

For Your Information
Weekly
FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF
January 18, 2019

Due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, there will be no solid waste service offered on Monday, January 21, 2019. This service will be provided on Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

Dates to Remember

January 21, 2019 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – City Offices Closed
January 23, 2019 – Special Magistrate Hearing
January 28, 2019 – City Commission Workshop
February 4, 2019 – City Commission Workshop and Meeting
February 7, 2019 – Clewiston Library Advisory Board Meeting
February 18, 2019 – City Commission Meeting
February 21, 2019 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Travis Reese reports:

- We issued 2 Certificates of Occupancy this week for 7 units of 2 and 3 bedroom apartments on Francisco Street. The project was started in April 2017 and completed this week. Tenants are already lined up to move in!
- Hampton Inn is also moving along. The scaffolding has been removed and they've begun to work on installing the drywall.



- AutoZone has broken ground at 700 W. Sugarland Hwy and is progressing quickly with their construction process.
- Contaminated soil from the median on US 27 and Lopez St. was removed on Wednesday. The petroleum release that caused the contamination occurred back in May of 2018. FDOT sampled the soils and ordered the cleanup which is now completed.

Library Director Natasha Hayes reports:

- **Microsoft Excel Advanced** classes began January 17, 2019 at 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. There are still a few available seats. Call the library at 863-983-1493 for more information.
- The Little Disciples and Rainbow enjoyed Storytime with Ms. Maria. They also spent time in the computer lab using abcmouse, Lexia Reading Core5 and Tumblebooks.
- **Book Club** attendance was 8 and they are beginning to read **The Rosie Project**.
- Meeting was held on Wednesday with respect to planning **Black History Month**. We look forward to bringing a variety of programs throughout the month. The main event will be held on February 28th from 5:30 to 7:30 that will include a motivational speaker, authentic soul food, awards ceremony and recognition for students and Community Members who have been nominated by their peers, and personal accounts. Please check the library's Facebook page or visit the library to obtain a nomination form. Nominations are due no later than February 1st.
- Build something fun at **Lego Club!** Clewiston Public Library's Lego club is every Thursday at 3:30 p.m.
- **Check our MakerSpace** this month!!!
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - January 24th
 - ***Lego Club from 3:30-4:30 p.m.**
 - ***Microsoft Excel Workshop from 5:30-6:30 p.m.**
 - January 28th
 - ***Tutoring Program from 4:00-6:00 p.m.**
 - January 31st
 - ***Lego Club from 3:30-4:30 p.m.**
 - ***Microsoft Excel Workshop from 5:30-6:30 p.m.**
- Remember you can get your e-books free at 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. Like us at www.facebook.com/clewistonpubliclibrary.**

Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:

- The first Junior Golf Clinic was held on Saturday, January 12, 2019. Five junior golfers showed and learned golf etiquette, golf rules and played putting games. The life skill that was taught was "Respect".
- The Ladies Club Championship started Tuesday, January 15, 2019. Toni Couse is leading the Gross Division. Mary Ann Basquin and Roxie Curtiss are tied in the Net Division. The final round is scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

- The Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, January 19, 2019. For more information. call the golf shop at 863-983-1448. The golf course will be closed that day for regular play until 2:00pm.
- The first Twilight Golf Scramble is scheduled for Thursday, January 24, 2019. The tournament starts at 3:30pm and is a couples format. Sign-up is in the golf shop. We will be eating in the Country Club after the 9-Hole Scramble.
- The Clewiston Golf Course will be hosting the Executive Women's Golf Association's Sugar Bowl Golf Tournament on January 26, 2019. The golf course will be closed for regular play this day until 2:30pm.
- The Golf Course's second Ladies Golf Clinic on Chipping is scheduled for Friday, February 1, 2019. The Chip and Sip will start at 4:00pm. It's free of charge and sign-up is in the ladies locker room.
- The annual Clewiston Men's Senior Club Championship is scheduled for February 5th and 6th, 2019. Sign-up is in the golf shop. The golf course will be open for regular play both days.
- A no charge Junior Golf Clinic is scheduled for February 9, 2019 from 11:00am to 12:00pm. The life skill will be "Integrity". We will be on the driving range doing full swing.
- Booklets are now available in the golf shop of all our tournaments and clinics from January-May 2019.
- **Golf Tip of the Week:** Long putts often come up short of the hole adding extra shots to our score, which leads to three putts. Try adding some wrist motion in your putting stroke next time you have a long putt and see if that helps the golf ball roll further. I advise you to go to the practice putting green before you play to test it.
- **For more information, please call the Golf Shop at 863-983-1448.**

