

CityScape

photo by: Kelley Pearson

Volume 35 | Issue 1
January/February 2025

www.CityofSafetyHarbor.com

Follow us...



PROTECTING OUR OWLS & WILDLIFE IN SAFETY HARBOR



Happy New Year!

Many ingredients contribute to what makes Safety Harbor a special place. It happens through our sense of community, the events and activities we host, the contributions of our local businesses, and the day-to-day kindness we show each other as neighbors. We share a natural environment that is unique, known as Old Tampa Bay. Its wildlife and beauty contribute to what makes our city special.

We have a core value to protect our natural environment and its wildlife. We are a community that cares. I'd like to use this opportunity to remind everyone to be aware of what kind of pest control you use. Many of you will recall that a family of Great Horned Owls from Phillip Park was killed from confirmed cases of rat poisoning a few years ago.

We are lucky to have a new pair of Great Horned Owls living in Phillip Bay again and owlets will be hatching soon. Please, help to protect them by not using the poisons that caused the owl deaths two years ago. Blood-thinning chemicals, aka First- and Second-Generation Anticoagulants (FGARs and SGARs), will kill non-targeted wildlife that eat rats as their main food source.



Photo by: Mark Schocken

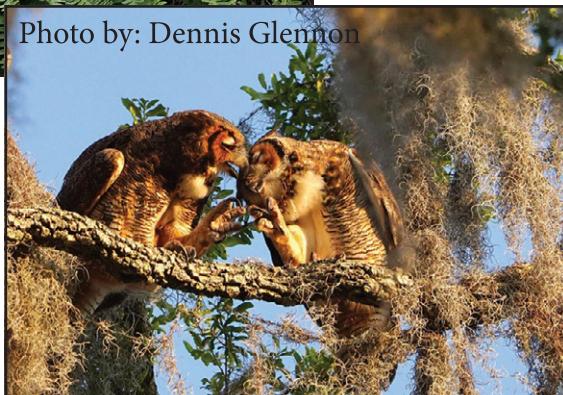
Photo by: Linda Schocken



There are other ways to control unwanted pests and other chemicals that are just as effective. Carefully select your pest control chemicals. Talk to your pest control company before you hire them. For more information, go to our website at cityofsafetyharbor.com/948/Protecting-Our-Wildlife or safetyharborowls.com.

We are a community that cares. Thank you for what you personally do to make the City of Safety Harbor a special place.

Photo by: Dennis Glennon



Joseph Ayab

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AROUND SAFETY HARBOR

BILL CROPSEY CITIZENS ACADEMY IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

by: Rachael Telesca, Interim Human Resources Director

The City of Safety Harbor is now accepting applications for the 2025 - Bill Cropsey Citizens Academy. Sessions take place on Tuesday evenings from 6:00PM to 8:00PM beginning on April 15, 2025. The Academy takes place over a seven-week period and will be limited to 24 participants. Academy applicants will be chosen on a first come, first served basis with preference given to Safety Harbor residents.

The Bill Cropsey Citizens Academy will tour key facilities, interact with City leaders, discover ways to get involved with local government, and learn about the essential functions of a municipal government agency.



Application deadline is Monday, March 31, 2025. Applications are available online at: cityofsafetyharbor.com/citizensacademy. Call Human Resources at (727)724-1555 ext. 1401 with any questions.

WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THOSE LEAVES?

by: Renee Cooper, Public Works Director

As we continue through the winter months, here in Florida, the leaves begin to heavily fall from the trees. During the months of February, March, and April, the City's street sweeping contractor moves from a once per month sweeping schedule to twice per month sweeping of City streets. The contractor does not perform sweeping on private roadways, FDOT roadways, or County roadways. Roads that do not have curbs are also not swept as the sweeper would cause damage to the roadway shoulder and is unable to vacuum up debris on uncurbed roadways.

Prepare for street sweeping by moving cars parked along the curb into driveways. The leaves fall so quickly, that it sometimes may seem that the sweeper did not pass through. The goal of the street sweeping program is to remove dirt and debris (leaves) from the City's roadways to improve functionality of the City's stormwater systems and improve stormwater quality. To assist, please do not blow leaves or grass clippings into the roadway. This can cause blockages in the City's stormwater system as well as adding pollutants, such as nitrogen and phosphorus, to creeks, ponds, and Old Tampa Bay.

Due to the stormwater impacts, blowing leaves or clippings into a roadway is also considered an illicit discharge and is enforceable by Code Enforcement. Place leaves in bags or cans, as per the City's Sanitation Guidelines for preparation, for disposal on your regular garbage day.

