



Gulfport Community Update

October 19 - 25, 2014

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

The Gulfport Neighborhood Center at 1617 49th Street South is a designated **early voting location for the November 4 General Election**. The Neighborhood Center will be open for all Pinellas County voters from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. through November 2. For more information call 464-6788, log-on to www.votepinellas.com or email election@votepinellas.com.

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Tuesday, November 11 in observance of **Veterans Day**. The Sanitation schedule will not be affected.

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*. Stop by the Fire Station or call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

2014 Hurricane Guides are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. Hurricane season in the Atlantic began on June 1 and ends November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits.

October 18 was a picture perfect day for the **Clam Bayou Cleanup**. Twenty four volunteers picked up 204 pounds of trash with the help of Councilmembers Yolanda Roman and Michael Fridovich. Thank you to Tom and Martha for managing the registration table, the SPC Basketball team and all volunteers for your hard work (photos below).



Upcoming Events:

Join Gulfport Mayor Sam Henderson & St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman for **One Street, Two Cities, One Goal: Community Collaboration Mayors' 49th Street Cleanup** on Saturday, October 25. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. on the corner of 49th Street & Tangerine Avenue. All ages are welcome. The Gulfport Trolley will provide transportation to take volunteers to various work locations. A limited amount of pickers will be available so if you have one please bring it, and wear comfortable footwear and gloves. Water will be provided. This event is presented by the Gulfport Neighbors and cosponsored by the City of Gulfport & the City of St. Petersburg. For more information call 893-1118.

The Gulfport Historical Society presents **Gulfport Under the Stars** on Saturday, October 25, 6 - 10 p.m. Enjoy dinner, dancing and music during this beautiful outdoor event Tickets: \$25, available at the Gulfport Casino and Beach Bazaar, 3115 Beach Boulevard. Call 656-5420 for more information.

The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation and Town Shores will host the **Monster Mash Sock Hop** at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom on Saturday, October 25, 7 - 11 p.m. Tickets: \$12 each, or \$20 per couple, available at the Gulfport Casino, Beach Bazaar or Town Shores Office. For more information call 592-1933.

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.

Get scared and have fun during the **City of Gulfport Halloween Bash** at the Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard on Friday, October 31, 7 - 9 p.m. Enjoy carnival games, a costume contest, haunted house, tot boo room and Snack Shack. For more information call 893-1068.

Sign up your Gulfport address for the **November 1 Citywide Yard Sale**. Applications are available at Gulfport City Hall and Library or online at www.mygulfport.us/yardsale. Deadline for registration is October 24, so dig into the garage, closet or shed and get rid of all that stuff you haven't used for a year or more! Someone might be looking for what you don't want. For more information call 893-1118.

Join the Gulfport Historical Society for a bonfire, ghost stories, and a discussion with Skyway Paranormal about local hauntings and legends at the Gulfport Historical Museum, at 5301 28th Avenue during the **Day of the Dead** Saturday, November 1, 6 - 10 p.m. Have a spooky story of your own? Feel free to share! This event is free. Hot dogs & s'mores fixings will be available for purchase for attendees to cook over the fire. Bring a blanket and get ready to be part of a tradition that's as old as the human race - telling stories around the communal fire. Visit the Gulfport Historical Society Facebook page for more information.

The American Cancer Society is excited to announce the **Gulfport/Stetson University Relay for Life** at the Michael J. Yakes Recreation Complex, 5730 Shore Boulevard 6 p.m. - midnight Friday, November 7. Form a team with your business, group or organization. Stetson University, the City of Gulfport and several other teams have signed up to join the fight and have a lot of fun in the process! Visit www.mygulfport.us upcoming events and join the team of your choice, start a team or to make a donation. For more information call Stephanie Watts at 812-7012 or Jamie Barbetto at 260-3949, or email jamie.barbetto@cancer.org.

Get your family, organization or business in on the fun during **Heroes Weekend**. Participant applications for the Veterans Day Parade scheduled for 11 a.m. Sunday, November 9 are available at Gulfport City Hall, 2401 53rd Street or online at www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend.

The deadline to enter is Tuesday, November 4. Call 893-1118 or email gbiron@mygulport.us for more information.

