

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park will host the Prostyle Tournament on 11/1 & 11/2. Games will be played on three practice fields each day.

Harold Avenue Recreation

This week the Harold Avenue Recreation Center Staff were busy preparing for the Basketball Skills Evaluation held at the center on Thursday and Saturday. Under the leadership of Edwidge Chery, league coordinator of the Harold Avenue's Youth Basketball League, 125 of this year's participants were led through 45 minutes of basketball drills. The Youth Basketball League is open to area youth between the ages of 5 and 17 years old. The league consists of 10 regular season games followed by a postseason tournament for ages 9 and older. Regular practices begin Nov. 4 with the Preseason Jamboree being held on Saturday, Nov. 8 at 8:00 am.

Port Charlotte Beach Pool

For the week of 10-22 through 10-28-14, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 101 paid admissions, was visited by 48 pass holders and had 21 water aerobics participants.

Coming up, we have a wedding and reception for 120 guests. Other rentals throughout the week: instructional class- Tai Chi on Monday, Neighborhood watch on Tuesday for 30, Human Services "Youth Summit" for 120 High School Kids on Wednesday, and a Youth Sports Council/concession meeting Wednesday night.

South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 10-19-14 through 10-25-14 South County Regional Park Pool had 60 paid admissions, 26 water aerobics participants and was visited by 124 pass holders. The South County Intercession Camp had two swim days with approx. 30 swimmers each day. The High School District meet was held with approx. 300 in attendance. The blue Fins held five practices with approx. 350 swimmers. High School swim team and dive team held seven practices with approx. 280 participants.

Oyster Creek Pool

For the week of 10-19-14 through 10-25-14 Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 43 paid admissions, 120 water aerobics participants and was visited by 77 pass holders. The Bluefin's held 4 practices with approximately 100 swimmers. The Lemon Bay High School Swim Team held 4 practices with 40 swimmers at each practice.

Extension Services

Newspaper Article for October 26 - "The root of the problem"

Newspaper Article for November 3- "True Blue"

Managers Meeting – October 27 – Sports Park – 1 pm

MG Radio Show – October 28 – WCCF – 1580

High School Student interested in insects – Shadowing Program from Goodwill – October 29

Extension Staff meeting –October 30

Pasture Management Seminar- October 30

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

- A sunken section and corner piece of sidewalk at Rotonda Park pavilion was recently repaired. The hazardous area was broken up, removed, and new concrete was poured and finished.
- Our county logo will be on display in the nation's capital. Congressman Rooney requested Facilities to make

a wooden plaque with the county logo for his DC office. The plaque is same as those that commissioners have currently in their respective offices.

- Office space renovations are underway at Building Construction Services to accommodate new staffers.
- Initial scheduling and pricing information is being prepared for a project at Charlotte Sport Park, where restorations to dugout bench seat backs are planned.
- Facilities has obtained the permit for restroom remodel at Harbour Heights Park.

Operations

- Punta Gorda Library accessibility ramp construction is complete. Remaining phases of project are installation of railing, finish work, and final inspections.
- South County Annex accessibility ramp is in progress. Demolition of this ramp is complete and the forming and construction is beginning.
- Port Charlotte Library accessibility ramp construction is complete and awaiting final inspections

Project Management

- The lighting project for the Carmalita softball parking lot is underway. This will include new poles and LED fixtures for the newly renovated parking lot.
- Facilities and Community Services began conversations with Charlotte County Utilities regarding provision of reclaimed water to Franz Ross Park and North Charlotte Regional Park. More discussions are envisioned leading toward possibly changing irrigation water from wells and surface water sources to reclaimed water
- The low bid for Franz Ross Park sports field, drainage, and parking project was submitted by Wright Construction.
- The professional committee reviewed and ranked the design Request for Proposal's on the Airport Road Annex Master Plan. The firm ranking will be presented to the BCC for approval. Upon approval, the negotiation phase will begin with the selected firm

Human Services

Housing: Housing received first installment of SHIP funds - \$426,040. Staff is beginning to sort through the current waiting list that consists of 58 households.

Senior Division: Supporting Area Caregivers

On 10/22/2014 our National Family Caregiver Grandparents took full advantage of the annual caregiver's cruise out of Fisherman's Village aboard a boat owned by Kingfisher Fleet.

Each year, OCEAN (Our Charlotte Elder Affairs Network) partners with area businesses to make this cruise happen. Area caregivers are encouraged to participate at no cost to them. Caregivers are provided lunch, enjoy music, take in the sights around Charlotte Harbor, and if they are really lucky, win door prizes. Additionally, caregivers are provided with respite service (also at no cost to them) to cover their absence from their daily duties if needed. Older caregivers are encouraged to participate to just get away if only for a short time. An added bonus to this outing of course is caregivers meet other caregivers, share ideas, exchange telephone numbers, and become a source of support to each other. While over 120 calls were received, 97 caregivers made their reservation and OCEAN members had to manage a waiting list.

