

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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## Community Services

### Charlotte Sports Park

The Tampa Bay Rays Instructional League (IL) began on Monday, 9/08. The team workouts are scheduled through Sunday, 9/14, with the first home game occurring on Tuesday, 9/16.

### Tringali Recreation

Friday, September 5, 2014, was the happening place to be. The festivities started with our Elementary School, grades K-5, Back to School Skate Bash from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. There were over 35 kids that had a blast skating to popular music and playing games. Games played were the dot game, 4 corners and a partner race. Everyone who attended had a great time.

The festivities ended with our Middle School "Back to School Dance" for 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades. The Middle School Dance was from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Staff played popular music and the children danced and socialize in the gymnasium and concession area. There were over 60 kids that attended the event and had a blast. Games were played with the kids and prizes were given to the winners.

All programs offered by Tringali are always with the concept of providing a place where kids can socialize and have fun in a safe, supervised environment.

### Harold Avenue Recreation

There is still partying going on at Harold Avenue despite the dust. With construction in full swing Zumba has shown a 100% increase in participation. So if you feeling the groove, grab your dancing shoes and join Celina Rodriguez for an energetic, easy to follow, calorie burning, fitness party. In other news, registration for the Winter Youth Basketball League is in full swing. The Youth Basketball League is one of Harold Avenue Recreation Center's most popular programs. The league is open to boys and girls ages 5-17 years of age. The Youth Basketball League consists of ten regular season games and a postseason tournament for youth ages 9 and older.

### Port Charlotte Beach Pool and Recreation

For the week of 9-3 through 9-9-14, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 176 paid admissions, was visited by 31 pass holders and had 43 water aerobics participants.

This past weekend Port Charlotte Beach hosted a Wedding and reception for approximately 110 people with lots of dancing. The second event was a Baptism with an attendance of 68 guests and it was a catered affair.

### South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 9-1-14 through 9-6-14 South County Regional Park Pool had 65 paid admissions, 21 water aerobics participants and was visited by 145 pass holders. We held senior splash day for Charlotte High School with approximately 300 in attendance. The blue Fins held four practices with approximately 280 swimmers. High School swim team and dive team held six practices with approximately 200 participants.

### Oyster Creek Region Pool

For the week of 8-31-14 through 9-6-14 Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 264 paid admissions, 64 water aerobics participants and was visited by 109 pass holders. The Bluefins held 4 practices with approx. 75 swimmers. The Lemon Bay High School Swim Team had 3 practices with 40 swim team members and hosted their first swim meet against North Port High which unfortunately was cancelled due to lightning after only 7 events.

## **Extension Services**

Sun Home and Garden Show – September 6 – Charlotte Harbor Event Center – Exhibit topic – “House Pests”

Newspaper Article for September 8 - “Get the most from compost”

“All Staff Meeting” – September 10 - Mid-County Regional Library

ANRAC – Murdock - Building Construction Services Conference Room – September 11

District IV Green Team Meeting – September 12 – Tour of Bamboo Farm in Punta Gorda followed by meeting at our office – We are hosting

'For-Hire' Fishing Workshop - [http://flseagrant.ifas.ufl.edu/emails/for\\_hire/sept\\_09\\_14/](http://flseagrant.ifas.ufl.edu/emails/for_hire/sept_09_14/) - September 9

## **Libraries and Historical**

The Libraries are in the process of replacing all of the patron “self-check” machines and the security gates. Library materials have gotten very expensive just as everything else has and we want to maintain our collection, so we have certain security measures in place to alert us if a patron forgets to check an item out. The “self-check” machines speed up the checkout process and help patrons finish their business quickly. Our new machines will allow patrons to check in their own books if they care to and to pay a fine at the machine.

Fall is in the air in our Libraries! We are offering multiple programs for all ages. This Fall and into Winter we will have a music series starting and lots of other interesting programs. It is the final opportunity for anyone to enjoy the “Hurricane Charlie” exhibit that is featured at Mid-County Library. Oct 25, we are looking forward to our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Historical Tales at the Indian Springs Cemetery-presented by the Charlotte County Historical Center. Come, visit a library, check out a book, e book, DVD or other materials and enjoy your day with us.

