

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

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

Wednesday, Aug. 19: 265
Thursday, Aug. 20: 542
Friday, Aug. 21: 973
Saturday, Aug. 22: 1774 (Fireworks)
Sunday, Aug. 23: 238
Monday, Aug. 24: 167
Tuesday, Aug. 25: 983

The Charlotte Stone Crabs will be home again September 3rd and 5th the following week to end their regular season.

Harold Avenue Recreation Center

Quarterfinals for our youth basketball program were played this past Saturday and the games were nail biters the whole day! We presented three Coaches Awards for excellence in leadership. The recipients were Kendal Ellis, Tashae White and Shaun McDonald. We appreciate all the hard work and dedication they give to our participants in our program! This Saturday the gym will be packed as we wrap up the year with Semi-Finals and Finals in all age divisions.

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation and Pool

Over the weekend we had a very large Quinceanera party with 170 guests in attendance. Tuesday was the monthly Buena Vista meeting. This weekend there is going to be a large memorial service. Steve and Bob have been doing a good job giving all the doors a fresh coat of paint.

For the week of 8-19 through 8-25, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 202 paid admissions, was visited by 33 pass holders and had 79 water aerobics participants.

South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 8-19 through 8-26, South County Regional Park Pool had 198 paid admissions, was visited by 127 pass holders and had 47 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 7 swim practices resulting in approximately 140 "splashes." The Charlotte High Swimmers returned with 7 swim practices resulting in 210 "splashes." Summer "Learn to Swim" session 4 is underway and we have 23 registered participants thus far, 3 of which have received an American Red Cross swim scholarship.

Oyster Creek Regional Pool

For the week of 8-16 through 8-22, Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 401 paid admissions, 86 water aerobics participants and was visited by 192 pass holders. The Blue Fins held 5 practices with approximately 100 swimmers.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for August 24 – "The only orchid tree you will ever need"
- MG Radio (WCCF 1580) – August 25
- MG Education Committee Meeting – August 25
- Olive Garden Employee Appreciation Luncheon – August 27
- Extension Staff Meeting – August 27

Parks

- Reviewed and updated specifications for port-o-let annual contract
- Final walk through and punch list inspection of Port Charlotte Beach pier and boardwalk project
- Installed “No parking anytime” signs to Anger fishing pier parking lot to prevent parking that interferes with using parking spaces properly
- Installed replacement sign at Higgs Park that was vandalized
- Reviewed and contributed to specifications for Bay Heights Park bid preparation for Facilities project managers
- Traffic fence & bollards installed in Harbour Heights to keep vehicles out of pedestrian areas

Natural Resources

This week staff completed gopher tortoise surveys at Amberjack Environmental Park and Buck Creek Preserve. These surveys are part of a grant award agreement with Florida Communities Trust.

Staff also submitted a permit application for the installation of pilings for signage as part of the Blueway Trails system.

Matt Bondi completed another important step in his professional development. Matt successfully completed the S190 course. This course is requisite for the certified burn manager course. This is an important step for a land manager. With this certification a land manager can plan and initiate burns on the properties he manages.

Human Services

The Human Services Director, Family Services Manager, 211 Supervisor and the new Youth Civil Citation Program Specialist attended Motivational Interviewing offered by the Department of Juvenile Justice. This two day training requirement for the Civil Citation Program provides valuable techniques for interacting with youth and eliciting positive behavior change. Staff also participated in a teleconference to negotiate the rate agreement for the Civil Citation Program extension.

Public Works

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

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 – Week of Aug. 24 Motorists should use caution as a new traffic pattern is implemented at the Edgewater Dr./ Harbor Blvd. intersection Monday, Aug. 24 through Friday, Sept. 18. Be aware of different lane shifts as utilities are installed while keeping the intersection open to traffic.

Lake View Blvd. will be closed to thru traffic from Edgewater Dr. to Webster Ave. Tuesday, Aug. 25 through Friday, Aug. 28 so crews can relieve construction area of water from recent heavy rains. Traffic will be routed on Webster Ave. between Lake View and Midway Blvds.

Altoona Street remains closed from Edgewater Dr. to Webster Ave. and is scheduled to reopen Sept. 4.

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.

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.

Construction is underway. A bypass pipe is being installed this week; when the installation is complete the dewatering process will begin.

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.

Construction is underway. A bypass pipe is being installed this week; when the installation is complete the dewatering process will begin.

Traffic Advisory: PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (Aug. 19, 2015) – *Intermittent lane closures are expected on Peachland Boulevard at the Niagara Waterway, between Hallcrest Terrace and Aberdeen Avenue, from Thursday, Aug. 20 through Thursday, Sept. 4, 2015. Lane closures will be necessary during the next two weeks as work progresses to replace the water control structure under the roadway at the canal crossing. Flaggers and advance warning signs will be on site to assist travelers through this area. Peachland Boulevard will remain open to traffic during construction however pedestrian traffic is closed at the canal crossing.*

Projects in Design or Negotiation

Sidewalks – Gulfstream Boulevard – This project will consist of an 8' sidewalk installed from an existing sidewalk on Gulfstream Boulevard at Snow Drive continuing to Rosemont Drive. Design includes a connection to an existing sidewalk on Sunnybrook Boulevard. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting: 3/20/2011 – 6/25/2013, Procurement: through Sept. 8, 2015, Construction: TBD

Bids were received Aug. 12, 2015 and are currently under review. A recommendation to award the construction contract may be presented to the Board on Sept. 22, 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: through Sept. 8, 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2015

Bids were received Aug. 12, 2015 and are currently under review. A recommendation to award the construction contract may be presented to the Board on Sept. 22, 2015.

