

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Stone Crabs had a six (6) game home stand against the Jupiter Hammerheads and St. Lucie Mets at the Charlotte Sports Park from May 1 – 6. Attendance at these games was as follows: Thursday, 5/1 – 790; Friday, 5/2 – Game cancelled and rescheduled for 5/3 due to inclement weather; Saturday 5/3 – 685 (double-header) fireworks were cancelled due to weather; Sunday 5/4 – 514; Monday, 5/5 – 292; Tuesday, 5/6 – 507.

The promotions from Saturday, May 3, have been rescheduled - the fireworks, breast cancer awareness promotion, pink jersey auction, etc. will now be on Friday, May 16th.

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted the Pro style Baseball Tryouts on Sunday, 5/4. One practice field was utilized and estimated attendance was 90.

The Charlotte Stone Crabs will be hosting the Bradenton Marauders at the Charlotte Sports Park on May 8-9

Harold Avenue Recreation

Participation is on the rise at Harold Avenue Recreation Center. Last week the center experienced a 7% increase in its Table Tennis Program and a 28% increase in its Open Gym Program. Participation in the center's other regularly scheduled programs continue to remain steady.

Port Charlotte Beach and Recreation

On Friday, May 2 we had Charlotte Harbor Center Prom, with 150 Special Students, their chaperones and teachers. There was food and music and dancing and a fun time had by all.

Sunday May 4, 2014 the Disabled American Veterans held a Beach party and Officer Induction ceremony. In attendance were 200+ veterans and their families all having a wonderful time enjoying the Beach, BBQ and beautiful weather.

Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 274 paid admissions, was visited by 67 pass holders and had 37 water aerobics participants.

South County Regional Pool

For the week of 4-27-14 through 5-3-14 South County Regional Park Pool had 228 paid admissions, 32 water aerobics participants and was visited by 134 pass holders. The Bluefin's held eight practices with approximately 640 swimmers. Approximately 50 CHS ESE students and volunteers held end-of-year pool party.

Oyster Creek Regional Pool

For the week of 4-30 through 5-7-14, Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 163 paid admissions, was visited by 101 pass holders and had 69 water aerobics participants. Learn to Swim Spring session 3 continued with 2 classes and eight students. Lemon Bay High school held their end of the year splash party and had approximately 100 participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 5 practices resulting in approximately 80 "splashes".

Extension Services

Newspaper Article for May 5th – "Plant not doing well - the plant doctor will see you now"

*Parkside Tree Canopy Restoration Committee – May 6th – 8:30 am - Cultural Center President's Room

*Managers Meeting – May 6th – 1 to 3 pm - Administration Conference Room

*Entrance Monuments Meeting (Landscaping) - Public Works Admin Conference Area – May 7th 2:00 pm.

*2014 Master Gardner Training – May 8th – Vegetables – II – Gene McAvoy, Multi-County Vegetable Agent

*Budget Review with Administrators - Admin. Conf. Rm. – May 9th – 10:30 am

Libraries and Historical

The Charlotte County Historical Center is proud to announce a new exhibit "Rising From the Rubble: Hurricane Charley"! This year in August is the 10th anniversary of this devastating storm and it is important that our memories be preserved. This exhibit opened at the Historical Court House in Punta Gorda and then will be moved to the Mid-County Regional Library in late May. It will remain on display for much of the summer, be sure and stop by the Library and take the time to browse this exhibit.

May 31 at 10am is our much anticipated "Summer Kick Off" for our Summer Reading programs for adults, teens and lots and lots of kids. This will be a special day at Mid-County Library with activities going on all over our parking lot. We typically have 3,000 people take advantage of our Summer Reading activities and this year really excites us with the theme "Fizz, Boom, Read"! Lots of science themed events will be presented for all ages! Plan to attend for a great time!

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

The roof replacement project at the recreation center building at Port Charlotte Beach complex is progressing and is about 80% complete.

The move of Human Services 211 staff from Punta Gorda to Port Charlotte was done on Wednesday May 7.

Operations

The men's restroom tile in Building B at the Murdock Administration Complex was deep cleaned and sealed with a product guaranteed for two years which does not allow for bacteria or mold growth. A cleaner restroom floor will provide a more sanitary and healthy condition for all. Facilities staff will periodically monitor this product to confirm manufacturer claims. If results prove to be satisfactory, then other tile floors will undergo the same cleaning and sealing treatment.

