



# *Gulfport Community Update*

*June 12 - 18, 2016*

## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

A ceremony to honor the **American Flag** took place in Veteran's Park on June 14 (photo below). Thank you to Councilmembers who shared their words, the Gulfport Fire Department for presentation of the flag, Lou Worthington from CERT for disposal of the flag, the New Horizon Band of Gulfport and City employee and songstress Catherine Bassett for musical entertainment.



Gulfport City Hall & facilities will be closed Monday, July 4 in observance of **Independence Day**. The sanitation schedule will not be affected.

**Hurricane Implementation Guides** are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits. The Atlantic basin Hurricane season began June 1 and ends November 30.

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 49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The market focuses on locally made items, but SO49 will consider others in an effort to meet the needs of the community. For more information, visit [www.SoTangerine.com](http://www.SoTangerine.com), email [jsrtraining@aol.com](mailto:jsrtraining@aol.com) or call 439-0164.

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 893-1022.

Shop one-of-a kind vendors, enjoy live music or spend the evening at your favorite restaurant during **Third Saturday Art Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District on June 18, 6 - 10 p.m. Gulfport gear makes a great gift! Stop by the Welcome Center at 3101 Beach Boulevard and check out the exclusive line of everything Gulfport, from T-shirts and ball caps to coasters and license plates. There is never an admission fee and complimentary parking is available nearby with courtesy trolley rides to and from off-site parking areas. Gulfport events are always pet and family friendly. For general event information call 322-5217, visit [www.facebook.com/GulfportArtWalk](http://www.facebook.com/GulfportArtWalk) or [www.visitgulfportflorida.com](http://www.visitgulfportflorida.com). Interested artisans and craftsmen can view guidelines at [www.SIKpromotions.com](http://www.SIKpromotions.com) under the vendor info tab.

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](http://www.gulfportma.com), call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email [FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com](mailto:FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com).

The **Citywide Business Watch** event is Tuesday, June 21 at 6 p.m. at Habana Café, 5402 Gulfport Boulevard. Guest speaker Commander Stone from the Gulfport Police Department will discuss business robberies and how to prevent them. For more information call 893-1022.

The next **Stetson Neighborhood Watch** meeting is Wednesday, June 22 at 7 p.m. at Stetson Law University, 1401 61<sup>st</sup> Street. Guest speaker is Lori Collins, Public Education Specialist from the 911 Emergency Center in Largo. For more information call 893-1022.

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 893-1022.

Everyone is invited to the City of Gulfport's **4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration** in the Waterfront District. The day's events begin with a Kid's Fishing Derby at the Recreation Center Seawall at 8 a.m. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Bring your own pole! This year's Family Sand Sculpture contest on Gulfport Beach from 10 a.m. until noon will have a Red, White & Blue theme. Bring your own tools and supplies. The little ones will have a great time with water slides, balloon entertainment and concessions at KIDZONE behind the Recreation Center from noon until 5 p.m. Food, fun, art and crafts vendors will offer their wares from 2 until 10 p.m. Live musical entertainment sets the Casino stage with Solar Exposer beginning at 5 p.m. The band recently received a nomination for 'Best Local Cover Band' in Creative Loafing's "Best of The Bay" annual awards in 2015 and has appeared at Rib Fest three years running. No 4<sup>th</sup> of July would be complete without a Parade on Beach Boulevard at 6 p.m. The day's celebration caps off with a spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m. The trolley will be running noon - 5:30 p.m. & 6:30 - 11 p.m. to transport passengers to & from remote parking locations: Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard; Library, 5501 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Senior Center & Theater, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Hoyt Field, 2306 56<sup>th</sup> Street; Chase Park, 54<sup>th</sup> Street & 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Ted Phillips Wood Ibis Park, 58<sup>th</sup> Street & 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The driver will also be picking up passengers along the route - just give a wave! Residents wishing to participate in the parade are invited to register at Gulfport City Hall, or fill out the online form at [www.mygulfport.us/july-4th](http://www.mygulfport.us/july-4th) no later than Friday, June 24. For more information, email [gbiron@mygulfport.us](mailto:gbiron@mygulfport.us) or call 893-1118.

