



Gulfport Community Update

April 28 - May 4, 2013

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

The Clymer Greenway transformed into an enchanted village of costumed faeries, spirits, gnomes, ogres and trolls during the **19th Annual Springfest** on Saturday, April 27 (photos below). This year's theme was *A Garden Art and Faerie Festival*. Festival goers enjoyed live music throughout the day.



Meanwhile, the Boca Ciega Yacht Club offered sailboat rides, hotdogs & soda during their annual **FUNDAY** event on Saturday (photos below).



The weather was perfect for the **Gulfport Yacht Club Multi-Hull Regatta** on Gulfport Beach Waterfront on Saturday & Sunday (photos below).



Upcoming Events:

Registration for the **2013 Summer Recreation Program** is underway 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.

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@igc.org.

Find the perfect painting or sculpture during the **Third Saturday Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District on May 18, 6 - 10 p.m. For more information call 322-5217.

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.

Gulfport City Hall will be closed Monday, May 27 in observance of **Memorial Day**. The Sanitation schedule will not be affected.

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	55
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	21

Examples of arrests and significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 5300 block of 6th Terrace reported on the morning of April 23 that his red Murray bicycle had been stolen. A resident in the 600 block of 54th Lane reported on the morning of April 24 that his blue Schwinn beach cruiser had been stolen sometime overnight. These incidents appear to be related to several other recent stolen bike cases in the area.

Officers responded to the 5700 block of 20th Avenue on the morning of April 23 after a caller reported a dog and puppies in the roadway. The dogs' owner had been previously warned about his dogs running at large. He was issued a City Ordinance Violation.

Senior Center staff reported on the afternoon of April 23 that the Center's bus windshield was damaged. Officers observed three circular holes in the windshield. It is unknown where, how or when the damage occurred.

Officers arrested Cassandra Goodman on the evening of April 23 on a warrant for failure to appear for possession of paraphernalia and marijuana.

Officers responded to Gulfport Elementary on April 24 after video surveillance recorded two juveniles entering school grounds and stealing two bikes from the bicycle compound. Two other students reported their bicycles were also taken. A total of four bicycles were taken from the school. The investigation continues.

Officers responded to the 5100 block of 12th Avenue on the morning of April 25 after a caller reported that someone entered his home and stole a Playstation 3. An investigation continues.

Officers issued a trespass warning to a customer at a nail salon in the 1000 block of 49th Street on the evening of April 27 after she advised she was not satisfied with her pedicure and left without paying. She then returned and demanded the Nail Tech's State license number. She provided the number and paid for her pedicure.

Officers issued an Ordinance warning to a group of people who were observed riding jet skis through the Gulfport Beach swim area. The group was cooperative and no further incidents were reported.

Officers responded to the 5100 block of Preston Avenue on the evening of April 28 after a caller reported that an unknown object hit a window of a residence, leaving a hole approximately the size of a golf ball. The object could not be located. Neighbors heard the glass break but did not hear nor see anyone in the area.

On the morning of April 29 a resident reported that a rock was thrown at his living room window sometime on the evening of April 27. The victim reported seeing a "large figure" running toward 49th Street following the incident.

Officers made contact with 2 juveniles in the 1000 block of 49th Street on the morning of April 29. They consented to a search, and one had a small amount of marijuana in his pocket. He was released to his mother.

On the afternoon of April 29 an employee of Storage reported that the locks were cut off of three units, and items were missing from two of the three.

Investigations:

<i>New Cases:</i>	28
Suspended - no leads	10
Assigned:	13
Cleared With Arrest:	0
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Unfounded/No Crime:	3
Referred Back to Patrol:	2

<i>Supplements Received:</i>	23
Cleared With Arrest:	1
Previously cleared with Arrest:	6
Closed-No Leads:	1
Unfounded/No Crime:	0
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Still Active:	15

Detective Pham was in court for a trial all week.

Detective Embry is investigating a fraud case in which he sent a subpoena request to the State Attorney's Office to obtain billing and contact information for a suspect. He also continued investigating assigned cases.

