



Gulfport Community Update

March 18 - 24, 2012

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

There's always something happening in Gulfport and Saturday, March 17 was no exception! Volunteers worked hard at the Clam Bayou Cleanup while treasure seekers looked for one of-a-kind treasures at *Antiques in the Park* and 86 homes participating in the Citywide Yard Sale. Then it was on to the O'Maddy's Teen Council Fund Raiser. Third Saturday Art Walk topped off a perfect (photos below courtesy of Gulfport Patch, Cherlene Willis and Rachel Jolley).



Gulfport Fire Department A-Shift members Lt. Pete Huffman, Rene Fernandez, Timothy Burton and Christopher Mathis were honored at the March 20 City Council meeting. They responded to a Structure Fire on Hull Street South and performed a forcible entry into the structure with a charged hose line to extinguish the room on fire. They made their way past the fire with the Thermal Imaging Camera to search for and rescue any victims still inside the home. They found a female in a bedroom and carried her out of the burning structure.

Gulfport Recycles:

Public Works Director Don Sopak reports that the most recent state mandated reports show that the City's recycling rate has once again increased. In 2011 Gulfport recycled a total of 1,283.15 tons, up from last year's total of 987.43 tons. The 2011 total is equivalent to 468 lbs per household or 213 lbs per resident.

In our efforts to continue increasing our recycling rate, Public Works has partnered with Call2Recycle® to provide collection boxes at the Neighborhood Center, City Hall, Gulfport Library & Senior Center for easy and free recycling of rechargeable batteries and cell phones.

Upcoming Events:

Don't miss the **Eggciting Gulfport Chamber of Commerce Springfest** on Saturday, March 31, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Beach Boulevard. "Get your Bonnet on It" Hat contest and Parade! Enjoy fun, music, food and lots of cool festivities. For more information call 322-5217.

Visit **First Friday Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District on Friday, April 6, 6 - 10 p.m. For more information call 322-5217.

Join the **City of Imagination** for the next **Art Exhibit Opening & Reception** in the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue on Friday, April 6 at 6 p.m. For more information call 344-5443 or 686-2564, or visit www.cityofimagination.info.

Eat all you can at the **Lions Pancake Breakfast**, Saturday on April 7, 7 - 11 a.m. \$5.00 at the door. The Lion's Den is located at 4630 Tifton Drive. For more information call 327-2100.

City of Gulfport and Stetson College of Law Public Service Fellows *Fun in the Sun Day* event is scheduled for Saturday, April 7, 10 a.m. - noon at the Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard. FREE festivities will include an egg hunt for children ages 8 & under, basket raffle, inflatables, entertainment and food. Children will also have the opportunity to climb into the driver's seat of their favorite vehicle: police car, police boat, fire truck, ambulance, garbage truck and many more. Peter Cottontail will be on hand for pictures.

Everyone is welcome at the **Crime Watch** meeting on Monday, April 9, 7 p.m. at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street. For more information call 327-3509.

Bring gently used clothes to the **Clothing Swap to Benefit CASA** during **Gulfport Fresh Market** at the Peninsula Courtyard, 2937 Beach Boulevard, Tuesday, April 10, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information call Daniel Hodge at 366-4086.

The next **49th Street South Business Association (So49) meeting** is Wednesday, April 11 at 5:30 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center. For more information call 515-4941.

Get your organization involved to support the fight against cancer in an overnight campout and walk for **Relay for Life** beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday, April 14, until 8 a.m. Sunday, April 15 at the Recreation Center. For more information call Sandy Valentine at 320-2069.

The next **Historic Preservation Meeting** is Wednesday, April 18 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gulfport Museum, 5301 28th Avenue. For more information call 893-1012.

The next **Historic Museum Board Meeting** is Saturday, April 21 at 10 a.m. at the Gulfport Museum. For more information call 327-0505.

Celebrate water during **EarthFest 2012** on Saturday, April 21, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Clymer Park. Many earth friendly vendors and activities. For more information on activities and vendor opportunities call 744-7051.

The **Third Saturday Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District is April 21, 6 - 10 p.m. For information and vendor opportunities, call 322-5217.

Free Oral Cancer and Prostate Screenings will be offered in the Walgreens parking lot on Saturday, April 28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information call 322-5669.

Boca Ciega Yacht Club FUNDAY on Saturday, April 28, 1 - 4 p.m. at the Yacht Club, 4600 Tifton Drive. Free sailboat rides, hotdogs & soda. For more information call 345-2764.

