



Gulfport Community Update

November 6 - 12, 2016

The City of Gulfport hosted the final **Pinellas County Electronics & Mobile Collection** of the year, partnering with Pinellas County to provide a safe, responsible option for disposal of hazardous materials. The event took place at the Gulfport Recreation Center on November 5, and provided free disposal of household electronics and chemicals for Pinellas County residents. The participation of 209 residents resulting in the collection of 507 pounds of chemicals and an impressive 4,237 pounds of electronics made this event a great success! The City wishes to extend their appreciation to all participants, City of Gulfport employees who staffed the event and Pinellas County for providing the hazardous waste collection service.

Heroes Weekend, celebrated this past Sunday, November 5, included a Veterans Parade, a ribbon cutting and grand opening of the Shore Boulevard Improvement project to make room for the VETsports volleyball players and fans to enjoy the day. Inside at the Casino Ballroom, the New Horizons Band of Gulfport performed a wonderful concert in celebration of our veterans.



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

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 24 & 25 in observance of **Thanksgiving**. Thursday's sanitation routes will be collected on Wednesday, November 23, Friday's routes will remain on schedule, and there will be no Wednesday yard waste pickup.

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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

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

Upcoming Events:

Visit the 49th Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** on the Tangerine Greenway every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The market focuses on locally made items, but SO49 will consider others in an effort to meet the needs of the community. For more information call 439-0164 or email jsrtraining@aol.com.

Dust off your unused stuff, clear out the clutter and sign up for the permit-free **Gulfport Citywide Yard Sale** scheduled for Saturday, November 12 (rain date, Sunday, November 13).

The **Holy Name 46th Annual Fall Festival** is Thursday - Sunday, November 10 - 13. Musical guests: James O'Neill and the Silver Shadows; Urban Gypsies and Karmic Tattoo. For more information call 347-9989.

Gulfport Neighbors will host a **Beach & Wood Ibis Park cleanup** on Saturday, November 12, 9 a.m. - noon. Meet at pavilion #4 on Gulfport Beach. If you are looking for an activity where you can make a difference, get outdoor exercise and meet interesting people while reducing the pollution in our waterways and the litter in our community, this event is for you! A limited number of picker/grabber tools are available; if you have one please bring it. Gloves, sun protection and comfortable footwear are also recommended. Water will be provided.

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.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	145
Self-initiated calls for service	399
Offenses	50
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	85
Ordinance violations	59

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 1400 block of 51st Street reported on the morning of November 3 that sometime between midnight and 2 a.m. someone cut the screen to her open kitchen window, entered her home and stole a laptop.

A resident in the 5500 block of 11th Avenue reported that sometime overnight someone entered his unlocked vehicle and stole his wallet with approximately \$5 in cash.

Damien Donahue was arrested on an outstanding warrant following a traffic stop for a bicycle violation.

A resident in the 3100 block of 56th Street reported on November 4 that she heard a loud noise and discovered a male attempting to break in through her window. He ran westbound on Shore Boulevard.

A vehicle pulled out from 9th Avenue and was struck by a stolen car traveling south on 49th Street. The occupants of the stolen car ran from the scene. The other driver had minor injuries.

A resident in the 5000 Block of 8th Avenue reported that he left his door unlocked, and when he returned he discovered a TV and luggage missing.

A Town Shores resident reported he left his car unlocked with a key in it overnight and discovered it missing the next morning.

Officers were dispatched to the area of 13th Avenue & York Street after a caller reported drivers speeding and throwing items out of a car. A resident was able to get the tag numbers on both vehicles and it was discovered that the two vehicles were stolen. Both vehicles were last seen headed in to St Petersburg.

Sergeant Parks made contact with a suspicious male hanging out in front of Joy Food Mart on November 6 while the business was closed. He was found to be in possession of a wallet that was reported stolen, and was arrested for theft. Several prior convictions enhanced this incident to a felony.

A resident in the 5300 block of 10th Avenue reported he left his wallet in his unlocked car overnight and in the morning discovered it missing.

