUP: 11/6, 12/11, 5:00 PM**

***TEEN PUNK DIY: 11/13, 5:00 PM**

TEEN RAINBOW ROOM: 11/20, 12/4, 5:00 PM



★ REGISTRATION REQUIRED AT [EVENTS.SAFETYHARBORLIBRARY.ORG](https://events.safetyharborlibrary.org)

LIBRARY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

Pet Supply Donation Drive
11/1 - 11/30

The Great Puzzle Exchange
11/14 | 6:00 pm

ESOL Conversation Club
Weds | 10:00 am
Weds | 6:00 pm

Citizenship Prep
Weds | 11:30 am

Tech Tutoring
Available by Appointment
Monday Evenings
Fri & Sat Mornings

Celtic Holiday Concert

at John Wilson Park Gazebo
12/11 | 6:30 pm

Friends of the Library Book Sale

12/14 | 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Book Clubs

Silent Book Club
11/6 & 12/5 | 6:00 pm

Words & Wine
11/18 & 12/16 | 6:00 pm

Books & Bagels
11/19 & 12/17 | 10:30 am

Visit us at SafetyHarborLibrary.com for a complete listing of upcoming events and meeting locations.

SAFETY HARBOR RECREATION

SAFETY HARBOR OWL TEAM RAISES AWARENESS OF DANGERS OF RAT POISONING

by: *Rebekah Mason, Communications Manager*



photo by: Mark J. Schocken

In August, Cathy Branch Stebbins of the "Safety Harbor Owl Team" presented at the annual Florida Recreation & Park Association Conference about the dangers of rat poisoning to our owl and wildlife population. Park & Recreation professionals from around the state attend the annual conference. After the presentation, Cathy received overwhelmingly positive feedback on the importance of the topic with some stating that they weren't aware of the dangers and ripple effect caused by rat poisoning.

Many people are unaware of the unintended consequences of using rat poison. Because mice and rats don't die in the bait stations where they eat the poison, other animals who prey on rodents - like owls - wind up poisoned after consuming the affected animals. And it's not only wild animals who can become poisoned; sometimes, even people's beloved pets have been unintentionally poisoned by the bait.



photo by: Fred Brisard

The City of Safety Harbor has been working with the Safety Harbor Owl team for several years to educate residents and business owners on safer alternatives to traditional rat poisoning and tips on how to keep your home or business free of unwanted pests in safer ways than traditional rat poisoning.

If you would like to learn more about this topic, you can find resources on the City's website at: cityofsafetyharbor.com/948/Protecting-Our-Wildlife

REAL FUN! EVENTS & PROGRAMS

HOLIDAY CAMPS & SCHOOL'S DAY OUT

School's Day Out

Days include a variety of active and quiet games along with field trips. Pack your lunch and wear sneakers!

Ages: 5-12, 7:30AM-5:30PM, \$35/Day, Community Center

Dates: 11/25, 11/26, 11/27

12/23, 12/26, 12/27, 12/31, 1/2, 1/3, 1/6

Holiday Farm Camp

We will learn about farm life, animals, and food from the farm. Take home projects and explorations included. Pre-registration is required.

Ages: 7-14, Mon 11/25, 8:30AM-2PM, \$35, Folly Farm

Ages: 7-14, Tue 11/26, 8:30AM-2PM, \$35, Folly Farm

Ages: 7-14, Wed 11/27, 8:30AM-2PM, \$35, Folly Farm

Spin Sporting Ride

Ages: 16+, Fridays, 6:30-7:30pm, \$10/class, Community Center

Holiday Wreath Decorating

Adults, Wed, 12/4, 3:30-5pm, \$6.50, Museum

Sound Healing Journey

Ages: 15+, Thu, 12/5, 6:45-7:45pm, \$25, Community Center

Elves in the Kitchen

Ages: 7-12, Thu, 12/5-12/12, 4:45-6pm, \$28, Rigsby

Holiday Bow Making

Adults, Wed, 12/4, 5:15-6:15pm, \$12, Museum

Resin Art Holiday Workshop

Adults, Tue, 12/10, 6:30-9pm, \$45, Museum

Holiday Tour with a Twist

Adults, Fri, 12/13, 6-9:30pm, \$26, Museum

For full list of Recreation events, classes, and programs: SAFETYHARBORRECREATION.COM

