

Junior Commission program winds down with mock meeting

By Hector Flores

The inaugural Charlotte County Junior Commission program held a mock commission meeting on April 9 in the commission chambers of the Administration Center.

Twelve county high school juniors and seniors participated in the three-month program. Participants met with county commissioners, attended a commission workshop, code enforcement special magistrate and commission meetings throughout February and March. The program highlight was a mock commission meeting in which the students served as commissioners. County staff presented agenda items on proposed developments, a residential chicken-keeping ordinance and proclamations to the junior commissioners and addressed the board during “public input.”

The feedback from participants was glowing and the county has already begin planning for a second program later this year. Thank you to all the participants for their interest in learning about how local government operates and best wishes for your future success.

Community Outreach

Come visit county staff and representatives of other agencies from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., today at our Community Outreach Day at the Centennial Park Recreation Center, 1120 Centennial Blvd, Port Charlotte. There will be a special quiet hour for our sensory-sensitive community from 9-10 a.m.

This family-friendly event promises something for everyone. Enjoy free food, bounce houses, laser tag, refreshing snow cones and delicious popcorn. Every attendee will receive a complimentary raffle ticket for a chance to win exciting prizes, including four tickets to a 2024 Tampa Bay Rays game at Tropicana Field and a \$100 gift card for MRT Ace Hardware and Garden Center.

Community Outreach Day is a platform to foster awareness and understanding of our local government departments, community agencies and partners. Explore big trucks from Public Works, Utilities and Fire & EMS in our Touch-a-Truck area. See special Menzi Muck and Marsh Master demonstrations. Local agencies and community partners will staff booths featuring demonstrations, engaging activities and enticing giveaways for attendees of all ages.

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