

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Development

The Special Projects Division of Community Development have finished inputting all the City of Punta Gorda's elevation certificates into a mirror database set up like ours. We have the data and a link to view the actual PDF. A relationship with the city has been established to allow us to update their elevation certs on a monthly basis in exchange for us sending them a spatial version of the data.

Claire Jubb, Community Development Director, was the guest speaker at the Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council (ECEC) monthly meeting. The Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council is an investor-driven organization established to provide a funding vehicle for businesses to invest in the long-term economic vitality of Charlotte County. It is made up of local business owners and representatives and who invest time and resources to achieving their mission of advocating and facilitating a stronger local economy through diversified job growth. During her presentation, Claire gave the group an overview of the different functions of the Community Development Department and how they play a key role in helping to facilitate development in Charlotte County. For more information or to schedule a presentation on any function of the Community Development department, please email Don.Jascomb@CharlotteCountyFL.gov or call 941.764.4158.

On Friday, April 15 a group from Community Development met with the key contractors for Babcock Ranch and had a question and answer session on the permitting process. Claire Jubb, Community Development Director, gave a presentation with a brief demonstration of our website. The information was well received and appreciated by all involved.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Stone Crabs had a home series against the Tampa Yankees here at the Charlotte Sports Park. The Stone Crabs came away with victories on April 15, 16 and 17. They, however, did fall to the Yankees on April 18. Fans enjoyed a spectacular fireworks show after the game on Saturday night. Our staff is busy planning tournaments and fun events that will be held here at the Park. Till then GO STONECRABS!

Harold Avenue Recreation Center

Harold Avenue Recreation Center was busy as the Florida Storm held a basketball tournament here at Harold Avenue this past weekend, which was very well attended. They held games on Friday evening and all day and night on Sunday. Sign-ups for summer camp and youth basketball are steadily increasing as the deadlines for each activity draws near.

Tringali Recreation Center

We have been gearing up for Summer League Youth Basketball here at Tringali with the first game tipping off on June 4. This week we've been closed for yearly maintenance/training so we can better serve our community. When we reopen April 25, 2016 citizens will enjoy a new and improved Tringali Park.

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center is host to many activities such as Weddings, Parties, Classes of many kinds and Meetings such as the one held Wednesday where 30 people attended the Sherriff's meeting for Neighborhood watch. We had our weekly Promenader's Thursday night...it has been a popular night with lots of square dancing. They have had every Thursday booked through the month of April with April 28 as the last date for dancing this season. This past week there were 65 people dancing. Sunday we held a baby shower

hosting 30 guests. Monday was Tai Chi in the afternoon with an attendance of 12, and the Youth Sports Council held their monthly meeting in the evening.

Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool

For the week of 4/13 through 4/19, Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool had 238 paid admissions, was visited by 121 pass holders and had 81 water aerobics participants.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for April 18 – “Grow your own peanuts”
- 2016 MG Training Class - “Vegetables II” - Gene McAvoy, Multi-County Vegetable Agent – April 18
- GI –BMP Training – April 19
- 2016 MG Training Class - “Basic Entomology & IPM” - Dr. Doug Caldwell, Collier County Extension – April 21
- Gallery Walk - Punta Gorda - Master Gardener Tent – April 21
- Extension Strategic Planning Due – April 22

Natural Resources

This week staff training was the focus. Recently the vacated environmental specialist position was filled by Kevin Howard. In the course of that training staff conducted exotic treatments on Tippecanoe I totaling approximately 5 acres. Among the exotic species treated are cogon grass, guinea grass and others. Site visits included Amberjack Environmental Park, Peace River Preserve and Charlotte Flatwoods.

In addition to the exotic treatment staff collaborated with CCSO in an ongoing investigation of illegal activity in one of our Environmental Parks. The safety of our customers is paramount and as stewards of Charlotte County lands we endeavor to provide a safe and enjoyable experience to the citizens of our community. To that end staff have developed a good working relationship with law enforcement and will continue to cooperate with the effort of public safety.

- One derelict boat was removed on Monday 4/8/16, and a second is in the process of being removed today.
- Natural Resources staff has started gearing up for sea turtle nesting season which officially starts May 1. One of the many educational materials we distribute every year includes sending postcards to all beachfront property owners as a friendly reminder to be aware of the upcoming nesting season.

Parks

- Approximately 80 new picnic tables replaced old tables at various park locations
- Spring Lake boat ramp piers - closed half of the pier due to unsafe conditions
- Installed memorial bench for Bud Pearse near Port Charlotte Beach boat ramp
- Cleared all rooms and closets in support of new epoxy floor installation at Bayshore Live Oak Park restroom building
- Installed two new redesigned park rules signs at Lake Betty Park, in Parkside CRA

Public Works

Engineering Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Piper Road North Extension - Piper Road will be extended north from Henry Street to US 17 at the existing Regents Road intersection. The Airport Commerce Park has been identified as a priority for business development. At the present time, there is a limited roadway network in place serving the airport therefore additional roadway and utility improvements will be required to support new or expanded businesses within the corridor. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 2010-2011, Procurement Process: Spring 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2016

All project documents, including bid specifications and design plans, are undergoing a final review prior to bid solicitation. Engineering staff expect to have the project package ready to send to the Purchasing Department by June.

Landscaping Projects - In Construction

SR 776 / US 41 Gateway Landscaping – The purpose of this project is to landscape and beautify the gateway area to the western portion of Charlotte County on SR 776 from US 41 to Murdock Circle. The addition of landscape materials, decorative trees including palms and oaks, shrubs, ground cover, sod and mulch will augment the appearance of the gateway to western Charlotte County. Irrigation, electrical services and maintenance of the landscaping and irrigation system is included in this project which is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council. Construction Contract: Valley Crest Landscape and Maintenance, Construction schedule: 3/29 - 5/12/16

Trenching for irrigation is complete and main system components have been installed. Work within the median is anticipated to begin Monday, April 25. Inside lane closures are expected as work progresses.

Shoulder work is underway this week with roadside planting and placement of drip irrigation. Requests have been made to FP&L and Utilities to provide utility services to the irrigation system.

Landscaping Projects – in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

I-75 at Jones Loop Gateway Landscaping – County staff is currently in negotiations with Johnson Engineering to determine the scope of services and fees for planning and design. This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council.

I-75 at King's Highway Gateway Landscaping – David M. Jones & Associates is working on the design. The Landscape and Irrigation permit has been received but the Community Aesthetic Feature permit application is under review by FDOT. Construction is pending completion of the FDOT I-75 widening project.

I-75 at US 17 Gateway Landscaping – County staff is currently in negotiations with Johnson Engineering to determine the scope of services for planning and design. This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council.

Midway Boulevard Median Landscaping – This project provides for median landscaping with irrigation along Midway Boulevard between Yancey Street and Harbor Boulevard. Landscape materials may include trees (Palm, Weeping Yaupon, Crepe Myrtle), shrubs (Silver Palmetto, Bluestem Palmetto, Fountain Grass), and groundcover (Purple Lantana). Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates

This project is currently advertised for bid. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled April 26 with bid opening May 11. This 60 calendar day construction project has an estimated budget of \$53,000.

Toledo Blade Boulevard Median Landscaping – This project provides for median landscaping with irrigation along Toledo Blade Boulevard between US 41 and Hillsborough Boulevard. Landscape materials may include trees (Palm, Japanese Blueberry, Crepe Myrtle), shrubs (Saw Palmetto, Ixora, Fountain Grass), and groundcover (Coontie, Purple Lantana, Asian Jasmine, Starburst Pentas). Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates

This project is currently advertised for bid. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled April 26 with bid opening May 11. This 60 calendar day construction project has an estimated budget of \$112,000.

US 41 Landscaping at Waterway Crossings (Microtunnel Locations) – This project provides for landscaping with irrigation along US 41 at the Elkcam, Fordham and Pompano Waterway drainage crossings. Landscape materials may include trees (Sand Live Oak, Sabal Palm, Slash Pine), shrubs (Saw Palmetto, Fakahatchee and Cord Grass), and groundcover (Coontie, Leather Fern). Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates

This project is currently advertised for bid. The pre-bid meeting is scheduled April 26 with bid opening May 11. This 60 calendar day construction project has an estimated budget of \$125,500.

Maintenance & Operations Division (April 13 - April 19, 2016)

A total of 41 new requests were received related to drainage, asphalt repair, brush, and illegal dumping.

Drainage line & grade:	26,845 SF in Greater Port Charlotte 4,650 SF in South Gulf Cove 1,065 SF in Gulf Cove 8,940 SF in Burnt Store Village
Small pipe install:	84 LF in Greater Port Charlotte 30 LF in Deep Creek 24 LF in South Gulf Cove
Menzie ditch cutting:	40,000 SF in Road & Bridge West
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 2 culverts in Englewood East Cleaned 4 culverts in Gulf Cove Cleaned 1 culvert in Rotonda West Cleaned 1 culvert in Rotonda Heights Cleaned 65 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Boom mower:	Cut 10,251 CY in Greater Port Charlotte Cut 75,831 CY in Northwest Port Charlotte Cut 51,220 CY in Rotonda Lakes Cut 17,250 CY in Englewood East
Debris removal:	Removed 39,760 pounds of debris from locations throughout the County
Shoulder repair:	Repaired 0.6 miles of shoulder in Road & Bridge South
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 9.12 tons of material to repairs locations 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

- Specialty mowing continues for the month of April with the mulch beds being turned and dressed in all locations
- The power shearing contractor has completed 72,272 LF in GPC and has returned to Englewood East for ROW reclamation.
- Road grading in the Charlotte Ranchettes and on Cook & Brown Road has been completed.
- Row mowing in GPC is approximately 90% complete and South County ROW mowing has been completed for the April cycle Road & Bridge locations

Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Division (April 13 - April 19, 2016)

Mosquito Control

• Acres treated:	2,702
• Landing rates taken	2
• Traps set/collected	2
• Citizen requests	14

Aquatic Weed Control

- Sites treated 34
- Mitigation sites maintained 0
- Inspections 14

Tourism

Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau staff attended the National Association of Sports Commissions Sports Event Symposium in Grand Rapids, MI earlier this month (Apr. 3-7.) In addition to the educational sessions and general networking opportunities, the annual conference also provided the opportunity for staff to meet one on one with approximately 20 event rights owners/National Governing Bodies and educate them about Charlotte County's offerings for sporting groups. These event organizers represented a variety of sports including baseball, softball, golf, lacrosse, mud runs, quidditch, shuffleboard, pentathlon and track & field as well as a variety of vendors and other suppliers. Staff also had the opportunity to have productive meetings with the Sugar Bert Boxing Promotions staff to discuss logistics and promotions of the upcoming Sugar Bert Boxing National Championship Qualifier.