Project Management

Facilities staff participated in an "Aim for Success" meeting initiated by Community Services staff. Jointly, we reviewed the air conditioning needs for the Harold Avenue Recreation Center flooring replacement project. An "Aim for Success" meeting is simply a coordination meeting that brings all parties with expertise on a subject and stakeholders together in partnership to review factors, explore options, find consensus, and make a plan of action.

Human Services

Veteran Services staff assisted a veteran with refiling a VA claim for a recoupment/repayment plan. The request was reviewed by the VA and approved which provided the veteran with access to additional pension funds to help meet his monthly expenses.

Appropriations from the Florida Legislature for in-home services for frail seniors and disabled adults were increased this session. Senior Services staff will be meeting with the Area Agency on Aging for Southwest Florida this week to discuss the distribution of funds and client waiting lists.

Public Works

Active Construction Projects (may affect vehicular/boater/pedestrian traffic patterns)

Burnt Store Road Phase III Construction – Construction consists of widening Burnt Store Road, between

the Lee County Line and a point north of Zemel Road to a four-lane divided suburban typical section including stormwater management, drainage improvements, street lighting, 6' sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, utility relocations and additions. Construction is projected to be complete in September 2015. Construction Contract: Gibbs & Register, Projected Schedule: 03/10/14 – 09/10/2015

Clearing is almost complete for the entire site; the contractor has mulched all the trees. Pond excavations are underway and the construction of a box culvert at Bear Branch Creek is nearing completion. Pipe crews are working in two locations placing new sewer lines. Dirt is being moved to the area just south of Zemel Road as they are forming the new lanes.

Harborview Road Bridge Replacement – This project is to design and construct a replacement Bridge over the DeSoto Canal on Harborview Road east of Rio de Janeiro Avenue. The new Bridge will be constructed with a precast concrete deck and a temporary bridge with related structures. Construction is projected to be complete in the fall of 2014. Construction Contract: Owen Ames Kimball, Projected Construction Schedule: 11/18/2013 – Fall 2014

May 5, 2014: The top deck, five and eight foot sidewalks have been poured. The contractor is now working on forming the approach slabs.

U.S. 41 Microtunnels / Weirs – This project involves engineering and permitting for the directional drilling of culverts under U.S. 41 at the Fordham, Elkcam, and Pompano Waterways, replacement of culverts at the North and South U.S. 41 Access Roads, within the Pompano Waterway, replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Elkcam Waterway, north of the U.S. 41 Access Road, and replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Fordham Waterway, north of the U.S. 41 Access Road. The U.S. 41 Access Roads at the Pompano Waterway were closed to traffic the week of January 6, 2014. Construction Contract: ZEP Construction, Projected Schedule: 11/18/2013 – Summer 2015

Week ending May 4, 2014: 1,250 linear feet of sheet piling was installed and 1,280 cubic feet of concrete was placed. Pompano Waterway: The microtunnels are complete. Zep Construction continues to build the concrete endwalls and excavate material. The final drainage pipes will be installed and the utility work will begin next week.

Elkcam Waterway: Zep Construction is currently working on the microtunnel receiving pit on the southbound side of US 41. Zep Construction is preparing the northbound side for Huxted Tunneling to finish mobilizing equipment to start the 84" microtunnels at this location. Starting May 19, Huxted will begin microtunneling and will work 24 hour shifts until completion.

Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

Charlotte Harbor Gateway Harbor Walk, Phase One – This project is to design and construct pedestrian and boater access to Charlotte Harbor. The Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Area (CHCRA) is interested in providing continuous pedestrian access from Bayshore Live Oak Park to Chester Roberts Park and to improve boater access to the harbor. Design Contract: Kimley-Horn & Associates, Design/Permitting Schedule: 06/17/2009 – 03/18/2011, Procurement Process: July 2014, Projected Start of Construction: September 2014.

The County is utilizing Florida Department of Transportation LAP Funds to construct this project which will be available July 2014. Construction plans are prepared and will be submitted to the Purchasing Department to be advertised for bid in July 2014. FDOT and Charlotte County are currently working to complete the Local Agency Program Agreement.