Catch the Gulfport Trolley to the newly renovated Al Lang Stadium for the Saturday, August 20 **Tampa Bay Rowdies** vs. FC Edmonton game; Adult tickets \$22/kids & students \$10, available

at [www.mygulfport.us/rowdiestrolley](http://www.mygulfport.us/rowdiestrolley). Tickets are also available for the Saturday, September 17 vs. Carolina Railhawks game. 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.

Tickets for the **August 24 Tampa Bay Rays vs. Boston Red Sox and the September 21 vs. New York Yankees** games are available at the Gulfport Casino. The \$30 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 on the Gulfport Trolley. Departure from the Gulfport Casino begins at 5 p.m. Return trips begin during the 7<sup>th</sup> inning. All trolley trips this season will take place on \$2 *Hotdog Wednesdays*. For more information call 893-1118.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Patrol**

Dispatch calls for service	141
Self-initiated calls for service	348
Offenses	28
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	86
Ordinance violations	26

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 5900 block of Bayview Circle reported on June 9 that his identity was stolen and used to open two credit cards. He discovered the problem and cancelled the cards before they were used.

A resident in the 5000 block of 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported that a suspicious vehicle was parked at a nearby vacant house. The car, which had been reported stolen in St. Petersburg, was returned to the owner.

Dustin Barrentine was arrested for simple batter after he mistook the McDonald's manager for another person, and punched him.

A resident in the 2800 block of 56<sup>th</sup> Street reported on June 10 that her identity was stolen and used to open two credit cards. A PayPal account was also set up in her name and used to purchase several hundred dollars' worth of merchandise.

A resident in the 2500 block of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street reported on June 13 that he hired a company to repair his roof. His check was cashed but the work was not done, and the phonet numbers for the company and person are no longer in service. The investigation continues.

Misty Maddox was arrested on a warrant for parole violation on June 15 after she called police and stated she wanted to turn herself in.

An officer was dispatched to an apartment building in the 2800 block of 51<sup>st</sup> Street after a resident reported a cat in medical distress inside the laundry room. The cat was in very poor health, and was transported to a nearby animal hospital.

Someone entered an unlocked vehicle parked overnight in the 5800 block of 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue and stole several items.

### **Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)**

New cases:	19
Cases assigned:	5

Cases suspended-no leads:	12
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
Cases referred back to patrol:	0
Supplements received:	9
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	0
Cases unfounded-no crime:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	7

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for an arson case, a burglary, a hit & run, and an uttering counterfeit bills case. He also interviewed the arson suspect at Tampa General Hospital.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed a supplemental report for a burglary case, a grand theft and a fraud case; reviewed a video interview in a lewd and lascivious battery case, and; researched various databases for a burglary and theft case for Detective Pham.

School Resource Officer Motte is preparing the explorers for the FAPE competition.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano created and distributed a bulletin for Ofc. Nicita in an attempt to ID a suspect in a grand theft; produced and distributed the biweekly R.A.D.A.R. information, and; attended UCR training.

### **Records**

Reports reviewed	7
Supplements reviewed:	24
Public Records requests:	22
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints	2
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	40

### **LIBRARY**

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

**Rags: A Survey of LGBT Periodicals** is on display during the month of June. The exhibit covers the history of gay newsweeklies across the country, and highlights their role in creating political and societal changes. Call 893-1075 for more information.

### **Public Programs/Meetings/Events:**

Monday, June 6, 5:30 p.m. - Change Your Water, Change Your Life: Health, wellness, and water demo seminar.

Tuesday, June 7, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*.

Tuesday, June 7, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*.

Tuesday, June 7, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.

Tuesday, June 7, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, June 8, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, June 8, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*.

Wednesday, June 8, 6 p.m. - *Teen Hangout* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Wednesday, June 8, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, June 9, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, June 9, noon - Lunch & Learn presents *From Gay Surfers to Old Lesbians Organizing for Change: Developing an LGBT Initiative at a State University in Florida*.

Friday, June 10, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Friday, June 10, 7 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Kick-off featuring the Tricky Dog Show*.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday, June 18, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: For movie title, call 893-1074.

Monday, June 20, 3 p.m. - *Kids Summer Reading Program: Giving Tree Drum Circle*.

Monday, June 20 & 27, 5:30 p.m. - *Change Your Water, Change Your Life*: Health, wellness, and water demo seminar. Video presentation hosted by Crea Egan. Receive a 21-day supply of water for free. For more information call 560-0608.

