



# Monthly Report

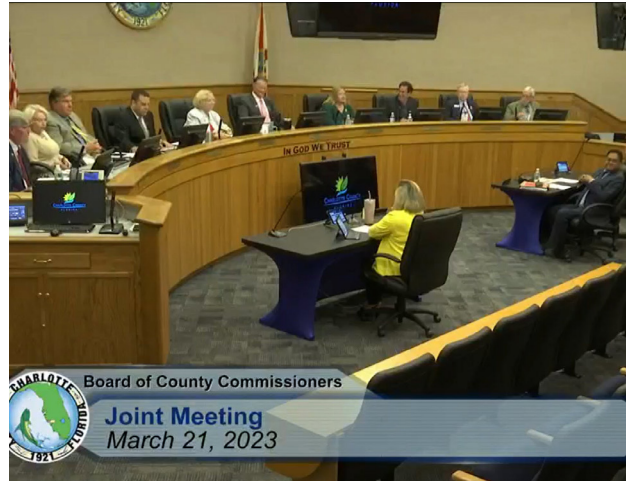
## March 2023

## County Commission holds joint meeting with City Council

Charlotte County commissioners held a productive meeting with their Punta Gorda City Council counterparts on March 21 at the Charlotte County Administration Center. Topics included economic and tourism development, road, facility and utility infrastructure, annexation and marine projects.

Economic Development Director Dave Gammons reported companies were making optimistic investments in warehousing, distribution and manufacturing. He highlighted the nearly \$1 billion investment Allegiant Airlines is making on its Sunseeker Charlotte Harbor resort. He touted the successful partnership between the county, Charlotte Technical College, the state of Florida and Punta Gorda Airport to develop the Aviation Maintenance Technician School.

Sales/Sports Business Development Director Sean Walter of the Punta Gorda/Englewood Visitor and Convention Bureau outlined Hurricane



Ian recovery efforts by the hospitality industry. He spoke about successful events held recently, including a national pickleball tournament that drew more than 800 athletes. He reported tourism supports more than 13,000 jobs and generates more than \$330 million in wages and salaries.

The city's Finance Director Kristine Simeone discussed investments made in the Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Area, including improvements at Lashley Park and the construction of the Herald Court Parking Garage. She noted the taxable value in the CRA has increased every year since 2015 and that agency's debt could be retired as early as 2024.

City Manager Greg Murray talked about the city's pre-annexation agreements with customers of Punta Gorda Utilities. He showed maps outlining property already annexed and areas where annexation will occur.

Charlotte County Water Quality Manager Brandon Moody presented an update on the county's One Charlotte, One Water program, including current monitoring efforts and the development of a water quality master plan.

## March 28 marked six months since Ian hit

March 28 marked six months since Hurricane Ian slammed the county with Category 4-force winds and torrential rain. While progress has been made on many fronts, we know there is a long way to go to full recovery. There are still families without permanent shelter, blue roofs dot our neighborhoods and repair timelines are hampered by material delays.

I've been continually impressed and

proud of the way our community rallied in the wake of the storm, neighbors helping neighbors, businesses rushing to reopen to provide essential services and people displaying remarkable resiliency in the face of tragedy.

The six-month anniversary of Ian also means we're that much closer to the coming hurricane season on June 1.



### Peacekeepers Tower

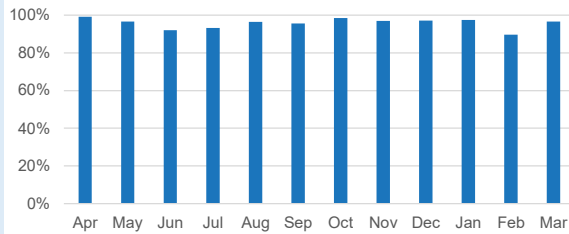
A groundbreaking ceremony for the Beirut Peacekeepers Tower at the William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park was held March 15. The three-story tower will be a memorial to Gaines and his fellow servicemembers killed in the bombing of the Marine barracks in Beirut in 1983.

## Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

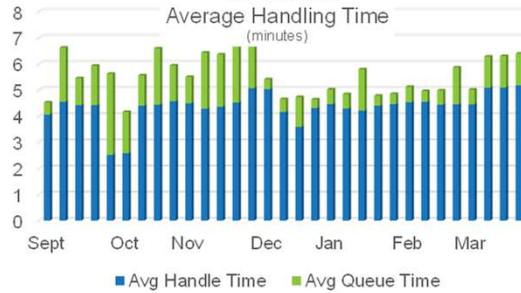


Customer Satisfaction % Positive

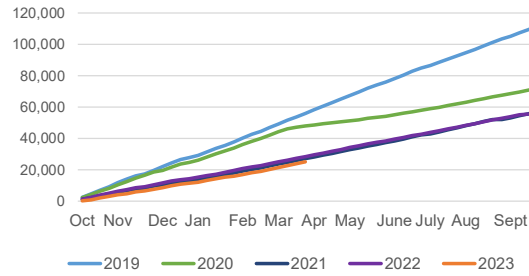


## Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



## Director Highlights

### Acela Migration

Information Technology worked with Community Development to move the main permitting system from our on-premise environment to the cloud. This was a multi-month effort to move 2,478,002 documents and 1,139,896 records. It involved detailed testing of 216 application types on the back office software, ipads and citizen access portal. It also involved the re-writing all of acela related reports and modifying all acela dashboards. The move was successfully complete in a single weekend and BCS was up and running ahead of schedule with few hiccups. The end result for our environment is that we are able to shut down 13 servers freeing up those resources for other applications.

