

Weldon Stephens, Chief of Police 1939-1946

Born in 1888 in Princeton Kentucky, Chief Stephens came to Bartow sometime between 1920 and 1926. Chief Stephens began his career at Bartow Police Department in 1928. He previously had worked as a deputy for Polk County Sheriff's Office.

Stephens was appointed to the position of Chief of Police after Chief Amlong was dismissed in January 1939.

Bartow Police Chief Dismissed; Council To Organize Tonight

BARTOW, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—City Manager C. S. James announced today the release of L. K. Amlong, Bartow police chief for the last 18 months. He gave no reason for Amlong's dismissal.

Weldon Stephens, veteran Bartow policeman, has been named acting chief until the city commission meets tomorrow night to organize for the coming year. If the council confirms Stephens' appointment, he will continue in office.

L. G. Bruce, former mayor-commissioner, will join the council again tomorrow night, after his election in December to succeed R. L. Hughes, jr., who was not a candidate for reelection. A. J. Lewis, who was re-elected, will begin his seventh consecutive year on the board.

The commission will elect one of its number mayor for this year, and will appoint a city manager, city clerk, city attorney and city judge.

C. A. Boswell, jr., city judge, has been appointed attorney for the incoming county school board, and will take over that job tomorrow.

Stephens served as the Chief of Bartow Police Department until February 1946.

He later worked as a guard for Florida National Bank in Bartow. He had two

Guy Bostick Named Bartow Police Chief

Special to The Times

Bartow, Feb. 27.—Guy Bostick, 26, of the Bartow district Florida Highway Patrol, has been appointed as Bartow chief of police to succeed Chief Weldon Stephens, whose resignation was accepted by the city commission Friday.

Patrolman Bostick, who will assume his duties as chief on March 15, was a member of the Palatka police department for two years, and joined the state patrol three years ago being stationed at Ocala for one year before being assigned to the Bartow district.

Chief Stephens, who has been on the city department since 1928 and has served as chief since 1938, has accepted a position with the Alturas-Garfield Citrus Cooperative.



sons and made Bartow his home. Chief Stephens son, Joseph Stephens, was a very popular Football Coach/teacher at Summerlin Academy, then at Bartow High School from the 1950's-1970's.

Chief Stephens passed away at the age of 84 in 1972 at his home in Bartow.