

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

Published 10/4/16

## Community Development

Gloria Walberg became certified as a LIAF Certified Landscape Inspector. Landscape Inspectors play a vital role in the conservation of our natural resources. On a daily basis, Landscape inspectors are involved in improving the quality of the landscape we live in; supporting individuals, business and the public who rely on our services. We are proud to have Gloria on board and certified!

## Community Services

### Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park had a Tampa Bay Rays vs Orioles Instructional League Game on Friday, 9/23 with 120 in attendance

### Harold Avenue Park

This past week Harold Avenue employees have remained hard at work on the Trunk or Treat on Spooky Street Event planned for October. With a little less than two weeks left to our registration deadline for our Fall/Winter Basketball League Harold staff has sent out reminders to all past participants encouraging them to get in and sign up before they miss out. Pickleball and Table Tennis numbers have remained steady over the last week. We have also had a few rentals going on this past week. DAP Basketball and St. Charles Borromeo Girls Volleyball have both held practices and games this past week for their organizations. Finally Wellness at Work started last week and Harold Avenue has begun hosting Yoga Classes and Tai Chi classes for Charlotte County employees. Yoga has taken place on Monday evenings, with Tai Chi held last Friday and this Tuesday.

### Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool

For the week of 9/21 through 9/27/16, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 107 paid admissions, was visited by 21 pass holders and had 60 water aerobics participants.

### Port Charlotte Beach Park Recreation Center

- Sept. 21, from 5-7:30 p.m. we had Zumba, put on by the CareHere Wellness program. (It is going to run weekly through Dec.)
- Sept. 22, from 5-7:30 p.m. was Tai-Chi, put on by the CareHere Wellness program. (It is going to run weekly through Dec. also)
- Sept. 23, 24, 25 were amazingly not booked! One of the only weekends that is not booked until next summer!
- Sept. 26, Zumba 5-7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 27, CCSO neighborhood first meeting of the season 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 28, Zumba 5-7:30 p.m.

### Tringali Park and Recreation

Hello from Tringali Park. This week's good news starts with the introduction of a new program we are hosting. To meet the community's demand for new music programs, we now offer Intro to Dance for 7-10 year olds. The first session was last Tuesday and it was a huge success. The enthusiasm must've been contagious, as a couple more kids had enrolled before this week's session. We look forward to offering more of these artistic programs in the future.

Meanwhile, Junior Sports and Super Mini Sports Basketball has been moving along quite nicely. Much like dance, enrollment has increased from the first meeting to the second. We are hoping this trend in enrollment

continues when we start the soccer programs next month. Junior Soccer will start on October 24, while Super Mini Sports Soccer begins October 26.

Finally, our Elementary Fun Night Program had its second session this past Friday. As usual, the children had a fun time, playing a variety of games and enjoying our music and snacks. The ever popular game of "Capture the Flag" was a crowd favorite. It should be noted that this year's first two sessions have outdone last year's in attendance by about 20 percent. Well that's it from Englewood. Have another great week in Charlotte County.

### **Extension Services**

- Newspaper Article for Sept. 26 and Oct. 3 – "The lady palm is a shady palm" & "The Aloe Vera is an ornamental succulent with a purpose"
- Extension Professional Associations of Florida (EPAF) Annual Conference - Daytona Beach (Pam and I will attend. Both of us are presenting papers) – Sept. 26 to 30
- Master Gardener Radio Show - WCCF-1580 - Tom Becker and Lynn Buth, MG – Sept. 27
- Freshwater FMNP – inverts - Laishley Marina in Punta Gorda – Oct. 6
- Master Gardener class - "Woody Ornamentals - Planting and Pruning" – Lee County Extension Training – Oct. 7

## **Facilities Construction & Maintenance**

### **Repairs and Maintenance**

- Charlotte Sports Park generator housing rebuild is complete.
- The Van Lenten Water Booster Station storage closet/bathroom conversion is ninety percent complete.
- The Records Division vestibule construction is complete. The Keri system install/integration is scheduled for Sept. 29-30, 2016.
- Replaced pump on the lead water heater in the Minor League mechanical room at Charlotte Sports Park.
- Installed four park benches at McGuire Park.