Edgewater Drive Widening Phase Two – This project will widen Edgewater Drive, between Harbor Boulevard and Midway Boulevard, to a four-lane arterial roadway designed to better serve the central portion

of the County and accommodate anticipated traffic growth. The project will include replacing three bridges (West Spring Lake Waterway, East Spring Lake Waterway, and Sunrise Waterway) and improve five intersections, four of which will be roundabouts. Improvements include a raised median, curb and gutter, sidewalks/bike lanes, and landscaping. Design Contract: Southwest Engineering and Design, Design/Permitting Schedule: 10/14/2009 – Spring 2014, Procurement Process: Spring 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2014.

All required permits have been received. Signed and sealed plans were submitted to the County on April 28, 2014. Final project specifications are scheduled to be delivered by the design team on May 15, 2014. Once the final review is complete the bid package will be submitted to the Purchasing Department in preparation for bid solicitation.

GPC Bridge Rehab – Sheehan Blvd Over Yale Waterway – This project will rehabilitate the existing Bridge on Sheehan Boulevard over the Yale Waterway. The existing Bridge was built in 1968 therefore the Bridge deck and rails are substandard. Sales tax funds will supplement MSBU funds allowing for the inclusion of sidewalks on both sides of the Bridge. The rehabilitation will widen the structure to accommodate sidewalks, replace the bridge deck and install a barrier wall. The proposed design includes sidewalks on both sides of the Bridge and allows the bridge to be a segment of the horizontal curve, maximizing the bridge deck area. Design Contract: Southwest Engineering and Design, Design/Permitting Schedule: 09/10/2012 – Spring 2014, Procurement Process: Spring 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2014

100% design plans were received and are under review. CCU may include a watermain which would be supported on the Bridge. If the utility design is completed prior to completion of the plans, the watermain may be included in the bridge rehabilitation. Upon completion of the review by County staff, the plans will be submitted to the Purchasing Department in preparation for bid solicitation.

Midway Boulevard Widening Phase Two – This project will complete the widening of Midway Boulevard between Sharpe Street and Kings Highway. Downstream stormwater improvements must be made before widening this section of the corridor. This project includes increasing the drainage capacity under US 41 at three locations in addition to the widening of Midway Boulevard from Sharpe Street to Kings Highway. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: 05/08/2012 – Spring 2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2014

Giffels-Webster Engineering will be submitting the 100% roadway design plans mid-May 2014 for County staff to review. Charlotte County Real Estate Services is currently working on Temporary Construction Easements needed for construction. Contract documents are being prepared and the tree survey, for permitting purposes, will begin next week.

Parkside - Elkcarn Boulevard Multi Use Path – The Public Works Engineering Division will oversee the Design, Project Management, Inspection Services and Permitting of a 10' multi-use sidewalk with street (shade) trees along the west side of Elkcarn Boulevard and decorative trees on the east side. Charlotte County Utilities will construct this project. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 07/01/2012 – 08/16/2013, Procurement Process: November 2013 – May 2014, Projected Start of Construction: June 2014

Construction bids have been received. The bid opening is scheduled May 14, 2014 in the Murdock Administration Building, Purchasing Department, Suite 344 at 2:00 pm.

Tom Adam's Bridge – Phase 2 of the Tom Adams Bridge Rehabilitation will replace the existing tender house, electrical, and mechanical equipment. The proposed Tenderhouse will provide a gateway to the Manasota Key will feature a standing seam roof color coordinated with the bridge and large observation windows designed to withstand hurricane winds. The proposed Tenderhouse will provide visibility of traffic and pedestrians approaching the structure when the bridge is being opened or closed. Currently, the bridge

tender's view is obstructed. The existing Tenderhouse will be removed providing a scenic outlook for pedestrians. The existing concrete railing and guardrail will be removed and replaced with a steel traffic barrier and aluminum handrail, which will allow for widening the sidewalk to a minimum of five (5) feet. The sidewalk surface will be topped to correct slope and alignment issues, making it easier for pedestrians to cross the bridge. The rehabilitation will also replace the existing Traffic Gates, Traffic Signals, the approach slabs (concrete slab which connect the bridge to the roadway), abutment wall cap, slope pavement (surface under the bridge approaches), plus the bridge will be repainted. Design Contract: Charlotte Engineering & Surveying, Design/Permitting Schedule: 07/02/2012 – Spring 2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2014

The 100% design plans have been received and were reviewed on April 14, 2014. On April 29, 2014 a draft of the project specifications was submitted to the County for review. All permit applications have been submitted to the permitting agencies and the Project Specifications and Cost Estimates have been received.

