



Gulfport Community Update

November 27 - December 3, 2016

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Monday, December 26 in observance of **Christmas**, and on Monday, January 2 in observance of the **New Year**. The sanitation schedule will not be affected.

For twenty five years the Gulfport Police Department has sponsored **Operation Santa**, collecting cash, unwrapped toys and gift cards for needy Gulfport children, and is again asking for help. Call 893-1097 for more information or to make a donation.

The **Gulfport Senior Center Gulfport Holiday Food Drive** helps needy Gulfport seniors. Drop off at the Senior Center, 5501 27th Avenue. Call 893-5657 for more information.

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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:

Join Scott Linde and Annamarie Sisson for a **Dual Lens Reception** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue on Friday, December 2, 6 - 8 p.m. Light refreshments and cash bar. For more information call 308-0070.

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.

Join us for song and good cheer during the **City of Gulfport Holiday Tree Lighting** in Clymer Park at 7 p.m. Monday, December 5. Enjoy an evening of light refreshments and festive music presented by the Gulfport Recreation division; meet the Mayor and City Council. Santa will visit and listen to little ones' holiday wishes. For more information call 893-1118.

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

The topic for the Wednesday, December 7 **Citywide Neighborhood Watch** meeting at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center is *Holiday Safety*. For more information, call 893-1022.

Meet great people, get some fresh air and exercise, and spread good cheer during the **Gulfport Beach and Area Cleanup** on Saturday, December 10, 9 - 11 a.m. The group will meet at beach shelter #4. Email Gulfport_neighbors@yahoo.com for more information.

Enjoy festive music, hand crafted holiday items and roving characters at **Holiday Hoopla**, your one stop local shopping for the holidays on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront district on Saturday, December 10, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. For more information, call 322-5217.

Get involved and decorate your boat for the **Boca Ciega Yacht Club 31st Annual Lighted Christmas Boat Parade** in Boca Ceiga Bay on Saturday, December 10 beginning at 6 p.m.

The fee for registration is two unwrapped gifts for donation to Operation Santa. For more information call 345-7544 or 430-7241 or email boatparade@sailbcyc.org.

A representative from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will be guest speaker at the 7 p.m. Monday, December 12 **Tangerine/Tomlinson Neighborhood Watch** at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center. For more information, call 893-1022.

Get into the holiday spirit with the **New Horizons Band Holiday Community Concert** at the Catherine Hickman Theater 7 p.m. Tuesday, December 13. Free admission; for more information call 893-1118.

Gulfport Police Officer Zack Mills will discuss *Crash Investigations* during the 7 p.m. Wednesday, December 14 **Marina District Neighborhood Watch meeting** at the Lions Club, 4630 Tifton Drive. For more information call 893-1022.

Everyone is invited to the **Bay Voices Holiday Concert** at the Gulfport Public Library at 7 p.m. Thursday, December 15. The men's vocal ensemble has performed at Nordstrom's International Plaza, area churches and for civic events. Join us for this fabulous holiday event and refreshments sponsored by the LGBTQ Resource Center and the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Public Library. For more information, call 893-1074.

Don't miss the **Gulfport Chamber of Commerce New Year's Eve Gala** at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom Saturday, December 31. Live music & dancing, party favors, champagne toast and plated late-night tapas provided by Chef Olive. Tickets: \$35-\$40 each, available at the Gulfport Welcome Center, 3101 Beach Boulevard. For more information call 344-3711.

The Third Annual **Dr. Martin Luther King Day of Service** takes place on Saturday, January 14, 8 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Groups are encouraged to plan their own project, and individuals will be provided with a project that fits their talents. Every day is a day for giving, but this event marks a special holiday for a great man who dedicated his life to public service. Visit www.mygulfport.us/mlkdayofservice/ and scroll down to register, or follow along at www.facebook.com/MLK2017DayofService/?fref=ts. For more information call Gail Biron at 893-1118.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	141
Self-initiated calls for service	349
Offenses	38
Arrests	8
Traffic citations	79
Ordinance violations	36

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers were dispatched to the 1400 block of York Street on November 24 after a caller reported that someone attempted to steal his car after he went inside his home for a moment. His toddler was inside the car at the time. The suspect only got as far as across the street where he crashed into a neighbor's car before fleeing on foot. The child was unharmed.