Bring a chair to Gulfport Beach and watch the **Gulfport Yacht Club Multi-Hull Regatta** on Saturday, April 28 at 11 a.m. & Sunday April 29 at 10 a.m. Participants can register online at <http://www.gulfportyachtclub.com>. For more information call Regatta Chairman Bob Feckner at 215-7982 or email bobfeck@aol.com.

Weekly Events

- Every Tuesday, 12 p.m.: Ballroom lessons, August 2 & 9 - \$7
- Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: Argentine Tango Dance/ Lesson - \$7
- Every Wednesday, 6 p.m.: Swing Dance/Lesson - \$7
- 1st and 3rd Thursday 7 p.m.: Salsa Dance/Lesson - \$7
- 1st and 3rd Sunday, 6 p.m.: Band/Ballroom Dance and Band - \$7
- 2nd & 4th Sunday, 6 p.m.: Ballroom DJ & dance - \$7

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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.

Business Tax Receipts

A checklist for new businesses is available on the City's website under the documents section.

Code Enforcement activities have moved to Section 5 of the City, also known as the Marina District Area. This area comprises the southeast portion of the City which generally extends south from 26th Avenue South to the water and east from 49th Street to the City boundaries.

High grass and weeds, and trash and debris make up the largest types of violations that staff deals with during the summer season. Because there is only one inspector who focuses on one section of the City 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 (727) 893-1061 to report 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.

While often times a knock on the door or letter to an off-season property owner will take care of a violation, there are times when it takes a while to gain compliance. Staff has to make every effort to contact the property owner. With so many foreclosures and short sales in our present economy, this can become difficult and can take time. Just because nothing may appear to be happening, doesn't mean the City is unaware of, or ignoring a violation. Life/safety issues are abated as quickly as possible, depending on the extent of the problem. If a property owner cannot be found, the City will attempt abatement to alleviate any immediate problems. If you have questions about a property, give us a call at 893-1061.

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.

Planning and Development

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) – Staff has prepared an application for CDBG funding for improvements to the Tangerine Parkway. The proposal is to build “Trolley Market Square” with pavers, benches, lighting, and shade to provide an anchor for special events and activities in the parkway. A trolley replica is proposed to attract attention to the parkway improvements and to the surrounding business district. The funding request is for \$216,280.

Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) - On January 20, 2012 changes to the Flood Insurance Rate Map Series (FIRM) were approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). These changes resulted in a number of properties within the corporate limits of the City of Gulfport being removed from the VE or velocity flood zone and relocated into an AE flood zone. This effectively reduced the risk level which should result in considerable savings to those properties on their flood insurance premiums.

Based on direction from FEMA, several things will need to be done and documented by the property owner for the insurance agents/brokers to re-rate a home for maximum premium reductions. A checklist including necessary documents can be found electronically on the City of Gulfport website at <http://www.mygulfport.us> under Departments and then Community Development.

Many of the homes in the old “VE” zones were built to withstand not only flooding, but wave activity, and as a result, were likely built sturdier than required in an “AE” flood zones. Even though this may be true, FEMA now requires these homes to meet “AE” flood zone requirements. If the homes built at “VE” zone standards used break-away walls, these walls will now be required to have openings installed as per “AE” flood zone standards. These openings will need to be permitted, installed, and inspected before a home can be re-rated and enjoy the maximum premium reduction available. Additionally, a new Elevation Certificate (EC) must be completed and a copy submitted to the City. The new EC will document the required flow-through vents, the newly designated flood zone, and specifically identify the address of the house. If these are not done, you may still see some reduction in premiums, but it will not be the maximum deduction that could be available.

For more information on premium reductions, home owners should contact their insurance agent/broker. For more information on the LOMR changes and permitting, please contact staff at 893-1087.

April 14, 2012 Board of Adjustment:

Variance Application V12-04; 2813 Seabreeze Drive South; Variance request to reduce the dock right-hand side one-third setback requirement 7.67 feet from 26.67 feet to 19 feet to allow for an addition of a catwalk to an existing cradle lift.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Gulfport Police Department served as the backdrop for some scenes in the upcoming film *Spring Breakers*, scheduled for released in 2013. Director Harmony Korine worked with actresses Selena Gomez, Vanessa Hudgens, Ashley Benson and Rachel Korine as the girls performed scenes in which they were booked and detained in what the plot depicts as the St. Pete Beach jail.