Officer Motte mentored several students, assisted school staff with breaking up a fight in which both students received school consequences, completed a Baker Act evaluation, and assisted with a threat assessment. During the threat assessment evaluation it was determined the student didn't commit a crime, but did violate school policies and is being recommended for reassignment.

Officer Langston assisted the school social worker with an investigation pertaining to a possible suicidal student. She also responded to several disturbances throughout the week, investigated a possible missing/runaway student from Largo, assisted GPD units with a runaway juvenile investigation, investigated a drug related incident, responded to a medical call involving a

student, mentored two students who were involved in a bullying incident, and counseled a student about a fight he was involved in off school grounds. Officer Langston is also investigating a burglary at the school that resulted in damage to a vending machine.

Analyst Palmisano completed an analysis on bicycle thefts in the City. She also created an information bulletin for distribution to Gulfport PD officers and other local agencies regarding a subject with a history of Indecent Exposure activity who has been seen at Gulfport Beach.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	19
Supplements reviewed:	76
Public records requests:	30
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints:	3
Subpoenas processed:	8
Citizens assisted:	34

Professional Standards Section

Two policies are in the review process: 447 - Marine Unit, and; 508 - Criminal Intelligence. Twenty four directives are pending review.

Files were updated for the following accreditation standards:

- 13.07 - The agency conducts psychological fitness examinations for each candidate prior to appointment to probationary status. The bullets for this standard indicate: assessed by a licensed professional, maintained in accordance with Florida Statute, and stored in a secure manner.
- 13.08 - A minimum six-month probationary period and completion of all entry-level training are required before sworn members are appointed to permanent status. The compliance keys for this standard include proof of completion of entry-level training and proof of completion of a probationary period.
- 13.11 - If the agency administers a physical ability test for each candidate prior to appointment to probationary status, the test is job related and nondiscriminatory.
- 18.03M - A directive establishes procedures for the recruitment, control, and use of confidential informants in accordance with Florida Statutes.
- 34.08 - The agency conducts periodic audits of uniform traffic citations.

Probationary Officer Obrart started phase 3 of field training with Officer Cavanah on April 25.

MARINA

Pumped two thousand two hundred thirty (2,230) gallons of gas, and one thousand two hundred thirteen (1,213) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling eighty one (81) vessels.

Assisted with twenty eight (28) pump-outs evacuating four hundred ninety (490) 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 23' sailboat, 32' sailboat, 21' powerboat, and two 20' powerboats this week. Welcome to Gulfport!

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.
- Updated GTV615 programming and May Program schedule.
- Provided control room coverage for May 1 Planning & Zoning Board meeting. Rebroadcast on GTV615 and made DVD copies for City Clerk & IT Department.
- Completed preproduction scriptwriting for Marina, Police, Casino, & Fire Department video projects.
- Provided photographic coverage for Springfest, BCYC Funday & GPYC Regatta events.
- Contacted vendors and media for participation in 2013 Hurricane Seminar.
- Sent 4th of July vendor form to Fire Department for updating and continued planning & preparations for event.
- Continued development of 2014 Events Resolution, 2014 Historic Calendar updates and architectural design/updates for new City website.
- Scheduled Florida Green Energy Works Q/A meeting.
- Commenced preparation of City of Gulfport June Events/Meetings calendar.

Parks

Inspected Wood Ibis & Veterans Parks, Michael J. Yakes Recreation Complex and Clam Bayou for repairs, and repaired lake fountain & drinking fountain at Wood Ibis Park.

Adjusted gate and replaced padlock at York Street terminus, and posted signage referencing pet waste cleanup ordinance.

Replaced all mounting hardware and bracing on two monument benches at Tonkin Park.

Adjusted 2 vehicle access gates, replaced one padlock, miscellaneous hardware and two fence boards at Clam Bayou, and repaired fence on center gazebo railing.

Painted over graffiti on Hoyt field dugout.

Installed temporary lattice fence at Clymer Park in preparation for Springfest.

Replaced faulty GFCI receptacles on meter boxes at multiple Beach Boulevard locations.

Emptied trashcans on Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.

Trimmed, weeded, mulched & cleaned Senior Center, Library & City Complex, removed dead branches from Oak tree at Library, raked around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach.

