



Gulfport Community Update

April 21 - 28, 2013

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Gulfport City Council, the City of Gulfport Superstars, City Officials and staff participated in this year's **American Cancer Society Relay for Life** at the Michael J. Yakes Recreation Complex on Friday & Saturday, April 19 & 20 (photos below). Fun activities included hula hoop contests, pie in the face contests, a silent auction, bake sale, water-balloon dodge-ball, corn-hole tournaments, arcade basketball and more. The Gulfport Superstars raised over \$1,300 dollars for this event.



It was a great turnout for **Free Oral, Skin and Prostate Cancer Screenings** in the Walgreens parking lot on April 20 (photos below). This potentially lifesaving annual event is always well-attended.



Upcoming Events:

The Clymer Greenway will transform into an enchanted village of costumed faeries, spirits, gnomes, ogres and trolls during the **19th Annual Springfest** on Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. This year's theme is *A Garden Art and Faerie Festival*. This all-ages event is free and open to the public. Enjoy live music throughout the day. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/GulfportSpringfest or call 322-5217.

The **Boca Ciega Yacht Club FUNDAY** is Saturday, April 27, 1 - 4 p.m. at the Yacht Club, 4600 Tifton Drive. Enjoy free sailboat rides, hotdogs & soda. For more information call 345-2764.

Bring a chair to Gulfport Beach to enjoy the Gulfport Yacht Club Multi-Hull Regatta on Saturday, April 27 at 11 a.m. & 10 a.m. Sunday, April 28. Participants can register online at www.gulfportyachtclub.com. For more information call Regatta Chairman Bob Feckner at 215-7982 or email bobfeck@aol.com.

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. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the **Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry** to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent each Tuesday. For more information visit www.gulfportma.com or www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket, call Daniel Hodge at 366-4086 or email dan@iqc.org.

Registration for the **2013 Summer Recreation Program** begins Wednesday, May 1 for Gulfport residents. Non-resident registration begins Monday, May 20. The program lasts eight weeks and is available to children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Pre and post-camps will also be offered. Program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended care until 6 p.m. for an additional fee. Participants will enjoy activities, field trips, lunches, positive role models and a safe environment to call their own. For more information call the Recreation Center at 893-1068.

Everyone is invited to the **2013 Hurricane Seminar** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 23. A Hurricane Vendor Open house is scheduled for 6 p.m. in the Theater Lobby. For more information on this event or to become a vendor please call Technical Events Specialist Justin Shea at 893-1118 or email jshea@mygulfport.us. The Senior Center Snack Bar will offer 2 slices of pizza and a soda for only \$3.00 from 5 until 7 p.m.

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
- 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

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Administration

Calls for Service:

Offenses	29
Arrests	9
Traffic citations	40

Examples of arrests and significant incidents or calls this week:

Sergeant Vandenberg observed a fight in front of Hamilton Disston Middle School involving two Boca Ciega High School students on the afternoon of April 17. One was arrested for battery and transported to PJAC.

Officers responded to the 5400 block of 7th Avenue on the afternoon of April 17 after a woman reported that a man she dated briefly was stalking her. He called her over 160 times that day and threatened to come to her home and school. The man was identified and is being sought for stalking.

A caller reported a drunken man was sleeping on a bench at Tomlinson Park on the evening of April 17. Officers located the subject with an open container of alcohol. He was given a verbal warning for ordinance violations. The man lives near the park and was observed walking home.

A black 6hp Suzuki boat motor was stolen from a boat in the Boca Ciega Yacht Club on the evening of April 19. There are no leads at this time.

A Pinellas County Sheriff Deputy called for backup on April 20 to search a business in the 900 block of Oleander Way after he responded to an alarm and discovered an open door. A Gulfport officer responded and nobody was found inside.

Two intoxicated males were arrested for disorderly intoxication, and loitering & prowling on the evening of April 20 after they called 911 and hung up. The owner of the cell phone from which the call was placed was charged with misuse of 911. His accomplice was uncooperative with officers and a PCSO deputy as he was being transferred to a transport van, and was charged with resisting an officer without violence.

Officers stopped a speeding car in the 5500 block of Gulfport Boulevard in the early morning hours of April 21. The driver was arrested for DUI. His passenger was found to be in possession of narcotics. He became uncooperative during his arrest and a charge of resisting was imposed.

