



Gulfport Community Update

November 2 - 8, 2014

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Gulfport City Hall, Library 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 residents that **smoke detectors** are available free of charge to elderly and low income households *within Gulfport City limits*. Call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

The Gulfport Recreation Center's annual **Halloween Bash** brought an estimated 700 revelers to the Michael J. Yakes Recreation Complex (photos below). This year's event featured Trunk or Treat for local businesses to hand out candy and spread Halloween cheer in the parking lot while a DJ, fun dancing, a scary haunted house, Boo Room for the tots, Costume Contest and concessions kept things hopping inside the Center. Thank you to our volunteers and sponsors who helped make this event a success!



For twenty three years the Gulfport Police Department has sponsored **Operation Santa**, accepting cash, unwrapped toys and gift cards for needy children living in the City. Call 893-1097 for more information or to make a donation.

Upcoming Events:

Want to learn more about our community newspaper? Visit the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue on Friday, November 7, 5 - 7 p.m. for a **reception featuring covers from over four decades of the Gabber newspaper**. Meet the publishers and staff and see a bit of the Gulfport area's history reflected through local headlines. The Gabber printed its first edition in November 1968. Then known as the Gulfport Gabber, the paper was a resource for everything from City government to yard sales - and proudly remains so to this day. While the editions have grown in size and circulation (distribution now averages 13,000 papers in Gulfport, South Pasadena, parts of St. Petersburg and the Gulf beaches) the Gabber has never lost its passion for community and the lives of its readers. "Front Page News: The Gabber Covers Gulfport" will be on display in the Theater lobby through November. For more information call 893-1118.

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. For more information call Stephanie Watts at 812-7012 or Jamie Barbetto at 260-3949, or email jamie.barbetto@cancer.org.

Get your volunteer group together for **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** on Saturday, November 8 at 9 a.m. at Gulfport Beach Waterfront Complex shelter #4. Make a difference, and get outdoors and meet interesting people while reducing pollution in our waterways and litter in our community. Bring a picker/grabber and gloves and be sure to wear sun protection. Water will be provided. Email Gulfport_neighbors@yahoo.com for more information.

Get in on the fun during **Heroes Weekend**. The **Veterans Day Parade** scheduled for 11 a.m. Sunday, November 9. Stay for the **Third Annual VETSports Beach Volleyball** benefit at Gulfport Beach. Food, drinks and items for purchase will be available courtside. All proceeds benefit VETSports Inc., a 501 (c) 3, tax exempt, wounded warrior non-profit organization. VETSports partner charity for the event is the Major David G. Taylor Scholarship Fund benefitting Major Taylor's son Jake. For more information call 893-1118 or visit www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend.

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made arts & crafts, bath, body & wellness products, live music and more. Over 50 vendors and exhibitors participate each Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent every Tuesday. For more information visit www.gulfportma.com, call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com.

The 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.

Everyone is welcome at the **Gulfport Holiday Tree Lighting** in Clymer Park on the corner of Gulfport & Beach Boulevards Monday, December 3 at 7 p.m. Bundle up for an evening of festive music with songs performed by children from the Tot Time/VPK & School Year Child

Care programs. Join Mayor Henderson, City Council and Yvonne Johnson for caroling, a true Gulfport tradition. There will be refreshments and festive cheer as the Mayor lights the tree for another holiday season. The big man in red will be there to listen to the little ones' holiday wishes. This is a free admission event and all are welcome! For more information call 893-1118.

Feeling Scrooge-y? Don't get your Tinsel in a Tangle! It's time to get your holiday cheer in gear, and fun-filled festival will do the trick. Support small business by shopping local during the Gulfport Merchants Association's annual **Holiday Hoopla!** The festival will provide shoppers with one-of-a-kind gifts that cannot be found anywhere else, and all of your holiday shopping can be done in one place! Visitors will be enchanted by a variety of festive and fun holiday-themed music, holiday carolers, dance performances, and roving street performers. The Gulfport Merchant's Association gives back to the community all year. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit Operation Santa and Gulfport families in need, and new unwrapped toys, gift cards, etc. will be collected for Operation Santa, the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation will accept nonperishable food & toiletries for their pantry, and Gulfport's Get Rescued group will collect pet food & cat litter. Donations can be dropped off at the Gulfport Police Department and the Gulfport Area Chamber of commerce prior to the event. This event is sponsored by Bright House Networks, Tampa Bay Times and the City of Gulfport. Visit www.gulfportma.com for more information.

