



Gulfport Community Update

May 8 - 14, 2016

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Gulfport City facilities will be closed Monday, May 30 in observance of **Memorial Day**. The sanitation schedule will not be affected.

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

Upcoming Events:

Visit the 49th Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** 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.

Peruse unique art vendors and the many treasured shops along Beach Boulevard under a full moon while enjoying live music during **Third Saturday Art Walk** on May 25. For more information call 322-5217 or visit www.gulfportma.com/qma-events/art-walks.

Tickets for the **May 25 Tampa Bay Rays vs. Miami Marlins** game are available at the Gulfport Casino. The \$30.00 ticket price includes round trip transportation to Tropicana Field via the Gulfport Trolley, a lower box seat and complimentary Ray's baseball hat, available at the redemption desk inside Tropicana Field. All Rays fans with tickets are invited to catch free a ride to the game. Departure from the Gulfport Casino begins at 5 p.m. Return trips will begin during the 7th inning. All trolley trips this season will take place on "\$2 Hotdog Wednesdays". Tickets will also be available for the following games: Wednesday, August 24 vs. Boston Red Sox; Wednesday, September 21 vs. New York Yankees. For more information call Gail Biron at 893-1118.

Catch the Gulfport Trolley to the newly renovated Al Lang Stadium for the following **Tampa Bay Rowdies home games**: Saturday, June 4 vs. Ottawa Fury FC; Saturday, August 20 vs. FC Edmonton; Saturday, September 17 vs. Carolina Railhawks. Adult tickets \$22/kids & students \$10, available at www.mygulfport.us/rowdiestrolley. Scroll past the image and click "Order your Trolley tickets HERE" using promo code GULFPORT16 (click section 301): Departure from the Casino begins at 5 p.m. and games are scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 893-1118

Need volunteer hours and enjoy being on the beach while meeting a great group of people? Come to the **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** on Saturday, May 14, 9 - 11 a.m. The group meets at Gulfport Beach shelter #4. Water will be provided.

Groove on down to **Hippee Dash 5k** at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 21. The race starts in front of the Gulfport Casino. Can't make it on race day? No problem! Enter any of the races virtually to receive your official bling and T-shirt! Choose the VIRTUAL option when registering at www.racersignup.com/hippie-dash. All proceeds benefit Goodwill's programs for adults with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

Don't miss the **annual Hurricane Seminar** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 26. This year's guest speaker is Bay News 9 Chief Meteorologist Mike Clay. Free admission. Doors open at 6 p.m. with hurricane related vendors and a 2 slice pizza special for \$3. For more information call 893-1118. The Atlantic Basin Hurricane season begins June 1 and ends November 30.

Join the City of Gulfport and Post Legion 125 at the annual **City of Gulfport Flag Day Celebration** in Veterans Park at 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 14. Catherine Basset and the New Horizons Band of Gulfport will entertain attendees. For more information call 893-1118.

Community comes together at the **Public Safety Neighborhood Watch Party** in Clymer Park on Saturday, June 18, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Learn about local Neighborhood Watch programs and how to protect your neighborhood, meet your neighbors and experience family fun activities from local public safety agencies. For more information call Volunteer Coordinator Richard Grimberg at 893-1022.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	173
Self-initiated calls for service	353
Offenses	31
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	71
Ordinance violations	38

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Sometime between the evening of May 4 and the morning of May 5 someone stole a Trek 7000 crossover bike from the bed of a pickup truck parked in the driveway of a residence in the 2100 block of Premier Drive. A computer bag was reported stolen from a car parked in the 2200 block of Premier Drive during the same time frame.

Sometime overnight someone stole a grey/red road bicycle from a bike rack at Seaside Villas. The bike's cable lock was cut and left at the scene.

The garage of a home under renovation in the 2100 block of 54th Street was burglarized, and a pole saw, hedge trimmer and leaf blower were reported stolen.

A boat resident who lives in the bay reported that someone stole his \$1500 dinghy from his boat. He stated that the dinghy had been secured with two ropes and could not have drifted away.

A resident in the 5100 block of 13th Avenue reported on May 6 that a package containing sterling silver wire was stolen from her front porch. Video surveillance showed two black males acting as lookouts while a third person stole the package.

Timothy Ahern was arrested for violation of probation after a City employee discovered him sleeping at the wheel of a car near the Gulfport Recreation Center. Ahern was on felony probation for grand theft with a condition that he remain confined to an approved residence.

While addressing illegally parked vehicles in the 1800 block of 49th Street on May 7 officers spoke with business owner Daniel Russell and determined he had an outstanding warrant for violation of probation. He was transported to the Pinellas County Jail without incident.

