



Gulfport Community Update

April 27 - May 3, 2014

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

It was a busy weekend as more than two dozen Gulfport Neighbors, including Councilmembers Yolanda Roman and Michael Fridovich volunteered to assist in a flash cleanup for a neighbor in need on April 26. Meanwhile Walgreens was the site of the Sixth Annual Oral Cancer Screening, serving over 200 participants. Vice Mayor Christine Brown assisted with registrations. Gulfport Beach was the place to be for the Gulfport Yacht Club Regatta (photos below).



Gulfport 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 City limits. Stop by the Fire Station or call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

Gulfport City facilities will be closed Monday, May 26 in observation of **Memorial Day**. The sanitation schedule will not be affected.

Upcoming Events:

Check out the amenities at the **Boca Ciega Yacht Club Funday Open House** on Saturday, May 3, 1 4 p.m. This annual event is open to public with free sailboat rides, hot dogs & soda, door prizes and information about the club, which is located at 4600 Tifton Drive. Visit www.sailbcyc.org for more information.

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. Round up your unwanted clothes and visit the **Clothing Swap to Benefit CASA** at the Peninsula Courtyard, 2937 Beach Boulevard during Fresh Market 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 13. For more information call Laura Garrison at 278-4285, visit www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket or www.GulfportMA.com, or email gulfportmarket@gmail.com.

Bring your appetite to the **Lions Club Pancake Breakfast** on Saturday, May 10, 7 - 11 a.m. and eat all you can for just \$5. The Lion's Den is located at 4630 Tifton Drive.

Get your friends or organization together for the **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** on Saturday, May 10. Volunteers will meet at Gulfport Beach Waterfront Complex shelter #4 at 9 a.m.

Looking to get rid of some stuff and don't know where to start? Join the Gulfport Neighbors and the City of Gulfport at the **Junk in the Trunk or on a Truck** event behind the Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street on Saturday, May 17, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bring proof of Gulfport residency (driver license or utility bill) and furniture, appliances, tires, and other bulk items for disposal. Firearms, drugs, liquor, plants, paints, chemicals, or batteries cannot be accepted. Enjoy a cup of coffee during "Java with Josh (Lieutenant Josh Stone) and Zack" (Community Resource Officer Zack Mills). Parents registering their children's bikes will receive a free child's helmet. Join the Gulfport Neighbors network of volunteers: inspiring, motivating and uniting our neighbors to improve the quality of life in Gulfport. For more information call 893-1118.

Get informed to be prepared during the **City of Gulfport Hurricane Seminar** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5502 27th Avenue on Thursday, May 29 at 7 p.m. Admission is free. Pizza will be available in the Theater lobby for \$3 a slice beginning at 5 p.m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Administration

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	146
Officer initiated calls for service	449
Offenses	37
Arrests	7
Traffic citations	32

Significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 4900 block of 10th Avenue reported on the morning of April 24 that sometime overnight, someone entered his locked vehicle and stole a laptop and a container of cash. It is unknown how entry was made to the vehicle.

A resident in the 2800 block of 51st reported that sometime between the evening of April 24 and the morning of April 25, someone broke out the passenger side window of her vehicle and rummaged through the consoles but nothing was taken. There are no suspects.

A resident in the 1900 block of 53rd Street reported that sometime overnight, someone threw a rock through her driver side window. No entry was made to the vehicle.

Officers responded to a business in the 5000 block of Gulfport Boulevard on the afternoon of April 25 after a security guard reported that a runaway was inside. She was taken into custody and returned to her mother.

Officers made contact on the evening of April 27 with a 17 year-old male at Osgood Point who was wanted by police in Michigan. The subject had an outstanding warrant for contempt of court on domestic violence and marijuana charges. He was taken to the Pinellas County Juvenile Assessment Center to await extradition.

Someone entered the outdoor dining area at Tommie's Tiki while the business was closed and stole a 60" television set off the wall.

A motor scooter was reported stolen from a parking space in front of a residence in the 3000 block of Beach Boulevard. The scooter was listed into NCIC/FCIC.

