



## City of Lighthouse Point

### February 2026 Newsletter

City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 16, 2026 in observance of President's Day.

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### Don't Trash It, Compost It! Join Our New Pilot Program Today



Are you interested in composting? LHP has partnered with Filthy Organics to kick off a Residential Compost Pilot Program, and we want you to join us!

The pilot program is first-come first-served and limited to 50 residents who will receive a 5-gallon compost bucket, and access to drop off their compost

twice per week. Together, we can reduce waste and build a more sustainable community. For more information and to apply, please visit <https://www.lighthousepointfl.gov/369/Composting>

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### Serve on a City Board

**We need you!** Consider serving on a City Advisory Board for a chance to affect your community positively. Being on an advisory board is a rewarding opportunity! If you have questions about our Boards, please email [lhpadmin@lighthousepointfl.gov](mailto:lhpadmin@lighthousepointfl.gov).

To complete an application to serve, please visit the following link: <https://www.lighthousepointfl.gov/.../BoardCommittee...>



## SERVE ON A CITY ADVISORY BOARD OR COMMITTEE

*email [lhadmin@lighthousepointfl.gov](mailto:lhadmin@lighthousepointfl.gov) for more information.*



## Let's Recycle Better, Together

### Recycling Made Simple

#### 5 Easy Steps To Get Started:

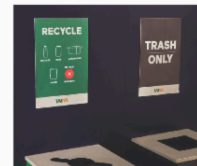
##### 1 Grab Two Containers

Whether you use new containers, repurposed boxes or reusable bags, set your recycling container next to the trash bin - this works for recycling in several rooms in your home or at work.



##### 2 Label Both Containers

Download and print Recycling and Trash labels at [wm.com/recycleright](http://wm.com/recycleright), and place them on each container to ensure the right items go into the right bins. Remember - don't use a plastic bag in your recycling bin. Empty items directly into your recycling container.



##### 3 Start Recycling

Remember, recycling right is as easy as recycling clean bottles, cans, paper, and cardboard. Download Recycle Right posters from [wm.com/recycleright](http://wm.com/recycleright) and put on your refrigerator, or place them by the recycling bins at home and work.



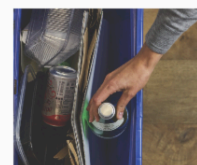
##### 4 Better Together

Empty smaller recycling bins used throughout your home or business into your larger recycling bin - and remember to free your recyclables - no plastic bags.



##### 5 Keep It Up

The easiest way to be an avid recycler is to make a commitment to recycle right. Once you get into that groove, you'll find recycling seamlessly integrates into your everyday life. Then share your passion for recycling with family and friends, and make purchase choices based on recyclability.



## Employee of the Year



The Employee Appreciation Program was designed to reward individuals who consistently go above and beyond, contributing to the success of our City.

I am pleased to officially congratulate Eileen Hughes on being selected as our 2025 Employee of the Year! This recognition is a direct reflection of her exceptional dedication and outstanding performance over the past year.

Eileen is a model employee who exemplifies dependability and reliability. She consistently arrives on time, rarely misses work, and maintains a friendly and approachable demeanor. Her unwavering commitment to her role ensures that operations within the Criminal Investigations Division run smoothly and efficiently. Her efforts are a major reason for the department's high crime clearance rate.

Eileen's friendly personality and positive attitude foster a collaborative and supportive work environment. Her ability to anticipate the needs of her colleagues and offer proactive support ensures that investigators can focus on their primary responsibilities without unnecessary distractions. Eileen is a pleasure to work with and is consistently appreciated by everyone she interacts with across the City.

Eileen, congratulations on being our 2025 Employee of the Year - you have truly earned it.

