

*For Your Information*

*Weekly*

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

June 30, 2017

City offices will be closed Monday and Tuesday, July 3-4, 2017 in observance of Independence Day. Residential garbage will remain on schedule and will be collected Monday, July 3, 2017.

**Dates to Remember**

July 3-4, 2017 – Independence Day – City Offices Closed

July 13, 2017 – Clewiston City Commission Workshop

July 17, 2017 – Clewiston City Commission Meeting

July 20, 2017 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:**

- Director Reese attended the annual conference for Fire Marshals and Inspectors last week in Orlando. The FFMIA conference provides continuing education for maintaining State Certified Fire Inspector certification.
- With summer and the Fourth of July Weekend upon us, we want to stress the need for backyard BBQ safety. Below are some good tips and guidelines for grilling safety to keep in mind:
  - Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use.
  - Never grill indoors – not in your house, camper, tent, or any enclosed area.
  - Make sure everyone, including the pets, stays away from the grill.
  - Keep the grill out in the open, away from the house, the deck, tree branches, or anything that could catch fire.
  - Use the long-handled tools especially made for cooking on the grill to keep the chef safe.
  - Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals have already been ignited.
  - Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions when using grills.

**Sr. Library Aide Shirley Reynolds reports:**

- Remember you can get your e-books free at [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://www.hendrylibraries.org).
- **For information regarding any of our programs, please call the library at (863) 983-1493 and remember to visit [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://www.hendrylibraries.org). Like us at [www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary) .**

**Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:**

- **Get all Clewiston Golf Course news by signing up on Constant Contact.** Go to the City of Clewiston website, and sign up on Constant Contact. You will be automatically

put on the golf course e-mail. The Clewiston Golf Course also has a Facebook page with pictures and all golf course information.

- The next Junior Golf Camp is scheduled for July 24-28, 2017. Contact the Clewiston Golf Course at 863-983-1448 to register.
- Summer memberships are now available.
- Summer rates are now in effect at the golf course.
- **Upcoming Events**
  - July 24-28 2017 Clewiston Golf Course First Tee Junior Golf Camp
- **For more information call golf shop 863-983-1448**

#### **Recreation Director Lance Ramer reports:**

- THE SURVEY RESULTS ARE IN...! Adult Swimming Lessons and Adult Water Aerobics will be offered at C.S. Mott Pool, beginning July 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Adult Swimming Lessons** will take place from 6-7pm on Monday and Thursday evenings beginning July 10<sup>th</sup> and ending July 27<sup>th</sup>. Cost is \$25.00 for the 3 week session. You may register and pay for the classes on-line at [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com)
  - **Adult Water Aerobics** will return with Certified Instructor Deborah Barrios on Tuesday evenings beginning July 11<sup>th</sup> from 6-7pm. Cost is \$5.00 per session and is payable on the day of class.
- 1<sup>st</sup> session of Summer Camp(s) will end this Friday June 30<sup>th</sup> with an “EXTRA SPECTACULAR END OF SESSION PARTY” with bounce houses, water slides, food, movies and PJ’s..!
- 2<sup>nd</sup> session of Summer Camp(s) begins July 10<sup>th</sup>... There are some spots still available until July 2<sup>nd</sup>, but they are going FAST... Please go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to register your child.
- Clewiston Baseball U-12 All Star team will be traveling to Ocala this weekend to compete in the State Championships on June 29<sup>th</sup>-July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Good Luck Boys...!!
- Clewiston Recreation along with Clewiston AYSO will be hosting a “British Soccer Camp” at Sugarland Sports Complex July 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.
- The Splash Pad is open daily from 9am-7pm.
- C.S. Mott Pool is OPEN for public swim on the following schedule:
  - Saturdays 10am-6pm
  - Sundays 1-6pm
  - Monday-Friday 2pm-6pm
- **UPCOMING** Weekly highlights for Clewiston Recreation
  - June 30<sup>th</sup> – Humble Ambition U-16 Baseball Workout 6-7pm C.S. Mott Pool
  - July 1<sup>st</sup> – Baby Shower 4-8pm Beardsley Room
  - July 2<sup>nd</sup> – Baby Shower 2:30-5:30pm Youth Center
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> – Pool Party 9am-2pm C.S. Mott Pool
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> – City of Clewiston Fireworks Show beginning at Sunset Sugarland Sports Complex
  - July 6<sup>th</sup> – HCSD “Community Water Day” 10am-4pm Sugarland Park Pavilion
- Go to [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

### Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- **JUNE is Tree Trimming Amnesty Month** - Residents are reminded the last day of June is the last day of amnesty for tree trimming free hauling. **Only preapproved trees will be picked up with no Special Pick up fee attached.** Call 983-1471 for more information.
- **Hurricane Season:** It is here! Residents are reminded to make preparations now. When a storm hits, it's too late. Here are a few things to start with: (A) Get out of harm's way. Call a relative outside the storm and make arrangements to stay for a few days. (B) Gather all important papers including insurance, birth certificates, social security info, medication info and priceless family pictures, and place in zip lock bags and in a plastic tote. (C) Don't forget to make arrangements for your pets. Be sure you have a kennel, proof of all shots and a flea treatment. (D) Find your shutters & hardware, exercise your generator (have it run a fan for at least thirty minutes) and mechanical storm shutters (move them and oil all moving parts).
- **Block 402 Drainage:** Contractor reported Monday that he was getting caught up after all of the rain and (weather permitting) will be on this project by the end of the week.
- **Mosquito Control:** Weather conditions for the air treatment last Saturday was perfect. Staff trapped on Monday night with these results: Golf Course trap: 1,200; Okeechobee trap: 1,500; and Saginaw trap 900. There was a ground treatment on Thursday and the next air treatment is scheduled for the first of July before the Fireworks Show.
- **Street Division:** (1) Staff planted one Bottle Brush Tree on Hoover Dike Road, seven Royal Palms on Francisco Street and three Royal Palms on Royal Palm Avenue. (2) Tree stumps causing plumbing problems at the John Boy Auditorium were pulled out this week. Staff is planning to replace the two lost trees with four new flowering trees in locations that will not create problems. (3) Staff was out this week pulling sign maintenance; changing faded STOP signs and upgrading old posts and street markers.
- **Facility Maintenance Division:** The leaking roof at the RO Plant has been repaired.
- **Fourth of July Fireworks:** Join us at the Sugarland Sports Complex on July 4<sup>th</sup> for the City of Clewiston's fireworks display. The show will start between 8:30p and 9:00p. Cover your arms and legs, wear shoes and socks and spray exposed skin with a good mosquito repellent.

### Police Chief Aaron Angell reports:

- On June 23<sup>rd</sup> Officers stopped a vehicle for a window tint violation. As the officer approached the vehicle and made contact with the driver, he noticed a small amount of what appeared to be marijuana lying in the driver's lap. During this initial encounter, the officer asked the driver if there were any illegal narcotics in the vehicle, the driver replied there was not. After scratching his head for a brief moment, the officer then politely pointed out to the driver that there was marijuana in his lap. The driver of the vehicle now found himself facing a dilemma, should he own up to the marijuana in his lap or should he claim that he had no knowledge of it or how it got there, you'll see the significance of this as the story unfolds. Much to the officer's surprise, the driver owned up, admitted to having recently smoked marijuana in the vehicle, and stated now that besides the marijuana in his lap, there were no "other" drugs in the vehicle. Faced with his visual observations and the overwhelming odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle, the officer decided to verify the driver's statement and search the vehicle and its remaining occupant. While searching the passenger of the vehicle, the officer politely asked him to

take off his shoes, which he agreed to do. The passenger then handed the officer his shoes and as he did, the officer observed a small plastic bag slide from the toe to the heel of the shoe, which contained, what officers believed and was later confirmed to be, molly (MDMA). The officer then placed the passenger under arrest at which time he proclaimed “these shoes aren’t even mine I just picked them up yesterday”. It gets better though, as the officer is walking the passenger back to his patrol vehicle, he then asks the officer “what you are going to take me to jail bare foot, can’t I have my shoes back so I have something on my feet” even though he had just denied ownership of the drug containing shoes. We’re still having fun with this one too.

- Officers observed a group of kids running down the street to a vehicle in what appeared to be an attempt to hastily depart from the immediate area. Fearing that criminal activity or maybe just mischievous behavior was afoot, the officer made contact with the kids and discovered they had “toilet papered” a house. The officer was able to make contact with the home owner, who was not entirely upset and who felt that the only punishment necessary was to have the children remove the toilet paper and clean up their mess. The kids removed all of the toilet paper, which proved to be more difficult and time consuming than putting it out. While this was amusing, it did not provide us with anywhere near the material that the first story did.
- Lastly, we would like to wish everyone a safe and happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We would also like to remind anyone who plans on leaving for the long weekend to please secure anything left behind. We will be out doing our best over the weekend and through the holiday, however thieves are largely opportunistic and anything we can do to take away the opportunity will go a long way in preventing us from returning home only to find out that we have become a victim.

#### **Utilities Director Williams reports:**

- Electric Activities
  - Repaired street lights
  - Changed transformer on West El Paso
  - Put up flags on US27 for the holiday
  - Set new pole on 10<sup>th</sup> St. and installed three new transformers
  - TAW contractor is testing and replacing parts on main power transformer in substation
  - Changed traffic cabinet out on US27 and Royal Palm
  - Tested all UPS batteries on the traffic lights and found 9 bad batteries. They are still under and will be replaced.
  - Removed temporary street light pole from hospital at the new rehabilitation center
  - Set new transformer and hooked up primary cable
  - Straightened pole and installed guy wire on pole on 10<sup>th</sup> St.
  - Repaired underground service on East Ventura
  - Repaired two CT meter devices
  - Vegetation management at substations
- Water Sewer Activities
  - Repaired water tap at Concordia and Francisco
  - Repaired sewer break on El Paso
  - Repaired Lift Station
  - Repaired water leak at 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Della Tobias

- 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](http://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](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).

**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.**