

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The estimated attendance at the facility for the open practices of the Tampa Bay Rays was as follows: 2/23 – 206, 2/24 – 176, 2/25 – 152, 2/26 – 98, 2/27 – 168, 2/28 (1st Full Squad Workout) – 1152, 3/1 – 208, 3/2 – 158, 3/3 – 181.

The Tampa Bay Rays hosted a Season Ticket Holder event at the Charlotte Sports Park on Thursday, 2/26. Estimated attendance at the event was 305.

The first Spring Training Home Game of the 2015 Season took place on Thursday, March 5, at 1:05 pm as the Tampa Bay Rays host the Baltimore Orioles.

Harold Avenue

Hey, Hey, Have you heard? You can now play Volleyball at Harold Avenue Recreation Center so go spread the word. Volleyball is offered two days a week at the center with age specific playing times. Adults can stop in for pickup games on Tuesday evenings from 6pm - 8pm. Youth in grades 3-8th can drop in for instructional play on Saturday mornings with Recreation Specialist Falin Daniels. Everyone of all skill levels are welcome to stop by.

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation and Pool

This past weekend at Port Charlotte Beach, we had a Wedding reception for 90. Construction on the pier is well underway and we're looking forward to it reopening in June.

South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 2-22-15 through 2-28-15 South County Regional Park Pool had 91 paid admissions and was visited by 138 pass holders. We had 22 water aerobics participants this week. The Blue Fins held eight practices with approx. 480 swimmers.

Oyster Creek Regional Pool

For the week of 2-22-15 through 2-28-15 Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 153 paid admissions, 50 water aerobics participants and was visited by 117 pass holders. The Bluefin's held 5 practices with approx. 100 swimmers.

Extension Service

Newspaper Article for March 2 – "Dew of the sea"

Managers Meeting – March 2 - Mid-County Regional Library, Administrative Conference Room

2015 MG Orientation – March 3

2015 MG Training – Soils and Plant Nutrition – March 5 – Dr. Kelly Morgan

Agent Evaluations – March 5

Success Stories Due to Dr. Vavrina – March 6

AgVenture – Desoto County – March 6

Tangerine Woods – "Palm Pruning Talk" – Englewood – March 7

Historical Center

The Lt. Carl A. Bailey marker dedication on Friday, February 27 was a success! Members of the 2nd Infantry Regiment, United States Colored Troops Civil War re-enactors from Tallahassee joined us to honor two Civil War veterans buried at the cemetery, Owen "O.B." Armstrong and Augustus Holcomb. Dr. Martha Bireda of the Blanchard House Museum of African-American History & Culture of Charlotte County was the featured speaker along with Commissioner Constance. In attendance were several dignitaries including the mayor & vice-mayor of Punta Gorda. There were 85 adults & 2 children welcomed as guests.

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

- Facilities managers held a planning meeting at Justice Center with Court Administration, CCSO Security, and carpet vendor to discuss how to maintain the Courtrooms' schedules when new carpet installation begins.
- Office furniture and fixtures were received and installed to complete the last phase of renovation at Building Construction Services building. These offices were created for new hired employees.

Operations

- Life Safety Inspections on fire sprinklers, fire suppression hoods, generators, elevators, and alarm panels in county buildings have been scheduled and several already started. These types of inspections are either annual or semiannual depending on what system is being inspected. We have contractors to provide in depth inspections following National Fire Protection Association codes and standards and/or Florida state statutes. This protocol assures we are providing safe buildings and equipment for the public and employees. After these inspections are complete any items found are reported then we make repairs immediately to be compliant with code requirements.

Project Management

- The demolition of the Port Charlotte Beach fishing pier has been completed and the piling replacement has begun by installing seven test piles and verifying the load bearing capacity.
- The demolition has been completed and the sports court base material is being installed for the Harbor Heights Park drainage, parking and sports courts improvements project.
- The construction of the Anger Park parking lot is continuing.
- The Harbour Heights Boat Ramp project design is continuing.
- The El Jobean Fishing Pier design is continuing.

