



Gulfport Community Update

January 31 - February 6, 2016

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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

Upcoming Events:

Visit the 49th Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.SoTangerine.com or call 439-0164.

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

In honor of Get Rescued Month, enjoy a photo tribute to **Ducks, Kittens and Puppies: Our Love Affair with Animals** at the Catherine Hickman Theater on Friday, February 5, 6 - 8 p.m.

Check out talented artisans and crafters at **First Friday Art walk** on February 5, 6 - 9 p.m. Enjoy live music throughout the Gulfport Art District on Beach Boulevard and dine in one of the many locally owned restaurants. For more information call 322-5217.

Eat all you can during the **Gulfport Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast** at the Lion's Den, 4630 Tifton Drive on Saturday, February 6, 7 - 11 a.m. Admission: \$5 at the door. Pancakes, eggs and all the fixings are included. For more information call 321-5717.

Check out the antique cars at the **5th Annual So Classic Car Show** on the Tangerine Greenway on Saturday, February 6, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information call 327-3509.

The City of Gulfport will host a **video teleconference** with staff from the Florida League of Cities to review existing, new and emerging Senate and House Bills that could have a direct impact on municipalities. Attendees can ask questions and get contact information for specific bills. This event will take place at the Gulfport Library 6:30 - 8 p.m. Monday, February 8. Call Vice Mayor Yolanda Roman at 512-2942 for more information.

Gulfport Poet Laureate Peter Meinke is guest speaker for the **Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Public Library Annual Meeting** at the Catherine Hickman Theater at 5501 27th Avenue at 7 p.m. Thursday, February 11. For more information call 893-1073.

Looking to volunteer and enjoy a beautiful view at the same time? Join the **Gulfport Neighbors monthly Beach Cleanup** on Gulfport Beach Saturday, February 13, 9 - 11 a.m. If you have a picker and gloves, please bring them. Water will be supplied. For more information email Gulfport_neighbors@yahoo.com.

The first ever two-day **Gulfport Masters Fine Arts Festival** is scheduled for 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday & Sunday, February 20 & 21 at Veteran's Park. FREE admission! Fine artists and craftspersons are encouraged to apply. Visit www.Boulderbrook.net or call 239-293-9448 for more information or to apply. This family and pet-friendly event is co-sponsored by the City of Gulfport, Gulfport Merchant's Association and Gulfport Area Chamber of Commerce, and is produced by Boulderbrook Productions.

The **12th Annual Gulfport Get Rescued** event is Saturday, February 27, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. This popular FREE ADMISSION event has evolved from a handful of animal rescue groups into a

popular and festive event representing rescue groups from throughout the region. Gulfport Get Rescued is one of the largest animal rescue events in the state with all profits benefitting participating non-profit rescue groups. Stay for **Tails at Twilight**, with dancing and live music, catered hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, and festive décor. Opportunity drawings will take place during the evening. Proceeds will benefit rescue groups participating in the evening event. Live and silent auctions will offer a chance to support participating non-profit rescue groups with a variety of items up for bid, including travel, hotel stays, art, wine and food, pet accessories, restaurant gift certificates, an African Safari and much more. Tickets for the Tails at Twilight are \$25. For more information or to purchase tickets call Lacey Glass at 813-495-9039, email laceglass18@gmail.com or visit www.VisitGulfportFlorida.com.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	158
Self-initiated calls for service	330
Offenses	49
Arrests	10
Traffic citations	52
Ordinance violations	62

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Eric Thomas was arrested at his home for two active traffic warrants on January 28.

A resident reported on January 29 that the rear light on his bicycle was damaged while it was parked at the bus stop in the 2300 block of 49th Street.

Officer Hutsko stopped a vehicle pulling a trailer without working lights. Driver Mark Reichard admitted he was a habitual traffic offender and did not have a valid license. He was arrested for felony driving while license suspended.

Rachel Sullivan was arrested for theft on January 30 after she took a cab ride from Tampa to Gulfport and upon arrival, told the driver she had no money to pay for the ride.

A man reported on the morning of January 31 that he left his kayak tied to the Casino dock overnight. When he returned in the morning it was gone.