Officers responded to the 5700 block of 27th Avenue a regarding a palm tree fire. The palm tree was located in an empty field. No suspicious activity was observed by neighbors.

Officer Wodraska observed two males walking in the 2800 block of Beach Boulevard with a TV, which they tried to hide when he approached on the evening of April 29. As officers were attempting to identify one of the suspects in the database, he fled on foot and was apparently driven out of the area by a friend. Officers obtained information that the suspect was waiting at the Applebee's at East Bay & US19 for his friends. Pinellas County Sheriff's Deputy Horning assisted with coordinating PCSO units to respond to the Applebees where the suspect was located and arrested for multiple warrants in addition to charges from Officer Wodraska.

A resident called to report she was following a juvenile who had been observed attempting to gain entry to a residence in the 1900 block of 59th Street. Officer Wodraska located the suspect at the Walgreens and he confessed to entering a fenced in yard and attempting to steal a bike. He was also charged with multiple crimes by Officer Motte related to offenses that occurred at Boca Ciega High School.

Officers responded to the 5000 block of Gulfport Boulevard after a caller reported that his motor scooter was stolen from a parking lot. He last saw the scooter at 2 p.m. that afternoon.

The Marine Unit was transported to Tampa for repairs. Several compartments were leaking and holding water. The repairs are covered under warranty.

Investigations:

New Cases:	18
Cases Assigned:	4
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	10
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	2
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	1
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	0
Supplements Received:	4

Cases Cleared With Arrest:	0
Previously Cleared With Arrest	0
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	0
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	1
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Still Active:	3

Detective Hanh Pham is acting CIS supervisor while Sergeant Woodman is on vacation. In addition to performing his acting supervisor duties he also conducted follow-up investigations to assigned cases. He investigated a lewd and lascivious molestation involving a minor victim, locating the suspect and arresting him for the alleged offense. He also issued a notice to appear for a City Ordinance violation to a resident of Gulfport for leaving her dinghy at the Gulfport Casino dock overnight.

Detective Jennifer Crowson located and questioned Monte Johnson in a theft of services case. Johnson admitted to the theft and was issued a notice to appear. With the assistance of Detective Pham, Detective Crowson worked her first suspicious death investigation. She also completed eight supplements and worked on several other cases.

This week Analyst Palmisano reviewed bank account records for Det. Pham, looking for indications of fraud or exploitation. She also created an "Attempt to Identify" bulletin regarding a shoplifting case for Ofc. Iwanowski and distributed it to Gulfport officers and other area agencies, created and distributed the open case list, and completed a review of hit and run crash reports for Lt. Farrand.

School Resource Officer Langston investigated a robbery by sudden snatching. The suspect was identified, but the victim did not wish to pursue criminal charges. A trespasser identified as a student from Hamilton Disston was located on campus. Officer Langston notified Hamilton Disston and gave the student a verbal warning for trespassing. She also investigated a theft report made by a teacher who suspected a student of stealing money from her office, and recovered a stolen bicycle on campus. There were several minor disturbances that required police intervention, and Officer Langston assisted. She also provided mentoring to several students regarding conduct and behavior; volunteered to teach the Tuesday night Police Explorer meeting, and; arraigned for Officers Baugher and Harrison from the Pinellas County Schools Police Department to conduct a presentation on narcotic and gun sniffing K-9s.

This week School Resource Officer Motte investigated two theft/dealing in stolen property cases in which both alleged suspects were arrested. Some of the stolen property was recovered and returned to the respective owners. He also handled a report of a fight between two students. Both students had minor injuries and neither parent wanted police involvement, so they both received school consequences. Additionally, Officer Motte met with school staff regarding the upcoming Spring Fling Classic football game, and arranged for police coverage at the event.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	20
Supplements reviewed:	105
Public records requests:	18
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	8
Fingerprints:	0
Subpoenas processed:	9
Citizens assisted:	29

MARINA

Pumped five thousand five hundred sixty seven (5,567) gallons of gas, and two thousand eleven (2,011) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred fifty five (156) vessels.

