

Calendar of Events

October 27, 2017
- November 24, 2017

BOOST BARTOW and ENSURE HEALTH COLLECTION

Greater Bartow Chamber of Commerce
510 N. Broadway Ave.
Bartow, FL 33830

Jeff Clark, 863-533-7125
jeff@bartowchamber.com

November is "A Boost for Bartow, to Ensure Health" month! Help us help collect 6-packs of Boost or Ensure to be delivered to VISTE (Volunteers in Service to the Elderly). VISTE then distributes these nutritional drinks to many of our Bartow seniors.

DONATE ONE 6-PACK OF BOOST OR ENSURE

Kiwanis Club Members will pick up from your jobsite, or you may drop your donation by the Bartow Chamber of Commerce office, Main Street Bartow office, Bartow's CenterState Bank or Spath Jewelers.

"A Boost for Bartow, to Ensure Health" runs from October 27, 2017 to November 24, 2017.

Sponsored by Bartow Kiwanis Club, Bartow Community Healthcare Foundation, and Greater Bartow Chamber of Commerce.

November 6, 2017
- December 11, 2017

LRC's College Success Planning
Learning Resource Center of Polk County
1628 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803

05:30 PM - 07:30 PM EST
Susan Larson, 863-688-9477
susanl@lrcpolk.com

The Learning Resource Center's College Success Planning course provides study skills and motivational strategies to prepare students in grades 9-12 to become more effective learners. Students learn and practice time-tested, effective, and efficient study strategies, as well as concrete techniques to get the competitive edge necessary for high school and college. The course offers small classes with activity-oriented lessons to help students learn and practice these study habits of successful students.

November 28, 2017

Big Brothers Big Sisters Orientation & Training

BBBS Office

1231 E. Orange Street

Lakeland, FL 33830

05:30 PM - 07:00 PM EST

Angie Pattison, 863-220-1116

angiep@bbbstampabay.org

Please consider becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister and help change the life of a child facing adversity for the better, forever. It doesn't take a lot of time (between 4-8 hours a month, depending on the program). The real focus is on being consistent, and spending one-to-one quality time with your Little. Being a Big often means just including your Little in things you already like to do — going to a ball game, or a museum, or the beach, or a bike ride.

The first step is to attend one of our Big Orientation & Training sessions. Get more information about volunteering here

» <http://www.bbbstampabay.org/volunteerinformation.aspx>

December 1, 2017

Central Florida Health Expo

International Market World Flea and Farmers Market

1052 US 92 West

Auburndale, FL 33823

09:00 AM - 03:00 PM EST

David Kiessling, (863)248-7537

david@centralfloridamediagroup.com

The Central Florida Health Expo is the area's premier event for health-conscious adults.

The event will be held at International Market World Flea and Farmers Market in Auburndale. The market comes alive on Fridays as shoppers stroll through one of the area's largest farm fresh produce markets, enjoy live entertainment and experience the market's vibrant atmosphere. This event is free to the public. Everyone is welcome!

December 5, 2017

2017 Diversity Luncheon - Rescheduled for Dec. 5th

Bartow Civic Center

2250 S Floral Ave

Bartow, FL 33830

12:00 PM - 01:00 PM EST

To enhance the quality of life for Bartow Community through understanding and appreciating the differences among its people.

December 6, 2017

Big Brothers Big Sisters Orientation & Training

Women's Resource Center

165 Avenue A NW

Winter Haven, FL 33830

05:30 PM - 07:00 PM EST

Angie Pattison, 863-220-1116

angiep@bbbstampabay.org

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December 7, 2017

Business After Hours- Boswell & Dunlap, LLP (Chamber Members Only)

Boswell & Dunlap, LLP

245 S. Central Ave.

Bartow, FL 33830

05:00 PM - 06:30 PM EST

Barbara Adamson, 863-533-7125

barbara@bartowchamber.com

December 8, 2017

Bartow's Illumination Christmas Parade

Main Street Bartow, Inc.

100 W. Main Street

Bartow, FL 33830

06:00 PM - 09:00 PM EST

Linda Holcomb, 863-519-0508

lholcomb@mainstreetbartowfl.com

Bartow's Magical Illumination Christmas Parade

Friday, Dec. 8, 2017

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Main Street/Broadway

Get in the spirit with one of Polk County's best holiday parades as it winds down Broadway Avenue and Main Street. Get there early and claim your seat! You won't want to miss a single float!