We thank you for helping to keep our streets clean, improving our stormwater quality, and preventing blockages in the stormwater pipes and structures. Contact Public Works, 727-724-1550, with any questions.

Flood Zone Information

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

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.

HARBOR HAPPENINGS

Check cityofsafetyharbor.com for meeting locations

JANUARY

CITY MEETINGS

1 **New Year's Day - All City Facilities Closed; No Trash Collection**

8 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30PM
9 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30PM
14 Library Advisory Committee, 7PM
15 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30PM

20 **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - All City Facilities Closed; Trash Collection Occurs as Usual**

21 City Commission, 7PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

11 Folly Faire (Folly Farm), 9AM-12PM
17 3rd Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10PM

FEBRUARY

CITY MEETINGS

3 City Commission, 7PM
11 Library Advisory Committee, 7PM
12 Planning & Zoning Board/Board of Appeals, 6:30PM
13 Finance Advisory Committee, 6:30PM
17 City Commission, 7PM
19 Code Enforcement Board, 6:30PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

1 Best Damn Race (Marina), 6AM
8 Folly Faire (Folly Farm), 9AM-12PM
8 Golf Cart Cruise In (Main Street), 2-6PM
21 3rd Friday Street Celebration (Main Street), 6-10PM
22 Art & Seafood on the Water (Waterfront Park), 12-9PM
23 Art & Seafood on the Water (Waterfront Park), 12-6PM



Market on Main
Sundays ↗ 10am - 3pm ↗ Gazebo on Main St.



Creative Conversations



Safety Harbor
Diversity Advisory Board

Join the **Safety Harbor Diversity Advisory Board** for
Creative Conversations at the Museum & Cultural Center celebrating:

Black History Month

February 19th • 6:30–7:30PM • Free

Hear from a distinguished panel of local guests who broke barriers, cycles, and misconceptions. Listen to their stories, engage in dialogue, and share in a Black History Month experience through the lens of our community.

Women's History Month

Date to Be Announced • 6:30–7:30PM • Free

Join us as we honor, learn, and reflect on the role of women in our community, from military service, entrepreneurial success to leadership and philanthropy. We have an impressive panel of women lined up to share how they broke the glass ceiling in their field and are still soaring.

START THE YEAR RIGHT: MAKE YOUR LIBRARY PART OF YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

by: Lisa Kothe, Library Director

Many of us have resolutions or goals to better ourselves, save money, or learn something new. Here are a few reasons to make the library part of your 2025 resolutions.

1. Make a Habit of Reading

If your goal is to read more, your library is the perfect partner. In addition to physical books, we have e-books and audiobooks through **Libby** and **hoopla**. Whether you're into fiction, self-help, biographies, or cookbooks, you'll find a vast selection for any genre. Don't know what you want to read? Join a library book club to keep you motivated or ask a librarian for recommendations. Commit to reading 12 books this year.

2. Save Money

Planning to cut back on spending this year? Check out a museum pass, one of hundreds of tools for your DIY project, learn a language online with Pronunciator, try Pickleball by checking out a paddle, bake a cake using one of our unique pans, or start your spring garden with seeds from our Seed Library. Use **Kanopy** to stream films and documentaries. All free with your library card!

Tip: Visit SafetyHarborLibrary.com for other online resources, such as **Legal Forms** or **Ancestry** (available in-house only) or visit the Friends of the Library Book Store for a best-seller at bargain prices.

3. Get Involved in Your Community

We have Story Times, art classes and sign language classes, discussions, music programs, and more. Libraries are more than just a place to borrow books. They are community hubs, filled with resources, culture, and engaging programs for all ages. The Friends of the Library are always looking for new members with ideas for fundraising and to support the library. It's a meaningful way to give back while meeting new people.

Idea: Resolve to attend an event each month to discover new interests and connect with neighbors. Follow us on social media, check our website for our calendar or sign up for our monthly newsletter, by visiting the **How Do I**, page on our website.

Making your local library part of your New Year's resolutions is a simple way to enrich your life. It's a gateway to knowledge, culture, and community, offering countless opportunities to grow, save, and connect. Stop by and see us. We are excited to open our new second story space to you soon, allowing us to provide more exciting opportunities.