Assisted in forty one (41) pump outs evacuating six hundred twenty (620) gallons of waste.

Transient Vessels:

Staff welcomed a 23' sailboat, 32' sailboat, 21' powerboat and two 20' powerboats this week.

Staff Activities:

- Completed pump out maintenance.
- Read and calculated electrical readings.
- Prepared buoy for sea grass area.
- Cleaned dock boxes on pier three and at BCYC.

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at www.mygulfport.us/gtv-615. Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us domain.
- Provided photographic coverage for Gulfport Neighbors cleanup, Oral Cancer screening and GYC Regatta.
- Commenced organizing events for Fiscal Year 2014/15.
- Assisted Marina Director with video project.
- Updated monthly events schedule on GTV-615, and commenced preparation of June calendar.
- Continued preparations for Hurricane Seminar.

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, & 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 a copy of this month's calendar or download your copy at www.mygulfport.us.

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

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

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **multiple volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, come 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.

Grab your sombrero and head down to the Senior Center **Cinco de Mayo Fiesta** at 5:30 p.m. Monday, May 6 for a taco bar, dancing and fun! Tickets are \$8 each, and **MUST** be purchased in advance.

The **Coffee Club** meets at the Gulfport Senior Center at 10 a.m. every first Tuesday of every month to discuss current events, the economy and investing in a relaxed, informal setting. The next gathering is May 6. Meet new friends and learn great tips from financial advisor Scott O'Berry over coffee and doughnuts.

The Springs at Boca Ciega Bay offers free **Blood Sugar Screenings** at 10:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month. The next screening is May 8.

Tony & Christine from the **Cell Phone Solution** will visit the Senior Center at 2 p.m. Thursday, May 8 to answer questions about smart phones. Bring your cell phone and questions.

Everyone is welcome at the **Dolphin's View Healthy Heart Cooking Class** at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8.

Join in the fun at our next **Puzzle Party** at 11 a.m. Friday, May 9. Learn to play Sudoku, Binairo and much more. Prizes provided by The Puzzle Pages.

Concerned about your memory? Peggy Macaluso from the Alzheimer's Association offers a free **Monthly Memory Screening Clinic**, providing information and confidential advice to Gulfport Senior Center members the second Monday of every month, from 9 a.m. until noon. The next clinic is May 12. You **MUST** call 893-1231 to schedule a screening.

Get ready for Hurricane Season with a special **Paper Organization: Are You Prepared in the Event of a Crisis** informational program at 2:30 p.m. Monday, May 12. This program provides valuable tips on organizing paperwork you'll need in the event of a major event.

Enjoy a laid back day at the beach then stop at the Don Cesar Hotel for a guided tour during our next **Gulfport Getaway** to Pass-a-Grille on Tuesday, May 13. Call GEMS at 893-2242 before May 8 to reserve your seat. GEMS Members \$13/Nonmembers \$15

Watch a free, current movie and get a \$3 lunch deal during **Movie Day at the Snack Bar** at 11 a.m. Tuesday, May 13.

Life coach Kathy Lane returns on Wednesday, May 14 at 1:30 p.m. to discuss the relationship between our thoughts, beliefs, & emotions and ways to release that emotional baggage during the **Law of Attraction: The Emotion Code** informational seminar.

Where have you been lately? Share your travel stories, pictures and tips during our next monthly **Bon Voyage Travel Discussion Group** at 1 p.m. Thursday, May 15, and let's explore the world together! The group hosts a new guest speaker every month.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate Senior Center members' May birthdays with cake, games and more at 2:30 p.m. Friday, May 16. This monthly event is sponsored by Dolphin's View.

The Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab Center offers a free **Blood Pressure Clinic** at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. The next clinic is May 29.

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

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and the Area Agency on Aging. Specially trained volunteers visit the Gulfport Senior Center every first & third Tuesday of the month to assist clients with Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance questions, providing one-on-one counseling and information. SHINE services are free, unbiased, and confidential. Call 893-2237 or 893-1231 to schedule an appointment.

