

Week in Review

The Best of Bartow

Sept. 9 - 15, 2024



GOLF COURSE CROWNED BEST OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

We are beyond proud of the staff at the Bartow Golf Course, part of our City of Bartow Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts team, for being named #1 in *The Ledger's* Community's Choice Awards / Best of Central Florida in the category of Best Golf Course. Congrats to Course Manager Tami Waring, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts Director Jason Hargrove and the whole stellar crew!

GOLF COURSE / MULLIGANS CELEBRATE HERBERT DIXON

This past Saturday, a party was held at the Bartow Golf Course in honor of Bartow and golf icon Herbert Dixon as he celebrated his 105th(!) birthday. In addition to many fans, friends and family, the gathering was attended by John Perry, who covered the event for *African American Golfer's Digest*.

Wrote Perry, "On Saturday, September 14th, 105-year-old Mr. Herb Dixon was honored at Bartow Golf Club in Bartow, FL. As the Guest of Honor, Mr. Dixon donned a golden shirt (commemorating his induction into the African American Golfers Hall Of Fame) along with a golden satin sash that said, "It's My Birthday!" He humbly addressed the crowd with a wide smile and heartfelt gratitude. At age 105, the centenarian spoke with eloquence and clarity that left a lasting impression upon the dozens of guests, many who attend annually for his birthday celebration."

To view the entire article, which includes photos from the celebration, go to <https://africanamericangolfersdigest.com/bartow-golf-club-honors-105-year-old-golf-legend-herb-dixon/>



HISTORY IN THE MAKING

The City and the Bartow CRA are very excited to partner with Polk County Government Florida and the Polk County History Center to mark the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, which will be celebrated on July 4, 2026.

"One Nation, Many Stories: Polk County" is an exhibit that will be located at the Bartow Civic Plaza, 200 E. Davidson St., adjacent to the History Center. A dedication is scheduled for 4pm on Tuesday, Sept. 17, at the Bartow Civic Plaza. The public is invited.



ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL GO ABOVE AND BEYOND

Two awesome City Electric Department employees are being lauded for their efforts to assist a resident in need. In the course of their duties, William "Willie" Cruz and Adolphus "AC" Carter noticed a lady fall in her yard. They came to her aid and enlisted a neighbor to continue attention after they returned to their work. The citizen, Kay Blocker, was extremely grateful and wanted to let them know what an impact they made.

LIBRARY IN THE NEWS

The positive press keeps coming... We are so very lucky to have the outstanding Bartow Public Library within our City limits. Many thanks to our friend Rebecca Petit TV from ABC Action News - WFTS - Tampa Bay for highlighting our Library as well as showing the ways that the Polk County Library Cooperative is ensuring that even those who don't have a library close can have access to books and other materials. These include book vending machines, one of which is located at the Carver Recreation Center. Just insert your library card and choose a book to suit your interest! See the story here: <https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/region-polk/more-book-vending-machines-coming-to-polk-county-increasing-access-to-books>



September is, btw, National Library Card Sign-up Month. Library cards are free for City / County residents and open up a world of possibilities!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

DIVERSITY LUNCHEON

Bartow's Community Relations Committee will host their annual Diversity Luncheon at noon on Sept. 18 at the Bartow Civic Center, 2250 S. Floral Ave. The featured speaker will be Kristopher J. Childs, PhD. For more information or to purchase tickets, call the Bartow Chamber at 863.533.7125.



SPORTS COMPLEX OPENING

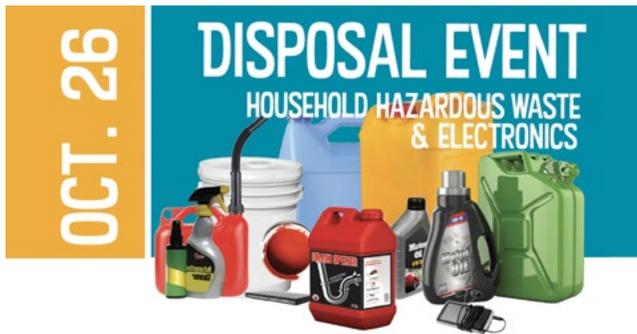
Join the City and our Polk County partners in celebrating the opening of the newly renovated Bartow Sports Complex. At 9:30am on Friday Oct. 4, officials from the City of Bartow, Polk County and Visit Central Florida Sports will commemorate the completion of improvements that include four new fields, newly paved driveways, organized grass parking, batting cages and restrooms, as well as a new fence around the RC Track. The Bartow Chamber of Commerce will assist with the ribbon cutting after which athletes from across the region can play ball!

80TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY PARADE AND CARNIVAL

Held this year on Thursday, Oct. 24, the tradition kicks off with a parade starting at 4pm. The parade begins at Main St. and First Ave. (in front of the Chicken Shack), heads west on Main St, and then turns south on Broadway Ave, finishing near the Bartow Civic Center. A carnival will follow at Mosaic Park, 1865 S. Broadway Ave., with a moonwalk, food trucks, BINGO, and, of course, a costume contest.

HOMETOWN HEROES - A SALUTE TO THOSE WHO SERVED

Hosted by the Greater Bartow Chamber of Commerce, this luncheon will be held on Monday, Nov. 11, from 11:11am - 1:30pm at the Bartow Civic Center. Local veterans can sign up by calling the Chamber at 863.533.7125.



HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY

This one-day event will take place at Bartow High School on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 8am - noon.

Accepted Chemicals

(not a complete list - call to inquire about specific substances):

- Automotive fluids, motor oil
- Batteries (household or auto)
- Cleaners
- Cooking oil
- Fertilizers
- Fluorescent bulbs and other mercury containing devices
- Fuels (Kerosene, gasoline)
- Herbicides, fungicides, insecticides
- Paint (latex, oil)
- Paint thinner
- Paint remover
- Pesticides
- Pool Chemicals
- Propane tanks
- Solvents
- Wood preservatives

Accepted Electronics

(limit 5 per household):

- TVs, VCRs, CD, DVD or Blu-ray players
- Digital Camera, video cameras (camcorders)
- Cell phones, smart phones, MP3 players, iPods
- Computers and/or peripherals
- Fax machines
- Printers, copiers, printer or toner cartridges
- GPS, marine depth finders
- Radios, stereo equipment
- Telephones
- Video game players

Tires:

Tires will be collected at C. Wilson Equipment Co., 2301 US Highway 17 S. Limit of 24. Standard vehicle tires ONLY. NO BUSINESSES
For questions regarding tire collection, call Keep Polk County Beautiful at (863) 875-8911

For more information on the hazardous waste collection day, contact Polk County Waste & Recycling (863) 284-4319.



*The Week in Review is prepared and published by Laurie Hayes, Director of Communications, for the staff and residents of the City of Bartow, 450 N. Wilson Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830
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