Public Works Director Sean Scheffler reports:

- *New Youth Center visiting hours are Monday through Friday 2:00pm to 5:00pm. Calls are still being received and answered from 8:00am to 5:00pm. If you have any recreational needs or questions, please drop by City Hall from 8:00am to 2:00pm or by the Youth Center from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.*
- **Mosquito Control:** No control activity at this time.
- **Street Division:** (1) 140 feet of sidewalk was replaced on E. Del Monte on Wednesday. (2) Staff sprayed weeds and grass at the Boat Basin and around sign posts and drainage inlets. (3) City maintained parks were mowed. (4) The DOT contacted me this week and said the contaminated material in the US27 median would be removed this week.
- **Sports Complex:** (1) Started power washing all buildings and concrete areas at Field One this week. (2) A new transformer pad in the Big Quad was poured on Wednesday and fence to secure the area was ordered. (3) A broad leaf weed killer has been ordered and will be applied to the High School girls' and boys' fields.
- **Facility Maintenance:** **NOTICE** - The John Boy Auditorium will be closed February 25 through 28 for maintenance. (1) The air conditioner in the Animal Control facility was replaced.
- **Parks & Playgrounds:** (1) Patching of holes and large cracks were finished this week and were ground smooth. New epoxy paint with chips will be applied. (2) Wheel stops were power washed in the western parking lot at the Boat Basin.

- **Retired and looking for something to do?** I have some seasonal banners that still need to be refreshed with paint. If you have a talent and like to paint, call 983-1492 and talk to Joanna. It really is fun and you will contribute to making Clewiston more festive during the different seasons.

Police Chief Aaron Angell reports:

- The following is a brief synopsis of activity over the course of the past week.
 - Officers made a total of 6 arrests
 - Officers responded to 282 Calls for service (Includes officer-initiated activity)
 - Average officer response time to calls for service, 00:01:02
- **Significant Events**
 - During this past week officers responded to a series of burglar alarm activations at a local business. While investigating the reason for the alarm activations, officers did in fact discover evidence of an attempted burglary, not only at the business where the alarm was activated, but also at a neighboring business. Subsequent investigation by officers identified the vehicle used in the burglary attempts as well as a suspect description. A short time later, Clewiston Police Department officers, with the assistance of Hendry County Sheriff's Office deputies, located the vehicle and suspects. The three subjects were subsequently arrested on several charges including burglary and possession of cocaine.
 - During the evening hours of 16 January 2019 officers initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle for a minor equipment infraction. When the vehicle stopped, the passenger immediately exited the vehicle and fled on foot. Officers immediately began searching the area in an attempt to locate the individual who had fled. The male subject who fled was apprehended a short time later and arrested for possession of marijuana as well as possession of a controlled substance without a prescription. During a subsequent search of the vehicle, additional marijuana was located.

Utilities Director Danny Williams reports:

- **Electric Activities**
 - Repaired URD services at 209 S Lopez and Fairgrounds Lot 40
 - Fix street lights on Central Avenue
 - Straighten leaning pole by Central Elementary
 - Meet with Auto Zone about transformer placement and temp service
 - Worked 4 cases of meter tampering on Commercio Street
 - Pull four old poles from pole change out jobs
 - Open switches in substation and ground all lines for USSC outage
 - Spread weed killer in substation
 - Set new street light pole at Ventura and Francisco
 - Remove transformer at ballfield big quad so Public Works could pour concrete
 - Install bird guard on pole at Lake
- **Water Sewer Activities**
 - The City of Clewiston will be temporarily changing the disinfection process for its drinking water supply. Water customers should be aware that they may also experience changes to their water quality during flushing, including cloudy or discolored water. While this water is safe to drink, customers are advised to flush any

cloudy or discolored water that may enter their plumbing by running a faucet for several minutes.

- The first of three phases of the Inflow Infiltration Program has begun. Crews will be working in and around our manholes, and Phase 1 will be completed by March 1, 2019.
 - Café Tropical lift station removed and installed two pumps
 - 206 Ponce De Leon, fixed sewer break and added one cleanout
 - 113 Arcade fixed water break
 - 9th Court fixed water break
 - Fix water break at 423 E. Obispo
 - Fix water break on Bond Street
 - Rewired pumps on Saginaw lift station
 - Changed water meters, Sunrise
 - Poured concrete on Della Tobias and 11th St.
 - Alan Jay Dodge dealer, fixed water valve
- **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.