The Pinellas County Mobile Collection at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center is scheduled for 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, November 15. The following items will be accepted: household chemicals, automotive fluids, batteries (household or vehicle), cleaners, cooking oil, fertilizers, fluorescent bulbs and other mercury containing devices, fuels (i.e. gasoline, kerosene), fungicides, herbicides, insecticides, paint (latex or oil), paint remover, paint thinner, pesticides, pool chemicals, smoke detectors, solvents, wood preservatives, camcorders, CD players, cell phones or smartphones, computers and/or peripherals, copiers, digital cameras, DVD players, fax machines, GPS units, marine depth finders, microwave ovens, pagers, portable players (i.e. MP3, iPod), printer or toner cartridges, radios, stereo equipment, telephones, TVs, VCRs and video game players. The following items will NOT be accepted: AC units, appliances, biological or infectious waste, empty paint cans, explosives, fire extinguishers, garbage, gas cylinders larger than one pound (i.e. propane tanks), medicine, radioactive waste and tires. For more information call 464-7500.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	168
Self-initiated calls for service	462
Offenses	44
Arrests	9
Traffic citations	30

Significant incidents or calls this week:

The owner of the coin laundry in the 1600 block of 58th Street reported on the evening of October 16 that employees at Holy Name Oktoberfest plugged their equipment into the laundry's electrical outlets without permission. The owner did not wish to prosecute, and the plugs were disconnected.

Officers checked a vacant residence in the 1400 block of 57th Street and observed new spray paint markings on the exterior wall and inside the garage. Apparently someone used a saw in an attempt to gain entry to the residence as well.

A resident in the 2600 block of Miriam Street reported on the afternoon of October 17 that two men broke into the rear door of his home while he was out for a walk, and stole two televisions. The suspects fled the area before police arrived.

A resident in the 2000 block of 57th Street reported that someone broke a window at his home and stole two televisions and an iPad.

Officers responded to the 1600 block of 54th Street after a resident discovered that someone had broken the rear window on her truck. Nothing inside the truck appeared to have been tampered with.

Officers responded to a suspicious person call in the 5700 block of Gulfport Boulevard on the morning of October 18 after a resident reported a man who appeared homeless walking with a small child. The man, identified as Allan Brown was an employee with the carnival that was in town. An ID check indicated he had an outstanding narcotics warrant out of Illinois. He was arrested and the child was turned over to her mother.

A resident in the 5100 block of 8th Avenue reported on the morning of October 19 that someone stole her vehicle from her front yard. There are no suspects.

Officers responded to the 5500 block of 16th Avenue after a couple woke from a nap and discovered their 3 year old son missing. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Office helicopter responded and officers searched the area for over an hour until the child was eventually located by a neighbor inside a vehicle in his back yard. The child, who was not injured, had climbed into the car to play and could not get out.

Officers Nicita & Cavanah arrested John Whaley on a burglary and battery warrant. Officers discovered a small amount of marijuana in his pocket along with a package of rolling papers during a search after his arrest, and charged him with possession of drug paraphernalia as well.

A resident in the 5000 block of Newton Avenue reported on the morning of October 20 that her unlocked vehicle was burglarized overnight and her wallet stolen. A neighbor saw a tall slender black male walking away from the vehicle the night before but didn't call to report it.

A resident in the 5400 Block of 31st Street reported that a 10 foot blue Sun Dolphin Kayak was stolen from his backyard sometime between 9 a.m. & 1 p.m. October 20. The investigation continues

A resident in the 2900 Block of 57th Street reported that while he was out for a walk someone stole his silver Schwinn bicycle from his carport.

A hay bale, part of a seasonal decoration in front of a business in the 2900 block of Beach Boulevard was set on fire early in the morning hours of October 21. The fire was extinguished with minor effort and there was no further damage.

Pinellas County Schools Police requested assistance from GPD after a fight broke out at Hamilton Disston School. Eight suspects were arrested. Three others fled the scene and were apprehended by the SPPD later the same day.

Officers responded to a vacant house in the 5100 block of 8th Avenue after the property management company discovered a vehicle, reported stolen from Bellaire on October 12 inside the garage. The vehicle was processed for evidence and the owners retrieved it from the residence.

Several juveniles were observed creeping around backyards in the 1400 block of 57th Street on the morning of October 22. Officers arrived to find them running away. Two were captured and charged with loitering and prowling.

Officers responded to the 5400 block of Tangerine Avenue after a juvenile male reported someone stole a bicycle he borrowed from a friend. Their investigation revealed the boy ran into a friend at the skate park and the two of them conspired to say the bicycle was stolen. He then called 911 to report the "theft", stating he was punched several times by an unknown person who then took off on the bicycle. He was arrested for grand theft and filing a false police report. The bicycle, valued at \$2,000 has not been recovered.

Officers responded to the Kava Bar after a caller reported two males were riding a scooter inside the business and purposely ran into a person who asked them to leave. They fled onto 29th Avenue, and were arrested after crashing into a fence. Brandon Reynolds was arrested for aggravated assault, obstructing an officer and grand theft auto. Jordan Pena was arrested for driving while license suspended/revoked with knowledge, fleeing and eluding, grand theft auto, and a burglary warrant out of Volusia County.

Sergeant Burkhart met with Boca Ciega Yacht Club staff on Tuesday evening to discuss plans for and the Marine Unit's role in the Cats Point Regatta scheduled for Halloween weekend.

Investigations:

New cases:	17
Cases assigned:	4
Cases suspended-no leads:	10

Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements received:	16
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	5
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	11

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham completed 7 investigative supplement reports; checked the pawn database for stolen property, and; covered as acting supervisor during Sergeant Woodman's vacation.

Detective Crowson investigated a late report sexual battery on a child that occurred approximately 10 years ago, resulting in the arrest of the suspect in the case; investigated and located a missing juvenile/runaway, and; completed nine investigative supplement reports.

School Resource Officer Motte arrested a suspended student for trespassing on school grounds after warning and resisting/obstruction without violence; investigated two bicycle theft cases in which both victims refused prosecution; mentored two students; supervised the Boca Ciega vs. Gibbs Varsity football game, and; met with explorers at Boca Ciega High School.

School Resource Officer Langston assisted SPPD with a grand theft case; released found property to a student and completed a supplement; responded to a fight in progress at Hamilton Disston; assisted with deterring fights at Hamilton Disston and BCHS; responded to two trespassers on campus; spoke with a student and parent regarding a complaint made against a staff member; responded to a crash; investigated a reported battery mentored two students; conducted traffic control on 11th Avenue following complaints from school and transportation, and; worked security at a J.V. football game and a varsity football game.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled crime prevention tips on bullying for the PD's Facebook page; created and distributed a bulletin regarding a subject wanted for questioning; distributed case agent evidence review forms; compiled and distributed the open case lists; ran pawn checks on an item reported stolen during a burglary on October 17 and discovered it had been pawned in St. Petersburg on October 19; updated the sex predator/offender display in the police lobby and pamphlets, removing an offender who moved out of state; created and distributed an attempt to identify bulletin for two retail theft suspects, and; ran pawn checks on 12 cases with a named suspect, serial number or searchable property description.

Records Section

Reports reviewed	11
Supplements reviewed:	86
Public records requests:	23
Background checks:	0
Bike registrations:	6
Fingerprints	3
Subpoenas processed:	4
Citizens assisted:	35

MARINA

Pumped two thousand eight hundred ninety six (2,896) gallons of gas and one thousand twenty (1,020) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred six (106) vessels.

Assisted in twenty three (23) pump outs evacuating four hundred thirty three (433) gallons of waste.

Transient vessels:

Staff welcomed a 30' sailboat and a 34' powerboat this week.

Marina maintenance/staff activities:

- Pumped out kayak launch.
- Performed pump out maintenance.
- Inspected and cleaned gas and diesel sumps.

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at www.mygulfport.us/gtv-615. 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.
- Distributed Newsletter and November calendar to Tuesday Market vendors.
- Continued collecting applications and addresses for November 1 Citywide Yard Sale map and participant registration forms for Veterans Parade.
- Updated Recreation Center, events and meeting information on City Website.
- Provided control room coverage of October 21 City Council meeting. Uploaded to City website and rebroadcast on GTV615.
- Met with local artist to discuss upcoming exhibit in Theater lobby.
- Created Volunteer Luncheon RSVP list.

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.

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborly Dining & Meals on Wheels** programs, 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 Gail or 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.

Join us at 10 a.m. Monday, October 27 for this month's **HCA Health Talk** when Dr. Rafat Nashed will update attendees on hip, knee and other joint replacements.

Join us at 4 p.m. Wednesday, October 29 for **Hurricanes: Decision Making Realities**. This well researched & colorful presentation covers the history of local hurricanes & tropical storms and what you should know when a storm threatens.

Don't miss our **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** on Thursday, October 30 for blood pressure, vein, vision, hearing, medicine review, HIV, balance, & memory screenings. Offerings vary month to month, depending on availability.

The Senior Center will host a showing of **HBO's Alzheimer's Project** documentary series on Friday, October 31 at 10 a.m. Take a look at the faces behind the disease and the forces leading us to a cure.

Eckerd College OLLI will present **The Wizard of Menlo Park: Thomas Alva Edison** on Monday November 3 at 5:30 p.m. Join us as we take a look at the life of the incredibly productive and often conflicted individual known as "the man who turned night into day". Attendees **MUST** register prior to event by calling Eckerd College at 864-7600.

The **Coffee Club** meets at the Gulfport Senior Center at 10 a.m. the first Tuesday of every month to discuss current events, the economy and investing in a relaxed, informal setting. The next gathering is November 4. Meet new friends and learn great tips from financial advisor Scott O'Berry over coffee and doughnuts.

Tired of being ignored when your services or benefits get cut? **Family Town Hall Series** is scheduled for Tuesday, November 4 at 11 a.m. We want to hear from you. This event is sponsored by For the Family, in Partnership with Neighborly Care Network.

Join us for a free educational seminar presented by the **Professional Speakers Bureau** on Wednesday, November 5 at 2 p.m. Door prizes & refreshments. RSVP at 893-1231.

Check out the great deals at the **First Friday Flea Market** 9 a.m. - noon Friday, November 7. We have jewelry, art, household items, small furniture, knick knacks and more all at bargain prices.

Concerned about your memory? Peggy Macaluso from the Alzheimer's Association offers a **free Monthly Memory Screening Clinic**, providing information and confidential advice to Gulfport Senior Center members the second Monday of every month, from 9 a.m. until noon. The next clinic is November 10. You **MUST** call 893-1231 to schedule a screening.

Join us at 2:30 p.m. Monday, November 10 for our monthly **HCA Health Talk: Understanding COPD**. Symptoms are sometimes dismissed as a "smoker's cough." The more you know about the causes, symptoms, diagnosis, & treatment, the better your chances of preventing & treating COPD.

How can changing your outlook to one of appreciation affect your life? Learn how being grateful can bring other positive things into your life with **Law of Attraction: Creating an Attitude of Gratitude** on Wednesday, November 12 at 1:30 pm.

The Springs at Boca Ciega Bay offers **free Blood Sugar Screenings** at 10:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month. The next screening is November 13.

Bring your cell phone to the Senior Center at 2 p.m. Thursday, November 13 when Tony & Christine from **The Cell Phone Solution** will answer your questions about your cell phone.

Everyone is welcome at the **Dolphin's View Healthy Heart Cooking Class** at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, November 13.

HBO's **The Alzheimer's Project Documentary Series** continues on Friday, November 14 at 10 a.m. This film highlights the challenges & successes of those who experience a loved one's gradual descent into dementia. Provided by The Alzheimer's Association.

Join in the fun with **Puzzle Pages Puzzle Party** on Friday, November 14 at 11 a.m. Learn to play Sudoku, Binairo and much more! From the Puzzle Pages!

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate Senior Center members' November birthdays with cake, games and more at 2:30 p.m. Friday, November 21. This monthly event is sponsored by Dolphin's View.

Learn to play **Mah-Jongg** and other fun, simulating games at our new class every Monday at noon.

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

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and the Area Agency on Aging. Specially trained volunteers visit the Gulfport Senior Center every first & third Tuesday of the month to assist clients with Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance questions, providing one-on-one counseling and information. SHINE services are free, unbiased, and confidential. 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.

The **Community Law Program** offers free legal assistance to qualified residents 60 & older at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center every third Friday of the month. Call 582-7480 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

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

GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mobility Service) offers rides 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. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

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

Casino (*last week's events*):

Sunday, October 12 6 p.m. - Ballroom fusion lesson & dance with Swingtime (Turnout 89)

Tuesday, October 14 Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 11)
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 24)

Wednesday, October 15 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 169)

Thursday, October 17 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson & dance with Carol Rivera (Turnout 22)

Saturday, October 18 7 p.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 43)

Casino (*upcoming events*):

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

Every Tuesday 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker
2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$7
6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson
8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$7

Every Wednesday 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime
7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime
8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$7

Every Thursday 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7

Saturday, October 25 7 p.m. - *Monster Mash Sock Hop* with food, dancing, raffles and a costume contest. Tickets: \$12 each/\$20 per couple, available at Town Shores office, Beach Bazaar & Casino

Catherine Hickman Theater (*last week's events*):

Friday, October 17 7:30 p.m. - The Rising STARZ present *Mamma Mia* (Turnout 150)

Saturday, October 18 7:30 p.m. - The Rising STARZ present *Mamma Mia* (Turnout 150)

Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):