**FOR MORE INFO, CALL 863-519-0508 OR
VISIT WWW.MAINSTREETBARTOWFL.COM**

December 9, 2017

Bartow's Unity Day Festival

Bartow Civic Center

2250 S Floral Ave

Bartow, FL 33830

11:00 AM - 03:00 PM EST

Gloria Washington, 863-205-1173

glo930@aol.com

Part of the Community Relations Committee's Bartow Multicultural Initiative, the Unity Day Festival is a Citywide celebration, free to the public, to be held at Mosaic Park and Bandshell from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Community groups perform live music; also available: ethnic foods, games, barbecue vendors and Lots of Fun will be featured.

WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

VENDOR FORMS and ENTERTAINER APPLICATIONS available.

December 9, 2017

Big Brothers Big Sisters Orientation & Training

BBBS Office

1231 E. Orange Street

Lakeland, FL 33830

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM EST

Angie Pattison, 863-220-1116

angiep@bbbstampabay.org

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December 21, 2017

Big Brothers Big Sisters Orientation & Training

Family Fundamentals

1021 Lakeland Hills Blvd., 2nd Floor

Lakeland, FL 33830

05:30 PM - 07:00 PM EST

Angie Pattison, 863-220-1116

angiep@bbbstampabay.org

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January 15, 2018

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - George Gause Memorial Parade

Corner of Main Street and Floral Avenue

Corner of Main Street and Floral Avenue

Bartow, FL 33830

12:00 PM - 01:30 PM EST

Carver Young, (863) 533-1207

carver.young863@gmail.com

The Bartow Deacons and Stewards Alliance, Inc. invites you to participate and/or attend the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - George Gause Memorial Parade on Monday, January 15, 2018 at noon. Types of participation: bands, walkers, decorated floats and vehicles, bicycles, etc.

Line up begins at the corner of Main Street and Floral Avenue in downtown Bartow at 10:00 a.m. The parade ends at Carver Recreation Center where parade participants will receive light refreshments.

Please let us know if you are planning to participate by December 31, 2017. There is no charge to participate.

January 16, 2018
- February 20, 2018

Class of 2018 ENGAGE SERVES
A-C-T Environmental & Infrastructure Classroom
1875 W. Main Street
Bartow, FL 33830
Tuesdays, Jan. 16-Feb. 20, 4:30-6:30 p.m.
Kathryn Bevilacqua-Ely, 863-738-6193
kathryn@MADELKLD.com
Join the 2018 Class of ENGAGE Serves

ENGAGE Serves is open to young professionals who would like to participate in effective board service training at a cost of \$50.00 or, if you are a member of ENGAGE, the course is considered an additional benefit of your ENGAGE membership and is FREE.

The 6-week program will be held at ACT Environmental & Infrastructure on Hwy. 60 in Bartow on Tuesday evenings from 4:30-6:30 p.m. beginning January 16, 2018 and running February 20, 2018. A light meal will be provided at no additional cost. Over the span of 6 classes, the fundamentals of effective board service will be taught by some of Bartow's own "seasoned" community leaders. Attendance to every class is required in order to graduate from the program. Participants will be asked to list their areas of interests in order to be added to a database available to local organizations seeking quality board members.

January 19, 2018

UWCF 8th annual Belt Buckle Bash
Rocking H Ranch
2200 Ewell Rd
Lakeland, FL 33811
06:00 PM - 09:00 PM EST
Tara Young, 863-648-1500
tara.young@uwcf.org
Please join United Way of Central Florida and Leadership Giving at our 8th annual 2018 Belt Buckle Bash!

January 20, 2018

Central Florida Farm Tour
Polk County, FL
56 Fourth Street NW, Suite 100
Winter Haven, FL 33881
09:00 AM - 05:00 PM EST
David Kiessling, 8632487537
david@centralfloridamediagroup.com
Central Florida Farm Tour is a self-guided driving tour featuring some of the most extraordinary farms located throughout Polk County, FL.

February 3, 2018

Yellow Jacket Stomp Adventure Run VI

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Steve Githens, 863-529-8679

Steve@githensinsurance.com

Bartow Rotary Clubs present Yellow Jacket Stomp Adventure Run VI

The 6th annual Yellow Jacket Stomp Adventure Run will be held in Mosaic and Mary Holland Parks at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2018. The course is run over a combination of grass, paved streets and walking paths. Various obstacles will be arranged to challenge the runners on their way around the course.

The registration, start, finish and awards ceremony will be held in Mosaic Park at 2250 South Floral Avenue in Bartow, one block north of the Bartow Civic Center.