### March 2023



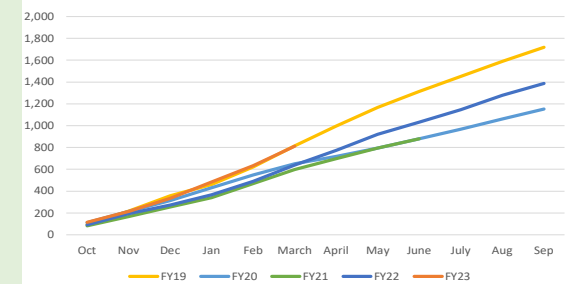
## Health Center

Employee Health Center Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



## Records Management

Record Requests



# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?



PERMITTING STAGE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



COMPLETED!!



## Jones Loop Commercial

26480 Jones Loop Rd., Punta Gorda  
10,100 sq. ft. retail commercial building.

## Promenades Mall

3280 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte  
Plan Amendment and rezone Petition to create a mixed use development of 1,100 residential apartments and over 500,000 of non-residential commercial, office and hotels.

## Harpoon Harry's & Shops at Bayshore

22801 Bayshore Rd., Port Charlotte  
33,354 SF restaurant, and 24,569 SF of retail buildings.

## Macy's

1441 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte  
Redevelopment of existing retail to multi-family apartment complex.

## Del Taco & Buffalo Wild Wings

1490 Tamiami Tral, Port Charlotte  
2,370 SF Del Taco & 1,145 SF Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant and drive-thru.

## Mazda Car Dealership

798 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte  
Car dealership with wash and service bays to be constructed in two phases,

## Free-standing Emergency Room

150 Tamiami Trail  
Port Charlotte  
11,000 sq. ft. free-standing emergency room.



## Dunkin' Donuts

19220 Veterans Blvd.,  
Port Charlotte  
1,731 sq. ft. Dunkin' Donuts with a drive-thru.

**Wawa**  
1452 Chancellor Blvd., Port Charlotte  
5,943 sq. ft. convenience store and gas station.



## Starbucks

18501 Murdock Circle,  
Port Charlotte  
2,500 sq. ft. Starbucks with double drive-thru lanes.



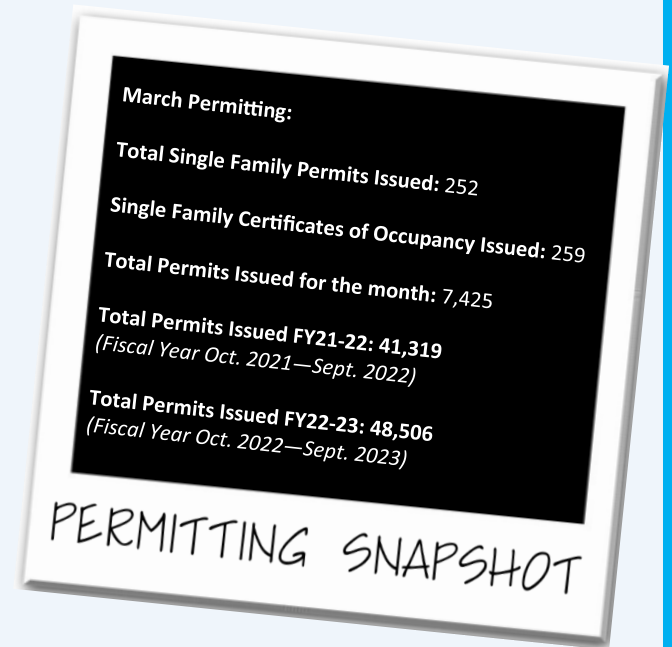
## PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

### Babcock Update

- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 1,842
- Single Family Permits Issued March: 42

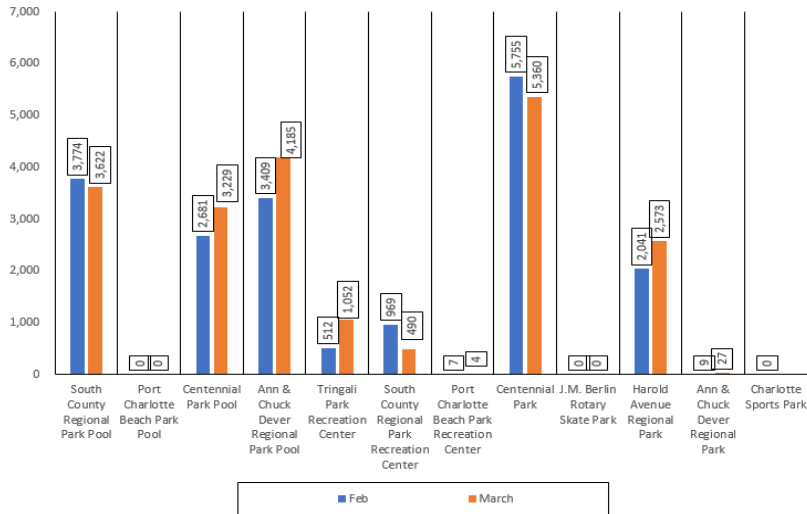
### West Port Update

- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 253
- Single Family Permits Issued March: 12

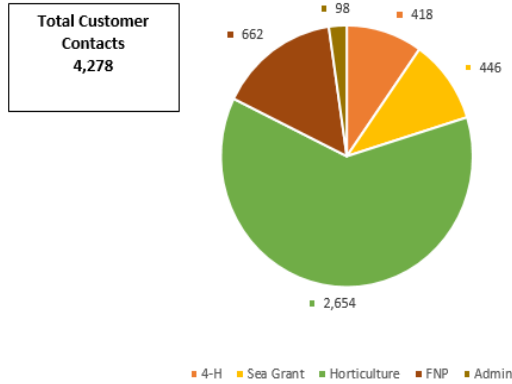


# Community Services

Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities Attendance



UF/IFAS Extension Service Customer Contacts



## Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 3,903 trash bags collected
- 607 recycling bags collected
- Ball field prep- 215 games/practice/tournaments

