

# March



BONITA SPRINGS DOWNTOWN  
ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER

## DOWNTOWN TALK



### President's Message:

#### *March 2026*

Are we ready for the Spring Breakers?

March is the last full month of season but it's also when we get even more out-of-town visitors. Besides hitting the beaches, they are going to want to hit the coolest night spot in the area, our Downtown! We should be ready to capitalize on their presence in addition to the other events this month such as the Art Show, the St. Patrick's Day event and Celebrate Bonita.



This year **Celebrate Bonita is adding a "stroll" event** from the 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> where Riverside Park will be illuminated. **The City is looking for business, community members who are interested in participating in our "Chalk Where You Walk". Participants will be asked to chalk in designated spaces at Riverside Par and Liles Hotel Area.** I hope everyone participates in the festivities to make the corridor pop.

Remember, our meeting is the **4th Tuesday of the month, on March 24<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you, Arts Bonita, for sponsoring this month's meeting and Lora Taylor from the city for being our speaker. And as always, a big Thank you to Shangri-La Hotel and Spa for being our host.

Have a great month and take a deep breath and relax while on the roads.

**Tuesday, March 24th**  
**is the next BSDA Meeting at**  
**Shangri-La Springs at 5:30 p.m.**

**Speaker: Lora Taylor, Director of Communications &**  
**Facilities for the City of Bonita Springs**

**Sponsor: Arts Bonita**

Interested in sponsoring a meeting? Email Mike Gibson at [bsdaprez@gmail.com](mailto:bsdaprez@gmail.com).

Please RSVP for BSDA Meeting's  
Contact: [lee@shangrilasprings.com](mailto:lee@shangrilasprings.com)

**February's Speaker: Lora Taylor**  
**Director of Communications & Facilities for**  
**City of Bonita Springs**



As the Director of Communications & Facilities for the City of Bonita Springs, Lora Taylor brings over 20 years of experience and a deep-rooted passion for community service to her leadership role.

She has spent years bringing the local community together by hosting favorite events like Star Spangled Bonita, Holiday in the Park, the Halloween Stroll, Veterans Events, and the Celebrate Bonita Stroll/Event. As our Director of Communications & Facilities, Lora is a driving force behind the events and infrastructure that make our city feel like home.

Lora's impact on Bonita Springs is the result of years of dedicated service and professional evolution. Having worked her way up through the organization, she has held many different roles within the city, gaining a ground-up understanding of how every department functions. This diverse internal history allows her to lead with a unique perspective on both the city's operational needs and its residents' expectations.

Lora's professional journey is rooted in Florida's vibrant landscape. Before joining the City of Bonita Springs, she honed her skills at Florida Gulf Coast University, her alma mater, where she earned a bachelor's degree in communications. She also gained experience working for the National Basketball League. These early roles helped her sharpen the communication and management skills she now uses to serve our community every day.

## February's Sponsor: Arts Bonita



Arts Bonita is committed to enriching the lives of the community by providing opportunities for artistic expression, education, and appreciation. Arts Bonita has two campus locations—each dedicated to the visual or performing arts.

Seeking to serve the educational and cultural needs of our diverse communities, Arts Bonita offers year-round programming in visual and performing arts. We facilitate opportunities by providing artistic experiences—classes, workshops, panel discussions, lectures, performances and educational art events like our National Art Festivals. We empower by creating a platform for progress, supporting the work of artists of all ages, encouraging an inclusive dialog and promoting equality for all.

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**The Bonita Senior Center is Calling All  
Businesses to Participate in the Senior Expo**

# BONITA SENIOR CENTER'S TUESDAY, MARCH 10 9AM TO NOON

# EXPO 2026

AT THE BONITA YMCA, 27200 KENT ROAD

300 SENIORS EXPECTED TO ATTEND!

MAXIMUM OF 45 VENDOR SPOTS

#### **BUSINESS VENDOR RATE \$300**

INCLUDES TABLE AND 2 CHAIRS,  
LISTING IN EVENT HANDOUT,  
LISTING & LINK ON WEBSITE OF  
BONITA SENIOR CENTER  
UNTIL 12/31/2026 AND IN  
AN EMAIL TO MEMBERSHIP

**NONPROFIT RATE AVAILABLE**

#### **EVENT SPONSOR \$2,000**

**THREE AVAILABLE**

*ALL BENEFITS OF A VENDOR*  
ADDITIONAL TABLE IN FOOD AREA  
LITERATURE ON FOOD TABLES  
SIGN AT ENTRANCE TABLE  
LOGO ON MERCH GIVE AWAY  
SPECIAL INTEREST STORY  
PUBLISHED TO BSC MEMBERSHIP  
AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA



**VENDOR & SPONSOR REGISTRATION HERE:  
[WWW.BONITASENIORCENTER.COM/EXPO](http://WWW.BONITASENIORCENTER.COM/EXPO)**

Bonita Springs Helps Seniors  
**Live Joyfully!**



## The City of Bonita is Calling Artists for Celebrate Bonita's Chalk Walk



Join us to Celebrate Bonita Springs  
BY DESIGNING A LIGHT-UP CHALK DESIGN TO BE  
SHOWCASED IN DESIGNATED AREAS OF THE IMMERSIVE FREE  
NIGHTLY STROLL



March 24th-28th    Dusk-10 pm

## CELEBRATE DOWNTOWN BONITA SPRINGS

Enjoy free nightly strolls from dusk to 10pm.  
March 24th-28th

Calling all artists, help us celebrate Bonita Springs by submitting your design to be showcased in the immersive stroll.

