



# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *June 16 - 22, 2013*

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

City Manager Jim O'Reilly and Fire Chief Jim Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that **2013 Hurricane Guides** are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. Hurricane season in the Atlantic is June 1 thru November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits.

The City of Gulfport and American Legion Post 125 celebrated **Flag Day** in Veterans Park June 14 with a moving ceremony to retire old American flags by proper ceremonial burn (photos below). Special guest vocalist and former Broadway singer Victor Helou performed the *Star Spangled Banner* and *God Bless America*. Ward 4 Councilmember Michael Fridovich officiated.



### **Upcoming Events:**

The City of Gulfport has a full day of events planned for this year's **Independence Day celebration** in the Waterfront District beginning at 8 a.m. Thursday, July 4. Join us for kids' activities, live music, food, craft vendors, parade and world-class fireworks display. Please see the attached flyer for a full schedule of the day's events. For more information, or to register for the parade or Classic Car Show call Justin at 893-1118 or email [jshea@mygulfport.us](mailto:jshea@mygulfport.us).

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 call Laura Garrison at 278-4285, email [gulfportmarket@gmail.com](mailto:gulfportmarket@gmail.com) or visit [www.GulfportMA.com](http://www.GulfportMA.com) or [www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket](http://www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket).

Enjoy a showcase of comedy and light drama during the Gulfport Community Players' annual **Summer One-Act Festival** at the Catherine A. Hickman Theater, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue July 11 - 21. Tickets: \$15, available at the Gulfport Casino, Chamber of Commerce & Beach Bazaar, or by calling 322-0316.

### **Weekly Casino Ballroom Events**

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

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Administration**

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

Offenses	25
Arrests	7
Traffic citations	35

#### **Significant incidents or calls this week:**

Officers responded to a report of a home invasion robbery in 5100 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue early June 11 after three black males forced their way into a home and one of the suspects fired two shots inside. The victims barricaded themselves in a bedroom. No property was taken and the victims were unharmed. The investigation is ongoing.

GPD received a late-reported theft after a caller in the 5700 block of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported that their vehicle registration decal had been removed from the car's license plate. The victim did not know when the theft occurred.

Officers were dispatched to the 5100 block of Gulfport Boulevard in the early morning hours of June 12 after a woman reported she was battered by her fiancé. Officers determined that the incident occurred in St. Petersburg, and the investigation was turned over to the SPPD.

Officers made contact with Craig McComas in the 5100 block of Gulfport Boulevard early June 12 and discovered he was in violation of a court ordered curfew related to prior burglary offenses. He was arrested for violation of probation.

Officer Mills documented a series of stalking incidents that have been ongoing for more than a year between a complainant and her ex-husband. He is awaiting further information from the victim before charging the suspect.

Officers responded to an anonymous complainant of a domestic in progress at a bus stop in the 5500 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the morning of June 13. They made contact with two subjects matching the description of the involved parties as they were getting onto a PSTA bus. Both stated nothing happened, and neither appeared to have been involved in a fight.

Officers were dispatched to the 6200 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the morning of June 13 after the Gulfport Fire Department responded to a call for assistance and discovered a deceased person. There were no signs of foul play and the subject, an elderly male likely died of natural causes.

Officers received a report of a theft in the 1800 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street on the afternoon of June 13 after a caller stated a dolly used to tow a vehicle was stolen sometime between April 24 and

June 8. The complainant stated that people regularly "borrow" trailers and return them later, or to another location.

While on routine patrol on the evening of June 13 officers discovered an open front door at a vacant property in the 5700 block of 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There was no sign of forced entry, and the residence appeared to be under construction with tools still inside. Officers secured the residence by locking the door.

Officers were dispatched to the 5100 block of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the evening of June 13 regarding a subject throwing cactus clippings onto a neighbor's property. The subject was trespassed from the property.

While conducting a traffic stop at the intersection of 49<sup>th</sup> Street & 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue for a minor equipment violation on the evening of June 13 officers found a substance identified as MDMA in the vehicle. The driver, She'Keria Rose was arrested for possession of a controlled substance.

