

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF  
August 28, 2015

**We're working together...all City departments have been very busy preparing for the possibility of Tropical Storm *Erika* affecting our community. Preparation efforts will be ongoing and the Emergency Management Team will continue to monitor the storm's track very closely over the weekend. Residents are asked to please discontinue placing trash/debris out by the road for pick-up until the storm threat has passed. Due to this weather event, there will be no residential garbage services on Monday. Instead, residential garbage pick-up is planned for Tuesday. Commercial garbage services will continue the normal schedule as weather permits. Please stay tuned to local media for additional and updated information.**

**Dates to Remember:**

September 7, 2015 – Labor Day - City Offices Closed – no residential garbage pickup  
September 9, 2015 – Hendry-Clewiston Recreation Board  
September 17, 2015 – City Commission Workshop  
September 21, 2015 – City Commission Meeting  
September 28, 2015 – Final Budget Hearing

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Reese:**

- New business, Euphoria Spa, opening soon at 406 South Deane Duff Avenue offering a variety of massage and facial therapies.
- Crossroads Behavioral Therapy Services has opened at 626 West Sugarland Hwy., relocating from the Hendry Glades Mental Health facility at 601 West Alverde Avenue.
- John McCallum is now located in the Sugar Realty building at 700 West Sugarland Hwy.
- We have received a request for a variance to the R-3 zoning requirements to construct two (2) duplexes on Central Avenue in Block 423. The Planning & Zoning Board will review the request on Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. and the City Commission will review their recommendation at the regular Commission meeting on Monday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m.
- Clewiston Fire Department responded to a 40 acre brushfire on SR 835 and Jackman's curve caused by a lightning strike. US Sugar assisted with three (3) water wagons and no structures were affected.

**Library Director Barrett reports:**

- Remember to visit [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://www.hendrylibraries.org) Your library has a lot to offer.

### **Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:**

- Stay up to date with all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit the City website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov), follow the golf link and sign up on Constant Contact. You will automatically be added to the golf course e-mail blast.
- United States Sugar Employee Golf Tournament was held Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ninety-two (92) players participated. Congratulations!! The Champions were Tommy Spears, Trini Reyes and Tim Burke. They shot 56 16 under par.
- Golf lessons available - contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- The greens were verticut and top dressed this week.
- All the pine trees were sprayed Monday for insects. Many thanks to Karl Larson for the use of his sprayer.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- The Navy Cadets will hold their golf tournament on Thursday September 10, 2015. The golf course will be open for regular play all day. The Navy Cadets Tournament starts at 8:30 a.m.
- The Masonic Lodge Golf Tournament is scheduled for September 12, 2015. The golf course will be closed that day until 2:00 p.m. You can sign-up for this tournament in the golf shop. Please call the Golf Course at 863-983-1448 for more information.
- A Parent-Child Championship is scheduled for September 27, 2015. Sign-up in the golf shop. 863-983-1448.
- We would like to welcome Timmy Dean to the golf staff. Timmy will be working part-time on the golf course and in the bag room.
- Jeff Kent – Agronomic Consulting Enterprises LLC, our new Golf Course Maintenance Consultant, will be starting September 1, 2015. Jeff hails from *Quail Hollow* in Charlotte, North Carolina where he was the Golf Course Superintendent for 10 years. *Quail Hollow* is where the PGA Tour's *Wells Fargo Championship* is held. Jeff was also at Lagorce C.C. for 8 years. Lagorce C.C. is a high end private facility in Miami Beach whose members have included Alex Rodriguez and the late Joe DiMaggio.

### **Recreation Director Lance Ramer Reports:**

- Ballfield staff is finishing prepping the fields for Soccer and will begin setting goals, squaring fields and painting in the coming weeks.
- The pool pumps at C.S. Mott Pool have been repaired and reinstalled. Thank you to the Utilities Dept. - water and electric crews for helping with this issue.
- The C.S. Mott Pool and James Mason Pool will cut back the hours of operation for Community Swim through Sept. 7th. Both pools will be open from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturdays and 1-6 p.m. on Sundays.
- New fan motors for the Southside A/C at the John Boy Auditorium have been installed and new belts and service was performed in the upstairs unit. Thank You Manny Gomez for your assistance!

- The Senior Citizens are making plans on attending the Firehouse Theater’s production of “Beer for Breakfast” on Saturday Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. More info to follow...
- Plans are being set to alter the Clewiston Recreation “Fish Camp” to meet a greater audience and provide a better program for the family and kids. More information to follow.
- Staff met with representatives and owners of Busy Bee and Sweetest Town Party rentals on Tuesday Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss policy and begin initiating procedures for both owners and renters wishing to install inflatables and temp. structures in/on City property.
- Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
  - Aug. 27<sup>th</sup> – Safety meeting and training at Youth Center 8am – 1pm
  - Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> – Birthday Party at Youth Center Noon – 5pm
  - Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> – Birthday Party at Sugarland Sports Complex Pavilion Park 10am – 2pm
  - Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> – Birthday Party at Sugarland Sports Complex Pavilion Park 10am – 7pm
  - Adult Men’s Softball “Fall Season” is set to begin Tuesday Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> at Sugarland Sports Complex on Field #9 at 6:30, 7:30 and 8:30pm games.
- If you are interested in participating in an adult co-ed volleyball league this summer or youth flag football and AAU Track and Field during the late summer, please contact Andre at 983-1492.
- Go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

**Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- Lieutenant Pelham has officially submitted his resignation. His last day of work is scheduled for Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>. Chad will be sorely missed.
- A number of counterfeit \$100 bills have been submitted at a local retail establishment. These were obvious fakes. Merchants are encouraged to carefully screen any large bills.
- We will be staying in close contact with Emergency Management this week as we monitor “Erika’s” track and strength.
- Patrol responded to a vehicle break-in on Sawgrass early in the week.
- Several officers are donating their time, work and skills to repair rotten and crumbling walls inside the PD. We’re very grateful for the willingness of these men. We would not otherwise have been able to pay for the needed repairs. Many thanks to Lt. Mike Rowan, Sgt. Detective Clay, Detective Chamberlain, Auxiliary Officer McNeal, Evidence Custodian Harry Spears, and “volunteered” CJ Clay.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week’s activity:
  - 1095** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
  - 611** Complaints Investigated
  - 36** Traffic Citations
  - 24** Arrests Made
  - 71** Merchant Escorts
  - 15** Code / City Ordinance Violations
  - 7** Rental Inspections
  - 32** Alarms Responded To
  - 1** Traffic Accident Investigated

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- **PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS: Scam artists are calling Utility customers posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware:**
  - 1) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.**
  - 2) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.**
  - 3) **Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.****If you feel you have been a victim of this scam, please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.**
  
- The Water/Sewer crew had another busy week with repairs to lift stations at Clewiston Christian Academy, Clewiston High School and the ballfields. Two pumps were changed at the pool. They assisted South Shore Water Association with a water break and repaired a break on East Sagamore. They also assisted with an electric meter change out at the High School.
- The Electric crew removed 3 poles and 2 transformers around our service area. The transformer at the Harlem Civic Center was changed out and they wired the pumps at the pool.  
Street light repairs were also made this week.
- Effective October 1, 2015 Clewiston Utilities will no longer mail the yellow reminder/late notice.
- 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 or the City's website page [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov). You may update your information at any time though 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](http://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 BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE** on our web site at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or [www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl](http://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl).

**Public Works Director Scheffler reports:**

- The focus has been storm preparation this week. Tasks have included clearing debris and trash from roadways and securing City buildings.