



# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *February 3 - 9, 2013*

### **OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

Thank you to all who participated in the **So Classic Car Show** on the Tangerine Greenway February 2 (photos below). More than sixty awards were presented in numerous categories ranging from best in show, best paint job, Mayor's Choice and more. Attendees enjoyed live music, shopping bazaar, costumed characters, and a kiddy area!



It was a healthy day at the Gulfport Health & Wellness Expo at the Gulfport Casino on February 6. This event featured free health screenings, presentations, speakers, and interactive demonstrations (photos below).



### **Upcoming Events:**

The Professional Association of Visual Artists, PAVA, will host the **2Cool Art Show** in the Gulfport Casino Ballroom Saturday & Sunday, February 9 & 10, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free admission and parking. For more information please visit [www.pava-artists.org](http://www.pava-artists.org).

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made art and crafts, bath, body and wellness products, live music and more. Over 50 vendors and exhibitors participate each Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. with extended hours until 8 p.m. and special events on the first Tuesday of each month.

Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the **Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry** to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent each Tuesday. Donate your gently used clothes to the **Clothing Swap to Benefit CASA** (Community Action Stops Abuse) at the Peninsula Courtyard 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on February 12. Bring your own hangers. Extra clothing donations for CASA are appreciated. For more information visit [www.gulfportma.com](http://www.gulfportma.com) or [www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket](http://www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket), call Daniel Hodge at 366-4086 or email [dan@iqc.org](mailto:dan@iqc.org).

The Women's League of voters will host a **Meet the Candidates** forum in City Hall Council Chambers on Tuesday, February 12 at 7 p.m. Mayor Candidates will discuss current issues in Gulfport. For more information call 893-1012.

Dance the night away at the Gulfport Casino **Valentines Dance** on Thursday, February 14, 8 - 11 p.m. Enjoy live music by the 18 piece Lloyd Johns Gulf Bay Big Band. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Call 893-1070 for more information.

Join the City of Gulfport Recreation Division for **Family Fun Day** at Tomlinson Park on Saturday, February 16, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Enjoy inflatables, entertainment, free food, arts & crafts, and family competitions. For more information please call 727-893-1068.

Don't miss the live music, original art and great eateries during **Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard on Saturday, February 16, 6 - 10 p.m. Call 322-5217 for more information.

Meet the **Circle of Friends** during their Second Annual meeting at the Gulfport Public Library on Tuesday, February 19 at 7 p.m. Guest Speaker is *For the Love of Cities* author Peter Kageyama. The Friends will also officially launch their newest project, the Gulfport Library Reading Garden. The meeting is open to all. For more information call 893-1075.

Come out to the **Ninth Annual Get Rescued** animal rescue festival and fundraiser on Beach Boulevard Saturday, February 23, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more information call Suzanne King at 322-5217.

### **Weekly Casino Ballroom Events**

- Every Tuesday, 12 p.m.: Ballroom lessons, - \$7
- Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: Argentine Tango Dance/ Lesson - \$7
- Every Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Swing Dance/Lesson - \$7
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7 p.m.: Salsa Dance/Lesson - \$7
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6 p.m.: Band/Ballroom Dance and Band - \$7
- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, 6 p.m.: Ballroom DJ & dance - \$7

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Administration**

#### ***Calls for Service:***

Offenses	44
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	17

#### **Examples of arrests and significant incidents or calls this week:**

Officers responded to a residence in the 2600 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street on the afternoon of January 15 after a caller reported his alarm company advised him the front door of his home was open. He discovered a pry mark on the door, and jewelry missing from the bedroom. There are no known suspects.

Officers were summoned to the Chase Dog Park on the afternoon of January 18 to serve a domestic violence injunction. Both the petitioner and respondent were at the park.

Officers responded to a 911 call regarding bricks being thrown at an occupied residence in the 1800 block of York street on the evening of January 18. Two chunks of concrete had been thrown through the home's windows, and the suspects were gone when police arrived.

Christopher Nickerson was arrested for grand theft on the afternoon of January 19 after he admitted he stole a television from his landlord and sold it for drugs.