The Gulfport Area Chamber of Commerce is planning an exciting new level of fun as it hosts a **New Year's Eve celebration** at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom like none before. *Glitz, Glamour & Glitter* will feature a variety of entertainment and surprises on December 31. Enjoy dancing and live music by the popular party band *Daydreams*, D.J. dance music, party favors, commemorative photo booth, roaming magician and balloon artist, sumptuous decorations, full cash bar, and a midnight ball drop with complimentary champagne toast. Guests are encouraged to dine at one of Gulfport's many fine restaurants prior to the event. Late-night tapas will be served after 10 p.m. Tickets: \$35 per person, available at the Gulfport Beach Bazaar, 3115 Beach Boulevard and the Gulfport Casino. A limited number of exclusive "VIP Party Rooms," including personal concierge service are available for \$200 each. Doors open at 8 p.m. and the celebration will continue until 1 a.m. For more information visit Glitz, Glamour & Glitter on Facebook, call the Beach Bazaar Box Office at 381-8548, or email GulfportBeachBazaar@gmail.com.

On January 17, 2015 Gulfport residents, businesses and civic organizations will join Americans across the U.S., stepping up as volunteers during our inaugural **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service**. In partnership with Gulfport Neighbors, the Day of Service will leverage the strength of our community through a variety of service-oriented projects. Now is the time to identify a community service project and form a team. Visit www.mygulfport.us/mlkdayofservice for more information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	160
Self-initiated calls for service	432
Offenses	46
Arrests	12
Traffic citations	22

Significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers responded to the 4900 block of 13th Avenue on the afternoon of October after a caller reported that two females were breaking in to his neighbor's house. The juvenile suspects were still inside when officers arrived, and were caught as they tried to escape out the back door and

charged with burglary. One of the two was in possession of drug paraphernalia and resisted arrest, resulting in additional charges.

A resident in the 5300 block of 11th Avenue left her vehicle unlocked in her driveway. Someone entered the vehicle and stole a wallet and several items from the lawn as well.

A resident in the 6300 Block of 11th Avenue reported that a black and red Schwinn 10 speed bicycle with a flat front tire was taken from a fenced backyard.

A resident in the 1000 Block of 60th Street reported that a house guest stole jewelry. The resident did not wish to prosecute, but requested the suspect be trespassed from his residence.

A Town Shores resident reported on the morning of October 31 that a man posing as an air conditioner repairman convinced her to write him a check for service of her A/C unit. The resident found out later the man did not work for the company he claimed he worked for.

A resident in the 3100 block of 59th Street reported that her laptop was stolen from her condo. There were no signs of forced entry and nothing else was taken or disturbed.

A resident in the 3100 block of 57th Street reported she was directed to purchase \$2500 in gift cards and relay the card numbers over the phone for the purchase of a vehicle that she never received. The seller has not been located.

A woman reported that her unlocked vehicle was entered while parked at Veterans Park and her purse and makeup bag were stolen.

Brandon Kovar was arrested for disorderly intoxication after officers responded to a disturbance in the 5400 Block of Shore Boulevard. Kovar refused to be cooperative and would not comply with officers trying to maintain order.

City employees pressure washing Williams Pier found a .380 handgun on the sidewalk on the morning of November 1. It was related to a fight in progress that night shift handled during which the gun's magazine was recovered after one of the involved parties threw it under a vehicle.

A resident in the 5100 block of 27th Avenue reported that a tenant's son had stolen multiple items from her and pawned them. Officers tracked the items down through the pawn database and added charges to suspect Richard Barry who is in jail for another Gulfport case.

A business owner in the 4900 Block of Gulfport Boulevard reported that a large painting was stolen from the side of his building. Officers discovered the wind had blown the painting off the building and it was taken inside another business for safe keeping.

Sometime between the evening of November 1 & the morning of November 2 someone shattered the glass front door of Pro Stylz Barber Studio. Entry was not made to the building and the object used to break the glass was not found.

