

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Development

The joint City, County, School Board meeting was May 2 and included full participation from all three boards, except CCPS. The amended ILA will be officially approved by all three bodies at the BCC meeting on May 10. Once signature pages are exchanged, it will go to Recording. Jerry Olivo presented the final phase of construction at Lemon Bay High School and Joan LeBeau did the City portion of the presentation. Cooperation between government entities was positive and productive.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Stone Crabs had a nine game home streak here at the Charlotte Sports Park starting on April 26 and ending May 4. They started off with a three game series with the St. Lucie Mets. The Stone Crabs lost two of the three games against the Mets but bounced back to win two of three games against the Ft. Myers Miracle. The City of North Port sponsored Saturday nights (4/30) game with an All You Can Eat ticket where \$15 got you a ticket to the game and all you could eat hotdogs, soda, popcorn, and cookies! The game was followed by a spectacular Fireworks show. The Stone Crabs finished their home streak with three games against the Jupiter Hammerheads. The Stone Crabs won the first two games, however, the third game was cancelled due to rainy weather. The Stone Crabs will be back in action at the Sports Park on May 11 with another nine game home streak. Go Stone Crabs!

Harold Avenue Recreation Center

Youth basketball signups for the summer league at Harold Avenue Recreation Center have been increasing steadily as the deadline approaches. Since the creation of a new age bracket 6u, Harold Avenue is pleased to announce that there is beginning to be more interest drawn among the younger kids. The hope is we will receive enough signups to allow the younger children to compete against others within their same skill level, rather than play up with older kids which has occurred in the past. Spaces are becoming limited for summer camp, especially for Discovery Camp sessions. The A&D girls' basketball league continues to run smoothly and will be approaching the end of the season before we know it!

Tringali Park Recreation Center

What another fantastic week here at the Tringali Park Recreation Center. Our Pickleball program is still going strong, as is our Morning Open Gym. To facilitate all of our new patrons we have decided to open on Saturdays during May for Pickleball and Open Gym. At the tail end of May our Youth Basketball is set to begin, and is still looking for talented youth as well as committed coaches. Youth Basketball will run from roughly early June until mid-August and is for ages 4 to 17. During that time our talented staff will also be hosting our first ever Super Mini Music and Dance Camp for ages 4-6. We look forward to seeing everyone there and we wish everyone a very happy sunny day here in paradise.

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center

Monday, May 2, was the last of the Tai-Chi classes, they had a good show and even had new people show to join in, so they are renewing their contracts now to start up classes again in the near future.

Tuesday, May 3 we hosted the Employee Orientation meeting with a half a dozen people in attendance. Tommy Scott was here to welcome them aboard.

Wednesday, May 4 we had a big wedding from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and our weekends are booked up until next year, so this is one of many wedding events we now have scheduled during the week.

Thursday we caught up on meters, set up for Friday's big prom event, and got all flyers bundled to distribute to the schools for the big Dance with Daddy event on June 11. We have had many calls to check on ticket availability already.

Friday, May 5 is the Charlotte Academy's Prom. They will be here most of the afternoon decorating, and the event is from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. We are expecting 150 people.

Saturday, May 6 there is a sweet '15' Birthday party. It goes all day until 7:30 p.m. with about 65 guests.

Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool

For the week of 4/27 through 5/3, Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool had 288 paid admissions, was visited by 84 pass holders and had 59 water aerobics participants.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for May 2 – "That other turf grass, zoysia"
- 2016 MG Training Class - "Plant Pathology" - Dr. Pam Roberts - SWFREC – May 2
- 2016 MG Training Class - "Venomous Creatures & Africanized Honeybees" - Ralph Mitchell – May 6

Natural Resources

The majority of staff time this week was divided between grant proposals, preparation of purchase requisitions and emergency planning as well as interview preparations for the vacated equipment operator position.

Staff applied for a grant opportunity through FWC. The grant will supplement staff exotic treatment actions on Tippecanoe Environmental Park. This is an annual award opportunity that has not been utilized in the previous years. We are working toward more involvement with interagency cooperation especially in the treatment of exotic/invasive species management. The area proposed is along the west property line of the Tippecanoe Environmental Park. This area has been in a scheduled rotation for 5 years now and while we have made progress in the control of Brazilian pepper in that area additional assistance can be utilized.

