



Gulfport Community Update

January 17-23, 2016

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Fire Chief James Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that **smoke detectors** are available free of charge to elderly and low income households *within Gulfport City limits*. Call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

Approximately 150 volunteers participated in community projects during the **Second Annual Dr. Martin King Day of Service** on January 16 (photos below).



Upcoming Events:

It's time again for **Junk in the Trunk** on Saturday, January 23, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bring your Gulfport I.D. and your junk to the Gulfport Neighborhood Center parking lot, 1617 49th Street. If you have good junk that works, drop it off at the free trade table. Free bike registration and kids free helmets. Have coffee with Zack and Josh and meet the folks from the Gulfport Gecko Garden. For more information call 893-1118.

Visit the 49th Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.SoTangerine.com or call 439-0164.

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made arts & crafts, bath, body & 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 every Tuesday. For more information visit www.gulfportma.com, call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com.

The Professional Association of Visual Artists (PAVA) will host the **Fourth Annual 2Cool Art Show** at the Gulfport Casino on Saturday & Sunday, January 30 & 31, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Thirty eight juried fine artists will display and offer their works for sale. Free parking and admission.

Frank, Dean & Sammy perform a wonderful mix of song, comedy, sketches & brilliant musical arrangements at the Catherine Hickman Theater on Saturday, January 30. Tickets: \$25 each/ group rate; \$20 per for ten or more, available at the Casino. Call 893-1070 for more information.

In honor of Get Rescued Month, enjoy a photo tribute to **Ducks, Kittens and Puppies: Our Love Affair with Animals** at the Catherine Hickman Theater on Friday, February 5, 6 - 8 p.m.

Everyone is invited to the **Crime Watch Meeting** at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street every first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. The next meeting is February 3. Call 418-0126 for more information.

Gulfport voters are invited to **Meet the Candidates** running in the March 15, 2016 Municipal Election on in in Gulfport City Hall Council Chambers on Thursday, February 4 at 6:40 p.m. Facilitated by the League of Women Voters, the forum will allow the public to present questions on topics important to Gulfport. The forum will be in two 45 minute segments starting with the Councilmember Ward I candidates April Thanos and Dan Liedtke immediately followed by the Mayoral candidates Barbara Banno and Sam Henderson. The forum will be broadcast live on Brighthouse Cable GTV640, and at www.mygulfport.us. For more information, call the City Clerk's Office at 893-1012 or 893-1013.

Check out talented artisans and crafters at **First Friday Art walk** on February 5, 6 - 9 p.m. Enjoy live music throughout the Gulfport Art District on Beach Boulevard and dine in one of the many locally owned restaurants. For more information call 322-5217.

The City of Gulfport will host a **video teleconference** with staff from the Florida League of Cities to review existing, new and emerging Senate and House Bills that could have a direct impact on municipalities. Attendees can ask questions and get contact information for specific bills. This event will take place at the Gulfport Library 6:30 - 8 p.m. Monday, February 8. Call Vice Mayor Yolanda Roman at 512-2942 for more information.

The first ever two-day **Gulfport Masters Fine Arts Festival** is scheduled for 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, February 20 & 21 at Veteran's Park. FREE admission! Fine artists and craftpersons are encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit www.Boulderbrook.net or call 239-293-9448. This family and pet-friendly event is co-sponsored by the City of Gulfport, Gulfport Merchant's Association and Gulfport Area Chamber of Commerce, and is produced by Boulderbrook Productions.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	124
Self-initiated calls for service	381
Offenses	31

Arrests	5
Traffic citations	73
Ordinance violations	54

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Officer Ross arrested Gregory Moody for panhandling in the 2100 block of 49th Street on January 14 after repeated warnings.

A resident in the 5100 block of 16th Avenue reported that his television was stolen by his girlfriend/roommate while he was briefly away from home. He has no information on the television and only knows his girlfriend by her first name.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a fight in progress in the 4900 block of 18th Avenue. Several of the participants were gone when officers arrived, and the others were trespassed from the property.

Officers responded to a call from a citizen regarding his intoxicated wife. When they located her they discovered she was on probation with conditions not to consume alcohol. She was arrested for violating her probation.

