

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

Published 1/27/15

## Community Services

### Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park staff conducted the final round of Event Specialist interviews on 1/19/15. A total of 63 Event Specialists have been hired to work the 2015 Spring Training Season.

### Harold Avenue

Drop-In Programs are still on the rise at Harold Avenue with increases in Open Gym, Table Tennis and Pickleball. Participation in the center's other regularly scheduled programs continue to remain steady. The staff is currently planning for the start of the adult men's basketball league which will begin in February.

### Port Charlotte Beach Recreation and Pool

The Promenader's held their Square Dance on Thursday night with an attendance of 71 guests. Our Recreation Center's Room A was utilized for two events this past weekend with a total of 76 guests. Thanks to the hard work of our maintenance/event staff, we were able to accommodate both events in one day!

This coming Saturday, Jan. 24, we have the Charlotte County Kids Fest and the annual Bocce Tournament.

For the week of 1-14- through 1-20-15, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 93 paid admissions, was visited by 38 pass holders and had 119 water aerobics participants.

### South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 1-11-15 through 1-17-15 South County Regional Park Pool was still closed for renovations through 1-16-15. The Port Charlotte High School Pool was utilized on weekends to accommodate patrons during our pool renovations and we had 2 pass holders swim at the High School Pool on 1-11-15. Charlotte County Blue Fins swim team moved their practices to the Port Charlotte High School Pool during our pool renovations. South County Regional Park Pool reopened on 1-17-15 and had 7 paid admissions and was visited by 13 pass holders.

### Oyster Creek Regional Pool

For the week of 1-11-15 to 1-17-15 Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 63 paid admissions, 56 water aerobics participants and was visited by 69 pass holders. The geo thermals have been repaired and the pool is a comfortable 83 degrees.

### Extension Service

Newspaper Article for January 19 – "Carefully prune palms - proper palm pruning is worth the effort!"

Managers Meeting – January 20 - Charlotte Sports Park

Division Presentation Budget Prep Forms for discussion – Extension - Charlotte Sports Park

Limited Landscape Maintenance Training – January 22

All-Staff Meeting – January 23 - Mid-County Regional Library

Landscape Gardening Series – January 23 – "Fruits"

## Facilities Construction & Maintenance

### Repairs and Maintenance

Various clean up and repair projects at Charlotte Sports park are underway in preparation for spring baseball training. Carpentry repairs to dugout benches are now complete and bull pen areas are in progress. In addition, multiple plumbing and electrical repairs within park are being completed.

## Operations

Our facilities under landscaping contract are receiving the annual application of mulch on plant beds. Not only is this good for the trees and plantings, it provides an appealing, professionally-finished appearance. We are using a sustainable and renewable shredded eucalyptus mulch which also keeps away some pesky pests.

## Project Management

A pre-award meeting was held this week with the low bidder for the Charlotte Sports Park grass parking lot drain repairs. The recommendations were submitted to Purchasing Department with the approval scheduled for the Board of County Commissioners meeting on 2/10/15.

The Anger Pier substructure, decking, and railing is complete, subject to final inspections. The parking lot layout has begun.

The contractor has begun surveying and layout for the Harbour Heights Park project for drainage, parking and sports courts improvements.

The contractor is working on submittals for the Port Charlotte Beach pier and boardwalk rehabilitation project, notice to proceed is scheduled for mid-February.

The El Jobean fishing pier design scope of work and fees has been completed, subject to management review and approval.

## Human Services

Emily Lewis, Family Services Manager, was notified that she was accepted into the Certified Community Action Professional (CCAP) Program. This is a nationally-recognized professional leadership program sponsored by the Community Action Partnership. Upon completion of the program, Ms. Lewis must take the certification exam to receive her credentials. Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners is the designated Community Action Agency for Charlotte County. The Human Services Department administers the Community Services Block Grant and serves as liaison to the Community Action Agency Advisory Board. Congratulations and best wishes to Ms. Lewis.

## Public Works

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

**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: 07/07/2014 – 09/04/2016.

Woodruff and Sons continues with utility installations along the east side of the project, north and south of the Butterford Waterway. Additional crews are completing utility tie-ins crossing Gasparilla Rd. There will be traffic diversions, temporary lane closures and possible detours. This work should be complete by mid-February 2015.