In addition to the ongoing efforts regarding exotic/invasive species management we have prepared multiple purchase requisitions for equipment and contractual work for mechanical treatment of scrub habitat on Tippecanoe Environmental Park. The mechanical treatment proposed is the initial phase of restoration/maintenance of scrub habitat that has seen little or no management activity for some time. The scrub habitat on units 6, 8, 2 and 5 are all overgrown and exceedingly dense. Our plan is to mechanically reduce the vegetative structure now and utilize fire within the year to create the necessary open space within those units. The reduction of density, over-story and introduction of fire will be the initial steps toward habitat enhancement and scrub management.

Parks

- Installed a new canoe launch sign at recently completed Bayshore launch area
- Installed a new park entry at Harbour Heights
- Replaced concrete storm water flume at parking lot - retention area at Cape Haze Trailhead
- Removed a large dead pine tree, including stump, that was a safety hazard at Bissett Park
- All light bulbs replaced in rest rooms at Cedar Point

Human Services

Terry Keene, Assistant Veterans Service Officer was elected as the South Area Vice President for the County Veterans Service Officer Association (CVSOA). Terry will serve a two-year term representing Broward, Charlotte, Collier, Miami Dade, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Monroe, Palm Beach, and Sarasota country service officer on the CVSOA Executive Board.

Human Services Division Manager met with Health Department nurses to discuss linking clients from the Growing Strong Families Program with the Family Self-Sufficiency Program. Both programs focus on different aspects of the continuum of care and fit well into the wraparound case management model.

The County will be receiving \$1,067,904. For SHIP next F/Y. This includes \$112,877 to be spent in the City limits. 20% for special needs and an optional allowance for up to 25% for rent subsidies and eviction prevention. The base requirements remain the same. i.e., 75% for construction and 65% for home owner programs.

Public Works

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

2016 County Paving Program – The purpose of this project is to resurface Charlotte County roadways in the following districts:

- Greater Port Charlotte
- Deep Creek
- North West Port Charlotte
- Punta Gorda Non-Urban
- Peace River Shores
- Rotonda Heights
- Road & Bridge

[Paving Maps](#) depicting the roadways to be paved within each district are available on the Project Status Updates website. Construction Contract: Ajax Paving, Construction Schedule: 05/09/2016 – Fall 2017

Base repairs will begin in Deep Creek on Monday, May 9.

CR 771 (Gasparilla Road) Widening – The purpose of this project is to widen CR 771 (Gasparilla Road) to a four-lane divided roadway, from SR 776 to the vicinity of Rotonda Boulevard East. The project includes 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: 7/7/2014 – 10/1/2016.

Crews are working at the intersection of SR 776 / CR 771 for the next couple of months installing new traffic signal mast arm foundations, new turn lanes and other miscellaneous items.

Crews are building multiple roadway sections north and south of the Bridge installing sidewalks and curbing in multiple sections of the project.

Bridge Construction crews are working on the western section of the new Bridge over the Butterford Waterway. New deck slabs have been installed and the new deck will be poured in the next week or two.

Sunshine Lake Circulation Pumps – This project includes the purchase, delivery and installation of three (3) solar powered water circulation pumps for placement in the Sunshine Lake and Sunrise Waterway System. The pumps (solar) will be capable of circulating water in a 360 degree outflow, at rates (direct and induced flow combined) of 10,000 gallons per minute or greater. The pumps will be deployed in waters of between 4 to 10 feet of depth, with an intake depth of 24 to 36 inches below the lake surface. The pumps shall have sufficient flotation and anchoring to remain upright and stable and shall be capable of long-term deployments. The design and implementation of the pumps must include measures to exclude/reduce occurrences of faunal impingement. Procurement: through 4/12/16, Construction contract: Medora Corporation

The circulation pumps were installed and operational on April 28. This project is complete.

Engineering Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Olean Boulevard Widening - Design Phase 1 – The purpose of Design Phase 1 is to solicit input from the community and various stakeholders to develop alternatives for improvements to Olean Boulevard, from US 41 to Harbor Boulevard, and to make a recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners. Design Contract: Florida Transportation Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 10/5/2015 – TBD

A Public Meeting was held Thursday, April 14 to present four (4) alternative design options and solicit public input to improve traffic flow on Olean Boulevard.

Public input was documented at the meeting and will be presented with the design options to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on May 24. Upon approval and direction of the BCC, staff will enter into negotiations with the design firm to begin the design plans.

Once design is complete, all permits and necessary rights-of-way are acquired, the County will advertise for construction bids. Estimated land acquisition is \$3,941,000.