Drainage Projects

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. Approximately 8,000 cubic yards of material will be removed from the waterway approximately 3,400 feet from Jennings Boulevard to east of David Boulevard. Design Contract: Stantec, Design/Permitting Schedule: 02/01/2013 – Spring 2014, Procurement Process: June 2014, Projected Construction Schedule: December 2014 – March 2015 (during dry season)

Permits have been secured for this project and the 90% design plans were received and are under review. The Design Engineer identified property sites that will be needed in order to access the project and stage equipment; four properties have been secured for use between Jennings and David Boulevards. The Real Estate Services Department is working to secure at least two easements on the east side of David Boulevard. The project manager is coordinating with Natural Resources to relocate gopher tortoises as necessary.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Dorchester Waterway at Kenilworth DOR 4.89 -

This project provides for the design, permitting, and construction of a stormwater control structure under Kenilworth Boulevard at the Dorchester Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing water control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure collapsed in late November 2013. This structure will be upsized from two culverts to two 8'x10' box culverts. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 01/23/2014 – 03/20/2014, Procurement Process: 04/04/2014 - July 2014, Projected Start of Construction: August 2014

Johnson Engineering completed the survey collection, structure design and all permits have been obtained. The bid documents were sent to the Purchasing Department to begin the procurement process on Friday April 4, 2014. Construction will take approximately 105 days to complete upon notice to proceed.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Fordham Waterway at Quasar FOR 4.60 - This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Quasar Boulevard at the Fordham Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing stormwater control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will be properly sized from two 60" RCP with a 50' weir to one 8'x10' box culvert with a 6' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 10/01/2013 – June 2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2015

The survey is complete and the 60% plans are under review.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Sunset Waterway at Forrest Nelson Blvd SUN 3.65 –

This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Forrest Nelson Boulevard, between Quesada Avenue and Corktree Circle, at the Sunset Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing water control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will be replaced with three 8'x10' box culverts to increase flow capacity. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 03/18/2011 – 04/01/2013, Procurement Process: 12/01/2013 – 02/25/2014, Projected Construction Schedule: 05/19/2014 – Sept 2014

This 115 day contract is scheduled to begin May 19, 2014. Forrest Nelson Boulevard, between Quesada Avenue and Corktree Circle, will be closed during construction. Public service announcements will be published and a signed detour will be in place in advance of the road closure.

Maintenance & Operations

Week Ending May 6, 2014:

- Pest Management: A software vendor approached us about testing an Android App for our Geopro Mosquito Control Software. Beth, our Biologist, agreed to be a volunteer to test the application. Subsequently, the vendor installed the software to wirelessly download spray missions to the computer database, thus saving time.
- Aquatic crews completed 25 treatments and 10 inspections
- Mosquito crews treated 5,015 acres with ground adulticide equipment
- Complaint Investigators received over 53 calls and wrote over 30 new work orders. The majority of these were for drainage problems others included illegal dumping, brush trimming, and pothole maintenance.
- The Major Outfall crew finished about 20,000 square feet of line and grade to finish up the back portion of the Long Meadow job in Rotonda West. We received numerous compliments with regards to how efficient and professional the project went.
- The outfall crew finished 4 pipe replacements, along with the armor, working ahead of the paving program in the Olean 1 area. Armoring is a term used when a road crossing pipe is installed and, when backfilling, 8-12 inches of concrete is placed on top of the pipe allowing traffic to use the roadway much quicker than when conventional shell rock and compaction methods are used.
- Outfall crews finished the pipe replacement project in the Olean 1 area and moved over to start the Midway 8 pipe replacement project. Crews performed job preparations activities including locates, staging pipe and saw cutting roadway surfaces. This project replaces pipes ahead of our paving program to avoid pipe failures on newly repaved roadways. Olean 1 and Midway 8 are areas identified in the 2014 Paving Program.
- Crews used the grapple truck to remove 3,000 pounds of debris countywide.
- A drainage crew graded 4,900 square feet of canal bank on Lakeview Blvd. & repaired 18 pipe joints.
- A drainage crew conducted standard cuts on Gulfstream Blvd., from Charms Ave. to Fruitland Ave.
- A drainage crew constructed a boat launch into the Rotonda River by Cape Haze Dr. providing access for Aquatic Weed Control staff to maintain the water lettuce.
- A drainage crew rebuilt 2,960 linear feet of marl road on Swiss Blvd., from Bermont Rd. to Poplar Dr., in the Charlotte Ranchettes using 1,000 ton of shell material.
- Shoulder repairs were completed along Education Way, between Cochran Blvd. and Murdock Cir., and along Conway Blvd. between Midway Blvd. and Easy St.

