

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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## Administration/PIO

Charlotte County Administration has begun posting a compilation of department accomplishments online on a weekly basis. Recent highlights are compiled from reporting departments and presented in a PDF document, posted on Mondays. The department highlights are available on [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) — visit the Administration department pages and select “Weekly Department Highlights” from the Reports & Publications menu on the left.

## Community Development

### Active Construction Projects

Deep Creek Boulevard Sidewalks – This project was completed well ahead of schedule.

Harbor Boulevard Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on Harbor Boulevard from an existing sidewalk close to Midway Boulevard to an existing sidewalk on Veterans Boulevard. Design includes crossings at Peachland Boulevard and Quesada Boulevard. This will also provide a link to the newly constructed sidewalk along Midway Boulevard as well as a link to future sidewalks in the Parkside area. This will be an integral part of a network of sidewalks planned for the Port Charlotte Area. The Board of County Commissioners awarded this project to General Contracting Services on May 28, 2013. A pre-construction meeting was held May 29, 2013 with construction starting June 5, 2013.

Sunshine Lake Algae Removal – Sunshine Lake has had a habitual issue with an algae problem. Based on the water quality study that was completed, it was determined that the algae must be dredged from the lake. After the lake is dredged, re-charge wells will be installed (via a separate contract) in order to maintain active water flow through the lake. An Educational Open House was held January 9, 2013 and was well attended by the public. The contractor (Prolime Services) informed the citizens of the procedures in place to remove the algae. The contractor began construction on January 14, 2013 and algae removal is underway and is projected to be completed in October 2013.

### Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

Rotonda Boulevard Sidewalks (East, North & West) – These three sidewalks are being funded through the Rotonda MSBU. Sidewalks will be installed from Parade Circle to Rotonda Circle on East Rotonda Boulevard, North Rotonda Boulevard and West Rotonda Boulevard. The Rotonda sidewalks, East, North and West, will be grouped together as one project when they go out for bid. 100% plans have recently been completed for all three of the projects however a late breaking utility development is being worked through. Construction is estimated to begin in July 2013.

Sales Tax Year Two (Gulf Stream) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed from an existing sidewalk on Gulfstream Boulevard at Snow Drive continuing to Sea Mist Drive. The design includes a connection to a future sidewalk on Sunnybrook Boulevard. A critical design element to this project is a pedestrian bridge over the Sea Mist Waterway. SWFWMD permit application has been submitted. Review of the pedestrian bridge piling is underway. Design is on schedule and should be completed in June 2013. Construction is projected to begin in August 2013.

Sales Tax Year Two (Sheehan) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed from an existing sidewalk on Peachland Boulevard to an existing sidewalk on Noble Terrace. This design will include a connection to a recently constructed sidewalk at Alton Road. We are working with Charlotte County Utilities to include water facility improvements in conjunction with this sidewalk project. Pedestrian facilities will be added to the Bridge on Sheehan Boulevard. This project may move into construction prior to the projected construction start date of August 2013.

Sales Tax Year Three (CR 74) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on County Road 74 from US 17 to Westminster Street in the Charlotte Ranchettes. Design includes a connection to a recently constructed sidewalk at US 17. Permitting issues are still being worked through for this project. Permitting, as well as inspector availability, may delay the construction start date for this project. Construction is tentatively projected to begin in August 2013.

Sales Tax Year Three (Ellicot) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on Ellicot Circle from Midway Boulevard to US 41. Some unique challenges this project faces is very limited right of way. The design firm is still working through some permitting issues. The construction start date of August 2013 is pending permitting and inspector availability.

Sales Tax Year Three (Oceanspray) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on Oceanspray Boulevard from a future sidewalk on Sunnybrook Boulevard to an existing sidewalk on Gulfstream Boulevard. Design includes a crossing at Spinnaker Boulevard. This will be an integral part of a network of sidewalks planned for the Englewood East/Rotonda Area. 100% plans and bid specifications were received May 14, 2013. The start date of this construction project is pending Engineering Inspector availability.

Sales Tax Year Three (Rio De Janeiro) Sidewalks – A sidewalk will be installed from an existing sidewalk on Rio De Janeiro Avenue at Rampart Boulevard to a future sidewalk on Deep Creek Boulevard. Design includes a connection/crossing to a future sidewalk at Sandhill Boulevard. This is an integral part of a planned sidewalk network in the Deep Creek area. We have compiled an FPL easement occupation application that will make construction easier. This packet has been reviewed by our legal department and they have scheduled a conference call with FPL to discuss the revisions. Construction is projected to begin in August 2013.

