



# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *September 27 - October 3, 2015*

### OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

The Pinellas County Board of Commissioners has proclaimed the week of October 4 - 10 **Fire Prevention Week**. Fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are where people are at greatest risk. According to the National Fire Protection (NFPA), fires caused 2,570 civilian deaths, 13,210 civilian injuries, and \$7.2 billion in property damage in the United States in 2014, and fire departments in the United States responded to 366,600 home fires. 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*.

### Upcoming Events:

Visit the 49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association (SO49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** every Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information, visit [www.SoTangerine.com](http://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](http://www.gulfportma.com), call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email [FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com](mailto:FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com).

Meet your neighbors from both sides of 49<sup>th</sup> Street during the **Gulfport Neighbors Second Annual Mayors' 49<sup>th</sup> Street Cleanup** hosted by Gulfport Mayor Sam Henderson and St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman Saturday, October 3. St. Petersburg Deputy Mayor Kanika Tomalin will also join us. Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. on the east end of the Tangerine Greenway. Stay for "Chiefs' Chat" a community forum with Gulfport Police Chief Rob Vincent and St. Petersburg Police Chief Tony Holloway at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street at 10:30 a.m. This is an opportunity for members of both communities to learn how the police departments are working together to curb crime in our mutual neighboring areas. The setting will be informal and residents are encouraged to ask questions, express concerns and offer suggestions. For more information contact the Gulfport Neighbors at 343-8428, or visit [www.Facebook.com/gulfportneighbors](http://www.Facebook.com/gulfportneighbors).

The Gulfport Historical Society has planned an unprecedented five events during **Gulfport History Month**, beginning with a free-admission **First Friday Art Reception** at the Catherine A. Hickman Theater on October 2, 6 - 8 p.m. **Born on the Bayou Birthday: A Celebration of Gulfport** is Saturday, October 10, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Gulfport Historical Museum, 5301 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue. 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. Register online at [www.Active.com](http://www.Active.com). Stay for libations and 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 call 327-0505 or email [info@gulfporthistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@gulfporthistoricalsociety.org).

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](http://www.mygulfport.us) under events/upcoming events: Great American 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.

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](http://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! Someone might be looking for what you don't want. In the event 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](http://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](http://www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend). The deadline to enter is Friday, October 30. The **4<sup>th</sup> 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**

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

Dispatch calls for service	132
Self-initiated calls for service	382
Offenses	34
Arrests	7
Traffic citations	41
Ordinance violations	11

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

Officers responded to the 5400 block of Newton Avenue on September 24 after an animal control officer reported he was on scene at a residence speaking with a woman about a dog complaint when the dog's owner arrived home and got into an argument with the woman who repeatedly lifted her shirt to display a firearm tucked in her waistband. The animal control officer confirmed that it was done repeatedly in a manner to intimidate the dog's owner.

A woman reported she was cleaning out her car in the 2200 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street when three juveniles on bicycles approached her car, and one removed her purse before running away.

Leevon Mckinzie turned himself in to the PD on September 25 for an outstanding child support warrant. He was arrested.

Officers were dispatched to a reported battery in the 2200 block of 52<sup>nd</sup> Street. Three people were arguing when officers arrived, and it was determined that Earl Spinks became angry when he discovered his girlfriend invited her ex-boyfriend to stay at her home. Spinks refused to allow the man inside, and hit him when he attempted to enter. Spinks was issued a notice to appear for battery, and he left for the evening.

Officers responded to the 5700 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue on September 26 after a caller reported he allowed a female into his home. After she left the victim discovered a wooden box containing valuable coins was missing from his bedroom. He did not know what kind of coins or how many were missing and only knew the suspect by her first and last name.

Two residents in the 1400 block of 52<sup>nd</sup> Street reported on the morning of September 27 that someone entered their vehicles overnight and stole some of their belongings. The items were found discarded down the street.

Avion Dudley was arrested on an outstanding warrant for an ordinance violation.

A resident in the 1200 block of 60<sup>th</sup> Street reported on September 28 that someone slashed three of her car's tires sometime overnight.

Corey Styer was arrested for driving while his license was suspended and having a counterfeit license plate on his vehicle. Further investigation determined that Yousef Yousef produced the counterfeit tag. He confessed and was also arrested.

A backpack leaf blower and a laptop were taken from a residence in the 5300 block of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue on an unknown date and time. A suspect was identified through the pawn database system and the leaf blower was recovered.