Maintenance & Operations (for Aug. 19 – 25, 2015)

A total of 68 new requests were received related to drainage, brush, and asphalt repair.

Drainage line & grade:	6,150 SF in Gulf Cove
	14,840 SF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban

	17,390 SF in Greater Port Charlotte
	6,000 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte
Small pipe install:	188 LF in Greater Port Charlotte
Menzie ditch cutting:	76,000 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater
Boom mower:	Cut 11,667 CY on Neal Road
	Cut 51,120 CY in Greater Port Charlotte
	Cut 17,526 CY in Northwest Port Charlotte
	Cut 17,100 CY in Lemon Bay
	Cut 15,200 CY in Placida Area
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 23 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 3.56 tons of material to repair locations throughout the County
Shoulder repair:	Maintained 2.2 miles of shoulder in Road & Bridge North
Road grading:	Graded 16,824 SY on Don Pedro Knight Island
Trash/Debris removal:	Removed 20,320 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.

Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control (for Aug. 19 – 25, 2015)

Mosquito Control

- Acres treated: 95,517
- Landing rate counts taken: 40
- Traps set: 38
- Service requests: 47

Aquatic Weed Control

- Sites treated: 28
- Sites inspected: 20
- Mitigation sites maintained: 0

Other Projects

Manasota Key Community Plan Design – The Manasota Key MSTU Committee requested the 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 – Summer 2015, Construction: N/A

A Community Meeting was held at the Tringali Community Center on Wed., Feb. 4, 2015 to present the 60% sidewalk plans. At this time the Gulf Blvd. sidewalk project is on hold until a survey is mailed to all property owners and input is gathered.

The 60% design plans for the North Beach Road commercial section have been received and are being reviewed by staff.

The MSTU is scheduled to meet Aug. 27, 2015 to decide how they would like to move forward.

Rotonda West Bridge Lighting – The Rotonda West Street and Drainage MSBU requested the installation of decorative lighting to the five bridges over the Rotonda River. Bridge Locations: Rotonda Boulevard East,

Rotonda Boulevard West, Rotonda Boulevard North, Cape Haze Drive, Rebel Court. Wright Construction completed the installation of an electric power system to feed the decorative lighting planned under the first phase of this project. Design Contract: Florida Transportation Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: through Spring 2015, Procurement Process: Summer 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2015

Bids were originally due on August 5, however a due date extension was announced August 3 with a new due date of Aug. 12, 2015; bids were opened and are under review.

Sunshine Lake Water Level Control Structure - The purpose of this project is to design and construct a water control structure at the downstream end of the Sunrise Waterway to restore and enhance the water quality of Sunshine Lake. This project is being conducted in response to recommendations received from the Sunshine Lake Water Quality Study. Design: Public Works Engineering Division, Design/Permitting Schedule: 04/17/2013 – 10/01/2013, Procurement Process: through July 28, 2015, Construction Contract: Quality Enterprises, Projected Start of Construction: Late September 2015.

The purpose of this project is to design and construct a water control structure at the downstream end of the Sunrise Waterway to restore and enhance the water quality of Sunshine Lake. This project is being conducted in response to recommendations received from the Sunshine Lake Water Quality Study.

The 2012 Sunshine Lake Water Quality Study, conducted by Atkins, focused on the potential causes of the existing and persistent algal blooms occurring in the Sunshine Lake/Sunrise Waterway, and recommended solutions toward restoring and enhancing the water quality of these water bodies. The study recommendations include the following actions: removal of the algal biomass, enhancing circulation by aeration, providing additional water input by well augmentation, and modification of lake levels by the addition of a water control structure.

This project is intended to meet the lake level modification recommendation of the study. The control structure will be constructed at the large culvert at the Tamiami Trail frontage road, located at the downstream end of Sunrise Waterway. The structure will raise the water level in the water bodies eighteen inches, lessening algal growth due to seasonal lowering of water levels. The additional water depth and volume provides additional attenuation and dilution of runoff and will increase storage for suspended solids.

Additional proposed improvements include upsizing the pipe crossing at Gertrude from the existing 36” diameter to a 48” diameter storm drain, and increasing the number of pipe crossings at N. Tamiami Trail frontage road from one 72” to two 72” pipes.

The Board of County Commissioners awarded the construction contract to Quality Enterprises on July 28, 2015. The Contractor is scheduled to begin construction in late September with a contract time of 180 calendar days.

Tourism

The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau recently launched its online volunteer management program. This module allows individuals or groups to register as potential volunteers for future sporting events, meetings/conferences or other types of activities taking place in Charlotte County. The registration module is user-friendly and allows registrants to select specific areas of interest and duties. As most people know, quality volunteers are a key component to the success of events which generate a positive economic impact and/or enhance the quality of life for a community. Examples of typical events that may require volunteers include the Snowbird Baseball Classic, the Charlotte Harbor Regatta, the Sunshine State Games Track & Field Championships, Englewood Beach Waterfest and various other sports competitions, conferences, and events. Please consider serving your community as a volunteer while having a little fun. The volunteer registration site can be found at www.CharlotteHarborTravel.com/volunteer. If you have any questions, please contact Sean Doherty at the Visitor & Convention Bureau at 941.743.1900 or Sean.Doherty@CharlotteCountyFL.gov.