A resident in the 1200 block of 52nd Street reported that someone entered his unlocked vehicle and took a gun from the center console. He found the gun's holster on the ground near his vehicle.

A sailboat broke loose from its anchor during severe weather on January 15. It was secured to the seawall by Rec Center personnel until Marina personnel could arrange to have it towed.

Police were dispatched to Family Dollar on January 16 after the manager fired an employee who then became belligerent and caused a scene. The former employee was gone when officers arrived.

The foster parent of a 9 year-old child reported the child missing from the Gulfport Library. Police searched the area, and a helicopter was deployed before officers discovered that the child left the library without informing his guardian and was safe at home.

A woman reported that her cell phone and car keys were stolen while she was visiting her mother in Town Shores. The complainant suspects her sister of the theft.

A decal sticker was stolen from the tag on a trailer parked in the 4900 block of 9th Avenue. An officer identified the person who took the sticker, but the victim declined to prosecute.

Officers were dispatched to Seaside Villas on January 17 to check on a resident after the person called 911 stating that they were in trouble and needed help. It was soon determined that the person was calling from a Northside Hospital room and was disoriented.

An air conditioning unit was reported stolen from the fenced yard of a residence under renovation in the 5000 block of 12th Avenue.

Richard Butler was arrested in St. Petersburg by a Gulfport officer who witnessed Butler commit a traffic violation inside Gulfport City limits. Butler is a habitual traffic offender and was not supposed driving. He was charged with driving while his license was revoked.

A resident in the 2000 block of 58th Street reported that she returned home from work and discovered her bracelet missing. A relative staying with her was also gone from the residence.

A resident in the 5100 block of Tangerine Avenue reported on January 18 that she was advised by her neighbor that several juveniles were in her fenced yard the day before stealing tangerines from her tree.

A resident in the 5300 block of 26th Avenue reported his bicycle was stolen from his carport sometime over the weekend.

Officers were dispatched to the 6300 Gulfport Boulevard regarding a possible suicidal subject armed with a handgun. He was located and determined not to be suicidal, just upset with his wife. The gun was turned over to a friend for safe keeping for the night.

A motorist driving westbound on 18th Avenue at high rate of speed ran the stop sign and lost control and rolled multiple times before striking several trees. The driver died at the scene. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) is conducting the investigation. Gulfport Officer Zach Mills, a member of MAIT, assisted with the investigation.

Officer Priest stopped a vehicle for unlawful speed while conducting traffic enforcement for the BCHS school zone. Richina Dawkins was driving her son's vehicle despite being a habitual traffic offender with multiple suspensions, revocations and license being expired. She was arrested for felony DWLSR.

An employee of a store in the 5000 Block of Gulfport Boulevard reported on January 20 that 2 women were shoplifting. Officer Lavigne observed them putting items in their bags. One woman was arrested for giving a false name, and the other was given a notice to appear for retail theft.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	12
Cases assigned:	4
Cases suspended-no leads:	6
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	0
Supplements received:	17
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	3
Cases unfounded-no crime:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	2
Cases still active:	10

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fleeing and eluding case, a burglary, a fraud, and a theft; completed an arrest affidavit for a burglary to a vehicle case, and; exceptionally cleared a fraud case.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a robbery case, a battery, two thefts, a check fraud, a credit card fraud, two auto thefts, a burglary and a criminal mischief; interviewed a suspect in a battery and criminal mischief, and exceptionally cleared the case; attempted to locate and question suspects in unrelated thefts, a vehicle burglary, and a criminal mischief, and; checked local gas pumps to ensure card skimmers were not being used.

School Resource Officer Motte took a report on a cell phone theft; counseled four students; met with a parent; assisted SPPD Officer Staples with planning for the summer Explorer Academy; assisted two students in locating lost property; assisted the clinic with a medical call after a student had a seizure, and; provided security for a basketball game at Gibbs High School.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano created and distributed an attempt to ID bulletin for a theft case being investigated by Det. Pham; compiled statistical information for the annual report, and; started an analysis for Officer Ross regarding ordinance violations, suspicious persons and parking violations at the beachfront.

Records

Reports reviewed	12
Supplements reviewed:	84
Public Records requests:	20
Background checks:	6
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	1
Citizens assisted:	22

MARINA

Assisted in thirty four (34) pump outs evacuating four hundred fifteen (415) gallons of waste.