Two sailboats and a jet ski were observed tied to the Casino Pier on the afternoon of June 14, possibly in violation of City ordinances. Officers made contact with several subjects on one of the boats, one of whom also owned the jet ski, and informed them of the City ordinance prohibiting vessels being moored to the pier longer than 8 hours a day or between the hours of 11 p.m. & 7 a.m.

Officers conducted a follow up to a Grand Theft in which a \$700 dollar bicycle was stolen from Boca Ciega High School. They located an address for the suspect who resides in St. Petersburg, and SPPD located the juvenile suspect. A Gulfport officer questioned the juvenile who admitted taking the bicycle which the officer observed in the front yard of his residence. The victim wanted to prosecute and the juvenile was arrested on Grand Theft charges.

Officers responded to the 5100 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue on the evening of June 14 regarding a child custody dispute. There were no court documents determining custody of the child and the couple was never married. The child was released to the mother.

Officers arrested a man for DUI on the evening of June 15 after he crashed into the rear of a vehicle waiting at the red light at the intersection of 58<sup>th</sup> Street & Gulfport Boulevard. The driver's breath samples were 0.264/0.284, more than three times the legal limit.

A homeowner in the 2200 block of 56<sup>th</sup> Street witnessed three juveniles enter his fenced-in property and attempt to steal two bicycles on the afternoon of June 16. The homeowner chased them and Sergeant Coombs located them at Walgreens. Officer Mills conducted a "Show-Up" with the homeowner who identified the suspects. One admitted to their intentions post Miranda. They were arrested and transported to the Pinellas Juvenile Assessment Center.

Sometime between midnight and 6 a.m. June 17 suspect(s) entered into an unlocked vehicle in the 5100 block of Newton Avenue and stole two IPODs. One fingerprint was obtained.

**Investigations:**

<b>New Cases:</b>	11
Cases Assigned:	02
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	05
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	01
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	00
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	01
Cases Rejected back to patrol:	02
<b>Supplements Received:</b>	17
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	01
"Previously" Cleared With Arrest	05
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	01
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	03

Cases Exceptionally Cleared: 00  
Cases Still Active: 07

Detective Hanh Pham interviewed Zachary Scherer at the Pinellas County Jail regarding residential burglaries in the zone three area. Scherer denied involvement. Detective Pham continued investigating assigned cases and developed several leads in an identity theft case.

Detective Embry was informed by PCSO that suspect David Isom was arrested on an outstanding warrant for a burglary he investigated, and continued investigating assigned cases.

Analyst Palmisano created and distributed a bulletin regarding a home invasion robbery case. She also assisted in the possible identification of a suspect in an unarmed robbery case using information gained from an officer based on a bulletin she previously distributed. Additionally, she updated the sex predator/offender display in the police lobby and the sex predator/offender pamphlet, adding one predator and one offender who recently moved to Gulfport, and removing an offender currently incarcerated in Hillsborough County; completed a property crimes analysis to for Officer Iwanowski, and; completed pawn checks for 10 cases with a named suspect or identifiable property.

Officer Motte is assisting patrol through the summer months and made two arrests; one for a DUI and the other for Grand theft. He also took a burglary report, but the case was suspended due to lack of follow up information.

Officer Langston is also assisting patrol through summer.

### **Records Section**

Reports reviewed:	15
Supplements reviewed:	56
Reports disseminated:	20
Public records requests:	7
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	2
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	26

### **Professional Standards Section**

Five policies are in the review process: 318-Telephone Use; 428-Natural Death Investigations; 447-Marine Unit; 508-Criminal Intelligence, and; 510-Sex Crimes Investigations.

Lt. Farrand received 3 phone calls and 2 e-mail inquiries this week regarding employment with the Gulfport Police Department.