## Land Management

- 79 miles maintained
- 45 trees cut; 32 bags of construction debris removed from Oyster Creek
- 16 acres treated for exotics

## Project Management

- Projects completed- 5
- Projects not started -9
- In progress -34
- 48 projects
- \$5,493,689 total

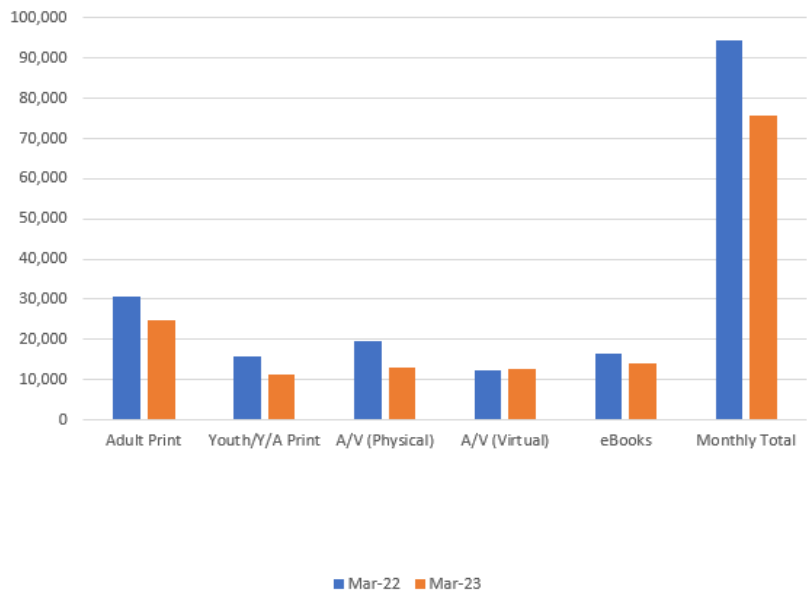
## Natural Resources

- 15 eagle nests being monitored by staff
- Eagle nests with eggs-0
- Eagle nests with chicks -11
- Coastal lighting permits in review-24
- Coastal lighting permit inspections- 5

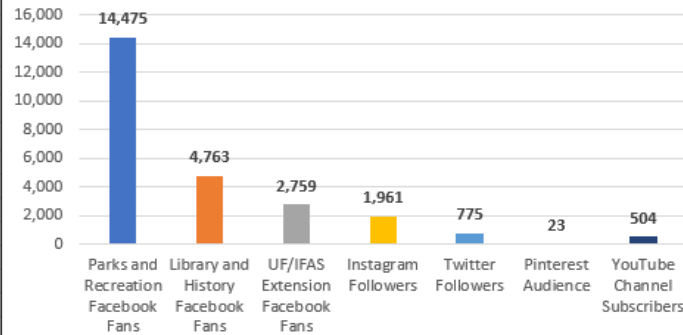
## Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

- Open-27
- Removed-13
- Relocated-2
- Ready for removal-10
- Pending approval-1

2022-2023 Library Circulation Comparison



Social Media Impact



## Community Services Administrative Services

- Telephone calls-155
- Web emails-46
- Drop-ins -88
- Parking passes- 34 sold online
- News releases- 17
- Graphics requests-22

# Charlotte County Economic Development

## March 2022

### SRD Takes the Hill

After some pitching practice with Economic Development Director Dave Gammon it's good to see MLB allowed the reinstatement of "Tieless" Stevie R. Deutsch to throw the opening day pitch at the Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training game. After all, 1919 was a long time ago. :)



### PartsBase Expo

Economic Development Director Dave Gammon and Business Recruitment Manager Kay Tracy attended the PartsBase Expo in March. Kay was invited to sit on a workforce panel at the expo and discuss the different challenges employers are facing right now.

Several students from Charlotte Technical College's Aviation School were in attendance. This was a fantastic opportunity for the students to meet potential employers and make connections in the aviation industry.

Dave and Kay had the opportunity to talk to aviation companies that may be interested in expanding to Charlotte County.



### FIX THESE FACES IN YOUR MEMORY



### Play Ball! Spring Training with the Tampa Bay Rays

Spring Training is back at Charlotte Sports Park with the Tampa Bay Rays. The Economic Development Office hosted several area businesses and organizations at the Commissioner's Suite this year. The games are a great opportunity to network with local businesses and make connections.



March 2023



Construction continues for the **Family Services Center-Phase 2** building with the installation of roofing materials “topping out” the building. The installation of sitework utilities, interior metal framing, and mechanical, electrical, and plumbing infrastructure are also in progress. This new 18,500 square foot building will provide youth services, plus office and support spaces for community partners and staff of the Human Services Department on the existing Family Services Center campus. The site will have outdoor play areas, a community garden, and a flexible courtyard gathering space. The project was designed by Fawley Bryant Architecture with construction by Tandem Construction. Estimated completion of this \$10.9 million project is in late 2023.

- ◆ At the new **Landfill Scale House**, footings were poured. The contractor started erecting stem walls, and electrical and plumbing infrastructure is being installed.
- ◆ Construction of the new building shells for **Fire Station 9** and **CCSO District 5** offices in Babcock Ranch has started. Underground utilities including the fire riser line, potable water, and grease trap are being installed.