Having a problem hearing on the phone? Florida residents with a hearing loss qualify for a **FREE amplified home phone**. Florida Telecommunications Relay Inc., Family Center on Deafness issues equipment at the Gulfport Senior Center at 10 a.m. every third Tuesday of the month. This program is paid for by a surcharge on all Florida households with home phone lines and all business lines, and has been available since 1991. Call 399-9983 for more information.

The **Community Law Program** offers free legal assistance to qualified residents 60 & older at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center every third Friday of the month. Call 582-7480 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Recycle your old cell phone, General Mills Box tops, Campbell's labels, can tabs and eye glasses at the Senior Center. Staff forwards these items to the proper organization for reuse, recycle or education.

GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mobility Service) offers rides to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. Gulfport residents 55 & older or residents with a disability can take advantage of GEMS door to door service for a yearly membership of \$65.00 plus \$2.00 per ride. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater, Neighborhood Center & Scout Hall

Casino (last week's events):

Tuesday, April 22	12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance (Turnout 18) 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 59)
Wednesday, April 23	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Swing Dance Lesson 8 p.m. - Swing Dance (Turnout 264)
Thursday, April 24	6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 20)
Friday, April 25	7 p.m. - Dixie Hollins H.S. Prom (Turnout 300)
Saturday, April 26	5:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 150)

Casino (upcoming events):

Every Tuesday	12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$7 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$7
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Every Wednesday	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$7
Every Thursday	6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7
Friday, May 2	7 p.m. - Sock Hop with The Impacs Admission \$20 at the door

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

Sunday, April 20	2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present <i>Stepping Out</i> (Turnout 28)
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Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*)

Sunday, May 3	2 p.m. - Sunstation Show Chorus <i>Singin' the Blues for You</i>
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Neighborhood Center (*last week's events*):

Sunday, April 20	9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 39) 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous
Tuesday, April 22	10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 11)
Thursday, April 24	10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)

Neighborhood Center (*upcoming events*):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting
Every first - third Sunday	9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services
Every fourth Sunday	9:15 a.m. - Bible study
Every Tuesday & Thursday	10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi

Scout Hall (*last week's events*):

Monday - Friday	7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Monday, April 21	10 a.m. - Dance Fusion (Turnout 8) 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 16)
Tuesday, April 22	10:30 a.m. - Line Dancing (Turnout 7)
Wednesday, April 23	11 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 18)
Thursday, April 24	10:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion class (Turnout 10)
Friday, April 25	10 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

Every Monday - Friday	7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
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Every Monday	10 a.m. - Dance Fusion class 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga
Every Tuesday	10:30 a.m. - Line Dancing
Every Wednesday	10:30 a.m. - Yoga
Every Thursday	10:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion class
Every Friday	11 a.m. - Line dancing

LIBRARY

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

The Gulfport Library offers **free one-on-one computer instruction** on a first come basis every Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, April 21, 3 p.m. - *Science Club*.

Monday, April 21, 5:30 p.m. - *Teen Leadership Workshop*.

Tuesday, April 22, 9 a.m. - *Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library BOD meeting*.

Tuesday, April 22, 11 a.m. - *Guardian ad Litem Informational Program*.

Tuesday, April 22, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, April 23, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, April 23, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*.

Wednesday, April 23, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, April 24, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime for Toddlers & Preschoolers*.

Thursday, April 24, 11 a.m. - *Committee for LGBT Collection in Library meeting*.

Friday, April 25, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, April 26, 11 a.m. - *Intermediate Digital Camera Workshop* facilitated by Cathy Salustri.

Saturday, April 26, 2 p.m. - *Community Conversation Open Forum on Current Issues*.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, May 3, 11 a.m. - *Beginning Digital Camera Workshop*: Cathy Salustri returns to show you how in this popular class. Space is limited. Stop by the Reference Desk or call 893-1073 to register.

Tuesday, May 6, 3 p.m. - *Earth Scouts*: Activities for school-age children and teens. Parents welcome. For more information, email gratefulashly@gmail.com.

