

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Recreation Division

SCRIP Good News: Winter Break Camp begins Monday, December 23 and runs through Monday, Jan 6. Registration is still available. South County Drop In programs are rising in participation daily with the increase in vacationers and snowbirds. Particularly the Pickleball program which is increasing in popularity.

Libraries & History

Happy New Year with Hoopla! Hoopla is a new service that we are offering to our Charlotte County Library card holders. It is thousands of movies, television shows, music and audiobooks that are available for mobile and online access. The products can be downloaded onto a device and there are no late fees. A current library card is required. Check our website for more information.

The exhibit, "Beaches, Creatures & Cowboys" continues to be featured at the Charlotte County Historical Center at 22599 Bayshore Rd. This exhibit features Florida Movie Posters for films made in Florida and there is a wonderful selection to see. The center is open to the public Tue-Fri from 1-5pm and Sat. from 10-3 pm.

Astronomy for Everyone is a program coming on January 9th, at 6:30 pm. At the Mid-County Regional Library. This program will feature visuals and a lecture on the wonders of the universe and then weather permitting attendees will go outside to use a telescope. This program is free and open to all.

We had over 200 visitors at the Civil War marker dedication at Randy Spence Park on 12.14.13. We dedicated the marker for a small Civil War skirmish that occurred on the shores of the Myakka River between Dec 24-30, 1863. It is to date the only officially recorded Civil War event reported within the boundaries of present-day Charlotte County.

On December 13, we toured 28 students from Charlotte County Junior Leadership at the Center & presented the program "Chilling Tales of Charlotte County" with the assistance of our docent team.

Extension Services

Newspaper Article for December 16th – "Recruiting volunteers for the 2014 master gardener training class – act now!"

Extension Office Christmas Staff Appreciation Luncheon – 11:30 am – off-site December 17th

Sustainability Team Meeting – December 18th – Murdock – 1 pm

UF/IFAS Agent Self-Evaluation due December 21st

Human Services

Senior Services staff received 128 holiday gifts from the NBC2/Perkins Restaurant Giving Tree. Staff delivered these gifts to needy seniors in Charlotte County. The Department has participated in this community holiday event providing special gifts to their frail and home-bound senior clients for over 10 years.

Veteran Services staff attended the Englewood Chamber of Commerce holiday event. The Chamber presented staff with a check for \$1,106 to assist in the 10th Annual Homeless Veterans Stand-Down that will be held next November 2014.