Officers responded to the 700 block of 61st Street in the early morning hours of February 1 after a resident reported hearing what sounded like someone pulling on her car door handle and garage door handle. She turned on the floodlight and saw two subjects running away. Police circulated the area but did not find any suspicious persons.

A victim of a burglary that occurred in St. Petersburg reported that her stolen credit card was used at a business in Gulfport. A Gulfport officer investigated and will forward a report with his findings to the SPPD Burglary Unit.

A resident in the 4900 block of 31st Avenue reported her bicycle was stolen from the unsecured trunk of her parked car sometime overnight.

Christopher Alaimo was arrested for grand theft and dealing in stolen property on February 2. Alaimo, who was released from jail just a few hours earlier after serving two months for retail theft, waited for his mother and daughter to leave their home, then went inside and stole their TVs and Blu Ray player and traded them for crack. The TVs were not recovered.

While investigating a domestic incident in the 6300 Block of 9th Avenue officers were advised that one of the residents, Adam Richardson was a convicted felon and had ammunition in his

room. Richardson allowed officers to search his room where they discovered several rounds of ammunition. He was arrested.

Adam Bloom was arrested on burglary and aggravated stalking charges after he attempted to force entry to a residence in the 1700 block of 53rd Street in the early morning hours of February 3. Bloom had been stalking a woman at the residence for several weeks. Her boyfriend heard the burglar alarm and confronted Bloom.

Officers were dispatched to a vehicle/pedestrian crash in the 5400 block of Gulfport Boulevard. The pedestrian was attempting to cross Gulfport Boulevard from the north side to the south side when he was struck by a car traveling in the eastbound curb lane. The pedestrian, Jackie Lewis died as a result of his injuries.

A resident in the 6300 Block of 9th Avenue reported that his roommate broke into his locked room and several stole items. Stone Collins was arrested after he admitted to stealing the items and selling them to a neighbor. He also was in possession of a bike stolen during an earlier burglary, and was charged with that as well.

Sergeant Burkhart and Officer Ross manned the Marine Unit to assist with Gasparilla festivities in Tampa on Saturday.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	14
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	9
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases referred back to patrol:	2
Supplements received:	0
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	0
Cases unfounded-no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	2

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a grand theft auto case, a fraud and a burglary. He also conducted a follow-up investigation in New Port Richey for an IRS scam incident.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for two theft cases, a vehicle burglary, an auto theft and a fraud case; conducted a phone interview with a suspect being held at Dade Correctional Institute, and; assisted Detective Pham with locating and questioning a suspect in an IRS scam.

School Resource Officer Motte completed three reports; arrested a student for possession of marijuana on school grounds; counseled four students; met with the parents of a student; Baker acted a student; investigated the theft of a cell phone; escorted two trespassers off school grounds; assisted the Pinellas Park Police Department with armed robbery and armed burglary cases; assisted with a medical call, and; provided security at two basketball games.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled and distributed the open case lists; completed a request for crime information in preparation for the Crime Watch meeting hosted by Officer Mills, and; continued working on a vehicle burglary analysis for Officer Sigsbee.

Records

Reports reviewed	13
Supplements reviewed:	36
Public Records requests:	19
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	4
Subpoenas processed:	8
Citizens assisted:	39

MARINA

Assisted in twenty one (21) pump outs evacuating three hundred forty (340) gallons of waste.

Pumped two thousand seven hundred thirty six (2,736) gallons of gas and one thousand seven hundred seventy six (1,776) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling eighty nine (89) vessels.

Transient vessels:

Marina staff welcomed six vessels of various type and size this week.

LIBRARY

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, January 25, 11 a.m. - *AARP training for tax assistance volunteers.*

Monday, January 25, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Monday, January 25, 3 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Monday, January 25, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, January 26, 11 a.m. - *Reading Pals Volunteer Recruitment.*

Tuesday, January 26, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Tuesday, January 26, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, January 27, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, January 27, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Wednesday, January 27, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, January 28, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, January 28, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga.*

Thursday, January 28, 7 p.m. - *Chamber Music for Flute & Strings.*

Friday, January 29, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Friday, January 29, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Upcoming Events:

Monday, February 8, 6:30 p.m. - *2016 Florida League of Cities Video Teleconference: Town Hall meeting for residents on the 2016 Florida Legislative agenda.*

Tuesday, February 9, 10:30 a.m. & Thursday, February 18, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport!* Co-hosted by the Gulfport Neighbors and the Library. Learn about both organizations and discover services offered by the City. For more information call 893-1074.