Friday, October 24 7:30 p.m. - The Rising STARZ present *Mamma Mia*

Saturday, October 25 7:30 p.m. - The Rising STARZ present *Mamma Mia*

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

Sunday, October 12 9 a.m. - Faith International Church bible study (Turnout 47)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

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

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

Scout Hall (last week's events)

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

Monday, October 13 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 19)

Wednesday, October 15 10:30 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 12)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - Yoga

Every Wednesday 10:30 a.m. - Yoga

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Line dancing

LIBRARY

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

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, October 13, 3 p.m. - Science Club for Grades K-5, facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Tuesday, October 14, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for beginners.*

Tuesday, October 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, October 15, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, October 15, 2 p.m. - *Advance computer class.*

Wednesday, October 15, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*, facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Wednesday, October 15, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, October 16, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, October 16, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of selected chapters from The Koran* over coffee & light refreshments facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Friday, October 17, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, October 18, 10 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day* facilitated by Raven Raghoo.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, October 27, 5 p.m. - *Acoustic Jam Session*: Bring a guitar or other acoustic instrument & join us! Get in touch with your musical self. Call Alex at 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, October 28 - *SCORE Counseling*: FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals. Call 893-1073 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Thursday, Oct. 30, 5 p.m. - Meet Author Rasheedah Sharif for a discussion of her inspirational novel *Don't Come Down From the Chinaberry Tree*. For more information about her work, visit www.rasheedahsharif.com.

Thursday, November 6, 1 p.m. - *Beginning iPad Workshop*: Learn to use and enjoy your new technology. Register for this very popular class at the Reference Desk or call 893-1073.

Friday, November 14, 3 p.m. - *Teen Anime Club*: We screen a flick and provide some crunchy munchies. Enjoy an afternoon networking with other fans.

Saturday, November 15, 10 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: Enjoy flicks with popcorn provided by our Circle of Friends. Call 893-1074 for movie titles.

Thursday, November 20, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Tao te Ching* over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *Science Club for Grades K-5*. For more information call Cailey at 893-1133.

Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information call 916-0916.

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

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*: Play XBOX, watch movies, get help with homework, listen to music, and just have fun. For more information call Cailey at 893-1133.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. For more information contact Robin Riddell at riddell@gmail.com.

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.

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

Library Services/Statistic October 12 - 18, 2014:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,781	594
Sun. 10/12	Library closed	
Mon. 10/13	359	104
Tue. 10/14	308	106
Wed. 10/15	326	119
Thu. 10/16	266	103
Fri. 10/17	244	77
Sat. 10/18	253	65

Recreation Center

Upcoming Events

The game room was rented 2 - 6 p.m. Saturday, September 18 for a birthday party with forty eight (48) in attendance.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Thirty Six (36) children are registered for the **2014/15 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. Annual registration fee is \$17 for residents and \$22 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.

Twenty one (21) children are registered for the **2014/15 Tot Time Program**, and eight (8) 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. Registration fees for the Tot Time Program are \$17 for residents and \$22 for nonresidents.

Fifty four (54) teens have been registered for the **2014-2015 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: Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Spanish, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Watercolor, Women's Self-Defense and Yoga.

Staff Activities

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport twenty six School Year Child Program participants and two adults to the Pumpkin Patch in St. Petersburg.

John Lapham and three Teen Night Program participants judged homes entered in the Halloween Decorations Contest. There were seven entries in the General Theme category.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 33 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Structure Fire
- 3 Vehicle Crashes
- 2 Fires Outside Structure
- 1 Elevator Rescue
- 1 Gas Leak

Life Safety:

- 6 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspection
- 1 C.O's
- 5 Plans Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. The next meeting is Thursday, November 20 at 7 p.m. For more information call 916-8014 or visit www.gulfportcert.com. CERT will assist with traffic & crowd control during the Recreation Center's Spooktacular Halloween Bash.

- Chief Marenkovic and Inspector Lundh reviewed permit plans for construction work to be performed at the Stetson Law College Dana Building & Library.
- GFD continues their "Cares Enough to Wear Pink" campaign in support of women with breast cancer. The Firefighters are wearing Pink T-Shirts for the full month of October.