Pumped one thousand four hundred forty seven (1,447) gallons of gas and one thousand two hundred forty nine (1,249) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling forty six (46) vessels.

LIBRARY

Visit the **Circle of Friends Book Shop** during Library hours.

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, January 11, 3 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Tuesday, January 12, 1 p.m. - *Healing Thoughts Book Club*.

Tuesday, January 12, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club*.

Tuesday, January 12, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, January 13, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, January 13, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*.

Wednesday, January 13, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, January 14, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, January 14, noon - *Lunch & Learn: 3D Printing*.

Thursday, January 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Ukulele Workshop*.

Friday, January 15, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, January 16, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, January 25, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: Alex invites everyone to share their talents, musical and otherwise for a lively season of spontaneity. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, January 26, 11 a.m. - *Reading Pals Volunteer Recruitment*. Sponsored by United Way Suncoast. For more information call 813-274-0998.

Thursday, January 28, 7 p.m. - *Chamber Music for Flute & Strings*: Live concert performed by a local musical group. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, February 2, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*: Instructed by registered yoga teacher Ms. Christa, for parents and babies ages 6 weeks to 18 months. Stretch, laugh, get some strength back and rejuvenate! Call 893-1074 or email cklasson@mygulfport.us to register.

Tuesday, February 9, 1 p.m. - *Healing Thoughts Book Club*: Group meets the second Tuesday of each month. If you have interest in understanding the relationship between our thoughts and their influence on the physical body, this club is for you. Title for discussion: *The Divided Mind*, by John H. Sarno. For more information email klane@untieyourwings.com.

Tuesday, February 9, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club*. The group meets every second Tuesday of the month. Pre-registration required. See Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Saturday, February 20, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*. Call 893-1074 for movie titles.

Saturday, February 27, 5:30 p.m. - *Ukulele Workshop*: Learn to play one of the most popular musical instruments in our area. Hosted by the Tampa Bay Ukulele Society. For more information call 893-1073.

Every Monday, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. and Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. beginning February 1 - *AARP Income Tax Assistance*: Taxpayers must bring Social Security cards for all persons listed on their tax returns, photo ID and all pertinent records such as W2s, 1099s, other income & credits, & a copy of last year's return if available. For more information call 893-1073.

Every Monday - Wednesday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Informal gatherings to brush up on conversational skills. All levels are welcome; this is not a class, simply an opportunity to practice and improve. Bring a bag lunch and a dictionary. A different language group meets each weekday: Monday - French; Tuesday - Italian; Wednesday - Spanish. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club*: We try a fun new activity every week, explore engineering through building with Legos, and meet other young scientists and engineers in the community! Parents get to join in on the fun too! Email cklasson@mygulfport.us or call 893-1074 for more information.

Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information call 360-9069.

Every first & third Tuesday, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group*: Everyone is invited to join Allen Goldenson for some strummin' fun!

Every Wednesday, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers* meeting.

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*: Games and activities for teens and tweens.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Email robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com for more information.

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers in the Youth Services area around the rocking chair near the Easy books. Cailey leads the group in singing songs, playing instruments & networking with other caregivers in our community.

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

Library Services/Statistics January 10-16, 2015:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	2,450	760
Sun. 1/10	Library closed	
Mon. 1/11	495	152
Tue. 1/12	408	126
Wed. 1/13	372	126
Thu. 1/14	432	134

Fri. 1/15	328	106
Sat. 1/16	370	94

PARKS & RECREATION

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/gtv-640. Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us.
- Provided technical assistance for MLK Day of Service and Arbor Day event.
- Commenced preparation of March calendar.

Multipurpose Center

The Gulfport Multipurpose Center invites everyone 50+ to sign up for free. The Center is open 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and Fridays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information! Stop by the Senior Center for this month's calendar or download a copy at www.mygulfport.us.

Gulfport Extended Mobility Service (GEMS) offers transportation to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. Gulfport residents 55 & older or residents with a disability can take advantage of GEMS door to door service for a yearly membership of \$65 plus \$2 per ride. GEMS also offers transportation to Bay Pines VA Hospital & Medical Center, Northside Hospital and the St. Pete Beach Family Aquatic Center. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborly Dining & Meals on Wheels** program, offering lunches for seniors 60 and older. Call Joe at 344-2111 to inquire about the program or to lend a hand as a volunteer driver.

The **Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry** is in need of peanut butter, tuna, dry cereal, pasta sauce, soups & canned meats. The pantry is open 1 - 3 p.m. every Tuesday & Thursday for qualified Gulfport residents 50 & older. Applicants should bring a photo I.D., a utility bill or bank statement and proof of income (SSI). For more information please see Rachel, or call 893-1231.

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **many volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. 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. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center at 5501 27th Avenue South for more information.

Waddell & Reed, Inc. CRPC Daniel Ramsey will present **Filing for Social Security: Flexibility and Choices for Your Retirement Income** on Monday, January 25 at 5:30 p.m.

Florida consistently leads the nation in pedestrian deaths. Join **Walk Wise Tampa Bay** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, January 27 for great safety tips for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and health screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is January 28.

You got a Tablet! Now What? Learn the basic functions of Android Tablets during the **Cell Phone Solutions** class at 2 p.m. Thursday, January 28.

Join Financial Advisor Scott O'Berry for a discussion of current events, the economy & investing over coffee & donuts during **Coffee Club** at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 2.

Heidi Crockett of Aging Care Advocates returns with the second of an exciting 4-part Health Series that looks at neuroscience, brain health, and relationships. Join us at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, February 3 for **Loving, Relationships, and Dating after 60**.

Discover the great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles, and many other goodies at **First Friday Flea Market** on February 5 at 9 a.m.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Monthly Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is February 8. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule your screening.

Enjoy a healthy snack as Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance Services presents **Fruit for Thought** every second Monday of the month. The next meeting is February 8.

Find out if you're eligible for a free caption phone that displays text of conversations on a touchscreen when **Clear Captions** visits the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 9.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, February 26. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

Volunteers for the **Telephone Reassurance Program** call Gulfport seniors every Monday through Saturday between 7:30 & 8:30 a.m. To sign up for this program visit the Gulfport Senior Center and bring valid I.D.

The **Community Law Program** provides legal assistance to qualified seniors at 9:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

Having a problem hearing on the phone? Florida residents with a hearing loss qualify for a **FREE amplified home phone**. Florida Telecommunications Relay Inc., Family Center on Deafness issues equipment at the Gulfport Senior Center at 10 a.m. every third Tuesday of the month. This program is paid for by a surcharge on all Florida households with home phone lines and all business lines, and has been available since 1991. Call 399-9983 for more information.

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 organizations for reuse, recycle or education.

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater, Neighborhood Center & Scout Hall

Casino (last week's events):

Monday, January 10	6 p.m. - Back to the 1980's Dance with Swing Time (Turnout 135)
Tuesday, January 12	Noon - Ballroom lessons with Katy Flanery (Turnout 25) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 95)
Wednesday, January 13	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 42) 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 306)
Thursday, January 14	6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera (Turnout 32)
Friday, January 15	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 14) 8 p.m. - Silver Threads presents After the Divorce (Turnout 200)
Saturday, January 16	5 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 130)

Casino (upcoming events):

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson
 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$8

Every Tuesday 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker
 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8
 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson
 8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8

Every Wednesday 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn/Joyce Bloom
 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime
 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime
 8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$8

Every Thursday 6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera
 8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Thursday, January 14 8 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present *In the Restroom at Rosenblooms* (Turnout 96)

Friday, January 15 8 p.m. - GCP presents *In the Restroom at Rosenblooms* (Turnout 103)

Saturday, January 16 2 p.m. - GCP presents *In the Restroom at Rosenblooms* (Turnout 64)
 8 p.m. - GCP presents *In the Restroom at Rosenblooms* (Turnout 74)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):

Thursday-Saturday, January 21-23, 8 p.m., Saturday & Sunday, January 23 & 24, 2 p.m. - The **Gulfport Community Players** present *In the Restroom at Rosenblooms* Tickets: \$16; available online at www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org, at Beach Bazaar, and at the door within one hour of performance.