Officers responded to an Attempted Burglary at Southwest Pinellas Storage on the afternoon of January 19 after a caller reported that someone had kicked the doors on two storage units, causing damage to both. The doors were buckled inward, but nothing appeared to have been stolen.

Officers assisted PCSO with a burglary investigation on January 20 after a woman stole numerous electronics from her cousin's home in the 5900 block of 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North, and brought them to her home in Gulfport. The items were found under her bed during a search of the property, and the woman admitted to stealing them so that her sister would "return her phone calls."

On the afternoon of January 20 an anonymous person notified GPD that Michal Teal who had an outstanding dealing in stolen property warrant from Hillsborough County was at a residence in the 5700 block of 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Teal was located and arrested.

### **Investigations:**

<b>New Cases:</b>	9
Cases Suspended - no leads	3
Cases Assigned:	3
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	20
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	1
Cases Referred Back to Patrol:	0

<b>Supplements Received:</b>	31
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	3
Previously cleared with Arrest:	5
Cases Closed-No Leads:	3
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	0
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Still Active:	20

Sgt Woodman cleared 2 cases and arrested Nicholas Pastor on Burglary, Grand Theft, and Criminal Mischief charges. He also interviewed the alleged victim in a sexual battery case. She confessed that it was consensual (based on video and text evidence). Sgt. Woodman is working with PPPD detectives on another sexual battery case.

Detective Pham conducted a follow-up on an aggravated battery incident and spoke to the 13 year-old suspect who confessed to the alleged crime and was arrested. He and Sgt. Woodman also investigated a sexual battery case involving three high school students and determined the incident was unfounded. One of the juveniles was arrested for possession of child pornography because he recorded the activity with his cell phone.

Detective Embry has issued Probable Cause for the arrest of Ronald Nixon, a suspect involved in a burglary case he is investigating. He is also trying to locate Nicholas Reddick regarding another burglary case. Detective Embry has established a lead for Colleen Alicia and is attempting to locate her regarding in 3 separate cases under investigation.

This week School Resource Officer Motte mentored a student, mediated an altercation preventing a fight from occurring, assisted patrol with a burglary in progress, assisted Officer Beltran in arresting a combative student, and arrested a student for disorderly conduct. He also covered an after school Basketball game at Gibbs High School between Boca Ciega and Gibbs.

This week Analyst Palmisano continued tabulating the annual UCR report, conducted reviews of reports in ACISS with stolen property that has a known serial number for entry into FCIC, produced and distributed the open case list, and created and distributed a BOLO for Det. Pham regarding a Grand Theft case. She also worked in records for 10 hours.

## **MARINA**

Pumped one thousand one hundred sixty (1,160) gallons of gas, and one thousand one hundred fifty eight (1,158) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling sixty (60) vessels.

Assisted in twenty one (21) pump-outs evacuating three hundred fifty five (355) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

## **LEISURE SERVICES**

### **Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport](http://www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport) to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at [www.mygulfport.us/GTV615/Live\\_Webstream.htm](http://www.mygulfport.us/GTV615/Live_Webstream.htm). It's a great way to keep in touch with out of town family and friends! Spread the word!

- Distributed biweekly press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted GTV615 station equipment.
- Uploaded weekly programming schedule and events to City website and GTV615.
- Provided photographic coverage for Classic Car Show and Health & Wellness Expo.
- Provided Control Room coverage for February 5 City Council meeting & February 6 Board of Adjustment meeting. Rebroadcast both on GTV615 and made DVD copies for IT Department and City Clerk's office.
- Prepared March Events/Meetings Calendar.
- Uploaded upcoming City events and announcements to City website and GTV615.
- Addressed community inquiries regarding March 16 Citywide Yard Sale.
- Continued preparations for Pinellas County Fair; spoke with coordinators about logistics. Planning for setup on Monday, March 18.
- Met with Parks & Recreation Superintendent Bob Williams to discuss upcoming events.
- Met with Librarian Dave Mather discuss website revision survey & new website design.
- Created/assisted with program materials for Second Annual Circle of Friends meeting.

