



Gulfport Community Update

August 26 - September 1, 2012

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Gulfport City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 3 in observance of **Labor Day**. The sanitation schedule will not be affected.

Upcoming Events:

Enjoy an evening with author and former Tampa Tribune reporter Tim Dorsey at the Gulfport Library on Thursday, September 13. For more information call Dave Mather at 893-1075.

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. Summer hours are 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. The Gulfport Merchants Association continues to collect donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Senior Center Pantry. Bring donations to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent each Tuesday during the Gulfport Fresh Market. The Pantry is in great need of donations to keep up with the needs of its clients. Stock has been greatly diminished during summer and new donations are appreciated. Bring gently worn apparel to the **Clothing Swap to Benefit CASA** in the Peninsula Inn Courtyard on September 11, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information visit www.gulfportma.com or contact Daniel Hodge at 366-4086 or dan@igc.org.

Get ready for Gulfport **GeckoFest** on Saturday, September 1, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Enjoy great music on two stages, kids' events and street performers, peruse the works of local artists and craftsmen. The walking parade begins at 6 p.m., followed by a costume contest at 6:30. For more information call 322-5217.

Eat all you can at the **Gulfport Lions Club Labor Day Fish Fry** on Monday, September 3, 4 - 8 p.m. at the Lions Club, 4630 Tifton Drive. Tickets: \$8 at the door. B.Y.O.B. For more information call 515-7509 the day of event.

See you at the **Gulfport Art-Walk** in Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District on Friday, September 7, 6 - 10 p.m. For more information call 322-5217.

Everyone is invited to the **49th Street South Business Association (So49)** meeting on Wednesday, September 12 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street South. For more information call 515-4941.

The **Third Saturday Gulfport Art Walk** is September 15, 6 - 10 p.m. on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District. For more information call 322-5217.

Join the fun at the **Keep Gulfport Weird Mini-Triathlon** on Saturday, September 29. Registration forms are available at www.mygulfport.us under "latest news." The \$10 registration fee includes a commemorative T-shirt. Check-in begins at 6 a.m., and the race begins at 7. Last day of registration is September 12. For more information call 893-1118 or 893-1066.

The Third Annual **Tangerine Blues Fest** is Saturday, September 29, 4 - 10 p.m. on the Tangerine Greenway. For more information call 515-4941 or visit www.tangerinebluesfest.com or www.so49.org.

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

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

From January to July of this year, the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board issued 536 citations against unlicensed contractors. 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 5 of the City, also known as the Marina District Area. This area comprises the southeast portion of the City which generally extends south from 26th Avenue South to the water and east from 49th Street to the City boundaries. Beginning in September Code Enforcement activities will move to Section 1 of the City, also known as the Stetson Area which comprises the northwest portion of the City and extends south from 7th Avenue South to Gulfport Boulevard and east from 64th Street to 58th Street South.

The number of code enforcement cases for July 2012 was 298, for a year-to-date total of 2,101. The number of citizen complaints was 17 which represent 5.7 percent of the case load for July. The year-to-date number of citizen complaints is 167, a ratio of 7.9 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.

September 12, 2012 Board of Adjustment:

V12-09 - 5437 29th Avenue South, Gulfport, FL 33707. Owner is Oscar Siuda, Trustee; agent is Owen Pach. Variance request to reduce the rear property line setback distance requirement by approximately 13 feet, from 15 feet to approximately 2 feet, to allow for the installation of a proposed 9'x 12' accessory structure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Offenses	43
Arrests	8
Traffic citations	14

Examples of arrests and significant incidents or calls this week:

GPD is investigating a burglary in the 2500 block of 54th Street after a complainant reported on August 21 that two blue 7' Calypso kayaks and a silver Trek Mountain bike from a backyard overnight.

A juvenile was arrested for petit theft on the evening of August 21 after stealing an unattended I-pod at the Gulfport Library. The property was recovered and returned to the owner.

A complainant filed a police report on the morning of August 22 after discovering that someone stole his library card and rented several movies and books from libraries in Gulfport and St. Petersburg. The items were never returned and the libraries are now billing him for the charges.

GPD responded to a reported battery at the Joy Food Mart on 49th Street on the afternoon of August 22 after female caller reported that she was involved in an altercation with another woman over a parking space. After they were both asked to leave, the unknown female suspect spit at the complainant through her passenger window. No follow-up information is available.