Tuesday, February 9, 1 p.m. - *Healing Thoughts Book Club*: Group meets the second Tuesday of each month. If you have interest in understanding the relationship between our thoughts and their influence on the physical body, this club is for you. Title for discussion: *The Divided Mind*, by John H. Sarno. For more information email klane@untieyourwings.com.

Tuesday, February 9, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club*. The group meets every second Tuesday of the month. Pre-registration required. See Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Thursday, February 11, 7 p.m. - *Circle of Friends Annual Meeting*: Everyone is invited to hear featured speaker Peter Meinke, Florida's Poet Laureate at the Catherine Hickman Theater.

Thursday, February 18, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Mystic River by Dennis Lehane* over coffee & light refreshments. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. For more information call 893-1073.

Saturday, February 20, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*. Call 893-1074 for movie titles.

Saturday, February 27, 5:30 p.m. - *Ukulele Workshop*: Learn to play one of the most popular musical instruments in our area. Hosted by the Tampa Bay Ukulele Society. For more information call 893-1073.

Monday, February 29, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: Alex invites everyone to share their talents, musical and otherwise for a lively season of spontaneity. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, March 1, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*. Instructed by registered yoga teacher Ms. Christa, the group meets on first Tuesday of the month. Intended for parents and babies ages 6 weeks to 18 months. Meet other new parents and babies in the community, stretch, laugh, get some strength back and rejuvenate! Call 893-1074 cklasson@mygulfport.us for more information.

Every Monday, 9:30 a.m. and Friday, 10 a.m. through April 1 - *AARP Income Tax Assistance*: Taxpayers must bring Social Security cards for all persons listed on their tax returns, photo ID and all pertinent records such as W2s, 1099s, other income & credits, & a copy of last year's return if available. For more information call 893-1073.

Every Monday - Wednesday & Friday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Informal gatherings to brush up on conversational skills. All levels are welcome; this is not a class, simply an opportunity to practice and improve. Bring a bag lunch and a dictionary. A different language group meets each weekday: Monday - French; Tuesday - Italian; Wednesday - Spanish. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

Every Monday, 3 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! Email cklasson@mygulfport.us or call 893-1074 for more information.

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 robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com for more information.

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers in the Youth Services area around the rocking chair near the Easy books. Cailey leads the group in singing songs, playing instruments & networking with other caregivers in our community.

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

Library Services/Statistics January 24-30, 2015:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	2,434	841
Sun. 1/24	Library closed	
Mon. 1/25	486	149
Tue. 1/26	438	147
Wed. 1/27	475	144
Thu. 1/28	327	121
Fri. 1/29	330	142
Sat. 1/30	314	102

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.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us.
- Continued preparation of March calendar.
- Continued updates on Social media
- Continued training intern to update website.
- Attended phone conference with app company.
- Contacted upcoming event organizers to request promotional information.

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 Tuesday & Thursday for qualified Gulfport residents 50 & older. Applicants should bring a photo I.D., a utility bill or bank statement and proof of income (SSI). For more information please see Rachel, or call 893-1231.

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **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.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Monthly Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is February 8. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule your screening.

Enjoy a healthy snack as Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance Services presents **Fruit for Thought** every second Monday of the month. The next meeting is February 8.

Find out if you're eligible for a free caption phone that displays text of conversations on a touchscreen when **Clear Captions** visits the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Tuesday, February 9.

Visit the new and exciting **Sundial Center** in Downtown St. Petersburg on Tuesday, February 9 to experience the new shops, restaurants, and more. SPACE IS LIMITED. Reserve your seat by calling 893-2242. GEMS Members \$4/Non-Members \$6. Price includes roundtrip transportation.

Palms of Pasadena ER & the Boca Ciega Center team up to help you prepare an emergency checklist and offer tips on what to expect during an emergency room visit and possible hospitalization during the **Help Us, Help You** presentation at 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 10.