The fees are \$20 for runners ages 16 and up/ and \$15 for runners ages 15 and under. Anyone who has any questions may contact Steve Githens at 863-529-8679.

February 3, 2018

13th Annual VISTEBall

Sun 'n Fun

4175 Medulla Rd

Lakeland, FL 33811

06:00 PM - 10:00 PM EST

Steve Bissonnette, 8636838458

steve@viste.org

The 13th Annual VISTEBall will be held February 3, 2018 from 6-10 p.m. at Sun 'n Fun in Lakeland. VISTEBall is an indoor golf-themed fund-raiser where attendees may play golf-related games, enjoy a buffet dinner and drinks. In addition to the meal and games, attendees may bid on silent and live auction items. Proceeds from the evening go to support VISTE (Volunteers In Service To the Elderly). VISTE's mission is to enable the frail elderly to remain safely and independently in their own homes. VISTE assists clients 70 and older in Lakeland, Bartow, Ft. Meade and Mulberry. VISTEBall is the organization's largest fundraiser each year. VISTEBall tickets may be purchased from VISTE Board members, by contacting Steve Bissonnette (at either 863.683.8458 or steve@viste.org) or via the VISTE website. To purchase tickets online, go to: www.viste.org. For questions, contact Bissonnette at 863-683-8458.

February 9, 2018

Central Florida Health Expo

International Market World Flea and Farmers Market

1052 US 92 West

Auburndale, FL 33823

09:00 AM - 03:00 PM EST

David Kiessling, (863)248-7537

david@centralfloridamediagroup.com

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February 17, 2018

LRC's For the Love of Learning 2018

TBA

07:00 PM - 10:00 PM EST

Pamela Craven, 863-688-9477

pamelac@lrcpolk.com

For over 40 years, the Learning Resource Center of Polk County, Inc., as a non-profit supplemental education agency, has addressed the academic needs throughout Polk County by providing one-to-one tutoring services to children and adults, small group instruction for remediation and enrichment, and the flexibility to offer quality programs to help all students maximize their learning potential.

For the Love...of Learning is an annual benefit held in February to raise scholarship funds for students enrolled in LRC programs.

Preparation for the fundraiser begins each fall. We are always seeking generous sponsors, donations and volunteers for the event. If you are interested in assisting with this event, please contact LRC Executive Director Dr. Pam Craven at PamelaC@LRCPolk.com.

February 22, 2018

YEEEEHAWWWW! Bartow Chamber Barn Boogie

Peace Valley Enterprises (Leland Young's Barn)

2905 Central Ave.

Alturas, FL

05:45 PM - 09:00 PM EST

Virginia Condello, 863-533-7125

virginia@bartowchamber.com

Evening dinner and dance held at Peace Valley Enterprise Barn in Alturas (Leland and Wanda Young's Barn) that features a steak dinner provided by Texas Cattle Company, entertainment, auction items, free beer & wine.

A highlight of this event is the annual Leadership XIV Cornhole Tournament. Who will win the huge Cornhole Trophy - you? This event is so much fun, be sure to mark your calendars for a great time, a great meal, a great deejay and fun fun fun 'til the cows come home! See you there.

PRESENTING SPONSOR: (exclusive) SEMCO Construction

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY LINK BELOW

Gold Sponsors: \$1,500

Beverage Sponsor: (exclusive) - Evolve Contracting

Cornhole Tournament Sponsor: (exclusive) - Mosaic

Prize sponsor: (exclusive) - ASHLAND

Silver Sponsors: \$500

Bronze Sponsors: \$250

Contributors: \$150

February 24, 2018

- March 12, 2018

2018 Polk Senior Games

Locations Vary

Office : 515 East Boulevard St

Bartow, FL 33830

Deena Wilbur, 8635330055

polkseniorgames@verizon.net

Two weeks of athletic and recreational competitive events for men and women 50 and years and over.

March 6, 2018

UWCF Leadership Legacy Garden Party

Bok Tower Gardens

1151 Tower Blvd.

Lake Wales, FL 33853

06:00 PM - 08:00 PM EST

Tara Young, 863-648-1500

Tara.Young@uwcf.org

United Way of Central Florida celebrates Tocqueville and Democratic members at our Leadership Legacy Garden Party at Bok Tower Gardens!

