

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

Published 8/18/15

## Community Services

### Charlotte Sports Park

The dates and attendance figures from the Charlotte Stone Crabs games at the Charlotte Sports Park:

Friday, August 7 - 2567  
Saturday, August 8 - 778  
Sunday, August 9 - 222  
Monday, August 10 - 209  
Tuesday, August 11 - 941  
Wednesday, August 12 - 310

The Charlotte Stone Crabs will be home again August 16th the following week.

### Harold Avenue Recreation Center

On the last week of summer camp the participants of the “Survivor” Summer Camp concluded their tour with a round of bowling and battling it out on the water grounds. While there they had the opportunity to knock over some pins, dodge water bombs and slide down water slides.

### Port Charlotte Beach Pool

For the week of 8-5 through 8-11-15, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 279 paid admissions, was visited by 37 pass holders and had 57 water aerobics participants.

### South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 8-5 through 8-12, South County Regional Park Pool had 403 paid admissions, was visited by 148 pass holders and had 21 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 3 swim practices resulting in approximately 60 “splashes.” The Charlotte High Swimmers returned with 7 swim practices resulting in 210 “splashes.” Summer “Learn to Swim” session 3 has concluded and we are registering for the final summer session. We have 18 registered participants so far, 3 of which have received an American Red Cross swim scholarship. Four different summer camps attended with 242 children swimming. Charlotte County Fire department conducted a swim test for promotion, and the Charlotte County Sheriff Office hosted the Citizens Academy dive team here in our dive well.

### Extension Services

Newspaper Article for August 10 – “Jaboticaba – funny name, tasty fruit”  
Soil and Water Conservation Board – August 10  
2015 LCLM - 'Weed IPM & ID' Training - Collier County Extension – August 14  
Horticulture Team meeting – August 10

### Parks

- Moved the port-o-let at Anger fishing pier to less visible location away from the view of the Redfish Key Villas condos
- Trimmed vegetation away from boardwalks and decks in Spring Lake Park
- Trained all full time employees on accessing Otis, Halogen, county email, Eden and vacation request forms
- Review of writing accomplishments, tracking all training and training requirements
- Bayshore Park two newly purchased lots seawall repaired by Dave Mathewson, required for removal of dead trees

## Historical

Honoring Florida's Greatest Generation: Punta Gorda Army Airfield Exhibit 1942-1945 opened Monday, August 10 at Mid-County Regional Library. In one hour we had 32 adults and 4 children explore the exhibit as we passed out information to patrons in our WWII uniforms! The exhibit will be up until November 12, be sure to stop by and enjoy our area history!

The Fighting Bailey Brothers was held at the Charlotte County Historical Center, Grace Street Annex on Tuesday, August 11. This presentation detailed the lives of the seven heroic Bailey Brothers and their local, national, and world impact. There were a total of 17 adults attending the program led by Scot Shively.

These programs are in collaboration with the Florida Department of State "Victory Florida" initiative, marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WWII.

## Natural Resources

This week staff participated in an assortment of activities:

Matt Bondi began the process of permitting the Blueway Trails pilings and signage for phase 2 of this same project. The Blueway Trails system is a statewide plan along our coast. The Blueway Trails map the beautiful inshore/near shore/back country waters of our environment for kayak and canoe enthusiasts. Kayaking and canoeing are increasing in popularity and minimally impactful to the environment. Increasingly, fishermen look to this method to approach easily spooked target species like snook and redfish. Additionally, paddle boarding popularity is increasing and provides an ecotourism aspect to the fitness movement.

Matt Bondi is also involved in seeking a scientific collection permit from FWC. Staff often participates in educational outreach opportunities such as summer camp program. This week staff visited Harold Avenue Recreation Center and spoke to approximately 45 children about some of our native species and helped the children make impressions of various animal tracks in plaster. Part of the discussion on wildlife included listed species such as gopher tortoises and eastern indigo snakes. As part of the discussion the children were able to see a gopher tortoise shell that staff had discovered on our county lands.