Officers responded to a vehicle crash in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard on the evening of April 21. Driver, Jonas Von Meyer admitted he drove the vehicle without a driver's license and was arrested. Meyer was also issued a citation for careless driving. While police were investigating, Meyer's passenger became aggressive with the victim and struck an officer who tried to calm the situation. The passenger was arrested.

Officers responded to the Beachway Mobile Home Park early April 22 after a resident discovered two bicycles missing from his driveway. During the investigation officers found a bicycle that had been stolen from another residence in the park in a neighbor's yard.

Tyler Marquis was arrested on April 23 for dealing in stolen property, possession of marijuana with intent to sell and other felony charges. He attempted to sell via the internet a bike that had been stolen the night before. Gulfport Police caught Marquis in the act of selling the bike.

Investigations:

<i>New Cases:</i>	12
Suspended - no leads	2
Assigned:	5
Cleared With Arrest:	2
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Unfounded/No Crime:	3
Referred Back to Patrol:	0

<i>Supplements Received:</i>	15
Cleared With Arrest:	1
Previously cleared with Arrest:	4
Closed-No Leads:	0
Unfounded/No Crime:	3
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Still Active:	7

Detective Hanh Pham conducted a follow-up to a theft case and obtained a confession from the suspect. He will forward the charges to the State Attorney's Office for prosecution. He also investigated a credit card fraud case with video evidence.

Detective Embry arrested Michael Caprilozzi last week after he admitted passing three forged checks at Wells Fargo Bank. Detective Embry also continued investigating assigned cases.

School Resource Officer Motte mentored several students, broke up a fight, assisted school administration with escorting an unruly student off campus, recovered a runaway, Baker Acted a student and arrested three people; one for possession of drug paraphernalia; another for trespassing on school grounds after warning, and; a juvenile pick up order. While arresting the person for trespassing on school grounds Officer Motte discovered multiple credit cards, none of which were issued to him. Upon further investigation it was determined that three of cards were stolen in St. Petersburg, one was reported lost, and the fifth was deactivated with no police reports pulled. A SPPD detective arrested the subject for possession of stolen credit cards.

School Resource Officer Langston responded to a number of disturbances during school hours. She assisted with escorting two disruptive students off of the campus and mentored the students about making better decisions regarding their behavior. She also responded to an afterschool fight involving BCHS Students and a medical call at the school, and provided counsel to a student who was involved in a neighborhood issue during the weekend.

Analyst Palmisano updated her analysis of theft of AC units occurring, adding a fourth case. A Problem Oriented Patrol has been started by Officer Davis. Analyst Palmisano also completed a check of property listed in ACISS as stolen with a serial number available to ensure that entry to FCIC is documented and completed pawn checks on 20 cases with a named suspect or a searchable description of the stolen property provided.

Chief Vincent was the keynote speaker at a Stetson University College of Law Elder Consumer Protection seminar on Wednesday. He discussed economic crimes investigations from the perspective of a local police department.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	11
Supplements reviewed:	38
Public records requests:	13
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints:	2
Subpoenas processed:	14
Citizens assisted:	30

MARINA

Pumped two thousand six (2,006) gallons of gas, and one thousand three hundred thirty (1,330) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling eighty (80) vessels.

Assisted twenty two (22) pump-outs evacuating four hundred forty five (445) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

Transient vessels:

Marina staff welcomed a 32' sailboat, 33' motorboat, 34' catamaran, 43' sailboat, 30' motorboat, and 2 29' sailboats this week. Welcome to Gulfport!

Staff Activities:

- Repaired gate on pier one.
- Completed pump-out maintenance.
- Inspected fish cleaning table.
- Repaired halyard on flag pole.
- Cleaned and rearranged storage shed.

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or 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. It's a great way to keep in touch with out of town family and friends! Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted GTV615 station equipment.
- Assisted IT Department with daily operations.
- Engineered lights and sound for Senior Center Fashion Show at Theater.
- Uploaded *Empowerment of Healing Seminar* video to City's YouTube page.
- Provided support for Relay for Life event and City of Gulfport Team.
- Photographed April 20 Cancer Screening event.
- Contacted Vendors for participation at Hurricane Seminar in Theater.
- Continued preparations for 4th of July Celebration.
- Continued development of 2014 Events Resolution and updating 2014 Historic calendar.
- Continued architectural design of new website and successfully migrated to test server.
- Assisted Bob Williams with preparations for Springfest.

Parks

Sanded small area of ground at Clymer Park in preparation for setup of Springfest artists' fire ovens.