Officers were dispatched to the 4900 block of Gulfport Boulevard regarding a vehicle that had just been stolen after it was left running. An iPhone and OnStar led officers to the vehicle which was located abandoned a short time later.

A resident turned in a printer found in the roadway, still in the box on November 7. The box was slightly damaged, indicating it may have fallen from a moving vehicle. A notification was posted on Facebook with instructions on how the owner could claim the item.

A resident in the 1100 block of 51st Street reported on November 8 that he left the keys to his Toyota Highlander in the ignition while he unloaded the vehicle, and someone stole it while he was inside his business.

Four vehicle burglaries were reported in the waterfront redevelopment district on November 9. All had been left unlocked.

Sergeant Vandenberg stopped a vehicle 5800 block of Gulfport Boulevard for speeding, and smelled marijuana coming from the car. Driver Tracey Dzubiak admitted to smoking a joint before she left work. A search of the vehicle yielded a small amount of marijuana folded up in a dollar bill her purse. She was issued a speeding citation and a referral to APAD.

A subject entered the Family Dollar store and took diapers, laundry detergent and fabric softener, and left without paying. An employee confronted him and retrieved the items before the subject fled the scene in a tan Chevy Malibu.

The marine unit was on the water for five hours this week. Three contacts were made and one citation issued.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	19
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	8
Cases cleared with arrest:	2
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	4
Cases referred back to patrol:	2
Supplements received:	23
Cases cleared with arrest:	1

Previously cleared with arrest:	5
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	3
Cases exceptionally cleared	1
Cases still active:	13

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, a burglary, an auto theft, and a theft. He also participated in a surveillance detail regarding recent vehicle burglaries and auto thefts.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for three fraud cases, three burglaries, two auto thefts and a theft; reviewed subpoena returns and identified a suspect in multiple obscene phone calls/text messaging cases; interviewed a person of interest in a fraud investigation; attempted to locate a suspect in a theft/fraud investigation, and; participated in a surveillance detail regarding recent vehicle burglaries and auto thefts.

School Resource Officers Motte and Langston wrote six police reports; counseled five students; met with the parents of 4 students, and; Baker Acted 1 person. Additionally, Officer Motte authored 4 reports, three thefts and one recovered runaway; located stolen property at BCHS solved a previously suspended case; hosted the Monday night explorer meeting, teaching crime scene processing, and; worked two off duty details. Officer Langston worked the BCHS homecoming dance.

Crime Analyst, Margaret compiled and distributed open case lists; conducted pawn checks on 15 cases with a known serial number, searchable property description or a named suspect; reviewed reports with property reported stolen with a known serial number for proper documentation showing that the item had been entered into FCIC.

Records

Reports reviewed	23
Supplements reviewed:	112
Public Records requests:	23
Background checks:	9
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints	3
Subpoenas processed:	13
Citizens assisted:	41

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, October 31, 3:15 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club.*

Monday, October 31, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic night.*

Tuesday, November 1, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga.*

Tuesday, November 1, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Tuesday, November 1, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, November 1, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, November 1, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, November 2, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, November 2, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*.

Wednesday, November 2, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*.

Wednesday, November 2, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, November 3, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.

Thursday, November 3, 7 p.m. - *Makin' Waves Women's Ensemble Concert*.

Thursday, November 3, 3:30 p.m. *Kids Yoga*.

Thursday, November 3, 7 p.m. - *Juniper Concert*.

Friday, November 4, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, November 5, 10 a.m. - *How to Conduct Productive Meetings workshop*.

Saturday, November 5, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, November 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program*: Release your Cosmic MOJO as we explore the ancient practice of astrology as it relates to your modern life. For more information on the next topic call 207-332-0787 or email jennie@odetopluto.com.

Tuesday, November 15, 4 p.m. - *Tween Tinker Lab*: The group meets every third Tuesday of the month for hands-on exploration and experimentation. See Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Thursday, November 17, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck*. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, November 17, 3:30 p.m. - *Reading Paws*: Maya would love to hear one of your young reader's favorites. She visits our children's area on the third Thursday of every month.

Thursday, November 17, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*: Learn about the services available through the City and the Library. Find out how you can participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization.