### **Parks**

Repaired bridge, drinking fountain and shelter at Tomlinson Park.

Met with staff regarding upcoming event planning.

Inventoried “No Smoking” areas and signage.

Met with Pet Rescue organizer to discuss needs for upcoming event.

Removed holiday lights from Clymer Park tree.

Replaced bench on Tangerine Greenway and flag, rope & pulley on flagpole at Historical Building.

Trimmed, weeded & cleaned wood Ibis & Veterans Parks and 49<sup>th</sup> Streetscapes, picked up trash and emptied cans on Beach & Shore Boulevards, and raked around benches & pavilions.

Mowed Recreation field, Beach area, Clymer & Tangerine Greenways, and Hoyt Perimeter

Greased mowers, sharpened blades, replaced shaft on line trimmer and repaired power head on stick edger.

Repaired irrigation at Library, Beach Streetscapes and Lum Fields, replaced 15 vandalized sprinkler heads and adjusted irrigation timer at Veterans Park.

Opened & cleaned Skate Park daily.

Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children’s playground areas. Trash receptacles were emptied and the Bocce Ball courts were inspected for needed repairs.

#### **Other Activities:**

- All City park trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged all ball fields daily.

#### **GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mini-Bus Service)**

The City of Gulfport offers transportation service for residents 55 and older. GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mobility Service) offers rides to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. The \$65 annual registration fee entitles members to ride GEMS for \$2 per one-way trip and is good for one year from date of registration. Want to go shopping? GEMS offers hourly trips to: South Pasadena on Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays; the Tyrone shopping area on Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons, and; Walmart & Aldi every Tuesday afternoon. Call 893-2242 for more information on this door-to-door service.

#### **Multipurpose Center**

Like us on Facebook at “Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation”. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information!

Sign up today to enjoy all the classes and events offered at the Gulfport Senior Center. Ask Gail or Rachel to give you a tour! This is your Center! Pick up a copy of the February schedule at the Senior Center or online at <http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org>.

Ready to get fit and meet new friends? If you’re over 50 visit the **Foundation Fitness Center** Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Fridays 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Annual membership is \$25 or \$40 a couple. Stop by the Multipurpose Center and take a tour of our state-of-the-art fitness facility.

Remember the days of live shows with jugglers, dancing girls, comics, singing and dance? Experience a bit of the past with a **Vaudville Show** sponsored by our friends Jay & Lota Wygant at the Catherine Hickman Theater, at 7 p.m. Friday, February 8. Tickets are just \$10 and help support the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation.

**Auto Driver Safety classes** have been rescheduled to 12:45 p.m. Saturday, February 9. To register call Gail at 893-2237 or Rachel at 893-1231.

The next **Snack Bar Movie Day** is Tuesday, February 12 at 11 a.m. Enjoy a special lunch for only \$2.50 and a free movie.

What Medicaid Programs are available to seniors? Who is eligible? How do I apply? Find the answers at the **Understanding Medicaid forum** at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 20.

Representatives from the Pinellas County Property Appraiser's office will visit the Multipurpose Center 9 a.m. - noon Friday, February 25 to assist seniors with filing **2013 Property Tax Exemption** applications.

Come out and meet dance instructor Elaine Eastman and enjoy a **NEW Dance Fusion Exercise class** at Scout Hall on Monday, January 28 at 10:30 p.m.

Join Escot Tours for a visit to Hard Rock Café. The bus leaves the Multipurpose Center at 7:45 a.m. every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, and at 3:30 p.m. every Sunday & Tuesday. The \$20 fee includes \$30 in casino tokens. For information and reservations call 545-2088 or 888-571-7778, or visit [www.escotbuslines.com](http://www.escotbuslines.com).

A representative from the Community Law Program visits the Multipurpose Center at 10 a.m. every third Friday offering **free legal help** for people over 60 who meet certain criteria. Call 582-7480 for more information.

A beginner's **Sketching Art Class** is offered at 1 p.m. every Friday. Learn the ropes with Richard. Call 893-2237 or 893-1231 to register.