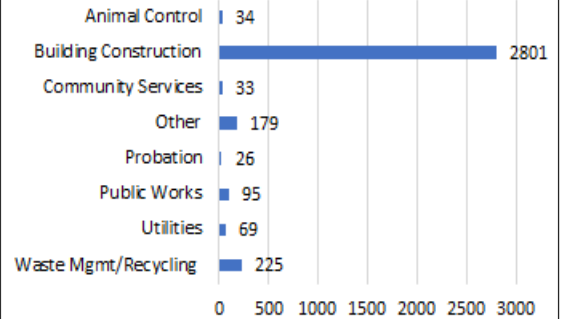
- ◆ Existing site lighting conduit for the **Bayshore Grass Parking** project was located. New trenches were dug, including saw-cutting asphalt where needed for new conduit installation for both relocated and new poles.



Underground conduit is ready for inspection next week. Additionally, corners were set for the new ADA ramp. Layout and formation of the gravity walls will begin next week.

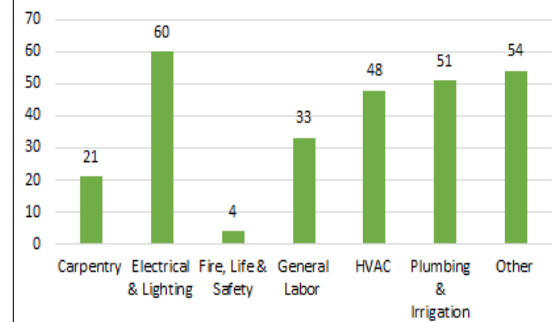
- ◆ Phase 2 of construction started on the temporary warehouse staging area while the new **Supervisor of Elections warehouse** is being built.
- ◆ The initial Guaranteed Maximum Price for the **Charlotte Sports Park** hurricane build-back will be presented for Board approval on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