Sidewalks - Cape Haze Drive – Design and construction of approximately 3,400 linear feet of sidewalk along Cape Haze Drive, from Arlington Drive north to approximately 450' north of Links Lane, where Cape Haze Drive becomes a four lane road. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting: March 2015 – Spring 2016, Procurement: TBD, Construction: Early TBD

90% plans have been received and are being reviewed by staff. CCU has presented a change order to the current design contract to add a water main replacement as part of this project.

At the May 4, 2016 MSBU Advisory Board meeting, a motion was made to reduce the width of the sidewalks to 6'. Staff will process a change order to have this completed.

Coastal Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

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. Construction Contract: Marine Contracting Group, Construction Schedule: May – October 2016 (150 day contract)

Marine Contracting Group will begin work on May 10.

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. Project area includes: Balboa, DeSoto, Dover, Santa Clara, Santa Barbara, San Salvador, and San Marino canals and associated channels within the Peace River. Brush cutting, for line of sight/navigation, was added to the contract. Design Contract: Stantec, Design/Permitting Schedule: 12/17/2013 – March 2016, Procurement Process: March – May 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2016

A recommendation to award Bid #16-296 to the lowest responsive, responsible, bidder, Marine Contracting Group will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on May 24 in the amount of \$289,170.

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 – Early 2016, Procurement Process: Spring 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2016

The US Fish and Wildlife Service agency prepared 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 was necessary to review the project for migratory birds including Piping Plover and Red Knot as well as sea turtles.

The FDEP issued the Final Order (permit) for the project on Sept. 2, 2015. The review by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is complete and the County received ACOE approval.

The review of construction drawings and bid specifications is complete. The State Parks (Division of Recreation and Parks) issued a concurrence letter for an updated easement that would allow construction on the upland portion of the park property. The County worked through the negotiations with the State Parks Division and the revised easement is nearing completion.

Due to delays in the permitting process, the revised construction schedule is as follows:

Updated Construction Schedule:

Mobilization in July 2016.

Offshore borrow sand placement on Don Pedro and Knight Islands Aug-Oct 2016

Dredge Stump Pass Oct-Nov 2016

Manasota Key Work (structure and backfill) Nov 2016-Jan 2017

Drainage Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Fordham Waterway at Quasar FOR 4.60 – This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Quasar Boulevard at the Fordham Waterway. The new structure will replace two 60" reinforced concrete pipes and a 50' weir with one 8'x10' box culvert and a 6' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 10/01/2013 – 10/01/2014, Procurement Process: 1/20/2016 – April 2016, Projected Start of Construction: May 2016.

The Board of County Commissioners awarded the construction contract to Andrew Sitework, LLC, on April 26. The preconstruction meeting is scheduled May 5 at which time the Notice to Proceed date will be established.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Niagara Waterway at Quasar NIA 5.09 – This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Quasar Boulevard at the Niagara Waterway. The new structure will replace two 48" metal pipes and a 44' weir with two 48" concrete pipes and a 20' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 05/01/2013 – 9/1/2014, Procurement Process: Jan – April 2016, Projected Start of Construction: June 2016

The Board of County Commissioners awarded the construction contract to Andrew Sitework, LLC, on April 26. The preconstruction meeting is scheduled May 5 at which time the Notice to Proceed date will be established.

Landscaping Projects - In Construction

Burnt Store Village Buffer – This project provides for landscaping and irrigation to create a buffer along the east side of Burnt Store Road between Zemel Road and Dored Drive. Design Contract: Charlotte Engineering & Surveying. Construction contract: Jones Landscape, Construction schedule: May – August 2016.

The BCC awarded the construction contract to Jones Landscape on April 26. Completion time is 90 calendar days with an estimated cost of \$169,675. The preconstruction meeting is scheduled May 5 and Notice to Proceed will be established at the meeting.

Gateway Landscaping: SR 776 (US 41 to Murdock Circle) – 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 Landscaping and Maintenance, Construction schedule: 3/29 - 5/12/16

Trenching for irrigation is complete and main system components have been installed. Requests have been made to FP&L and CCU to provide utility services to the irrigation system.

Median and shoulder work continues this week with the installation of landscape plants and materials.