### **Operations**

New custodial contractor will begin servicing County Facilities as of Oct. 1, 2016. Patience is requested as they become acquainted with procedures.

### **Project Management**

- The final asphalt paving at Cape Haze Pioneer Trail was completed yesterday.
- Ground clearing at Veteran's Park begins this week.

## **Human Services**

Human Services/Veteran Services held their first annual Veteran Services Officer Seminar on Sept. 23, 2016. The conference was attended by eight Veteran Service Officers from local veteran services organizations; staff from Congressman Rooney's office and the VA Vet Center. Some of the subjects covered included VA compensation, pension, appeals, eBenefits, healthcare access, burial benefits, records requests and presumptive disability. The goal of the seminar was to provide up-to-date Veteran Administration information and to enhance continued dialogue among the County Service Officers and Veteran Services Organizations. Additional informational seminars will be planned.

*Real Stories, Real People, Real Investment:*

Veteran Services staff assisted in expediting VA Healthcare enrollment for a terminally ill veteran who is in hospice care at his home. Through normal channels, VA Healthcare enrollment generally takes 3-6 weeks. This veteran's enrollment was processed in less than 24 hours. The veteran's additional VA home healthcare will supplement his current hospice care so that he will have more assistance during this difficult time.

Family Services staff assisted a client who was referred by 2-1-1 and spoke little English. Staff was able to communicate in Spanish and assisted the client with financial assistance through grant funded programs.

Family Services staff was also able to assist an elderly client in making an appointment for energy assistance through another agency's customer service office.

A client's wife recently had a baby and he had missed some time from work causing the family to fall a little behind in their bills. Due to his work schedule, he was unable to come to a regular appointment for FPL assistance so a time was arranged that fit his work schedule. Prior to the appointment, Family Services staff reviewed his file and informed him of everything he would need to bring to the appointment. The client was pleased with the efficiency and flexibility of staff and their willingness to help in the family's time of need.

## **Public Works**

### **Roadway Projects in Construction** (may affect vehicular/boater/pedestrian traffic patterns)

**Edgewater Drive Widening Phase 2 (EP2)** – 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 Nov. 12, 2014. Construction Contract: Owen-Ames-Kimball, Construction schedule: 1/5/2015 – 4/24//2017

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (Sept. 20, 2016) – *A temporary traffic pattern change will be in effect between Midway Boulevard and Lake View Boulevard for isolated work in the coming weeks, including the completion of curb construction beginning Monday, Sept. 26.*

*At that time, Edgewater Drive will be converted to a normal divided roadway configuration open to local traffic only. Motorists are asked to use caution and observe all traffic striping and signage.*

*Access for residents will be via Midway Boulevard and Lake View Boulevard using the new Lake View roundabout.*

*Edgewater Drive remains closed to through traffic between Midway Boulevard and Harbor Boulevard.*

### **Excerpts from [www.GoEP2.com](http://www.GoEP2.com)**

#### **Midway to West Spring Lake Bridge**

- Local Edgewater Drive traffic is accessible via Midway Blvd. and Lake View Blvd. The temporary crossover at Sheeley Street is closed. The traffic pattern is now in the final divided highway configuration – observe proper traffic flow for the divided roadway.
- Lauzon Ave. has been reopened between Sheeley St. and Abhenry Circle.
- Curb, driveways and sidewalk are complete from Midway Blvd. to the West Spring Lake Bridge.

- Paving (except wearing surface) will be completed from Midway Blvd. to the West Spring Lake Bridge in early October.
- FPL power service for the new sewer lift station at Altoona St. is complete.
- West Spring Lake Bridge is complete except bridge deck surface finishing and median. The bridge is closed to all traffic.