## **Facilities Construction & Maintenance**

### **Repairs and Maintenance**

Two demolition projects will be completed this week, at JB Yard removal of obsolete maintenance buildings #2 and #3 is underway. Also the final stages of clearing and demolition of the double wide trailer next to Murdock Building B is wrapping up.

### **Operations**

Accessibility Improvement Project continues with preconstruction meeting for Punta Gorda Library, Chadwick Park, Historical Courthouse, and South County Annex set for Thursday the 18th. These are last of the projects under the overall accessibility improvement contract. Currently being worked on are Rebecca Neil Owens front entry ramp which will begin demolition on Wednesday; Tringali Rec Center front entry demolition and concrete forming will be complete on Tuesday and the cement pour will start on Wednesday; Harold Ave baseball parking lot and sidewalk improvements along with site work and asphalt paving is planned to start on Wednesday.

### **Project Management**

During recent meetings, Facilities staff continues a long relationship with Justice Center staff and key law enforcement/justice system stakeholders providing input and perspective in multiple security-oriented workgroups such as short term goals, employee outreach, long range planning, and court security oversight.

The low bid for the Harbour Heights Drainage and Parking rehabilitation project was submitted by Wright Construction. This project also includes improvements to the sports courts based on public input.

## **Human Services**

This past week Bob Hebert, Housing and Community Initiatives Manager, was invited to present the Lakeshore Circle house project at the annual State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP) conference sponsored by the Florida Housing Coalition. The Lakeshore Circle property is a special needs housing unit that was developed

and constructed utilizing Neighborhood Stabilization III grant funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Located just inside the Parkside CRA, this housing unit provides four separate apartments and shared living space for tenants with special needs. The tenants share all costs including rent, utilities, and lawn maintenance. The residents have case management oversight that provides self-sufficiency development, financial management and daily life skills instruction. Florida Housing Coalition has recognized this housing initiative as innovative with possible replication for other communities.

## **Public Works**

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

**Burnt Store Road (Phase III) Widening** – Construction consists of widening Burnt Store Road, between the Lee County Line and a point north of Zemel Road, to a four-lane divided suburban typical section including stormwater management, drainage improvements, street lighting, 6' sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, utility relocations and additions. Construction is projected to be complete in September 2015. Construction Contract: Gibbs & Register, Projected Schedule: 03/10/14 – 09/10/2015

The excavation of all 5 ponds and grading of swales continues. Work continues on the box culverts at the Clark Canal. Installation of four 54" pipes is underway near the Zemel Road/Burnt Store Road intersection. The box culvert at the Bear Branch Creek is almost complete and backfilling continues on the east side; the contractor began the excavation on the west side the week of August 11, 2014. The contractor placed first lifts of stabilizer base on the northbound lanes. Crews are installing street lighting and IT conduit on the east side of the project.

FPL will be relocating their poles the week of September 15, 2014.

**Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Dorchester Waterway at Kenilworth DOR 4.89** - This project provides for the design, permitting, and construction of a stormwater control structure under Kenilworth Boulevard at the Dorchester Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing water control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure collapsed in late November 2013. This structure will be upsized from two culverts to two 8'x10' box culverts. Construction Contract: Lovin Construction, Construction Schedule: 9/15/2014 – 12/31/2014

The Pre-construction meeting was held on August 13, 2014. At this meeting, Notice to Proceed was established for September 15, 2014. Construction will take approximately 105 days to complete upon notice to proceed.

**U.S. 41 Microtunnels / Weirs** – This project involves engineering and permitting for the directional drilling of culverts under U.S. 41 at the Fordham, Elkcam, and Pompano Waterways, replacement of culverts at the North and South U.S. 41 Access Roads, within the Pompano Waterway, replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Elkcam Waterway, north of the U.S. 41 Access Road, and replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Fordham Waterway, north of the U.S. 41 Access Road. Construction Contract: ZEP Construction, Projected Schedule: 11/18/2013 – 5/12/2015

Pompano Waterway: Roads are open to all traffic. Zep will complete all punchlist items by September 11, 2014.

Elkcam Waterway: Zep Construction is currently preparing the waterway for the rip rap foundations and construction of the concrete headwalls.

Fordham Waterway: Huxted Tunneling completed the fourth 84" tunnel for this project; they are currently setting up equipment to complete the last microtunnel under this contract. Zep Construction is preparing to construct a new weir upstream of the northbound Access Road; preparations are being made for the installation of concrete sheet piling.