Probationary Officers Marshall and Merriam completed computer based training (bloodborne pathogens, first aid, fire safety, live lineups and eyewitness identification, and limited access FCIC certification). They were also set up with sign-ons for Power DMS and received training in how to access and read directives. All necessary sign-ons and a VIPAR account have been obtained.

Vehicle 18's laptop would not boot up so Lt. Farrand spoke by telephone with Lenovo Technical Support who determined that the hard drive was broken. Lenovo shipped a new hard drive and Lt. Farrand installed it. She is also loading all necessary programs back into the laptop, which will then be sent to the Sheriff's office to be reconfigured.

Paperwork was submitted for one member's mandatory retraining requirements, and for the two new hires' certifications.

SPN numbers were obtained for the two new hires and contact information was changed for officers no longer employed by GPD.

Officer Motte's laptop was experiencing issues with security updates. The problem was corrected and the laptop is working properly.

### **Training Coordination**

Probationary Officers Marshall and Merriam began employment on June 18. Their Pre-FTO schedule is in place.

Three members attended training this week.

### **Applicant Screening**

The PD has twenty applications on file and one vacancy.

### **MARINA**

Pumped three thousand four hundred forty eight (3,448) gallons of gas, and two thousand two hundred eighty three (2,283) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred thirty five (135) vessels.

Assisted with thirty two (32) pump-outs evacuating four hundred fifty (450) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

### **Transient vessels:**

Marina staff welcomed s 30' sailboats, a 45'sailboat, 33' sailboat, 32' sailboat, 34' sailboat, 40' motor yacht and a 30' motor boat this week. Welcome to Gulfport!

### **Staff Activities:**

- Purchased drinks for resale.
- Replaced deck boards on Coast Guard dock.
- Replaced dock lines on fuel dock.
- Repaired fuel dispenser.
- Cleared debris from boat ramp drain.

### **LEISURE SERVICES**

#### **Technical Events**

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

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment and troubleshot microphones and robotics cameras in Council Chambers.
- Continued with 4<sup>th</sup> of July event preparations and met with Bob Williams to discuss details.
- Continued design and updating of new website and uploaded pictures of all City parks.
- Distributed July events/meetings calendar to all City facilities.
- Assisted IT Department with daily operations.

## Parks

The Gulfport Skate Park is closed for maintenance, and will reopen on June 24.

Delivered/set up chairs at Veterans Park in preparation for Flag Day, removed following event and replaced flag.

All parks were treated for cinch bugs and weeds.

Continued storm cleanup at City parks and along 49<sup>th</sup> Streetscape.

Trimmed, weeded, mulched & cleaned Beach Streetscapes, Veterans & Clymer Parks, raked around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach.

Mowed York Street terminus, Tangerine Greenways, Wood Ibis Park & Neighborhood Center grounds.

Repaired irrigation at Library, Clymer, Neighborhood Center, Chase Block.

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:**

- Inspected City Parks following storms and worked up repair estimates.
- 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. The **summer schedule with new pickup times and trips** is available at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center, from GEMS drivers or online at [www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org). Check out our new Terrific Tuesday Trip every second & fourth Tuesday, leaving the Senior Center on the hour between 10 a.m. & 3 p.m. going to the Tuesday Market with stops at Gulfport Beach and Pavilion #6. Gulfport residents 55 & older or residents with a disability can take advantage of GEMS door to door service for a yearly membership of \$65.00 plus \$2.00 per ride. Riders must have a green schedule card to use this service. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

## **Multipurpose Center**

The Gulfport Multipurpose Center is open Monday, Thursday & Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and; Tuesday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. through summer. Wii Bowling classes will be offered at 6:30 p.m. every first & third Tuesday; Italian Class for Beginners every Tuesday at 6 p.m.; Italian Dance Practice every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., and; Card Games every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Like us on **Facebook at Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation**. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information!

Do you know someone who lives alone and could use a call? Volunteers for the **Reassurance Telephone Program** call Gulfport seniors every Monday through Saturday between 7:30 & 8:30 a.m. To sign up for this program, please visit the Gulfport Senior Center and bring valid I.D.