Calls for Service:

Offenses	53
Arrests	8
Traffic citations	11

Mary Pellegrino was stopped in the 2700 block of 58th Street in the early morning of March 16 after failing to stop for a stop sign. She was arrested after a DUI investigation. Her blood alcohol content (BAC) was .203/198.

On the morning of March 21 a green coupe tried to pass a van making a left turn at Hull Street & 17th Avenue, resulting in a side-swipe crash with no injuries. The driver of the coupe fled the scene without stopping, leaving behind debris and green paint transfer.

Officers responded to the 2300 block of 49th Street on the morning of March 16 after receiving a report of vandalism. The victim reported that he found small bullet holes in the back door of the business. A neighbor reported that a week earlier he saw two white males pull up behind the business in a Mercedes during the night and shoot at a lawn chair and the back door with what he thought was a pellet gun. Officers gathered information and completed a report.

Officers responded to Tomlinson Park on the evening of March 16 after receiving a report of a registered sexual predator in the park. The complainants pointed out the subject and when officers stopped him to determine whether he was breaking the law the subject repeatedly gave a false name. Through further investigation it was determined that the detained subject was Earl Ford, a registered sexual offender. Ford had no restrictions preventing him from being at the park but he was issued a notice to appear for falsely identifying himself to law enforcement.

Officers received a call from a resident in the 2800 block of 48th Street on the morning of March 20 who had sent money orders totaling over \$50,000 to multiple parties in multiple states and Jamaica in an advance payment scheme. She thought she was paying fees associated with winning a 2012 Mercedes and \$5.5 million. Officers gathered the information and referred her to speak with Gulfport Senior Center staff for assistance.

While on patrol on the afternoon of March 20, Chief Vincent observed Mark Reynolds sitting a picnic table under a beach pavilion drinking a beer. Reynolds tried to hide the beer, and when the Chief questioned Reynolds, he responded by repeatedly cursing and yelling. Others in the area said Reynolds had been bothering seniors playing music and a family celebrating a child's birthday. Reynolds was arrested, his third in 2012, and charged with disorderly conduct.

On the morning of March 21 a male subject was arrested at the beach playground after Officer Nicita stopped to speak with him and the subject exposed himself. He was booked as a John Doe due to his apparent refusal to speak and provide his name. Officers later received a call from a caregiver who reported that the man was a mental health patient who had wandered off during a field trip to the beach.

Joseph Trainor was stopped in the 5600 block of Gulfport Boulevard in the early morning of March 16 after failing to maintain a single lane, driving under the speed limit and stopping at a green light. He was arrested after a DUI investigation. He refused to provide a breath sample.

Investigations:

New Cases:	9
Cases Assigned:	1
Cases Closed-No Leads:	8
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	0
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	0
Supplements Received:	18
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	0
Cases Closed-No Leads:	0
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	0
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Still Active:	18

Detective Pham worked an off-duty security detail at O'Maddy's bar on St. Patrick's Day. During the detail he took a report concerning a battery incident. Detective Pham also conducted follow up in St. Petersburg and Tampa on two check fraud cases.

Detective Embry will attempt to locate three suspects involved in three cases he is investigating: False Verification of Ownership; Distributing Obscene and Nude Photos to a Minor, and; Dealing in Stolen Property.

Crime Analyst Palmisano worked in records for 19 hours. She also completed pawn checks on 9 cases in which there was a named suspect or traceable property reported stolen.

The Marine Unit was on the water for 5.75 hours this week.

Records

Reports reviewed:	52
Supplements reviewed:	66
Reports disseminated:	11
Public records requests:	11
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	3
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	71

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

Visit the City of Gulfport YouTube website at www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport. Cable and DSL internet users can access streaming video from the City's website at www.mygulfport.us. Watch videos of recent events. It's a great way to keep in touch with out of town family and friends! Spread the word!

- Updated weekly program schedule. Copy available at the City Hall reception desk, or online at http://www.mygulfport.us/GTV615/Live_Webstream.htm.
- Distributed weekly press releases to Gabber, and upcoming events to press release group list.
- Rebooted GTV615 station equipment.
- Set up equipment at Catherine Hickman Theater and provided technical coverage for March 20 City Council meeting. Made DVD copies for IT Director and City Clerk.
- Provided control room coverage of March 22 City Council Workshop. Made DVD copies for IT Department and City Clerk and rebroadcasted on GTV615.
- Commenced preparation of calendar of events for FY2012/13.