This year, Mr. & Mrs. B boarded the boat at Fisherman's Village; their first time. Mr. & Mrs. B are caregivers although not the traditional caregivers we think of when it comes to our elders. While Mr. B is in his mid 70's, and Mrs. B in her late 60's and have health issues of their own, they share the fulltime responsibility of caring for their two (2) grandchildren; a very rambunctious 7 and 2 year old. They have custody of the children and are raising them while the parents are absent and out of the picture. The National Family Caregiver Program, a subtitle of the Older Americans Act recognizes the world is a different place and that families are made up less traditionally than ever and that grandparents are raising grandchildren for whatever reason all over the country. In Charlotte County, this program, attempts to help at least 3-4 children and their grandparents each year. Mr. & Mrs. B. enjoyed their outing and will likely participate again next year.

Public Works

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

2014 County Paving Program - This program provides for the resurfacing of roads in Greater Port Charlotte and the Road & Bridge Districts. 2014 paving maps are available on the public Website. Construction Contract: Ajax Paving, Construction Schedule: 02/03/14 – Late 2014

The Contractor has finished paving in the Peachland 3 area. Restoration of the Midway 8 and Peachland 3 areas has resumed and will continue until complete. The Contractor is moving back into the Road and Bridge District to resume paving on the Cooper Street Extension.

To date, approximately 83,254 tons of asphalt has been placed in the Road and Bridge, Greater Port Charlotte, and Punta Gorda Non-Urban MSBU Districts. The amount of contract time that has elapsed is approximately 56.56% and the Contractor has completed approximately 72.55% of the work.

Charlotte Harbor Watershed Management - Stormwater Structures Phase 2 - This project shall follow Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) guidelines consistent with the District's Watershed Management Program. Three components are proposed: Topographic Information, Watershed Evaluation and a Watershed Management Plan. Phase 2 includes the installation of stormwater structures on Central Avenue near Oakley Street (BMP 25), near Church Street (BMP 26) and near Main Street (BMP 42). Construction Contract: Strickler Brothers, Construction Schedule: 10/30/2014 – 11/13/2014

A pre-construction meeting was held with Strickler Brothers on October 28, 2014. A notice to proceed was issued for October 30, 2014 with an expected construction time of approximately two weeks.

PSA issued 10/29/2014 - The installation of stormwater structures will begin Thursday, October 30, 2014 along Central Avenue from Oakley Street to Main Street. This project is expected to be complete by November 10, 2014 and is being conducted in conjunction with the Watershed Management Plan for the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency. There will be intermittent lane closures throughout the duration of this project; flaggers will be on site to assist travelers through the construction zone. The Public Works Department reminds motorists to remain alert at all times and to exercise caution when traveling through construction zones.

CR 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 is currently on hold until CenturyLink completes the relocation of their facilities, which is expected to be completed by November 1, 2014. Crews are starting to mulch the vegetation that was previously cleared north of the Butterford Waterway to SR 776. Atlantic Directional Drilling is on site boring utility lines under the Butterford Waterway; this utility work is projected to be finished by October 31, 2014.

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. Construction is underway. The box culverts are being formed and poured. The work on the headwalls and wingwalls began the week of October 20, 2014.

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. Elkcarn Waterway: Zep Construction is preparing the waterway for rip rap foundations, construction of the concrete headwalls and fabric form installation. Fordham Waterway: No work is being conducted at this time; all crews are at the Elkcarn Waterway.

Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

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. This project was selected for inclusion in the 2008 Sales Tax Referendum. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: 05/08/2012 – Summer 2014, Procurement Process: Fall 2014, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

Giffels-Webster Engineering submitted the 100% construction plans. County Public Works staff reviewed the final plans and returned all comments back to the design engineer. All roadway plans, Charlotte County School District plans, all Signing/Marking and Lighting Signalization plans are complete. At this time this project is on hold pending 100% utility plans. Charlotte County Utilities is scheduled to have their portion of the design completed by Nov. 15, 2014.

Sidewalks - South Gulf Cove – The South Gulf Cove MSBU Committee requested approximately 17 miles of multi-use pathways within the South Gulf Cove subdivision. Phase One includes the design and construction of approximately 2.7 miles of off-street pathways on Ingraham Boulevard from Gasparilla Road to Calumet Boulevard and on Calumet Boulevard from Ingraham Boulevard to St. Paul Drive. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 01/06/2014 – 10/01/2014, Procurement Process: Fall 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Early 2015. The MSBU Committee met on September 11, 2014, and requested that the sidewalks be designed at a width of 10 feet. Johnson Engineering has been advised and will revise the plans accordingly. 90% plans have been received and are being reviewed by staff.

