

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Betsy Clayton, A.P.R.
Communications Director
Lee County Government
239-826-4606
bclayton@leegov.com

or
Christine Bailey
Lee County Parks & Recreation
239-229-0619
cbailey@leegov.com

New pickleball and renovated tennis courts open at Lee County's Jerry Brooks Community Park

Fort Myers, FL, May 27, 2016 — Lee County Parks & Recreation opened new pickleball and renovated tennis courts at Jerry Brooks Community Park, 50 South Road, Fort Myers, on Friday, May 27.

The \$37,884 project began this month and transformed two of the four tennis courts into six pickleball courts. Locally, pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports among adults. Lee County Parks & Recreation converted centrally located courts with lighting to Pickleball use. There are now 10 outdoor pickleball courts available to the public, including four at Wa-Ke Hatchee Community Park.

Pickleball is a racquet sport that combines elements of badminton, tennis, and table tennis. Two, three, or four players use solid paddles made of wood or composite materials to hit a perforated polymer ball, similar to a wiffle ball, over a net. The sport shares features of other racquet sports, the dimensions and layout of a badminton court, and a net and rules similar to tennis, with a few modifications. Pickleball was invented in the mid-1960s as a children's backyard pastime but quickly became popular among adults as a fun game for players of all levels.

For more information visit www.LeeParks.org or call 239-533-7275.

-30-

Note to media: Images available upon request. Contact Kristie Valone at Lee County Parks & Recreation, 239-533-7437 or kvalone@leegov.com.