

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Development

We had two employees "Caught in the Act" this week and awarded gift cards by Ms. Shoemaker. They were Darcie Nicolosi and Maryann Franks.

Shawn Cullinan, Zoning Official gave a presentation to the CDBIA about our digital submittal and review, going from the website to Acela, our review processes and inspection change discussions, as well as the hiring of a Zoning Coordinator for revamping site plan review.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Stone Crabs have ended their season. They were scheduled for a game on 8/30 and also 9/1, but both were cancelled due to weather. It was a great season!

Harold Avenue Park

This past week at Harold Avenue Recreation Center the staff finished up their facility shut down for maintenance, cleaning, and staff training. On Sept. 3 the center opened back up. This week the Harold Avenue Recreation Center has seen good numbers in both Pickleball and Table Tennis as the crowd was anxious to be back after a week off. Harold Avenue hosted St. Charles Borromeo on Tuesday for its Middle School Girls Volleyball Game.

Tringali Park

This week's good news starts with our first ever Super Mini Sports Dance Camp recital that took place Wednesday, Aug. 31. It was a huge success. All the seats were full and the response of the family and friends of our little superstars was raucous. I was so proud of the kids because it takes a lot of courage to get up on stage, at any age. The children sang six songs and danced to three. The applause they received was also reflected in the response of the happy parents after the show. We look forward to more artistic programs here in the future, starting with Intro to Dance, which begins Sept. 13.

On Friday, Sept. 2, we held our monthly Tringali Twilight Theatre in the Community Center, showing the movie "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day." The event went off smoothly and the kids who attended shared a lot of good laughs.

Next week sees us starting up two sports programs. On Monday, Sept. 12, Junior Sports Basketball begins. This program is for 7-10 year olds. Also, on Wednesday Sept. 14, Super Mini Sports Basketball returns. This program is for 4-6 year olds. We look forward to another 5-weeks of fun and exercise for both the kids and their parents!

Port Charlotte Beach Park Recreation Center and Pool

On Sept. 1 we held a meeting from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. with 20 people. There were no bookings for the weekend which worked to our advantage to have some ceiling tiles replaced from water damage.

Monday was closed for Labor Day. On Sept. 6 was a Supervisors meeting from 8-10 a.m. and we are gearing up for a busy season, we only have one more weekend not booked until May 20, 2017!

Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool

For the week of 8/31 through 9/6/16, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 125 paid admissions, was visited by 18 pass holders and had 12 water aerobics participants.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for Sept. 5 – “Why you don’t want a carrotwood in your yard”
- Seasonal Employee training - Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center – Sept. 6
- 4-H Seasonal Interviews – Sept. 6
- MG ASSOCIATION Meeting – Sept. 7
- Annual Leave – Sept. 8 & 9

Natural Resources

This week staff concentrated efforts on exotic treatment in the west county properties.

In addition to exotic flora treatment staff explored possible options for kayak/canoe launch improvement in cooperation with an Eagle Scout project.

Administration

Charlotte County Community Services is happy to announce that two new skate park elements were installed at Don Cerbone Memorial Skate Park. A Skatewave Mini Half-Pipe and Pyramid were installed to replace the same items that had been previously removed due to safety concerns. The project was in part the result of a concerned citizen, Mathew Brown, a sophomore at Charlotte High School who started a change.org campaign and caught the attention of County Commissioners and staff. As a result Community Services staff met with Mathew and other skaters at Carmalita Park to discuss options available to replace the missing equipment. Funding to replace the two pieces of equipment was identified and the equipment was installed the week after Labor Day. Future improvements at the skate park will include a shade structure and picnic table and additional sidewalks to improve accessibility.



Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

The Cultural Center partial parking lot seal and stripe contract has been awarded. The next step is scheduling.

Operations

Operations is closing out remaining open work orders and open purchase orders. Annual preventative maintenance work orders be written and ready to begin Oct. 1, 2016. As the department looks to increase the preventative maintenance work program, we intend to have more of these annual preventative work orders for the upcoming fiscal year ahead.

Project Management

- A purchase requisition, including data sheets, technical specifications, and drawings has been submitted to the Purchasing and Fiscal Departments for a Request for Quote for partial land clearing and tree removal at the South County Library site. This work is necessary prior to site remediation being performed by the City of Punta Gorda and Charlotte County. Work will need to commence as soon as possible.
- Cape Haze Pioneer Park landscape was installed. Contactor is leveling and preparing the site for sod.