A **Beginners Line Dance class** is offered at Scout Hall at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays for registered members of the Multipurpose Center. Multipurpose Center membership is free.

A **Tai Chi for Arthritis Program** is offered on Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.

### **Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center**

#### **Casino (last week's events):**

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| Sunday, January 27    | 8 a.m. - Tampa Friends of Old Time Dance Annual Snow Ball (Turnout 360)<br>6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson with John<br>7 p.m. - Mario DeLeon's Band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 46)  |
| Monday, January 28    | 7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance (Turnout 150)  |
| Tuesday, January 29   | Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 14)<br>1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 9)<br>2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing<br>6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson<br>8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 63) |
| Wednesday, January 30 | 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime<br>7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime<br>8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 251)  |
| Thursday, January 31  | 7 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera<br>8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 28)   |

#### **Casino (Upcoming Events):**

- |              |                                |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Every Sunday | 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson |
|--------------|--------------------------------|

7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance

Every Tuesday

12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker

2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$7

6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson

8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$7

Every Wednesday

6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime

7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime

8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$7

Every Thursday

7 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera

8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7

Saturday & Sunday, February 9 & 10, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. - PAVA 2013 2 Cool Art Show  
Admission Free

### **Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events)**

Sunday, January 27

2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present *Sordid Lives*  
(Turnout 147)

### **Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):**

Thursday- Saturday, February 21 - 23, February 28 - March 2 & March 7-9, 8 p.m., and Sunday, February 24, March 3 & 10, 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present *The Women in Black*, an intense Gothic ghost story with a spine-chilling climax. Tickets available at the Gulfport Casino, Beach Bazaar and Gulfport Chamber of Commerce, or by calling 322-0316.

### **Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):**

Sunday, January 27

9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 8)

6:15 p.m. - Over Eaters Anonymous meeting (Turnout 12)

### **Neighborhood Center (Upcoming events):**

Every Sunday

6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every first - third Sunday

9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services

Every fourth Sunday

9:15 a.m. - Bible study

### **Scout Hall (Last week's events):**

Monday - Friday

7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, January 29

11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 15)

Wednesday, January 30

10:30 a.m. - Yoga class (Turnout 25)

Thursday, January 31

9:30 a.m. - Bob's Band practice

### **Scout Hall (Upcoming Events):**

Every Monday - Friday

7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting

## **LIBRARY**

The Gulfport Library offers free one-on-one computer instruction on a first come basis every Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

### **Public Programs/Meetings/Events:**

- Tuesday, January 29, 3 p.m. - *eSalon* facilitated by Alex Hooks.
- Tuesday, January 29, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open AA meeting*.
- Wednesday, January 30, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting*.
- Wednesday, January 30, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*, facilitated by Sheri Stanley.
- Thursday, January 31, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime for Preschoolers* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.
- Thursday, January 31, 12:30 p.m. - *Conscious Awareness Group meeting*.
- Friday February 1, 10 a.m. - AARP Income Tax Assistance.
- Saturday, February 2, 10 a.m. - Voter Registration Drive.

### **Upcoming Events:**

- Every Monday & Friday through April 15, 10 a.m. - *AARP Income Tax Assistance*. Taxpayers must bring social security cards for all persons listed on their tax returns, a photo ID, and all pertinent records such as W2s, 1099s, other income & credits and a copy of last year's return if available. For more information call 893-1073.
- Saturday, February 9, 11 a.m. - *Crafts for Kids*. For more information call Cailey Klasson at 893-1134.
- Saturday, February 9 & 23 and March 9 & 23 2 p.m. - *Writing Workshops*. Trace Taylor returns with her popular training on how to produce a book.
- Thursday, February 14, 3:30 p.m. - *Maya the Reading Assistance Dog*. Call 893-1073 to schedule an appointment.
- Saturday, February 16 - Free Family Movie Day: 10:30 a.m. - *Hotel Transylvania*; 1:30 p.m. - *Total Recall*. Enjoy free popcorn provided by the Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. For more information call 368-1598.
- Tuesday, February 19, 7 p.m. - *Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library Annual meeting*. Everyone is invited to hear featured speaker, world renowned City expert & author Peter Kageyama. The Circle of Friends Reading Garden project will also be unveiled
- Thursday, February 21, 10:30 a.m. - Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of *The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Please call 893-1073 for more information.
- Tuesday, February 26, - *SCORE Counseling*. Free and helpful advice from experienced business professionals.
- Every Thursday through February 28, 12:30 p.m. - *Conscious Awareness Group meeting*. Sessions include a short meditation period, audio recording of a chapter of *Practicing the Power of Now*, group discussions and video recordings of Eckhart Tolle's teachings from Eckhart Tolle TV.