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## Firefighter of the Year



Rescue Supervisor Kyle Fleming is Lighthouse Point Fire Rescue's 2025 Firefighter of the Year! Throughout his career Kyle has consistently demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and a strong commitment to both the department and the community we serve. There are many reasons Supervisor Fleming has been chosen as the 2025 Firefighter of the year including;

Kyle has achieved notable professional growth, including completing his State Fire Officer I Certification and transitioning into the Rescue Supervisor role with confidence and exceptional performance. His calm decision-making, clear communication, and strong clinical abilities have contributed to positive outcomes on multiple high-acuity incidents throughout the year.

R/S Fleming's commitment to our community is reflected in the way he approaches every call for service. He treats patients and family members with compassion and respect, and he consistently represents the department with a high level of integrity.

In addition to his operational performance and professional growth, R/S Fleming has taken on several initiatives that have directly improved the department's efficiency and service delivery. He played a key role in revising and simplifying our medical protocols, he redesigned and improved some of our key EMS tools and equipment, strengthened our narcotics accountability and safeguarding, as well as spearheaded a project to improve our pediatric care capabilities department-wide.

Kyle's innovative changes, reliability, and ongoing contributions to our Fire Department and the Lighthouse Point community make him a great recipient for the 2025 Lighthouse Point Firefighter of the Year.

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## Police Officer of the Year



The Lighthouse Point Police Department has named Officer Jack Bendit its 2025 Officer of the Year, recognizing his strong work ethic, leadership, and service to the community.

Officer Jack Bendit joined the department in 2018 as a Station House Officer and was selected to attend the Police Academy in 2022, becoming a sworn officer. A Florida Atlantic University graduate, he has steadily built a reputation as a proactive and dependable member of the agency. Earlier this year, he responded to a woman suffering from a fentanyl overdose and quickly administered Narcan, saving her life. Just as impactful, was the calm and compassion he showed to the woman's family during this frightening moment.

While assigned to Patrol, Officer Jack Bendit consistently led the department in activity and maintained a visible presence in the community. Midyear, he transitioned into the Community Officer role,



where he reorganized outreach efforts and strengthened the department's Volunteer Program.

He is known among colleagues as approachable, organized, and always willing to step in when needed — whether assisting Patrol during busy shifts or following up on cases. Congratulations, Officer Jack Bendit!

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## Employee of the Quarter



*Youth Services Librarian - Molly Smith-Vargas*

It is truly an honor to recognize an individual whose dedication and work ethic have positively influenced not only our Library, but the entire City.

Please join me in congratulating our Q4 Employee of the Quarter: **Dr. Molly Smith-Vargas**

Molly has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service through her role in championing the opening of the new and improved Library Youth Wing. She played a key role in shaping the space and bringing it to life with dynamic, engaging programs that support learning and creativity for young patrons. Molly is especially known for the meaningful relationships she builds with resident families, many of whom visit the library specifically seeking her out. Her approachability, dedication, and willingness to assist with everything from programming to homework support demonstrate her belief that no task is too small when it comes to serving the community. Through her innovation, teamwork, and commitment, she consistently delivers meaningful and impactful service.

Molly has made a lasting and positive impact on the Library and the families it serves through her dedication, creativity, and genuine care for the community. Her programs consistently engage children and families in meaningful ways, fostering learning, confidence, and a love for discovery. Through her efforts, the Library has become an even more welcoming and enriching space for families, and her influence will continue to be felt well beyond the programs she leads.

Molly is constantly juggling multiple projects at once, always bringing energy and focus to everything she does. She recently completed a STEAM program with MIT that required a significant commitment of her time and effort. The instruction and materials she gained through this program have been thoughtfully integrated into the Library's

summer programming, providing tremendous value and enrichment for our City. Beyond her technical skills, Molly brings a creative flair, exceptional patience, and a genuine ability to make every child feel confident, welcomed, and valued.

Molly, thank you for exemplifying the very best of leadership, dedication, and heart. Congratulations on being our Employee of the Quarter - you have truly earned it.