On the evening of August 22, Michael Collins armed himself with a kitchen knife and threatened to kill his girlfriend. The victim fled the house in the 6100 block of 8th Avenue and called police. Officers found Collins lurking across the street in a house under construction. Upon his arrest, Collins became very loud and disruptive, causing a disturbance in the neighborhood. He was charged with aggravated assault, loitering/prowling, and disorderly conduct.

Adam Coffman was arrested for DUI after driving past Officer Ashcom at approximately 60 miles per hour, in the area of 28th Avenue South in the early morning hours of August 23. Officer Ashcom observed that Coffman was unable to maintain a lane. He performed poorly on field sobriety tasks and provided a breath sample that was above the legal limit.

Officer Cavanah transported a resident to a mental health facility on a voluntary basis in the early morning of August 24. Once there however, the person became uncooperative and pushed Officer Cavanah. He also kicked a rear door window out of the frame while seated in the back of the patrol car. He was charged with resisting an officer with violence and criminal mischief for damage to the patrol vehicle.

GPD responded to a report of an altercation in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard in the early morning hours of August 25. While speaking with officers at the scene, suspect Jessica Box dropped a baggie containing suspected marijuana on the ground. She was issued a notice to appear for possession of marijuana.

GPD and PCSO responded to a report of an armed person in the early morning of August 26 after a woman reported that a male fired a round inside a residence in the 5600 block of 27th Avenue. Officers met the female occupant outside the house, set up a perimeter and searched the exterior of the residence. They were able to convince the shooter to exit the house unarmed. The weapon was located and seized, but the facts and circumstances do not constitute a crime under Florida law.

Day shift officers responded to a residence in the 2600 block of 45th Street South in the early morning hours of August 26 after the night shift sent Christopher Keys, who was intoxicated, home in a cab after he caused a disturbance. He then drove his car back to the residence and harassed the two female residents. He was argumentative and would not listen to the officers on scene. He was arrested for disorderly intoxication.

Officers took reports two vessel burglary reports at the Gulfport Marina on the afternoon of August 26. The vessels were damaged, but it is unknown if any property is missing. Officer Horning is investigating these incidents and awaiting the surveillance video for leads.

Investigations:

New Cases: 16
Cases Assigned: 2

Cases Closed-No Leads:	7
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	0
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	5
Cases Referred Back to Patrol:	2

Supplements Received:	16
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	2
Previously cleared with Arrest:	2
Cases Closed-No Leads:	1
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	3
Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Still Active:	8

Detective Hanh Pham continued following up on his assigned cases. He interviewed a subject at the Pinellas County Jail who is the person of interest in an armed robbery case. Detective Pham took off Friday and Monday to help with the RNC event in Tampa.

Detective Embry discovered that the suspect in his 2010 sexual battery case was arrested in Georgia for an outstanding warrant for sexual battery on a minor. Detective Embry will continue to follow up on his assigned cases.

School Resource Officer Beltran spoke at 8 assemblies and talked about crime prevention topics and driving safety tips. He also covered 3 off duty details for SPPD over the weekend and worked a varsity football game on Friday.

School Resource Officer Motte took two theft reports and a counterfeit currency report however there were no leads or follow-up information so all have been suspended. He also taught several Drivers Ed classes about DUI's and covered a Varsity football game with Officer Beltran.

Analyst Palmisano completed pawn checks for 19 cases in which there is identifiable property or a named suspect. She also covered records for 10 hours.

Officers Kellington and Cavanah were deployed with the Marina unit this week to assist with the Republican National Convention in Tampa.

Records

Reports reviewed:	38
Supplements reviewed:	47
Public records requests:	20
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	3
Subpoenas processed:	6
Citizens assisted:	39

MARINA

Pumped one thousand one hundred ninety seven (1,197) gallons of gas, and eight hundred thirty four (834) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling sixty two (62) vessels.

Assisted in twelve (12) pump-outs evacuating three hundred (300) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

LIBRARY

The Gulfport Library offers free one-on-one computer instruction on a first come basis every Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

- Monday, August 20, 5 p.m. - Citizenship class.
- Tuesday, August 21, 3 p.m. - *eSalon* facilitated by Alex Hooks.
- Tuesday, August 21, 5:30 p.m. - Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.
- Wednesday, August 22, 10 a.m. - Gulfport Creative Short Story Writers meeting.
- Thursday, August 23, 10:30 a.m. - Storyime for Preschoolers facilitated by Diann Morningstar.
- Thursday, August 23, 3:30 p.m. - R.E.A.D. Therapy dog Maya.
- Thursday, August 23, 4:30 p.m. - Business Debtors Anonymous meeting.
- Saturday, August 25, 10:30 a.m. - Free Family movie day.