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (May 5, 2016) – *Lane closures are scheduled 5 days next week on SR 776, from US 41 to Murdock Circle (inside lanes only), from Monday, May 9 – Friday, May 13 between 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. each day as landscape work in the median continues. Advance warning signs and flaggers will be onsite to assist travelers moving through the project area.*

Landscaping Projects – in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Winchester Boulevard Median Landscaping and Buffer – Charlotte Engineering & Surveying (CES) submitted the 30% design plans to staff on May 3 for review. Upon completion of the review, a public meeting will be scheduled so that CES can present the 30% design plans to stakeholders and solicit public input.

Lighting District Projects – April Accomplishments

- Responded to complaints of the school flashing beacon not operating on Lakeview Boulevard at Riviera Lane. The battery was found to be bad and required replacement.
- Repaired communications to the school zone warning beacons on Placida Road in front of Lemon Bay High School.
- Installed LED replacements to traffic signal displays for County signalized intersections on Kings Highway at Westchester Boulevard, Elmira Boulevard, Olean Boulevard, Suncoast Boulevard and Rampart Boulevard.
- Upgraded video detection processor firmware on Kings Highway at Veterans Boulevard, Cochran Boulevard at Harbor Square Plaza, Veterans Boulevard at Atwater Street, Jones Loop Road at I-75 north and south bound ramps, Placida Road at Winchester Boulevard and SR776 at North access to Merchants Crossing, Cochran Boulevard at Pellam Boulevard and Lakeview Boulevard and Midway at Lakeview Boulevard and Harbor Boulevard.
- Responded to a trouble call, after normal business hours, for a light pole struck during a vehicle accident on Kings Highway across from Tractor Supply. A crew secured the area and will return at a later date to make permanent repairs.
- As a result of several citizen complaints regarding detection concerns, replaced two video detection processors at the intersection of Cochran Boulevard at the Publix/K Mart Shopping Plaza.
- Responded to a trouble call, after normal business hours for a report that the traffic signal on US41 at Airport Road/Pompano Terrace was dark. A crew responded to discover a vehicle towing an oversized load struck Florida Power and Lights lines and pulled wire down and broke two wooden poles. One traffic signal display had to be up righted and one display visor replaced.
- In March, a crew responded to a trouble call after normal business hours for street light pole destroyed during a motor vehicle accident on Kings Highway, two poles north of Elmira Boulevard. A crew replaced the light pole which was knocked down.
- Responded to a trouble call after normal business hours for a School zone warning beacon pole knocked down during a motor vehicle accident on Midway Boulevard at Sheehan Boulevard. A crew secured the area then returned on a later date to replace the warning beacon pole.
- A crew responded to a trouble call for a lighted street name sign hanging low on Cooper Street at Carmalita Street. The crew discovered the mounting bracket separated causing the sign to fall. The bracket was re-attached.

- Crews re-lamped 33 light fixtures and re-wired one pole on the Barron Collier Bridge. (US41 SB) Working with DBI Services, County forces utilized a DBI Services lane closure to perform street light maintenance in conjunction with bridge maintenance. Combining efforts reduced the duration of the lane closures needed to perform both maintenance activities and saved costs.
- Responded to a trouble call after normal business hours for street light pole destroyed during a motor vehicle accident on SR776 at US41. A crew secured the area and a replacement pole will be installed on a later date.
- Completed traffic signal preventative maintenance at the following locations:
 - Kings Highway at Westchester Boulevard
 - Kings Highway at Elmira Boulevard
 - Kings Highway at Olean Boulevard
 - Kings Highway at Suncoast Boulevard
 - Kings Highway at Rampart Boulevard
- Attended weekly progress meetings and participated in underground Signal conduit inspections for the US41 widening project.

Traffic Management Center

- US 41 NB & SB road closure April 7 – power lines downed. Day and nighttime roadway closure.
- US 41 NB & SB road closure April 29 – Shooting at McDonalds shut down roadway for many hours.
- Maintenance and updates on Punta Gorda ATMS PC.
- Maintenance of servers.
- Continue fine tuning new signal timings for Kings Highway from Sandhill Blvd to Village Dr.
- Continue fine tuning traffic signal coordination timings for Jones Loop Rd from I-75 to Indian Springs Cemetery Rd.
- Continue monitoring of US 41 traffic signals due to Edgewater Road closure.
- Continue efforts promoting the TMC’s Twitter account for traffic incidents. Over 265 followers and increasing.

Locates Performed

There were 395 requests for underground utility locates were received, generating 140 tickets for locates.

Trouble Calls

There were 7 trouble calls received, responded to, and problems of various natures resolved.