Saturday, November 19, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, November 21, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: Open to all comedians, singer-songwriters, poets, storytellers, musicians, jugglers and stage magicians. For more information call 893-1073

Thursday, November 24, 11 a.m. - *Community Play Date*: Follows Toddler Storytime every fourth Thursday of the month, a great opportunity to meet other parents and caregivers in a supportive environment and introduce your little one to new sights, sounds, toys, and new friends.

Thursday, November 24, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga*: Meets every fourth Thursday of the month.

Monday, November 28, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: Open to all comedians, singer-songwriters, poets, storytellers, musicians, jugglers and stage magicians. For more information call 893-1073.

Thursday, December 1, noon - *Lunch and Learn presents How to Help Friends & Family with Memory Problems*: Many people struggle with knowing when they should be worried about someone, and what to do to help them. We'll discuss what works and what doesn't, and how we can support each other to find the best possible solutions. Presented by Alison Solomon, LCSW, author of *Along Came the Rain*, a suspense novel that deals with memory issues. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library.

Saturday, December 3, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: Selections intended for adults only to enjoy more complex and challenging films in a quiet and relaxed atmosphere. For movie title, call 893-1074.

Monday, December 5, 5 p.m. - *Adult Coloring Program*: We provide the artwork and supplies for participants to embellish while they relax and listen to soothing music.

Tuesday, December 6, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga* for parents and babies ages 6 weeks to 18 months. Instructed by registered yoga teacher Ms. Christa, the group meets on first Tuesday of the month. Meet other new parents and babies in the community, stretch, laugh, get some strength back and rejuvenate! Call 893-1074 cklasson@mygulfpport.us for more information.

Tuesday, December 13, 1 p.m. - *Healthy Mind/Healthy Body Book Club meeting*: If you have interest in understanding the relationship between our thoughts and their influence on the physical body this club is for you. For more information email klane@untieyourwings.com.

Every Monday, 3:15 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! Call Cailey at 893-1074, or email cklasson@mygulfpport.us for more information.

Every Monday - Wednesday & Friday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Bring a bag lunch and a dictionary. A different language group meets each weekday: Monday - French; Tuesday - Italian; Wednesday - Spanish; Friday - German. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*: Enjoy conversing in a relaxed atmosphere. This is our most popular language group so far!

Every Tuesday, 5:45 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. - *Gulfpport Writers meeting*.

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

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfpport 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. 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/Statistic October 30 - November 5, 2016:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,046	461
Sun. 10/30	Library closed	
Mon. 10/31	136	58
Tue. 11/1	148	77
Wed. 11/2	132	74
Thu. 11/3	218	77
Fri. 11/4	165	72
Sat. 11/5	240	92

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, and assisted with updates to social media pages.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued daily updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us and social media sites.
- Continued preparation of 2016-2017 events list and First Friday Art Reception schedule & contracts.
- Provided control room coverage for November 9 Board of Adjustment meeting, uplodced video to City website, and rebroadcast on GTV640.
- Provided technical coverage of Hero's Weekend event.
- Assisted with Volunteer Luncheon setup.

Multipurpose Center

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

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

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

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

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **many volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants, Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center at 5501 27th Avenue South for more information.

Enjoy a healthy snack as Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance Services presents **Fruit for Thought** at 10 a.m. the second Monday of every month. The next meeting is November 14.

The Community Law Program provides **free legal assistance** at the Senior Center at 9:30 a.m. the third Friday of every month. The next meeting is November 18. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

Gulf Coast Legal Services, Inc. provides quality **legal advice and services** to Gulfport Senior Center participants 10 a.m. - noon every fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is November 28.

Discover a great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles, and many other goodies during **First Friday Flea Market** on December 2, 9 a.m. - noon.

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, December 6.

It is important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, December 8.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is December 12. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule.

The **FUNDamentals of Watercolor** class meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This basic class uses a limited palette which emphasizes watercolor techniques including color selection, color mixing, blending and glazing, and use of the color wheel to choose a personal palette. No prior drawing or painting experience is necessary. Registration is required.