Erica Blossom was arrested for battery and throwing a deadly missile at an occupied residence on September 30 after her sister called 911 to report that Blossom was at the home breaking windows. Officers arrived and determined that Blossom had gotten drunk and started a fight in Childs Park before being taken home by SPPD. When she arrived home she began playing loud music. Her sister asked her to stop, and the two got into a fight when she refused. After being told to leave the apartment she picked up a large landscaping stone and threw it through the front window.

An eight-year-old student on his first day back from a three day suspension for threatening to stab his music teacher stabbed his regular teacher with a pencil. He was taken home by the principal and charges will be forwarded.

An employee of a business in the 5200 block of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue observed a black male juvenile breaking into a car in the front parking lot. He confronted the subject and three others standing near the vehicle, and they fled north. A witness at the business informed responding officers that her vehicle was broken into the day before at the same time and location.

A resident in the 6100 Block of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported that three bicycles were stolen from his fenced backyard.

Officer Cavanah spent 4 hours on the marine unit this week training Probationary Officer Gainer on procedures.

### **Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)**

New cases:	21
Cases assigned:	5
Cases suspended-no leads:	9
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
Cases referred back to patrol:	4
Supplements received:	7
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	0
Cases unfounded-no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	5

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports in an identity theft case, a dealing in stolen property, a credit card fraud, and a residential burglary;

attended an Evidentiary Hearing; conducted sex offender checks, and; attempted to locate a suspect in an attempted homicide case.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports in three fraud cases, a death investigation, and six burglary cases; assisted Detective Pham in attempting to locate and arrest the suspect of an attempted murder; attempted to locate and question two suspects in an armed robbery; assisted patrol with collecting evidence and releasing property in reference to a burglary report; completed sex offender checks, and completed 13 case agent evidence review forms.

School Resource Officer Motte hosted the Monday night explorer meeting and accepted two new members; mentored two students; located a student in possession of marijuana; assisted the school with preventing a fight occurring, assisted a family with a civil issue, and; provided security at a football game.

School Resource Officer Langston responded to two fights; investigated a stolen cell phone case in which the phone was recovered; assisted SPPD with investigative updates pertaining to their case; responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle on campus; assisted Officer Mills with identifying a former student/suspect in a case assigned to Officer Embry; counseled a female student who was upset about other students bothering her; spoke with a parent about an incident involving her son; conducted a follow up investigation on a burglary case that occurred off campus in which an arrest was made; attended training at SEPSI, and; provided security at a football game.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled and distributed the open case lists; updated the sex predator/offender display and pamphlet, adding four new offenders who recently moved into the City; completed pawn checks on 6 cases with a known serial number, a named suspect or a searchable property description, and; conducted a review of reports of stolen property with a known serial number to verify the proper documentation showing that the stolen item had been entered into FCIC/NCIC.

### **Records Section**

Reports reviewed	16
Supplements reviewed:	91
Public records requests:	5
Reports disseminated:	24
Background checks:	5
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints	1
Subpoenas processed:	7
Citizens assisted:	39

### **MARINA**

Assisted in thirty one (31) pump outs evacuating five hundred eighty five (585) gallons of waste.

Pumped two thousand four hundred fifty seven (2,457) gallons of gas and seven hundred forty three (743) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling eighty five (85) vessels.

### **Transient vessels:**

Marina staff welcomed a 27' sailboat, a 40' motorboat and a 34' motorboat this week.

### **LIBRARY**

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

## **Public Programs/Meetings/Events:**

Tuesday, September 22, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for Beginners* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, September 22, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, September 23, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, September 23, 2 p.m. - *Advance Computer class.*

Wednesday, September 23, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Friday, September 25, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

## **Upcoming Events:**

Monday, October 5, 5:30 p.m. - *Introduction to Essential Oils workshop:* learn the benefits of pure, therapeutic-grade products with Jen Schaefer. Become empowered with knowledge and tools to address many mild (and some less mild) health issues at home, naturally. For more information email [gulfportyoga@gmail.com](mailto:gulfportyoga@gmail.com).

Thursday, October 8, 12 p.m. - *Cold Warriors in the Hot Sunshine; The Johns Committee's Homophobic Witch Hunts:* Every month an exceptional speaker will discuss a wide variety of topics. Consider bringing lunch. James Schnur will discuss the 1950's Communist scare and subsequent Florida Legislative Investigations known as the Johns Committee at our first meeting. For more information call 893-1073.

Tuesday, October 13, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club:* The group meets every second Tuesday of the month. Start creating and commanding your own robot! Registration required; see Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Thursday, October 15, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The Tiger's Wife* by Téa Obreht 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 or visit the Library for more information.