Recycle your old cell phone, General Mills Box tops, Campbell's labels, can tabs and eye glasses at the Senior Center. Staff forwards these items to the proper organization for reuse, recycle or education.

Call Rachel at 893-1231 to sign up for July **beginner & intermediate computer classes**.

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **multiple volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, come join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with over 50 programs, classes and workshops offered right here in Gulfport. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants, Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. If you have any interest in volunteering for the Center and are 18 years or older, please call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center at 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

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 June schedule at the Senior Center or online at [www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org). The Senior Center currently offers 49 monthly classes for residents over 50 to choose. Membership required.

Over 50 and ready to get fit and meet new friends? Visit the **Foundation Fitness Center**. Summer hours are Monday, Thursday & Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Tuesday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. - 7 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.

Want to learn to play Contract Bridge? **Beginners Bridge 101** at 11 a.m. every Monday is for you!

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.

Join Aston Hugh for a new **Easy Tai Chi** class at the Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street every Tuesday & Thursday at 10 a.m. Designed for all levels of ability and mobility, Aston's technique focuses on breathing and meditation, resulting in improved agility, mobility, balance and stress relief. This class is open to Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center members. For more information contact Rachel at 893-1231.

Not just one, but a **Two Man Show!** These two men aren't just great performers; they have really big hearts. Jay Wygant and Mike Furman will be performing at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center dining Hall on Wednesday, June 26 at 1:30 p.m. - the very first Two Man Show to support the Senior Center Pantry and seniors in need. The price of the ticket is non-perishable goods or a supermarket gift card. Room is limited, so get your seat early to see these Bright House Idol finalists. Thanks Jay & Mike for sharing your fantastic voices with us at the Center! For more information call Gail at 893-2237.

Eat, drink and celebrate freedom at the **Stars and Stripes BBQ** at noon on Wednesday, July 3! Join your friends for planned activities and Hamburgers with all the fixings. Tickets: \$7 or 2 for \$10. Thank you to our sponsors: Eagle Lake Rehab & Care Center, Griswold Home Care, Gulfport Beach Bazaar, Lasting Legacy, Smokin' J's BBQ, and the Health Rehab Centre at Dolphins View. Proceeds from this event will benefit the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation.

Watch a FREE movie and enjoy a great lunch for \$2.50 during **Movie Day at the Snack Bar** on Tuesday, July 9, 11 a.m.

Everyone is invited to the Healthy Vision Institute's free **Senior Vision Seminar** Wednesday, July 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Want to know more about Hospice? Join Janet Pattison on Thursday, July 21 at 1 p.m. for a **Hospice and Caregiving** seminar.

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

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

Sunday, June 9	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson
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	7 p.m. - Ellis Hale's band & Ballroom Dance (Turnout 25)
Monday, June 10	7 p.m. - Hustle dance lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 23)
Tuesday, June 11	Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 18) 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 6) 2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 41)
Wednesday, June 12	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 179)
Thursday, June 13	7 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera (Turnout 19)
Saturday, June 15	3:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 120)

**Casino (Upcoming Events):**

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance Admission \$7
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, June 9, noon - Kali Kali Productions recital (Turnout 176)

Monday - Friday, June 10 - 14, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. - Performing Arts Consortium of St. Petersburg Theater Summer Camp for young performers

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

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

Sunday, June 9	9:30a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church Services (Turnout 19) 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous
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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
Monday, June 10	10:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion class
Tuesday, June 11	11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)
Wednesday, June 12	10:30 a.m. - Yoga class (Turnout 10)
Thursday, June 13	9:30 a.m. - Bob's Band practice
Friday, June 14	10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 10)

**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.

**Public Programs/Meetings/Events:**

Tuesday, June 11, 1:30 p.m. - *Suncoast Hospice Bereavement Counseling for Widows and Widowers.*

Tuesday, June 11, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open AA meeting.*

