

Administrator's Update for 8/1/12
By Ray Sandrock, County Administrator

CC-TV, our government access television station, recently premiered a quarterly magazine television show "Access Charlotte." The show is produced in-house and presents several topics of timely information on the county's services and events. The first edition includes segments on the South County Regional Park's community garden, the code enforcement process, and MSBU/TU information. "Access Charlotte" is part of the County's initiative to expand communication between citizens and government. The show will air several times each week on CC-TV which can be found on Comcast channel 20 or on 97 in some south county areas. Homeowners associations and other groups may request a complimentary DVD of the show to play at meetings and help group members learn about Charlotte County events and services by contacting Matthew Philpitt, CC-TV Manager, at 941.623.1090.

Parkside planning workshops

Last week the county's "Weed and Seed" steering committee hosted a Parkside Weed and Seed planning workshop. This was the first of two meetings that provide venues for local residents and businesses to identify priorities on topics such as crime, property maintenance and human service needs in the district and their solutions. The first meeting had 165 citizen participants, tasked with issues identification. The second meeting will be held August 2, 2012, in which citizens will be asked to identify their ideas for improving the district in these areas. The outcome of these meetings will result in recommendations to the County Commission for action. The August 2 meeting will be from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County, 2280 Aaron Street, Port Charlotte.

Debby recovery

Charlotte County Emergency Management recently hosted representatives from the Florida Division of Emergency Management and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in an applicant's briefing meeting. This meeting begins the process of recovering for damages caused by Tropical Storm Debby. We experienced damage to our county beaches and waterfront parks and reimbursement will be sought to restore these facilities. The meeting was held at the Public Safety Building on Airport Road and was attended by representatives of the affected County departments and of the City of Punta Gorda.

Home sales

At the July 24 Board of County Commissioners regular meeting, the Board approved the sale of 13 properties that were purchased with State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) funds. Sale of these homes will reduce the number of properties on which the county holds mortgages.

Medicaid claims

Human services department staff completed an analysis of the preliminary certification of retroactive Medicaid claims submitted by the Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA). Of the \$392,729.18 in claims, staff has identified \$131,723.30 in claims, approximately one-third, that should not be billed to Charlotte County. A memo to AHCA was drafted and submitted to formally dispute the claims and request AHCA to reconsider these claims, prior to the August 1st certification date.