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, January 10 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 17)
 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, January 12 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 25)
 7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, January 14 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 18)

Neighborhood Center (upcoming events):

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every first - third Sunday 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services

Every fourth Sunday 9:15 a.m. - Bible study

Every Tuesday 7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every Tuesday & Thursday 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi

Every first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crimewatch meeting

Scout Hall (*last week's events*)

Sunday, January 10 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 12)

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

Monday, January 11 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 25)

Tuesday, January 12 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 27)

Friday, January 15 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 27)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday & Friday 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room is reserved 2-6 p.m. Saturday, January 23 for a Baby Shower.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Sixty children are registered for the **2015/16 School Year Child Care Program** for children in Kindergarten thru age 14. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Monthly fees are \$150 for residents and \$188 for non-residents. Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary.

Fourteen children have been registered for the **2015/16 Tot Time Program**, and ten 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 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.

Thirty seven teens are registered for the **2015/16 Teen Night Program** for teens in middle school thru age 17. Program hours are 6 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Karate, Japanese, Mat Pilates, Pickleball, Spanish, Stretch & Tone, Table Tennis, Tennis, Walking Club, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga AM and Zumba.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez met with the Director of Ovations School for the Arts on Thursday afternoon to finalize a Facility Rental Agreement for a Homeschool Co-op. The program begins February 8 and will take place for 10 weeks on Mondays from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

John Lapham, Geno Green, Jaylissa Williams and three children from the School Year Child Care Program participated in the City’s Annual Arbor Day celebration on Friday afternoon. The children read excerpts on the tree that was planted and the seedlings offered to attendees.

Teen Councilmember Phoebe Carrasco served cookies and punch to Arbor Day celebration attendees.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 40 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Water Rescue
- 1 Wires Down

Life Safety:

- 6 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspections
- 1 Plans Review

The Gulfport Fire Department continued their online 2016 CME training with Target Solutions this week. This month’s topics: Introduction to the new CME and Medical Assessment on patients for Paramedics and EMT’s.

Inspector Lundh met with the contractor for Stetson College of Law to discuss the fire protection system in the Library.

PUBLIC WORKS

Staff continues daily water quality testing at Gulfport Beach, Gulfport Shores and the Marina. The results of January 21 are provided below. The beach and Clam Bayou are closed to in-water activities until further notice. Visit www.mygulfport.us for the most up-to-date information.

<u>Gulfport Casino</u>		<u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u>			<u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1602107-01	1/21/16 7:30 a.m.	140	4	1/21/16 9:30 a.m.	30 B	10	1/21/16 9:30 a.m.
<u>Gulfport Marina</u>		<u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u>			<u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1602107-02	1/21/16 7:50 a.m.	52 B	4	1/21/16 9:30 a.m.	40 B	10	1/21/16 9:30 a.m.
<u>Gulfport Shores</u>		<u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u>			<u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1602107-03	1/21/16 7:55 a.m.	170 B	4	1/21/16 9:30 a.m.	50 B	10	1/21/16 9:30 a.m.

Enterococcus Results Description		
<u>Good</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Poor*</u>
0-35 Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water	36 – 104 Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water	105 or greater Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water
0-35 CFU/100 ml Enterococcus sp Geometric Mean		36 and over CFU/100 ml Enterococcus sp Geometric Mean

Fecal Coliform Results Description		
<u>Good</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Poor*</u>
0-199 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water	200-399 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water	400 or greater fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water

*A poor rating may result in a resampling event to confirm poor conditions; otherwise a Health Advisory or Warning will be issued immediately. These indicate that contact with the water at this site may pose increased risk of infectious disease, particularly for susceptible individuals. A reading of NR means "No Result". This could indicate that no sample was taken at this point because of weather or other factors, or that an analysis result was not obtained from the laboratory.

