



Gulfport Community Update

March 25 - 31, 2012

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Bargain hunters shopped for fishing poles, life jackets and many more seaworthy items during the City of Gulfport Nautical Flea Market on Saturday morning. The CERT Team was up early to sell coffee and doughnuts. Later in the day over 100 citizens were on hand at Beach Boulevard & 28th Street for the unveiling of two new art pieces donated by the Gulfport Merchants Association and created by Owen Patch and Frank Strunk III. Following the dedication the Gulfport Merchants hosted a reception at the The Schork-Munsell studio.



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

Calls for Service:

Offenses	43
Arrests	7
Traffic citations	17

On the evening of March 24 officers conducted a traffic stop on Joyanne Lounsbury for driving without lights and violation of right of way. Officers had suspicion that the driver may be under the influence and conducted a DUI investigation. After the DUI investigation was complete she was arrested. Her breath sample indicated her breath alcohol was .307 (nearly four times the limit) and she refused to provide a second sample.

Officers made contact with an individual who was sleeping at the bus stop at 27th Avenue & Beach Boulevard on the evening of March 24 after receiving a call from a resident concerned that subject may be hurt or in distress. The individual identified himself as Joseph Guglietti. Officers had evidence that he was intoxicated and while gathering information they learned that he had a warrant out of Manatee County for Failure to Appear (FTA) on a trespassing charge. He was taken to jail.

On the evening of March 27 Sgt. Farrand made contact with an individual who was sitting on the front step of a business in the 4900 block of Gulfport Boulevard. She saw that he was drinking an alcoholic beverage inside a brown paper bag, and waving at passing motorists. He is identified as Robby Walker. While gathering information she discovered he is transient and has prior failure to appear charges. He was arrested and transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

In the early morning of March 29 officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that ran a stop sign at Del Rio Way & Tradewinds Drive. The driver was identified as Stephanie Rocha. Officers had suspicion that the driver was under the influence of a substance and started a DUI investigation. Ms. Rocha performed poorly on the field sobriety tasks (FST's) and was arrested. She refused to provide a breath test.

Investigations:

Sergeant Robert Burkhart is on vacation through April 1.

Detective Embry discovered that a suspect he attempted to locate in a *Dealing in Stolen Property* case has moved to California. He set a Non-Arrest Invest for that case. The suspect involved in Distributing Indecent and Obscene Photos was arrested by an officer from another agency based on Detective Embry’s Probable Cause (PC) listed in the County’s database.

Detective Hanh Pham attended a *Statement Analysis* training class in Tampa. He also investigated a check fraud case and determined the alleged crime occurred in City of Aventura, and will forward the case to Aventura Police Department for follow-up. He also continued investigating a sexual battery incident that had occurred about a month ago.

Pinellas County Schools were closed this week for Spring Break. School Resource Officers Motte and Beltran hosted a week-long Police Explorer Academy during the break.

This week Analyst Palmisano worked in records for 30 hours while the Records Technician was on vacation.

The Marine Unit was on the water for 14.5 hours this week.

Records

Reports reviewed:	25
Supplements reviewed:	20
Reports disseminated:	17
Public records requests:	8
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	7
Subpoenas processed:	9
Citizens assisted:	70

Professional Standards Section

The following Gulfport Police Written Directives are being staff reviewed: 122 - Crime Scene Processing; 410 - Motorist Assistance; 415 - Traffic Crash Investigation; 422 - Field Interviews, and; 804 - Juvenile Records.

Mock assessors from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation reviewed our files and inspected the agency in preparation for our April on-site inspection. The review was favorable. The assessors provided suggestions to make some of the files better prepared. Sgt. Stone has been using their recommendations to change 75 of the 263 accreditation files. Twenty six files have been changed to date.

Officer Jessie Kellington is attending a Field Training Officer Course at SEPSI.

Officer Mclaughlin is assisting in background screenings of applicants to fill one vacant position, and has scheduled oral boards for a group of applicants.

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.
- Commenced work on May calendar.
- Provided photographic & technical support for Merchants Art Dedication.
- Set up sound system and videotaped Senior Center Past & Present Expo. Posted video footage to City's YouTube site.
- Distributed April calendar brochures to Tuesday Market vendors.
- Created ad poster with new speaker information and contacted last year's vendors to participate in this year's Hurricane Seminar event.
- Commenced planning 4th of July event.
- Continued preparation of calendar of events for FY2012/13.