March 17, 2018

Bartow Rotary Wild Game Dinner

Peace Valley Enterprises (Leland Young's Barn)

2905 Central Ave.

Alturas, FL

06:00 PM - 09:30 PM EST

Steve Githens or Terry Hunter, 863-529-8679

thunter@phaarchitecture.com

Annual Wild Game Dinner

Good food with open bar

Chinese auction & door prizes

Music by live band

March 17, 2018

Blarney Triathlon and 5K Event

Bartow Civic Center

2250 S. Floral Avenue

Bartow, FL 33830

07:30 AM - 04:30 PM EST

Jason Magnetico, 863-534-0120

jmagnetico.parks@cityofbartow.net

City of Bartow Parks and Rec pulls out all the stops for this around the town race.

Choose the Triathlon with your team, or run the 5K yourself - the categories and age groups are many including the Clydesdales and Athenas, Overall and Masters

Male/Female, Costumed individual and Group! You won't want to miss this - it's a LOT of fun. Application on line now on the Blarney FB page or visit www.bartowprograms.net and sign up today!

March 17, 2018

Central Florida Farm Tour

Polk County, FL

56 Fourth Street NW, Suite 100

Winter Haven, FL 33881

09:00 AM - 05:00 PM EST

David Kiessling, 8632487537

david@centralfloridamediagroup.com

Central Florida Farm Tour is a self-guided driving tour featuring some of the most extraordinary farms located throughout Polk County, FL.

March 21, 2018

2018 Mayor's Sunrise Prayer Breakfast

Bartow Civic Center

2250 S. Floral Ave.

Bartow, FL 33830

07:00 AM - 08:30 AM EST

Barbara Adamson, 863-533-7125

barbara@bartowchamber.com

When the Mayor's Sunrise Prayer Breakfast was first conceived, it was agreed it would be a time of early morning prayer to begin the day.

The City of Bartow Mayor James F. Clements, cordially invites you to the 33rd Annual Mayor's Sunrise Prayer Breakfast, on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at the Bartow Civic Center beginning at 7:00 a.m. Doors open at 6:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 21, 2018, 7:00 a.m.

Bartow Civic Center

Speaker to be announced.

Tickets are \$12 per person

Reserved table of 8 Sponsorship are also available.

April 21, 2018

Central Florida Farm Tour

Polk County, FL

56 Fourth Street NW, Suite 100

Winter Haven, FL 33881

09:00 AM - 05:00 PM EST

David Kiessling, 8632487537

david@centralfloridamediagroup.com

Central Florida Farm Tour is a self-guided driving tour featuring some of the most extraordinary farms located throughout Polk County, FL.

May 9, 2018

2018 Just Say No Parade & Rally

09:30 AM - 11:00 AM EST

Ernie Cooper, (863) 533-7125

erniesheryl_cooper@yahoo.com

Dear Friends:

Committee Members are making plans again for "JUST SAY NO" Week, May 7-13, 2018.

This special week will be highlighted by Bartow's 28th Annual March and Rally. Planned activities will begin on Wednesday, May 9, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. with a parade in Downtown Bartow that ends with a rally at the Bartow High School Gymnasium. ALL MAIN STREET BUSINESS PEOPLE and BARTOW COMMUNITY PEOPLE - PLEASE COME OUT TO CHEER ON THE 5th GRADERS TO JUST SAY NO!

The City of Bartow along with the Greater Bartow Chamber of Commerce, City of Fort Meade, City of Eagle Lake, and area schools, which include Alturas, Anna Woodbury, Bartow Elementary Academy, Eagle Lake, First Methodist School, Floral Avenue, Gibbons Street, Highland City, Spessard Holland Elementary, Stephens, and Wahneta will participate in the event.

THIS IS A COMMUNITY-BASED PUBLIC EDUCATION EFFORT DESIGNED TO SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO SAY NO TO DRUGS.

We welcome your involvement. Donations are needed to fund our programs. Funds are used toward the guest speaker at the rally, specialty items, awards, trophies, refreshments and to help offset the expense of providing T-shirts bearing the "JUST SAY NO" message to all 5th graders.

*To make a donation, please send a check to:
(Make checks payable to "Just Say No")*

*CenterState Bank
ATTN: Anita Stasiak
1375 N. Broadway Ave.
Bartow, Florida 33830*

*Thank you for your consideration to help support this struggle against drugs.
Sincerely,
W. Ernest Cooper
"Just Say No" Chairman*

November 14, 2018

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Bartow Civic Center

2250 S. Floral Ave.

Bartow, FL 33830

11:30 AM - 01:00 PM EST

George Long gives you a chance to hear how the City of Bartow is doing. This is a free event, open to the community. If you'd like, lunch is available for \$10. You may purchase your ticket online, or pick up at the Chamber. Doors open at 11:30; program begins at noon.