A resident in the 700 block of 49th Street reported a male screaming angrily from his neighbor's property. Officers made contact with the subject and determined that he was angry with a video game he was playing and lost.

Officers responded to a business in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard to trespass a customer. He refused to identify himself and continued to cause a disturbance. After several warnings about his lack of cooperation Aryk Boren was arrested for obstruction of justice and violation of probation.

A man in the McDonald's drive through was approached by a black male on a bicycle, who asked him to buy him a cheeseburger. When the victim refused, the bicyclist reached into the vehicle and stole a bag of change. As the suspect rode away, the victim tried to back out of the drive through to go after him but crashed into a car behind him.

A white F150 reported stolen from St. Petersburg was recovered in the alleyway at 16th Avenue & 56th Street on May 10.

A contractor reported on May 11 that copper wiring and pipes in two homes currently under construction in the 5500 block of 14th Avenue was stripped from the garage walls.

Officers stopped Avion Dudley and a juvenile for operating gas powered scooters in the roadway in the 4900 block of 15th Avenue. The juvenile was given a criminal citation and released to his parent. Dudley was arrested for driving while license suspended/revoked.

Marine Unit: The marine unit was on the water for eight hours this week. Four boater contacts and two boat stops were made, and two derelict vessels were located.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	17
Cases assigned:	3
Cases suspended-no leads:	7
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	4
Cases referred back to patrol:	2
Supplements received:	15
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	3
Cases unfounded-no crime:	3
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases still active:	7

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a burglary, a lewd & lascivious battery, a fraud, and a grand theft; conducted pawn checks, and; reviewed subpoena returns, cell phone records, and bank records in several cases.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, two vehicle burglaries and two auto thefts, and questioned a suspect in two vehicle burglaries and two auto thefts. The juvenile admitted involvement in all four cases.

School Resource Officer Motte counseled four students and met with the parents to two students. He also assisted with breaking up four physical altercations and reviewed school surveillance video to assist students with lost property claims.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano processed and distributed 66 case agent evidence review forms; compiled and distributed open case lists; conducted research from 2011 - 2015 for a public records request; created and distributed a bulletin for Det. Pham in an attempt to ID a subject involved in a residential burglary; compiled the monthly PCSO crime scene call out

report and the monthly CIS report; updated an analysis on a burglary pattern, and; completed pawn checks on 11 cases with a named suspect, known serial number or searchable description.

Records

Reports reviewed	2
Supplements reviewed:	11
Public Records requests:	20
Background checks:	4
Bike registrations:	14
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	11
Citizens assisted:	39

MARINA

Assisted in twenty eight (28) pump outs evacuating three hundred five (305) gallons of waste.

Pumped five thousand one hundred forty one (3,141) gallons of gas and one thousand three hundred seventy five (1,375) gallons of diesel fuel fueling one hundred twenty four (124) vessels.

Transient vessels:

Staff welcomed eight vessels of various type and size this week.

Staff activities:

Repaired pump out hose and motor on fuel dock, dock box hinges on pier 6-1 and gate hinge on pier 6-34.

Replaced soap dispensers in men's restroom.

Pumped out derelict boats on pier three.

LIBRARY

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, May 2, 3 p.m. - K-5th Grade Science Club.

Tuesday, May 3, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*

Tuesday, May 3, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Tuesday, May 3, 1 p.m. - *LGBTQ Committee meeting.*

Tuesday, May 3, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, May 3, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, May 3, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, May 4, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, May 4, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Wednesday, May 4, 6 p.m. - *Teen Hangout* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Wednesday, May 4, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, May 5, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Friday, May 6, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*.

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

Saturday, May 7, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*.

Upcoming Events:

Thursday, May 19, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Bad Monkey* by Carl Hiaasen. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Saturday, May 21, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, May 23, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: Alex invites everyone to share their varied talents. For more information call 893-1073.

Tuesday, May 24, 4 p.m. - *Essential Oils*: Jen Schaefer of Gulfport Yoga shares tips on using essential oils at home to enhance your quality of life. For more information call 481-7309.

Thursday, May 26, noon - *Lunch & Learn, Culinary Sustainability*: Pack a lunch, we'll provide the beverages.

Thursday, May 26, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga*: The group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month.