Replaced cover on tennis court light timer, picnic table leg at beach playground pavilion, fence rail Wood Ibis Park at north entrance, and signage at beach volleyball courts.

Repaired score boards at Lum & Little League fields, fence at little league softball field & dugout, bench at Tonkin Park

Installed Dog Waste disposal signage at York Street terminus, dog cleanup bag dispenser at trail spur, and "no cycles/scooters" signage at Casino ramp area.

Painted 4 foul poles at Little League field.

Relocated 4' palm growing into fence at Wood Ibis Park, and reset fence posts and rails.

Installed covers over exposed wires on beach volleyball bollards.

Emptied trashcans on Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.

Trimmed, weeded, mulched & cleaned Scout Hall, Clymer Park & Greenway and Clam Bayou, raked around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach.

Mowed Clymer Park & Greenways, Clam Bayou, Wood Ibis and Tomlinson Parks, Senior Center, Library grounds, 28th Street signage area, 55th Street medians, Marian area, Trail Spur and Recreation Center field.

Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and repaired tires on mower.

Repaired irrigation at Wood Ibis Park & Library.

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

The Senior Center's singing group has a new instructor. The group meets in the dining area on Mondays at 2 p.m.

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 March schedule at the Senior Center or online at <http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org>. The Senior Center currently offers 49 monthly classes for residents over 50 to choose. Membership required.

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.

Join Life Coach Kathy Lane to learn how to visualize what you want during the free **Law of Attraction** seminar on Wednesday, May 1 at 1 p.m.

The greatest deals for less are at the **First Friday Flea Market** on Friday, May 3, 9 a.m. - noon.

Everyone is invited to the free **Life is in the Blood** seminar at 2 p.m. Wednesday May 8. Blood Analyst Debi McArthur will analyze a drop of blood to show what different blood cells look like, what they mean and how we can be healthier. A very fascinating, not to miss seminar!

The next monthly **Movie Day** at the Snack Bar is scheduled for 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 14. Watch a FREE movie and get a great deal on lunch for \$2.50!

Actors 2-Go will help The Gulfport Senior Center celebrate Older Americans Month with **Shorts For Seniors: A Comedy Show** in the Catherine Hickman Theatre at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 15. The two-act performance will benefit the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation. Actors will revisit vaudeville's doctor routines, examine what happened in Pinellas

County households when the recession brought lower property taxes, poke fun at the Gulfport chicken ordinance struggle, and parody a politician deciding whether or not to sell out his principles for campaign cash. Actors 2-Go is a troupe of some of South Pinellas County's best community theatre actors, most familiar to Gulfport audiences. Tickets are available at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center for \$7 each, or two for \$10.

Wartime era veterans & spouses are invited to the **Tour of Duty Conference** on Wednesday, May 22 at 2 p.m. Speakers Michael B. Osadchey from Lasting Legacy & Attorney Spiro Verras will discuss benefits veterans may not be aware of. Topics Include: Eligibility Requirements Benefit Coverage, Eligibility of Spouses, Advanced Directives, Wills & Probate. This event is sponsored by Lasting Legacy and is free to the public.

Want to learn more about Hospice? Join Janet Pattison for a free informational seminar on **Hospice and Caregiving** on Thursday, May 28 at 1 p.m.

Join Barbara Newborn at Scout Hall on Wednesday, May 29 at 1:30 p.m. for a talk on Empowerment of Healing. Her FREE lecture will discuss methods and new insights into the amazing power of healing.

Sign up now for the May **beginner and intermediate computer classes**. This month long course will help participants learn more about their computer and the internet. Call Rachel at 893-1231 for more information.

Dance Fusion classes are offered at Scout Hall every Monday at 10:30 a.m. Mrs. Eastman guides participants through salsa-type line dancing moves followed by a palates cool down.

A **Tai Chi for Arthritis Program** is offered on Thursdays at 1:30 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. Parking is available at the Gulfport Library. For information and reservations call 545-2088 or 888-571-7778, or visit 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.