Wednesday, June 12, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, June 12, 2 p.m. - *Summer Reading program for grades K-5, facilitated by Cailey Klasson.*

Wednesday, June 12, 4 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading program facilitated by Sheri Stanley & Cailey Klasson.*

Thursday, June 13, 10:30 a.m. - *Storyime for Preschoolers facilitated by Cailey Klasson.*

Thursday, June 13, 1 p.m. - *iPad for Beginners Workshop facilitated by Dave Mather & Cailey Klasson.*

Friday, June 14, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, June 15, 10 a.m. - *Beginning Digital Camera Workshop facilitated by Cathy Salustri.*

Saturday, June 15, 1:30 p.m. - *Crafts Club for All Ages.*

**Upcoming Events:**

Tuesday, June 25 - *SCORE Counseling: FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals. Call 893-1073 for more information or to schedule an appointment.*

Tuesday, June 25, 1:30 p.m. - *Suncoast Hospice Bereavement Counseling for Widows & Widowers.*

Wednesday, June 26, 2 p.m. - *Dig into Reading Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5: Painting Garden Pots: Put your own personal touch on a terracotta pot for your home garden!*

Wednesday, June 26, 4 p.m. - Beneath the Surface Teen Summer Reading Program: *Return to Middle Earth*: Come hang out and watch The Hobbit, make your own hobbit terrarium and learn to write your name in elvish. For more information on our Summer Reading Programs call Youth Services Librarian Cailey at 893-1073.

Saturday, June 29, 10 a.m. - *Intermediate Digital Camera Workshop*. Open to participants of the June 15 *Beginner Digital Camera Workshop* only.

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, 10:30 a.m. - *Summer Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers. Don't miss our special *Summer Storytime Garden Jamboree* on the last Thursday of every month. Sing songs, play instruments & have a great time in the new Circle of Friends Garden!

Every Friday, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*. For more information call 893-1073.

**Library Services/Statistic June 9 - 15, 2013:**  
**Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,846	598
Sun. 6/9	17	12
Mon. 6/10	379	107
Tue. 6/11	327	103
Wed. 6/12	313	103
Thu. 6/13	321	107
Fri. 6/14	266	93
Sat. 6/15	223	73

**Recreation Center**

The game room is reserved 2 - 7 p.m. Saturday, June 22 for a Swedish Club Midsummer Gathering, and noon - 4 p.m. Saturday June 29 for a Birthday party.

**Programs, Classes & Activities**

One hundred two (102) children are registered for the **2013 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended care until 6 p.m. for an additional fee. Participants enjoy activities, field trips, lunches, positive role models and a safe environment to call their own.

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

Seventy four (74) 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.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

### **Customer Service and Finance**

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 30 new, 0 closed
- Water payments: 1,123 totaling \$123,248.93
- On-Line Water payments: 95 transactions totaling \$9,869.86
- Bright House payments: 18
- Utility Bills Mailed 06/19/13: 1,628
- Accounts Payable 06/14/13: 616 transactions totaling \$497,086.68
- Mail processed 06/14/13: 509 pieces totaling \$413.83
- Purchasing Cards June report: 214 transactions totaling \$23,870.34

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Calls for Service:**

- 39 Emergency Medical Calls
- 4 Structure Fires
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Bird Rescue

### **Life Safety:**

- 5 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 1 Smoke Detector

The **CERT Team** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. For more information visit [www.gulfportcert.com](http://www.gulfportcert.com) or call Bob Worthington at 916-8014.