## FY23 Switchboard Calls- March

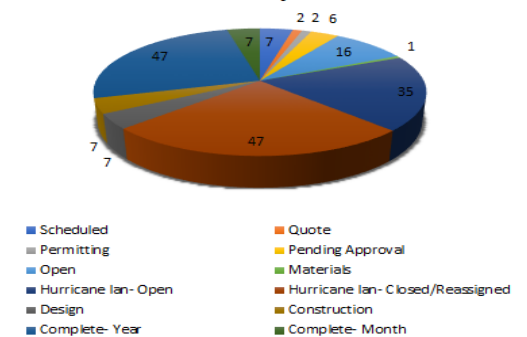


## FY23 Work Orders Created- March

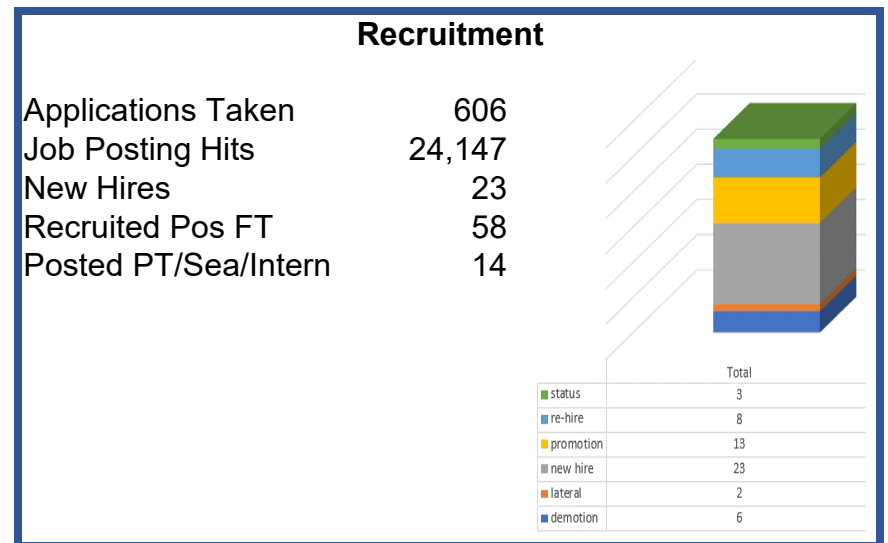
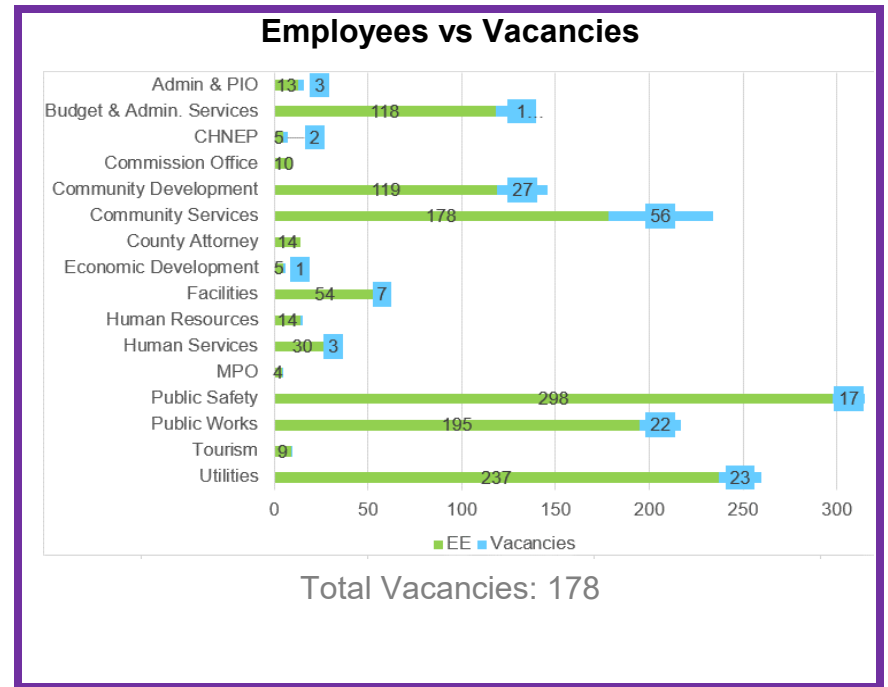
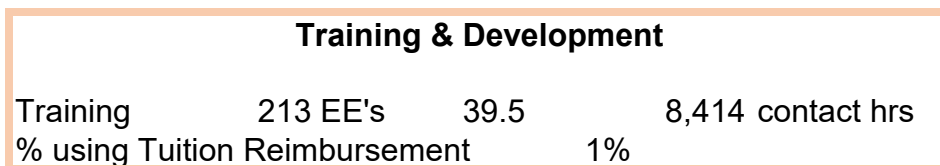
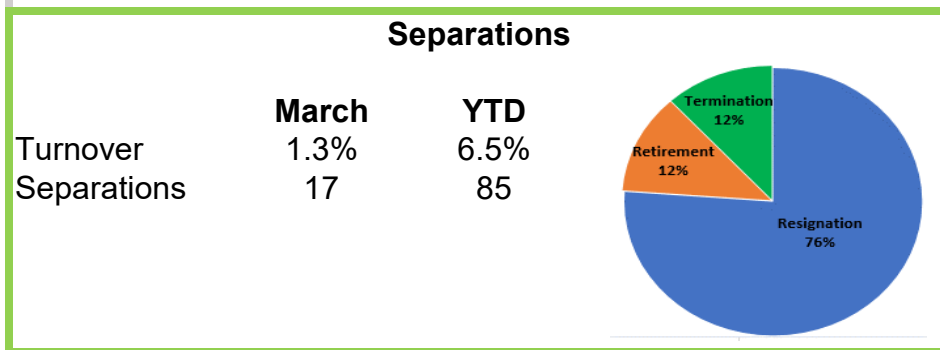
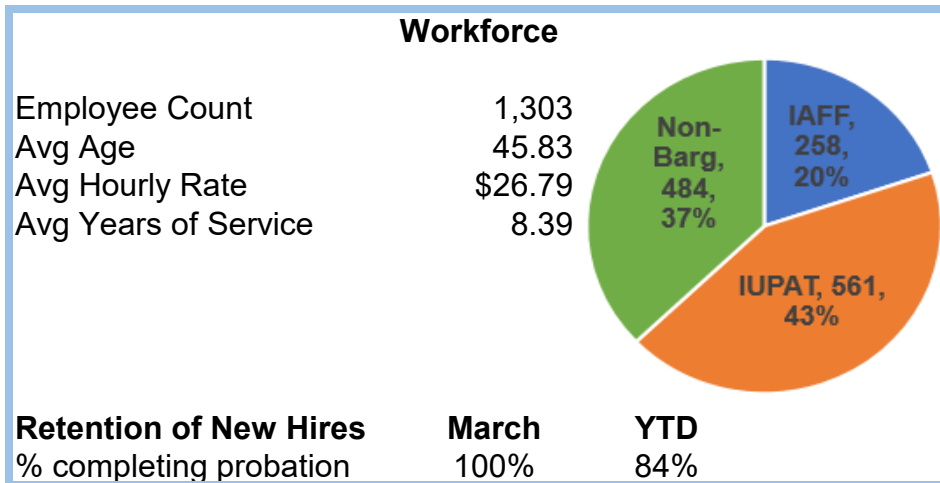
(excluding Jail)



## FY23 Small Projects- March



# Human Resources







# 905

Clients Served March 2023



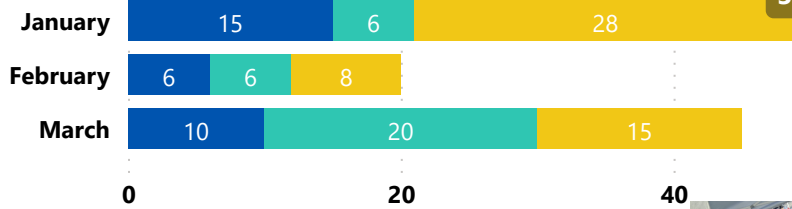
Aging & Adults Services  
Case Manager, Debbi Warner and Administrative  
Coordinator, Ruth Agosto  
Graduate LDP Class 2022



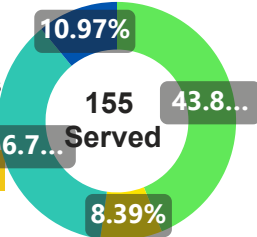
## Aging & Adult Services

### Case Management

● Completed/Closed/Termed ● In process/ Research ● New Cases



Aging & Adults Case Manager Tearea Courrejolles, NSU Senior Case Manager Tara Blackson & Intake Coordinator Linda Bunnell Representing our department at the Sunlight Health Event 2023

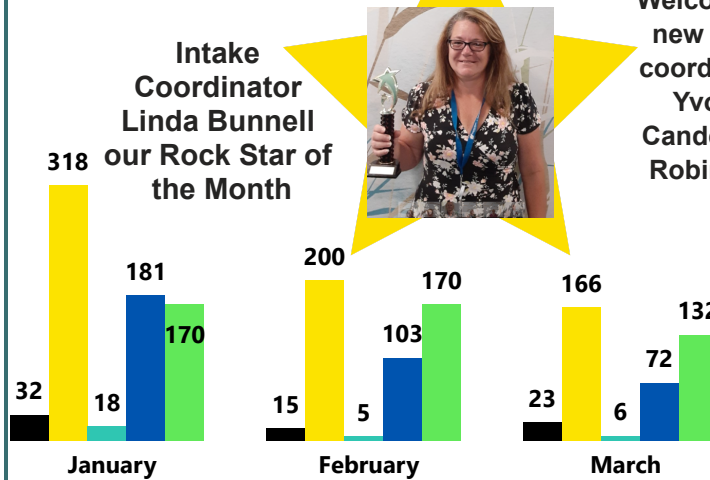


Congrats too Tearea Courrejolles for her promotion to our new Aging & Adults Case Manager