Cedrick Crittton was arrested on vehicle burglary and theft charges on November 25 after a man working on a house in the 5400 block of Jersey Avenue saw Crittton inside his truck. The victim drew his handgun and detained the suspect until police arrived.

An officer on routine patrol observed a television lying in the front yard of a residence in the 2400 block of 57th Street on November 26. The home's door was also open. The officer made contact with the resident who stated that he had become frustrated and threw his television out.

A child was bitten by a dog and treated by the fire department for a minor injury. The responding officer and the child's father contacted Pinellas County Animal Services for follow-up.

A resident in the 2600 block of 57th Street reported on November 27 that he was inside his home when he observed a subject exit a car and attempt, unsuccessfully to enter his locked vehicle. The resident shouted at the suspect and he fled.

David Brown was arrested for retail theft after he stole a six-pack of beer from the Dollar General and fled into St. Petersburg. Officers set a perimeter and Brown attempted to flee on foot between houses. He was caught after several attempts to evade officers. Brown was also charged with resisting without violence, possession of marijuana and possession of drug paraphilia.

Officer Carter observed a male acting suspiciously inside a car in the 5700 Block of 25th Avenue. When he attempted to make contact the subject fled on foot. The owner of the car advised no one was authorized to be in his vehicle. Nothing appeared to be missing.

A resident in the 5700 block of 20th Avenue reported on November 28 several expensive fishing rods had been taken from his boat which was parked in his backyard.

A resident in the 4900 block of Newton Avenue reported that he returned home after being gone for a week to find a broken rear window on his residence, and several thousands of dollars' worth of fishing equipment was reported missing.

Sometime on the evening of November 27 an unknown subject stole a car from in front of the Town Shores Groton building. The victim reported that he locked the car but there was a valet key in the center console. Later this same day the vehicle was spotted by Ofc. Marshall racing down 49th Street and into St Petersburg on 18th Avenue South.

A pedestrian in a motorized chair was struck by a vehicle crossing northbound on Gulfport Boulevard when a vehicle traveling southbound on 58th Street made a left turn. The pedestrian claimed the cross signal was green and driver said she had a left turn arrow. The pedestrian was transported to a hospital.

Officer Carter stopped Howard Liverpool for riding his bicycle at night without a light. Liverpool consented to a search and a film container containing a white hard substance that appeared to be narcotics was found in his pocket. The substance tested positive for methamphetamine, and Liverpool was arrested.

Fishing gear reported stolen in a recent burglary was found stashed on the property of a residence in the 2000 block of 58th Street on November 29. The resident claimed to have no knowledge that the items were stolen and said that an acquaintance had stored them there. The items were returned to the owner.

Officers were dispatched to the 5701 Gulfport Boulevard on November 30 regarding a subject on the property after being trespassed. The man who is known to have mental health issues advised he was not feeling well and wanted to go to the hospital.

Marine unit officers conducted follow ups on derelict vessels. The marine unit was not on the water this week.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	12
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	8
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	0

Supplements received:	2
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	1

Investigator Highlights

Sgt. Woodman was called in on Thanksgiving to conduct a child abuse investigation. Christine Davis was arrested for child abuse.

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a stolen vehicle case, a theft, and a burglary.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for two burglaries, two death investigations, a fraud and three obscene phone call cases; interviewed a suspect in three obscene phone case in which the suspect admitted to the offense. The cases were forwarded to the State Attorney's Office for prosecution.

School Resource Officers Motte and Langston counseled four students and wrote 1 police report.

Officer Motte hosted the Monday night Explorer meeting; took two explorers to the range; and provided security coverage for the boys' basketball game against Largo High.

Officer Langston attempted to locate a reported runaway juvenile on campus; assisted SPPD with an aggravated battery investigation, and; investigated an allegation of a weapon on campus.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano presented the monthly crime analysis report at the staff meeting, and created and distributed an attempt to ID bulletin for Officer Carter for a retail theft.

Records

Reports reviewed	11
Supplements reviewed:	28
Public Records requests:	27
Background checks:	6
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	2
Subpoenas processed:	8
Citizens assisted:	33

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, November 21, 3:15 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club.*

Monday, November 21, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night.*

Tuesday, November 22, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Tuesday, November 22, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, November 22, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

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

Wednesday, November 23, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*.

Upcoming Events:

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.

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@mygulport.us for more information.