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

The Last Word - Writing an Obituary is offered at the Senior Center at 4:30 p.m. every third Monday. Learn the ins and outs of writing and placing an obituary in the local press from local writer, editor and instructor Diane Craig. Call 893-5657 to register.

The Seasoned Sowers Garden Club meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. to spruce up the Senior Center Patio with therapeutic herbs and beautiful flowers. No experience needed! Natural-born green thumbs and first-time gardeners are welcome.

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 30	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance with Daniel Fugazzotto (Turnout 39)
Tuesday, November 1	9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 19) Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 19) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 50)
Wednesday, November 2	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 28) 6:30 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 231)
Thursday, November 3	9 a.m. - Tai Chi with John Amsallen (Turnout 17) 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 14)

Friday, November 4 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Pat Van Leuvan (Turnout 17)
6 p.m. - Sock Hop with The Impacs (Turnout 95)

Saturday, November 5 6 p.m. - Birthday Party (Turnout 80)

Casino (upcoming events):

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

Every Tuesday 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker
2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8
6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lessons with Kathleen & Steve Prucher
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 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Pat Van Leuvan

Monday, November 28 7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance Members \$5/nonmembers \$8

Friday, December 2 6 p.m. - Sock Hop with The Impacs Tickets: \$15 or 2 for \$25

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Thursday, November 3 8 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Turnout 39)

Friday, November 4 4 p.m. - *Backroads of Paradise* reception and book signing (Turnout 26)
8 p.m. - GCP presents *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Turnout 74)

Saturday, November 5 2 p.m. - GCP presents *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Turnout 21)
8 p.m. - GCP presents *Over the River and Through the Woods* (Turnout 48)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):

Thursday - Saturday, November 10 - 12, 8 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday, November 12 & 13, 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players present *Over the River and Through the Woods*, a tender, loving comedic look at an Italian-American family by Joe Di Pietro. Tickets: \$18, available at Beach Bazaar and online at www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org, or \$20 at the door within one hour of performance.

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

Sunday, October 30 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 20)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, November 1 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 19)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, November 3 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 15)

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 (November meeting cancelled)

Scout Hall (*last week's events*)

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

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

Monday, October 31 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 27)

Tuesday, November 1 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)
6 p.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 12)

Thursday, November 3 11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 18)

Friday, November 4 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 12)

Saturday, November 5 9:30 a.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 20)
1 p.m. - Baby shower (Turnout 51)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

Every Sunday 9 am - Calvary Christian Assembly church services

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday 6 p.m. - Meditation class

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

Every Thursday 11 a.m. - Meditation class

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room was reserved 7 - 11 p.m. Saturday, November 5 for a birthday party with 100 in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, November 12 for a life tribute.

The **Tot Time Stone Soup Social** is Friday, November 18. The children will perform plays, sing songs for their parents and participate in bringing different types of vegetables to make stone soup.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Seventy two children are registered for the **2016/17 School Year Child Care program** for children who will be entering 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.

Seventeen children have been registered for the **2016/17 Tot Time program/VPK**, a hands-on pre-school program for children ages 3-5, that aims to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. Sixteen Tot Time/VPK participants and sixteen adults visited the Florida Aquarium in Tampa on Friday. Sixteen Tot Time/VPK participants and sixteen parents visited the Florida Aquarium in Tampa on Friday.

Eighteen teens have been registered for the **2016/17 Teen Night Program**, a great hang out for teens in grades 6-12. Teen Night provides recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Karate, Pickle ball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Watercolor.

Staff Activities

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday.

Nicole Latragna opened the Recreation Center at 5:30 a.m. Tuesday for Election Day.

Marivel Gutierrez met with the City Manager on Tuesday to discuss the Tomlinson Park Project.

Teen Councilmembers Cameron Althaus, Phoebe Carrazco and Robert Wolf walked in the Veteran's Day Parade and kept score for the Volleyball game on Saturday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 34 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 4 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 4 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Single Engine Response
- 1 Water rescue
- 1 Vehicle Fire

Life Safety:

- 13 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 1 C.O.
- 1 Smoke Detector

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** trains volunteers in disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area, and in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search & rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. The group meets monthly. The next meeting is 7 p.m. Thursday, November 17 at the Gulfport Police Department.