The City of Bonita Springs is looking for businesses, clubs/non-profits, community members and students who are interested in participating in our "Chalk Where You Walk" Event in March. Participants will be asked to chalk in designated spaces in Riverside Park/Liles Hotel area. Glow chalk will be provided as this display will be part of the free Celebrate Bonita Immersive Stroll from March 24th to 28<sup>th</sup>.

This stroll is to celebrate the City's incorporation.

Pre-registration with a mock example of the design is required.  
Please submit applications to participate to  
[Celebrate@cityofbonitasprings.org](mailto:Celebrate@cityofbonitasprings.org).

Approved artists will be able to design spaces on March 23rd.

[WWW.CITYOFBONITASPRINGS.ORG](http://WWW.CITYOFBONITASPRINGS.ORG)  
OR CALL 239-949-6262

**Discover All That Downtown Has  
to Offer This Month  
(Click the Flyer for More Info)**

Bonita Springs National  
Art Festival  
March 14,15 2026



Deadline October 31, 2025  
Riverside Park  
Bonita Springs, FL  
ArtsBonita.org



Join us to Celebrate Bonita Springs  
IMMERSIVE FREE NIGHTLY  
STROLL

March 24th-28th Dusk-10 pm

[WWW.CITYOFBONITASPRINGS.ORG](http://WWW.CITYOFBONITASPRINGS.ORG)  
OR CALL 239-949-6262



CELEBRATE  
DOWNTOWN BONITA SPRINGS

Enjoy free nightly strolls from dusk to 10pm.  
March 24th-28th

Portions of the Old 41 corridor, including the bridge, Liles Hotel Plaza and Riverside Park will be illuminated for an immersive stroll. Enjoy lights, music, visual projections and art.

Each evening downtown businesses will be celebrating with live music, specials, and more.

On the final night of the stroll, the city is hosting the Celebrate Bonita event. The free event begins March 28th at 5 pm in Riverside Park. Join us for local student performances, followed by a free concert.

A logo for "Brews for the Birds" featuring two parrots (one red, one grey) flanking a green beer mug with foam. The text "Brews for the Birds" is on a banner above the mug, and "GOING GREEN" is on a banner below. The background is dark green with hop leaves.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026  
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

A circular logo for "SHAMROCKED" featuring a green guitar with a beer mug as the body. The text "SHAMROCKED" is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below it, "3.17.2026 11AM-10PM" and "LIVE MUSIC ON 2 STAGES" are written. The background is dark green with a shamrock pattern.

SUGARSHACK DOWNTOWN RIVERSIDE PARK  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
DOWNTOWN GETS LUCKY & LOUD  
ALL AGES WELCOME

A poster for "La Noche" featuring three women in elaborate, colorful Latin dance costumes. The text "La NOCHE" is in large, stylized letters. Below it, "EVERY SATURDAY 10PM - 2AM" and "DJ DAVID CAST LATIN MUSIC ALL NIGHT LIVE DANCERS" are written. The background is dark with confetti.

ROOFTOP AT RIVERSIDE  
EVERY SATURDAY  
10PM - 2AM  
DJ DAVID CAST  
LATIN MUSIC ALL NIGHT  
LIVE DANCERS  
ROOFTOP AT RIVERSIDE  
27333 OLD 41 RD, BONITA SPRINGS  
WWW.EATDRINKPARADISE.COM

Bonita Springs Concert Band welcomes everyone with the joy of music and community.

## March Concert

Sunday, Mar 22 2026 | 4:00 - 6:30pm

**CONDUCTOR**  
Gary Smith & John Salminen

**LOCATION**  
Riverside Park,  
Bonita Springs

**SPONSORED BY**  
Bob & Maureen  
Lorenz, Café of Life

**FEATURED GUESTS**  
James Jones,  
vocal soloist



## Do You Have an Upcoming Event?

We invite BSDA members to send us an email with the event details and/or a graphic **by the 15th of each month** to be featured in the **following month's email**. If you need design help TLC would be happy to assist for a small fee.

The deadline to submit events and graphics for the second March newsletter is **Monday, March 16th**.

Please email [emma@trishleonard.com](mailto:emma@trishleonard.com) with your event information or any questions you may have regarding the newsletter.

## Thank You to Everyone Who Participated in Our February Meeting!





## Membership:

BSDA is a community-driven organization that brings together businesses, nonprofits, and local residents dedicated to the growth, promotion, and preservation of Old Downtown Bonita Springs, maintaining its unique old Florida charm.

Bonita Springs Downtown Alliance Inc. is organized exclusively as a business league. We are a Florida nonprofit corporation and IRS 501(c)6 organization with Federal tax FEIN ID #81-1385933.

The annual Membership period is from September 30th - October 1st  
JOIN OR RENEW AT: <https://bonitadowntownalliance.com/membership/>



BONITA SPRINGS DOWNTOWN ALLIANCE  
NEWSLETTER

DOWNTOWN  
TALK

CLICK HERE



Help Our BSDA Community Grow by  
[Liking and Following Our Facebook Page](#)



TLC Marketing & Creative Services is proud to produce the BSDA monthly Newsletter.

If you would like to have a professionally designed newsletter or e-mail campaign, contact TLC Marketing & Creative Services (239) 405-8115.

[Click here to view the website.](#)



Bonita Springs  
Downtown Alliance  
PO Box 367553  
Bonita Springs, FL 33936

Mike Gibson, BSDA President  
BSDAPrez@gmail.com

[Visit our Website](#)

**NOT A BSDA  
MEMBER? - CLICK  
BELOW**

[Join Today!!](#)

[CONNECT WITH US](#)



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