- CCE Cases
- HCE Cases
- OAA Cases
- ADI Cases

## Intake Services



Intake Coordinator Linda Bunnell our Rock Star of the Month



Welcome our new intake coordinators Yvonne Candelora & Robin Clark

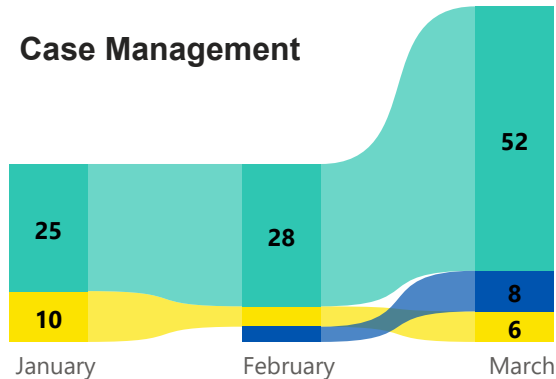


- Energy Assistance-in progress
- Energy Assistance-Completed
- Water Assistance-in Progress
- Water Assistance-Completed
- Fastrack Applications

## Neighborhood Services

● Completed/Closed/Ter... ● In process/ Rese... ● New Cases

### Case Management



NSU Exceptional Service Award March 2023

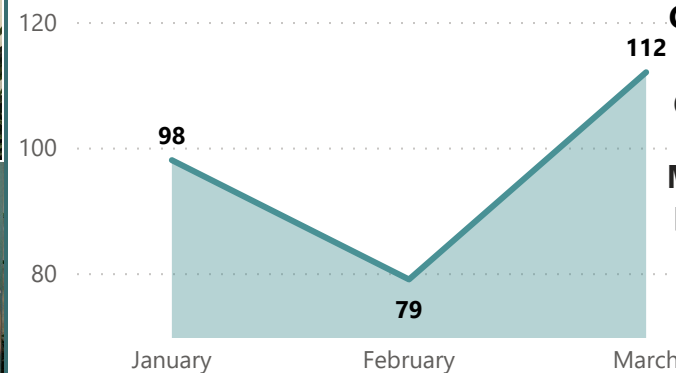


Housing Specialist, Mary Prod & Senior Case Manager Tara Blackson receive Exceptional Service Award 2023



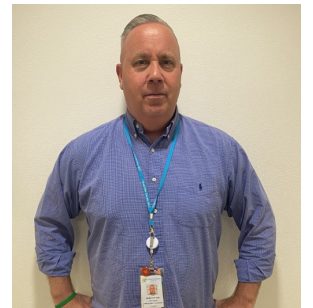
## Veteran Services

### New Claims Cases



### Calls received requesting Assistance

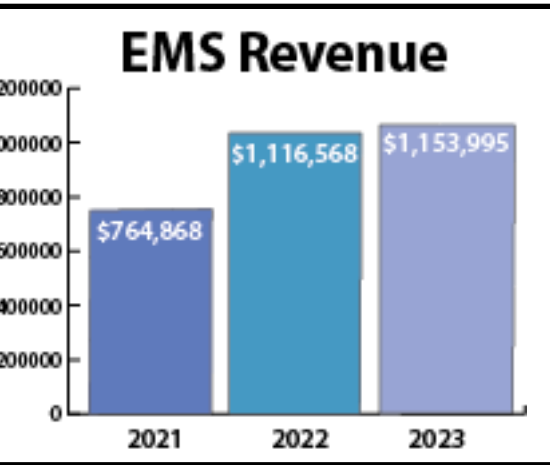
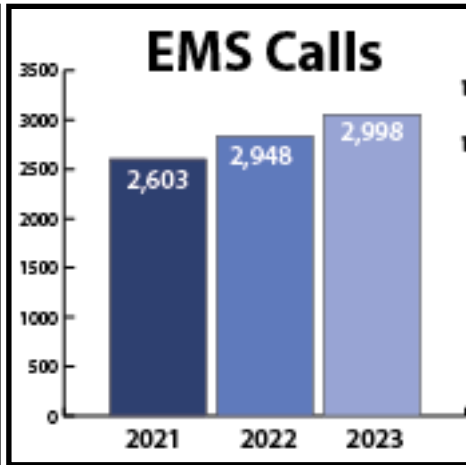
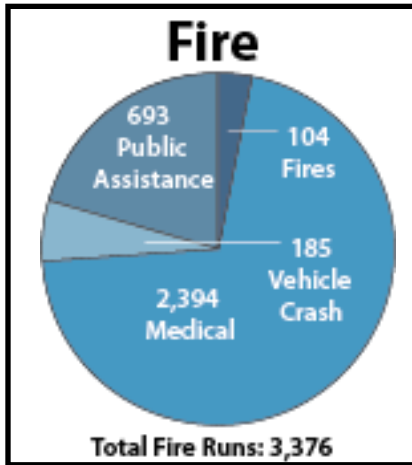
Congrats too Matthew McGee for his promotion to Senior Veteran Service Officer



# 1651

**Our Mission:** To collaborate and provide programs and connections that increase financial stability and support individuals and families as they work to reach their fullest potential.