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

Monday, October 19, 5 p.m. - *Acoustic Jam:* Alex invites everyone to bring their acoustic instruments for a second season of group musical creation.

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.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 Wednesday, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.* Email [robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com](mailto: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 September 20 - 26, 2015:**  
**Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	2,016	633
Sun. 9/20	Library closed	
Mon. 9/21	411	133
Tue. 9/22	295	109
Wed. 9/23	242	89
Thu. 9/24	312	84
Fri. 9/25	413	96
Sat. 9/26	257	89

**PARKS & RECREATION**

**Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport](http://www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport) to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at [www.mygulfport.us/gtv-640](http://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 & Senior Center information on City website.
- Attended Relay for Life & Mayors Cleanup logistics meetings.
- Assisted with removal of PAVA art from Theater, and setup for Gulfport Historical Society exhibit in preparation for First Friday art reception.
- Created signs for Mayors Cleanup.
- Assisted with Mayors Cleanup and Gulfport Historical Society video promos.
- Commenced preparation of November calendar.
- Continued preparations for Citywide Yard Sale, Keep Gulfport Weird triathlon, Veterans Day Parade, Gulfport Casino 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday party & Gulfport History month events.

**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](http://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 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South for more information.

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, October 6.

Join us for **Laughter Yoga** the first Tuesday of every month at 1 p.m. Laughter exercises, yoga breathing, & lots of fun! Our first class is October 6.

Walgreens will offer Flu Shots at the Senior Center 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 7. Bring your health insurance card and ID.

Enjoy ice cream with your friends during our **Monthly Ice Cream Social** at 3 p.m. Thursday, October 8. This event is sponsored by Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Monthly Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is October 12. 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 October 12.

Join us for lunch and a free current movie during **Movie Day at the Snack Bar** at 11 a.m. Tuesday, October 13.

A SHINE Counselor will offer free, unbiased counseling regarding the open enrollment season during **Medicare 101** on Wednesday, October 14 at 3 p.m.

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.

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.

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

Learn the basics of drawing and acrylics during our new 12-week **Painting with Judith** class every Monday at 4:30 p.m. Call 893-5657 to register. Limit 20 students. Priority will be given to new students.

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. October's topic is *Intimacy*.

Don't stress about your computer. Join our new **Computer Roundtable discussion** at 2 p.m. every Tuesday, and we will figure it out together.

The **Urban Sketchers** meet at the Senior Center every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. and travel to local sites to sketch the surroundings.

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.

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 organizations for reuse, recycle or education.

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

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

Sunday, September 20	7 p.m. - Ballroom fusion dance with Swingtime (Turnout 63)
Tuesday, September 21	Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 20) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 61)
Wednesday, September 22	10:30 a.m. - Yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 17) 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 238)
Thursday, September 23	6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Latin dance (Turnout 211)
Friday, September 24	11 a.m. - Chair Yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 25) 7 p.m. - Super Bingo (Turnout **)

#### **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*):**

Sunday, September 20 1 p.m. - ProjectFREE & RisingSTARZ present *Once upon a Mattress* (Turnout 58)

**Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):**

Friday, October 2, 6 p.m. - *Changes on the Bayou*: Gulfport Historical Society photo exhibit and reception. Free admission.

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

Sunday, September 20 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 2)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, September 22 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)  
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, September 24 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 14)

**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, September 21 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 28)

Tuesday, September 22 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 11)

Friday, September 25 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)

**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 noon - 4 p.m. Saturday, October 3, and 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday, October 17 for baby showers, and 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday, October for a Yoga Workshop.

## Programs, Classes & Activities

Thirty nine (39) 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.

Ten (10) children have been registered for the **2015/16 Tot Time Program**, and nine (9) 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.

Twenty seven (27) 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, Pickleball, Spanish, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga and Zumba.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Calls for Service:

- 47 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 Boat Fire
- 6 Fire Alarms
- 1 Vehicle Crash
- 1 Fire Outside Structure
- 1 Wires Down
- 2 Elevator Rescues
- 1 Single Engine Response

### Life Safety:

- 14 Fire Inspections
- 4 Fire Re-Inspections
- 1 C.O.
- 1 Site Plan Review

Chief Marenkovic attended a PCFCA meeting at the SPC EpiCenter on October 1. Discussions continued with CME program

Firefighter/EMT Lesley Jordan taught a Health Care Provider CPR course for 3 RNs, and Lt. Poirrier taught a Health Care Provider CPR course for 4 students.

GFD Paramedics continued their Advanced Cardiac Life Support Renewal Course this week. Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (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. The Pre-course Self-Assessment covers three areas Rhythm Identification, Drug and Interventions then Practical Applications. A score of 84% or higher is required to pass.