Upcoming Events:

- Every Monday, 5 p.m. - Citizenship class. For more information call Adriana Santos at 222-8883 or 442-6881, or email asantos@umcm.info.
- Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. - *eSalon*. Learn to browse, place a hold, check out and download ebooks from our digital catalog. Meet with others to learn the basics, or discover new ways of using the e-Reader, tablet or mp3. For more information call 893-1073.
- Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information please call 916-0916.
- Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Creative Short Story Writers* meeting.
- Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - Teen Program featuring a different teen event each week.
- 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 Thursday, 3:30 p.m. - R.E.A.D. Therapy dog Maya.
- Every Friday, 2 p.m. - *Anime Afternoons*. For more information call Sheri at 893-1074.
- Saturday, September 1 & 8, 10 a.m. - Meditation class with Ted Leitho.
- Thursday, September 13, 7 p.m. - *An Evening with Tim Dorsey*. For more information call Dave Mather at 893-1075.
- Saturday, September 15 - Back to School Crafts for preschoolers through grade 5.
- Saturday, September 29, 10 a.m. - Circle of Friends book sale.
- Every Tuesday beginning September 18, 10:30 a.m. - Suncoast Hospice Bereavement Group meeting.
- Saturdays, October 6 - November 11, 1 p.m. - *In Our Own Words* Youth Book Writing contest & workshops.

Library Services/Statistics August 19 - 25, 2012:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	2,118	459
Sun. 8/19	19	4
Mon. 8/20	366	74
Tue. 8/21	347	80
Wed. 8/22	313	70
Thu. 8/23	447	74
Fri. 8/24	295	71
Sat. 8/25	289	67

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

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

- Updated weekly program schedule. Copy available at the City Hall reception desk, or online at http://www.mygulfport.us/GTV615/Live_Webstream.htm.
- Distributed weekly press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted GTV615 station equipment.
- Updated class schedule on Recreation Center webpage, and added Tot Time registration form.
- Collecting registrations for Keep Gulfport Weird Mini Triathlon.
- Met with Historical Society to discuss preparations for Birthday Bash.
- Edited and resent Historic Calendar to printer.

Parks

Weeded cleaned and mulched Beach streetscapes, Marina Casino, Library and Senior Center, hand raked around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach following storm.

Mowed Recreation Center grounds, beach area, Chase Block, Tonkin Park, Dog Park and Marina area.

Greased mowers, sharpened blades and cleaned shop area.

Repaired irrigation at Caldwell & Ted Phillips Wood Ibis Parks.

Continue assisting construction of new bocce courts on beach.

Continued monitoring hole in seawall behind Recreation Center and filling as needed.

Tied down trash receptacles and prepared City properties for the storm.

Removed flags before storm, and reinstalled following high winds & rain.

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.

Senior Center

The Senior Center hosted the Third Annual Card & Game Party on August 29. About 60 seniors enjoyed the event spearheaded by Senior Center volunteer Julie Fuce. Proceeds benefit the Senior Center’s health & wellness programs.

The Senior Center is closed on Monday and Thursday evenings through September.

A Beginners Line Dance class is offered at Scout Hall at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays for registered members of the Senior Center only. Senior Center membership is free.

The Senior Center will host **Special Bingo** on Wednesday, September 12 at 1:30 p.m. Tickets: \$10 for 5 sheets of 9 cards with three chances per sheet to win. Every winner receives a small gift and a ticket for an opportunity to win one of five beautiful baskets filled with great gifts. Winners must be present for final drawings. All gift items are donated by local sponsors.

There are no tickets left for the “Two Chefs” Cooking Demonstration on Wednesday, September 19 at 1:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by The Fountains of Boca Ciega Bay.

Language Classes will resume in September for registered Senior Center members:

- Spanish for Beginners - Thursday at 9:30 am
- Spanish for Conversation - Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
- Beginners and Advanced Italian Thursdays at 6 p.m.
- Beginner Conversation, Intermediate & Advanced Grammar Italian - Thursdays at 7 p.m.