Human Services

The Human Services Department received notification from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity of the 2015-2016 grant award for the federally funded Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) for Charlotte County. The County anticipates receiving \$379,774.00 for this year which will begin on April 1, 2015. It is expected that close to 1,000 low income households will benefit with assistance for their energy bills from this program during this new grant cycle.

During this week, our Family Services Division approved 38 Home Energy Assistance applications and 2 Crisis Home Energy Assistance applications totaling \$11,793.33 in benefits. The 2014-2015 LIHEAP grant cycle ends March 31st.

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.

Zep Construction began Bridge construction on the east side of the new Bridge. This work will continue for a few months before traffic is switched to the new lanes.

Woodruff and Sons continues with utility installations along the east side of the project north of the Butterford Waterway.

Additional crews are on-site completing storm drain structures and will begin construction of the sidewalk at Keystone Boulevard heading north.

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. Construction Contract: Gator Dredging, Construction Schedule: 12/22/2014 – 04/21/2015.

Dredging is underway and is approximately 60% complete.

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, Construction Schedule: 11/18/2013 – 5/12/2015

- Elkcam Waterway: Zep Construction completed the concrete sheet installation on the new weir upstream of US 41 is currently placing riprap on the downstream side of the waterway. Once riprap is complete downstream, riprap will be installed at the upstream location.
- Fordham Waterway: Zep Construction completed the east side headwall and installed new riprap. Excavation work is underway on the west side headwall. The northbound US 41 Access roadway should re-open to traffic the first week of March 2015.

Projects in Design or Negotiation

2015 County Paving Program - This program provides for the resurfacing of roads in Greater Port Charlotte, Parkside, Deep Creek, and the Road & Bridge Districts. Construction Contract: TBD, Construction Schedule: Early 2015 – Late 2015

Upon receipt and review of bids, a recommendation to award the paving contract to Ajax Paving Industries, Inc. will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for their approval on March 10, 2015.

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: Spring 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2015

The MSBU Committee met on December 4, 2014, and requested that the pathway be constructed of concrete instead of asphalt. Johnson Engineering has been advised and will revise the plans accordingly. Final construction plans and specifications were received on February 3, 2015, and are being reviewed by staff.

Drainage Projects

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Fordham Waterway at Peachland FOR 5.11 - This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Peachland 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 inadequate to convey the quantity of water required to maintain level of service objectives or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This

particular structure will be upsized from two 48" culverts with a 50' weir to one 8'x10' box culvert with a 5' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 03/01/2011 – 04/01/2013, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

The bid documents have been sent to the Purchasing Department for procurement. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled Wed., March 18, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Niagara Waterway at Peachland NIA 5.72 - This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Peachland 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 stormwater control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will be upsized from one 48" RCP and 22' weir to two 36" RCP's with a 6' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 03/01/2011 – 04/01/2013, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

The bid documents have been sent to the Purchasing Department for procurement. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled Wed., March 18, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Landscaping Projects

- Basic landscape maintenance was performed at: Manasota Key; South Gulf Cove; Grove City Park; US 17 medians in Cleveland; US 41 Revitalization phase I; Charlotte Harbor Gateway and Melbourne Street Bridge.