Thursday, May 8, 3:30 p.m. - *Reading Paws*: Young readers share brief stories with Maya the very friendly certified reading therapy dog. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Friday, May 9, 3 p.m. - Local Author Ani Crane reads from her work.

Saturday, May 10, 11 a.m. - *Intermediate Digital Camera Workshop*: Cathy Salustri returns to show you how in this popular class. Space is limited. Stop by the Reference Desk or call 893-1073 to register.

Saturday, May 10, 11 a.m. - *Mothers' Day Tea & Crafts in the Garden*: Celebrate Mom and enjoy light refreshments in our beautiful Reading Garden. We'll also have a craft for the kids to make something special for Mom. Registration is recommended. Call Cailey at 893-1133 for more information and to sign up!

Thursday, May 15, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Travels with Charley: In Search of America* by John Steinbeck over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, May 15, 1 p.m. - *Gulfport Garden Club Program: Orchids & Epiphytes*, learn how they benefit & beautify our world! Presented by the Pinellas County Extension Service.

Saturday, May 17, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: Enjoy flicks with popcorn provided by our Circle of Friends. For movie titles, call 893-1074.

Thursday, May 22, 10:30 a.m. - *Introduction to Plant Identification*: Want to learn how to identify some of our wonderful Florida plants? Join a UF/IFAS Pinellas County Extension specialist and examine the basics of plant identification, from using simple keys to identifying critical characteristics that will help any would-be botanist in the field. An emphasis will be placed on flowering plants, but ferns will be included as well. For more information call James Stevenson at 453-6967.

Saturday, May 10, 2 p.m. - *Home Gardening*: Struggling to get sprouted? Ongoing garden gripes? Join us at the launch of our gardening class which will be held on the fourth Saturday of each month. Master Gardener Val Boyles shares her expertise to help you get budding along! Attendees are invited to stay after class and informally discuss their gardening-related issues.

Tuesday, May 27 - *SCORE Counseling*: FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals the fourth Tuesday of every month. Call 893-1073 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *Science Club* for children in Kindergarten through Grade 5. For more information call Cailey at 893-1073.

Every Monday 5:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters Teen Leadership Workshop*. For more information email kellymenges@hotmail.com.

Every first Tuesday, 3 p.m. - *Earth Scouts*: Activities for school-age children and teens. Parents welcome. FMI, contact gratefulashly@gmail.com.

Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information call 916-0916.

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

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. For more information contact Robin Riddell at rriddell@gmail.com.

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers in the Youth Services area around the rocking chair by the Easy books.

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

Library Services/Statistic April 20 - 26, 2014:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	2,039	699
Sun. 4/20	Library closed	
Mon. 4/21	425	142

Tue. 4/22	333	115
Wed. 4/23	372	119
Thu. 4/24	357	136
Fri. 4/25	323	107
Sat. 4/26	220	75

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room was reserved 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Saturday, April 26 for a Wedding reception.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Registration for the **2014 Summer Recreation Program** is underway for Gulfport residents and non-residents currently enrolled in the School Year Child Program. Non-resident registration begins Monday, May 19 for a maximum of 30 children. 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. Registration fees are \$17 for residents and \$22 for non-residents. Summer camp 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.

Fifty six (56) children are registered for the **2013/14 School Year Child Care Program** for children in Kindergarten thru age 14. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Annual registration fee is \$17 for residents and \$22 for non-residents with monthly fees of \$146 for residents and \$292 for nonresidents. Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary. The program is licensed by the Pinellas County License Board.

Eighteen (18) children are registered for the **2013/14 Tot Time Program**, and six (6) 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 turned 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply at the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County, Inc. and the child must receive a Certificate of Eligibility. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. Registration fees for the Tot Time Program are \$17 for residents and \$22 for nonresidents.

Contractual classes currently in session: Fencing, Gymnastics, Hatha Flow Yoga, Italian Conversation for Beginners, Italian for Travelers, Karate, Live in Color Mediation, Pickleball, Spanish for Beginners I & II, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Urban Survival Bootcamp, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga and Zumba.

