

Administrator's Update for 2/26/10  
By Roger Baltz

Assistant County Administrator Ray Sandrock and I attended an Administrators Meeting of the Peace River/Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority (Water Authority) held in Manatee County. These meetings bring together the Administrators and Managers from the member counties and customers to discuss issues which may impact the Authority members.

### **Neighborhood Stabilization**

Our Housing Division continues to work diligently to implement the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. To date, two properties and two lots have been acquired and are now County-owned. Offers are currently pending on several other properties. During the week of Feb. 15, 2010 the County will be releasing the first bids for the construction work on these properties. Each will be bid individually and local contractors are being sought to complete this work. Eligible contractors should contact the County Purchasing Department to assure they are on the bidders list to receive the invitations to bid.

### **Professional of the Year**

Human Resources' employee Debbie Arnold has been recognized as "Professional of the Year" by the Charlotte County Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). Each year, one member of this organization is selected for their commitment to the profession, strong record of contribution to the field, and impeccable ethical standards and behavior.

### **Emergency Training**

Last week our Charlotte County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) hosted a four-day Basic PIO class presented by the Florida Division of Forestry. Twenty-four students, including three from our Emergency Management Department, studied the fundamentals for dealing with the media and conducting press briefings, writing releases and making sure that the public is getting accurate and consistent information. Divided into three teams, they concluded the week with an exercise using the joint information center and press room at the EOC to conduct interviews of public officials during emergency scenarios.

### **Baseball in Charlotte County**

The official date of public access to the Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training was Friday, Feb.19. The public now can now watch the Rays' practices daily. All players will be reporting on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>.

On Saturday, Feb. 13, the Charlotte Sports Park hosted the 2010 Little League Opening Ceremonies on the stadium field. Approximately 400 individuals attended the festivities.

### **Transportation Projects List**

A list of 23 transportation-related projects was sent to FDOT for preliminary review as possible projects to be funded through the second round of the Federal Stimulus Program. The list was developed by Charlotte County and the City of Punta Gorda and includes sidewalks, resurfacing projects, bike paths, and bridge projects. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) may be required to rank the final list of projects to be submitted for funding under the Program.

### **World Music Series**

Our Mid-County Library recently hosted the second performance in the World Music Series. Sponsored by the Friends of the Mid-County Library, this performance featured Pamela Wyn Shannon and Eifion Wyn Williams, an American and Welsh duo. An audience of approximately 55 people enjoyed the performance of original and traditional songs and stories from Wales, Ireland, Scotland and England.

### **Sunset Vows**

The Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and our Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources Department co-sponsored a Valentine's Day Sunset Vow Renewal at Bayshore Live Oak Park. Sixty people participated in this celebration which included a sunset ceremony, romantic readings and dulcimer mood music played by a new business owner in the Charlotte Harbor CRA.