**West Spring Lake Bridge to East Spring Lake Bridge:**

- Paving (except wearing surface) will be completed from the West Spring Lake Bridge to East Spring Lake Bridge and West Tarpon Court in early October.
- West Spring Lake Bridge is complete except bridge deck surface finishing and median. The bridge is closed to all traffic.
- Retaining wall construction on the east and west sides of the East Spring Lake Bridge is in progress.

**East Spring Lake Bridge to Sunrise Bridge:**

- Storm sewer semi-final inspection is complete. Correction of issues found during inspection is underway.
- Paving (except wearing surface) will be completed on the new eastbound and westbound roadways from near the East Spring Lake Bridge including Port Charlotte Blvd. and the roundabout.
- Sunrise Park is open.
- Roadway base is in progress on the westbound roadway.

**Sunrise Waterway Bridge to Harbor Boulevard:**

- Gravity sewer is complete. Residential connections to the new sewer will begin following regulatory agency approvals. Residents will receive notices of the scheduled switch over.
- Comcast and CenturyLink utility relocation are nearly complete.
- New Re-use water main is complete from Harbor Blvd. to Sunrise Waterway Bridge
- Storm sewer drainage outfall easement restoration to be completed.
- Storm sewer construction is in progress.
- Sunrise Waterway Bridge construction continues. Bridge clearance will be temporarily reduced approximately two feet during construction of the new bridge deck.

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

**Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Lion Heart Waterway 4.03 (Peachland Blvd.)** – This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Peachland Blvd. at the Lion Heart Waterway. The new structure will replace two 60" metal pipes with two 10'x10' box culverts. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: March 2015 – Early 2016, Procurement Process: March – 6/14/2016, Projected Construction Schedule: July 2016 – Feb 2017

Construction has started. The clearing work has been completed and the temporary sheet pile coffer dams have been installed. The main bypass pipe has been installed across Peachland Boulevard. The crews are currently working on installing the secondary bypass pipe that will handle the incoming offsite drainage.

**Stormwater Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement**

**Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Lion Heart Waterway 4.34 (Kenilworth Blvd.)** – This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Kenilworth Blvd. at the Lion Heart Waterway. Construction will consist of replacing (2) 72" corrugated metal pipe culverts with (2) 8'x10' box culverts and a 64' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: Jan. – Dec. 2016, Procurement Process: Dec. 2016 – Feb. 2017, Projected Construction Schedule: April – Dec. 2017

Johnson Engineering has completed the survey, the existing base plan, and the geotechnical investigation. The engineering firm is coordinating with the utility on the aerial crossing. The 30% design plans have been submitted to the County for review. Staff comments have been returned to the design engineer for the 30% plans.

**Maintenance & Operations Weekly Accomplishments** (Sept. 21 – Sept. 27, 2016)

A total of 206 new requests were received related to drainage, brush, asphalt repairs, guardrail repair, and illegal dumping.

Drainage line & grade:	1,400 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte 5,540 SF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban 3,000 SF in Greater Port Charlotte 13,200 SF in Englewood East
Small pipe install:	84 LF in Greater Port Charlotte 80 LF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 53 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte Cleaned 2 culverts in Deep Creek Cleaned 3 culverts in Englewood East
Menzie cutting:	50,000 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater 15,000 SF in Englewood East 10,000 SF in West Charlotte Stormwater
Menzie digging:	10,000 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater 26,000 SF in Greater Port Charlotte
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 10.65 tons of material to repair locations throughout the County
Boom mower:	Cut 27,434 CY in Greater Port Charlotte Cut 38,558 CY in Englewood East Cut 20,442 CY in Northwest Port Charlotte Cut 6,944 CY in Lemon Bay Cut 2,981 CY in Town Estates Cut 2,399 in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Debris removal:	Removed 3,180 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: 50,219
- Landing rate counts taken: 37
- Traps set: 32
- Service requests: 13

**Aquatic Weed Control**

- Sites treated: 18
- Sites inspected: 0
- Mitigation sites maintained: 12