Marina

Pumped four thousand three hundred seventy one (4,371) gallons of gas, and two thousand two hundred ninety seven (2,297) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred eighty one (181) vessels.

Assisted in six (6) pump-out evacuating one hundred eighty eight (188) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

Transient Vessels

Staff welcomed 2 40' trawlers, a 31' sailboat, 35' cruiser, 27' cruiser, 33' sailboat, 33' sailboat, 35, sailboat, 34' sailboat, and a 30' cruiser this week. Welcome to Gulfport!

Staff Activities

- Completed pump out maintenance.
- Cleaned and sanitized ice machine.
- Installed new pump in dispenser two.
- Installed nozzle and replaced filter on pump four.

Parks

Repaired tree lights on Beach Boulevard.

Trimmed, weeded and cleaned Library & Senior Center grounds, Beach Streetscapes and 28th Street signage areas.

Raked leaves at Senior Center and City Complex.

Greased all mowers and sharpened blades.

Installed new air compressor at Parks shop.

Mowed R.W. Caldwell Park, 14th Avenue, 55th Street medians, Hoyt Field perimeter, Pasadena entrance, Recreation Center grounds and 56th Street drainage area.

Repaired irrigation at Library, Chase Block and R.W. Caldwell Park.

Set up equipment in preparation for Clam Bayou Clean up, Antiques in the Park and St. Patrick's Party, and removed following events.

Broke down stage props in preparation for City Council meeting at Hickman Theater.

Opened & cleaned Skate Park daily.

Set up equipment at Senior Center for meetings & events, and removed following events.

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, lined and dragged all ball fields daily.

Senior Center

The Senior Center will host an Open House and Gulfport History Expo on Wednesday, March 28 at 2 p.m. to showcase the rich history of the Senior Center and the community. The Gulfport Chamber and Historical Society will partner with the Senior Center to make this an event to not be missed. Gulfport businesses/organizations are invited to participate. Call the Senior Center at 893-2259 for more info.

April is National Humor Month and the Senior Center will host a special fun and interactive event with Susan Stewart, RN, MA on Wednesday April 4 at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Stewart is a certified Laughter Leader and Master Trainer with the World Laughter Tour, and creator of Mirthful

Movement. Come and prevent "Hardening of the Attitudes". Good for mind, body and spirit. Don't miss out!

The Senior Center will host a Fashion Show followed by Classic Songs with Gail Biron in the Hickman Theater on Wednesday, April 11 at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$3 and include refreshments. St. Vincent's Thrift Shop in Gulfport will provide clothing and accessories for the Fashion Show.

May is Older Americans Month and the Senior Center is making plans for a weeklong celebration involving the whole community. Gulfport businesses are invited to take part by offering coupons or discounts for seniors 50 & up during Senior Citizens Week, May 21 - 25. The GEMS mini-bus will transport clients to participating businesses throughout the week.

GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mini-Bus Service)

The City of Gulfport offers transportation service for residents 55 and older. GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mini-Bus Service) offers rides to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. The \$55 annual registration fee entitles members to ride GEMS for \$1.00 per one-way trip and is good for one year from date of registration. GEMS has 160 active riders.

GEMS offers hourly trips to South Pasadena on Wednesdays and Fridays. Call GEMS at 893-2242 for more information.

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:

- Monday & Friday, March 12 & 16, a.m. - AARP Income Tax assistance for seniors.
- Tuesday, March 13, 5:30 p.m. - Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.
- Wednesday, March 14, 10 a.m. - Gulfport Creative Short Story Writers meeting.
- Thursday, March 15, 10 a.m. - Coffee/Talk Book Club meeting.
- Saturday, March 17, 1:30 p.m. - St. Patrick's Day & Spring Crafts with Pat.

Upcoming Events:

- 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 Creative Short Story Writers meeting.
- Every Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. - Teen Board Game Afternoon.
- Every Tuesday & Thursday beginning March 27, 3 p.m. - Youth Art program for children 8 & older. For more information call Sheri at 893-1074.
- Through March - Gulfport Senior Artists Workshop Exhibit. For more information call 893-2237 or 1231.
- Every Monday & Friday through April 13, 10 a.m. - AARP Income Tax assistance for seniors. Bring a copy of last year's tax return along with 2011 tax documents.
- Thursday, April 19, 10 a.m. - Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy of the book. For more information call 893-1073.
- Saturday, April 21, 1:30 p.m. - Earth Day Crafts program. Celebrate the day with Pat by creating green-themed holiday items. All ages welcome.

