



NEWS YOU CAN USE

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FEBRUARY 2026

WINTER GARDEN MUSIC FESTIVAL – February 21

Are you ready for 11 hours of nonstop live music right in your hometown? The Winter Garden Music Festival (Saturday, February 21) brings 30+ musical groups to seven stages spread throughout historic downtown. Hosted by the City of Winter Garden, admission is FREE for this community event featuring an eclectic mix of genres including contemporary, rock, pop, country, Latin, jazz, blues, reggae, and more. There's something for every music lover!

Bring a lawn chair so you can relax and enjoy the performances in comfort. Beer, wine, and a variety of refreshments will be available for purchase at onsite vendor booths. Personal coolers and outside alcoholic beverages are not permitted.

Please note that West Plant Street (from Dillard Street to Park Avenue) and portions of adjacent side streets will be closed, transforming downtown into a massive (pedestrian-only) outdoor concert venue.

For the full event schedule and parking/shuttle details, scan the QR code or visit cwgd.com.

Saturday, February 21 | 11:00 am – 10:00 pm | Historic Downtown | Free Admission



VALENTINE'S DAY CELEBRATION AT THE MARKET – February 14

Start off your Valentine's Day at the Farmers Market for some holiday fun for the whole family. The kids will enjoy making a complimentary Valentine craft to mark the occasion. Visit the kids' tent located at Parking Garage Plaza.

Live music adds ambiance to the market as you stroll. Take a break to watch the performance or grab your partner or kids to dance to the tunes. The market is one-stop shopping for Valentine gifts and treats to make the day extra special.

Saturday, February 14
Market | 8:00 am – 1:00 pm
Free Kids' Crafts | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm (Parking Garage Plaza)
Downtown Pavilion, 104 S. Lakeview Avenue



FREE Fire Break Device for Residents on Home Oxygen Therapy

Oxygen therapy saves lives - but it can increase fire risk. A fire break device adds an extra layer of protection to keep you and your loved ones safe. City of Winter Garden residents on home oxygen therapy and living in a single-family home are eligible for a FREE fire break device. The device extinguishes a fire in the oxygen delivery tube if it is accidentally ignited - a lifesaving safety feature.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY:

- Must be a resident of City of Winter Garden
- On home oxygen therapy
- Live in a single-family home

HOW THE DEVICE WORKS:

- Works like an in-line fuse
- Stops fire instantly before it spreads
- Protects oxygen equipment and your home
- Provides peace of mind for patients, caregivers, and families

HOW TO GET A FREE FIRE BREAK DEVICE:

Send an email to Winter Garden Fire Rescue at OFM@cwgd.com to schedule a free home visit.

Tucker Ranch Park Addition Wins National Award While Still Under Construction

Tucker Ranch Holistic Health, Wellness, Teaching Farm and Family Activity Center was recently named a winner of the 2025 American Architecture Awards. Located at 100 Avalon Road, the 25.6-acre addition to Tucker Ranch Park and Nature Preserve is one of five Parks and Gardens projects nationally to be honored. Currently under construction, the park's award-winning addition will open later this year.



Each year, the prestigious award recognizes the most innovative and inspiring works in contemporary American architecture across the United States and globally. The 31-year-old awards program is hosted by The Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design, together with The European Centre for Architecture Art Design.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY REGISTRATION

Apply Now: Course Starts March 4

Registration is open for the next Citizens Police Academy. During this free, nine-week course, Winter Garden police officers and staff host weekly discussions on such topics as crime prevention, investigations, and police procedures. Class participants will also be eligible to go on a ride along with an officer!

Curious about what goes on inside your police department? Get your questions answered at the next Citizens Police Academy class!

Class Dates | March 4 – April 29 (makeup date: May 6)
Wednesdays Only | 6:00 – 9:00 pm | Free
Winter Garden Police Department, Training Room, 251 W. Plant Street

Eligibility requirements:

- at least 18 years old
- live or work in City of Winter Garden
- no criminal record

Applications are available at wgpd.com and at the Winter Garden Police Department, 251 W. Plant Street. Seats fill quickly so act now.

Questions, contact Officer Gail Michaud or Officer Timothy Thatford at 407.656.3636 ext. 5416.



Little Cupid's Carnival Preschool Holiday Program – February 13

Join us for arts & crafts, fun games, face painting, and holiday-themed activities! Hosted by the Parks & Recreation Department, the free program is for preschool children (3 – 5 years old). Bring a friend or a group.

Friday, February 13 | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Age | 3 – 5 years old
Jessie Brock Community Center, 310 N. Dillard Street | Free

Only Rain Goes Down the Storm Drain: Anything Else is Illegal

A storm drain near a home or business is NOT an invitation to dump trash, yard waste, chemicals, and grease. In fact, placing those items in the storm drain is illegal and poses a threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the public because it flows directly into our waterways.

According to State law, ONLY rainwater and potable (drinking) water can be discharged into the storm drain. Therefore, dumping anything that is not stormwater or potable water (even mop water) in the storm drain, intentionally or accidentally, is a crime. For businesses, fats, oils, or grease (FOG) should always be contained in an approved outdoor oil dumpster and serviced regularly.