### **Staff Activities:**

- Gulfport Firefighters are undergoing annual Physicals with LifeScans. Lab work and blood tests will be performed by Lab Corp. The Physicals will also include a series of tests for Firefighter Safety and Wellbeing under NFPA 1500. The Life Scan Wellness Program is designed to provide us with the tools to be proactive with our own health. It is a valuable health and fitness assessment concept that is proven to identify major medical conditions before the onset of catastrophic consequences. Since the first Wellness Center, an alarming number of Firefighters have been identified with elevated heart risk conditions that could lead to a deadly heart attack or stroke and even cancerous conditions.
- Chief Marenkovic and Acting Lt. Burford taught a Heartsaver with AED CPR course to the CERT Team and several Senior Center patrons on June 20. Everyone successfully passed. Certification is good for two years.
- Chief Marenkovic and other Pinellas County Fire Chiefs have been reviewing the Draft report from Fitch & Associates on the EMS Study. Fitch & Associates will present their final report to the Board of County Commissioners at a Work Session on July 19.
- A message from Fire Chief James Marenkovic: An emergency is when Police, FIRE or EMS agencies. An emergency is any serious medical problem, any type of fire, any life threatening situation, and any crime in progress. Remember 9-1-1 is the number to dial when you have an emergency.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance:**

- Replaced rubber seals in Library windows.
- Received 3 bids for Beach restroom roof replacement.
- Repaired water fountain at Little League.
- Installed fire alarm strobe in Men's Restroom at Neighborhood Center.
- Replaced 35 feet of chain on south gate at Neighborhood Center.
- Repaired air conditioning unit above art room and urinal in men's room at Recreation Center.
- Repaired locks in Senior Center Lunch Room.
- Picked up vehicle for Garage.
- Completed monthly pest control on all City buildings.
- Repaired vertical boards on decking at Casino.
- Delivered mail to main Post Office for Finance Department.
- Repaired cabinets at Recreation Center.
- Installed new locking mechanism on automatic doors at City Hall entrance.
- 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.
- Assembled and delivered new 40 & 90 gallon automated containers.
- Added rock and graded seawall at 49<sup>th</sup> Street & Tradewinds Drive easement.
- Reset storm drain cover at 53<sup>rd</sup> Street & 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Completed parking lot work at Theater.
- Completed asphalt patchwork at 51<sup>st</sup> Street & 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue, York Street & Gulfport Boulevard, and 5606 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Completed brick street work at 56<sup>th</sup> Street & 30<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Filled and compacted depression in road at 54<sup>th</sup> Street & 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Filled & graded alleys on 56<sup>th</sup> & 57<sup>th</sup> Streets between 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Removed and disposed of debris from Beach area.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping at Osgood Point.
- Removed and reset automated containers at Seaside Villas in preparation for parking lot pavement.
- Cleaned and removed debris from storm drains, inlets, and outfalls.
- Sealed and concreted storm line at 52<sup>nd</sup> Street & 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Backfilled roadway and compacted area at the Pasadena Yacht & County Club.

### **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 # 31, 32, 33 & 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 37 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 6 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 88 Customer Service-generated miscellaneous service orders.
- Completed 10 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.

- Replaced 1 meter that was stuck and not recording water usage
- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.
- Flushed dead-end water lines at 7 City locations.
- Replaced 19 old-style water meters with new radio-read meters.

## **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.

## **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Replaced A/C thermostats, driver door window latch, and horns on Recreation Bus #68.
- Transmission control & power train modules reprogrammed in Police Vehicle #102.
- Replaced clutch on Parks Department Vehicle #52 A/C compressor.
- Performed front brake job on GEMS Vehicle #01.
- 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](http://www.pcclb.com).

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

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

**Code Enforcement** activities continue in Section 4, also known as the Art District, which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and east from 49<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup> & 59<sup>th</sup> Street.

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

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

#### **July 10, 2013 Board of Adjustment:**

V13-11; 2301 York Street South; Variance request to:

- Acknowledge the existence of a non-permitted, nonconforming 8' x 10' shed with respect to the minimum rear and side yard setback requirements; and

- To reduce the minimum setback requirements for the existing shed by 1 foot from 3 feet to 2 feet from the rear property line, and by 1.5 feet from 3 feet to 1.5 feet from side property line.

V13-12; 1619 56<sup>th</sup> Street South; Variance request to reduce the side yard setback requirement by 2 foot, from 12 feet to 10 feet to construct an attached, open carport.

Distribution:

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