Roadway crews are installing base material for the temporary roadway along the west side of the project from the Butterford Waterway to Rotonda; paving will start in late January 2015.

*PSA issued 1/12/2015: The Gasparilla Road (CR 771) Widening Project is underway, from McCall Road (SR 776) to just south of Rotonda Boulevard East, to construct a four-lane divided roadway with intersection improvements at SR 776 and utility improvements between Rotonda Boulevard East and Cattle Dock Point Road. Travelers should allow extra time to move through this area as periodic lane closures, lane shifts and traffic diversions are expected to increase as the project progresses over the next few months. The Public Works Department reminds motorists to remain alert at all times and to exercise caution when traveling through construction zones.*

**U.S. 41 Microtunnels / Weirs** – This project involves engineering and permitting for the directional drilling of culverts under U.S. 41 at the Fordham, Elkcarn, 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 Elkcarn 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, Construction Schedule: 11/18/2013 – 5/12/2015

- Elkcarn Waterway: Zep Construction is placing riprap on the downstream side and preparing to place fabric form along the banks. Construction is in progress on the new weir upstream of US 41.
- Fordham Waterway: Zep Construction completed the east side headwall and is currently excavating the upstream side in preparation for the new riprap. Zep will start the west side headwall in early February 2015.

### **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: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

Giffels-Webster Engineers completed the design plans and County staff is working to finalize the contract documents. The construction contract is projected to go out for bid the spring of 2015.

### **Landscaping Projects**

- The new annual contract for landscape management began in South Gulf Cove, via the South Gulf Cove Beautification MSBU.
- Landscape fertilization was completed in South Gulf Cove.
- Mowing of fenced retention ponds throughout the County was completed.
- Basic landscape maintenance was performed at: US 41 Revitalization phase I; Charlotte Harbor Gateway phase I; Manasota Key; Grove City Park and South Gulf Cove.

### **Maintenance & Operations**

Jan. 14 – 20, 2015

A total of 31 new requests were received related to brush, asphalt repair, drainage, illegal dumping, and a broken sidewalk section.

Drainage line & grade:	6,500 SF in Greater Port Charlotte
	9,800 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte
	3,875 SF in Gulf Cove
Large pipe install:	72 LF in Englewood East
	128 LF in Burnt Store Village
Small pipe install:	328 LF in Greater Port Charlotte
Menzie ditch cutting:	160,000 SF in West County Storm Water ditches (Gulf Cove area)
	109,800 SF in Mid County Storm Water
	109,000 SF in South County Storm Water
Boom Mower:	Cut 70,114 CY in Greater Port Charlotte
	Cut 9,600 CY in Charlotte Ranchettes
Shoulder Repair:	1.6 miles on Cornelius Blvd & Chancellor Blvd in NWPC
Culvert Cleaning:	Cleaned 37 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Trash/Debris Removal from Right-of-Way:	1,160 pounds removed from Northwest Port Charlotte

**M&O Contracted Services**

- Specialty mowing is underway in various locations: the medians on US 41, Veterans Blvd. and Kings Highway have been completed and crews are currently working in South County.
- Right-of-Way mulching has begun in the northwest part of the County. Vertical hedging is also underway; approximately 4 miles have been mulched back to 14 feet off of the roadway.
- Street sweeping is underway in West County and also in some specified locations in South County.

**Tourism**

Staff from the Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau attended Florida Huddle, the state's foremost travel trade event attended by domestic and international tour operators and journalists interested in doing business in Florida. The show took place in Fort Lauderdale last week (Jan. 14 – 16). During the appointment trade show staff met with 20 tour operators and a dozen journalists and returned with several leads for potential business for Charlotte County accommodation and attraction businesses. Many journalists, from Florida, Canada, Germany, the U.K. and Brazil, are interested in learning more about the destination in order to write about the area for their respective publications.

**Utilities (CCU)**

Rotonda Water Reclamation Facility held its first educational tour of the year for the public on January 15th. Visitors learned about the treatment of wastewater and conversation to reclaimed water as well as the handling of septage, grease and biosolids. A representative from Senator Bill Nelson's office was present and all in attendance stated they were very impressed with our facility and staff.