This time of year means staff are occupied with grant reporting responsibilities, specifically Florida Communities Trust (FCT) monitoring/reporting responsibilities. Some of the activities reported to FCT include exotic control, prescribed fire, wildlife monitoring and mechanical treatment.

In addition to these other duties, Matt Bondi began the process of becoming a certified burner in the state of Florida. Matt has already completed the required S130 course and has begun the S190 course. When these courses are completed he will be eligible to participate in the Interagency Burn course, required for certification as a burn manager in the State of Florida.

Staff also initiated some mulching work at Buck Creek and explored options for additional treatment on other properties.

## Public Works

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

**Burnt Store Road (Phase 3) Widening** – 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 Contract: Gibbs & Register, Construction Schedule: 3/10/2014 – 11/18/2015

- The excavation of all ponds is complete. Grading and sodding of swales continues on the west side.

- Work is progressing on the box culverts; two of the three box culverts are complete and backfilled. Work is scheduled to begin on the final box culvert after the next traffic lane shift scheduled mid to late August.
- Installation of drainage pipes and utilities continues. Approximately 99% of the utility pipe and 89% of the drainage pipework has been installed. 80% of the old utility pipes have been removed.
- Over 96% of the sidewalk sub grade has been installed on the northbound side. Concrete installation for the sidewalk is 98% complete on the northbound side and 22% complete on the southbound side.
- The contractor completed the stabilizer/base on the northbound travel lanes and is now placing stabilized sub base on the southbound travel lanes. The first and second course of asphalt has been paved on the northbound lanes - and another 1,500 feet of asphalt has been paved on the southbound lanes.
- Crews have installed street lighting and IT conduit on the east side of the project; this portion of the project is nearing completion.
- Please note that traffic has shifted to the east side of new roadway and the speed limit is reduced to 35 miles per hour. The entire project length is a NO PASSING zone; extreme caution should be used when traveling in this area.
- Construction is approximately 71% complete.

*Traffic Advisory: PUNTA GORDA, Fla. (July 29, 2015) – Please be advised that Cape Horn Boulevard, between Burnt Store Road and Trading Post Road, will be closed to traffic Monday, Aug. 3 through Saturday, Aug. 22, 2015. Construction includes a roadway re-alignment at the intersection of Burnt Store Road and Cape Horn Boulevard. Detour signs will be in place to direct traffic around the construction site. The Public Works Department reminds motorists to remain alert at all times and to exercise caution when traveling in the vicinity of construction zones.*

**Charlotte Harbor Gateway Harbor Walk, Phase 1** – This project is to design and construct pedestrian and boater access to Charlotte Harbor. Phase 1 includes replacement of the seawall, construction of a restroom facility, small boat launch, parking area, and pedestrian promenade. The project site is located at the foot of the north-bound US 41 Bridge.

The project area has been used by many locals and tourists for fishing and recreation. Once completed, the new amenities will enhance the public's waterfront experience. During construction, the project area will be closed to the public however residents and tourists are encouraged to visit Bayshore Live Oak Park to continue to fish and enjoy recreational activities.

The County is utilizing Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Local Agency Program (LAP) Funds to construct this project. Notice to Proceed was issued by FDOT on Dec. 11, 2014. This project includes Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI) services to ensure compliance with federal rules and requirements. The Board of County Commissioners approved the CEI contract with CDM Smith on November 12, 2014. Construction Contract: Quality Enterprises, Construction Schedule: 5/18/2015 – February 2016.

The contractor is currently working on setting the sheet piles for the new seawall on the east side of the project. Irrigation installation will begin the week of August 3.

**Edgewater Drive Widening Phase 2** – 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.

This project includes Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI) services to ensure compliance with federal rules and requirements. The Board of County Commissioners approved the CEI contract with

Southwest Engineering & Design on November 12, 2014. Construction Contract: Owen-Ames-Kimball, Construction schedule: 1/5/2015 – 2/5/2017.

**Excerpts from www.GoEP2.com**

July 29, 2015 LOCAL TRAFFIC will be shifted to a temporary roadway from Midway Boulevard to Lake View Boulevard. Edgewater Drive remains closed to thru traffic.

