

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
September 30, 2016

CONGRATULATIONS to Curvin S. Martin who was recognized at the Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner with the Outstanding Community Service Award for 2016.

Dates to Remember

October 3, 2016 – Planning & Zoning Board Meeting
October 10, 2016 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting
October 13, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Workshop
October 17, 2016 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting
October 20, 2016 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:

- Plans have been received for the building renovations at 100 E. Sugarland Highway (f.k.a. Dixie Theater) for Captivating Dental. They have gone out for bid and should have a contractor selected in the next two weeks.
- Hendry Regional Medical Center has selected a contractor for the new 7,000 sq. ft. professional building to be located at 525 West Sagamore Avenue, to be used for additional doctor offices.
- The Fire Department, EMS and Police Department had Hero Day at Eastside Elementary where a returning soldier from Afghanistan surprised his kindergarten daughter with a happy homecoming.

Library Director Barrett reports:

- Let your tax dollars work for you. Tell us how best to do that by filling out the very short 4 question survey available on our website (www.hendrylibraries.org), on our Facebook page, or in print. Your help will be greatly appreciated.
- After school homework help and tutoring will begin in this library next Monday, October 3, 2016. We have not advertised this event but have already met our quota. We are grateful to the schools for recommending us to the parents.
- English as a Second Language classes will begin on Wednesday, October 12, 2016 and will run from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM and will only be for beginners. Thereafter, classes will be twice weekly on Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM.
- For further questions, the Library's telephone number is 863-983-1493. You can also visit our website at www.hendrylibraries.org for more information and like us at www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary.

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- Get all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit our website at www.clewiston-fl.gov and sign up under Constant Contact. You will automatically be put on the golf course e-mail.
- **Clewiston Golf Course** is having a 20% off sale on all golf shop merchandise now, except golf balls and gloves. The sale ends Saturday, October 1, 2016.
- Get your grips re-done. Contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Golf lessons are available. Contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- Winter rates start October 1, 2016.
- Membership dues are being mailed out this week.
- Fairways were sprayed for weeds this week and maintenance has started trimming trees on the golf course.
- 2016 Clewiston Masonic Lodge Tournament has been re-scheduled for October 22, 2016. Sign-up is in the golf shop or call 863-983-1448. Foursomes (8:30am Shotgun Start)
- 2016 Clewiston Golf Course Parent-Child Tournament is scheduled for Sunday, October 30, 2016. Sign-up in the golf shop.
- **Golf tip of the Week:** Plugged lie in the sand trap. Using a sand wedge, close the clubface and move the ball position back in your stance. Make sure to choke down on the golf club and dig your feet into the sand. Your swing motion should be more of a pick and chop motion leaving the clubhead in the sand. Remember the ball will come out rolling with a lot of overspin. There will be no check or bite on the ball when it lands, so play some roll out.

Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:

- Both East and West Tennis Courts have been resurfaced and painted. Tennis nets and posts will be replaced this week and basketball goals will be re-set as soon as possible. Thanks to the Public Works and Utilities dept. for their assistance in setting the basketball goals and moving the light switch and re-setting timers.
- Ballfield staff has completed the goal set-up, line painting and equipment placement for 13 soccer fields at Sugarland Sports Complex for the upcoming AYSO and CHS Soccer seasons.
- Sugarland Sports Complex will host the inaugural Jenna Roth Scholarship Home Run Derby fundraiser on field #1 (Stalls Field) beginning at 10am on Saturday, Oct. 1st. Please come out and support this event and take a swing or 2 to help out..!
- AYSO Soccer will begin their regular season games on Oct. 3rd throughout Sugarland Sports Complex.
- Sugarland Sports Complex will host the Elks Soccer Shoot-out again this year behind the racquetball courts on Oct. 4th. U-8, U-10, U-12 and U-14 competitions will be held. Registration begins at 4pm and the contest begins at 5:30pm. Contestants must have been born after Aug. 1st, 2002 to be eligible. Awards presented to the top 3 in each age group.
- New Harvest Academy's 8 man football team will play Thursday night at 7pm on Oct. 6th on Field #9 at the Big Quad.
- Ballfield staff has begun to clean fence lines, base paths and slide pits on the baseball & softball fields at Sugarland Sports Complex.