# Public Safety



## Florida Wildfires

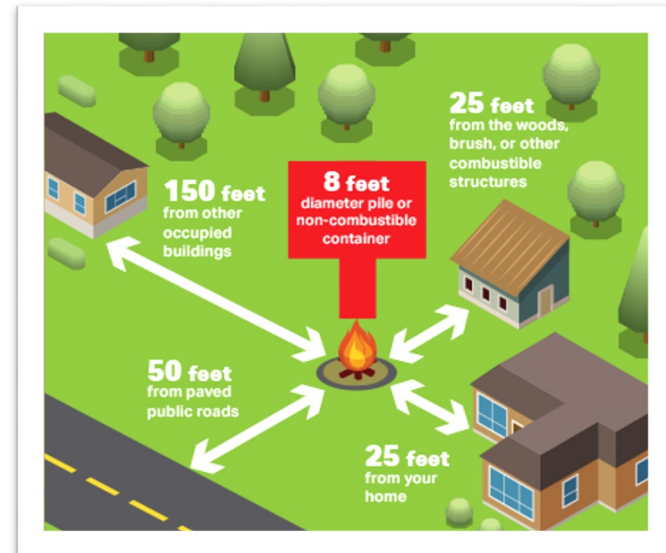
In Florida, wildfires occur at all times of the year, but historically Florida wildfire season peaks in April, May and June. This year, the national Interagency Fire Center has predicted above normal wildfire potential mainly due to the dry year.

With above normal wildfire potential, Floridians need to be aware of and prepared for the possible effects of wildfire. Anyone who lives with woods around them should “Be Wildfire Ready” by creating a defensible space around your home. This can be done by creating space between your house and vegetation, never storing firewood or debris piles near the home and ensuring highly flammable plants characterized by resinous sap and waxy leaves (saw palmetto, pine, and pampas grass) are not used near your house. For more information about becoming wildfire ready,

visit, [www.BeWildfireReadyFL.com](http://www.BeWildfireReadyFL.com).

In Charlotte County, residents are allowed to burn yard waste during favorable conditions as long as they meet the requirements.

Residents should avoid burning during periods of dry weather, on windy days and during periods of high fire danger. If you chose to burn during favorable conditions, never leave a fire unattended. If your fire escapes, you may be liable for the costs of suppression and any damage to the property of others.



## Solid Waste Customer Transactions

**11,645**  
Landfill Total Transactions

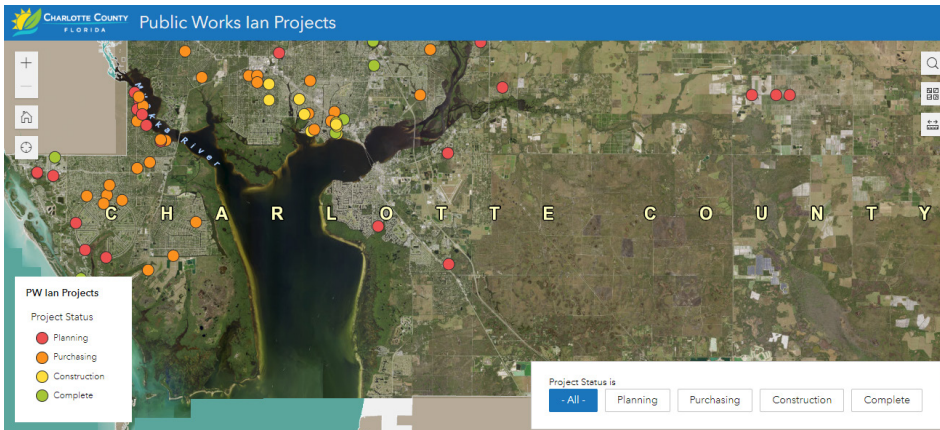
**9,337<sub>T</sub>** Residential M.S.W.  
**28,530<sub>T</sub>** Commercial M.S.W.  
**3,324<sub>T</sub>** Yard Waste

## Mini-Transfer & Recycling Facilities opened February 14

Mid County	West County	
<b>459</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>HHW</b>
<b>137</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>Sharp</b>
<b>482</b>	<b>563</b>	<b>Recycling</b>
<b>2,191</b>	<b>2,443</b>	<b>Refuse &amp; Yard</b>

## Engineering Ian Projects

**71** Projects



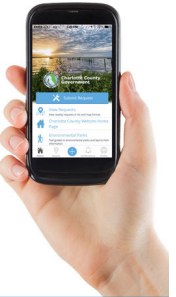
## Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control

**30**  
County App. Complaints

**10**  
Telephone Complaints

## County App. Requests Received

**187**  
Completed



## Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup across Charlotte County

**24**  
Clean ups

**504**  
Volunteers

**1187**  
Hours

**30,861 lbs**  
of Debris

**308**  
Bags

**2,035**  
Debris Recycled

**3** miles  
of roadways

**21** miles  
waterways

**31** acres  
of parks

## Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT

(Current Month)

Feb-22	\$983,015	↓ -7.9%
Feb-23	\$905,395	

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Feb-22	\$3,314,814	↑ 2.4%
Feb-23	\$3,393,438	

## PureFlorida.com

### Website Traffic

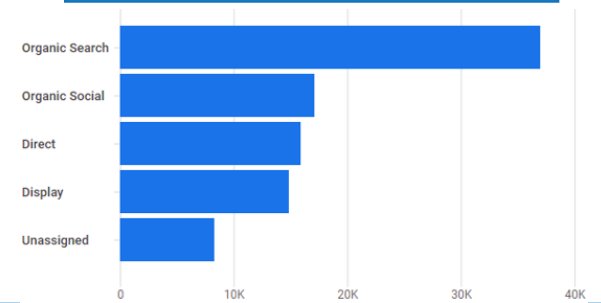
Website Users: 72K

Sessions: 98K

Top Origin Markets:

FL, GA, NY, MI, OH, IL, PA, NC, IN, VA

### Sessions by Channel Group



## SPORTS

### Sales March 2023

The Punta Gorda / Englewood Beach Visitors & Convention Bureau's Sports Division hosted a site visit with Visit Sarasota Sports touring our sports facilities, hotels, restaurants, and attractions. Since both counties team up to bid on large tournaments that spread across the region, this allows everyone to understand the assets we have to offer. It also helps attract potential clients since they will have two ambassadors supporting their event.