August 7, 2015 Altoona Street remains closed from Edgewater Drive to Webster Avenue and is scheduled to reopen August 21.

**Harbour Heights Median Improvements** – This project consists of installing curbing, irrigation and landscaping within the existing medians on Sunnybrook Road and Broadpoint Drive. Construction Contract: Stage Door II, Inc. of Apopka, FL, Construction Schedule: 8/24/2015 – 11/22/2015

A recommendation to award the construction contract to Stage Door II, Inc. of Apopka, FL was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on July 28, 2015. A pre-construction meeting was held July 29; Notice to Proceed is August 24, 2015. All work shall be completed within 90 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

**Sidewalks - Rotonda Boulevard West** - The Rotonda West MSBU Committee requested a sidewalk and bike path along the Boulevards. This project will design and construct approximately 1.4 miles of sidewalk and bike path along Rotonda Boulevard West from Parade Circle to Rotonda Circle. Construction Contract: General Contracting Services, Construction Schedule: 1/5/2015 – 7/31/2015.

Construction is complete and final inspections are scheduled the week of Aug. 4, 2015

**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. The new structure will replace two 48" culverts and a 50' weir with one 8'x10' box culvert with a 5' weir. Construction Contract: Quality Enterprises, Construction Schedule: 8/3/2015 – 3/10/2016.

The project area has been staked out and traffic safety signs have been installed. Erosion control and vegetation clearing is underway.

*Traffic Advisory: PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (July 24, 2015) – Construction is scheduled to begin on Peachland Boulevard, between Torrington Street and Beacon Drive, on Monday, Aug. 3, 2015 to replace the water control structure at the Fordham Waterway. Peachland Boulevard will remain open to vehicular traffic during construction however pedestrian traffic will be closed at the canal crossing. This project is being conducted to increase stormwater flow capacity as part of an overall plan to upgrade Charlotte County's stormwater infrastructure system. Construction is projected to be complete by April 2016.*

**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. The new structure will replace a 48" reinforced concrete pipe and a 22' weir with two 36" reinforced concrete pipes with a 6' weir. Construction Contract: Quality Enterprises, Construction Schedule: 8/3/2015 – 3/10/2016.

The project area has been staked out and traffic safety signs have been installed. Erosion control and vegetation clearing is underway.

*Traffic Advisory: PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (July 24, 2015) – Construction is scheduled to begin on Peachland Boulevard, between Aberdeen Avenue and Hallcrest Terrace, on Monday, Aug. 3, 2015 to replace the water control structure at the Niagara Waterway. Peachland Boulevard will remain open to vehicular traffic during construction however pedestrian traffic will be closed at the canal crossing. This project is being conducted to increase stormwater flow capacity as part of an overall plan to upgrade Charlotte County's stormwater infrastructure system. Construction is projected to be complete by April 2016.*

**Sunshine Lake Recharge Wells** – This project consists of the installation of two recharge wells to maintain active water flow through the Sunshine Lake. A recharge well will be located at the north end of Sunshine Lake and a second adjacent to McGuire Park. Construction Contract: Lee Dean & Sons, Inc. of Fort Myers, FL, Construction Schedule: 8/19/2015 – 11/17/2015

The pre-construction meeting was held August 4 at which time the Notice to Proceed was established for August 19. This project is projected to be complete in 90 calendar days.

**Winchester Boulevard South Extension** – This project includes the construction of a new four-lane connector from Placida Road to the Charlotte/Sarasota County line, with a direct connection to I-75 via River Road within Sarasota County. The Florida Department of Transportation approved the final plans for intersection improvements at SR 776/Winchester Boulevard North. Intersection improvements include a right turn lane and traffic signalization improvements; this work has been added to the project. Construction Contract: ZEP Construction, Construction Schedule: 11/25/2013 – August 2015

- The new sidewalk and curbing on SR 776 is complete.
- Storm drainage and utility installations are complete.
- The installation of street lights and poles are complete; street lights will be energized in early August.
- The SR 776 intersection gravity wall is complete.
- The final lift of asphalt is complete throughout the entire project.
- ADA sidewalk mats are 100% complete.
- Roadway signing and striping is 100% complete.
- Signalization at CR 775 and SR 776 is in the final stages of completion.

