

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
October 3, 2014

Dates to Remember:

October 16, 2014	City Commission Workshop
October 20, 2014	City Commission Meeting
October 25, 2014	Fall Festival – Sugar Festival Field

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reeses reports:

- October 5th through 11th is Fire Prevention Week. Tours of the fire station are being coordinated with several groups of kids.
- There is a Planning & Zoning meeting scheduled for Monday, October 6th to discuss Comprehensive Plan amendments along with the Ten (10) Year Water Supply Plan.
- Goodwill of Southwest Florida, located on West Ventura, is preparing to install an emergency power generator so residents will have uninterrupted phone service in the case of a power failure.

Golf Course Operations Director Ford reports:

- Welcome back PGA Golf Pro Robbie Rush. Mr. Rush began work on October 1, so feel free to contact him at the Golf Course.
- New golf rates went into effect October 1. Please call the golf course at 983-1448 for more information.
- Fairways and tee tops were sprayed with Primo growth regulator.
- After completion of fairways mowing, the fairway unit will be down for some time so we can replace bedknives and grind reels.
- Another leak was repaired on #8 this week.
- Course was closed on Saturday the 27th due to wet conditions from the rain Friday night. It was open for normal play on Sunday.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The Family Literacy Program in the Library will start next Monday, October 6. It will be operated four evenings a week and will offer homework help, as well as tutoring in reading, and resources for assisting in math improvement. The days are Monday through Thursday with homework help and tutoring on Monday and Thursday, and homework help only on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Classes for adults needing help with English as a second language will be coming soon.
- LeapPad3 tablets for loan to our young customers to help them increase their reading and math proficiency is also coming. Active Library cards will be needed to benefit from this novel program which is being pioneered here in Hendry County.

- We are closer to getting the Microsoft IT Academy operational. We are hoping to start in October and will keep you posted.
- Our daycare/preschool story time is about to be kicked up a notch. We are trying to ensure children in all the centers have Library cards and use them every other week to check items out. We already have this done in two of the centers and have also introduced the children to our computer lab. The plan is to use a part of the story time program to get preschool children on the Lexia program which we have through the I HELP2 grant from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation. This is a good time to become a member of the Library!

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Officers responded to a hit and run complaint over the weekend. Suspect hit a commercial garbage dumpster with his vehicle and fled hiding inside a local bar. Officers located and arrested the driver who was charged with DUI.
- Patrol Officers are scheduled to attend “Community Helpers” at Eastside Elementary this week. Officers will speak with the kids and allow them to see the car and equipment up close.
- Officers also stepped up traffic enforcement in the Elementary School area following complaints by the Hendry County School Resource Officer. A number of speeding citations were issued.
- Several arrests were made this week for felony drug possession and trafficking. Patrol and CID have been working in concert to rid some of the dealers from our community.
- A resident called in a complaint alleging his neighbors were fighting pit bulldogs. Officers found three men attempting to coax a male and female dog into breeding. Turns out when you’re dealing with pit bulls; loving and fighting look an awful lot alike.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week’s activity:
 - 1175** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 592** Complaints Investigated
 - 26** Arrests Made
 - 51** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 14** Code Enforcement Cases Opened
 - 42** Improperly Placed Signs Removed
 - 65** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 16** Alarms Responded To
 - 40** Red Light Camera Violations
 - 5** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control: Next Ground Truck ULV treatment – October 1st & 3rd. Next aerial application October 15th & 30th. Driving on wet ground causes ruts, ruts hold water, and standing water breeds mosquitoes. Please think about this during this very wet season.
- Street Maintenance: (1) Staff is back trimming trees in rights-of-ways after being pulled off to get the grass mowed. (2) After consistent rains of late, staff has made some small cuts in the swale to move more water. If your driveway apron is holding water, remove the buildup that occurs on the “downstream” side of the apron and the storm water will move into the grass.

- Senior Citizens Center Renovations: Staff will be scheduled to work one night this week to install ceiling tiles. A new door, light, and columns with hand rails will also be installed.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- The Senior Citizens have moved back into their building and seem to enjoy and appreciate the renovations. We will be holding a “GRAND OPENING” on Oct. 21st from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for the community hosted by Hope Connections and the City of Clewiston will be hosting a Chamber Social the same day beginning at 5:30 p.m. Hope to see you there!
- AYSO Soccer began their season on Tuesday Sept. 23rd. You can check www.clewistonrecreation.com for schedules, dates and times of games.
- CHS Girls Soccer will begin try-outs next Monday at Sugarland Sports Complex and the boys will begin their try-outs the week after. GO TIGERS!
- The Clewiston Elks “Soccer Shoot Out” will take place at Sugarland Sports Complex on Tuesday, Oct. 7th beginning at 4:00 p.m. behind the racquetball courts.
- Plans are being made for the “Kid’s Fall Festival” scheduled for Oct. 25th from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Sugar Festival Field. Contact Joanna at the Youth Center 983-1492 if you are interested in participating and having a booth.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- A traffic accident Thursday evening, September 25, 2014, caused a power outage due to a broken utility feeder pole and damage to several others.
- The Water/Sewer Crew repaired an unusual number of water breaks last week.
- The Electric Crew changed out several poles in the Harlem area. Two members of the Electric Crew attended the Lineman Roundtable in Wauchula this week.
- FDOT will be resurfacing US27/Sugarland Highway and changing out traffic control boxes in November. Please watch for workmen in the area.
- We had one case of power theft last week. The customer was caught tampering on two separate occasions and was arrested.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for those items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov or call our office.
- DON’T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION! Visit our office today.
- ONLINE UTILITY PAYMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE! Our Online Utility Website is up and running. You can register your account by visiting our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov and click on the link at the bottom of the page or by going to <https://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl>. Payments can be made by credit or debit card.