- Every First Tuesday of the Month, 9 a.m. - *Community Involvement Consulting*. A representative from Congressman C.W. Bill Young's office provides information and solicits questions and concerns from the public. First come, first served.
- Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. - *eSalon*. Learn to browse, place a hold, check out and download ebooks from our digital catalog. Meet with others to learn the basics, or discover new ways of using the e-Reader, tablet or mp3. For more information call 893-1073.
- Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information please call 916-0916.
- Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers* meeting.
- Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*. Challenge your friends on the latest XBOX 360 games or just hang out and enjoy free refreshments.
- Every Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - *Beginning Spanish*.
- Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*: Enjoy picture books selected to be read to preschool age children, in the Youth Services area at the rocking chair near the Easy books.
- Every Thursday, 4:30 p.m. - *Business Debtors Anonymous*.

**Library Services/Statistics January 27 - February 2, 2013:**  
**Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	2,170	713
Sun. 1/27	12	12
Mon. 1/28	384	136
Tue. 1/29	376	125
Wed. 1/30	377	102
Thu. 1/31	345	129
Fri. 2/1	424	126
Sat. 2/2	252	83

**Recreation Center**

**Programs, Classes & Activities**

The **Gulfport Walking Club** meets at the Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard every Thursday through March 29. The Club's adventures take them through many Gulfport and Pinellas County parks. Everyone walks at their own pace, so feel free to do a mile or five. Call Recreation Coordinator John Lapham at 893-1079 for more information.

Forty three (43) children are registered for the **School Year Child Care Program**, a quality program that provides a nurturing atmosphere where children in Kindergarten through age 14 have the opportunity to experience recreational, social, creative and enriching activities. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Annual registration fee is \$17 for residents and \$110 for non-residents with monthly fees of \$146 for residents and \$292 for non-residents. Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary.

Thirteen (13) children are registered for the 2012/13 **Tot Time Program**, and seven (7) for **VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten)**. Tot Time is a pre-school, hands-on program for children ages 3-5. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who turned 4 years of age by September 1. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten.

**Contractual classes:** Chair Yoga, Cooking, Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Stretch & Tone, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Walking Club, Yoga and Zumba.

Fifty three (53) teens are registered the **2012/13 Teen Night program**, a great hang out for teens in grades 6-12 providing recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects. The teens utilize the gymnasium, game room and outdoor area. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents. Program hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 6 - 9 p.m.

### **Staff Activities**

Alton Hooker used the school bus to transport a group of Gulfport Elementary students to the St. Pete Pier on Monday.

Two **Teen Council** members volunteered at the So49 Classic Car Show on Saturday.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

#### **Customer Service and Finance**

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 35 new, 0 closed
- Water payments: 1,281 totaling \$215,945.40
- Online Water payments: 124 transactions totaling \$11,262.79
- Bright House payments: 23
- Utility Bills Mailed 02/06/13: 1,262
- Payroll 02/01/13: 157 transactions totaling \$174,697.72
- Payroll-Accounts Payable: 11 transactions totaling \$20,577.86

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Calls for Service:**

- 42 Emergency Medical Calls
- 4 Structure Fires
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 1 Vehicle Crash
- 2 Fires Outside Structures

#### **Life Safety:**

- 6 Fire Inspections
- 11 Re Inspections
- 2 C.O.'s
- 1 Site Plan Review

The **CERT Team** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, February 21. For more information visit [www.gulfportcert.com](http://www.gulfportcert.com) or call Bob Worthington at 916-8014.

