



CATS Monthly Newsletter-

SEPTEMBER 2025

Dear CATS-

Happy September!

Mark October 18 on your calendars for our **Fall Festival!** There will be games, candy and **BOGO Tickets!**

Avelo is flying **seasonal flights** at Lakeland Linder International Airport this fall.

Scroll down to sign up for our **FREE passes:** Adventure on Tap: Central Florida Craft Beer Pass; Sunshine Savings Pass; and the Fire & Flavor BBQ Trail Pass. As a knowledgeable local, you can take full advantage of all the offers.

Have you taken the new CATS Online Course?

This new course will be shorter and easier to complete. Everyone who has been certified will remain certified; however, we encourage EVERYONE to take the new online course.



[Sign up to take the New CATS Online Course!](#)



Last Month...



Last month CATS toured Safari Wilderness!

Visitors to Central Florida can embark on a Safari! In North Lakeland you can find Safari Wilderness, a private collection of animals in the Green Swamp. They offer many tours: drive-through, custom vehicle, ATVs and kayak safaris.

CATS hopped on their big bus for a custom vehicle safari. We saw ostriches, cattle, Asian deer, zebra and more! We got to feed water buffalo, antelope, llamas and camels. This was no zoo! The animals weren't in cages and were free

to roam. The animals were friendly and came up close for treats. Where else could someone have a one in a life time opportunity like this?

Thank you to our CATS, Mick Pederson, for catching these shots for us!



Coming Up...



SEPTEMBER

TBA



OCTOBER

Se7en Wetlands



NOVEMBER

Homeland Heritage Park



DECEMBER

Bok Tower Gardens

If you would like to come on one of our CATS Exclusive Tours,
you must be a Certified Ambassador of Tourism and Sports.

To become an ambassador, you must complete the CATS Online Course.

Our new online class is up and running! Please sign up!

CATS Exclusive Tour Invitations will be emailed to all Certified Ambassadors of Tourism and Sports.

CATS Shirts are in!

Certified Ambassadors of Tourism & Sports can pick up their CATS Shirts at the Welcome Center starting **March 4th!**

How to pick up your CATS Shirt?

- First, you must be a Certified Ambassador of Tourism and Sports.
- Second, inform the front desk you are here to pick up your CATS Shirt.
- Third, show our staff your CATS Certificate!

*Shirts are limited sized, and are first come, first serve.





Candy Corn Cinema at the Welcome Center

October 4, 11, 25 | 1:30PM

The Welcome Center is hosting movies on Saturday afternoons in October.

10/4 - Hocus Pocus

10/11 - Casper the Friendly Ghost

10/25 - Scooby Doo! And the Witches Ghost



Fall Festival at the Welcome Center

October 18 | 9AM-12PM

TRICK-O-TREAT: Wear your costume, bring a bag, and visit decorated booths while collecting sweets and prizes.

BOGO TICKETS: By one LEGOLAND Florida ticket and receive the second FREE! (Date Specific, Credit Card Only). Buy one Bok Tower Gardens Ticket and receive the second FREE!

MORE: Play carnival games to win candy and fun prizes! Make Halloween inspired crafts. Get your caricature drawn for FREE! Local

vendors will be onsite selling seasonal goodies and items.



12 Days of Christmas at the Welcome Center

December 1-12

The Welcome Center is spreading cheer December 1st through the 12th! Stop by the Welcome Center to see holiday magic!



Welcome Santa at the Welcome Center

December 19 | 5PM-8PM

The Welcome Center is hosting Santa! Families are invited to enjoy free pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, sip on cozy hot chocolate, and let the kids share their wishes by writing and sending letters to Santa.



Elf Flicks & Cocoa Sips at the Welcome Center

December 20, 21, 22, 23 | 1:30PM

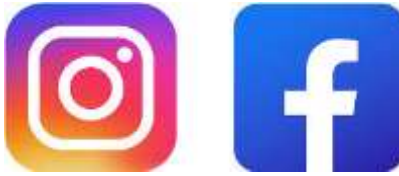
The Welcome Center is hosting movies in December.

12/20 - Mickey's Twice Upon a Christmas

12/21 - How the Grinch Stole Christmas

12/22 - The Santa Clause

12/23 - The Polar Express



Visit Central Florida's Visitor Experience Team and the Welcome Center is excited to announce the launch of its official Instagram and Facebook pages!

Now, visitors and locals alike can stay connected and up-to-date with the latest events, attractions, travel tips, and exciting happenings throughout the county. By following these social media platforms, you'll get insider information, special offers, and a closer look at everything Central Florida and the Visitor Experience Team has to offer. Be sure to follow them today to explore the best of Central Florida and make the most of your visit!

[Follow Visit Central Florida's Visitor Experience Team on Instagram](#)

[Follow Visit Central Florida's Visitor Experience Team on Facebook](#)

PS. CATS have an entire highlight on our @WelcomeCentralFL Instagram page!



[Check out our Visit Central Florida Event Page for more fun!](#)

[Download the 'What's Happening in Polk County' Flyer here.](#)

[View digital guides from Visit Central Florida](#)

September 2-7

**Lakeland Flying Tigers
Baseball Games**

September 19 - through
October

**Harvest Holler Corn
Maze & Pumpkin Patch**

September 20 & 27 -
through October

**Brick-or-Treat
presents Monster Party
at LEGOLAND**

Location: 2301 Lakeland
Hills Blvd. Lakeland,
33805

Location: 950 Tavares
Rd.,
Polk City, FL 33868

Location: 1 Legoland Way
Winter Haven, 33884



Avelo Airlines & Lakeland International Airport

Routes include:

- Grand Rapids, MI
- Nashville, TN
- New Haven, CT
- New York/ Long Island, NY
- Philadelphia/ Wilmington, DE
- Rochester, NY
- San Juan, PR

[Learn more about flying out of LAL here.](#)

Passes

Adventure on Tap: Central Florida Craft Beer Pass

What's better than a cold beer on a hot Florida day? Nothing! Simply sign up and we'll text and email you the free pass. From there, just stop into any of the listed vendors and check-in on the pass to be qualified for prizes. Check-in at 1 participating business and receive a custom Koozie. Check-in at 3 breweries and receive a custom pint glass. Check-in at ALL locations and be entered to win a quarterly drawing for a \$100 gas card!



[Get Your Central Florida Beer
Pass Here](#)



Sunshine Savings Pass

The Sunshine Savings Pass will provide a unique opportunity to stay longer, play harder, eat more, and shop till you drop while in Polk County, FL. The pass showcases exclusive discounts and special offers for local restaurants, shops, and more. Get your Sunshine Savings Pass today and experience why Central Florida's Polk County is truly Florida's Sweetest Spot.

[Get Your Savings Pass Here](#)

Fire & Flavor BBQ Trail Pass

From mouthwatering specialties crafted by acclaimed pitmasters to an amazing assortment of signature sauces and sides, your taste of The Real Florida Magic is here in Florida's BBQ Capital. And now you can enjoy it all – and earn prizes – with your free Fire & Flavor BBQ Trail Pass! Simply sign up and we'll text and email you the pass. From there, just stop into any of the listed



restaurants and check in on
the pass to earn prizes.

[Get the BBQ Trail Pass Here](#)

Mural Magic Pass arriving soon!

ANY QUESTIONS?

[Email our Education Coordinator](#)

Thank you, CATS!