Kickoff Monday, January 28 - Beginning Weigh-In & Measurements

Come to the Orange City Council Chambers, 201 North Holly Avenue, Orange City any time between 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm for registration, weigh in and measurements.

$25 Registration Fee

Register online www.OurOrangeCity.com to fill out form. Payment is due at the kickoff.

The ten week challenge includes:

- Mayors Fitness Challenge Shirt
- Water Bottle
- Weekly walks led by the Mayor and other city staff
- In-Person boot camps
- Access 2x a week to Just Dance Fitness (Zumba, Yoga and Cardio Kickboxing classes)
- Group Line Dancing Classes
- Healthy recipes, tips and much more
- One month free access to Dark Wolf MMA

Cash Prizes

TOP 3 MEN & WOMEN WILL RECEIVE*

- 1st place $400
- 2nd place $250
- 3rd place $100

*Based on highest percentage of body weight lost

Participation Awards

Final Weigh-In will be on Monday, April 8.

Winners will be announced on Saturday, April 13 at Mill Lake Park at 10 am.

Participants are not eligible for a cash prize if they won a cash prize the 2018 Mayors Fitness Challenge.

Sponsored by:

Advent Health
Fish Memorial

WORLD
Risk Management
A BALANCE COMPANY

For more information regarding community events, please call 386-775-5410.
Remembering Orange City: Celebrating 137 Years of Shared Memories

Since 1882, Orange City has been home to generations of entrepreneurs, families, farmers, teachers and doctors. Our history is rooted in the love of community and shared experiences. The Historic Preservation Board works to preserve Orange City’s history and heritage by engaging citizens in maintaining shared memories of the city. Join the HPB for an evening of Remembering Orange City on February 21 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Council Chambers, 201 N Holly Ave. There will be photographs, artifacts, presentations and stories of the good ol’ days to display and share. Do you have any artifacts, photographs, maps, letters, vintage clothing, postcards, or any other Orange City memories to share? Please bring them. Call 386-775-5417 for more information.

SAFE Women’s Self Defense Class

The Orange City Police Department is offering a self-defense program for women. Classes for the Self-Awareness and Familiarization Exchange course will be held in Orange City Council Chambers, 201 N. Holly Ave, from 10 a.m. to noon on Feb. 16, March 16, April 13, May 11 and June 22. The classes are free and limited to 25 members. Participants must be at least 15 years old and accompanied by an adult if younger than 18. Contact Sgt. Rolly Cavida at 386-851-7561 or rcavida@ourorangecity.com.

Façade Improvement Grant

Do you need money to improve your commercial building or historic residential home? If your building is located within the Community Redevelopment Area, Orange City is here to help! You can apply for a dollar-to-dollar matching grant award up to $5,000 per project. Call-for-projects are due by February 1, 2019. Please contact Development Services at (386) 775-5415 or visit our website, OurOrangeCity.com > Departments > Development Services, for eligibility requirements and more information.
Congratulations to our Holiday Winners!

Christmas Parade Winners
Thank you to our judges, Clyde Adams from Four Towns Optimist Club, Jarrica Oquin from Sykes and Elisa Millwater from Orange City, FL – Government, for volunteering for the difficult task of judging the parade.
Best Walking Group: University High School Band
Most Christmas Spirit: Shell We Dance Academy
Best Light Display: Southern RV
Most Creative: Hair Cuttery
Best Overall: VIA Orange City Woman’s Club

Holiday Lighting Contest Winners
Thank you to the Historic Preservation Board for volunteering to judge this contest.
Best Overall: Robert & Marilyn Austin, 1833 Monastery Rd
Best Use of Color: Bonnie Greer, 101 South Leavitt Ave
Most Innovative: Ken & June Siwek, 628 Sumner Ave

Upcoming Festivals

Blue Spring Manatee Festival
On January 26 and 27 from 9 am to 5 pm at Valentine Park, come enjoy Central Florida Zoo presentations, World Famous Disconnected K9’s Frisbee Show, SCPA Adopt A Pet, live music, great food, rides, and much more. Don’t forget the free shuttle bus to Blue Spring State Park to see the manatees. For more information visit www.themanateefestival.com.