There are penalties for putting trash, grass, leaves, chemicals, paint, and FOG in the storm drains. Penalties include fines and cleanup costs. Cleanup costs can be expensive because the discharge may have traveled for miles, and the offender would be responsible for the entire cleanup, not just on their property.

Common Illegal Pollutants and Contaminants that Should NEVER Go Down a Storm Drain:

- Oil
- Grease
- Fertilizer
- Motor Oil
- Detergents
- Trash
- Debris
- Lawn clippings
- Pet waste
- Household chemicals

Remember, only rain down the drain!

How To Report Violation:

To report a suspected violation, please contact the City of Winter Garden Public Services Department:

- During Business Hours, call 407.656.2256.
- On Weekends and After Hours, call 321.436.4559.

WINTER FUN with PARKS & RECREATION

Yoga, Tai Chi, Zumba, 50+ Activities & Day Trips, Amazing Athletes, Archery, Art Classes, Ballet, Kickball, Pickleball, Tennis, Softball, Super Soccer Stars, Preschool Programs, Cardio Drumming, Babysitting Certification, Video Game Club, and more! For details about programs, classes, athletic leagues, and more, visit the "Parks & Recreation" page at cwgd.com or call 407.656.4155. Register at <https://enroll.wgplay.com>.

All programs are held at Jessie Brock Community Center, 310 N. Dillard Street, unless noted otherwise.

BABYSITTING

For students aged 10+, the course will cover general babysitting rules, guidelines, and concepts. Students will learn how to properly change and dispose of diapers, serve age-appropriate foods, as well as develop an understanding of contact lists and emergency situations. Students will also be taught skills in first aid, child safety, and health & wellness.

Wednesday, February 11 | 6:00 – 8:30 pm

Age | 10 years & older

\$89

BALLET BASICS – TEENS & ADULTS

A basic level traditional ballet class for teens and adults with no previous experience or those looking to rediscover ballet after a long break. Class concentrates on proper body mechanics and barre work.

Wednesdays | February 4 – February 25 | 10:30 – 11:30 am

Age | 16 years & older

\$65 City Resident / \$70 Nonresident, per 4-week session

CREATIVE MOVEMENT

This unique program introduces basic dance ballet techniques and movement through dance, games, and songs. Class focus is on gross motor skills, left/right, body awareness, ballet positions, and beginner ballet technique and language. Advance registration required.

Wednesdays | February 4 – February 25 | 9:30 – 10:15 am

Age | 2 – 4 years old

\$60 City Resident / \$65 Nonresident, per 4-week session

KICKBALL – ADULT LEAGUE

Gather your friends and come out to play the game we all remember from grade school which has evolved into today's hottest get-together sport for adults. Anyone can play from the less experienced to the diehard. This is a great way to stay in shape, meet new people, and have fun! Come out and KICK IT with our Thursday night co-ed league.

Games | 6:45 pm, 7:45 pm, & 8:45 pm

\$325 per team for season

Braddock Park, 13460 Lake Butler Boulevard

SPRING LEAGUE

League begins Thursday, March 26

Registration | January 28 – February 20

Registration may close early due to limited availability in each league. Number of league games varies each season.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL RUNNING CLUB

Participants will receive training that develops speed, stamina, and an understanding for fast-twitch and slow-twitch muscle fibers. The four-week program will conclude with a Versatility Contest that will test abilities in the 100 meter and one-mile events. A male and female Versatility Champion will be determined for ages 11-14 and ages 15-18.

Tuesdays | February 10 – March 3 | 6:00 – 6:50 pm

Age | 11 – 18 years old

\$100 City Resident / \$120 Nonresident

PICKLEBALL ADVANCEMENT

This course will focus on advancing your game by working on the strategy and theory of pickleball. It will provide in-depth discussion and explanation during simulated games and specific scenarios. Each class session will be 1.5 hours in length. The course is designed to assist players who consistently play and are interested in elevating their game by providing a better understanding of the nuances of pickleball.

Thursdays | February 12, February 26 | 12:30 – 2:00 pm

\$30 City Resident / \$40 Nonresident

Veterans Memorial Park, 420 S. Park Avenue

USSSA SOFTBALL - ADULT LEAGUES

Hit a grand slam with our spring and fall adult softball! Leagues are available for all skill levels. Church, Men's and Co-ed leagues offered Monday - Thursday. Play, be active, and most importantly have fun! Registration may close early due to limited availability in each league. Number of league games varies each season.