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center

Casino (last week's events):

Sunday, April 14	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson with John 7 p.m. - Ellis Hale's Band & Ballroom Dance (Turnout 53)
Monday, April 15	7 p.m. - Hustle dance lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 9)
Tuesday, April 16	Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 16) 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 5) 2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 54)
Wednesday, April 17	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 307)
Thursday, April 18	6:30 p.m. - Salsa lessons with Carol Rivera

	8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 26)
Saturday, April 20	6 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 140)

Casino (Upcoming Events):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance Admission \$7
Monday, April 22	7 p.m. - Hustle dance lessons with Carol Baker
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

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events)

Sunday, April 14	2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) presents <i>A Flea in Her Ear</i> (Turnout 58)
Thursday, April 18	8 p.m. - GCP presents <i>A Flea in Her Ear</i> (Turnout 63)
Friday, April 19	8 p.m. - GCP presents <i>A Flea in Her Ear</i> (Turnout 91)
Saturday, April 20	8 p.m. - GCP presents <i>A Flea in Her Ear</i> (Turnout 113)

There are no events scheduled for the **Catherine Hickman Theater** next week.

Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):

Sunday, April 14	9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 14) 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous (Turnout 9)
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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
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Monday, April 15	10:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion class (Turnout 9)
Tuesday, April 16	11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 11)
Wednesday, April 17	10:30 a.m. - Yogarific (Turnout 17)
Thursday, April 18	9:30 a.m. - Bob's Band practice

Scout Hall (Upcoming Events):

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

The Gulfport Multipurpose Center's free *Tai Chi for Arthritis* class is meeting at the Library every Thursday at 2 p.m. until further notice.

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

- Monday, April 15, 10 a.m. - AARP Income Tax Assistance.
- Tuesday, April 16, 1 p.m. - *iPad for Beginners Workshop* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.
- Tuesday, April 16, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open AA meeting*.
- Wednesday, April 17, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers* meeting.
- Wednesday, April 17, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*, facilitated by Sheri Stanley.
- Thursday, April 18, 9:30 a.m. - *Spanish for Beginners*.
- Thursday, April 18, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime for Preschoolers* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.
- Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m. - *Crafts for Kids* facilitated by Caily Klasson.
- Saturday, April 20, 1:30 p.m. - *Crafts for all Ages*.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. - *Downsizing, Donuts & Donations*: A mini yard & book sale organized by the Circle of Friends. Proceeds help fund the new Reading garden. For more information call 488-0663.

Saturday, May 11, 10:30 a.m. - *Pinellas Energy Efficiency Project (PEEP) class*: Learn about energy conservation. Attendees will receive an insulated tote bag, Smart Strip surge protector and a manually-powered flashlight. Presented by the Pinellas County Extension Office. Call 893-1073 to reserve a seat.

Saturday, May 11, 1:30 a.m. - *Crafts Club for All Ages*: Join Pat for some fun making Mother's Day gifts from recycled materials.

Tuesday, May 14, 1 p.m. - *iPad for Beginners Workshop*. Learn to use your new technology. Each session is limited to 15 participants. Call 893-1073 to reserve a seat.

Thursday, May 16, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Jayne Eyer* by Charlotte Bronte over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

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, 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. - *Spanish for Beginners*.

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 second Thursday of the month, 3:30 p.m. - *Maya the Reading Assistance Dog*: Share a picture book with a beautiful Golden Retriever. Call 893-1073 to schedule an appointment.

Every Friday, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Library Services/Statistic April 14 - 20, 2013:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,940	595
Sun. 4/14	17	16
Mon. 4/15	305	89
Tue. 4/16	382	121
Wed. 4/17	297	106
Thu. 4/18	342	89
Fri. 4/19	273	87
Sat. 4/20	324	87

Recreation Center

The art room was rented 2-6 p.m. Saturday, April 20 for a Bridal Shower with 20 in attendance.

The game room is reserved 1 - 4 p.m. Saturday, May 4 for a Graduation party.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Contractual classes: Chair Yoga, Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Yoga and Zumba.

Forty eight (48) 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.

Fourteen (14) 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. Fifteen (15) Tot Time/VPK participants and sixteen (16) adults visited Lowry Park Zoo on Wednesday.

Sixty four (64) 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.

Ten (10) **FY2012/13 Skate Park** registrations have been issued to date.

Staff Activities

Mike Worthington worked the room rental on Saturday afternoon.