Wednesday, June 22, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading Program: Olympic Games*.

Thursday, June 23, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga*: The group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month.

Saturday, July 2, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*.

Tuesday, July 5, 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](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us) for more information.

Tuesday, July 11, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club*: The group meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Registration required. See Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Every Monday - Wednesday & Friday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Bring a bag lunch and a dictionary. A different language group meets each weekday: Monday - French; Tuesday - Italian; Wednesday - Spanish; Friday - German. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us) or call 893-1074 for more information.

Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*: Enjoy conversing in a relaxed atmosphere. This is our most popular language group so far!

Every Tuesday, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*. For more information call 360-9069.

Every first & third Tuesday, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group*: Everyone is invited to join Allen Goldenson for some strummin' fun!

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

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

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.* Email [robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com](mailto: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. Cailey leads the group in singing songs, playing instruments & networking with other caregivers in our community.

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

### **Library Services/Statistic June 5 - 11, 2016:**

#### **Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,400	598
Sun. 6/5	Library closed	
Mon. 6/6	1	11
Tue. 6/7	181	97
Wed. 6/8	167	99
Thu. 6/9	266	105
Fri. 6/10	125	80
Sat. 6/11	183	90

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

### **Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport](http://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](http://www.mygulfport.us/gtv-640). Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list, and assisted with updates to social media pages.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued daily updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us and social media sites.
- Continued preparation of 2016-2017 events list and First Friday Art Reception schedule & contracts.
- Received parade participant applications for Independence Day event.
- Continued preparation of July calendar.
- Facilitated Flag Day event, and decorating Gulfport Trolley for St. Pete Pride parade.

### **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](http://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 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South for more information.

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.

Calling all registered Gulfport Senior Center member dads: You have been dealt an invitation to celebrate **Father's Day** with pizza and a friendly hand of poker at the Gulfport Senior Center on Monday, June 20. Put on your poker face and get ready for some friendly fun! Space is limited. Tickets **MUST** be obtained in advance. For more information call 893-5657.

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, July 5.

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

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center on Thursday, July 14 at 10:30 a.m.

The **FUNDamentals of Watercolor** class meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This basic class uses a limited palette which emphasizes watercolor techniques including color selection, color mixing, blending and glazing, and use of the color wheel to choose a personal palette. No prior drawing or painting experience is necessary. Registration is required.

**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.

**One-On-One Tech Support** with Jaclyn meets every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Assistance is not limited to specific devices. All electronics and skill levels are welcome.

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.

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, June 5            4 p.m. - Suncoast Surf Shop 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party (Turnout 470)

Tuesday, June 7            5 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 70)

Wednesday, June 8       6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 246)

Thursday, June 9         6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 30)

Friday, June 10           11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 14)

#### **Casino (upcoming events):**

Monday, June 27        7 p.m. - USA Ballroom Dance    Members \$5/nonmembers \$8

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

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

Sunday, June 5            9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 14)  
                                  6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, June 7           10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)  
                                  7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, June 9        10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 14)  
                                  6 p.m. - Tangerine Reuse meeting (Turnout 18)

**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, June 5 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 11)  
5 p.m. - Family Reunion (Turnout 29)
- Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
- Monday, June 6 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 15)
- Tuesday, June 7 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)
- Friday, June 10 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 11)

**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 rented 2:30 - 6:30 p.m. Saturday, June 11 for a birthday/graduation party with 5 in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 3 - 7 p.m. Saturday, June 18 for a baby shower, and; 5 - 11 p.m. Saturday, June 25 for a family reunion.

**Programs, Classes & Activities**

One hundred four 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.

Fifty 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, Pickleball, Table Tennis and Tennis.

Four regular **Teen Councilmembers** and one alternate were in attendance at the monthly meeting on June 10 with John Lapham facilitating. Topics discussed were Advisor Report, the approval of the May minutes, Upcoming Events, Old Business and New Business.

### **Staff Activities**

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday.

Marivel Gutierrez met with Wayne Armand on Tuesday to discuss plans for Tomlinson Park playground.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Calls for Service:**

- 58 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 1 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 1 Vehicle Crash
- 1 Water Rescue

### **Life Safety:**

- 12 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspections
- 1 Plan Reviews

### **CERT Program:**

Gulfport Firefighters have completed their June 2016 CME course. This month's topics: Pediatric Assessment, Diagnostic and Treatment, and the Handtevy Response Bag.