Create a Valentine's Day floral arrangement at the **Floral Design Class** on Thursday, February 11 at 2 p.m.

Representatives from the Pinellas County Property Appraisers will visit the Gulfport Senior Center on Tuesday, February 16, 9 a.m. - noon to assist Gulfport seniors with **Low Income Senior Property Tax Exemption applications**. To qualify, one household member must reside in Gulfport, be 65 years old or older as of January 1, have or qualify for a homestead exemption, and have a household income below the annual set threshold.

Learn to protect yourself online during **Tech Talk: Online Protection** class at 2 p.m. Wednesday, February 17. Participants must call 893-5657 to pre-register for this class.

Don't miss the chance to experience two great artists side by side with this special evening **Gulfport Getaway** on Thursday, February 18. The *Disney and Dali exhibit at the Dali Museum* will "tell the story of the unlikely alliance between two of the most renowned artists of the twentieth century." SPACE IS LIMITED. Call 893-2242 no later than February 11 to reserve a seat. GEMS members \$14/nonmembers \$16. Price includes round trip transportation and admission with audio guide and public tour.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and health screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is February 29.

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, March 1.

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 **Community Law Program** provides legal assistance to qualified seniors at 9:30 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Call 582-7480 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.

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, January 24	9 a.m. - Tampa Friends of Old Time Dance Snow Ball (Turnout 350)
Monday, January 25	7 p.m. - USA Ballroom Dance (Turnout 143)
Tuesday, January 26	Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 18) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 79)
Wednesday, January 27	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 41) 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 322)
Thursday, January 28	6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera (Turnout 32)
Saturday, January 30	10 a.m. - PAVA 2 Cool Art Show (Turnout 1,839)

Casino (upcoming events):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$8
Every Tuesday	12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8
Every Wednesday	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn/Joyce Bloom 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$8
Every Thursday	6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8
Every Friday	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Sunday, January 24 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players present In the Restroom at Rosenblooms (Turnout 150)

Saturday, January 30 3 p.m. - The Rat Pack Together Again (Turnout 170)
8 p.m. - The Rat Pack Together Again (Turnout 140)

Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):

Friday, February 5 6 p.m. - First Friday Art Reception

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

Sunday, January 24 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 14)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, January 26 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 23)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, January 28 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 24)
7 p.m. - Pasadena Yacht & Country Club HOA meeting (Turnout 9)

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*)

Sunday, January 24 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 19)

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

Monday, January 25 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 38)

Tuesday, January 26 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 24)

Friday, January 29 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 25)

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

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room is reserved 2 - 7 p.m. Saturday, February 13 for a baby shower, and noon - 5 p.m. Saturday, February 20 for a family reunion.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Sixty children are registered for the **2015/16 School Year Child Care Program** for children in Kindergarten thru age 14. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Monthly fees are \$150 for residents and \$188 for non-residents. Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary.

Fourteen children have been registered for the **2015/16 Tot Time Program**, and ten 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.

Thirty seven teens are registered for the **2015/16 Teen Night Program** for teens in middle school thru age 17. Program hours are 6 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Karate, Japanese, Mat Pilates, Pickleball, Spanish, Stretch & Tone, Table Tennis, Tennis, Walking Club, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga AM and Zumba.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez met with Scott Brushwood from Rep Services on Thursday to discuss a design and proposal for installation of Skate Park equipment next to the Recreation Center. She also attended the Senior Staff meeting on Wednesday morning

Brian VanSlyke opened the Recreation Center on Saturday for Dustbuster's to strip and re wax the multipurpose & art rooms.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 43 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 5 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fires Outside Structure
- 1 Water Rescue
- 1 Elevator Rescue
- 1 Vehicle Fire

Life Safety:

- 12 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspections
- 1 Plans Permit Review

Tyler Whitfield has been selected to fill the vacant Paramedic position. He will begin employment following a polygraph test, psychological exam and pre-employment physical.

Gulfport Firefighters have started their February online 2016 CME training with Target Solutions. This month's topics: Trauma Assessment; Medic Version, and Diagnostic Equipment; Medic Version.