Sales Tax Year Three (Riverside Drive) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed on Riverside Drive from Marlympia to Cleveland Drive. Design includes a connection to a recently constructed sidewalk on Florida Street. The design engineer completed the maintained right of way (ROW) survey and submitted the packet to the Charlotte County Real Estate Services Department. The construction start date is pending ROW and permitting issues. A modification to the design may preclude us from having to acquire property for this project.

Sales Tax Year Three (Sunnybrook) Sidewalks – This sidewalk will be installed from South Access Road to Boundary Boulevard and will connect to future sidewalks on Oceanspray and Gulfstream ending at a future sidewalk on Boundary Blvd as part of a Safe Routes to School Program funded by the Florida Department of Transportation. Design is complete and the bid package has cleared its initial review by Purchasing Department staff. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled June 4, 2013.

### **Drainage Projects**

GPC Drainage Control Structure Replacement – This project provides for the design and permitting of six water control structures in Greater Port Charlotte (GPC). Four of the structures are in the Little Alligator Basin-- SUN3.65 (Forrest Nelson at the Sunset Waterway), DOR4.75 (Bachmann Blvd at the Dorchester Waterway), MOR5.08 (Bachmann Blvd at the Morningstar Waterway), and HAV4.33 (Quesada Ave at the Haverhill Waterway). The other two structures, FOR5.11 and NIA5.72 (Peachland Blvd at the Fordham Waterway and the Niagara Waterway) are in the Fordham Basin. These structures were bid in two groups of three: Group 1: DOR 4.75, MOR 5.08, HAV 4.33, and Group 2: SUN 3.65, NIA 5.72, and FOR 5.11. Group 1 structures - construction is complete. Group 2 structures - are at 100% design and construction is anticipated to begin in the fall of 2013.

Little Farm Road Culverts – The scope of this project is to design and permit culverts to replace the concrete swaled portion near the end of Little Farm Road. Weiler Engineering is conducting the survey and research for this project and is working closely with South Florida Water Management District in order to design this project in a way that can be permitted. 60% design plans are currently being reviewed by staff.

Newgate Waterway Spoil Removal - The Newgate Waterway has several large silt deposits and overgrown vegetation within the limits of the water line. This accumulated material is causing an adverse impact on the stormwater conveyance system and needs to be removed. Design is underway and consists of determining how

much sediment needs to be removed as well as defining access points and the means and methods of construction. Design/permitting is projected to be completed by July 31, 2013 with construction beginning in November 2013.

### **Miscellaneous Projects**

National Pollution Discharge Elimination System – The purpose of this project is to reduce adverse impacts to water quality and aquatic habitat by instituting the use of controls on unregulated sources of stormwater runoff into Charlotte Harbor. Minimum project requirements are public education and outreach, public participation/involvement, construction site runoff control, and pollution prevention. The permit includes coordination with the Charlotte County School Board, Airport Authority, Florida Department of Transportation, and City of Punta Gorda. A new Notice of Intent (NOI) for cycle three has been approved and became effective January 1, 2013 - expires December 31, 2017.

Sunshine Lake Recharge Wells – Sunshine Lake has had a habitual issue with an algae problem. After the lake is dredged, re-charge wells will be installed in order to maintain active water flow through the lake. The contract documents are currently being finalized. This project will not start until after the dredging of the lake is complete.

Sunshine Lake Water Level Control Structure - The purpose of this project is to design and construct a water control structure at the downstream end of the Sunrise Waterway to restore and enhance the water quality of Sunshine Lake. This project is being conducted in response to recommendations received from the Sunshine Lake Water Quality Study. The design is currently being performed in-house. Surveying is complete. A follow-up pre-application meeting with SWFWMD is scheduled May 30, 2013 to discuss modeling results. An Environmental Resource Permit application will then be prepared and submitted.

## **Community Services**

### **Administration**

Charlotte County Community Services assisted the El Jobean Community League's annual pre-Memorial Day celebration on Saturday May 25, 2013. As part of the annual event, Charlotte County Commissioner Chair Chris Constance and Commissioner Stephen R. Deutsch and the Community League officially renamed former El Jobean Park "Randy Spence Park" in honor of the community stalwart that had dedicated countless hours to both the community and the park. A new park sign was installed, as well as a large rock that will have a bronze plaque installed honoring Randy Spence. The event was attended by over 200 people to honor our fallen veterans as well as first responders.

### **Charlotte Sports Park**

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted home games for the Charlotte Stone Crabs on the following dates with the below attendance: Tuesday, 5/21 – 474; Wednesday, 5/22 – 237; Thursday, 5/23 – 874.

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted several games of the Perfect Game Tournament on Saturday, 5/25, and Sunday, 5/26, on the practice fields and the stadium. Estimated total attendance for this tournament was 1500.