#### **Staff Activities:**

- The Gulfport Fire Department is hosting a Paramedic Student from St. Petersburg College internship field program. Lt. Poirrier on the "B"- shift is his preceptor.
- Piper Fire Protection Systems performed annual testing on the Fire Station and City Hall Fire Alarm Systems on February 5.

- Dr. Jameson, Dr. Dooley and Dr. Bowden and all EMS Coordinators met at Sunstar EMS on February 5 to discuss the new QA policies and processes.
- Chief Marenkovic attended the Pinellas County Fire Chief Association (PCFCA) meeting in Largo on February 7. The revised Medical Operations Manual (MOM) from new EMS Medical Director Dr. David M. Bowden went into effect on February 6, 2013.
- Gulfport Fire Department Paramedics and EMTs have commenced their February 2013 St. Petersburg College CME: Newborn to Adolescent Emergency Care & Assessment.
- Inspector Frank Vento and Chief Marenkovic handled a Certificate of Occupancy and a Hood System acceptance test at a new business at 2930 Beach Boulevard.
- Inspector Vento filed three Fire Code Violation cases for the February 28 Special Magistrate hearing.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Public Works Director Don Sopak reports that Gulfport residents recycled 22 tons of newspaper, 6.18 tons of corrugated cardboard, 311.69 tons of mixed paper, 20.51 tons of glass containers, 672.27 tons of yard waste, 9.7 tons of construction and demolition debris and 104.40 tons of remaining miscellaneous/other items in 2012.

### **Building Maintenance:**

- Replaced faucet spout in kitchen and horns on fire alarm system, recharged air conditioning unit and repaired toilet in outside men's restroom at Casino.
- Repaired men's urinal at Little League complex.
- Inspected fire alarms and sprinklers at City Hall and Fire Department.
- Replaced ballast in Theater lobby.
- Unblocked men's urinal at beach restroom.
- Set up work station in Council Chambers for auditors.
- Performed routine daily maintenance duties at all City buildings.

### **Streets & Sanitation:**

- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses on roadways.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, trash, electronics and Code Enforcement.
- Delivered recycling bins and "City of Gulfport Recycling Guidelines" information sheet to multiple residential and commercial properties.
- Removed traffic control obstructions and debris throughout City.
- Cleaned, reset and maintained storm drains, grates and inlets throughout City.
- Completed asphalt patch work on multiple potholes throughout City per direction.
- Completed alley and easement grading throughout City.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping at Beach Boulevard & 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Replaced/reset damaged traffic control signs on Tangerine Avenue and various locations throughout City.
- Repaired sidewalks at various City locations.
- Graded Gulfport Beach and removed seaweed & debris.
- Set-up and delivered garbage and recycling bins for Car Show, and removed following event.
- Removed damaged signs at Tangerine Avenue & 50<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Continued curbside bagged leaves pick-up.
- Added millings to alley at 60<sup>th</sup> Street & 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Removed palm trees creating sight obstruction on 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue per Code Enforcement.

- Cut and cleared tree obstruction at 49<sup>th</sup> Street & 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Cleaned stormwater grates on Tangerine Avenue and Marina.
- Assembled and delivered five new 300 gallon containers to Boca Ciega High School.
- Delivered and exchanged automated containers for automated route.
- Cleaned and cleared debris from roadway at Gulfport Boulevard & 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

#### **Water:**

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the points of connection to water distribution system (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes # 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the monthly meter reading schedule
- Disconnected water service at 33 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 5 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 91 Customer Service-generated miscellaneous service orders.
- Completed 8 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Replaced 1 water meter that was stuck and not recording usage.
- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.