Substantial completion was issued to the Contractor and final punch list items are underway.

### **Projects in Design or Negotiation**

**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 Fall 2015, Procurement Process: Late 2015, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

Charlotte County Utilities is adding a reclaimed water line to this project, which was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on Sept. 23, 2014. Conducting utility work in conjunction with construction of the multi-use path and safety improvements will minimize disruption to residents and businesses within the project limits.

Construction plans are on hold at approximately 80% pending completion of utility plans. 60% utility plans have been reviewed by CCU and comments returned to the design engineer; 90% utility plans are in progress. Utility design is expected to be complete in the fall of 2015.

**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 Fall 2015, Procurement Process: Late 2015, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

Charlotte County Utilities is adding a reclaimed water line to this project, which was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on Sept. 23, 2014. Conducting utility work in conjunction with construction of the multi-use path and safety improvements will minimize disruption to residents and businesses within the project limits.

Utility design should be complete in the fall of 2015. Construction plans are on hold at approximately 80% pending completion of utility plans. 60% utility plans have been reviewed by CCU and comments returned to the design engineer; 90% utility plans are in progress.

**Tom Adam's Bridge Rehabilitation** – This project consists of replacing 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: 7/2/2012 – Summer 2014, Procurement Process: Completed 7/14/2015, Projected Start of Construction: Early 2016

Bids were opened June 24. A recommendation to award the construction contract to Quinn Construction, Inc. was presented to the Board of County Commissioners July 14 for approval. Contractor requested, and was granted, 200 days prior to Notice to Proceed therefore construction is scheduled to begin in early 2016. Completion time is 415 calendar days with liquidated damages of \$3,226 per calendar day.

## **Coastal Projects**

**Alligator Creek Dredging** – The Alligator Creek Waterway MSBU Committee requested that the County design and apply for a permit to dredge the navigable waterways within the Alligator Creek MSBU to a depth of -6 feet MLW. It is anticipated that a significant amount of time may be required to negotiate with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) to issue permits for the dredging within the Alligator Creek to more than a depth of -5 feet, which is the depth for the current permit. Design Contract: Coastal Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 1/6/2013 – Summer 2015, Procurement Process: Summer 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2015

The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) combined the -5' MLW Maintenance Dredging project with the proposed -6' MLW project even though they are different in their scope.

The FL Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) permit was received for the -6ft MLW project which includes public interest in the form of purchasing and donating an YSI Water Quality Monitor to the "Friends of CHAP."

The ACOE issued their public notice and received one request for additional information from National Marine Fisheries specific to Essential Fish Habitat. Coastal Engineering Consultants responded to the ACOE, supplying them with the requested data; a letter of informal consultation was sent by the ACOE to the National Marine Fisheries for review in February 2015.

On April 9, 2015, staff requested that the Sea Edge ACOE permit be extended which is under review. The review, conducted by the NMFS, included a request for additional information which was answered by Coastal Engineering Consultants; the ACOE permit is still pending.

**Buena Vista Grassy Point Waterway Maintenance Dredging** – Maintenance dredging provides continued safe navigation for citizens who utilize the waterways. This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge the lateral channels and 500 feet into the interior canals to determine the amount of material needed to be removed to restore safe navigation. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering,

Design/Permitting Schedule: 2/1/2014 – Late Summer 2015, Procurement Process: Fall; 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Late 2015

The permit application was submitted to FDEP on July 23, 2014. FDEP issued their permit but had to send the application to the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE).

Consultation with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is underway for the presence of the Smalltooth Sawfish. A request for additional information was received from NMFS on Jan. 12, 2015 regarding the seagrass areas adjacent to the channel. Johnson Engineering provided the requested data.

The NMFS has moved the draft Letter of Compliance to Stage 3 of 4.

