

## **Administrator's Update for 1/15/14**

### **By Ray Sandrock, County Administrator**

Our human services department has received notification that Charlotte County has been awarded \$76,598 in grant funds from the Florida Department of Children and Families Office of Homelessness. The grant is to aid homeless prevention and rapid re-housing services to families with children attending school who have been identified as homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Funds will provide transitional housing services to eligible households with the goal of getting families into Charlotte County's self-sufficiency program. The grant award will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners in late February or March for consideration and approval.

### **Turf Contract**

The Charlotte County facilities' turf contract bid went out last week. The department is looking to secure the services of a professional, licensed, and qualified contractor to care for and maintain the turf of multiple County public facility locations, providing a manicured level of service through the contract period. This and other bids can be found at [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) — click Purchasing Bids in the Popular Links.

### **Youth soccer tournaments**

The Florida Youth Soccer Association (FYSA) has awarded Charlotte County two youth soccer tournaments that will take place next month on Feb. 8, 9, 22 and 23 at the North Charlotte Regional Park in Port Charlotte. FYSA is working in conjunction with the Charlotte County Soccer Federation to conduct all logistics relating to the tournaments which are projected to attract nearly 40 teams to the area. The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau is assisting with lodging aspects of the event and will track the room nights and economic impact generated from the tournaments. This is another example of great work our tourism department is doing to boost the area events that bring visitors to our county.

### **Hoopla**

Charlotte County Libraries is offering a new service called Hoopla. Hoopla has movies, television shows, music and audiobooks available for access with a mobile device or computer. Borrowed titles can be downloaded to watch and are later automatically returned, so there are never any late fees. A current Charlotte County library card is required. This service is accessed online—visit [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) and click Libraries in the Popular Links.

### **Civil War marker**

Over 200 people attended the Civil War marker dedication at Randy Spence Park, on Kerrigan Circle in Port Charlotte, last month. The marker was for a Civil War skirmish that occurred on the shores of the Myakka River between Dec. 24 and 30 in 1863. To date, it is the only officially-recorded Civil War event reported within the boundaries of present-day Charlotte County.

### **Parking lot repairs complete**

The Mid-County Regional Library parking lot repairs are completed. The contractor patched deteriorating areas, overlaid the main driveway at front door entrance, repaired curbing, sealed and striped the area. The landscape project will continue over the next few weeks to improve the Florida-Friendly landscaping.