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**Reminder to residents:** driveway reflector sticks, reflective markers, delineators, and similar items are not allowed in the City right-of-way. These installations violate City Code and should be removed.





MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2026

9:00 AM TO 1:00 PM

DAN WITT PARK

4521 NE 22<sup>ND</sup> AVE

PARKING IS LIMITED



## Upcoming Events

### Family Movie Night in the Park

Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Frank McDonough Park



### Alzheimer's Research and Treatment Centers Mobile Unit

Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
John Trudel Community Center  
Please see the [flyer](#) for details.

### **Farmers Market at Dan Witt Park**

Sunday, March 1st from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Parking is limited and Please No Dogs in the Park

See [flyer](#) for details.

### **Youth E-Bike Safety Course**

Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

John Trudel Community Center

See [flyer](#) for more information

### **Shred - A - Thon**

Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Dixon Ahl Hall

See [flyer](#) for more information.

### **Concert featuring Spektora and Food Trucks**

Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Frank McDonough Park

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## **Upcoming Recreation Programs**

Click the following links to view flyers for the upcoming programs:



[A Matter of Balance](#) - [artNest Little Monsters](#) - [artNest The Paint Experience](#) - [artNest Valentines Jewelry & Charm Bar](#) - [Baton Twirling Classes](#) - [Chair Yoga](#) - [Chess](#) - [Mahjong Mondays](#) - [Mommy & Me Class](#) - [Pickleball Clinic](#) - [Puzzle Swap Robotics Class](#) - [Senior Strength Class](#) - [Studio Art Classes](#) - [Super Bowl & Manners Class](#) - [The Art of Kokedama Workshop](#) - [Wiggles & Giggles](#) - [Youth Digital Art Classes](#) - [Youth Pickleball](#)

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## **Lighthouse Point Library**

Visit our [website](#) or contact us by phone at 954-946-6398.



### **February is National Library Lovers Month!**

To celebrate we invite you to share why you love the Lighthouse Point Library! Do you love perusing our mystery collections? Or sitting in the reading boat? How about checking out picture books for story times? Or using the patron computers and wifi? Do you download our eResources and eBooks? Or attend one of our free library programs? Please let us know! Hearts will be available in the adult and youth wings to write a love letter or draw a picture telling everyone why you love your hometown library.



The heart-shaped letters and pictures will be displayed in the library throughout the month of February. Select submissions will also be shared on the Library's Facebook page.

### **Spotlight Library Program: ABCs Of Investing**

For over 20 years, the Library's ABCs of Investing has helped patrons improve their financial knowledge. Presented by Library volunteer Kerry Harrison, Vice President of Investments at Stifel Nicolaus, Member of FINRA/SIPC. Registration with a LHP Library card is required. Note: phone calls and recording (audio or video) are not allowed during class.



**Spotlight Library Service: Personal Librarian.** Did you know the Library offers one-on-one sessions to help with everything from research, to eBooks

and online resources, to book recommendations, or to answer extended questions? The Personal Librarian service is by appointment only and is only open to LHP Library patrons. Please visit [lighthousepointlibrary.com](http://lighthousepointlibrary.com) for more information.

### **Spotlight Library Collection: New releases.**

National bestsellers, critics favorites, celebrity titles, and promising debuts novels are all available in the new release section of the adult collection. Check it out in person and online at [lighthousepointlibrary.com](http://lighthousepointlibrary.com)



## **Recreation Programs & Registration**

### **Sponsors Needed for Upcoming Events and Sports**

Please view the Recreation Department's brochure for [more information](#).



### **Summer Camp Registration**

Registration for LHP Residents will begin Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00 AM.

For students entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade - 8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Sign up [here](#).

Start Smart Baseball, Teeball, Baseball & Softball is open


Register [here](#).

### Riptide Beach Volleyball - Beginner/Intermediate/Club Level


Riptide Beach Volleyball offers daily training programs for both junior and amateur adult athletes. For more information, [visit our website](#).

