

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

Published 9/2/14

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted a three game home stand for the Charlotte Stone Crabs on the following dates with attendance: 8/22 – 877; 8/23 – 877 (the numbers were the same for both days); 8/24 – 424.

The Tampa Bay Rays Gulf Coast League hosted three games at the Charlotte Sports Park. The estimated attendance at these games was as follows: 8/19 – 15; 8/21 – 15; 8/22 – 25.

Upcoming Events: The Charlotte Sports Park will host two games for the Tampa Bay Rays Gulf Coast League between 8/26 and 8/28.

The Charlotte Sports Park will host the final two games of the Charlotte Stone Crabs Season on 8/28 and 8/29.

Harold Avenue Recreation

V-I-C-T-O-R-Y that's our team's battle cry! The Adult Men's Basketball Leagues Finals concluded on this past Sunday. The top two teams in the league battled it out for the title of reigning champs. The competition was fierce. Both spectators and participants were on the edge of their seats until the final buzzer. Congratulations go out to the Monsters. They are Harold Avenue Recreation Center's 2014 Adult Men's Basketball Summer League Champions. Be on the lookout for the next Adult Men's Basketball League which is scheduled to start in November 2014.

Port Charlotte Beach Pool and Recreation

For the week of 8-20 through 8-26-14, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 268 paid admissions, had 28 water aerobics participants and was visited by 39 pass holders.

We held the primary elections here Tuesday, with approximately 300 + voters for the local community to get their voices heard.

This past week we had one of our newly formed Neighborhood Watch meetings. They seem to be growing in strength with 20+ participants. On Friday we had Charlotte County Facilities Department here, hosting an employee appreciation event. Lots of great BBQ and laughter! It looked like everyone had a good time.

We have a family reunion coming up on Saturday, hope the weather holds out for them as they plan to take full advantage of what the park has to offer, volley ball, horse shoes and the swimming pool!

South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 8-17-14 through 8-23-14 South County Regional Park Pool had 249 paid admissions, 76 water aerobics participants and was visited by 161 pass holders. We held a moonlight swim on August 23rd with 45 in attendance. The Bluefins held six practices with approximately 400 swimmers. High School swim team and dive team held seven practices with approximately 250 participants.

Oyster Creek Region Pool

For the week of 8-17-14 through 8-23-14 Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 294 paid admissions, 40 water aerobics participants and was visited by 52 pass holders. The Bluefin's held 3 practices with approximately 75 swimmers. The Moonlight Movie was huge hit with 158 people watching "Frozen." The Lemon Bay High School Swim Team started practicing with 40 swim team members.

Extension Services

Newspaper Article for August 25 - "Diverse texture, magnificent appearance - junipers"

Extension Professionals of Florida (EPAF) Conference - Bay Point Wyndham Resort in Panama City, FL. August 25 through 29 – In-Service Training and Will Receive Florida Association of County Agricultural Agent (FACAA)

Search for Excellence Award – Landscape Horticulture

Master Gardener Radio Program – August 26 – WCCF-1580 – Program covered by Tom Becker and Master Gardener volunteers

Newspaper Article for September 1 – “Genuine Florida carpenter ants”

Parkside Tree Canopy Restoration Committee – September 2 – McGuire Park - Elkcam Groundbreaking Ceremony

Libraries and Historical

Lowes Stores have identified the Port Charlotte Library as their Community Partner. The staff at Lowes is doing work on the landscaping around the building on Aaron St. They have cleaned the outside of the building and will be doing other projects to spruce things up. Library staff are very excited as this is our oldest library and in the Parkside neighborhood! We are doing what we can to help with the Parkside renewal.

Fall programs are in full swing here and school is in session. The kids are coming in with assignments and enjoying the new look in our Youth areas. Literacy is our biggest challenge for this year and we are doing what we can to support the schools.

We attended a “Back to School” event at the Mall recently and the Libraries were a hit! Over 300 people came by to say hi and look at display table –we hope to see lots of new Library users!