**Gulf Cove Waterway Maintenance Dredging** – Maintenance dredging provides continued safe navigation for citizens who utilize the waterways. This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge the lateral/access channels. The amount of material to be removed will be determined as engineering and design progresses. The project includes the removal of the existing silt to the previous dredge depth of -4ft MLW within the lateral/access channels and 100 feet into the interior canals. Design Contract: TBD, Design/Permitting Schedule: May 2014 - Winter 2015, Procurement Process: Spring 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2016

Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC) proposed an alternate approach that will improve navigation and yield cost savings over time through reduction of maintenance dredging needs. The approach includes identifying/combining multiple canals into single channels extending to the river.

The County reviewed the preliminary plan set and issued a revised task order to Coastal Engineering Consultants to proceed with the additional survey and design work. CEC completed the additional survey and alternate design alignments depicting the proposed connector channels. The design was reviewed and approved by the MSBU Committee; a second change order was submitted to facilitate the new design.

A pre-application meeting was conducted with the FDEP and ACOE to determine project feasibility. Both agencies view the project as favorable. FDEP commented that the FWC Department of Aquaculture will need to comment on the shellfish habitat designation and the ACOE stated that NMF will need to do the same in regards to the Smalltooth Sawfish habitat.

The permit application and drawings are complete and were submitted to State and Federal permitting agencies; correspondence between the County and ACOE confirmed that the review is underway. The Marine Marker Plan is also under review by the permitting agencies.

**Harbor Heights Waterway Maintenance Dredging** – This project consists of maintenance dredging existing man-made canals and access channels to their permitted conditions to restore safe navigation within the waterway system. Limited vegetation trimming, for line of sight/navigation, was added to the contract. Design Contract: Stantec, Design/Permitting Schedule: 12/17/2013 – Summer 2015, Procurement Process: Fall 2015, Projected Construction: Late 2015

This project is tied to the Countywide Dredge Permit and the permit renewal is still pending from Army Corps of Engineers, (ACOE) therefore this project has been delayed. Staff has been in constant communication with the ACOE and has been advised that this project may fit under the programmatic biological opinion that is being completed by National Marines Fishery Service (NMFS) which may facilitate permitting.

County and ACOE staff answered a Request for Additional Information from the National Marines Fishery Service which indicates that this project is now under active review by NMFS.

According to the NMFS website, the draft Letter of Consent advanced to Phase 4 (of 4) on Aug 3, 2015 which indicates that the ACOE Permit may be issued very soon.

**Manasota Key North Beach Erosion Study** – Public Works Engineering requested Letters of Interest (RLI) from the Library of Engineering Firms to complete a Regional Beach Erosion Study (BES) on the north end of Manasota Key, from R monument 1 to R monument 15, upon the request of citizens affected by critical beach

erosion. Upon completion of the study, this information could be used to develop funding strategies and further the project into permitting. Design Contract: Coastal Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: Summer 2015 – Late 2015

The erosion study shall include the following:

- a. Beach Profile Surveys
- b. Erosion Analysis
- c. Sand Volume Analysis
- d. Conceptual Restoration Plans
- e. Natural Resource Surveys
- f. Develop Funding Approaches and Strategies to Mitigate Total Cost
- g. Participate in Stakeholder Meetings
- h. Provide Potential Cost Estimates
- i. Provide Permit Feasibility Analysis

Coastal Engineering Consultants completed the initial surveys and will continue to refine the data and conduct additional survey work as needed. A substantial "hard bottom" area was discovered and is being surveyed to determine the extent of the area and potential impact to the project.

A meeting was held at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce; stakeholders discussed this project in detail and the study appears to be on track for completion this winter.

**Manchester Waterway Bathymetric Survey** – The Manchester Waterway MSBU Advisory Committee requested that a bathymetric survey be conducted within the canals of the Manchester Waterway MSBU. The results of the bathymetric survey will be used to determine the scope of work needed to dredge the canal system to a depth of -4ft measured at MLW landward of the Bridge and -5ft MLW elsewhere. Design Contract: DMK Associates, Design/Permitting Schedule: May – Late Summer 2015

The bathymetric survey is underway and is approximately 70% complete; staff is awaiting the results of the survey to present to the Manchester Waterway MSBU Advisory Committee for further guidance.