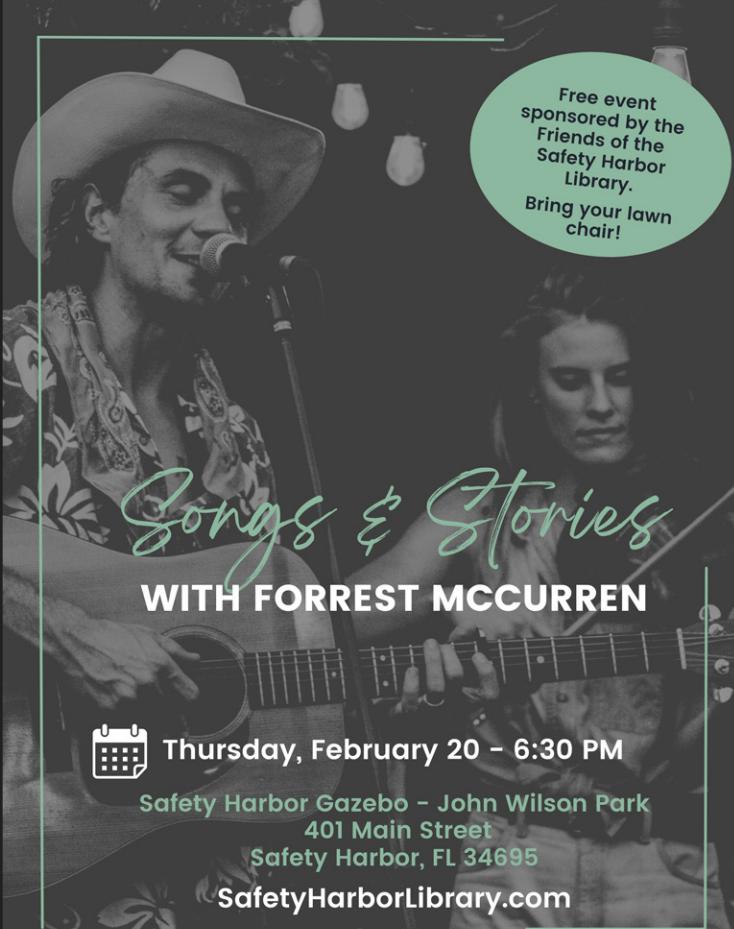
WELFARE
Folk Tunes From Finland

Thurs, Jan 23, 6:30pm
at John Wilson Park Gazebo, 401 Main St

Finnish acoustic duo Pia Leinonen and Joni Tiala will take you on an enchanting and unforgettable musical journey.

Bring your lawn chairs and blankets!

 SAFETY HARBOR PUBLIC LIBRARY | 101 2nd St N, Safety Harbor, FL 34695
727-724-1525 • SafetyHarborLibrary.com



Free event sponsored by the Friends of the Safety Harbor Library. Bring your lawn chair!

Songs & Stories
WITH FORREST MCCURREN

 **Thursday, February 20 - 6:30 PM**

**Safety Harbor Gazebo - John Wilson Park
401 Main Street
Safety Harbor, FL 34695
SafetyHarborLibrary.com**

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Baby & Me Story Time: (Ages 0-18 months)
Fridays, 10:30am
- Story Tots: (Ages 19 months - 5 years old)
Wednesdays, 10:30am
- ★ Wild About Art to Go-Paint a Penguin: (Ages 4-7)
Pick up week of Jan. 6
- ★ Toddler Yoga: (Ages 2-4)
Tuesdays, Jan. 7 & Feb. 4, 10:30am
- ★ ICRE8 - Art Class: (Ages 5-95)
Mondays, Jan. 13 & Feb. 10, 5:30pm
- Toy Swap in the Art Park: (Ages 11 & under)
Saturday, Jan. 18, 10:00am
- Ukulele Sing-Along in the Art Park: (Ages 0-7)
Saturdays, Jan. 18 & Feb. 15, 10:30am
- Pawsome Readers: (Ages 11 and under)
Saturdays, Jan. 25 & Feb. 22, 10:30am
- ★ Zumbini: (Ages 6 months - 5 years old)
Tuesdays, Jan. 28 & Feb. 25, 10:30am
- ★ Children's Book Bag: (Ages 4-7)
Pick up weeks of Jan. 27 & Feb. 24



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

Teen Library Programs Ages 12-18

Teen Anime & Manga Club - 1/8, 2/5,
5:00 pm



*Teen Pringles Taste Test - 1/15,
5:00 pm



*Teen Book Bags - 1/21-1/25,
2/18-2/22



*Teen Creative Writers Group - 1/22,
2/19, 5:00 pm



Teen Rainbow Room - 1/29, 2/26,
5:00 pm

*Teen Craft - 2/12, 5:00 pm

*Registration required at events.safetyharborlibrary.org

Tween Library Programs Ages 8-12

Homework Help: (Grades K-8) Mondays, 3:00-6:00 pm

*Tween Craft: 1/7 & 2/4, 5:30-6:30 pm

*Tween Graphic Novel Book Club: 1/14 & 2/11, 5:30-6:30 pm

*Tween Creative Writers Group: 1/22 & 2/19, 6:00-7:00 pm

*Tween Taste Test: 1/28 & 2/25, 5:30-6:30 pm

***REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
Register at events.safetyharborlibrary.org

LIBRARY EVENTS FOR ADULTS

Vellamo - In Concert
Folk Tunes from Finland
@ John Wilson Park Gazebo
1/23 | 6:30 pm