The Senior Center will host a celebration for **National Senior Center Month** with free entertainment by The Love Notes on Monday, September 24 at 1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be offered at the Snack Bar at great prices!

The Senior Center’s Annual **Night in Italy** event is scheduled for Friday September 28. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m. followed by entertainment by the Italian-American Society of St. Petersburg in the Hickman Theater. Tickets: \$12, available at the Senior Center.

GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mini-Bus Service)

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

The GEMS schedule has been revised for summer due to a seasonal decrease in ridership. Schedules are posted in GEMS vehicles and are available upon request. GEMS continues to offer hourly trips to South Pasadena on Wednesdays and Fridays. Call 893-2242 for more information on this door-to-door transportation service.

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center

Casino (last week’s events):

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| Sunday, August 19 | 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson with Carol Baker
7 p.m. - the Mellotones band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 34) |
| Tuesday, August 21 | 6:30 p.m. - Beginner Argentine Tango lesson |

- 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 21)
- Wednesday, August 22 6 p.m. - Bonus Dance lesson with Swingtime
 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson
 8 p.m. - Swing Dance (Turnout 152)
- Thursday, August 23 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera
 8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 30)

Casino (Upcoming Events):

- Friday, August 31 6 p.m. - *Battle of the Bands Last Bash of Summer* sponsored by St. Jude Knights of Columbus. Tickets \$6, available the Gulfport Casino, online at www.stjudekofc.org, or by calling 417-3937
- Sunday, September 9 & 23 6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson
 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Dance Admission \$7
- Every Tuesday 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 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lessons with Carol Rivera
 8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events)

Friday, September 7, 6 p.m. - Opening Art Reception featuring the mixed media artwork and Piano concert by Oliver Norden. Free & open to the public.

Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):

- Sunday, August 26 9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 25)
 6:15 p.m. - Over Eaters Anonymous meeting (Turnout 15)

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 - Wednesday 7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting

Scout Hall (Upcoming Events):

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

Recreation Center

Programs, Classes & Activities

Twenty eight (28) 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.

Registration is underway for the 2012/13 Tot Time Program & 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 turn 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply at the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County, Inc. and the child must receive a Certificate of Eligibility. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. Registration fees for the Tot Time Program are \$17 for residents and \$110 for non residents. Classes begin Tuesday, September 4 and are limited to 10 children each. Twelve (12) children have been registered for Tot Time, and five (5) for VPK. Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, August 29, 10 - 11 a.m. and 6 - 7 p.m.

Contractual classes: Braveheart Bootcamp, Conversational Spanish, Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Tai Chi, Tennis, Yoga and Zumba.

Twenty Three (23) FY 2011/12 Gulfport Skate Park stickers have been sold to date.

Registration is underway for 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. To date twenty nine (29) teens have been registered.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez and Michael Worthington accompanied four (4) Teen Council members to the Florida League of Cities Conference in Hollywood on Saturday.

Tomeka Junious attended mandatory VPK Assessment Training in Clearwater on Saturday.

Marivel Gutierrez, Nicole Latragna, Kristin Ossola and Justin Shea attended CPR training at the Fire Department on Tuesday.

Teen Council members Elizabeth Brown-Worthington, Nolan Slone, Zachary Teramae and Michael Wos attended the Florida League of Cities Conference on Saturday. They attended the *Youth Council Program* facilitated by Dr. Scott Paine and Dr. Mia Long, engaging with other youth councils. They also attended the second general session with *League of Cities President* Patricia Bates presiding. They were recognized and presented a trophy for their Second Place finish in the inaugural Florida League of Cities Youth Council Video Contest.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 18 new, 0 closed
- Water payments: 614 totaling \$65,185.24
- Online Water payments: 79 transactions totaling \$6,344.90
- Bright House payments: 17

- Utility Bills Mailed 08/22/12: 1,308
- Accounts Payable: 541 transactions totaling \$478,699.08
- Mail processed: 1,741 pieces totaling \$1,089.45
- Purchasing Cards August report: 219 transactions totaling \$31,509.61

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 45 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarms
- 1 Gas Leak
- 1 Wires Down

Life Safety

- 10 Fire Inspections
- 3 Re-Inspections

The CERT Team meets monthly. The next meeting is Thursday, September 20 at 7 p.m. at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. Training will include Post-storm Critique and Shelter Operations. For more information call Bob Worthington at 916-8014 or visit www.gulfportcert.com. The CERT team will provide security and traffic control during Gecko Fest on September 1.