African American Heritage Festival
The eighth annual African American Heritage Festival is February 23 at Mill Lake Park and begins at 9 am. Enjoy live music, great food, a kid zone and much more! For more information call 407-314-1033.

Movie in the Park 2019 Schedule
Movie in the Park is held at Veterans Memorial Park, 476 S Volusia Ave. All movies begin at dusk. Admission and popcorn are free. Hot dogs, chips and drinks are available for purchase. Remember to bring a blanket or chairs. In the event of rain, Movie in the Park will be held on the following Friday.

- February 1  Smallfoot
- March 1  The Little Mermaid (1989)
- April 5  Ralph Breaks the Internet
- May 3  The Nutcracker and the Four Realms
- Sept 6  Spiderman into the Spider Verse
- October 26*  Hotel Transylvania 3
- Dec 6*  The Grinch (2018)
*Location change to Dickinson Park

Parks & Recreation
A water fountain/dog water bowl and a new pavilion were installed at Coleman Park. Picnic tables and benches will be installed soon.
The south pavilion at Veterans Memorial Park has been replaced and is currently available for rentals.
Both splash pads are closed for the season and will reopen in April.
Design of Colin’s Dream Skate Park at Coleman Park will begin soon. Keep an eye open for information regarding the groundbreaking.
To rent a pavilion or field, call 386-775-5444.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

In appreciation of our community residents, volunteers and event sponsors, the City of Orange City would like to formally thank you. It is your dedication and support that makes our success possible. We appreciate you and look forward to serving you for years to come.

205 East Graves Avenue
Orange City, FL 32763-5213

Happy New Year from the Orange City Council

The Orange City Council represents the citizens of Orange City. Please feel free to contact your district or at-large representative if you have any questions or comments.

Gary Blair, Mayor, gblair@ourorangecity.com
Bill Crippen, At Large, bcrippen@ourorangecity.com
Bill O’Connor, District 1, woconnor@ourorangecity.com
Jeff Allebach, District 2, jallebach@ourorangecity.com
Jim Mahoney, District 3, jmahoney@ourorangecity.com
Kellianne Marks, District 4, kmarks@ourorangecity.com
Martin Harper, District 5, mharper@ourorangecity.com

Why Did the Orange Groves Disappear?

This article was submitted by the Orange City Historic Preservation Board.

Once aptly named for the hundreds of robust orange groves in the city, the name Orange City today is a contradiction. Still, it reminds us of an era when citrus was the lifeblood of our little town. Orange City came to life in 1875, publicized as a semi-tropical paradise and the perfect place to grow citrus. By 1880, there were nearly 4,000 acres of orange groves in and around town, surrounded by looming pines. Oranges were picked, packed and shipped by rail or hauled to Thursby’s landing at Blue Spring. From there, they were taken upriver to sell to northerners. The town was growing and the orange business was booming.

Mr. William John Martin tracked temperatures in Orange City for the US Government from 1884 to 1926. His weather diary recorded the extreme temperature fluctuations that impacted the orange industry, including damaging freezes in January 1886 and March 1890. Orange City would suffer the most devastating freeze on record for orange groves and property in the winter of 1894/1895. On December 29, 1894, temperatures dropped to 15 degrees. This temperature caused the oranges and trees to turn black, but the trees did not die. A warm spell in January caused the trees to put out new growth and gave planters renewed hope. Suddenly, on February 7, 1895, a second freeze occurred. This time the temperatures dropped to 16 degrees and stayed below freezing for 120 hours causing the tree branches to snap and trunks to split.

The pines that once surrounded the groves provided shelter for the crops. When the pines were cut to make way for the rapid growth of the town, the groves were exposed to the cold. The damage sustained caused many folks to leave. Those who stayed learned to diversify their crops. The citrus industry returned to prominence in Orange City by the 1920s, but setbacks came again with the freezes of 1940 and 1957. By the 1960s, Orange City’s citrus industry was all but gone. Scattered citrus trees found throughout the city today serve as a reminder of Orange City’s fruitful past.