

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
February 20, 2015

Dates to Remember:

February 23, 2015 – City Commission Workshop – US27 Corridor

Spring Cleaning – March 28 – “No Butts About It” - Pre-registration starts March 2nd

Sugar Festival – April 10 and 11 – Visit www.clewiston.org for more information

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Caroline’s Perfumes & Cosmetics has relocated from 935 West Sugarland Hwy. (Clewiston Town Center) to 516 East Sugarland Hwy., a tenant space 2 doors down from Popeye’s formally occupied by Boost Mobile.
- A & J Home Remodeling LLC is opening a new showroom specializing in custom cabinetry at 204 East Sugarland Hwy.
- A single family home, constructed in 1937 at 332 West Ventura Avenue was found to be severely infested with termites during a recent inspection by the building official. The house has been demolished.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- The One-Book-One Community program is just one week away. We have now received names of several members of our community who will be honored. If you know anyone who has responsibility for a disabled person, we are looking for such a person to honor them. You are invited to join with us in honoring all such persons in our community. The culminating event will be on Thursday, February 26, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. in the Clewiston Library. Some attendees will be coming from LaBelle so don’t miss out on this program. Catering will be by Cassie of Cracker Cookin.
- The African American History Month program is set to go on 2/23/15 at 5:30 p.m. in the Library. Several African American students will be honored.
- E-books are coming to our library soon. Look for more information!!

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- We’ve had an unusually high number of domestic violence arrests this week.
- A four year old child was found wandering more than a mile from his home. Officers brought the child back to the Police Department where the father later showed up looking for him. The case was turned over to DCF.
- A vehicle was driven into the canal at Francisco and Avenida Del Rio. A City water line was broken as a result. There were no injuries.
- Later the same day, two tractor trailers collided at Berner and US Hwy 27. There were no injuries, but a City electric pole was knocked down. We are awaiting damage estimates from Utilities in order to submit to the respective insurance companies.

- A suspect from four previous burglaries was located and arrested this week. He is currently being held in the Hendry County Jail.
- The Blueprints Server for Code Enforcement was relocated to the PD this week. This should rectify our data entry problems.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1329** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 631** Complaints Investigated
 - 21** Traffic Citations Issued
 - 19** Traffic Warnings Issued
 - 11** Arrests Made
 - 35** Red Light Camera Violations This Week.
 - 7** City Ordinance Violations
 - 77** Merchant Escorts
 - 14** Alarms Responded To
 - 6** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- Street Maintenance: (1) The sidewalk repair in the 800 block of East Ventura and a drainage repair in the 500 block of South Lopez will be done in the coming weeks. (2) Staff will plant 90 Bougainvillea on the Golf Course this week. Two loads of red mulch were also delivered for Golf Course staff to place around landscaped areas. (3) Staff ran asphalt patching pot holes and road shoulders on Tuesday.
- US 27 Landscaping: 75 Saw Palmetto scheduled to be planted in the median are at the nursery. They are scheduled to be planted the first of next week.
- Paving project 2015: The striping contractor (scheduled for last week) had mechanical problems and rescheduled for Wednesday of this week to install all thermal plastic street markings.
- New truck inspection: One of our mechanics spent two days in Alabama inspecting the new front loader. He was very impressed with the plant and found only minor issues with the truck, all of which were taken care. We expect delivery of the truck on Feb. 23.

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- The Sports Complex crew has moved to the small quad and has been busy laying clay, edging, trimming, building pitching mounds, and pressure washing buildings, dugouts, bleachers and walkways in preparation for the upcoming recreation baseball & softball seasons scheduled to begin on March 9th. We will begin cleaning, stocking and working in the concession stand next week.
- The crew took a set of goals and nets to the CMS and set them up and painted the field for the "CMS Club Soccer Team".
- Aeration and fertilization of all game fields at Sugarland Sports Complex have been delayed because of equipment breakdowns, but we hope to begin this project the 1st of March.
- The Recreation staff has been busy this week with the transition from City Recreation Baseball/Softball to a Baseball Board. We have assisted the new board by completing and providing skills demonstration evaluation sheets, reconciled evaluation scores for all league age groups onto a formulated excel spreadsheet, set up each draft board(s) per age

group with evaluation scores, condensed drafted and all other players into team rosters by age group and provided the board with team rosters, summarized and completed team rosters onto individual team uniform order sheets, ordered uniforms, registered over the phone those “tardy” players that missed the registration deadline and new coaches as directed by the board, completed background checks on ALL coaches and volunteers, confirmed picture day for the league with Lehigh Photos, solicited team sponsors, ordered sponsor banners and we will be assisting them with organizing and developing game schedules for their season.

- Try-outs for the 3v3 traveling soccer teams have begun at Sugarland Sports Complex. Contact Ricky Martinez at 677-4210 for more information regarding this league.
- The Clewiston Recreation Dept. has partnered with Hendry Regional Medical Center’s Corporate Health to provide year round “Diabetes Awareness and Prevention” programs every Thursday beginning on March 5th from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon at the John B. Boy Senior Citizen Community Center.
- A “Special Thank You” to the Utilities Dept. for the assistance in getting the issues with the CHS Softball scoreboards repaired, and especially Manny Gomez for his time BEFORE, during and AFTER regular work hours and the 1000 miles he put in going up and down an extension ladder to work on the CHS Baseball scoreboard the last couple weeks!
- If you are interested in participating in an adult men’s and co-ed softball league this spring, an adult co-ed volleyball league in the early summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- ZUMBA at the Youth Center on Mon., Wed., and Thursday evenings beginning at 7:30pm! Contact Tanya (our Certified Instructor) directly at (914) 338-6577
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- The Water crew repaired a 6” water line on East Avenida Del Rio that was hit by a truck Monday evening, February 16. The hydrants at McDonald’s and West Trinidad/Olympia have been repaired.
- The Electric crew replaced a utility pole that was hit by a semi-truck at US 27 and Berner Road.
- The bidding process has started through the State of Florida DOT to replace our traffic lights.
- Osprey nest building is at its height and our crews are busy installing deterrents on utility poles.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom of the City’s website page www.clewiston-fl.gov. You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- 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. Payments can be made by credit or debit card. You can also review your account activity, consumption history and request certain work orders. You can register your account by visiting our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov.