



Week in Review

Dec. 24, 2024 - Jan. 13, 2025

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

Welcome to the new *Week in Review* via Constant Contact.

Annual MLK -George Gause Parade and Festival planned for Monday, January 20

Make plans to celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, Jan. 20, at the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. – George Gause Memorial Parade hosted by the Bartow Deacons and Stewards Alliance, Inc. The parade begins at noon from the corner of Main and Floral Ave., with a festival to follow at 1:30pm. This year's theme is "It's Possible! Protecting Freedom, Democracy & Justice for All!"



The day is a celebration not only of Dr. King, but also of the late George H. Gause for his like-minded contributions to the Bartow community. Gause was the first African American in the Southeastern US elected to hold the office of Mayor and served in Bartow from 1971 to 1977. He also was the first African American to sit on the Polk County School Board and was appointed by then-Governor Rubin Askew to advisory boards of the State of Florida Council of Community Affairs and the Polk County Advisory Committee.

Mayor Pfeiffer and the Commission recognized the celebration at their last meeting. Cheri Kelley, representing the Bartow Deacons and Stewards Alliance, accepted the proclamation.

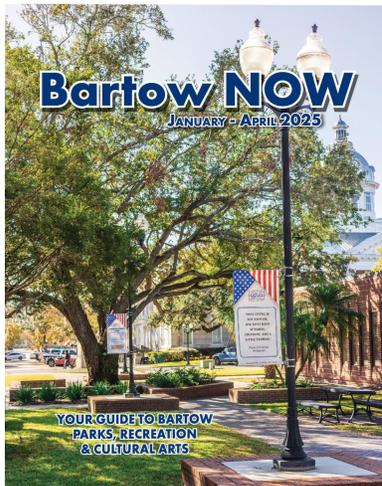
Flags at Half Staff to Honor President Jimmy Carter

Upon the passing of Jimmy Carter on December 29, President Joe Biden declared January 9 as a National Day of Mourning throughout the US, and called for public flags to be displayed at half-staff for a period of 30 days from Carter's day of death, as is tradition when a president dies.



The day of mourning coincided with the 39th president's funeral at Washington National Cathedral. Carter, who served as President of the United States from 1977 to 1981, was awarded the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize for work to find peaceful solutions to international conflicts, to advance democracy and human rights, and to promote economic and social development.

A national day of mourning is a day to honor and pay respects to a revered public figure who has died, most commonly a U.S. president. According to the *NY Times*, the tradition began in 1865 with a one-day government shutdown six weeks after Abraham Lincoln's assassination. The most recent president to be honored with a national day of mourning was George H.W. Bush after his death in December 2018. In addition to presidents, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy were each honored with a national day of mourning after they were assassinated in 1968.



New Issue of *Bartow Now* Available at City Facilities

The Jan. - April 2025 issue of *Bartow Now* is available in City facilities and other spots around town. Pick up a copy and check out all the programs and activities planned by the City of Bartow Parks, Recreation & Cultural Arts staff, including those at the Bartow Public Library, find a new favorite green space or catch up on all the latest improvements to our parks and facilities.

You also can view the magazine on the City website here: <https://www.cityofbartow.net/.../Bartow-Now-Jan-April-2025>

Community Development Block Grant Information Session Scheduled

The community is invited to Carver Recreation Center, 520 Herbert Dixon Blvd., from 6 - 7pm on Thursday, Jan. 30 to learn about grant opportunities and to share ideas and suggestions about the type of commercial and economic development you want.



This is your chance to make a difference in your community and help shape its future.



13th Annual Blarney Duathlon slated for March 15

City of Bartow Parks & Recreation once again will host the Annual Blarney Duathlon / 5K on Saturday, March 15. Now in its 13th year, the duathlon consists of a 1 mile run, an 11 mile Bike ride and a 3 mile run. A 5K race will be held at the same time.

Discounted entry fees are available on a sliding scale through March 9. Register at tinyurl.com/bartow0blarney.

MLK, Jr. Day Holiday

Note that City offices and facilities including the Bartow Library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 20. Monday's solid waste collection will be on Tuesday, Jan. 21. Tuesday's collection will be on Wednesday. Thursday and Friday's collection will remain the same.



[NEWS](#)

[SIGNUP](#)

[DEPARTMENTS](#)

[BUSINESS](#)



450 N. Wilson Ave., Bartow, FL 33830

(863) 534-0100

[CONTACT US](#)



City of Bartow | 450 N Wilson Ave | BARTOW, FL 33830 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!