### Sports Corner

#### USA BMX – Florida State Championship Series

Charlotte BMX Track - March 23-26, 2023

The VCB Sports Division was awarded another USA BMX Florida Championship Series bringing in over 700 racers to Charlotte County BMX Track. Although the track suffered some damage due to the hurricane, USA BMX had complete faith in the destination, track, and staff to pull off another successful Championship. Prior to this race, Charlotte BMX volunteers installed a new covered starting area, an automatic starting gate, and resurfacing repairs to the track.



#### Destination Athletes – Centennial National Invitational

Centennial Park Pool - March 30- April 2, 2023

This Florida Swimming sanctioned event had 550 USA swim club athletes take to the deck at Centennial Park Pool in this second-year showcase. Clubs on Spring Break traveled in from the Northeast to participate. The meet created over 800 room nights and an economic impact of \$995,059 in 2022.



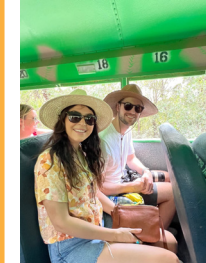
### Fun Fact

Fans are excited to see the Tampa Bay Rays and Spring Training back, so why not some baseball fun facts!

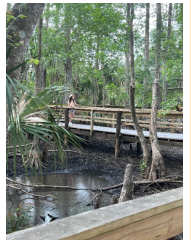
- Babe Ruth acquired his 700th home run baseball by paying the fan who caught it \$20.00
- Major League Baseball was formed in 1903
- In 1944, Joe Nuxhall made his MLB debut at 15 years old and is still considered the youngest player to ever play in Major League Baseball.
- 95% of MLB players use maple wood bats

## Public Relations/Media March 2023

A total of 622 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 309,304,578 and a media ad value of approximately \$581,493.



Australian travel writer Renee Hanel that now resides in Washington visited the Punta Gorda Englewood area from March 6 through March 9. Renee stayed



at the Wyveryn hotel, visited many of our attractions and restaurants including Babcock Ranch Eco Tour, a King Fisher Fleet sunset cruise, and Dean's South of the Border. Renee Hanel writes for the Renee Roaming Blog.



Check out our top social media posts for the month of March  
@realpureflorida

Visitors to Charlotte County save local residents an average of **\$1,083** per household in taxes every year.



## 2022 Water Quality Reports:

<https://tinyurl.com/2022-CCR-Peace-River>

<https://tinyurl.com/2022-CCR-Burnt-Store>

**2022 WATER QUALITY REPORTS**  
NOW AVAILABLE

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection requires water utilities to provide their customers a yearly Consumer Confidence Report. This report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

You can visit the links above to view these reports online.

To speak with someone about the report, please call 941.764.4300.

If you would like a paper copy of the 2022 Annual Water Quality Report mailed to your home, please call the above number or check the box on the front portion of your stub and return it to our office.

## April is Water Conservation Month

The Florida state Legislature designated April, typically a dry month when water demands are most acute, as Water Conservation Month to educate citizens about how they can help save Florida's precious water resources. All water users, including residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, institutional, hospitality, private citizens and others, are encouraged to contribute positively to reducing water use and protecting Florida's water resources.

Water Conservation Month

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **SR 776 Sewer Force Main Project:** Upsizing the existing sewer force main to 12-inch and 16-inch lines along SR 776 from Biscayne Dr. to the Charlotte Sports Park. This is an in-kind project for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Consent Order. This project is expected to be complete by spring 2023.
- **Ackerman Septic to Sewer Project:** Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 2,135 properties with sewer service. Zones 1, 2 and the vacuum station are currently underway. The vacuum station is expected to be complete by spring 2023. Zones 1 and 2 sewer connections are expected to begin after vacuum station completion. If you are in Zone 2 and still need to receive or complete an Installation Agreement? Please contact Syndi Merriman at [Syndi.Merriman@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:Syndi.Merriman@CharlotteCountyFL.gov) or 941-764-4305 for more information. For project information: [AckermanProject.com](http://AckermanProject.com)
- **Lake View/Midway Septic to Sewer Project:** This project proposes construction of a wastewater collection system to service approximately 1,500 properties with sewer service, new water service lines and a vacuum station.
- **Cape Haze Septic to Sewer Project:** This project proposes construction of a wastewater collection system to service approximately 300 properties with sewer service and a vacuum station.

## OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 8,329
- **Call Wait Time:** 2 minutes 37 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 44,907 (237 increase from Feb.)
- **Water Connections:** 67,675 (256 increase from Feb.)

### Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **4 Misc.—Utilities Department**
  - **5 Utilities Billing**
  - **11 Utilities Department Service**
- 20 Total**

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)  
**2,350 Follows**

### 2021 Water Quality Reports:

<https://tinyurl.com/2021-CCR-Peace-River>  
<https://tinyurl.com/2021-CCR-Burnt-Store>

Remember, every drop counts! 💧

### Important Information:

The Temporary Customer Payment Center located at the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, B-109, in Port Charlotte is open.

### **Monday through Friday—9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

The Temporary Customer Payment Center assisted **217** individuals for the month of February.

Contact us at 941.764.4300 or [CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov)