



Gulfport Community Update

October 11 - 17, 2015

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

City of Gulfport and Gulfport Historical Society celebrated Gulfport's 105th birthday on October 10. Festivities included pet parades, a mullet toss, trolley tours, kayak runs and the crowning of the new Mullet King (photos below).



The Gulfport Historical Society has weekly events planned for **Gulfport History Month**: Get your walking or running shoes and pup ready for the **Flying Mullet 5K/One Mile Doggie Dash & Fun Run** at 6 p.m. Friday, October 16. The race begins at the Museum. Registration: \$30, online at www.Active.com. Stay for dinner sponsored by O'Maddys. Enjoy dinner, music and dancing under the stars during **Down on the Bayou: A Taste of Louisiana at Gulfport under the Stars** behind the Museum on Saturday, October 24, 6 - 10 p.m. Dinner \$30/dessert \$15. Tickets are available at the Beach Bazaar, 5113 Beach Boulevard. Meet at the pit behind Scout Hall if you dare for **Haunted Campfire: Ghost Stories around the Campfire** at 7 p.m. Friday, October 30. For more information, email info@gulfporthistoricalsociety.org or call 327-0505.

Visit the 49th Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** every Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information, visit www.SoTangerine.com or call 439-0164.

The semiannual **Great American Cleanup at Clam Bayou Nature Park** is Saturday, October 17, 9 a.m. - noon. Sign up online at www.mygulfport.us/cleanup or at the volunteer tent the day of the event. Gulfport staff will be on hand with supplies for volunteers. For more information call Gail Biron at 893-1118.

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.

Gulfport Neighbors' Junk in the Trunk is back, offering even more ways for Gulfport residents to recycle, and clean & green Gulfport! Swap, trash or give away old furniture, appliances, tires, and other bulk items for free during our next event at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street on Saturday, October 24, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. No firearms, drugs, liquor, paints, chemicals or batteries please. The Parks Department will offer Crepe Myrtle trees to the first 25 attendees donating a full bag of non-perishable food items or toiletries for the Gulfport Senior Center Pantry. Stop by for a cup of coffee and discuss your concerns with Gulfport Police Lt. Josh Stone and Community Resource Officer Zack Mills. Register bikes at no charge. Sign up for Code Red to be notified of emergency situations or critical community alerts. All Children's Hospital representatives will provide free bike helmets and teach the 5 steps to properly fitting a helmet, and the Gulfport Fire Department will distribute smoke detectors. This event is for Gulfport residents only. Proof of residency (driver's license or utility bill) is required. Gulfport Neighbors was recently recognized as Creative Loafing Magazine's *Best of the Bay: Best Community Group*. Join the Gulfport Neighbors network of volunteers; inspiring, motivating and uniting our neighbors to improve the quality of life in Gulfport. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/gulfportneighbors or call 893-1118.

Sign up your Gulfport address for the **November 7 Citywide Yard Sale**. Applications are available at Gulfport City Hall and Library or online at www.mygulfport.us/city-wide-yard-sale. Deadline for registration is October 30, so dig into the garage, closet or shed and get rid of all that stuff you haven't used for a year or more. In case of rain, the Yard Sale will be rescheduled to Sunday, November 8. For more information call 893-1118.

Get your family, organization or business in on the fun during **Heroes Weekend**. Get up early on Saturday, November 7 for the **Keep Gulfport Weird Triathlon**. Registration forms are available at www.mygulfport.us/keep-gulfport-weird-triathlon. The \$10 registration fee must be received by Friday, October 30. Bring a chair and stay for the **Tangerine Blues Fest** on the Tangerine Greenway from noon until 10 p.m. Free admission: food & beverage vendors on premises. Participant applications for the **Veterans Day Parade** scheduled for 11 a.m. Sunday, November 9 are available at Gulfport City Hall or online at www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend. The deadline to enter is Friday, October 30. The **4th Annual VetSports Beach Volleyball Gulfport Open** begins immediately after the Parade. Interested in forming a volleyball team? Visit the VETSports Facebook event page. For more information call 893-1118.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatched Calls for Service:	146
Self-Initiated Calls for Service:	345
Incident/offense reports:	27

Arrests made: 5
Traffic stops: 54
Ordinance violations: 6

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

The Marine Unit was dispatched to Boca Ciega Bay after a canoe was found partially submerged on the morning of October 8. David Scheffler was reported missing by a friend who indicated that Scheffler normally meets him on the beachfront in the morning. He was located floating in the bay and transported to the Casino dock where he was pronounced dead. There was no indication of foul play. It appears that alcohol played a role in Scheffler's death.

A resident in the 5300 Block of 11th Avenue reported an unknown person attempted to enter her residence through a window. The suspect ran when she shouted at him.

A car was reported stolen from the 1000 block of 49th Street on the morning of October 10. The same car was stolen the night before from a business across the street when the keys were left in it. The car was recovered the night before, but the keys were missing.

A Dollar General employee reported that a male subject placed several items into a hand basket and left the store without paying. He was last seen driving away in a silver Nissan SUV.

Officer Lavigne observed Daniel Rabice driving into the parking lot of the Dollar General. She knew he had a suspended license and that there was an injunction for protection against him regarding the passenger in the car. Rabice was arrested.

A resident in the 5200 block of Jersey Avenue reported on October 11 that a transient he allows to stay at his home stole several items from him.

Officers Hutsko and Lavigne made contact with a juvenile they were familiar with on October 12. Officer Hutsko confirmed that the juvenile was on probation and out past his court mandated curfew. A struggle ensued when officers attempted to take him into custody. Once in custody the juvenile spat on one of the officers. He was charged with felony violation of probation, battery on a law enforcement officer and resisting arrest without violence.

A resident at Seaside Villas reported on October 13 that his credit card number was used to make unauthorized purchases at a KFC in St. Pete.

A taxi driver reported that a fare he picked up stole his wallet from the seat during the ride.

Officer Priest located a juvenile who had a pick up order for failing to appear on a traffic charge related to the theft of his mother's vehicle. He was taken to the Pinellas Juvenile Assessment Center by transport.

A woman reported that her boyfriend, Stefan Banks punched her in the face after an argument about a missing wallet. Banks fled the area on foot and charges will be forwarded to the state for battery.

A resident reported that she left her vehicle car behind Pepperz Bar on October 13 and walked home. She returned the next morning and discovered someone smashed her windshield and cut the soft top on her convertible.

A resident in the 5200 block of Jersey Avenue reported that he gave his debit card and PIN number to a man named Tyrone Baker to buy cigarettes. Over the next several days Tyrone drained his bank account of \$700.

Cody Lesley was arrested on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear at a violation of probation pre-trial hearing (battery).

A business owner in the 1300 block of 60th Street reported that an employee has been stealing equipment.

Marine Unit: The Marine Unit assisted with the search for a drowning victim.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New Cases: 22
Cases Assigned: 07
Cases Suspended-No Leads: 07
Cases Cleared With Arrest: 00
Cases Exceptionally Cleared: 00
Cases Unfounded/No Crime: 04
Cases Rejected back to patrol: 04

Supplements Received: 21
Cases Cleared With Arrest: 02
“Previously” Cleared With Arrest 04
Cases Suspended-No Leads: 00
Cases Unfounded/No Crime: 00
Cases Exceptionally Cleared: 00
Cases Still Active: 15

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports on a death investigation-drowning, credit card fraud and a burglary; was called out on Friday night for a death investigation and completed an arrest affidavit for Cassandra Martin. She was later arrested by Officer Cavanah.

School Resource Officer Motte counseled two students, met with a parent, attended a safety meeting, hosted the Explorer meeting and arranged security coverage for the BCHS Homecoming game and parade.

School Resource Officer Langston recovered a missing juvenile, conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports on a cyber-stalking case, a Baker Act, and a petit theft; made 1 arrest arrests and 2 arrest referrals to SAO; counseled 6 students; met with the parents of two students; attended a safety meeting and provided security for a football game.

Margaret Palmisano compiled and distributed the open cases lists; distributed 67 case agent evidence review forms; reviewed death investigation reports for Chief Vincent; completed a review of property reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure proper entry into FCIC/NCIC, and; conducted pawn checks on 11 cases with a known serial number, named suspect or searchable property description.

Records

Reports reviewed: 14
Supplements reviewed: 91
Public records requests: 37
Background checks: 5
Bike registrations: 2
Fingerprints: 2
Subpoenas processed: 7
Citizens assisted: 41

LIBRARY

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

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

Monday, October 5, 5:30 p.m. - *Introduction to Essential Oils workshop*, presented by Jen Schaefer.

Tuesday, October 6, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for Beginners* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, October 6, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, October 7, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, October 7, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, October 8, 12 p.m. - *Cold Warriors in the Hot Sunshine; The Johns Committee's Homophobic Witch Hunts*.

Friday, October 9, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, October 17, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*.

Thursday, October 22, 3:30 p.m. - *Storytime Yoga*: Join Cailey on the fourth Thursday of each month. All children must be accompanied by caregiver. Mats a plus, but not required.

Saturday, October 24, 11 a.m. - *Teen Book Giveaway & Games*: Sponsored by the Stetson Law Library student group.

Monday, October 26, 5 p.m. - *Acoustic Jam*: Alex invites everyone to bring their acoustic instruments for a second season of group musical creation.

Tuesday, October 27, 2 p.m. - *Ready, Set - Resume*: Come with questions and leave with a finished resume. Painless, maybe even fun. Retired career center director Judith Carruthers will lead you step-by-step through the process of writing a polished, effective resume.

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, 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 October 4-10, 2015:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation: 2,106 710

Sun. 10/4 Library closed

Mon. 10/5	462	140
Tue. 10/6	331	121
Wed. 10/7	375	124
Thu. 10/8	362	112
Fri. 10/9	286	99
Sat. 10/10	264	89

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 domain and training new staff on GTV640 live meeting & programming operations.
- Updated meeting schedules, agendas & minutes, upcoming events, Recreation Center, Senior Center and water quality information on City website.
- Provided photographic coverage for Gulfport Birthday celebration.
- Assisted with preparation of tickets for upcoming Jamboree and BluesFest promotional video.
- Commenced preparation of November Calendar.
- Continued preparations for Citywide Yard Sale, Keep Gulfport Weird triathlon, Veterans Day Parade, and Gulfport Casino 80th Birthday celebration.

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 \$65.00 plus \$2.00 per ride. GEMS also offers transportation to Bay Pines VA Hospital & Medical Center, Northside Hospital & Medical Centers 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 **multiple 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.

Learn the basic functions of the Apple iPad during **Tech Talk "iPad"** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 21.

Join Steven Reiser, CFP for **Exploring Your Medicare Options** at 3 p.m. Wednesday, October 21 for help making informed decisions on Medicare Options.

Tony from The Cell Phone Solution will be here to answer your questions during **Cell Phone Q & A - iPhone** on Thursday, October 22 at 2 p.m.

Asthma can hamper your ability to lead a healthy, active life. Join us for **HCA St. Pete General Hospital's Health Talks "Take a Breath!"** at 2:30 p.m. Monday, October 26 and learn how to cope with this chronic lung disease.

Mindful Movement Instructor Katherine Campbell will offer tips & techniques to keep you safe in your home during **Fall Prevention** at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 28.

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 October 29.

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, November 3.

Find great deals during **First Friday Flea Market** on November 6, 9 a.m. - noon.

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

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

Enjoy ice cream with your friends during our **Monthly Ice Cream Social** at 3 p.m. Thursday, November 12. This event is sponsored by Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab.

The **LGBT Support & Resource Group** meets at 5:30 p.m. every first & third Monday of the month. The group focuses on unique challenges confronting older LGBT citizens.

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. Call 893-2237 or 893-1231 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):

Sunday, October 4 6 p.m. - Ellis Hale's Band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 24)

Monday, October 5 5 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 195)

Tuesday, October 6 Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 14)
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 53)

Wednesday, October 7 10:30 a.m. - Yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 18)
6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 276)

Thursday, October 8 6 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 22)

Friday, October 9 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 21)
7 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 65)

Saturday, October 10 7 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 2100)

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, October 8 7 p.m.- 25th Annual Tampa International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
(Turnout 180)

Friday, October 9 7 p.m. - 25th Annual Tampa International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
(Turnout 344)

Saturday, October 10 Noon - 25th Annual Tampa International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival
(Turnout 275)

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, October 4 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 17)
1 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 75)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, October 5 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 9)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Wednesday, October 6 7 p.m. - Crime watch meeting (Turnout 12)
Thursday, October 8 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 7)

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*)

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

Monday, October 5 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 28)

Tuesday, October 6 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)

Friday, October 9 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 11)

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

Ready to get into the spooky spirit? Show off your scary creations during this year's **Halloween Decorations Contest**. Stop by the Gulfport Recreation Center or City Hall to pick up an application. The deadline to enter is noon on Monday, October 26. No one knows what time the hearse will travel through the City of Gulfport, but please be ready by 6:30 p.m. on the 26th. There are three theme categories: General for single homes; haunted house for single haunted houses, and; commercial for single business or professional locations, including home occupations. A plaque & certificate will be presented to one winner for each category during the City Council meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 17.

Get your kids and costumes ready for the **Spooktakular Halloween Bash** at the Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard on Saturday, October 31. Festivities will begin at 6 p.m. and will include Trunk-or-Treat, a frightful Haunted House, Boo-Room for tots and carnival games with prizes. The Haunted Snack Shack will sell hot dogs for a \$1, "potion" for 25¢ and chips for 25¢. The Costume Contest begins at 7 p.m. Winners will be chosen from eight age categories: 0-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-12, 13-17 and Family. There will be three awards given in each age category. Plan to be there, as we are "dying" to see you!

The multipurpose room is reserved 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday, October 17 for a baby shower.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Forty (40) 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.

Nine (9) children have been registered for the **2015/16 Tot Time Program**, and ten (10) 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. Seventeen (17) Tot Time/VPK participants and seven (7) adults visited the Gulfport Fire Department on Friday.

Twenty three (23) 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, Gymnastics, Karate, Mat Pilates, Pickleball, Spanish, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga and Zumba.

Staff Activities:

Marivel Gutierrez and Nicole Latragna met with Stetson's Public Service Fellows to discuss volunteer work for the Halloween Bash.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport seventeen (17) Tot Time/VPK Program participants and seven (7) adults to the Gulfport Fire Department on Friday.

Marivel Gutierrez attended the monthly Gulfport Teen Council meeting on Friday.

Marivel Gutierrez and Joanne McRoberts attended the VPK Technical Assistance meeting in Clearwater on Tuesday evening.

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff meeting on Wednesday.

Four (4) regular **Gulfport Teen Councilmembers** attended the monthly meeting on Friday. Advisors Marivel Gutierrez and Christine Brown were also in attendance. Topics: Advisor Report, approval of the May minutes, Election of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer, upcoming events, old business and new business.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 34 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarms
- 1 Vehicle Crash
- 1 Fire Outside Structure
- 1 Vehicle Fire

Life Safety:

- 11 Fire Inspections
- 1 C.O.
- 1 Site Plan Review

Chief Marenkovic attended a PCFCA meeting at Station 35 on October 5 & 7 to draw up a proposal for the new CME program. The entire group along with the Medical Director and EMS administration met on October 15 for finalization.

The Recreation Department brought approximately 15 kids for a Fire Department during Fire Prevention week.

Gulfport Firefighters are wearing pink & blue t-shirts during the month of October, in support of women with breast cancer and the *Cares Enough to Wear Pink* campaign.

GFD Paramedics continued their Advanced Cardiac Life Support Renewal (ACLS) course this week. ACLS refers to a set of clinical interventions for the urgent treatment of cardiac arrest, stroke and other life threatening medical emergencies, as well as the knowledge and skills to deploy those interventions.

PUBLIC WORKS

Staff continues daily water quality testing at Gulfport Beach and Marina. The beach is currently open. The results of October 15 are provided below. 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
1528809-01	10/15/15 7:48 a.m.	4 B	4	10/15/15 9:15 a.m.	10 U	10	10/15/15 9:15 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
1528809-02	10/15/15 8:20 a.m.	4 B	4	10/15/15 9:15 a.m.	10 U	10	10/15/15 9:15 a.m.

<u>Enterococcus Results Description</u>		
<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

<u>Fecal Coliform Results Description</u>		
<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 main line at beach restrooms.
- Repaired faucet at Recreation Center.
- Replaced light ballasts at Recreation center and Parks Building.
- Painted Theatre stage floor.
- Replaced wheel carrier on Public Works north gate.
- Removed Halloween haunted house supplies from storage.

- Delivered mail to main Post Office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Pressured washed sidewalks at Senior Center & Clymer Park.
- Repaired benches at Wood Ibis Park and Clam Bayou.
- Repaired fence rails at Wood Ibis Park and along Tangerine Greenway.
- Replaced volleyball net at beach.
- Cleaned shop and restrooms.
- Oiled locks on gates at ball fields and parks.
- Repaired irrigation at Clymer Park, Senior Center, Library and Caldwell Park.
- Mowed Beach, Marina & Recreation Center green spaces, 55th Street medians, Tangerine Greenway, Tomlinson & Wood Ibis Parks, Clam Bayou, trail spur and Hoyt perimeter.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Veterans Park, Recreation Center, Scout Hall & Historical Museum green spaces, hand raked around benches and 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 & sidewalks.
- Removed trash following Saturday Tangerine Greenway market.
- Installed street signs at York Street & Gulfport Boulevard.
- Delivered loads of debris from 49th Street holding area to county landfill.
- Replaced multiple sections of sidewalk citywide.
- Removed debris from beach area.

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 # 23, 24, 25, 26 & 27 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 37 locations for non-payment of service.

- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 127 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 Beach & Marina for quality testing.

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.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Removed underbody panel from car #12.
- Greased lift arm on truck #42.
- Replaced window motor and regulator in car #13.
- Rebuilt and reinstalled lower rotation motor in truck #29.
- Test drove and started repairs on truck #53.
- Charged batteries in bus #68.
- Recharged a/c in truck #29.
- Replaced tires on truck #46.
- Replaced safety belt latch in truck #E17.
- 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 3 of the City, also known as the Southwest Neighborhood Area which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west from 58th & 59th Streets to the City Limits.

The number of code enforcement cases for September was 192. The fiscal year-to-date total is 2,236. The number of citizen complaints was 12 for a fiscal year-to-date total of 164. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 8.0 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.

October 14, 2015 Board of Adjustment results:

V15-20; 6127 8th Avenue South; Variance request to reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 12.09 feet, from 25 feet to 12.91 feet for the construction for a screen room attached to an existing house. APPROVED

V15-21; 5618 15th Avenue South; Variance request to reduce the side yard setback requirement by 2 feet, from 6 feet to 4 feet to allow for an existing 12' x 12' accessory structure. APPROVED

V15-22; 6230 Pasadena Point Boulevard South; The following setback variances are requested due to the proposed razing of the existing dock and catwalk for the construction of a new dock, lower landing, boatlift, and catwalk to:

1. reduce the left-hand one-third setback requirement by 1 foot 6 inches, from 30 feet 6 inches to 29 feet to accommodate a the construction of a lower landing and pilings;
2. reduce the right-hand one-third setback requirement by 12 feet, from 30 feet 6 inches to 18 feet 6 inches to allow for the construction a catwalk for the boat lift; and,
3. allow the proposed dock and pilings to extend 4 feet 3 inches beyond one-half of the property width (45 feet 9 inches) to a length of 50 feet. CASE WITHDRAWN.

V15-23; 6122 Kipp's Colony Drive West; Variance request to reduce the right-hand one-third setback requirement by 9.2 feet, from 30.2 feet to 21 feet to allow for the construction a proposed new boat lift. APPROVED

V15-24; 2632 56th Street South; Variance request to:

1. reduce the rear yard setback by 22 feet, from 25 feet to 3 feet; and
2. reduce the side yard setback by 1.21 feet, from 6 feet to 4.79 feet to allow for the continuation of a non-conforming enclosure of a porch structure. APPROVED