Maintenance & Operations Division (April 27 – May 3)

A total of 47 new requests were received related to drainage, asphalt repair, brush, and illegal dumping.

Drainage line & grade:	26,070 SF in Greater Port Charlotte 6,450 SF in Rotonda West 1,500 SF in Rotonda Heights 14,110 SF in Burnt Store Village
Small pipe install:	52 LF in Greater Port Charlotte 56 LF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Menzie ditch cutting:	120,000 SF in Road & Bridge West
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 18 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Boom mower:	Cut 42,186 CY in Greater Port Charlotte Cut 16,333 CY in Road & Bridge South Cut 61,740 CY in Rotonda Lakes
Debris removal:	Removed 10,540 pounds of debris from locations throughout the County
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 7.02 ton of material to repairs locations throughout the County

Shoulder repair: Repaired 0.1 miles of shoulder in Deep Creek

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 for the month of May - 1 cycle has begun in North, West and South County locations and there will be three cycles in most locations this month.
- The power shearing contractor is currently working in Englewood East for ROW reclamation on the south side of State Road 776.
- ROW mowing in Greater Port Charlotte for the month of May has begun and is approximately 10% complete.
- ROW mowing in West County for the month of May has begun and is approximately 90% complete.

Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control Division (April 27 – May 3)

Mosquito Control

- Acres treated: 95.49
- Landing rate counts taken: 2
- Traps set: 2
- Service requests: 7

Aquatic Weed Control

- Sites treated: 16
- Sites inspected: 19
- Mitigation sites maintained: 0

Traffic Signing & Marking – April Accomplishments

- New Signs Installed: 19
- Legends Installed: 359
- Marine Signs Replaced: 5
- Road Scraping: 29,400 feet (5.57 miles)
- Signs Inspected: 4,065
- Sign Maintenance: 762
- Signs Manufactured: 128
- Striping: 59,476 feet (11.26 miles)
- Traffic Counts: 36 stations (30 traffic counts, 5 approach counts, and 1 video count)
- Trouble Calls (after hours): 9

Solid Waste Division – April Accomplishments

Keep America Beautiful's "Great American Cleanup" is an annual event that runs from March 1 – May 31. Keep Charlotte Beautiful (KCB) celebrated the "Great American Cleanup" on April 2. Approximately 700

volunteers worked throughout the County to bring in 10,190 pounds of trash and 130 pounds of recyclables (collected from 40 miles of roadways, 47 miles of waterways, and 23 acres within our parks).

KCB held the annual Calendar Art Contest on April 5. There were 697 entries this year and our three judges had a very difficult time selecting the winners as the artwork was very good this year.

The KCB Youth Advisory Council is utilizing part of Waste Management's "Think Green" grant money, to beautify the Port Charlotte High School Campus. The Youth Advisory Council partnered with the Key Club for the project in April. Together, the 26 students planted 33 landscape plants in five beds and are planning to finish 16 more landscape beds in the fall.

Fun Day Sunday was held April 10. Waste Management staffed assisted KCB volunteers at the event where 207 Parkside residents took the pledge to "Drive It Home and Keep Our Paradise Litter Free." Students were able to spin the wheel and answer a question about the environment for a prize. In a continuing effort to educate the public about cigarette litter, volunteers gave out 125 car and pocket ash receptacles, not just to smokers, but also to friends and family members of smokers so that they can help spread the word.

April 21 was Earth Day. KCB staff attended both Gallery Walk and Vineland Elementary School's Earth Day celebration. At Gallery Walk, some of the student Calendar Art winners were there to volunteer and present their artwork. At Vineland Elementary school, 120 students signed up to show the community what they have learned about recycling and how it impacts the environment.

Tourism

Last week, tourism offices, accommodations, attractions, restaurants and other services and businesses in the tourism industry throughout the country celebrated the power of travel during National Travel & Tourism Week (May 1–7). The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau and Charlotte County tourism industry will celebrate the impact of tourism during the annual Tourism Luncheon and Charlotte County Tourism Hall of Fame Induction on Thursday, May 12, at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center. The event has a culinary theme and features a keynote address by the Retro Rad Chef from Food Network, chef Emily Ellyn, and the 2016 inductee into the Charlotte County Tourism Hall of Fame will be honored. During calendar year 2015, Charlotte County welcomed an estimated 395,800 visitors and tourism generated an estimated \$345,067,400 in direct expenditures and made an estimated \$526 million economic impact in Charlotte County.