## John Trudel Community Center

**FEBRUARY 2026**  
4521 N.E. 22<sup>nd</sup> Ave, Lighthouse Point, FL 33064 (954) 784-3439  
Register today at [lhp.recdesk.com](http://lhp.recdesk.com)



Sundays	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays	Saturdays
<b>Super Bowl &amp; Manners Class</b> Feb 8 \$75 res \$85 non-res 1-2:30PM Ages 5-14	<b>Down to Earth</b> 9 AM-3 PM <b>Baton Twirling</b> 4-5 PM, Ages 5-12 \$65 Per Month /\$45 one-time fee for shirt & baton <b>Open Play Chess</b> Feb 9th, 3:30-5PM Ages 6+, FREE <b>Youth Digital Art</b> Starts Feb 9 (8 classes) \$95 res/\$105 non-res Ages 6+ / 5-6 PM <b>Mahjong</b> Instructional & Free Open Play Feb 2 - \$60 (6-8:30) Feb 9 & 23 -FREE (6-8PM) <b>Youth Pickleball</b> Starts Feb 2nd \$120 (4-week session) Ages 6-17 3:30-5 PM or 5-6:30 PM <b>JTCC -NO CLASSES</b> Feb 16	<b>Adult Art Class (weekly)</b> 12:00-1:30 PM \$40/class res \$50/class non-res OR 4 weeks-\$150 resident \$190 non-resident <b>Senior Strength Class (weekly)</b> 9-10AM, FREE *must register each class	<b>Chair Yoga</b> 10:30-11:30 AM \$10-res./\$20 non-res. <b>Miss Wendy's Wiggles &amp; Giggles</b> Starts 1/28 (9:30-10:15) 8 wk session \$200 Res./\$240 Non <b>Robotics (9 week session)</b> 4:30-5:30pm/K-2nd 5:45-6:45 /3-5 <sup>th</sup> grade \$270 res./\$297 non <b>BALANCE CLASS for Seniors 60+</b> Jan 21-Mar 11 2-4pm/ FREE -8 weeks <b>Pickleball Clinics \$20</b> 5-6pm Beginners 6-7pm Int/Advanced <b>Adult Craft Night Kokedama</b> Feb 11, 6-8 PM Ages 16+ / \$48	<b>Senior Strength Class (weekly)</b> 9-10AM, FREE *must register each class NO Class February 5th	<b>Chair Yoga (weekly)</b> 10:30-11:30 AM \$10 res. \$20 non-res. <b>artNest Little Monsters Mommy &amp; Me</b> Feb 20, 10-11 AM Ages 1-5 \$25 resident \$30 non-res <b>Alzheimer's Mobile Unit</b> Feb 27, 10 AM-2 PM No Cost *By Appointment	<b>artNest Valentine's Jewelry &amp; Charm Bar</b> Feb 7th 9-10AM \$25 Ages 3+ All ages welcome <b>PUZZLE SWAP FREE</b> Feb 7 All Ages 10-11:30AM

**\*ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR ALL PROGRAMMING**  
\*Coming March 3rd...Youth Bike Safety Class

[View the entire February Calendar for John Trudel Community Center here.](#)



### NE 21st Avenue Improvement Project

The City of Lighthouse Point is performing drainage and roadway improvements along NE 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue from Sample Road to NE 30<sup>th</sup> Street, to include portions of NE 30<sup>th</sup> Court and NE 34<sup>th</sup> Court. The purpose is to eliminate standing water within the City right-of-way and the adjacent properties. The scope of work for this project includes, but is not limited to, drainage improvements, the installation of new drainage connections, storm pipes, drainage inlets and manholes,

exfiltration trenching, CIPP of existing storm pipes, resurfacing of existing roadway, pavement striping, and new concrete sidewalks. The project started January 20th, 2026, and will take approximately 12 months to complete. Traffic will be permitted, and the contractor will ensure all residents can safely navigate around the equipment. Typical work hours are Monday – Friday from 8am to 6pm with allowance for some weekend work to expedite the project. Thank you in advance for your patience during this very important project. If you have any questions, please call Public Works Director Dewain Akerblom at 954-946-7386.