Michael Hoben was trespassed from a bar in in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard after causing a disturbance, and was arrested after he disregard warnings to not reenter the establishment.

A large white conversion van struck another vehicle in the Habana Café parking lot on the afternoon of November 3, and left at a high rate of speed down Gulfport Boulevard. A customer was able to get the tag number and officers will follow-up.

A resident in the 2600 block of 52nd Way reported that someone damaged the air bag in her mother's car. Officer Cavanah determined that a fire extinguisher was taken from the victim's garage and discharged inside her car. He found the extinguisher in a nearby bush.

An employee at Family Dollar reported that a man ran from the store when the anti-theft alarm sounded. Officer Randazzo spotted him entering a member's only club in the 4800 Block of 18th Avenue. When he exited the rear of the club he was detained by 2 officers. He admitted to being in the store but denied stealing anything. Officer Randazzo found 2 unopened men's electric grooming razors in a nearby trashcan and arrested Cedric Jackson for theft.

A man left Family Dollar with merchandise he did not pay for on November 4. He was last seen entering the passenger side of a sedan which fled the area.

Officer Hutsko ran the tag number on a motorcycle which resulted in a hit for a warrant on the registered owner. He arrested Anthony Tomossone on 2 felony warrants.

A man left Family Dollar with merchandise he did not pay for on November 5. He was last seen running east.

A condominium resident in the 5900 Block of Shore Boulevard reported that 2 bicycles were stolen from the parking lot. Two black male juveniles were seen taking the bicycles, but they were gone when officers arrived.

Traci Lynn Johnson was arrested on a warrant after an anonymous caller reported she was waiting for a bus at 15th Avenue & 49th Street.

Investigations:

New cases:	18
Cases assigned:	4
Cases suspended-no leads:	10
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	3
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements received:	9
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	2
Cases suspended/no leads:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	4

Records Section

Reports reviewed	16
Supplements reviewed:	77
Public records requests:	15
Background checks:	0
Bike registrations:	3
Fingerprints	2
Subpoenas processed:	7
Citizens assisted:	47

Professional Standards Section

The following policies are currently undergoing review: 101A - Intermediate Weapons; 104 - Vehicle Use, Inspections and Equipment; 114 - Firearms Procedures; 127 - Physical Abilities Test Program; 405 - Missing Persons Investigations; 408 - Traffic Law Enforcement; 421 - Homicide Investigations, and; 511 - School Resource Officer.

Lt. Stone has scheduled a mock accreditation assessment for November 12 & 13. The actual assessment will take place in March 2015. He also coordinated with outside agencies to schedule training for Basic First Aid Refresher and Bloodborne Pathogens Refresher.

Sworn members attended annual firearms training on November 3.

Detective McLaughlin is attending a 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team Training course.

The PD has one vacant police officer position, and thirteen applicants undergoing the background investigation process.

MARINA

Pumped two thousand four hundred eighty seven (2,487) gallons of gas and eight hundred eighty one (851) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling eighty (80) vessels.

Assisted in twenty two (22) pump outs evacuating three hundred sixty (360) gallons of waste.

Transient vessels:

Staff welcomed a 45' sailboat, 34' sailboat, 23' motorboat and a 27' sailboat this week.

Staff activities/Marina maintenance:

- Performed pump out maintenance.
- Calculated electrical readings.
- Prepared buoy for sea grass area.
- Cleaned docks, dock boxes and fueling area.

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.
- Updated City Website & GTV615 with November information.
- Provided photographic coverage for Recreation Center Halloween Bash.
- Distributed Yard Sale brochures.
- Continued organizing Heroes Weekend parade list.
- Submitted RSVP list for volunteer luncheon and created draft of program.
- Attended County/City PIO Meeting at the new Largo Emergency Facility.

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 **Neighborhood 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.

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!

Laughter, Yoga & exercise reduce stress! Learn FUN stress reduction techniques during **Healthy Aging with Heidi Crockett** on Monday November 17 at 2:30 p.m.

Our next **Gulfport Getaways** takes us to Robert's Christmas Wonderland on Tuesday, November 18. Explore the magical holiday forest at one of the largest & most beautiful Christmas & collectibles stores in America. GEMS members \$6/nonmembers \$8. Call GEMS at 893-2242 no later than November 12 to reserve a seat.