- Chief Marenkovic attended the PALS meeting at the Sunstar building in Largo on October 21. Topics of discussion: the direction of the Medical Director's Office Ebola updates and delivery of Level C PPE Suits; the QAR process; Trauma Arrest protocols and medication errors, and; Pediatric Handtevy bags being delivered to all agencies.
- October is National Fire Prevention Month, and serves as an excellent time to examine preparedness. Do you have a home fire escape plan? Have you changed smoke-alarm batteries within the last year? Prepare and practice your fire escape plan twice a year with everyone in your household, including children and people with disabilities. It's also a good idea to practice your plan with overnight guests.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired fence behind Neighborhood Center.
- Cleaned refrigerator and freezer at Neighborhood Center.
- Stored boxes of envelopes in City Hall mail room, and repaired computer room a/c.
- Moved Halloween decorations from Recreation center loft closet to gym.
- Replaced ballast in Library driveway under-hang.
- Replaced condenser in Library Friends Room.
- Mopped and water from Senior Center hallway & Room #106.
- Replaced condenser & air handler for Recreation Center office & classroom.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Set up haunted house at Recreation Center.
- Tilled, reworked clay and cleaned baselines at Hoyt, Lum & Recreation Center fields.
- Removed graffiti from playground equipment at Gulfport Beach & Caldwell Park.
- Sprayed weeds at Senior Center, Library & Marina.
- Repaired benches at Little League & Tomlinson Park.
- Weeded & re-sodded small dog park.
- Continued replacement of tree lights & electrical outlets, and inspected light timers along Beach Boulevard.
- Trimmed, weeded and cleaned Clymer Park, Chase block & 49th Streetscapes, and hand raked around benches and pavilions.
- Trimmed trees at Dog park and removed dead oak tree at Clymer Park.
- Mowed Beach area, Recreation Center grounds, Clymer Greenway and City Complex.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and performed preventive maintenance on all equipment.
- Repaired irrigation at Dog Park, 49th Streetscapes, and Clymer & Veterans Parks.
- 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. Trash receptacles were emptied and the Bocce Ball courts were inspected for repairs.
- 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 throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways & sidewalks.
- Removed “No Parking” signs following Holy Name Oktoberfest.
- Removed dirt and sand from roadway at 58th Street & 25th Avenue.
- Completed radius work at 51st Street & 17th Avenue.
- Removed several loads of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Removed and disposed of debris in roadway at 49th Street & 17th Avenue.
- Disposed of old tires from City garage.

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at points of connection to water distribution system (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes #31, 32, 33 & 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 74 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 3 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.
- Replaced 5 old water meters with new style meters.
- Continued semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Replaced water service & meter at 5326 18th Avenue.
- Installed new backflow and water meter at 913 49th Street.
- Repaired water break at 3043 57th Street.
- Repaired fire hydrant at 31st Ave & 50th Street.
- Repaired backflow following vehicle strike at 5321 31st 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 Multipurpose Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Repaired corrugated metal pipe at Pasadena Golf Course, and filled & graded collapsed area in preparation for sod replacement.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced low beam headlight on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Repaired and replaced door hold open bracket on GEMS bus.
- Changed oil in Water/Sewer vehicle #17.
- Replaced brake light bulb in Streets vehicle #38.
- Entered work orders into system.
- Replaced shuttle valve and rebuilt hydraulic cylinder on Sand Pro.
- Repaired generator on Fire Truck.
- Replaced tires on Parks Division Kawasaki mule and Police vehicle #6.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various 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, due to hard economic times 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 continue 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.

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.

November 5, 2014 Planning and Zoning Board & December 2, 2014 City Council/CRA:

- C14-02; Two vacant lots south of 5000 Gulfport Boulevard South; Conditional Use request with Site Plan for a proposed off-street parking lot in connection with a contiguous commercial use.
- C14-03; 5401/5405 Shore Boulevard South; Conditional use application with a site plan for a proposed second floor addition of an existing restaurant with additional outdoor seating.

- Discussion of the Public Information Program Strategy Plan of the Community Rating System (CRS) Program (Planning and Zoning Board only).

November 12, 2014 Board of Adjustment:

- V14-18; 5213 Tangerine Avenue South; Variance request to reduce the front yard setback requirement by 16 feet, from 25 feet to 9 feet for the proposed construction of a new covered front entry to the house and handicapped ramp.
- V14-19; 908 60th Street South; Variance request to 1). reduce the side yard setback requirement by 1 foot, from 6 feet to 5 feet; and 2). reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 2.8 feet from 25 feet to 22.2 feet for the proposed construction of a bedroom addition that attaches the house to the currently detached garage.
- V14-20; 6112 Kipp's Colony Drive West; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one third setback requirement by 16 feet 10 inches, from 50 feet to 16 feet 10 inches to allow for the removal of existing tie-poles, construct a proposed dock extension, and install a proposed new boat lift.