#### **Sewer**

- Daily preventive maintenance and service at lift stations 1 & 2.
- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Daily per trip vehicle check inspection.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2. Police & Fire Departments and Multipurpose Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Televised 15" sewer on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 50<sup>th</sup> & 51<sup>st</sup> Streets.
- Cleaned and televised sewer line at 1113 56<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Replaced muffler and exhaust elbow on Sanitation Truck #43.
- Replaced strobe light on Fire Truck #P17.
- Performed front brake job on Police Vehicle #09.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

### **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors**

The Pinellas County Communications Department offers the following information when looking for qualified contractors:

Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board helps guide homeowners in hiring a licensed contractor for home improvements

From January to July of this year, the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board issued 536 citations against unlicensed contractors. Hiring an unlicensed contractor can put residents' homes in jeopardy, produce safety hazards and cost extra money to homeowners when work is not done correctly.

“Do your homework and follow the guidelines and resources provided to you by the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board,” said Executive Director Rodney Fischer. “Why take a chance with your money and safety?”

The function of the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board is to regulate construction and home improvement contractors practicing in all Pinellas jurisdictions.

The licensing board can tell you if a contractor has a license. They must be licensed by the board or the state of Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and be registered with the board. Licensed contractors have passed a competency exam and perform electrical, plumbing or structural work in compliance with the building codes.

The state requires licensed contractors to have workers’ compensation and liability insurance and the board monitors their insurance coverage. Without these, if a worker gets injured on the job or damages property, the homeowner is liable. Many insurance policies will not pay claims if an unlicensed contractor was doing the work.

#### WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR, REMEMBER:

- Talk to friends and neighbors for recommendations.
- Home improvement contractors of various skills must be licensed with the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board. The license number must be displayed on advertising as well as on contracts. You can verify a contractor's license number and check any complaints by contacting the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board at (727) 582-3100.
- Check with the Department of Justice and Consumer Services at (727) 464-6200 to determine the number of complaints against a business.
- Ask the contractor for references and follow through with verifying them.
- Ask the contractor for proof of insurance.
- Never deal with anyone who solicits or appears at your home unannounced.
- Obtain a minimum of two bids for the work to be done.

#### WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:

- All work should be specifically stated in the contract.
- An approximate starting and completion date should be included.
- All warranties including labor and materials should be addressed.
- A payment schedule should be contained in the contract.
- Do not give a large deposit before the beginning of work and do not pay the balance until completion.
- A three-day right to cancel rarely applies to home improvement contracts.
- Do not sign a blank contract or one containing blank spaces.
- Watch for non-refundable deposits and non-escrow accounts. In new home construction, part of the purchase price must be escrowed (this can be waived).

For more information call the board at 582-3100 or check their website at [www.pcclb.com](http://www.pcclb.com).

**Building Division** staff tries to take special time to work with homeowners embarking on do-it-yourself projects. Whether it's deferred maintenance or new improvements, due to hard economic times many are electing to do these projects themselves. Before beginning home improvement projects give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss plans and inspections that may be necessary, to explain code requirements and help you through the process.

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the New Business Checklist at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

**Code Enforcement** activities have moved to section 1 of the City, also known as the Stetson Area which comprises the northwest portion of the City and generally extends south from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Gulfport Boulevard and east from 64<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup> Street. .

Because the City has one inspector who focuses on one section at a time, we depend on residents to call in violations when they see them. We will inspect within one working day of a complaint to verify any violation. Please call 893-1061 if you see violations. If the inspector is unavailable, leave as detailed a message as possible to help us find the violation. Complaints can be anonymous, but if you want a follow-up you will have to leave contact information which means the complaint is no longer anonymous.

To review the Code Enforcement Activities documents for more detailed information and a map of the Code Enforcement areas please visit the Special Documents section of the City's website at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us).

**February 6, 2013 Planning and Zoning Board and February 19, 2013 City Council/CRA meeting results:**

C13-01; 3101 Beach Boulevard South; Conditional Use with Site Plan for a proposed mixed use development with commercial and residential components. P&Z RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.

**February 13, 2013 Board of Adjustment:**

V13-02; 3101 Beach Boulevard South; Variance request to reduce the commercial component of a proposed mixed use development by 43%, from the required 60% commercial ratio component of the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) to 17%, and to increase the residential component of the proposed mixed use development by 43%, from the required 40% residential ratio of the Floor Area Ratio to 83%.

Distribution:

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