Solid Waste Division

The Solid Waste Division received the Remaining Airspace and Site Life Report for the Charlotte County Landfill. Based on the projected population of the County, the amount of waste disposed of, and the estimated in-place waste density, the landfill capacity is estimated to provide site life until 2034. The estimated life of the landfill will vary depending on factors such as population growth, the types and amount of material disposed,

the amount of daily and intermediate cover materials used, the settlement and decomposition of in-place wastes, and the in-place density achieved over the operational life of the facility.

Thirty eight students from the Community Christian School toured the Zemel Road Landfill. James Pontbriand greeted the students at the Scale House and explained how the curbside garbage is collected and how it ends up at the Landfill to process. The Scale House is the entry point of the Landfill; all vehicles are weighed to determine the appropriate charges as fees are based on \$36.00 per ton for garbage and debris and \$112.00 per ton for tires. Tires, metals, clean construction debris and yard waste are segregated into different areas: metals are sold, clean construction debris, like concrete or roofing tile, are often used to improve the roads within the landfill, and yard waste is turned into mulch that is mixed with other materials for use as daily cover as well as compost, and household garbage is buried. The students toured the "Gas to Energy" plant and received an overview of how methane gas, generated by the Landfill, is collected, processed and used to power engines that generate electricity. The tour ended with a question and answer session and the students were given literature regarding all Solid Waste services offered in Charlotte County.

The dedication of the Parkside Community Garden Extension was held April 4, 2014. The Garden Extension is an Eagle Scout Project by Tyler Loche, Boy Scout Troop 37. Supporters include: The Mosaic Company, Team Parkside, Charlotte County Human Services and Keep Charlotte Beautiful.

Keep Charlotte Beautiful was recognized at the **Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center's** Volunteers and Supporters Appreciation Event held April 7, 2014. Keep Charlotte Beautiful was recognized for their annual cleanup activities and for the Butterfly Garden.

Keep Charlotte Beautiful participated in an annual Earth Day 2014 event held April 11, 2014 at Vineland Elementary School. About 100 students and teachers were educated on Keep Charlotte Beautiful's programs including: solid waste, recycling, the Gas to Energy program, composting program, transfer stations and the Landfill. Students answered questions for a chance to win prizes.

Edison State College hosted an Earth Day 2014 document shredding and collection drive event on Wednesday, April 23, at the Edison State College Charlotte Campus. A variety of community partners worked together including Charlotte County Public Works and Waste Management, which provided free document shredding services and collected household recyclables such as plastic, glass, paper, and aluminum. Keep Charlotte Beautiful, collected gently used books to distribute at their free "Little Libraries" and Goodwill Industries of Southwest Florida accepted donations of clothing, textiles, furniture, small appliances and household items to place in their reuse stores.

Many residents took advantage of the opportunity to shred documents; this service is very popular as residents can drop documents into the container and watch them get shredded on a TV screen. This gives residents the peace of mind that no one will be able to access their personal information.

Keep Charlotte Beautiful collected books to incorporate into a new program called the "Little Free Library" to encourage reading. Several locations are being set up for residents to pick up or drop off books. Participants received a bird feeder kit which uses a plastic bottle as its base, representing how items can be reused. Hundreds of books were collected for the "Little Free Libraries."

Keep Charlotte Beautiful held a dedication of the "Little Free Library" located outside their office door at the Environmental Campus on Harbor View Road on April 15, 2014. Youth Environmental Leaders and a group of high school students assisted with this project. The "Little Free Library" is made from reusable items and was

decorated by the students. Customers can take a book or leave a book free of charge; it contains children's and adult books. Donations of used books and applications for the 2014-2015 Environmental Leadership group are being accepted.



*"Little Free Library"
Located at the Environmental Campus on Harbor View Road*

Tourism

Florida Tracks & Trails unveiled its unique outdoor recreational park to about 40 members of the media and chambers of commerce during a media breakfast hosted by the Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau last week (May 7). First phase of the park is scheduled to open in Q4 2014.