Thursday, December 8, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night*: Free popcorn and bottled water provided. Sponsored by the LGBTQ Resource Center. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, December 12, 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, December 13, 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, December 15, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of All the King's Men by Robert Penn Warren*. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, December 15, 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, December 15, 7 p.m. - *Bay Voices Holiday Concert*: The men's vocal ensemble has performed at Nordstrom's at the International Plaza, area churches, and for civic events. Join us for this fabulous holiday event and refreshments sponsored by the LGBTQ Resource Center and the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library.

Friday, December 16, 5 p.m. - *Adult Coloring Program*: We provide the artwork and supplies for participants to embellish while they relax and listen to soothing music.

Friday, December 16, 7 p.m. - *Family Blanket Fort Night*: Bring the kids and some old sheets. We'll watch a movie & munch popcorn as we celebrate our 3rd annual party!

Saturday, December 17, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, November 19, 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.

Tuesday, January 10, 1:30 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@mygulport.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. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

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

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Email contact@gulfporttoastmasters.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 November 20 - 26, 2016:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	940	582
Sun. 11/20	Library closed	
Mon. 11/21	175	110
Tue. 11/22	209	108
Wed. 11/23	228	102
Thu. 11/24	Holiday: Library closed	
Fri. 11/25	Holiday: Library closed	
Sat. 11/26	323	196

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.
- Continued planning for Holiday Tree Lighting & MLK Day.
- Distributed December calendars, and reordered additional calendars.
- Updated calendars on City website.

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.

Suffering from pelvic pain that won't go away? It isn't "normal" and you don't have to "just live" with pain! Join Dr. Jain for this month's **HCA Doc Talks; Women's Pelvic Pain is Often Undiagnosed** at 5:30 p.m. Monday, December 5. Dr. Jain will explain what symptoms to look for, what they may mean and possible treatment options. Presented by St. Petersburg General Hospital.

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.

Get into the holiday spirit with special evening trips to the see the **Holiday Light Spectacular at the Florida Botanical Gardens**. Delight in the shimmering lights, holiday entertainment, beautiful flora, and warmth of the season on Tuesday, December 6 or Thursday, December 15. Price includes round trip transportation and suggested donation for admission: GEMS members; \$10/non-members; \$12.

Join Fusion Health Care at 2 p.m. Wednesday, December 7 for **Beat the Holiday Blues**. We will discuss positive strategies to overcome, cope with, and beat depression during the holiday season.

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.

Eat, Drink, & be MARY! The Out-to-Lunch Bunch will visit **Hamburger Mary's Bar & Grille** on Thursday, December 8. Join us for a "flamboyant dining experience" as we share a meal, conversation, and fun! Round trip transportation: GEMS members; \$4/ non-members; \$6.

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.

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 December 12.

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 December 16. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

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 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 first & 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, November 20	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance with Daniel Fugazzotto (Turnout 35)
Tuesday, November 22	9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 18) Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 15) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 42)
Wednesday, November 23	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 21) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 407)
Saturday, November 26	5:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 212)

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

Friday, December 2 6:30 p.m. - Sock Hop with The Impacs Tickets: \$15/2 for \$25 or a table of 10 for \$100

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

Saturday, November 12, 5 p.m. - Gulfport Food Forest Green Saturday event (Turnout 196)

Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):

Friday, December 2, 5 p.m. - *Dual Lens* art reception. Free admission/cash bar.

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

Sunday, November 20 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 14)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, November 22 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 17)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, November 24 7 p.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 20)

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, November 21 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 26)

Tuesday, November 22 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 10)
6 p.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 11)

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

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

Santa and his elves will judge the **Holiday Decorations Contest** on Monday evening, December 19. There are two theme categories: general for single homes and; commercial for single business and professional locations, including home occupations. Deadline to enter the contest is noon on the 19th. A plaque will be presented to one winner in each category at the City Council meeting (televised) at 7 p.m. Tuesday, January 3.

The Gulfport Recreation Center will offer **full day activities during Holiday Break** from 7:45 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. December 19-23 & December 27-30 for children in Kindergarten through age 14. Extended care is available until 6 p.m. for an additional fee. The children will participate in arts & crafts, field trips, sports, and much more!

Programs, Classes & Activities

Seventy eight 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.

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: Beginner's Spanish, Bootcamp, Hoop Jam, Karate, Mat Pilates, Pickleball, Powder-Puffs Cheerleading, Table Tennis, Tennis and Watercolor.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez and John Lapham interviewed one Recreation Leader applicant on Thursday.