Library Services/Statistics March 11 - 17, 2012:**Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,716	468
Sun. 3/11	13	4
Mon. 3/12	334	75
Tue. 3/13	256	75
Wed. 3/14	273	85
Thu. 3/15	285	80
Fri. 3/16	330	76
Sat. 3/17	225	46

Library Staff Activities/Meetings

Thursday, March 15, 11:45 a.m. - Joint meeting of Pinellas City Managers & Library Directors at Park Station in Pinellas Park (Carol Parker).

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center**Casino (last week's events):**

Sunday, March 11	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson with Carol Baker 7 p.m. - Ellis Hale's Band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 84)
Tuesday, March 13	Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson (Turnout 15) 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 7) 2 p.m. - Dancing 6:30 p.m. - Beginner Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 54)
Wednesday, March 14	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 221)
Thursday, March 15	7:30 p.m. - Free Concert featuring the South Pasadena Band (Turnout 375)
Friday, March 16	6 p.m. - Bay Vista Fundamental Elementary Fundraiser (Turnout 400)

Casino (Upcoming Events):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance
Monday, March 26	7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance Admission: \$5 for members; \$7 for nonmembers
Every Tuesday	Noon - Intermediate Ballroom dance lesson with Carol Baker 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom dance lesson 2 p.m. - Ballroom 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
Thursday, March 29	6:30 p.m. - Salsa lessons with Carol Rivera

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

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events)

Sunday, March 11 Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present *An Inspector Calls*
(Turnout 150)

Monday, March 12 9 a.m. - Sunflower School play rehearsal

Tuesday, March 13 9 a.m. - Sunflower School play rehearsal

Wednesday, March 14 9 a.m. - Sunflower School play rehearsal

Thursday, March 15 9 a.m. - Sunflower School play rehearsal

Friday, March 16 9 a.m. - Sunflower School play rehearsal

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events)

Friday, March 23 7 p.m. - Senior Follies (Sold out show)

Saturday, March 24 7 p.m. - *New Revelation Production* Tickets \$10 For more information
call 813-317-6955

Sunday, March 25 4 p.m. - EMIT & City of Imagination present *Oba Oba Bossa Nova!*
With O Som Do Jazz concert Admission \$10 For more information
call 341-4363

Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):

Sunday, March 11 9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 10)
6:15 p.m. - Over Eaters Anonymous meeting (Turnout 10)

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

Scout Hall (Upcoming Events):

Every Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting

Recreation Center

The Gulfport Recreation Division will offer full day activities during Spring Break, March 26 - 30 for children in Kindergarten to age 14. Hours are 7:45 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended hours until 6 p.m. for an additional fee. Registration fee: \$17 residents, and \$110 for nonresidents. Daily fee: \$11 for residents, and \$22 for nonresidents.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Contractual classes currently in session: Cheerleading, Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Tai Chi, Tennis, Walking Club, Watercolor and Yoga.

Six (6) FY 2011/12 Gulfport Skate Park stickers have been sold to date.

Sixty six (66) teens have been registered for the 2011/12 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.

Forty one (41) children are registered for the 2011/12 School Year Child Care Program for children in Kindergarten thru age 14. The non-refundable annual registration fee is \$15 for residents and \$100 for non-residents, with monthly fees of \$133 for residents and \$266 for non-residents (fees subject to change). Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Montessori, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an additional fee.

Eleven (11) children are registered for the 2011/12 Tot Time Program and nine (9) for Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK). The Tot Time Program is a preschool, hands-on program for children ages 3-5. Registration fees are \$15 for residents and \$100 for non residents. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who turn 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply at Coordinated Child Care and the child must receive a Certificate of Eligibility. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. Seventeen (17) Tot Time/VPK participants and seven (7) adults visited Largo Central Park on Wednesday morning.

Recreation Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez hosted the Teen Council meeting on Thursday afternoon.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport forty five (45) Gulfport Elementary students and five (5) adults to Publix in South Pasadena on Friday, and to transport seventeen (17) Tot Time/VPK participants and seven (7) adults to Central Park in Largo on Wednesday.

Alton Hooker used the school bus to transport thirty (30) Gulfport Elementary students and fifteen (15) adults to Lowry Park Zoo in Tampa on Tuesday morning.