Discover how preplanning works best for you and your loved ones with the **National Cremation Society's That's My Wish** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 19. Discuss 10 things everyone should know about planning cremation services.

The Senior Center's annual **Thanksgiving Dinner & Vaudeville Variety Show** is Thursday November 20. Dinner will be served at 4 p.m. and the show begins at 6 p.m. Join your friends & family for good times, good food, & good company. **LIMITED SEATING AVAILABLE**. Tickets **MUST** be purchased **PRIOR** to the event. Limit 2 tickets per person.

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.

Enjoy a **Day of Pampering** with Mary Kay on Tuesday on November 25 at 11 a.m.

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 December 1. Meet new friends and learn great tips from financial advisor Scott O'Berry over coffee and doughnuts.

Check out the great deals at the **First Friday Flea Market** 9 a.m. - noon Friday, December 5. We have jewelry, art, household items, small furniture, knick knacks and more all at bargain prices.

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 26	9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church bible study (Turnout 35) 6 p.m. - Ballroom fusion lesson & dance with Swingtime (Turnout 60)
Monday, October 27	7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance (Turnout 107)
Tuesday, October 28	Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 14) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 58)

Wednesday, October 29 6 p.m. - Halloween Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 302)
Thursday, October 30 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson & dance with Carol Rivera (Turnout 11)
Saturday, November 1 7 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 127)

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

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Sunday, October 26 1:30 p.m. - The Rising STARZ present *Mamma Mia* (Turnout 70)
Thursday, October 30 7 p.m. - *Fringe Florida* with author Lynn Waddell (Turnout 60)

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Thursday - Saturday, November 6-8 & 13-15, 8 p.m. and Sunday, November 9 & 16, 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players present *The Cat and the Canary: A 1920's melodrama in three acts* by John Willard. Enjoy a "campy" old dark house "let's-scare-the-heroine-to death" chiller! Tickets: \$15, available at Beach Bazaar, online at www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org and at the door one hour before performance.

Friday, November 7, 5 p.m. - *Front Page News: The Gabber Covers Gulfport* art exhibit. The Gabber Newspaper presents an exhibit of some of their best covers over the past four decades! Meet the publishers and staff. Free and open to the public; cash bar.

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, October 26 6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting (Turnout 13)

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 27	9:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion (Turnout 12) 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 32)
Tuesday, October 28	10:30 a.m. - Line Dancing (Turnout 5)
Wednesday, October 29	10:30 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 11)
Friday, October 31	10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (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 27, 3 p.m. - *Science Club for Grades K-5* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Monday, October 27, 5 p.m. - *Acoustic Jam Session* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, October 28, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for beginners.*

Tuesday, October 28, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, October 29, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, October 29, 2 p.m. - *Advance computer class.*

Wednesday, October 29, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Wednesday, October 29, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

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

Thursday, Oct. 30, 5 p.m. - Author Rasheedah Sharif discussion of her inspirational novel *Don't Come Down From the Chinaberry Tree.*

Friday, October 31, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Upcoming Events:

Friday, November 14, 3 p.m. - *Teen Anime Club:* We'll 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 two newly released movies 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.

Thursday, November 20, 3:30 p.m. - *Storytime Yoga for 5-10 year-olds*. All children must be accompanied by a caregiver. Mats a plus but not required. Call Cailey at 893-1133 for more info. Space is limited so sign up early!

Monday, October 24, 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, November 25 - *SCORE Counseling*: FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals. Call 893-1073 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

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 rriddell@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 26 - November 1, 2014:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1906	622
Sun. 10/26	Library closed	
Mon. 10/27	345	119
Tue. 10/28	366	115
Wed. 10/29	327	91
Thu. 10/30	305	106
Fri. 10/31	244	81
Sat. 11/1	279	86

Recreation Center

Upcoming Events

The multi-purpose room is reserved 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, November 8 for a Memorial service, and 1:30 - 6:30 p.m. Saturday November 29 for a baby shower.

The City of Gulfport Volunteer Luncheon is scheduled for noon on Wednesday, November 12 at the Gulfport Casino, in appreciation for all volunteers who served the City from October thru September 3.