Firefighter/Paramedic Grady on the “C” shift is preceptor for an EMT Student from the St. Petersburg College Field Internship Program.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Staff continues daily water quality testing at Gulfport Beach and Marina. The beach is currently open. The results of October 1 are provided below. Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) for the most up-to-date information.

<b><u>Gulfport Casino</u></b>		<b><u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u></b>			<b><u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u></b>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1527412-01	10/1/15 8 a.m.	4 B	4	10/1/15 9:10 a.m.	10 U	10	10/1/15 9:10 a.m.

  

<b><u>Gulfport Marina</u></b>		<b><u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u></b>			<b><u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u></b>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1527412-02	10/1/15 8:30 a.m.	28 B	4	10/1/15 9/10 a.m.	10 U	10	10/1/15 9:10 a.m.

<b>Enterococcus Results Description</b>		
<b><u>Good</u></b>	<b><u>Moderate</u></b>	<b><u>Poor*</u></b>
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

  

<b>Fecal Coliform Results Description</b>		
<b><u>Good</u></b>	<b><u>Moderate</u></b>	<b><u>Poor*</u></b>
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**

- Replaced filters on a/c units in all City facilities and motor in City Hall unit, and cleared drains on Police Department & Senior Center units.
- Replaced several ceiling tiles in Police Department.
- Replaced two soap dispensers at PD & Casino, toilet seats at PD, beach restrooms and in Theater dressing area, and toilet paper dispenser in Hoyt Field ladies room.
- Replaced two emergency lights in Recreation Center gym.
- Repaired and prepped walls in Senior Center lobby for painting.
- Removed sink and hot water line from old snack bar area at Senior Center, and capped drain.
- Delivered mail to main Post Office for Finance Department.

## **Parks**

- Installed fencing and reworked sand at Beach volleyball courts in preparation for weekend tournament.
- Reset irrigation clocks and inspected rain sensors, and repaired irrigation at residence on Hull Street after it was damaged by City garbage truck.

- Tilled base areas on playing field behind Recreation Center, repaired benches and cleaned exercise area.
- Installed pole protection pads on fence at Hoyt Field.
- Cleaned shop and restrooms.
- Oiled locks on gates at ball fields & parks, and bench swings at beach and pier.
- Mowed Beach area, bush hogged end of York St, Recreation Center, Hoyt perimeter, Clam Bayou, Wood Ibis Park, Chase block, Tonkin Park and Dog Park.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched 49<sup>th</sup> Streetscapes & Neighborhood Center, trimmed low branches at Chase block, Tangerine Greenway, Tomlinson Park and City Complex, hand raked around benches and pavilions, and cleaned beach.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades, cleaned and adjusted carburetor on sand pro machine and repaired flashing light on Parks truck 51.
- 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.
- Replaced multiple sections of sidewalk throughout City.
- Restocked recycled mulch bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Continued automated street sweeping.
- Cleaned stormwater line along 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue between 49<sup>th</sup> & 58<sup>th</sup> Streets.

### **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).
- Disconnected water service at 52 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 5 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 105 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 15 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach, Clam Bayou & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced 3 old water meters with new electronic meters.
- Repaired water break at 5149 Preston Avenue.

- Replaced 6" water main at 57<sup>th</sup> Street & 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Repaired water break 2304 Beach Boulevard.
- Located 2 water valves and replaced valve boxes in alley between Beach Boulevard & 55<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Located water meters and reset boxes to grade at 2901 & 2911 Dupont Street.

### **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**

- Made multiple repairs to Fire Engine #P17.
- Replaced brake pads on Police vehicle #9.
- Repaired bushing on GEMS vehicle #1.
- Repaired overhead rotating light on Parks Division's vehicle #53.
- Replaced side molding on Building Department vehicle #3.
- Repaired hydraulic line on Parks Division's Sandpro Groomer.
- Delivered Police vehicle #18 to dealership for warranty repairs.
- Replaced broken belt retention bolt and tires on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Replaced coolant overflow container and broken heater hose on Police vehicle #54.
- Inventoried shop supplies and repair parts.
- 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.pcclb.com).

**Code Enforcement** activities have moved to 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 58<sup>th</sup> & 59<sup>th</sup> Streets to the City Limits.

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](http://www.mygulfport.us).

**October 14, 2015 Board of Adjustment:**

V15-20; 6127 8<sup>th</sup> 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.

V15-21; 5618 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

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.

V15-24; 2632 56<sup>th</sup> 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.