### **Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation**

**Edgewater Drive Widening Phase Two** – 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. Design Contract: Southwest Engineering and Design, Design/Permitting Schedule: 10/14/2009 – 6/3/2014, Procurement Process: June - Sept 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2014.

This construction project is advertised for bid. The pre-bid conference was held August 12, 2014, with 42 people attending. Bid opening was conducted on September 10, 2014.

**Parkside - Harbor Boulevard Improvements (U.S. 41 to Olean Boulevard) Phase 2** – Phase 2 design includes roadway improvements consisting of a four lane divided roadway with a 16' – 20' raised median that will provide for safer turning movements, 8' – 10' multi use paths on both sides, landscaping, decorative lighting, wayfinding and a gateway feature. Utility improvements are included in this project. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 11/12/2013 – Late 2014, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

The Board of County Commissioners approved the preferred design options for the decorative lighting, gateway feature and the access management plan on May 13, 2014. The design consultant is working on 60% plans and preparing the SWFWMD permit for submittal.

Research continues concerning the possibility of running FPL power lines underground along Harbor Boulevard as part of the Harbor Boulevard Enhancement project. Staff will present this option to the Board of County Commissioners on October 28, 2014 to seek direction.

**Placida Road Safety Improvements Phase 1 (Rotonda Blvd. West to Cape Haze Drive)** – Safety improvements include: a 2.9 mile bicycle-pedestrian path from Rotonda Boulevard West to Cape Haze Drive, intersection improvements at Lemon Bay Golf Course, Bantry Bay, Cape Haze Drive and Panama Drive and resurfacing of Placida Road from Rotonda Boulevard West to the Boca Grande Causeway. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: through February 2015, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

We received the permit exemption from SWFWMD for this phase of the project on August 29, 2014. 90% design plans are in production now and are due to the County for review the end of September 2014.

Charlotte County Utilities will be adding a reclaimed water line to the project. Conducting utility work in conjunction with the construction of the new multi-use path and safety improvements will minimize disruption to residents and businesses within the project limits.

Giffels - Webster Engineers submitted the scope of services to Charlotte County Utilities to design the reclaimed line. It is anticipated that this will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for their approval at their September 23, 2014 meeting. Once the change order is approved, the new time frame for the design of CCU facilities is approximately 9 months from the issuance of the notice to proceed.

**Placida Road Safety Improvements Phase 2 (Cape Haze Dr. to Boca Grande Causeway)** – This project provides for a continuous walkway along Placida Road from SR 776 to the Boca Grande Causeway. This multi-use path will run along the northwest side of Placida Road and will be 10' wide to accommodate both pedestrians and bicyclists. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: through February 2015, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015.

The design firm is currently working on 90% plans. We anticipate these plans will be submitted for County review by mid-September 2014.

Charlotte County Utilities will be adding a reclaimed water line to the project. Conducting utility work in conjunction with the construction of the new multi-use path and safety improvements will minimize disruption to residents and businesses within the project limits.

Giffels - Webster Engineers submitted the scope of services to Charlotte County Utilities to design the reclaimed line. It is anticipated that this will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for their

approval on Sept. 23, 2014. Once the change order is approved, the new time frame for the design of CCU facilities is approximately 9 months from the issuance of the notice to proceed.

**Pest Management** - Measurements for the month of August 2014

Mosquito Control

1. Number of acres treated = Adulticide Treatment/ 84,480 (Aerial) 191,440 (Ground)  
Larvicide Treatment/ 4416 (Aerial) 240 (Ground)
2. Landing rate counts = 1039
3. Trap counts = 5447
4. Citizen requests = 101
5. Tire collection/source reduction = No tires collected In August 2014

Aquatic Weed Control

1. Number of sites treated = 90
2. Wetland mitigation sites maintained = 1 site treated
3. Number of sites inspected = 122

**Tourism**

Film crews from Los Angeles and Miami spent four days in Punta Gorda last week (week of Sept. 8) filming a public service announcement for the University of Florida's new social responsibility campaign, "For the Gator Good." The 30-second spot focused on family struck by hurricane Charley, and how U of F impacted their recovery. The spot will air during U of F football games. A 60-second version will appear online. The Charlotte County Tourism Office's Division of Film, Television and Digital Media assisted the crew with locations to film.