Songs & Stories
with Forrest McCurren
@ John Wilson Park Gazebo
2/20 | 6:30 pm

Winter Plant Swap
1/25 | 10:00 - 11:30 am

Wholistic Wellness
Lifestyle
1/14, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25
1:00 - 2:30 pm

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

Citizenship Prep
Weds | 11:30 am

Tech Tutoring
Available by Appointment
Fri & Sat Mornings

Book Clubs

Words & Wine
1/20 & 2/17 | 6:00 pm

Books & Bagels
1/21 & 2/18 | 10:30 am

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

SAFETY HARBOR RECREATION

MEET OUR TEAM & TRY SOMETHING NEW IN 2025! *by: Rebekah Mason, Communications Manager*



Meet Ryan London! Ryan is the newest member of the REAL Fun team. You can find him at the Community Center leading our athletics programs. Ryan comes to us from Chicago with an impressive background in athletic programming. Stop by the Community Center and say, "Hi!" when you sign up for your next class or grab your Fitness Room pass for the year.

While you're at the Community Center, this is a great time to check out the spin and row room! With your Fitness Room pass, you can use the spin and row room on your own, but we all know that fitness is more fun with friends. That's why REAL Fun team member Isaiah leads our Spin/Row Classes. Check out Teen Spin on Wednesdays, Spin Class on Mondays and Wednesdays, or Ride, Row, & Strength two Saturdays each month. You can find class details and register for any of these classes at SafetyHarborRecreation.com.

While you're at the Community Center, this is a great time to check out the spin and row room! With your Fitness Room pass, you can use the spin and row room on your own, but we all know that fitness is more fun with friends. That's why REAL Fun team member Isaiah leads our Spin/Row Classes. Check out Teen Spin on Wednesdays, Spin Class on Mondays and Wednesdays, or Ride, Row, & Strength two Saturdays each month. You can find class details and register for any of these classes at SafetyHarborRecreation.com.

It's not all athletics and exercise with Safety Harbor Recreation... we have a full schedule of art classes, history programs, senior trips, homeschool classes, nature programs – we even have goats and chickens at Folly Farm! Be sure to check out your REAL Magazine or go online to SafetyHarborRecreation.com to get the new year off to a great start!



Safety Harbor Senior EXPO

February 11th

10am-12:30pm

FREE at the Community Center

SafetyHarborRecreation.com



FOLLY FARM NATURE PRESERVE

Come Visit Us!

visit the park

1562 Dr. Martin Luther King JR St N
Park Hours: Daily, dawn to dusk
Phone Number: 727-724-1552

OR

visit the animals

Animal Visiting Hours:
Thu-Sun 11am-4pm
Donations accepted



Become a Friend of the Farm

The Leisure Services Department is dedicated to educating the next generation about sustainable living, the origins of our food, and Florida agriculture. Support the care of our farm animals by becoming a Friend of the Farm.



Make check payable to:
City of Safety Harbor
Attn. Friend of the Farm, Shannon Schafer
750 Main St., Safety Harbor, FL 34695
SSchafer@CityOfSafetyHarbor.com

Donation Levels		
Tort Support	\$50	Assist with feed, bedding and plants for Tortoise.
Pig Pal	\$75	Assists with feed, bedding and care for Guinea pigs.
Bunny Backer	\$100	Assists with feed, bedding and care for the Rabbits.
Chicken Champion	\$300	Provides feed, bedding and care for chickens
Goat Giver	\$600	Provides feed, hay, treats, toys, pen maintenance and veterinary care.
Farm Friend	Custom Amount	Assists with capital improvements and general care of all animals.

All donors will be recognized in one issue of REAL Magazine and on Friends board at the Farm.

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



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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



2025 Quarterly Clean Up Schedule*

Spring Clean Up: March 10 – 12

Hurricane Prep Clean Up: June 9 – 11

End-of-Summer Clean Up: September 8 – 10

Holiday Clean Up: December 8 – 10

For more details & what will & won't be collected:



* Collection occurs only once during the clean-up cycle.
Be sure to place items at the curb by 6:30AM on your regular collection day.