Marina

Pumped two thousand two hundred eighty seven (2,287) gallons of gas, and two thousand one thousand six hundred (1,600) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred ninety three (93) vessels.

Assisted in eleven (11) pump-outs evacuating two hundred eighty five (285) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

Transient Vessels

Staff welcomed a 42' vessel, 34' sailboat, 27' powerboat, and a 29' sailboat this week. Welcome to Gulfport!

Staff Activities

- Cleaned shrimp tank.
- Set up tables and marked off spaces in preparation for the Nautical Flea Market.
- Cleaned top side of boat on pier six.
- Cleaned diesel and gas spill bucket.

Parks

Raked leaves at City Complex.

Greased all mowers and sharpened blades, and repaired edger & line trimmer gas lines.

Replaced spikes on sand pro machine.

Mowed Senior Center, Library, 28th Street signs, Veterans, Ted Phillips Wood Ibis & Clymer Parks, and Recreation Center grounds.

Repaired irrigation at Dog Park, Library, R.W. Caldwell Park and 49th Streetscapes.

Removed past events banners and installed upcoming events banners.

Repaired bench at Clam Bayou.

Cleared equipment from the City yard for film crew staging.

Built ramp to allow for easier changing of mower blades.

Repaired tree lights on Beach Boulevard.

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 hosted a *Gulfport Past & Present Expo and Open House* on March 28. Many Gulfport groups showcased their information during the event (photos below).



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 19 & 23, a.m. - AARP Income Tax assistance for seniors.
- Tuesday, March 20, 5:30 p.m. - Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.
- Wednesday, March 21, 10 a.m. - Gulfport Creative Short Story Writers meeting.
- Wednesday, March 21, 2:30 p.m. - Teen Board Games facilitated by Sheri Stanley.

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, 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 18 - 24, 2012:

	Items Circulated	Patrons
Weekly Circulation:	1,872	501
Sun. 3/18	6	4
Mon. 3/19	386	92
Tue. 3/20	320	80
Wed. 3/21	323	88
Thu. 3/22	354	96
Fri. 3/23	260	77
Sat. 3/24	223	64

Library Staff Activities/Meetings

Monday, March 19, 4 p.m. - Meeting with PPLC Executive to discuss PPLC finances & related issues (Carol Parker).

Thursday, March - *Basics for the New Supervisor - Two Keys to Your Success, Part 1* webinar training (Carol Parker).

Thursday, March 22, 10 a.m. - PPLC Circulation SIG meeting at PPLC headquarters (Barbara Gaddy).

Thursday, March 22, 10 a.m. - Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library Board meeting in the Purdy Friends Room (Carol Parker).

Thursday, March 22 - *Fiscal Management & Library Policies 101* webinar (Carol Parker)

Friday, March 23, 9:30 a.m. - 2012 Summer Reading Program staff planning session (Carol Parker, Diann Morningstar & Sheri Stanley)

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center

Casino (last week's events):

- Sunday, March 18 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson with John
7 -p.m. Mario DeLeon's Band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 70)
- Tuesday, March 20 Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson (Turnout 14)
1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 8)
2 p.m. - Dancing
6:30 p.m. - Beginner Argentine Tango lesson
8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 59)
- Wednesday, March 21 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime
7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime
8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 217)
- Thursday, March 22 6:30 p.m. - Salsa Lesson and Dance with Carol Rivera (Turnout 30)
- Saturday, March 24 6 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 195)

Casino (Upcoming Events):

- Every Sunday 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson
7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance
- 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
- Every Thursday 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lessons with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events)

- Wednesday, March 21 9 a.m. - Sunflower School performance (Turnout 100)

Thursday, March 22 5 p.m. - Sunflower School performance (Turnout 173)

Friday, March 23 6 p.m. - Senior Follies

Saturday, March 24 4 p.m. - New Revolution Show (Turnout 125)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events)

Friday, March 30 & Sunday April 8 - *Freedom Found: the Musical Drama*. A story of tragedy, triumph and the power of the human spirit. Directed by Eileen Navarro. Tickets \$20 & up. Visit Freedomfoundmusical.com for more information.

Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):

Sunday, March 18 9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 15)
6:15 p.m. - Over Eaters Anonymous meeting (Turnout 15)

Tuesday, March 20 7 p.m. - Pasadena Point Homeowners Association meeting (Turnout 11)

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

Programs, Classes & Activities

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

Sixteen (16) 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 three (43) 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.

Ten (10) 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.

Recreation Staff Activities

Leah Erbe attended *Summers Coming* training in Pinellas Park on Saturday morning.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport twenty four (24) Spring Break program participants and two (2) adults to the Catherine Hickman Theater on Monday, and to transport twenty six (26) Spring Break participants and three (3) adults to St. Pete Beach Aquatics on Tuesday.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service & Finance:

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 18 new, 0 closed
- Water payments: 942 totaling \$99,961.85
- On-Line Water payments: 136 transactions totaling \$12,426.09
- Bright House payments: 46
- Utility Bills Mailed 03/28/12: 1,253
- Accounts Payable 03/23/12: 391 transactions totaling \$465,826.28
- Mail processed 03/23/12: 365 pieces totaling \$292.75
- Purchasing Cards 03/05/12 month report: 208 transactions totaling \$29,698.23

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 39 Emergency Medical Calls
- 4 Structure Fires
- 4 Vehicle Crashes
- 4 Fire Alarms
- 1 Gas Leak
- 2 Elevator Rescues
- 1 Wires Down

Life Safety:

- 6 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspection
- 2 C.O.'s
- 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

- Chief Marenkovic and the Finance Director continue work on the ALS First Responder Program Budget for FY 2012/13. Final submissions are due to the County by April 5.

- GPD is preparing an RFP for a bid for the Fire Protection Service Agreement in the unincorporated area of the County that borders Gulfport & South Pasadena.
- The Gulfport Fire Department has finished their March CME.
- The Gulfport Fire Department participated in Landing Zone (LZ) Training with the Bayflite helicopter at the First Baptist Church in South Pasadena. Safety suggestions included: securing loose clothing/equipment; keeping the landing zone free of debris; protecting rescue personnel and the patient from rotor wash winds; crowd & traffic control around the landing zone; not approaching the helicopter while the blades are turning; prohibiting vehicles within 75 feet of the helicopter, and; maintaining visual contact with the pilot.
- Inspector Frank Vento and Chief Marenkovic conducted a final test of the new Fire Alarm Control Panel in the Kenmore Building and it passed.

Americans live in the most severe weather-prone country on Earth. Each year Americans cope with an average of 10,000 thunderstorms, 2,500 floods, 1,000 tornadoes, as well as an average of 6 deadly hurricanes. Some 90% of all presidentially declared disasters are weather related, leading to around 500 deaths per year and nearly \$14 billion in damage.

The National Weather Service will host a **SKYWARN™ Training Class** at 7 p.m. Friday, April 20 at Morton Plant Hospital, 300 Pinellas Street, Clearwater.

Skywarn™ is a program sponsored by your National Weather Service (NWS) consisting of trained weather spotters who provide reports of severe and hazardous weather to help in the warning process. Skywarn™ spotter reports provide vital "ground truth" to the NWS. The reports serve the NWS mission of protecting life and property in 3 ways: assist in present and future warning decisions, confirm hazardous weather detected by NWS radar, and provide verification information which can be used for future research efforts. Skywarn™ is a volunteer public service for those 18 years or older. Each year our Spotters donate their time and/or equipment to help the NWS issue severe weather warnings.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Replaced ballast on outside light fixture at Fire Department.
- Replaced light on Parks Department building.
- Painted 6 large garbage containers.
- Painted 3 offices and hallway at Senior Center, and set up rooms for events.
- Installed new floor tile and reset all plumbing fixtures in Casino outside restrooms.
- Installed new carpet in City Hall Council Chambers.
- 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.
- Replaced damaged STOP sign at 14th Avenue & 52nd Street.
- Removed roof on beach pavilion nearest to the pier.
- Completed sidewalk repair at Town Shores.

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 #45, 46, 47 and 48 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 30 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 11 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 122 miscellaneous customer service department-generated service orders.
- Completed 5 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 20 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.

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.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced EGR valve and front motor mounts on Police Vehicle #02.
- Replaced inside driver's door handle assembly on Police Vehicle #19.
- Replaced serpentine belt on Sanitation Truck #43.
- Replaced rear universal joint on Sanitation Truck #46.
- Replaced right rear shear spring for suspension on GEMS Bus #11.
- 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