Mowed City complex, Caldwell & Tonkin Parks, 14th Avenue/Pasadena entrance area, Beach area, Recreation Center field, Chase block, Dog Park & 55th Street medians.

Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and replaced line trimmer gas tank & belts on reel mower.

Repaired irrigation at Neighborhood Center & Tangerine signage area.

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** meets in the dining area on Mondays at 2 p.m. The group is looking for a volunteer pianist. Please call Gail at 893-2237.

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.

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.

Problems and obstacles occur all the time, and it's important to provide quick and effective solutions to them. Join Peg Stella for the **What's Your Problem workshop** on Thursday, May 16 at 1 p.m. Peg will discuss difficult issues such as memory, money and health. Free for Senior Center members.

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 **The Empowerment of Healing**. Her FREE lecture will discuss methods and new insights into the amazing power of healing.

Sign up now for 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.

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 21	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson with John 7 p.m. - Mario DeLeon's Band & Ballroom Dance (Turnout 53)
Monday, April 22	7 p.m. - Hustle dance lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 13)
Tuesday, April 23	Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 16) 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 8) 2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 49)
Wednesday, April 24	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 279)
Thursday, April 25	6:30 p.m. - Salsa lessons with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 23)

Saturday, April 27	6 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 100)
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Casino (Upcoming Events):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance Admission \$7
Every Monday	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 21	2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) presents A Flea in Her Ear (Turnout 120)
Friday, April 26	7:30 p.m. - The Performing Arts Consortium of St. Petersburg presents Hans Christian Anderson's <i>The Little Mermaid</i> (Turnout 91)
Saturday, April 27	2 p.m. - The Performing Arts Consortium of St. Petersburg presents Hans Christian Anderson's <i>The Little Mermaid</i> (Turnout 28)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events)

Friday, May 3, 7 p.m. - Free Family Movie Night featuring a 1952 American family comedy starring Abbott & Costello. For more information call 893-1068.

Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):

Sunday, April 21	9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 19) 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous (Turnout 8)
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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 22	10:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion class (Turnout 6) 6:30 p.m. - Girl Scout meeting (Turnout 10)
Tuesday, April 23	11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)
Wednesday, April 24	10:30 a.m. - Yogarific (Turnout 9)
Thursday, April 25	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:

Tuesday, April 23, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open AA meeting.*

Tuesday, April 23, 7:15 p.m. - *World Book Night & Light the Night* facilitated by Dave Mather, Cailey Klasson and the Circle of Friends.

Wednesday, April 24, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers* meeting.

Wednesday, April 24, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*, facilitated by Sheri Stanley.

Thursday, April 25, 9:30 a.m. - *Spanish for Beginners.*

Thursday, April 25, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime for Preschoolers* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Saturday, April 27, 10 a.m. - *Downsizing, Donuts & Donations:* A mini yard & book sale organized by the Circle of Friends.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, May 4, 11 a.m. - *Saturday Crafternoon:* Bring the kids and join Cailey for a fun afternoon making spring crafts and Mothers' Day cards.

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 21 - 27, 2013:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,691	589
Sun. 4/21	18	7
Mon. 4/22	359	122
Tue. 4/23	264	81
Wed. 4/24	321	111
Thu. 4/25	343	125
Fri. 4/26	241	84
Sat. 4/27	145	59

Recreation Center

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.

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

Alton Hooker used the school bus to transport a group of Gulfport Elementary students to John Hopkins Middle School in St. Petersburg on Thursday.

Marivel Gutierrez and John Lapham interviewed one (1) Summer Program Recreation Leader applicant on Tuesday afternoon.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

Account Activity (Water and/or Marina):	28 new, 0 closed
Water payments:	1,034 totaling \$127,806.75
Online Water payments:	82 transactions totaling \$7,262.26
Bright House payments:	12
Utility Bills Mailed 05/01/13:	1,223
Payroll 04/26/13:	161 transactions totaling \$163,312.73
Payroll-Accounts Payable:	10 transactions totaling \$18,836.93

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 43 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 3 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Special Rescue

Life Safety:

- 1 Fire Inspection
- 4 Re-inspections

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

Staff Activities:

- The Gulfport Fire Department Training Officer met with the St. Petersburg Fire & Rescue Group to discuss High-rise drills within local departments.
- The Gulfport Firefighters are participating in Target Solutions Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) online training. Training covers many types of hazardous waste operations and emergency response conducted in the United States under Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Standard 1910.120 "Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response" which details the safety requirements employers and their subcontractors or public sector responders must meet in order to conduct cleanups or emergency response operations.