Maintenance & Operations

Feb. 25 – March 3, 2015

- Drainage line & grade: 6,525 SF in Greater Port Charlotte
11,800 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte
6,960 SF in Englewood East
16,000 SF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
- Small pipe install: 209 LF in Greater Port Charlotte
24 LF in Englewood East
- Small pipe repair: 1 repair in Gulf Cove
- Menzie ditch cutting: 80,940 SF in Road & Bridge South
9,000 SF South County Stormwater
160,000 SF in West County Stormwater
36,375 SF in Mid-County Stormwater
- Menzie ditch digging: 3,000 SF in South County Stormwater
- Boom Mower: Cut 88,176 CY in Greater Port Charlotte
Cut 18,200 CY in Englewood East
Cut 3,800 CY in Road & Bridge North
- Shoulder Repair: 2.3 miles on Washington Loop Road
- Culvert Cleaning: Cleaned 42 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Cleaned 3 culverts in Englewood East
Cleaned 4 culverts in Northwest Port Charlotte
Cleaned 1 culvert in Lemon Bay
- Trash / Debris Removal: Removed 15,560 lbs. from various areas throughout the County
- Major Outfall: 9,300 SY in Northwest Port Charlotte
- Right-of-way Clearing: 3 loads in Englewood East

M&O Contracted Services

- ROW mulching and power shearing have resumed in North West Charlotte with approximately 45 % of Area 3 completed.

- Specialty mowing for the month of March has begun; they are currently working in the South County area.
- The sidewalk repair on Florida Street, at the railroad crossing, has been completed with the installation of the handrail at the ditch.
- The pipe lining Contractor will be mobilizing this week to the Deep Creek Area to begin TV/ inspection and cleaning of eight different locations to prepare for lining.

Mosquito & Aquatic Vegetation Control (data for month of February 2015)

Mosquito Control

- Number of acres treated: 11,426
- Landing rate counts: 6
- Trap counts: 0
- Citizen requests: 53
- Tire collection/source reduction: 4.66 tons

Other Projects

Sunshine Lake Recharge Wells – Upon completion of the Sunshine Lake Algae Removal project, the County shall initiate installation of two recharge wells to maintain active water flow through the lake. A recharge well will be located at the north end of Sunshine Lake and a second adjacent to McGuire Park. Design Contract: RMA Geologic Consultants, Design/Permitting Schedule: 04/01/2013 – 07/31/2013, Procurement Process: 01/30/2015, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

The bid documents are complete and have been submitted to the Purchasing Department for procurement.

Traffic Signing & Marking (data for month of February 2015)

- Herbicide: 3,324 items
- Marine Signs Replaced: 18
- New Signs Installed: 29
- Raised Pavement Markers Installed: 2,590
- Road Legends Installed: 244
- Road Scraping: 2,000 feet
- Signs Inspected: 4,395
- Signs Manufactured: 115
- Sign Maintenance: 787
- Speed Studies: 2
- Striping: 205,328 feet (38.8 miles)
- Traffic Counts: 44 stations
- Trouble Calls (after hours): 4
- Video Turn Movement Counts: 0
- Stump Pass light tower and light was installed and wooden pilings removed

Tourism

In order to generate excitement for the upcoming baseball season, the Tampa Bay Rays held their first Rays Spring Training Fan Day at the Charlotte Sports Park last week (Feb. 28). The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau was invited to participate and staff distributed visitor guides and answered questions by full-time residents, seasonal residents and visitors on things to do in the area.

Utilities (CCU)

The Charlotte County Board of Commissioners recently approved upgrades to a monitoring system that will benefit Charlotte County Utilities' (CCU) wastewater treatment facilities exponentially. CCU's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) program allows electronic monitoring that is acceptable to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection Agency (FDEP). This program not only offers a more secure position against potential cyber-attacks, which could jeopardize water quality and service, but if CCU didn't have the SCADA system, we would need to man our smaller facilities 24 hours a day. It is helping to provide a more secure and improved protection and helping to better utilize our staffing.

Additionally, CCU's Low Pressure Sewer work group has completed the inflow and infiltration upgrades to all Low Pressure Sewer (LPS) systems within the Charlotte Harbor Lift Station #72 sewer basin. This is a test area for the LPS tank modifications that the CCU Wastewater Collection Department has designed in order to reduce inflow and infiltration. Flows will be monitored through the rainy season and compared to last year's numbers in determining the effectiveness of the modifications.