Firefighter/Paramedic Grady was selected for promotion to Fire Lieutenant and has accepted the position of A Shift Lieutenant. He began his career with Manatee County EMS, has been with Gulfport Fire Department for 13 years, and has served as a Flight Paramedic for Express Air Medical since 2015. Lt. Grady is also a Florida Certified Fire Apparatus Pump Operator and Florida State Certified Fire Officer 1.

PUBLIC WORKS

Staff continues daily water quality testing at Gulfport Beach, Gulfport Shores and the Marina. All are closed to in-water activities until further notice. The results of February 4 are provided below. Visit www.mygulfport.us for the most up-to-date information.

<u>Gulfport Casino</u>		<u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u>			<u>Fecal coliform - SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1603510-01	2/4/16 7:45 a.m.	200	4	2/4/16 9:40 a.m.	140 B	10	2/4/16 9:40 a.m.
<u>Gulfport Marina</u>		<u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u>			<u>Fecal coliform - SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1603510-02	2/4/16 8:00 a.m.	170	4	2/4/16 9:40 a.m.	110 B	10	2/4/16 9:40 a.m.
<u>Gulfport Shores</u>		<u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u>			<u>Fecal coliform - SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u>		
Sample ID	Date/Time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time	Result	MDL	Analyzed date/time
1603510-03	2/4/16 8:10 a.m.	260 B	4	2/4/16 9:40 a.m.	220	10	2/4/16 9:40 a.m.

Enterococcus Results Description		
<u>Good</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Poor*</u>
0-35 Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water	36 – 104 Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water	105 or greater Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water
0-35 CFU/100 ml Enterococcus sp Geometric Mean		36 and over CFU/100 ml Enterococcus sp Geometric Mean
Fecal Coliform Results Description		
<u>Good</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Poor*</u>
0-199 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water	200-399 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water	400 or greater fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water

*A poor rating may result in a resampling event to confirm poor conditions; otherwise a Health Advisory or Warning will be issued immediately. These indicate that contact with the water at this site may pose increased risk of infectious disease, particularly for susceptible individuals. A reading of NR means "No Result". This could indicate that no sample was taken at this point because of weather or other factors, or that an analysis result was not obtained from the laboratory.

Building Maintenance

- Replaced filters on a/c units and air handlers at all City facilities.
- Painted Hoyt Field restroom building exterior, doors at Dog Park, and handrails around Casino exterior.
- Hung clock in Theatre lobby.
- Replaced light ballasts at Casino and Senior Center.
- Repaired toilet in Casino outside women's restroom.
- Unloaded food supplies for Recreation Center.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Replaced worn flags at City facilities, volleyball nets on beach, and lights inside City Hall.
- Cleaned trash & debris from Skate Park and repaired vandalized fence.
- Closed beach following poor water quality report.
- Removed weeds from baselines, pitcher's mound & warning track at Hoyt & Lum Fields.
- Trimmed hedges away from railing at Casino in preparation for painting.
- Cleaned debris from Wood Ibis Park lake fountain screens.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed Recreation Center grounds, Chase block, Dog Park & City complex.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt Field, Library and along Beach Streetscapes,.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Wood Ibis & Veteran Parks, Library and City complex.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, repaired drive shaft on stick edger, and replaced pulley bolt and adjusted belt on push edger.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged all ball fields daily.

Streets & Sanitation

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture & electronics.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout City.
- Repaired asphalt and potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential and commercial automated trash containers, and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned and removed debris from storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways, alleyways & sidewalks.
- Removed several loads of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Delivered recycling cart to Jamison Building.
- Painted handicap parking space at Boca Bay Grille.
- Removed glass from roadway at 51st Street & 17th Avenue and at 61st Street & 17th Avenue.
- Removed debris from road at various City locations.
- Disposed of old tires and parts from Garage

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the points of connection to water distribution system (Includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and recording of rainfall (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily check of ground water levels (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes # 9, 10, 11 & 12 of the monthly meter reading schedule.