Thursday, May 26, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology and the Cycles of Life*: Explore the ancient practice of astrology as it relates to life cycles. There are certain planetary events which impact each of us at the same age. Astrology can explain the push for legitimacy that happens when we are 29, the "mid-life crises" in our mid to late 30's, and our changing focus at 59. Presented by Jennie Gilmore, *Ode to Pluto Astrology*. For more information call 207-332-0787 or email jennie@odetopluto.com.

Saturday, June 4, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: Selections intended for adults to enjoy more complex and challenging films in a quiet, relaxed atmosphere. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Tuesday, June 7, 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@mygulfport.us for more information.

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; Friday - German. 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 May 1 - 7, 2016:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	995	484
Sun. 5/1	Library closed	
Mon. 5/2	128	59
Tue. 5/3	195	71
Wed. 5/4	150	72
Thu. 5/5	150	72
Fri. 5/6	178	92
Sat. 5/7	153	88

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 preparations for Hurricane Seminar.
- Continued preparation of 2016-2017 events list and June calendar.
- Assisted with setup and technical needs for Senior Living Guide Luncheon at Casino.
- Commenced preparation of 2017 First Friday Art Reception schedule.

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.

Getting the right amount of good, high quality sleep is important for physical and mental health. Learn about some common sleep challenges and steps you can take to better sleep at the next **Health Talks with Humana** on Monday, May 16 at 10:30 a.m.

Dr. Halina Herman DDS, Ph.D. and Student Intern Sue McRee of Family Counseling Center will present an interactive seminar on Wednesday, May 18 at 2:30 pm. The topic is **Wellness as We Age**.

GEMS Getaways will make a special evening trip to The St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts on Thursday, May 19. Current exhibits include: Contemplating Character (Drawings and Oil Sketches from Jacques-Louis David to Lucian Freud), The Art of the Classical Guitar, Harold Edgerton - What the Eye Can't See. GEMS members \$9/nonmembers \$11. Price includes round trip transportation and admission.

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

Gulfcoast Legal Services, Inc. will provide quality **legal advice and services** to Gulfport Senior Center participants 10 a.m. - noon every fourth Monday of the month.

If you're ready to quit tobacco, join us for **IQuit with AHEC** on Wednesday, May 25 at 1:30 p.m. This program covers all forms of tobacco. Preregistration required; call Katie Murphy at 813-929-1000. Sponsored by Gulfcoast North AHEC and the Florida Department of Health.

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 May 26.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate May's birthdays with cake, games, and more at 3 p.m. Friday, May 27. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

Discover a great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles, and many other goodies at **First Friday Flea Market** on June 3 at 9 a.m.

Learn to create a beautiful floral arrangement that will brighten your home during our next **Floral Design Class** on Tuesday, June 7 at 10 am. Call 893-5657 to register. Space is limited. Sponsored by Boca Ciega Center.

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, June 7.

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center on Thursday, May 12 at 10:30 a.m.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Monthly Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is June 13. 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** at 10 a.m. every second Monday of the month. The next meeting is June 13.

The Last Word - Writing an Obituary is offered at the Senior Center at 4:30 p.m. every first & fourth 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.

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.

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, May 1 | 6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance with Daniel Fugazzotto (Turnout 32) |
| Tuesday, May 3 | Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 13)
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 46) |
| Wednesday, May 4 | 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 186) |
| Thursday, May 5 | 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 20) |
| Friday, May 6 | 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 29)
4 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 150) |
| Saturday, April 7 | 6 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 150) |

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. - 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 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*):

Friday, May 6 6 p.m. - PAVA Art Reception (Turnout 55)

Saturday, May 7 7:30 p.m. - Makin' Waves Concert (Turnout 160)

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

Sunday, May 1 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 17)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, May 3 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 16)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Wednesday, May 4 7 p.m. - Crimewatch meeting (Turnout 12)

Thursday, May 5 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 16)
2:30 p.m. - Juvenile Welfare Board meeting (Turnout 45)

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, May 1 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 13)

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

Monday, May 2 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 31)

Tuesday, May 3 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 13)

Friday, May 4 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

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 was reserved noon - 6 p.m. Saturday, May 7 for a baby shower with sixty in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 1 - 5 p.m. Saturday, May 21 for a baby shower.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Thirty (30) children have been registered for the **2016 Summer Recreation Program**. The program lasts eight weeks and is available to children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Hours of registration are Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Summer program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra fee. For more information call the Recreation Center at 893-1068.

Seventy three 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.

Fifty one 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, Mat Pilates, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Yoga AM.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez met with Human Resources Officer Shannon Owen on Thursday to discuss the Summer Program.

The Pinellas County Child Care License Board conducted their bi-annual routine inspection on Friday morning. The Recreation Center received one noncompliance for failing to sign/date the Center Closing Log.