Gulfport Firefighters have begun their annual physicals with LifeScans, lab work and blood tests performed by LabCorp. The physicals also include a series of tests for Firefighter safety and wellbeing per NFPA 1500 requirements.

Chief Marenkovic met with Michael Cooksey from Fire and EMS Administration on June 15 to further discuss ALS/EMS funding and agreements with the City of Gulfport and EMS Authority Pinellas County.

Chief Marenkovic attended the St. Petersburg community forum on how to keep the public safe during the largest gay pride festival and 5K Run.

The Gulfport Fire Department is hosting two EMT Students from the St. Petersburg College internship field program. Firefighter/Paramedic Grady on the A-shift is their preceptor.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance**

- Moved boxed documents from Finance Department into storage.
- Repaired desk at Senior Center, door at beach ladies' restroom, cabinets at Senior Center, a/c unit at Marina and drinking fountain outside Recreation Center.
- Installed mini blinds in restrooms at Scout Hall.

- Replaced a/c filters at all City facilities and flags at Veterans Park.
- Delivered vehicle to Tampa for Garage.
- Continued semi-annual maintenance on a/c units at all City facilities.
- Performed monthly pest control at all City buildings.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

## **Parks**

- Set up tables & chairs at Veterans Park for Flag Day event; chairs, tables & tents for Police event, and; chairs & tent for Gulfport Neighbors Clean up.
- Watered non-irrigated areas.
- Secured wind screen at beach volleyball court.
- Continued cleaning parks following storm.
- Replaced flags throughout City.
- Repaired pool table wheels at Recreation Center.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Repaired and oiled bench swing on beach.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed City Complex, Recreation Center, Clam Bayou, Caldwell, Wood Ibis & Tomlinson Parks, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Median, Pasadena entrance area, trail spur, Tangerine & Clymer Greenways, Hoyt perimeter and Marina, Senior Center & Library green spaces.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt Field & Recreation Center.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Veterans & Clymer Parks, Beach Boulevard Streetscapes and 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue signage areas, mulched and raked around benches and pavilions, and cleaned beach.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- 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 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.
- Replenished recycle bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Graded beach parking lot.

- Cleared storm debris from streets & beach.
- Replaced newspaper recycling container at Town Shores Fairfax building.
- Posted “contaminated water” signs at Gulfport Marina following poor water quality report.
- Straightened street signs at York Street & 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Removed tree limbs from fence at 2530 York Street.
- Delivered barricades and containers in preparation for Gulfport Neighbors event.
- Repaired pipe at Concordia Court & 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Replaced broken sidewalks at 1219 York Street & 5136 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Removed dead tree from alley 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue & 54<sup>th</sup> 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 & 27 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 19 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 87 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 10 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Replaced 7 old meters with new style electronic meters.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Bored service line across Beach Boulevard to service water fountain.
- Bored 2” water main along Clinton Street from 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue to beach restroom.
- Bored 2” water main under Clinton Street to connect to existing water main.
- Bored 2” water main under 56<sup>th</sup> Street to connect to existing water main.

## **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, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Manually ran pumps at lift station to minimize sanitary sewer overflow.
- Cleaned 49<sup>th</sup> & 50<sup>th</sup> Street after overflow.
- Cleaned and televised sewer lateral at 1119 56<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Repaired power steering in vehicle #4.
- Replaced serpentine belt in truck #43.
- Welded broken step on truck #29.
- Replaced tires on truck #46.
- Pumped rainwater from fuel sumps.
- Replaced shift handle and reassembled dash in car 12.
- Delivered truck 40 to Tampa Spring for repairs.
- Delivered car 2 to dealership for warranty repair.

- 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.pcclb.com).

**Code Enforcement** activities continued this week in Section 1 of the City, also known as the Stetson Area which comprises the northwest portion of the City and generally extends south from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to Gulfport Boulevard and east from 64<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup> Street.

The number of code enforcement cases for May was 190. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 1,171. The number of citizen complaints for April was 15, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 79. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 6.7 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](http://www.mygulfport.us).