- Disconnected water service at 39 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 15 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 128 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 5 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Replaced 1 meter that was stuck and not recording water usage.
- Replaced 3 old water meters with new electronic meters.
- Collected biweekly bacteriological samples and quarterly TTHM's and HAA5's samples on water distribution system.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Repaired water break at 5201 18th Avenue.
- Replaced water service lines at 5437 Delette Avenue & 5437 31st Avenue.
- Replaced water service and relocated backflow at 1833 49th Street.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 and #2 including (Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily rain fall check and documentation (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily ground water elevation recording (including Saturday & Sunday).
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations 1 & 2.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance at Fire Department/Garage.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance at Police Station/City Hall.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance at Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced rear brake shoes and drums on fire truck E 17.
- Repaired tire on car #18.
- Replaced brake pads and calipers on P.D. boat trailer.
- Replaced hydraulic hose on truck #42.
- Repaired lifting arm belt on truck #46.
- Repaired electrical problem in truck #43.
- 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 464-7332. They also offer personalized business consulting to help you become successful with your startup business.

Building Division staff tries to take special time to work with homeowners embarking on do-it-yourself projects. Whether it's deferred maintenance or new improvements, many are electing to do these projects themselves. Before embarking on home improvement projects give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss plans and see what inspections may be necessary, or for an explanation of code requirements.

On anything other than small and simple DIY projects we recommend homeowners consider using a licensed contractor. Unless you are very handy and have the necessary skills to take on more complex construction projects, larger projects can quickly overwhelm those less skilled in construction methodology and management.

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

The Pinellas County Communications Department offers the following information when looking for qualified contractors:

The Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board helps guide homeowners in hiring a licensed contractor for home improvements.

Hiring an unlicensed contractor can put residents' homes in jeopardy, produce safety hazards and cost extra money to homeowners when work is not done correctly.

"Do your homework and follow the guidelines and resources provided to you by the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board," said Executive Director Rodney Fischer. "Why take a chance with your money and safety?"

The function of the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board is to regulate construction and home improvement contractors practicing in all Pinellas jurisdictions.

The licensing board can tell you if a contractor has a license. They must be licensed by the board or the state of Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and be registered with the board. Licensed contractors have passed a competency exam and perform electrical, plumbing or structural work in compliance with the building codes.

The state requires licensed contractors to have workers' compensation and liability insurance and the board monitors their insurance coverage. Without these, if a worker gets injured on the job or damages property, the homeowner is liable. Many insurance policies will not pay claims if an unlicensed contractor was doing the work.

WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR, REMEMBER:

- Talk to friends and neighbors for recommendations.
- Home improvement contractors of various skills must be licensed with the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board. The license number must be displayed on advertising as well as on contracts. You can verify a contractor's license number and check any complaints by contacting the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board at (727) 582-3100.
- Check with the Department of Justice and Consumer Services at 464-6200 to determine the number of complaints against a business.
- Ask the contractor for references and follow through with verifying them.
- Ask the contractor for proof of insurance.
- Never deal with anyone who solicits or appears at your home unannounced.
- Obtain a minimum of two bids for the work to be done.

WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:

- All work should be specifically stated in the contract.
- An approximate starting and completion date should be included.
- All warranties including labor and materials should be addressed.
- A payment schedule should be contained in the contract.
- Do not give a large deposit before the beginning of work and do not pay the balance until completion.
- A three-day right to cancel rarely applies to home improvement contracts.
- Do not sign a blank contract or one containing blank spaces.

- Watch for non-refundable deposits and non-escrow accounts. In new home construction, part of the purchase price must be escrowed (this can be waived).

For more information call the board at 582-3100 or visit www.pcclb.com.

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 please visit the Special Documents section of the City's website at www.mygulfport.us.

February 10, 2016 Board of Adjustment:

V16-01 - 5217 9th Avenue South; Variance request To reduce the front yard setback requirement by 5.37 feet, from 25 feet to 19.63 feet to allow for a proposed open front porch addition onto an existing single family house.

V16-02 - 6111 Pasadena Point Boulevard South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one third setback requirement by 8 feet 10 inches, from 29 feet 10 inches to 22 feet to allow for a proposed dock extension and installation of a new boat lift.

V16-03 - 5935 Bayview Circle South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one-third setback requirement by 19 feet, from 26 feet 8 inches to 9 feet 8 inches to allow for the relocation of an existing boat lift on the end of the dock, and the proposed installation of a new boat lift and construction of a new catwalk, to service both boat lifts, to be located on the left-hand side of the existing dock.