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday afternoon.

The Florida Department of Health performed their annual site review of the Child Care Food Program on Monday afternoon. No exceptions were noted during the review.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 47 Emergency Medical Calls
- 4 Structure Fires

- 2 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Water Rescue

Life Safety:

- 7 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 3 C.O's
- 1 Site Plan Reviews

Gulfport Firefighters continued their May 2016 CME in Target Solutions this week. This month's topic is Pediatric Assessment, Diagnostic and Treatment.

St. Petersburg College Paramedic program student Victoria Reis continues her ride along on the "B"-shift with Preceptor Lieutenant Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Burford.

Hurricane season is June 1 through November 30. Bay News 9 has all the hurricane information you need to stay safe in a storm.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Painted four doors at Beach restrooms.
- Assembled chairs for Library.
- Set up Tot Time stage for graduation.
- Repaired toilets at Scout Hall and Dog Park.
- Repaired electrical outlets at Senior Center.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Raked volleyball courts and installed orange fencing in preparation for tournament.
- Removed past events banners and installed upcoming events banners.
- Repaired fence at Dog Park.
- Edged and replaced clay on Recreation Center playing field.
- Removed graffiti from shelter on beach.
- Cleared blocked storm drains on Shore Boulevard.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed Gulfport Beach area, front and back of Recreation Center, Veterans Park, Chase Block, Dog Parks, Hoyt Field, City Hall perimeter and 49th Streetscape.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt & Little League fields, Dog Park, Marina, Lions Club, and York Street & 49th Street termini.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Library and Veterans Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and replaced chains & chain bars on chainsaws.
- 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 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.
- Removed debris from Lincoln Cemetery.
- Restocked mulch bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Remove 20 tons of debris, 38 couches & 20 mattresses from holding area and delivered to landfill.
- Installed new signage at Tangerine Avenue & Gray Street.

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 #23, 24, 25, 26, and 27 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 48 locations for non-payment of service.
- Performed 25 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 100 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 7 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Replaced 3 old meters with new style electronic meters.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Performed annual DEP required testing of 14 backflow devices due in May.
- Repaired water break at 3019 Beach Boulevard.
- Replaced service line at 4913 25th Avenue.

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.
- Replaced sewer laterals and clean-outs at 2401 49th Street and at 4525 27th Street.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced shock absorbers on truck #53, and removed hydraulic lift cylinder for repair.
- Replaced fuel pump driver module on truck #34.
- Replaced side mirrors on bus #11.
- Repaired leaking coolant hose on truck #43.
- Replaced recalled tie rods on truck #47 & truck #44.
- Repaired carburetor on Toro Groundsmaster, and charged battery to determine if charging system is operational.
- Recharged A/C in truck #22, and delivered vehicle to dealership for engine repair.
- Replaced brake caliper and front brake pads on truck #69.
- Repaired fan hub on truck #31.
- 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 continued this week in Section 5 of the City, also known as the Marina District which comprises the southeast portion of the City and generally extends south from 26th Avenue to the water and east from 49th Street to City boundaries.

The number of code enforcement cases for April was 183. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 981. The number of citizen complaints for April was 12, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 64. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 6.5 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. 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.

May 11, 2016 Board of Adjustment:

V16-09; 1819 55th Street South; Variance request to reduce the front yard setback requirement by 11 feet, from 25 feet to 14 feet to allow for the continuation of an existing, unpermitted wooden front deck, handicapped ramp, and steps.

V16-10; 4740 Baywood Point Drive South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one third setback requirement by 15.8 feet, from 18.8 feet to 3 feet to allow for the proposed installation of a new boat lift.

V16-11; 3128 59th Street South; Variance request to increase the fence height in the front yard setback area by one foot, from 4 feet to 5 feet to allow for the proposed construction of a new 5 foot tall fence which will extend along the south property line for the entire length of the side property line which is adjacent to Shore Boulevard South.

V16-12; 5620 30th Avenue South; Variance request to:

1. Reduce the separation distance to the principal building by 5.5 feet, from 12 feet to 6.5 feet; and
2. Reduce the rear yard setback by 14 feet, from 15 feet to one foot to allow for the proposed razing of the existing garage and construction of a new two-story accessory structure with a garage on the ground floor, and living space with a storage area on the second floor.

V16-13; 5401 20th Avenue South; Variance request to reduce the side yard setback requirement by 7 feet, from 12 feet to 5 feet to allow for the proposed construction of a new, attached aluminum carport.