Human Services

The Family Services and Housing Services Division Managers participated in the Charlotte System Design Clinic sponsored by the Homeless Coalition and the Gulf Coast Partnership. Discussions and activities focused on developing concrete governance strategies and action plans for becoming a high-functioning crisis response system.

Public Works

Bridge Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Edgewater Drive Bridge Repair at Elkcarn Waterway – This project includes engineering services to inspect and evaluate the current condition of each wall at the Edgewater Drive Bridge (014074) over the Elkcarn Waterway near Cousley Drive and determine the most cost effective method of repair. Design Contract: CES/American Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: through April 2016, Procurement Process: September - November 2016, Projected Start of Construction: December 2016

CES/American Engineering has completed the plans and are ready for construction bidding. Real Estate Services Division is obtaining maintenance easements for all four sides of the bridges to secure during construction.

Roadway Projects in Construction (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

The paving and restoration in Deep Creek has been completed. A punch list will be generated to take care of any outstanding issues. The contractor has completed paving in the Peachland 7 area and is currently trying to resume paving in the Ridge Harbor area in the PGNU District, but due to heavy rainfall totals the paving has stopped. They are continuing to performing base repairs in the Peachland 6 area. The paving in Peachland 5 area will resume as soon as the Ridge Harbor area has been completed. To date there has been approx. 29,093 tons of asphalt placed in this contract. The amount of work completed to date is 17.9% and the amount of contract time that has elapsed is 26.0%

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.

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (July 19, 2016) - *The intersection at Ingraham Boulevard West at CR 771 (Gasparilla Road) will be closed Monday July 25, 2016 for approximately 3 weeks. This road closure is necessary to reconstruct the intersection of*

Ingraham Boulevard West entering Rotonda. Traffic is detoured via Rotonda East Boulevard; variable message boards and traffic control devices are in place to assist travelers through the construction area. On behalf of all roadway construction crews, please drive safely.

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (July 19, 2016) - Traffic has been shifted to the new northbound lanes while the contractor builds the new South Bound lanes. Reduced speed limits will remain as posted to ensure safety in the construction zone.

The contractor is currently building the west side of the project. New drainage is currently being installed north of Marathon Blvd followed by the new roadway template.

Roadway Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Parkside - Harbor Boulevard Improvements (U.S. 41 to Olean Boulevard) Phase 2 – Phase 2 design includes roadway improvements consisting of a four-lane divided roadway with a 16' – 20' raised median that will provide for safer turning movements, 8' – 10' multi use paths on both sides, landscaping, decorative lighting, wayfinding and a gateway feature. Utility improvements are included in this project. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 11/12/2013 – May 2016, Procurement Process: June – October 2016, Projected Start of Construction: 11/15/2016.

Plans and permits are complete. The County sent the 100% Plans to FPL Underground to finalize their plans, we are working together to get plans incorporated into our construction plans for bidding.

Other Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Charlotte Harbor Gateway Harbor Walk, Phase 2 – The Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Area (CHCRA) is interested in providing continuous pedestrian access from Bayshore Live Oak Park to Chester Roberts Park and to improve boater access to the harbor. Phase 2 includes the design of pedestrian connections from the promenade (located along the east side of US 41 northbound travel lanes) including a boardwalk crossing underneath the US 41 Bridge, a stairway connecting the promenade to the US 41 Bridge sidewalk, a fishing pier and a water taxi dock facility. This project is funded by the Charlotte County Redevelopment Fund and will be reimbursed up to \$1,410,580 through a Local Agency Program (LAP) Agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). Design Contract: Kimley-Horn & Associates, Design Schedule: 10/15/2013 – 7/17/2015, Procurement Process: Fall 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Late 2016

Design is complete and approved by FDOT, the LAP agreement was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on Feb. 23, 2016 and has been executed by FDOT. We are currently pending Army Corps of Engineering permit approval.

Landscape 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: 5/23 – 10/20 2016 (150 calendar days).

The installation of irrigation and planting of shrubs and trees are nearing completion. Final mulch application is anticipated in early September. This project is progressing ahead of schedule.

Gateway Landscaping: Toledo Blade Blvd. (US 41 to Hillsborough Blvd.) – 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). The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte

County and enhance the county's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live. Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates, Construction Contract: MRT Lawn and Garden Center, Construction Schedule: 7/7 – 9/5/2016 (60 calendar days)

This landscape project is nearing completion; the preliminary walk through is anticipated next week.

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, Construction Contract: Superior Landscaping and Lawn Service, Construction Schedule: 6/27 – 8/26/16 (60 calendar days)

This project is substantially complete.