Marivel Gutierrez met with Matt from Records Management on Thursday.

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday afternoon.

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff meeting on Wednesday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 40 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 1 Structure Fire
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 6 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Gas Leak
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 5 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspections
- 4 C.O.'s

Gulfport Firefighters have commenced their December online CME. The topic is new protocol changes and new medications added to the system.

Chief Marenkovic and Inspector Lundh performed a final walk thru for the Marina C.O. There were no violations.

All GFD paramedics have successfully passed Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS). Certifications will be good for three years.

The Gulfport Fire Department will participate in the annual Holiday Tree Lighting on December 5. Chief Marenkovic, Engine 17 & Pumper 17 will be in the Parade lineup with the 1925 La France fire truck carrying Santa Clause.

Fire Inspector Lundh reviewed the Boca Ceiga Center Nursing Home Fire Evacuation Emergency plan.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired cabinet at Senior Center, and two faucets and two-door freezer in kitchen.
- Replaced toilet handle in Neighborhood Center ladies' restroom.
- Relocated 50 boxes of documents for destruction.
- Repaired toilet in Dog Park ladies' room.
- Replaced hinges on Library garden gate.
- Performed semi-annual maintenance on all City a/c units, and replaced unit on Fire Station roof.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Set up holiday tree at Clymer Park.
- Replaced electrical outlets at Clymer Park, and repaired outlets at Hoyt Field.
- Built and painted new Santa Chair .
- Replaced lock and hasp on breaker box at beach pavilion #6.
- Replaced electrical meter can at Caldwell Park.
- Repaired gates at Little League fields.
- Installed irrigation at beach restrooms.
- Replaced wheels on rolling gate at Hoyt Field.

- Install temporary cones and flex stick at beach parking lot.
- Shelled planted bed next to pier.
- Oiled locks and bench swings at beach.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed Beach & Recreation Center green spaces, Clymer greenway & Hoyt perimeter.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Clymer & Caldwell Park sign areas, landscaped around Marina building and cleared trees from Historical building.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- 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.
- Continued automated curbside street sweeping throughout City.
- Removed sunken boat from Marina boat ramp.
- Applied dust control agent to alleyways.
- Reset curb stops in Library parking lot.

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 16 locations for non-payment of service.
- Performed 8 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 189 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 47 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 two water meters that were stuck and not recording usage.
- Replaced 4 old water meters with new electronic meters.
- Collected biweekly bacteriological samples on water distribution system.
- Repaired water break at Town Shores Lancaster building.

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 and installed clean-outs at 2700 Miriam Street & at 2701 45th Street.
- Replaced modems at lift stations 1 & 2 and in office for Telemetry System.

Stormwater

- Repaired storm drain pipe and replaced bricks in road at 55th Street & 20th Avenue.
- Replaced section of storm drain pipe in alley between 54th & 55th Streets at 17th Avenue.
- Cleaned storm drain line in alley under 17th Avenue and found old inlet to drain alley to the north.
- Replaced curb inlet lids on structures at 58th Street & 30th Avenue, and at 54th Street & 11th Avenue.
- Rebuilt storm structure and reinstalled lid at 58th Street & 17th Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Rebuilt carburetor on Streets Division pump trailer.
- Replaced winch cable and hydraulic hose on Sanitation vehicle #45.
- Adjusted exhaust pipe on GEMS vehicle #1.
- Replaced rear tire on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Replaced brakes on Sanitation vehicle #29.
- Replaced brake valve on truck Sanitation vehicle #43.
- Replaced rear tires and placed Sanitation vehicle #40 and placed into exhaust “regen” mode.
- Replaced serpentine accessory belt on Sanitation vehicle #88.
- Replaced DEF level sensor in Fire Engine #E17.
- Performed preventive maintenance and various small repairs on City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the **New Business Checklist** on the City website at www.mygulfport.us under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

For more information, including a number of workshops, on starting a new business, visit the **Pinellas County Economic Development Small Business Development Center** website at www.pced.org/entrepreneurs or call 464-7723. 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 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.

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.

January 4, 2017 Planning and Zoning Board and January 17 City Council/CRA meeting:

C16-01; 2901-2903 and 2905-2907 Beach Boulevard South; Conditional use request with a site plan for a proposed mixed-use development consisting of retail, residential, and office uses.