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

At Charlotte County Event Center building the chiller condenser coil has been replaced to remediate previous refrigerant leaks.

Work is in process to install ultraviolet lamps at Charlotte County Sheriff’s Administration evidence area. These U.V. lights will help to eliminate frequent excessive odors providing the staff a healthier, clean air environment in which to work.

Operations

The installation of a biometric upgrade to the Justice Center access control system is underway. This system provides a two level authentication process that requires both a swipe card and a finger print in order to gain access to selected areas of the facilities. The issuance of new cards and fingerprinting of personnel is being accomplished now, and the system is expected to be fully operational within the next ninety days.

Accessibility Improvement Project Preconstruction meetings are set for the remaining five projects. This past week the cement ramp for the Port Charlotte Library was poured. The next work will be installing the railings and finishing the sod and bollards within the coming week.

Project Management

A meeting of the Justice Center planning committee was held on August 20th to discuss next steps related to hiring a design consultant for the project.

A kick-off meeting was held on August 21st with Facilities’ new Consultant of Record, Sweet-Sparkman Architects, to discuss the design of a fire sprinkler system for Fire Station 10.

The Carmalita Concession stand was primer painted with all roof penetrations complete. The roofing material was delivered with soffit installation starting. The site sidewalks are being poured in preparation of the parking lot repaving forecasted to start within 10 days.

Human Services

Senior Division :

The staff participated in the Ambassador Program; Tourism Development Bureau and Community Services Division.

Case Management Supervisor attended and participated in an 'Aging to Perfection' facilitator training offered by the Hanley Center from Palm Beach, FL.

Veteran Services:

Staff attended training, provided by Joseph L. Duffy, Field Examiner, there was a brief overview of the fiduciary program legal authorities and issues.

Veteran Supervisor did a home visit & began the VA paperwork on a 90 year old WWII female Veteran.

Veteran Services in collaboration with American Legion Post 113 Service Officer are going to visit a Veteran in Assisted Living and they completed the necessary paperwork to VA, as well as, doing a follow up.

Charlotte 211:

Charlotte County United Way referred a homebound elderly to 211 Friday at 4pm for having no food in her house. 211 Supervisor contacted several agencies that were able to assist this caller short term for her to have food for the weekend, and referred the caller to Area Agency on Aging and Meals on Wheels for a long term solution.

211 Supervisor is assisting the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition Personnel to Screen design the Call Point and Service Point Database for smooth transition from Iris 4.0 to Community Information System Software. A meeting is held every other Monday with specific changes. These changes will be reviewed by the 211 Supervisor to meet the AIRS accreditation.

211 received several inquiries for low income emergency dentistry that were referred outside county due to waiting lists and unavailability of Dental care for low income families/individuals.

211 starting to receive more foreclosure calls, medical indigent calls, among all age groups in addition to Domestic Violence related calls.

211 Supervisor attended the Community Health Improvement Partnership/Access to Health Care Subcommittee. In this meeting Charlotte County Transit Personnel were present and gave an overall presentation of the transportation and the route system. In review of community's lack of knowledge about the Charlotte County Transit/routing system, committee members decided to work cohesively with Transit staff to market and increase community awareness via newspaper ad, flyer, and social media for the Charlotte County residents.

Public Works

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

C.R. 771 (Gasparilla Road) Widening – The purpose of this project is to widen C.R. 771 (Gasparilla Road) to a four-lane divided roadway, from S.R. 776 to the vicinity of Rotonda Boulevard East. The project will include the installation of sidewalks and bicycle facilities. This 790 calendar day project is funded by the 2009 Sales Tax, Road Impact Fees, Gasoline Tax and a State Grant. Construction Contract: Construction Manager at Risk, Halfacre Construction, Woodruff and Sons, Inc. will be performing on-site construction, Construction Schedule: 07/07/14 – 09/04/16.