There were a total of three (3) Extended Spring Training games at the CSP last week with an estimated total of 88 total fans.

### **Harold Avenue Recreation**

Harold staff assisted in training summer camp staff on Thursday and Friday. Camp staff will oversee children participating in summer camp from grades K-5 at Harold. Youth basketball practice continues as teams prepare for their season openers on May 31<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>. 240 participants ages 5-17 will spend the next ten weeks trying to reach the top of their age division before heading into playoffs. Harold staff is also preparing a variety of rental agreements for youth athletic leagues and camps as the leagues' spring seasons wind up. Table Tennis, Trimmastics and Tae Kwon Do will continue to use the recreation center over the summer.

## **Port Charlotte Beach and Pool**

For the week of May 19-May 25 the Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 53 attend the water aerobics classes and 265 paid admissions.

The Recreation Center had one rental with expected attendance of 250. And one No Charge rental with expected attendance of 90. Tickets for the Dance with Daddy was selling fast, 78 tickets sold which are 25 more than last year.

## **South County Regional Park and Pool**

For the week of 5-22 through 5-28-13, South County Regional Park Pool had 355 paid admissions, was visited by 127 pass holders and had 59 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 6 swim practices resulting in approximately 480 "splashes". Learn to Swim Spring Session 4 continued with 9 classes and 46 participants. The First Moonlight Swim Movie was held 5-25-13 with 80 people attending. Summer camps began visiting the pool 5-28-13.

Summer Camp 2013 officially started on May 28 with approximately 160 children registered between South County and Harold Ave. During the first week of camp the campers swam at South County pool and enjoyed a visit from Bisque It Pottery Studio where they painted their very own pottery pieces.

## **Oyster Creek Regional Pool**

Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 603 paid admissions, was visited by 98 pass holders and had 73 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 4 swim practices resulting in approximately 120 "splashes". Learn to Swim Spring Session 4 continued with 3 classes and 8 students. The First Moonlight Swim of the summer was held 5-25-13 with 200 participants. Summer Camps began visiting the pool 5-28-13.

## **Libraries and Historical Division**

Charlotte County Community Services presents its annual *Summer Reading Kick Off* program this Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Port Charlotte Town Center Mall—in front of the Regal Cinema. Multiple performers will entertain audiences throughout the day, and folks can meet library staff and collect information about upcoming programs, as well as pick up a summer reading log. The theme for this year is *Dig into Reading*. The Charlotte County Library System will feature summer reading programs for youth, teens and adults. Participants in summer reading programs will have opportunities to win prizes.

## **Extension Services**

Newspaper Article for May 20<sup>th</sup> – "Cyperus in the Garden"

MG Radio Program – 10 to 11 am – WCCF – 1580

2013 MG Training - Program Wrap-Up, Evaluation, and Post-Test plus Mini-Graduation

Florida State Horticultural Society Meeting – Sarasota – June 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup> – Paper Presentation – "An Exotic Orchid, *Eulophia graminea*, Invades Charlotte County."

## **Facilities and Construction Maintenance**

### **Repair and Maintenance**

We are doing window repairs at the Justice Center-have a hi-lift on-site beginning Tuesday, May 28. The purpose is to repair six windows that leak intermittently.

The Port Charlotte library parking lot was sealed and striped this weekend.

The VCT (vinyl tile) floors were stripped and waxed at the Englewood Annex.

Air handler refurbishments were completed this past weekend for Building A (Administration) providing a more reliable Air Conditioning System until the up-grade takes place.

**Project Management**

Requests for bids have gone out for the B Building roof replacement and CCSO fire suppression is out to bid. The Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool stabilization project is scheduled to start Monday June 3rd.

**Human Services**

During this Memorial Day week, Veteran Services and Human Services staff participated in many community events held throughout the County. Events included: Celebration in memory of Randy Spence at the El Jobean Park; Purple Heart & Memorial Day remembrances at Veterans Garden in Laishley Park; Memorial Day Services at Fisherman's Village; and Memorial Day Services at the American Legion Post 110 and at the Vick Street Manor both in Port Charlotte.

**Tourism**

Sean Doherty, Sales and Marketing Manager, attended the Expo at The Villages with several area accommodations partners. The Villages is a premiere retirement community in Central Florida with a population of more than 51,442. Two travel expos are held there each year. Destinations and attractions from Florida and out-state locations display at the Expo to encourage Villages residents to experience what they have to offer.

**Utilities**

Retrofitted 359 older meters in Deep Creek area with newer automated style.

Installed 13 new residential water connections, with the majority being in Rotonda area.

Upgraded lift station #814.

Recent smoke testing of the wastewater collection system in Deep Creek revealed some deficiencies in a number of service laterals and clean-outs. The majority of necessary repair work has been completed.