Ninety (90) teens are registered for the **2013/14 Teen Night program**, a great hangout for teens in grades 6-12 providing recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects. The teens utilize the gymnasium, game room and outdoor area. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents. Program hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 6 - 9 p.m.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez and John Lapham interviewed one (1) Summer Program Recreation Leader applicant on Tuesday.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

Account Activity (Water and/or Marina):	28 new, 0 closed
Water payments:	1,102 totaling \$193,432.28
On-Line Water payments:	146 transactions totaling \$8622.86
Bright House payments:	17
Payroll 4/25/14:	158 transactions totaling \$184,871.12

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 44 Emergency Medical Calls
- 3 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarms
- 3 Vehicle Crash
- 1 Elevator Rescue
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 1 Plans Review
- 1 C.O.

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. The next meeting is Thursday, May 15 at 7 p.m. This month's topic is Disaster Response, presented by Karen Van Der Beek. For more information call 916-8014 or visit www.gulfportcert.com.

Staff Activities:

- St. Petersburg College EMS program student Lucy Hamilton continues her ride along with Preceptor Firefighter/Paramedic Gerard Grady on the "C"-shift.
- Chief Marenkovic met with City staff this week to discuss Fourth of July Celebration events.
- The Gulfport Fire Department's St. Petersburg College May CME topic is Crew Resource Management (CMR). Crew Resource Management was introduced in the aviation industry during a NASA workshop in 1979, designed as a training program to improve air safety and reduce the increasing number of fatal accidents attributable to human error. The primary cause of the majority of aviation accidents occurring at that time were due to human error, the leading causes of which were failures of interpersonal communication, leadership, and decision making in the cockpit.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired light fixtures at Library.
- Assembled new office chair for Police Station.
- Assisted Jerry's Air Conditioning Company with service call at Historical Museum.
- Ran errands to Tampa for Garage Supervisor.
- Repaired plumbing in Casino men's restroom.

- Retrieved boat illegally chained to Casino dock and transported to Marina per PD request.
- Delivered outgoing mail to main Post Office for Administrative Services Department.

Parks

- Set up tables, tents, chairs, trash cans etc. for Cancer Screening, Gulfport Neighbors cleanup and Regatta, and removed following events.
- Replaced light and repaired wire on Recreation Center flag pole.
- Secured trash cans at Caldwell Park to protect from theft.
- Repaired/replaced butt cans at the beach pavilions.
- Replaced deck boards & railing, and reinforced beams on Veterans Park pavilion dock.
- Inspected tree lights and timers, and replaced electrical outlets on Beach Boulevard.
- Repaired bocce ball court rake.
- Reset timers on Wood Ibis fountains.
- Installed exhaust fan in Little League concession stand building.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and replaced carburetor and power head on stick edger.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt Field and Little League fields Chase Block and Dog Park.
- Hand raked around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach.
- Trimmed hedges, weeded, cleaned & mulched planter beds & grounds at Senior Center, Library and City Complex.
- Picked up leaves and cleaned parking lots at City Hall, Senior Center and Caldwell Park.
- Mowed & trimmed City Complex, Scout Hall, Historical building, Chase Block, Tonkin, Tomlinson & Caldwell Parks, Dog Park, Recreation Center grounds, Tangerine Greenway, 14th Avenue median, Pasadena entrance area and Tomlinson lake area.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas. Trash receptacles were emptied and the Bocce Ball courts were inspected for repairs.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.

Streets & Sanitation

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture and 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 potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential automated trash containers and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned debris from City storm grates, inlets, and outfalls.
- Reset curb stops at the Library.
- Removed debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Removed illegal dumping around recycling containers at Neighborhood Center.
- Replaced two stop signs and cleaned traffic control signage at City Hall complex.
- Completed parking lot/seawall work at Marina.
- Replaced automated containers within new automated route areas to preferred size per resident requests.
- Removed sight obstructions at 57th Street & Tangerine Avenue.

- Added fill and graded alleyway on Gulfport Boulevard between 52nd & 53rd Streets.
- Added fill to roadway and set grade at 52nd Street & 25th Avenue.
- Commenced new automated sanitation collection route.