Marivel Gutierrez met with Jim O'Reilly, Bob Williams and Mercedes Perez on Tuesday afternoon to discuss Healthcare Reform for part time employees.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 16 new, 0 closed
- Water payments: 977 totaling \$111,325.59
- On-Line Water payments: 68 transactions totaling \$7,529.88
- Bright House payments: 21
- Utility Bills Mailed 04/24/13: 1,308
- Accounts Payable 04/19/13: 492 transactions totaling \$531,766.62
- Mail processed 04/19/13: 449 pieces totaling \$517.45
- Purchasing Cards April report: 247 transactions totaling \$33,590.66

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 34 Emergency Medical Calls
- 3 Structure Fires
- 0 Fire Alarms
- 1 Vehicle Crash
- 1 Gas Leak
- 1 Odor/Smoke Invest

Life Safety:

- 2 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re Inspections
- 1 Plans Review

The **CERT Team** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. The next meeting is 7 p.m. Thursday, May 16. CERT is dedicated to being actively involved in local community events. For more information visit www.gulfportcert.com or call Bob Worthington at 916-8014.

Staff Activities:

- The Gulfport Fire Department continued with their April St. Petersburg College Online CME this week. This month's topic is Cardiology and will include Case Scenarios for review and study.

- Chief Marenkovic, Finance Director Teresa Gould, Community Development Director Fred Metcalf and other City staff attended a Disaster Management Assessment meeting with Pinellas County Emergency Management Coordinator Joe Borries on April 25. They discussed new computer software for WEB EOC overview and Sharepoint access, Ready Alert contacts and SitRep emails, local issues for preparedness, training and mitigation with recovery.
- The Pinellas County Medical Directors office conducted a surprise narcotic audit at GFD on April 24. No violations were found.
- Gulfport Firefighters continued training on High-Rise NFPA drills within the local departments at the Pinellas County Drill Grounds.
- GFD has requested copies of the 2013 Hurricane Implementation Guide. They will be available at City Hall, Gulfport Library and Fire Station. The Atlantic Basin Hurricane season begins June 1 and ends November 30. The City's Annual Hurricane Seminar is scheduled for May 23 at the Catherine Hickman Theater.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance:

- Repaired air conditioning units at Public Services & Historical buildings.
- Pressure-cleaned handicap walkways at Scout Hall & Historical Building.
- Repaired toilet in Gulfport Little League ladies room.
- Picked up boxes from the County Clerk's Office for storage for City Clerk.
- Performed routine daily maintenance duties at all City buildings.

Streets & Sanitation:

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture and electronics.
- Continued curbside bagged leaves pick-up.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Completed asphalt patchwork at numerous City locations.
- Assembled and delivered new automated containers.
- Aided in preparations for Annual Springfest.
- Installed ramp for Marina event.
- Removed trees for drainage project at 52nd Street terminus.
- Removed sand from road at 52nd Street & 28th Avenue.
- Removed fallen tree on Beach Boulevard.
- Filled potholes at six locations.
- Graded alley at 57th Street & 17th Avenue.

Water:

- Daily Chloramines sampling at 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 42 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 15 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.

- Completed 92 Customer Service-generated miscellaneous service orders.
- Completed 5 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.
- Continued semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Completed annual DEP required testing of 18 backflow devices due in April.
- Installed new backflow and meter at 5135 15th Avenue.
- Repaired water breaks at 1829 York Street & 5302 Jersey Avenue.
- Repaired fire hydrant at 3209 58th Street.

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.
- Cleared sewer line stoppage at 5226 30th Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced driver's side seat belt and monitor light on Police Vehicle #9.
- Installed turn signal switch on Sanitation Truck #43.
- Serviced Sanitation Truck #40.
- 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

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.

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 under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

Code Enforcement activities continue in Section 3 of the City, also known as the Southwest Neighborhood Area which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west from 58th & 59th Streets to the City Limits.

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.

Beginning in May Code Enforcement activities will move to Section 4 of the City, also known as the Art District which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west

from 49th Street to 58th & 59th Streets South. 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.

May 1, 2013 Planning and Zoning Board and May 14, 2013 City Council/CRA meeting:

Site Plan Application: S13-03; 5102 Gulfport Boulevard; Site plan approval request for a conditional use to allow indoor repair of scooters and power sport vehicles within the existing structure; to allow outdoor storage of up to a maximum of 24 operative vehicles at any given time; the designated storage area will be completely fenced with opaque fencing; existing parking areas will be identified with the front parking area designated with wheel stops; and landscaping will be provided and maintained between the front fence and City sidewalk.

May 8, 2013 Board of Adjustment meeting:

Variance Request: V13-04; 817 59th Street South; Variance request to reduce the side yard setback 1 foot, from 6 feet to 5 feet to construct a conditioned living space addition to the existing house.

Distribution:

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