Games | 6:45 pm, 7:45 pm & 8:45 pm

\$500 per team for season

Braddock Park, 13460 Lake Butler Boulevard

Veterans Memorial Park, 420 South Park Avenue

SPRING LEAGUE

League begins Monday, March 23

Returning Team Registration*

January 28 – February 20



City Government Serving You

MAYOR

John Rees, District 5 – Citywide
407.656.7372 | jrees@cwgd.com

COMMISSIONERS

Lisa L. Bennett, District 1
Mayor Pro-Tem
407.877.5131 | lisa.bennett@cwgd.com

Iliana R. Jones, District 2
407.877.5132 | iliana.jones@cwgd.com

Chloe Johnson, District 3
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407.877.5134 | csharman@cwgd.com

CITY MANAGER

Jon C. Williams
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CITY OF WINTER GARDEN

300 W. Plant Street
Winter Garden, FL 34787
407-656-4111

www.cwgd.com

www.downtownwg.com

[f](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialDowntownWinterGarden) [i](https://www.instagram.com/OfficialDowntownWinterGarden) @OfficialDowntownWinterGarden

New Team Registration | February 4 – February 20

* A returning team is classified as a team that has participated in any of our softball leagues within one of the past three consecutive seasons.

TENNIS LESSONS - YOUTH & ADULT

Highly skilled instructor brings years of experience and knowledge to participants. Class space is limited, advance registration required.

January 26 – March 6

Age | 5 years & older

Lesson time and fees vary, visit cwgd.com for details.

Chapin Station Park, 501 Crown Point
Cross Road

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CAMP – February 16

Arts and crafts, activities, sports, and much more! A qualified, well-trained Winter Garden Parks & Recreation staff will provide a safe and fun day camp for your child on the school holiday. Campers must bring a packed lunch, snacks, and a water bottle to camp.

Presidents' Day | Monday, February 16 | 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

Grades | Kindergarten through 8th grade | \$26 Resident / \$34 Nonresident

Jessie Brock Community Center, 310 N. Dillard Street. Advance registration required at <https://enroll.wgplay.com>.



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Central Florida Railroad Museum

101 S. Boyd Street | cfrhs.org | 407.656.0559
Tuesday – Friday | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Saturday | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm | Free Admission

EXHIBITION

RAILROAD DEPOTS OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Railroads arrived in Orange County in 1880, and their steel rails quickly spread throughout the region. Goods and passengers arrived and departed at dozens of Central Florida depots, allowing for convenient connections to and from points north and south. This photo exhibition features depots long departed and some that remain in use today.



Scan to learn more!

Now – March 7 | Free Admission



Winter Garden Heritage Museum

1 N. Main Street | wghf.org | 407.656.3244
Tuesday – Saturday | 11:00 am – 3:00 pm | Free Admission

EXHIBITION (NEW) *SERVICE ABOVE SELF: A CENTURY OF WINTER GARDEN ROTARY*



For over a century, Rotary members have united globally to make a positive, lasting impact. Here in West Orange County, local Rotary clubs embody this mission every day, transforming passion into action. This exhibit highlights how dedicated local professionals and community leaders tackle challenges in their own neighborhoods and around the world.

February 3 – April 30

EVENTS

There's always something happening at the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation! From pickleball tournaments to educational Lunch & Learns, opening reception happy hours and festive holiday celebrations throughout the year, we invite you to join in. Visit WGHF.org/Events or scan QR code to explore what's coming up.



Scan to learn more!



Creative Spirit of Winter Garden Exhibit at City Hall

Discover the vibrant artistry flourishing within our community currently on display at City Hall. The exhibit features work by local artists who live and create in Winter Garden, offering a unique opportunity to explore their stories, inspirations, and creative processes. From vivid landscapes to expressive abstracts, each piece reflects the rich cultural fabric and imaginative energy of our city.

Curated by the Winter Garden Art Association, stop in to celebrate the artists who shape the creative spirit of Winter Garden.

Now – February 27
Art in Public Places Gallery at City Hall,
300 W. Plant Street
Monday – Friday, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm | Free



SOBO Art Gallery

127 S. Boyd Street | wgart.org | 407.347.7996
Tuesday – Friday | 11:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday | 10:00 am – 4:00 pm | Free Admission

EXHIBITION

Canvas of Dreams

Dive into the realm of imagination where dreams and creativity converge on the canvas in awe-inspiring ways.

Now – February 28 | Free Admission

CALL TO ARTISTS

wgart.org/artists/call-to-artists

Visit the "Call to Artists" website page regularly for themes of upcoming exhibitions and submit online the FIRST through the EIGHTH of the month prior to an exhibition.

WORKSHOPS & CLASSES

For a complete list and registration: wgart.org/adults

Yin Yoga with Olga

Relax, restore, and unwind in a peaceful candlelight setting.

Candlelight Yin Yoga combines the beauty of art with the healing power of yoga.

Mondays | 10:30 am | \$15 paid at class | Drop In

Technique Tuesdays @ Two

Schedule and details: wgart.org/Tuesdays

A different instructor and technique is featured every week. Pick up new tips and techniques while enjoying the Open Artist Studio Space.

Tuesdays | 2:00 - 4:00 pm | Studio Room
Open to all | Free to members & first-time visitors

Artist Night Studio: Life Drawing

Model is available every session.
Wednesdays | 6:30 – 9:00 pm | 18 years & older only
\$10 member / \$15 nonmember

ART FOR KIDS

For classes, clubs, and events: wgart.org/kids