This Week's activities:

- The Gulfport Fire Department provided an ALS Pumper staffed with three firefighter personnel during the RNC opening ceremony in St. Petersburg on August 26. They also assisted with Tropical Storm preparations.
- Lieutenant Fuchs taught CPR Heart Saver with Automatic External Defibrillation Course to Senior Center and Recreational Center staff. Seven students completed the course successfully.
- The Gulfport Fire Department performed a standby event with an ALS Engine at Stetson Law College for an RNC luncheon on August 29. Convention Partners Group LLC, Ebony Elephant Foundation of Pasco County and New Century Republican Club of Hillsborough County were in attendance.
- Inspector Vento met with the Fire Contractor Engineer for the Pelican Plaza "A" building to discuss upgrade of their Fire Alarm System.
- Inspector Vento attended a Railroad Response Incidents Haz-Mat Class with CXS training cars in Clearwater on August 23.

Since its inception in 1998 Tow to Go has safely assisted in keeping more than 20,000 intoxicated drivers off the roads. The service is designed to be used as a last resort. It is offered based on availability of AAA Service Technicians and tow trucks during times of high call volume.

The Auto Club Group and Bud Light provide the Tow to Go service to discourage an intoxicated driver from getting behind the wheel and risking the lives and safety of other motorists. Not only does Tow to Go remove the intoxicated driver - it also enables AAA and Bud Light to remind the

public to always choose a designated driver for a safe ride home. This Labor Day Weekend the Service is provided in Florida, Georgia and Tennessee. This is Free and available to both AAA members and non-members. The AAA tow truck takes the vehicle and the driver home.

For Tow to Go service, call (855) 2-TOW-2-GO or (855) 286-9246.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance:

- Cleaned gutters at Recreation Center.
- Installed new stainless steel mirror in Beach restroom.
- Replaced two toilet seats in women's restroom, pumped water from front supply room, and repaired and painted exterior tile at Casino.
- Fixed toilet leak in employee's restroom at Library.
- Unclogged air handler drain at Public Service Building.
- Set up for daily events at Senior Center.
- Performed routine daily maintenance duties at all City buildings.

Streets & Sanitation:

- Removed debris from Neighborhood Center holding area & beachfront, and seaweed from Casino area.
- Removed traffic control obstructions and debris from various roadways and alleys throughout City.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, trash, electronics and Code Enforcement.
- Assembled and delivered recycling bins and *City of Gulfport Recycling Guidelines* information sheet to multiple residential and commercial properties.
- Assembled and delivered automated trash containers to multiple residential and commercial properties.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses on roadways.
- Removed traffic control obstructions and debris from 28th Avenue & Beach Boulevard, 21st Avenue & 54th Street and various roadways and alleys throughout City.
- Cleaned, reset and maintained storm drains, grates and inlets at various locations throughout City.
- Completed asphalt patch work on potholes at 17th Avenue & 59th Street, and York Street & Gulfport Boulevard.
- Completed alley and easement grading, fill and dust control spraying at Beach, Pasadena Place, 19th Avenue & 53rd Street and 30th Avenue & 49th Street.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping at Osgood Point, Gulfport Marina, Gulfport Beach, Tangerine Greenway and other locations throughout City per direction.
- Performed maintenance checks on all equipment, set up barricades and closed roads, swept debris from roadways and set up and manned sandbag station in preparation for Tropical Storm Isaac.
- Continue storm debris collection and removal throughout city.

Water:

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the points of connection to water distribution system (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes #45, 46, 47 and 48 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Completed 11 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off
- Completed 17 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.

- Completed 80 miscellaneous customer service department-generated service orders.
- Completed 5 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.
- Continued semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Repaired water breaks at 3011 51st Street, 6219 Gulfport Boulevard 6220 15th Avenue.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service at lift stations 1 & 2.
- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Daily per trip vehicle check inspection.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2. Police & Fire Departments and Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Monitored lift stations because of high levels of infiltration
- Cleaned and televised sewer at 2825 54th Street, 2233 56th Street & 5613 23rd Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Repaired hopper blade hydraulic valve and catalytic converter on Sanitation Truck #44.
- Repaired air/hydraulic actuator for grabber arms on Sanitation Truck #42.
- Repaired hydraulic oil leak on Lightning Loader #29.
- Replaced starter on Parks Department Vehicle #53.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

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