Woodruff and Sons, Inc. is currently installing underground utilities along CR 771, on the east side of the

roadway, south of the Butterford Waterway. The subcontractor is also clearing the vegetation on the east side of the road, north of the Butterford Waterway, up to SR 776.

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 Contract: Owen Ames Kimball, Projected Construction Schedule: 11/18/2013 – Fall 2014

Substantial completion was issued on August 12, 2014; The Bridge is complete and punch list is done. Thermoplastic pavement markings will go down on September 5, 2014 as this process must wait 30 days after paving is completed. This is the last update for this project.

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. Construction Contract: Lovin Construction, Construction Schedule: 9/15/2014 – 12/31/2014

The Pre-construction meeting was held on August 13, 2014. At this meeting, Notice to Proceed was established for Sept. 15, 2014. Construction will take approximately 105 days to complete upon notice to proceed.

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. Construction Contract: Quality Enterprises, Construction Schedule: 05/19/2014 – 9/26/2014

Construction is underway; all of the 54 box culvert sections have been installed. The east headwall footer and the west wingwall and headwall footers have been formed and poured. 90% of the rip rap has been installed on the east side of the canal.

An unforeseen outfall pipe was discovered during the excavation for construction. A change order was processed in the amount of \$15,658.00 to allow for 4 days of additional work, including 2 manholes and additional pipe, so that the outfall pipe can be re-routed to connect with the current structure design.

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. Construction Contract: ZEP Construction, Projected Schedule: 11/18/2013 – 5/12/2015

Pompano Waterway: Roads are open to all traffic. Zep will complete all punchlist items by September 11, 2014.

Elkcam Waterway: Zep Construction is currently preparing the waterway for the rip rap foundations and to construct the concrete headwalls.

Fordham Waterway: Huxted Tunneling crews are setting up equipment to prepare for the first of two 84" microtunnels under US 41. Zep Construction will begin installing concrete sheet piling for the new weir construction upstream of the northbound Access Road.

Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

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 – 6/3/2014, Procurement Process: June - Sept 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2014.

This construction project is advertised for bid. The pre-bid conference was held August 12, 2014 and bid opening is scheduled September 10, 2014.

Placida Road Safety Improvements Phase 1 (Rotonda Blvd. West to Cape Haze Drive) – Safety improvements include: a 2.9 mile bicycle-pedestrian path from Rotonda Boulevard West to Cape Haze Drive, intersection improvements at Lemon Bay Golf Course, Bantry Bay, Cape Haze Drive and Panama Drive and resurfacing of Placida Road from Rotonda Boulevard West to the Boca Grande Causeway. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: through February 2015, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

The 60% design plans were submitted to SWFWMD on August 12, 2014. SWFWMD has 30 days to review the plans; comments are anticipated by September 11, 2014. It is anticipated that phase 1 of this project will qualify for an exemption similar to phase 2. 90% design plans are in production now and are due to the County for review the end of September 2014.

Charlotte County Utilities will be adding a reclaimed water line to the project. Conducting utility work in conjunction with the construction of the new multi-use path and safety improvements will minimize disruption to residents and businesses within the project limits.

A change order to add the utility work to the design contract Scope of Services is being prepared and will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on Sept. 9, 2014 for approval.

Placida Road Safety Improvements Phase 2 (Cape Haze Dr. to Boca Grande Causeway) – This project provides for a continuous walkway along Placida Road from SR 776 to the Boca Grande Causeway. This multi-use path will run along the northwest side of Placida Road and will be 10' wide to accommodate both pedestrians and bicyclists. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: through February 2015, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015.

The design firm is currently working on 90% plans. We anticipate these plans will be completed and submitted for County review by mid-September 2014.

Charlotte County Utilities will be adding a reclaimed water line to the project. Conducting utility work in conjunction with the construction of the new multi-use path and safety improvements will minimize disruption to residents and businesses within the project limits.

A change order to add the utility work to the design contract Scope of Services is being prepared and will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on Sept. 9, 2014 for approval.