Tot Time Stone Soup Social is scheduled for Friday, November 22. The children will perform plays and sing songs for their parents, and bring different types of vegetables to make stone soup.

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

John Lapham used the school bus to transport the Boca Ciega High School band & JROTC from school to the Recreation Center for the Homecoming Parade on Wednesday afternoon.

Recreation Center staff worked the annual Spooktacular Halloween Bash on Friday evening.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 34 Emergency Medical Calls
- 3 Structure Fires
- 1 Vehicle Crashes
- 2 Fires Outside Structure
- 1 Single Engine

Life Safety:

- 7 Fire Inspections
- 6 Re-Inspections
- 1 Fire Investigation
- 2 Smoke Detectors

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.

- Lieutenant Fuchs and the "C" shift hosted a Fire Department tour for the preschool students from Creative Play on November 4. Twelve children & their foster moms toured the Fire Station and Apparatus bay, learning about Fire Safety.
- Chief Marenkovic and Officer Priest performed a Fire Investigation on an outside fire that was determined to be caused by an unattended illegal burn.

- GFD Paramedics and EMTs have commenced their November 2014 St. Petersburg College Emergency Services Continuing Medical Education (CME). This month's topic is Patient and Provider Safety - Part 2.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired toilet in Garage.
- Cleaned Little League restrooms.
- Installed new shelves in Police Department.
- Installed 5 light ballasts at Casino & Fire Department.
- Painted offices and hallway in City Hall.
- Set up Council Chambers for voting.
- Assisted with room set-ups for Senior Center events.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Set up and ran electrical service for Recreation Center haunted house.
- Removed stump from planter at Senior Center, and landscaped grounds.
- Removed graffiti from Caldwell Park playground equipment.
- Repaired sink drain at Fire Station.
- Replaced mail box at 6013 17th Avenue after it was hit by a garbage truck.
- Repaired benches at Wood Ibis Park and trail spur.
- Closed docks at Clam Bayou for repairs.
- Hung upcoming event banners on Gulfport Boulevard.
- Replaced worn out flags at City facilities.
- Continued replacement of tree lights & electrical outlets, and inspected light timers along Beach Boulevard.
- Trimmed, weeded and cleaned Clymer Park, Senior Center grounds, Gulfport signage areas, Recreation Center exercise area & 49th Streetscapes, and hand raked around benches & pavilions.
- Mowed Tangerine greenway & lakeside, Tomlinson & Wood Ibis Parks, Dog Park, Clam Bayou & Trail Spur.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, replaced throttle cable on line trimmer, and performed preventive maintenance on all equipment.
- Repaired irrigation at 49th Streetscapes, City Complex & Clymer Park.
- 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.
- Installed/reset street signs at Gulfport & Beach Boulevards, 27th & Beach, 31st Avenue & 56th Street, and Beach & 26th Avenue.
- Cleaned up acid spill at PYCC Clubhouse.
- Disposed of furniture left in alleyways.
- Finished removing playground equipment and concrete from Tonkin Park.
- Restocked recycled mulch bin at 49th Street.
- Removed trash cans from Historical Building following weekend events.

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 #9, 10, 11 & 12 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 41 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 79 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 9 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 1 old water meter with new style meter.
- Replaced 1 meter that was stuck and not recording water usage.
- Continued semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Repaired main water line at 58th Street & 17th 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.
- Cleared sewer blockage at 2301 53rd Street.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Rebuild hydraulic cylinder on vehicle #73.
- Replaced hydraulic hoses on vehicle #46.
- Replaced rotator seals on vehicle #88.
- Sent vehicle #103 to Ford service center for engine diagnostic.
- Replaced radiator on vehicle #38.
- Replaced tires and broken side window on vehicle #35.
- Replaced front tires on vehicle #43.

- Performed various small repairs to City vehicles, and shop maintenance procedures.

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 have moved to Section 2 of the City, also known as the Northeast Area which generally extends north to 7th Avenue, south to Gulfport Boulevard, west to 58th Street and east to 49th Street.

The number of code enforcement cases for October was 219. The number of citizen complaints was 23. The ratio of complaints to total number of cases for October was 10.5 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.

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 33 feet 2 inches to allow for the removal of existing tie-poles, construct a proposed dock extension, and install a proposed new boat lift.