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).
- Disconnected water service at 77 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 4 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 127 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 7 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.
- Continued semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Completed annual DEP required testing of 52 backflow devices due in April.
- Replaced 3 old water meters with new style water meters.
- Repaired water breaks at 5952 Seabird Drive & 5808 Gulfport Boulevard.
- Repaired 6" backflow at 5701 Gulfport Boulevard.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service at lift stations 1 & 2.
- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Daily per trip vehicle check inspection.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2, Police & Fire Departments and Multipurpose Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Cleaned and televised sewer lateral at 4809 Del Rio Way.
- Stockpiled asphalt millings removed from 49th Street repaving project for future use.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced alternator and serpentine belt on Sanitation Truck #43.
- Repaired hydraulic oil leak on Sanitation Truck #46.
- Replaced king pins and tie rod, and aligned front axles on Recycle Truck #40.
- Replaced right front ABS wheel sensor on Police Vehicle #54.
- Replaced seal for cleanout door on Sanitation Truck #42.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various 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 regarding business tax receipts call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063.

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

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

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR, REMEMBER:

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

WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:

- All work should be specifically stated in the contract.
- An approximate starting and completion date should be included.
- All warranties including labor and materials should be addressed.
- A payment schedule should be contained in the contract.
- Do not give a large deposit before the beginning of work and do not pay the balance until completion.
- A three-day right to cancel rarely applies to home improvement contracts.
- Do not sign a blank contract or one containing blank spaces.
- Watch for non-refundable deposits and non-escrow accounts. In new home construction, part of the purchase price must be escrowed (this can be waived).

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

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

The number of code enforcement cases for March was 241 for a fiscal year-to-date (YTD) total of 1109. The number of citizen complaints was 12 for a YTD total of 88. The YTD ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 7.9 percent.

Because the City has one inspector who focuses on one section at a time, we depend on residents to call in violations when they see them. We will inspect within one working day of a complaint to verify any violation. Please call 893-1061 if you see violations. If the inspector is unavailable, leave as detailed a message as possible to help us find the violation. Complaints can be anonymous, but if you want a follow-up you will have to leave contact information which means the complaint is no longer anonymous.

To review the Code Enforcement Activities documents for more detailed information and a map of the Code Enforcement areas please visit the Special Documents section of the City's website at www.mygulfport.us.

May 14, 2014 Board of Adjustment:

- V14-05; 2313 52nd Street South; Variance request to reduce the front yard setback requirement from by 8', from 25' to 17', to allow for the construction of a proposed extension of a bedroom with a bay window.
- V14-06; 2515 51st Way South; Variance request to:
 - 1) Reduce the front yard setback requirement by 1 foot, from 25 feet to 24 feet for the addition to an existing bedroom; and
 - 2) Reduce the front yard setback requirement by 19 feet, from 25 feet to 6 feet for the addition of a proposed screen room.
- V14-07; 5952 Seabird Drive South; Variance request to:
 - 1) Reduce the left-hand side one-third setback requirement by 15.17 feet, from 26.67 feet to 11.5 feet to allow for the proposed addition of a boat lift and 2.5 foot wide catwalk; and
 - 2) To reduce the right-hand one third setback requirement by 11.17 feet, from 26.76 feet 15.5 feet to allow the proposed construction of a 2.5 foot wide catwalk.
- V14-08; 5920 Seabird Drive South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand side one-third setback requirement by 24 feet, from 45 feet to 21 feet to allow for a proposed extension to an existing dock and a 3 foot wide new catwalk which services a proposed boat lift that will be installed in the center one-third of the waterfront property.
- V14-09; 3043 Beach Boulevard South; Variance request to reduce the number of required parking spaces by 3, from 5 to 2, for the use of the structure which is proposed to include an artist studio/gallery, one residential unit, and one transient accommodation unit. WITHDRAWN BY STAFF
- V14-10; 5907 Bayview Circle South; Variance request to reduce the right-hand one third setback requirement by 19.67 feet, from 26.76 feet to 7 feet to allow the proposed construction of a boat lift.