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 – 8/30/2014, Procurement Process: September 2014, Projected Construction Schedule: December 2014 – March 2015 (during dry season)

A consultant has been retained to perform the permitting, surveying, and relocation requirements to protect and relocate tortoises from the project site as required by law. Final plans and bid specifications have been received and, upon approval by staff, will be forwarded to the Purchasing Department to be advertised for construction bids. As we are anticipating construction to start in December 2014 during the dry season, the gopher tortoise survey (which is only good for 90 days) will be completed around the end of September 2014.

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 – August 2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Late 2015

The survey is complete and the SWFWMD permit application has been submitted. Staff is anticipating the receipt of 90% design plans in early September 2014.

This structure is not scheduled for construction until late 2015.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Niagara Waterway at Quasar NIA 5.09 - This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Quasar Boulevard at the Niagara 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 properly sized and upgraded from two 48" metal pipes with a 44' weir to two 48" concrete pipes with a 20' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 05/01/2013 – 9/1/2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2015

The plans have been permitted by SWFWMD. Johnson Engineering submitted 100% design plans and construction specifications for County review.

Maintenance & Operations

August 18 - 22, 2014

There were 57 new work requests for service during this time period. Most of the requests were for drainage work and brush trimming; other requests included debris removal from the right of way and pothole repairs.

An outfall crew removed/installed 32 linear feet of 24" x 38" concrete driveway culvert on Washington Loop Rd. and removed/installed 32 linear feet of 19" x 30" concrete driveway culvert on Carmalita St.

In Greater Port Charlotte, an outfall crew performed restoration activities after pipe work on Oxford Ave. and installed 40 feet of 14" x 23" reinforced concrete pipe at the intersection of Burkhart Dr. and Alaric St. The outfall crew poured the road crossing with concrete and installed 36 feet of 12" x 18" reinforced concrete pipe on Burkhart Dr. and armored the crossing with concrete.

An outfall crew installed 36 linear feet of reinforced concrete pipe, armored the crossing, and cleaned up on Orlando Blvd. and McNulty Ave. in the Midway 7 area ahead of the 2015 GPC paving program.

An outfall crew installed 36 linear feet of 14" X 23" reinforced concrete road crossing pipe on Rosemary St. at Ambassador Ave.

A drainage crew is finishing up 30,000 square feet of line and grade on Hamlet Dr. in Lemon Bay. In Greater Port Charlotte, a drainage crew completed 7,450 square feet of line and grade on Great Falls Terr. between Broad Ranch Dr. and Lakeview Blvd. and re-graded 11,000 square feet on Ackerman Ave., between Countryman Ave. and Mundella St., for the placement of sod.

A drainage crew completed 4,100 square feet of line and grade on Alcira Cir. at Alicante Dr., and 4,100 square feet on Badalona Dr. at Alcazar Dr. in Burnt Store Village. The crew also conducted 6,300 square feet of line and grade on San Lucas Lane and Sage Horn Lane in Burnt Store Lakes.

The quick response crew completed .2 miles of shoulder repair at Carmalita/Florida St. and swept a temporary road at the Airport for mosquito control. They also mowed and trimmed the Lieutenant Carl Bailey Cemetery.

Tourism

Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau staff attended the Connect Sports Marketplace conference in Orlando, FL, last week (Aug. 21-23) which offered a combination of networking and educational sessions with over 200 national governing bodies and events rights holders in attendance. As a result of meeting one-on-one with more than 30 event organizers, the Bureau received six requests for proposals (RFP's) as well as host site specifications from 12 other sports rights holders. In addition, further details were addressed in the process of securing or retaining three other events for 2015.

Utilities (CCU)

Water Distribution: On Aug. 27, 2014, the Chemsan analyzer at the Golf Course water booster station was initiated. This analyzer allows operators to more closely monitor the chlorination chemicals in our water system going through the booster station. We should see a reduction of cost for the ammonia used for chlorination since we are now able to utilize excess ammonia that we receive from the water authority.