- Fertilization and herbicide application for evasive weeds will begin next week at Sugarland Sports Complex on ALL game surfaces.
- City of Clewiston, East Recreation and the YMCA will provide FREE “Water Safety” classes on Saturdays and will continue every Saturday until Oct. 17th. Connect to www.clewistonrecreation.com to register for the classes.
- The Splash Pad will continue to be open on Tuesdays from 3-5pm, Thursdays from 10am-Noon and Saturday/Sundays from 9am-7pm.
- Staff has been working with Wounded Warriors to host their 3rd Annual Fishing Tournament on Lake Okeechobee at the John Boy Auditorium on Oct. 8th.
- Staff has been working with “Drug Free Hendry County” to host a Turkey Trot at the Levee Park on Nov. 17th. More info will be provided as this event progresses.
- FYI...Clewiston Recreation’s Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday Oct. 29th... Mark your calendars and save the date! Bigger and Better is on the horizon...! Stay tuned for details...!!
- UPCOMING Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
 - Oct. 1st – NRA Banquet 6-10pm John Boy Auditorium
 - Oct. 1st – Birthday Party 3-6:30pm Youth Center
 - Oct. 1st – Jenna Roth Scholarship Home Run Derby 10am Field #1 Sugarland Sports Complex
 - Oct. 4th – Elks Soccer Shootout 4pm Sugarland Sports Complex
 - Oct. 2nd – Birthday Party 2-6pm Splash Pad
 - Oct. 3rd – AYSO Soccer season begins 5pm Sugarland Sports Complex
 - Oct. 6th – New Harvest Football 7pm field #9 Sugarland Sports Complex
- If you are interested in participating in a Co-Ed Dodgeball and/or Co-Ed Volleyball league, contact Andre at 983-1492.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- Mosquito Control:
Trap counts in Clewiston are as follows:
Harlem trap: 150;
Golf Course trap: 150; and
Okeechobee Blvd. trap; 200.
My staff and I have been performing onsite inspections for mosquito activity and will be performing “hot spot” treatments where we see the need. These will not be city wide treatments so protect yourself and small children if you must be outside. **There are no confirmed cases of ZIKA in Glades or Hendry County.**
- Street Maintenance: (1) 15 Mexican Heather plants were planted in the monument area in the park. (2) 15 Dwarf Allamanda were planted around the palms at the City Hall. More plants were ordered to “spiff” up the building. (3) Weekly street maintenance operations included pot-hole repairs, sign replacement and mowing grass in the Commerce Park.
- Facility Maintenance: (1) Staff spent time in the JBA this week making sure all systems were go for the Chamber dinner. (2) Repairs in the bathrooms at the Sports Complex are

still in the mix each week. (3) The doors in the bathroom at the Boat Basin are scheduled to get a fresh coat of paint.

- **Training:** Sean successfully completed training last week, passed the exams (both of them), and has been certified as a Storm Water Inspector by the DEP. A requirement of the City's Storm Water Permit.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- Officers conducting an after-hours business check came in contact with two men on the premises. Due to the circumstances, both were checked and found to be in illegal possession of controlled substance, possession of concealed weapon, possession of cocaine, and possession of unregistered motor vehicle. The pair was charged with those offenses as well as possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony.
- During the overnight hours early in the week, someone ran off the roadway and struck a mobile home at Stanton Mobile Home Sales. The trailer was knocked off the blocks and suffered damage. The driver and vehicle had left the scene. Investigation is continuing.
- Two different cases of stolen EBT cards were reported this week. The investigations resulted in the arrest of a different suspect in each case.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 1122** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 540** Complaints Investigated
 - 23** Traffic Citations issued
 - 23** Arrests Made
 - 1** City Ordinance Violation
 - 57** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 15** Alarms Responded To
 - 2** Traffic Accidents Investigated
 - 1** Opossum evicted from a local hotel

Utilities Director Williams reports:

- Water Sewer Activities
 - Repaired a 6" sewer line hit by contractor on San Diego Street and repaired a water break in alley between Obispo and San Benito.
 - Assisted South Shore Water Association with water breaks at South Bay Sod Farm and Evercane Road.
 - Did water pressure testing at Walgreens and Tractor Supply.
 - Lift Station Maintenance: replaced pump at Corbin's lift station, jetted services in the alley on US 27, and read all lift stations pump hours.
- Electric Activities
 - Repaired bad underground service in Harlem Gardens.
 - Repaired broken pole top pin and pulled a pole in Harlem, replaced a broken cross arm behind Hendry County Motors.
 - Set new transformer and split load on Della Tobias and changed a leaking transformer on 9th and Georgia in Harlem.
 - Repaired primary line that was down in Harlem that caused a power outage and a squirrel caused a power outage on West Crescent.

- Repaired several street lights throughout service area and trimmed trees on Bond Street.
- 24 electric meters were set at Greentree Senior Complex on West Ventura ready for a hot check.
- 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 BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE on our web site at www.clewiston-fl.gov or www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl.

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.