**Pirate Harbor Access Channel** – Dredging provides safe navigation for citizens who utilize the waterways. This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge 2,300 feet of access channel that was not covered under previous permitting. This project was originally presented to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in 2003/04 however, at that time, FDEP did not view this project as favorable and it was removed from the original contract. Now that the Pirate Harbor rock ledges have been removed, the engineering and design of the Pirate Harbor Access Channel has been added to the previous contract and will require a standard general permit. Design Contract: Coastal Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 4/22/2014 – Early 2016, Procurement: Summer 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2016

FDEP completed the Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM) ranking on the seagrass impacts for the proposed dredging. Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC) investigated sites for a seagrass mitigation project (e.g., fill blow-holes / prop-scars). The initial search for potential mitigation sites did not find enough suitable areas within the vicinity of the project area therefore a wider search area was examined using aerial photography.

CEC, working in partnership with FDEP and County Staff, completed the field survey of potential seagrass mitigation project areas. The seagrass mitigation plan is currently under review by the FDEP and FWC.

**South Gulf Cove Parallel Lock** – The South Gulf Cove Waterway Benefit Unit Advisory Committee is concerned about the congestion of the existing lock and boating restrictions imposed when the existing lock is in under maintenance/repair. The MSBU recommends an additional lock parallel to the existing one. This project provides for engineering, permitting and construction management services for the creation of a new parallel lock located next to the existing South Gulf Cove lock. The design of this project is funded by

assessments in the South Gulf Cove Waterway MSBU. Design Contract: DMK Associates, Design/Permitting Schedule: TBD, Procurement Process: TBD, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

The Board of County Commissioners approved the commencement of negotiations with DMK Associates of Englewood on June 23, 2015. The first negotiation meeting was held on June 24 and a follow-up meeting was held July 20, 2015.

The scope and fees are under review by County staff. A meeting with the South Gulf Cove Waterway Benefit Unit Advisory Committee is scheduled Aug. 18, 2015 to discuss the potential consultant fees and construction costs.

**Stump Pass 10 Year Beach and Inlet Management Plan** – This project provides for continued monitoring, as required by permitting, for dredging Stump Pass that re-established the 1980 channel alignment and provided for re-nourishment of critically eroded beaches. Maintenance dredging of Stump Pass and beach re-nourishment will be conducted approximately every three years. An engineered structure will be installed at Stump Pass to improve program performance. In the permitting process, an Adaptive Management Plan Strategy will be employed to provide options for modifications to structure(s) placed with initial construction, or installation of additional structures in the future, in response to beach and inlet management activities and storm erosion impacts. Design Contract: Coastal Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 4/16/2012 – Summer 2015, Procurement Process: Fall 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Late 2015

After reviewing the proposed alternatives, the Florida Park Service prefers a rock terminal groin sited as far south as practicable. Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC) completed a project modeling study to determine how far south it can be placed to minimize impacts. The results were provided to the State agencies responsible for review and comment.

The result of this modeling showed that reducing the height of the structure by 1.5 feet did not affect the performance and decreased any negative impacts downstream of the structure. However, the State Park Service did not choose this as their desired configuration. They asked for a design that would increase the amount of sand placement upstream of the structure, but the modeling showed that this would be more costly and could have negative impacts on the down drift beaches and the pass itself.

CEC submitted draft t-groin plans to FDEP in response to a Request for Additional Information (RAI.) The FDEP issued a second RAI to which the CEC and County staff have prepared a response including: minor drawing edits, minor changes to the biological monitoring program, formal public noticing, erosion control line process for sand placement, and terminal groin installation on the Stump Pass Beach State Park.

