

Administrator's Update for 8/8/12

By Ray Sandrock, County Administrator

It is summertime and there are several active construction projects on roads around the county. For the Piper Road realignment project at Jones Loop intersection, progress continues on the installation of the storm drain. The contractor has also installed over 1,100 linear feet of forced sewer main and made the connection at the south end. Construction is expected to be completed in late December 2012. Be careful when driving through this construction zone because traffic patterns may shift in this area through the end of September.

Phase 1 of the Rampart Boulevard improvement project is in progress. New mast arms have been installed at the intersection of Rampart Boulevard and Kings Highway. The contractor will remove the old system and continue to build the remaining section of Rampart between Loveland Boulevard and Kings Highway. Phase 2 is anticipated to begin this September 2012.

In the latter part of this month, construction should begin on Capricorn Boulevard sidewalks (Sales Tax year two) and on Florida Street sidewalks (from Sales Tax year one). A fiber optic line is being relocated before Florida Street sidewalk construction can begin. Construction should be completed on the Rotonda West parade circle pathway this October.

Veteran Services

The Vietnam Veterans of America presented the Charlotte County veteran services division with a re-dedication ceremony and plaque honoring all veterans. The plaques are proudly displayed in the lobby of the new Human Services facility at 1050 Loveland Blvd, Port Charlotte.

Charlotte County veteran services division, in coordination with Ft. Myers Veterans Center, will have a readjustment counseling therapist from the Ft. Myers Veterans Center every other Thursday available in a counseling room at the veteran services division of the Human Services facility at 1050 Loveland Blvd, Port Charlotte. The counselor will be conducting marriage counseling for veterans and their spouses, and counseling is by appointment only. For more information and appointments contact Mr. Jim Burns at the Ft. Myers Veterans Center, 239.479.4401.

Food drive

Last week Charlotte County Fire/EMS completed the H.E.L.P. 911 Emergency Food Drive. Five of the Fire/EMS Stations participated in a food collection to assist in the restocking of more than 26 Charlotte County food pantries. The collection of food was delivered during the H.E.L.P. event at the Stone Crab baseball game last week at the Charlotte Sports Park by Station 2 personnel. Charlotte County Fire/EMS not only participated in the collection of food, but also assisted in the main event in sorting and loading donated items.

Public relations

Travel articles placed in newspapers, magazines and on the web touting Charlotte County as a vacation destination help raise visibility of the area, encourage visitation and stretch the tourism bureau marketing budget. In order to generate these types of articles, travel journalists are constantly educated about the area and guided during their visits. To assist the bureau in keeping information about Charlotte County top of mind with travel journalists, the AboveWater agency has recently been selected as the public relations agency of record for the Charlotte Harbor Visitor and Convention Bureau.