Landscaping Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Gateway Landscaping: I-75 at King's Highway – This project provides for roadside landscaping along I-75 at the Kings Highway interchange, as programmed by FDOT's Bold Landscape initiative. The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte County and enhance the county's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live. Design Contract: David M. Jones & Associates, Design/Permitting Schedule: through Fall 2016

Design is nearing completion. Construction plans have been submitted to FDOT to request permitting of the Community Aesthetic Feature. The County's request to extend the FDOT Irrigation and Landscape Permit was granted through July 10, 2017. Construction is pending completion of the FDOT I-75 road widening project in the vicinity of Kings Highway.

Gateway Landscaping: Jones Loop at I-75 – This project provides for roadside and median landscaping along Jones Loop, from Mac Drive to Piper Road, at the I-75 interchange. The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte County and enhance the county's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live. This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: June – Dec 2016.

The 30% conceptual design plans and preliminary cost estimates were received, reviewed by County staff, and comments returned to the design engineer. 60% design plans are underway and cost estimates have been revised.

Gateway Landscaping: US 17 at I-75 – This project provides for roadside landscaping along US 17 at the I-75 interchange. The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte County and enhance the county's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live. This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting schedule: June – Dec. 2016.

The 30% conceptual design plans and preliminary cost estimates were received, reviewed by County staff, and comments returned to the design engineer. 60% design plans are underway and cost estimates have been revised.

Winchester Boulevard Median Landscaping and Buffer – This project provides for landscaping with drip irrigation along Winchester Boulevard South, from SR 776 to CR 775 (Placida Road). Design services will include preparation of construction drawings, bidding and inspection services for the installation of landscaping, irrigation and a proposed buffer. Landscape plants include canopy and ornamental trees, palms, shrubs and ground cover. Design Contract: CES/American, Design/Permitting Schedule: Early 2016 – 9/26/2016.

90% design plans are in progress and should be received by the County in early September. The landscape consultant has been advised to reduce the overall landscape design to bring the cost of construction in line with the budget which will also reduce the cost of maintaining the landscaped areas after the project is complete.

Maintenance & Operations Weekly Accomplishments (Aug. 24 – Aug. 30, 2016)

A total of 74 new requests were received related to drainage, brush, asphalt repairs, and illegal dumping.

Drainage line & grade:	6,750 SF in Greater Port Charlotte 5,250 SF in Gulf Cove 7,030 SF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Small pipe install:	24 LF in Deep Creek 40 LF in Gulf Cove 244 LF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Menzie digging:	20,400 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater
Menzie cutting:	19,800 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 46 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte Cleaned 1 culvert in Deep Creek Cleaned 14 culverts in Englewood East Cleaned 6 culverts in Northwest Port Charlotte Cleaned 1 culvert in Rotonda West Cleaned 7 culverts in Gulf Cove Cleaned 1 culvert in Road & Bridge North
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 8.84 tons of material to repair locations throughout the County
Boom mower:	Cut 4,410 CY in Greater Port Charlotte Cut 82,930 CY in Englewood East Cut 16,765 CY in Punta Gorda Non-Urban Cut 17,701 CY in Northwest Port Charlotte Cut 1,133 CY in Road & Bridge South
Debris removal:	Removed 8,580 pounds of debris from 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.

Mosquito & Aquatic Weed Control

Mosquito Control

- Acres treated: 56,235
- Landing rate counts taken: 34
- Traps set: 32
- Service requests: 38

Aquatic Weed Control

- Sites treated: 18
- Sites inspected: 1
- Mitigation sites maintained: 1

Tourism

In order to positive publicity for the Englewood, Florida Chamber of Commerce's Let's Eat, Englewood Restaurant Week which is Sept. 15 – 29, the Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau arranged for a preview tasting tour of Englewood with local members of the media who shared the experience on social media as well as the Retro Rad Chef from Food Network, Emily Ellyn. The tour consisted of visits to Villa Capri Italian Restaurant, Rum Bay Restaurant via water taxi, and Farlow's on the Water. The next day, the Bureau arranged for Ms. Ellyn to appear on Fox 4's Morning Blend and on Sept. 13, representatives from the Englewood Chamber of Commerce will appear on another segment of the Morning Blend. Ms. Ellyn also dined at the Lock 'N Key Restaurant where she received a tour of the kitchen and shared her Englewood tasting tour experience during the Let's Eat, Englewood VIP and Media Event on Sept. 7.