The ACOE submitted permit documents to the State Historic Preservation Office for review of potential impacts to historical and cultural resources. It is noted that the consulting team included a marine archaeologist who assisted with the design elements to avoid such impacts.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service agency is working on a new Biological Opinion (BO) for this Project. It is noted that the Red Knot was recently listed on the threatened and endangered species list, thus a new BO will have to review the project for migratory birds including Piping Plover and Red Knot as well as sea turtles.

The County is actively working to renew the original project easements, specific to beach front property owners, for temporary construction and related access needs. Further, the County is seeking additional temporary construction easements from beachfront property owners outside of the original project limits from the State Park Beach to the County Park Beach on Manasota Key; approximately 80% of the easements have been obtained.

County Staff and CEC held a telephone application conference with the ACOE; the project may change slightly to allow additional fill to be placed behind the structure to provide for quicker impoundment of the groin. To date, the changes are viewed as favorable by the Army Corps of Engineers.

A marine marker survey has been completed and the results were shared with staff; the Signing and Marking crew relocated marine markers to better delineate the channel.

Senate Bill 2500-A passed which provides funding for beach management projects and could provide Charlotte County with \$2.5 million for the Stump Pass project. A presentation was held at the Englewood Chamber of Commerce which included this project and future programs; discussions followed. A congressional visit is scheduled as a follow-up to the presentation and discussions.

### **Maintenance & Operations**

Aug. 5 - 11, 2015: A total of 50 new requests were received related to brush, debris, drainage, handrail repair, and asphalt repair.

Drainage line & grade:	9,510 SF in Gulf Cove 7,700 SF in Deep Creek 7,460 SF in Greater Port Charlotte 8,500 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte
Small pipe install:	256 LF in Greater Port Charlotte 32 LF in Gulf Cove 40 LF in Peace River Shores
Menzie ditch cutting:	70,500 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater
Boom mower:	Cut 31,200 CY in Rotonda West Cut 14,900 CY in Road & Bridge South Cut 66,522 CY in Greater Port Charlotte
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 42 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 1.09 tons of material to repair locations in Punta Gorda Non-Urban Utilized 2.99 ton of material to repair locations throughout the County
Road grading:	Graded 11,000 SY on Don Pedro / Knights Island
Trash/Debris removal:	Removed 7,180 pounds of debris throughout the County

### **Landscaping Services**

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; Melbourne Street Bridge and all County-owned fenced retention ponds.

### **Contracted Services**

- ROW mowing in South County was completed for the month of July in all areas.
- The July cycle of specialty mowing and mulching was completed.
- ROW mowing in North County was completed in all areas for the Month of July.
- ROW mowing in West County was completed in all areas for the month of July.
- ROW mulching and power shearing began in Northwest Port Charlotte, Section 2, but had to be stopped due to excessive accumulation of ground water in the ditches making it impossible to operate without considerable damage to the swales. Once the area dries up operations will resume. The contractor relocated to the Greater Port Charlotte area, between Collingswood Boulevard and Pellam Boulevard, and completed a small section before the same wet conditions ceased operations.
- The grading contractor mobilized in the Charlotte Ranchettes but had to abandon the operation due to excessive flooding of the roads. Operations will resume when the areas dries up.

## **Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control**

Aug. 5 - 11, 2015

### Mosquito Control

- Acres treated: 140,602
- Landing rate counts taken: 60
- Traps set: 36
- Service requests: 78

### Aquatic Weed Control

- Sites treated: 23
- Sites inspected: 32
- Mitigation sites maintained: 0

## **Tourism**

The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau continues to work with the Englewood Florida Chamber of Commerce and the Englewood Chamber's Tourism Assembly and Visit Sarasota County in the launch of the inaugural restaurant week called Let's Eat, Englewood, a "culinary adventure without breaking the bank." Scheduled for Sept. 25 – Oct. 8, at publication time 17 restaurants have signed up to participate. It's an opportunity for locals to try area restaurants and encourage visitors to visit the destination during a traditionally an off season of the year. Sunseeker magazine, the official inflight publication of Allegiant Air, includes the event in its Aug. – Oct. issue which is placed in all flights east of the Mississippi. Visit [LetsEatEnglewood.com](http://LetsEatEnglewood.com) for additional information.