Six (6) regular **Teen Council** members attended the monthly meeting on Thursday. Also in attendance were Advisor Marivel Gutierrez and Coordinators Jeri Reed and Christine Brown-Worthington. Topics discussed: Approval of February's minutes; welcoming a new member; update on the Florida League of Cities Youth Council Video Competition; O'Maddy's/Gulfport Teen Council Special event, and; the Recreation Division's *Fun in the Sun Day* event. There was also a presentation by City Manager Jim O'Reilly.

Teen Council members Nolan Slone, Elizabeth Worthington-Brown and Zachary Teramae, sold items to raise money for the Gulfport Teen Council/O'Maddy's fundraiser on March 17.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service & Finance:

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 12 new, 0 closed
- Water payments: 1,131 totaling \$122,531.08
- Online Water payments: 160 transactions totaling \$16,418.74
- Bright House payments: 32
- Utility Bills Mailed 03/21/12: 1,635
- Payroll 03/16/12: 156 transactions totaling \$161,852.67

- Payroll-Accounts Payable: 12 transactions totaling \$19,249.10

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 39 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 2 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspection
- 1 Plans Review
- 1 Smoke Detector
- 1 Fire Watch

The CERT Team meets monthly. The next meeting is Friday, April 20 at 7 p.m. at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. For more information visit www.gulfportcert.com or call Bob Worthington at 916-8014.

Other Activities

- Gulfport Fire Department has completed annual Hose & Ladder Testing. Two sections of the large hose and 2 of the small hose will be replaced. Hose repair and replacement is appropriated for the current budget year.
- Gulfport Fire staff continues their March CME Online. Topics included MOMs Protocol Alert: Trauma Transport Protocol (TTP) Update and Philips HeartStart MRx Introduction. There will also be a software upgrade from Phillips within the next month.
- Chief Marenkovic and Finance Director Dan Carpenter are working on the ALS First Responder Program Budget for FY 2012/13. Final submissions are due to the County by April 5.
- Gulfport Fire Department took third place in the in the Pinellas Park Firefighters Chili Blaze Cook-off on March 16. Congratulations Guys!

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Poured concrete slabs for outside restrooms at Casino.
- Delivered the popcorn machine to the Library for Family Movie Day.
- Repaired 2 outside lamps at Recreation Center picnic area.
- Replaced motor on air conditioning unit at Marina.
- Completed monthly pest prevention treatment on all City buildings.
- Set up Council Chambers for workshop.
- Cleaned out rain gutters at Recreation Center.
- Replaced toilet paper holder in women's restroom at Hoyt Field.
- Set up for events at Senior Center daily.

- Performed routine daily maintenance duties at all City buildings.

Streets & Sanitation:

- Removed traffic control obstructions and debris from various roadways and alleys throughout City.
- Assembled and delivered recycling bins and trash containers to residential & commercial properties.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, trash, electronics and Code Enforcement.
- Cleaned and maintained storm drains, grates and inlets throughout City.
- Inspected and removed debris from stormwater boxes throughout City.
- Removed animal carcasses on City roadways.
- Completed asphalt patch work on potholes throughout City.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping at Osgood Point, Gulfport Beach, Casino and other locations per direction.
- Removed bagged leaves from residential properties citywide.
- Removed debris and emptied containers following Tuesday Morning Market.
- Removed and disposed of garbage and recycling containers at Clymer Park, O'Maddy's and Clam Bayou.
- Reinstalled overhang roof at On the Rocks.
- Cleaned and graded Gulfport Beachfront between pier and Casino.
- Relocated all trucks and materials to the Neighborhood Center to prepare truck yard for movie shoot.
- Completed asphalt road work on Beach Boulevard.
- Cleaned truck yard, truck wash and garage.
- Completed grading and trimming in several alleys per direction.
- Set concrete pads at 28th Avenue & Beach Boulevard in preparation for art statues.

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 #31, 32, 33 and 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 29 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 5 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 101 miscellaneous customer service department-generated service orders.
- Completed 4 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.
- Replaced 3 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Collected biweekly bacteriological samples on water distribution system.
- Repaired water fountain at Recreation Center.

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 Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Removed and replaced mobile radios in sanitation trucks for FCC narrow banding.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced windshield in Police vehicle #155.
- Repaired crack in windshield of Police Vehicle #101.
- Obtained price estimates to replace rear door and paint job School Bus #68.
- Completed front-end alignment on Sanitation truck #46.
- Gathered quotes on McNeilus Sideloader.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

Distribution:

City Council
City Attorney
Department Directors
The Gulfport Gabber
Gulfport Chamber of Commerce
The St Petersburg Times