- Firefighter/EMT Christopher Mathis and Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Steindl worked the Special Rescue detail for Gulfport Springfest on April 27. Acting Lieutenant Burford performed fire inspections for the vendors.
- Chief Marenkovic attended a Special Needs Coordinators meeting with Douglas Myers of the Pinellas County Emergency Management Team on May 1.
- Inspector Vento assisted St. Petersburg Fire Protection, LLC with a pressure test on the Standpipe System at the Town Shores Kenmore building. No violations were noted.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance:

- Replaced toilet in ladies beach restroom.
- Assisted Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor on errand to Tampa.
- Returned two coolers to Casino.
- Installed paper towel dispenser in Senior Center exercise room.
- Replaced two ballasts at Recreation Center.
- Drove City school bus to Tampa for certification.
- Received and stored boxes of envelopes in Copy Room for Administrative Services.
- Purchased and picked up automotive parts for Vehicle Maintenance Department.
- Brought air hose from the Marina to Goodyear for repair.
- Unlocked City buildings for monthly pest control treatment.
- Rebuilt light fixture for Senior Center.
- Repaired flood lights at Recreation Center.
- Delivered outgoing mail to Post Office.
- 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 40 gallon automated containers to residences.
- Removed barricades at 52nd Street terminus.
- Removed debris from Marina area.
- Delivered and set up garbage and recycling containers for Springfest event.
- Reset storm drain cover at 54th Street & 11th Avenue.
- Repaired an automated container at the Pasadena Yacht & Country Club.
- Cleaned up debris from the Tuesday Fresh Market.
- Removed and disposed of dirt in roadway on 52nd Street from 28th to 29th Avenue.
- Built ramp at Marina.
- Delivered automated recycling containers to Senior Center.
- Completed asphalt patchwork at 57th Street & 17th Avenue, 54th Street & 15th Avenue, and 53rd Street & 11th Avenue.
- Assembled 300 gallon automated containers
- Delivered new automated containers to Salty's and new restaurant at Beach & Shore.
- Set up barricades and signs for street closing in preparation for Springfest event.
- Reset the storm lid at 55th Street & 15th Avenue.

- Filled and graded the alley between 57th & 58th Streets, between 16th & 17th Avenues, and behind the Pontiac Apartments.
- Installed crosswalk signs at 58th Street & 15th Avenue.
- Bagged leaves and removed millings ramp at Marina.
- Reset storm drain cover at 54th Street & Gulfport Boulevard.

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).
- Disconnected water service at 74 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 154 Customer Service-generated miscellaneous service orders.
- Completed 3 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 5 backflow devices due in May.
- Collected Quarterly TTHM's and HAA5's samples on water distribution system.
- Installed new backflows & meters at 3101 Beach Boulevard & 5102 Gulfport Boulevard.

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.
- Removed excess material and graded swale for drainage along canopy at 1617 49th Street.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced steel hydraulic oil line for tailgate on Sanitation Truck #31.
- Replaced turn signal switch on Sanitation Truck #43.
- Replaced door seals and two louver assemblies on Recycling Truck #40.
- Performed front brake job on Fire Truck #P17.
- Replaced radiator cooling fan and air bag deactivation light on Police Vehicle #09.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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

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

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 have moved 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.

The number of code enforcement cases for April was 146 for a fiscal year to date total of 1,042 cases. The number of complaints for April was 23 for a fiscal year to date total of 93. This represents an annual ratio of complaints to total number of cases of 8.9 percent.

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

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

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

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. P&Z RECOMMENDED APPROVAL

May 8, 2013 Board of Adjustment meeting:

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