Drainage Projects

Oyster Creek Flow Enhancement - This project provides for the removal of exotic vegetation including, but not limited to, Brazilian Pepper, Primrose Willow, Cattails, dead vegetation and trash from approximately 19 acres of land within the flow ways of Oyster Creek, Gondolier Waterway and Early Waterway. This project is funded by the West Charlotte Stormwater District. Design: Public Works Engineering, Procurement Process: 10/13/2014 – Late 2014, Projected Construction Schedule: Early 2015 – Summer 2015. The bid documents are in the Purchasing Department undergoing review prior to bid solicitation for construction.

Maintenance & Operations

October 22-28, 2014: There were 46 new work requests for service during this time period. The calls were for drainage work, brush trimming, edge of pavement repair, and shoulder repair.

Drainage line & grade: 23,535 SF and 6,800 SF re-graded for sod in Greater Port Charlotte

16,000 SF in Deep Creek

8,500 SF in Rotonda Lakes

8,000 SF in Grove City

Small pipe install: 192 LF in Greater Port Charlotte

56 LF in Manasota Key on Shoreview; removed 1 catch basin, extended the pipe so it would be in line with the sewer lateral, installed a new catch basin along with 56 LF of pipe. The area is back filled, compacted, and dressed up.

Menzi ditch cutting: 136,000 SF in mid-county stormwater ditches.

Grapple Truck: Removed 15,440 Lbs from the rights-of-ways in Greater Port Charlotte

Boom Mower: Cut 7,800 CY in South Punta Gorda Heights West

Cut 17,111 CY in Cook & Brown

Cut 14,882 CY in the Punta Gorda Non-Urban District

Cut 10,155 CY in Greater Port Charlotte

Cut 15,200 CY in Boca Grande

Cut 6,000 CY in Road & Bridge West

Asphalt Crew: Installed .4 ton of asphalt in Greater Port Charlotte repairing potholes
 Installed 5.96 ton of asphalt in the Punta Gorda Non-Urban district repairing potholes
 Installed 3.48 ton of asphalt in Burnt Store Lakes repairing potholes
 Installed 1 ton of asphalt in Northwest Port Charlotte filling potholes

Culvert Cleaning: Cleaned 25 culverts in Deep Creek
 Cleaned 2 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
 Cleaned 4 culverts in Gulf Cove
 Cleaned 4 culverts in Road & Bridge North
 Cleaned 2 culverts in Rotonda West
 Cleaned 1 culvert in Northwest Port Charlotte
 Cleaned 3 culverts in the Englewood East Non-Urban District

Other Projects

Manasota Key Community Plan Design – The Manasota Key MSTU Committee requested development of a Community Plan including, but not limited to, sidewalks, bike paths, crosswalks and lighting. The first phase of this project consisted of a conceptual master plan completed by Weiler Engineering in December 2013. Phase 2 is the design of construction ready plans consisting of the top priorities as identified by the MSTU Committee. Design Contract: Weiler Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: July 2014 – Early 2015, Construction: N/A (Design Only). Weiler Engineering met with the MSBU Committee on Sept. 10, 2014 and reviewed the preliminary 30% design plans. The MSBU Committee agreed that 5 feet wide sidewalks were a better option with the limited right of way. 30% design plans have been received and are being reviewed by staff.

Tourism

World-class Charlotte Harbor will welcome more than 60 boats from around the world next year when Charlotte County hosts the 2015 F18 Americas Championship Regatta, Oct. 17 – 25. The announcement was made during the class’s national championship regatta in Corpus Christi, Texas, last week (Oct. 22). The event marks the second international sailing competition to be awarded to Charlotte Harbor Regatta Inc. in recent years. The non-profit organization, which was formed in 2009 to promote sailing on Charlotte Harbor, also ran the 2012 International Association for Disabled Sailing World Championships. The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau assisted with the bid proposal and provided the CHR a travel grant to attend this year’s event and present our official bid to the F18 board and membership. The Bureau will work with CHR and other entities to host the 2015 sailing competition.

Utilities (CCU)

CCU Conducts Smoke Testing

CCU will finish their Smoke Testing within Charlotte County, including Burnt Store Village by Nov 6. The areas targeted were selected based on lift station readings for flow to our Treatment Facilities where it was indicating that inflow or infiltration is occurring and overloading the collection system and treatment plants with stormwater. Inflow occurs when stormwater enters the sewer pipes flowing to the treatment facility and infiltration occurs when groundwater enters the sewer pipes through cracks, breaks, or root intrusion. As part of our public communication outreach, residents received door knockers, telephone automated messages; both news print and Television news stations have covered the effort slated to conclude the first week of November.

Oct 29, CCU hosted a public educational tour at the Rotonda Water Reclamation Facility. The tour provided an overview of the process involved in converting wastewater entering the facility into clean irrigation water. The event involved a walking tour of the facility. The next tours will be held January 15, 2015 at the Rotonda Water Reclamation Facility, and on February 11 at the West Port Water Reclamation Facility. The tours are approximately two hours in duration and can host up to 20 people per tour.