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The following employees were recognized at the January 27th City Commission meeting for reaching significant milestones with the City of Lighthouse Point in January:

Sergeant Jason Caruso: 20 years  
Driver Engineer Randy Ketterer: 25 years  
Police Officer Joe Tavares: 35 years

Thank you for your continued service and dedication to the residents of LHP!



At our January 13<sup>th</sup> City Commission meeting, the Mayor and Commissioners recognized the following people: Commander Chris Oh - FBI-Law Enforcement Executive Development Association (LEEDA) Trilogy Award, Youth Librarian Dr. Molly Smith Vargas - Employee of the Quarter, and Commander Curt Lai and Detective Sergeant Andrew Gianino - FBI National Academy Graduates.





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## Flag Retirement Box



Did you know there's a flag retirement drop box located right outside City Hall? It was installed a few years ago as part of an Eagle Scout project to give residents an easy way to properly retire worn or damaged American flags. If your flag has seen better days, simply drop it off anytime, and it will be respectfully disposed of according to tradition.

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## Upcoming City Meetings

Meeting instructions will be available on the [City website](#) the Friday before the meeting.

### City Commission

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 6:30 PM

Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 6:30 PM

### Code Enforcement Board:

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM

### Community Appearance Board:

Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM





**Cultural Arts Committee:**

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 at 5:00 PM

**Library Advisory Board:**

Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 6:30 PM

**Marine Advisory Board:**

Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 6:30 PM

**Planning and Zoning Board:**

Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:30 PM *cancelled*

**Recreation Committee:**

Tuesday, March 9, 2026 at 6:00 PM

**Special Magistrate:**

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 9:00 AM

**Tennis Advisory Committee:**

Monday, March 30, 2026 at 6:30 PM

All City meetings are held in Fletcher Hall, located at City Hall, 2200 NE 38<sup>th</sup> Street, Lighthouse Point, FL 33064, with the exception of the Cultural Arts Committee and Recreation Committee which are at the John Trudel Community Center, located at 4521 NE 22 Avenue, Lighthouse Point, FL 33064.

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**Stay Connected by Adding  
Lighthouse Point on Social  
Media**



City Facebook Page:

[facebook.com/lighthousepointgov](https://facebook.com/lighthousepointgov)

Instagram: [instagram.com/cityoflighthousepointfl](https://instagram.com/cityoflighthousepointfl)

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cityoflhp>

Nextdoor: [nextdoor.com/agency/city-of-lighthouse-point](https://nextdoor.com/agency/city-of-lighthouse-point)

Recreation Facebook Page:

[facebook.com/cityoflighthousepointrec](https://facebook.com/cityoflighthousepointrec)

Police Department Facebook Page:

[facebook.com/LighthousePointPolice](https://facebook.com/LighthousePointPolice)

Fire Department Facebook Page: [facebook.com/LHPstation22](https://facebook.com/LHPstation22)

Library Facebook Page: [facebook.com/lighthousepointlibrary](https://facebook.com/lighthousepointlibrary)

Nixle Emergency Alerts: Text 33064 to 888777

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**February 2026 Calendar**

Click [here](#) to view our February 2026 Calendar.



With our interactive calendar you can create an account and subscribe to different groups to receive email notifications for any changes made to City meetings, sport schedules, and more!

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## Quick Links...

[Our Website](#)

[Upcoming City Meeting Agendas](#)

[City's Code Enforcement Process](#)

[Check the Status of a Permit](#)

[Sports Calendar](#)

City of Lighthouse Point | 2200 N.E. 38th Street | Lighthouse Point, FL 33064 US

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