Holidays IN THE Harbor

Tree Lighting

FRI, 12/6 • 6-8PM • FREE • GAZEBO AT JOHN WILSON PARK



Sip & Shop

FRI, 12/6 • 5-9PM • FREE • MAIN STREET

Safety Harbor Holiday Parade

SAT, 12/7 • 10AM • FREE • MAIN STREET

Kiwanis Arts & Crafts Show

SUN, 12/8 • 9AM-4PM • FREE • MAIN STREET



Santa's Twilight 5K

SAT, 12/14 • 7PM • PRICES VARY • MARINA



Harbor Holiday Nights

THU 12/19, FRI 12/20, SAT 12/21

6-9:30PM • FREE • FOLLY FARM

TROLLEY TO CANDY CANE FOREST • \$5/PERSON

3rd Friday Street Celebration

FRI, 12/20 • 6-10PM • FREE • MAIN STREET

SAFETYHARBOREVENTS.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 cityofsafetyharbor.com.

CITY OFFICIALS

Joe Ayoub, Mayor
Andy Steingold, Vice Mayor
Nancy Besore, Commissioner
Jacob Burnett, Commissioner
Carlos Diaz, Commissioner
Josh M. Stefancic, City Manager

CITY DIRECTORY

City Hall: 727-724-1555
Community Center: 727-724-1560
Fire Department: 727-724-1520
Library: 727-724-1525
Museum & Cultural Ctr.: 727-724-1562
Public Works: 727-724-1550
Rigsby Recreation Center: 727-724-1545



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PAINT YOUR HEART OUT
SAFETY HARBOR

We're Looking For Houses to Paint

Paint Your Heart Out Safety Harbor (PYHOSH) is a local non-profit organization that enables citizens to lend a helping hand by painting the exteriors of houses, cleaning the yards and doing minor external repairs for homeowners in need.

PAINT DAY IS MARCH 1, 2025.

Do you know a resident in need who could benefit from this free community service?

If you would like to be considered to have your house painted (or know of someone in need), the following criteria MUST be met:

- **Own and live in the home as your primary residence**
- **Live in the City of Safety Harbor**
- **Have special needs such as age, limited income, or physical disability**

EMAIL: PYHOSH@GMAIL.COM
OR CALL: 727-380-0626
OR VISIT:
FACEBOOK.COM/PAINTYOURHEARTSH



Holiday Sanitation Schedule

Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving Day falls on Thursday, November 28, 2024. Thursday recycling collection will be collected on Friday, November 29, 2024. Friday's recycling will be collected as usual. There are two recycling drop of locations located at 1200 Railroad Ave and at Fire Station 53 at 3095 McMullen Booth Road available for residential drop off.

Christmas

Christmas Day falls on Wednesday, December 25, 2024. Wednesday's sanitation services will be collected on Thursday, December 26, 2024. Monday's and Tuesday's sanitation collection will occur as regularly scheduled. Thursday's recycling collection will be pushed back to Friday, December 27, 2024. Friday's recycling collection will occur as scheduled.

New Year's Day

New Year's Day falls on Wednesday, January 1, 2025. Wednesday's sanitation services will be collected on Thursday, January 2, 2025. Monday's and Tuesday's sanitation collection will occur as regularly scheduled. Thursday's recycling collection will be pushed back to Friday, January 3, 2025. Friday's recycling collection will occur as scheduled.

Christmas Tree Pickup

Christmas Trees should be put out with yard waste on normal garbage day – January 6, 7, or 8.