The Gulfport Fire Department won the Vetsports volleyball championship over the Police and Fire tournament for the fifth straight year in a row. Everyone had a great time and is looking forward to next year's tournament.

Chief Marenkovic and the CERT team attended the volunteer luncheon on November 9.

Chief Marenkovic and Inspector Lundh did a walk thru for the Marina C.O. There are still minor issues that need to be corrected. We are working with the contractors and the Public Works department to complete the project.

Inspector Lundh and Chief Marenkovic did a final inspection on Holy Name Carnival on November 9. No violations were noted. The State of Florida carnival ride inspector was also on scene tagging rides.

Gulfport Firefighters are testing for Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support recertification. Certification is valid for three years.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired gate at Police Station.
- Acquired quote for new air conditioning unit to replace broken unit at Fire Station.
- Allowed access to City building voting precinct sites for Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections staff.
- Installed light shields in gym at Senior Center, and repaired a/c unit in lobby.
- Replaced exterior light fixtures at Lift Stations 1 & 2.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Set up equipment, leveled volleyball courts and replaced flag windscreen in preparation for Heroes Weekend.
- Dismantled and stored Recreation Center Haunted House.
- Pressured washed beach pavilions, restrooms & picnic tables.
- Opened small dog park.
- Painted restrooms and stripped/waxed floors in Parks Department office area.
- Repaired fence and gates at Recreation Center playground.
- Jetted Irrigation lines under sidewalks at new Marina building, and cut post for new sign.
- Cleaned truck wash area in City yard.
- Replaced flag wind screen at volleyball courts.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Removed dead limbs from trees at beach.
- Replaced light fixture lenses in exercise room at Senior Center.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.

- Mowed Clam Bayou, Wood Ibis and, Trail Spur
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned and mulched Veterans Park and Senior Center.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt Field, Chase Block and Clymer and adjusted all clocks for Time change.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades, and replaced tires on Toro mower.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- 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 ball fields daily.

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 beach, storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways, alleyways & sidewalks.
- Cleaned debris, cans and trash following Tuesday Market.
- Restocked recycled mulch pile in Neighborhood Center parking lot.
- Removed several loads of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Collected 1,507 pounds of chemicals and 4,237 pounds of electronics from 209 participants during Pinellas County Electronics & Chemical Collection event.

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).
- Daily inspection and recording of rainfall (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily check of ground water levels (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Disconnected water service at 19 locations for non-payment of service.
- Performed 15 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 96 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 10 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced 5 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Replaced 4 old water meters new style meters.
- Repaired water breaks at 6412 & 6214 Fairway Bay Boulevard.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 & 2.
- Daily rain fall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations 1 & 2, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Replaced sewer laterals at 5109 9th Street Avenue and at 5621 20th Avenue.

Stormwater

- Removed broken curb inlet top & box, formed and poured bottom bricked-up new box in preparation for installation of new lid.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced batteries and faulty starter motor, and repaired corroded wiring in GEMS Bus #93.
- Replaced windshield and repaired & air system inside Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Repaired tire on Police vehicle #54.
- Replaced tire on Toro Groundsmaster mower.
- Replaced tire and forced exhaust “re-gen in Sanitation vehicle #88.
- Repaired ABS sensor on Police vehicle #6.
- Replaced hydraulic hose in Sewer vehicle #79.
- Repaired electrical problem in Police vehicle #2.
- Investigated and remedied non-start issue with Fire Engine #P17.
- 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 464-7723. 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 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.

Thinking of starting a new business? Visit the "City of Gulfport New Business Checklist" page at www.mygulfport.us under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section. Call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063 for more information.

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.

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

The number of code enforcement cases for October was 131. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 131. The number of citizen complaints for October was 19, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 19. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 14.5 percent.

The number of code enforcement cases for the last fiscal year was 2,094. The number of citizen complaints was 156. The ratio of complaints to total number of cases was 7.4 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 visit the Special Documents section at www.mygulfport.us.