Building Maintenance

- Cleared blocked toilet in Public Services building ladies room, replaced toilet in Casino inside men's room, and repaired faucet in Library ladies room handicap stall.
- Mounted bulletin board at Senior Center.
- Pressure washed Scout Hall and Hoyt Field restrooms in preparation for painting.
- Performed monthly pest control on all City buildings.
- Replaced ballast inside Library.
- Delivered mail to main Post Office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Set up seating and equipment in preparation for Arbor Day & MLK Day of service, and removed following events.
- Poured concrete at Recreation Center exercise area.
- Continued fence replacement at trail spur.
- Continued sanding picnic tables in preparation for installation.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets on Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed City complex, Senior Center, Library, Marina, & Lions Club green spaces, Clymer Park, Chase block, and York Street & 49th Street termini.
- Repaired irrigation at Recreation Center.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Casino, beach green spaces and Beach Boulevard streetscape, hand raked around pavilions and cleaned beach.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks 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.

Streets & Sanitation

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture & electronics.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout City.
- Repaired asphalt and potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential and commercial automated trash containers, and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned and removed debris from storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.

- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways, alleyways & sidewalks.
- Removed several loads of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Replaced concrete stormwater lid at Beach Boulevard & 23rd Avenue.
- Continued automated curbside street sweeping.
- Cleared tree limb debris at 5417 17th Avenue, and fallen palm tree at Beach Boulevard & 27th Avenue following storm.
- Reset stormwater covers at 58th Street & Shore Boulevard and at Beach Boulevard & 27th Avenue.
- Installed charging station signage on Beach Boulevard.
- Disposed of debris remaining following Tuesday Fresh Market.

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the points of connection to water distribution system.
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters.
- Completed 3 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 100 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 18 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced 2 water meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Replaced 2 old water meters with new electronic meters
- Installed new water service lines at 5837, 5843, 5856, 5862 27th Avenue.
- Repaired water break at Gray Street & 11th Avenue.

Sewer

- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Weekly generator exercise & preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance at Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall & Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Replaced sewer lateral at 2530 52nd Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Repaired bent wheel, and replaced rear tire on Police vehicle #12.
- Replaced batteries and cab lift hose in Sanitation vehicle #41.
- Replaced fuel filter in Parks Department tractor #73.
- Took Sanitation vehicle #43 to Lizzotte's Welding for evaluation.
- Replaced fuel pressure relief valve, and replaced headlight on Fire Truck #P17.
- Replaced fuel cap and cleared DTC codes in Police vehicle #101.
- Performed preventive maintenance and various small repairs on City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the **New Business Checklist** on the City website at www.mygulfport.us under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

For more information, including a number of workshops, on starting a new business, visit the **Pinellas County Economic Development Small Business Development Center** website at

www.pced.org/entrepreneurs or call 464-7332. They also offer personalized business consulting to help you become successful with your startup business.

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, many are electing to do these projects themselves. Before embarking on home improvement projects give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss plans and see what inspections may be necessary, or for an explanation of code requirements.

On anything other than small and simple DIY projects we recommend homeowners consider using a licensed contractor. Unless you are very handy and have the necessary skills to take on more complex construction projects, larger projects can quickly overwhelm those less skilled in construction methodology and management.

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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

The 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 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 visit www.pcclb.com.

Code Enforcement activities continued this week in Section 1 of the City, also known as the Stetson Area which comprises the northwest portion of the City and generally extends south from 7th Avenue to Gulfport Boulevard and east from 64th Street to 58th Street.

The number of code enforcement cases for December was 117. The year-to-date total number of cases is 387. The number of citizen complaints for December was 8, making a year-to-date total of 24. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 6.2 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. E-mail correspondence is considered a public record, so if you wish to make a complaint using e-mail, please understand that such communications are not anonymous.

To review 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.

February 10, 2016 Board of Adjustment:

V16-01 - 5217 9th Avenue South; Variance request To reduce the front yard setback requirement by 5.37 feet, from 25 feet to 19.63 feet to allow for a proposed open front porch addition onto an existing single family house.

V16-02 - 6111 Pasadena Point Boulevard South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one third setback requirement by 8 feet 10 inches, from 29 feet 10 inches to 22 feet to allow for a proposed dock extension and installation of a new boat lift.

V16-03 - 5935 Bayview Circle South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one-third setback requirement by 19 feet, from 26 feet 8 inches to 9 feet 8 inches to allow for the relocation of an existing boat lift on the end of the dock, and the proposed installation of a new boat lift and construction of a new catwalk, to service both boat lifts, to be located on the left-hand side of the existing dock.