

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park had a successful Moonlight Movie Night on Saturday, Oct. 15. There were a few local vendors in attendance...Ravenous Rhino, ZDogs, Kona Ice and Safe Kids. The Lemon Bay High School group, Think Pink, was selling glow sticks and popcorn to raise funds for breast cancer awareness (Susan G. Komen). Despite the rain, there were 200 in attendance to watch the movie.

Harold Avenue Park

This past week at Harold Avenue Park we have been slowly noticing our numbers for our daily activities rise. With our regular registration deadline for our Co-Ed Youth Basketball league passed, we have seen late registrations slowly coming in. On Wednesday evening we held the first skills evaluation and draft for our league in the 14u division. Last week we held a meeting for the 50+ Woman's Tennis League that is set to start here next month. Daughters at Play (DAP) is continuing to rent the gym, practicing throughout the week with games on Saturdays. We also had St. Charles Borromeo Boys and Girls Basketball teams start renting out our facility for youth basketball practices, and they held their first practice this week.

Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool

For the week of 10/12 through 10/16/16, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 96 paid admissions, was visited by 36 pass holders and had 33 water aerobics participants. In addition, staff conducted one private swim lesson series. Port Charlotte Beach Pool will be closed for annual maintenance and staff training Tuesday 10/18 through Friday 10/21/16.

Port Charlotte Beach Park Recreation Center

The Recreation Center is used mostly for celebrations such as Parties, Weddings and meetings, whether small or large. There might be only a month's time that there isn't a booking in this facility. Oct. 12 - CCSO meeting, Oct. 13 - Sweet Sixteen party for 80 guests, Oct. 14 - wedding set-up, Oct. 15 - a large wedding for 180 guests. The wedding was simple but very elegant in its decorations and boasted a live 3 piece band from, Oct. 17 - youth sports council meeting, Oct.18 - Tai Chi, Oct.19 - Zumba.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for Oct. 17 – "Africanized honeybees are in Charlotte County"
- Teaching Assessment - Laishley Park Marina – Oct. 18
- Limited Commercial Landscape Maintenance Training – Oct. 21

Parks

Cleared out all shuffle board court drain lines of debris at Higgs Park to improve drainage.

We are getting closer to our annual Tippecanoe Mud Run which is set to take place on Nov. 12, 2016. Sign up on Active.com!

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

- Charlotte County Sports Park player parking lot seal and stripe is complete. A change order has been submitted to Fiscal Services to add a main entrance and rear parking to the job.
- Loveland Water Treatment Plant door replacement is complete.

- A purchase requisition has been submitted to Fiscal Services and approved to build a screen enclosure for a break area at the Public Works Headquarters building. The contractor in design and permitting phase.
- Repaired parking meters at Ainger Creek Park boat ramp and the south and north parking lots at Englewood Beach Park.
- Repaired game field lights at Franz Ross Park.
- Repaired light fixtures at the Center for Abuse and Rape Emergencies facility.
- Installed a door return on the Maintenance and Operations building entry door to ensure that it closes properly to coincide with the Keri Door access system.
- Repaired overhead lighting in the Criminal Investigation Division area at the Sheriff's Administration Center.

Operations

- Review of locks and access control specifications that have unique operations, to better serve the different needs within new and existing buildings, is currently taking place. The current specification for a particular lock is only providing a small portion of requirements in our buildings. We are looking to expand our access capabilities through the review of this specification.

Project Management

- Final Inspection was completed on Cape Haze Pioneer Trail.
- The seawall cap was completed at Port Charlotte Beach Complex with installation of the floating dock to follow.
- Ground breaking started at Veterans Park.
- The Jail Infirmary guaranteed maximum price was submitted to purchasing and projected for approval at the November 8, 2016 Board of County Commissioner meeting.
- District One under slab preparations are complete with concrete flooring projected for pouring on October 18, 2016.
- Bay Heights Boat Ramp landscaping is being installed after final grades are complete.

Tourism

The online web series Adventure & Wildlife – Hosted by the Shark Brothers debuted Oct. 14 during a press conference at the Charlotte County Cultural Center. Episode 1 of the series is available for viewing on [YouTube.com/RealPure Florida](https://www.youtube.com/RealPureFlorida) and is part of the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau's marketing program aimed at attracting visitors to Punta Gorda and Englewood Beach interested in soft-adventure, nature-based activities and getting out to explore Florida's wild outdoors.

Episode 1 features recreational fishing, the importance of mangrove forests to Charlotte Harbor's ecology, and a wading trip in Charlotte Harbor with the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center. Capt. Ralph Allen with King Fisher Fleet, Capt. Betty Staugler of Florida Sea Grant, and Chris Salmonsens, a naturalist with the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, are featured in the episode which has a runtime of 16 minutes. Additional episodes will be released at later dates featuring topics such as sea turtle nesting, area state parks and paddlesports.

The series is a collaborative effort between the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau and Sean and Brooks Paxton who are internationally recognized presenters, filmmakers and homegrown adventure and wildlife personalities, also known as the Shark Brothers. Users are encouraged to share the videos on social media and use the hashtags #bestsideoutside, #ecologinomical, #thesharkbrothers and #adventureandwildlife

Earlier in the month (Oct. 9 – 12), the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau hosted the author of the Adventure Mom Blog who experienced first-hand how our best side, is outside. Some of the activities she experienced included fishing out of Punta Gorda, a Punta Gorda culinary walking tour and

standup paddleboarding Stump Pass Beach State Park. She shared her experience on social media, wrote a blog post for the VCB (<https://www.charlotteharbortravel.com/blog/post/find-your-adventure-in-punta-gorda-and-englewood/>) and will be posting about the trip on her blog <http://adventuremomblog.com/>. Hosting members of the media, including bloggers and online influencers, help expand the VCB's marketing reach and provides a third-party endorsement as to why the destination is a fantastic vacation spot.