



# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *June 14 - 20, 2015*

### OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

**Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Friday, July 3** in observance of Independence Day. The Sanitation schedule will not be affected.

American Legion Post 125, Vice Mayor Yolanda Roman & Councilmember Dan Liedtke led the **Flag Day Ceremony** at Veteran's Park on June 15 (photos below). Flag Day commemorates the adoption of the United States flag.



City of  
Gulfport

Flag  
Day  
Celebration



Gulfport Police & Firefighters were celebrated during **Local Heroes Day** at the Gulfport Library on June 15 (photos below). They discussed how they keep the community safe, and ways that we can keep ourselves safe. They also displayed all the cool gadgets and tools in police cars and on the fire truck. Gulfport Fire Department handed out fire helmets and badges to the kids.



### Upcoming Events:

**Gulfport Neighbors' Junk in the Trunk** is back, offering even more ways for Gulfport residents to recycle, and clean & green Gulfport! Swap, trash or give away old furniture, appliances, tires, and other bulk items for free during our next event at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street on Saturday, June 20, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. No firearms, drugs, liquor, paints, chemicals or batteries please. The Gecko Gardeners will have some great offerings to share, and representatives from the Community Garden will provide gardening tips and information on Vermiculture Technology composting. The Neighbors will also collect toiletry and non-perishable food items for the Senior Center pantry. Stop by for a cup of coffee and meet Gulfport Police Lt. Josh Stone and Community Resource Officer Zack Mills. Josh and Zack are available to hear your concerns and offer safety tips for your home. Register bikes at no charge. Sign up for Code Red to be notified by your local emergency response team in the event of emergency situations or critical community alerts. All Children's Hospital representatives will provide free bike helmets and teach the 5 steps to properly fitting a helmet. This event is for Gulfport residents only. Proof of residency (driver's license or utility bill) is required. Join the Gulfport Neighbors network of volunteers: inspiring, motivating and uniting our neighbors to improve the quality of life in Gulfport. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/gulfportneighbors](http://www.facebook.com/gulfportneighbors) or call 893-1118.

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made arts & crafts, bath, body & wellness products, live music and more. Over 50 vendors and exhibitors participate each Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent every Tuesday. For more information visit [www.gulfportma.com](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 City of Gulfport will cohost the **St. Pete Pride 5K and Stiletto Sprint** on Saturday, June 27. The run/walk begins in front of Gulfport Casino at 8 a.m. For registration information, visit [www.stpetepride5k.com](http://www.stpetepride5k.com).

Meet this month's featured artist, Cay Maria Adams at an opening reception for an exhibit of her works in the Catherine Hickman Theater on Friday, July 3, 6 - 8 p.m. Cay Maria is largely self-taught. She credits living in Europe for seven years as a great influence. Her needlepoint designs for Erica Wilson were sold by Pierpont Morgan Library and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Cay Maria relocated from Sag Harbor to Gulfport in 2014 to concentrate on painting. Light refreshments will be offered and cash bar available. For more information call Jessica at 608-0070. Cay Maria's works will be on display through July.

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 patriotic 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 Maggio and Friends beginning at 5 p.m. 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-4](http://www.mygulfport.us/july-4) no later than Friday, June 26. For more information, email [gbiron@mygulfport.us](mailto:gbiron@mygulfport.us) or call 893-1118.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### ***Calls for Service:***

Dispatch calls for service	148
Self-initiated calls for service	436
Offenses	44
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	30

### **Significant incidents or calls this week:**

Officers responded to McDonalds on June 11 after the manager saw a toddler by himself at the corner of 51<sup>st</sup> Street & Gulfport Boulevard. The child unlocked a door and escaped while his mother's attention was diverted. Steps were taken to prevent the incident recurring and there was no probable cause that neglect had occurred.

A woman swimming in the Pasadena Yacht & Country Club pool accused another woman of intentionally hitting her in the face with a foam kickboard. Police interviewed the suspect who claimed it was an accident. Surveillance video of the incident did not resolve issue, and no charges were filed.

A Stetson University student reported that someone had shuffled through her belongings while her car was parked at the college Library. Nothing was taken.

Avion Dudley was arrested on June 12 on a warrant for failure to appear on a city ordinance violation.

Officer Crane stopped a vehicle in the 2700 block of 58<sup>th</sup> Street because the occupants were not wearing seatbelts. Passenger Marc Downs was found in possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia, and was arrested.

Officers were dispatched to the pavilion in Veterans Park (after hours) regarding people fighting. The parties were issued trespass warnings due to ongoing issues.

A man reported that he parked his silver Huffy Beach Cruiser against the fence in front of a residence in the 3000 block of Beach Boulevard on June 13. When he returned 5 minutes later the bike was gone.

A resident in the 2000 block of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street reported on the morning of June 14 that someone entered their home through a window and stole their cigarettes.

A man reported that he was attacked by three black males after exiting a business in the area of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 49<sup>th</sup> Street on June 15. One of the three chased him across the street and beat him with a crate and a pipe. The suspect stole his wallet and cell phone, and fled into St. Pete. Ofc. Priest located the suspect, who ran to a house nearby. A SPPD K-9 located the victim's wallet in the area where the suspect ran.

Officer Crane pulled over a pickup truck towing a sedan without using proper equipment on June 16. Passenger Dion Thompkins was arrested on an outstanding warrant for DUI. Anton McKinnon, who was operating the steering and brakes in the towed vehicle, was arrested for habitual driving while license suspended or revoked. Florida Statutes state that operating a towed vehicle is considered driving.

Officers responded to the 5500 block of Shore Boulevard after a caller reported an intoxicated male was talking to himself and yelling. The man stated that he was upset because he lost eighty dollars. He left the area without further incident.

A resident in the 2600 block of Beach Boulevard reported on June 17 that someone stole her garden gnomes from the front of her home.

An officer was flagged down regarding an issue at Scooter Rescue. It was discovered that a scooter was stolen by an ex-employee and not reported by the business.

A resident in the 5500 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported that a yellow tool box was stolen from his enclosed backyard. The resident last saw the toolbox earlier in the day.

The marine unit was on the water for about 9 hours this week. Sergeant Marotta made 4 contacts, and Sergeant Burkhart & Officer Embry assisted with a vessel that broke anchor and was drifting.

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

New cases:	12
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	7
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	2
Supplements received:	3
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	1
Cases unfounded-no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	1

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations on a strong-arm robbery, 2 stolen vehicles and a fraud case; completed supplements on a stolen vehicle case, 2 frauds, a vehicle burglary, a robbery and a theft case, and; assisted Officer Motte with Explorer training in preparation for State competition.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations on a sexual battery case; completed supplements on 2 burglary cases, and; attended a three day death investigation course at FDLE.

School Resource Officer Motte spent the majority of this week preparing the Explorer post for State competition.

School Resource Officer Langston covered the summer school program at Boca Ciega High School and assisted patrol this week.

Crime Analyst Palmisano prepared the monthly PCSO call out report, and created/distributed bulletins for Ofc. Hutsko and Ofc. Affeldt.

### **Records Section**

Reports reviewed	19
Supplements reviewed:	66
Public records requests:	25
Background checks:	1
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	18
Citizens assisted:	33

### **MARINA**

Assisted in forty (40) pump outs, evacuating six hundred seventy (670) gallons of waste.

Pumped three thousand eight hundred eighty (3,880) gallons of gas and two thousand four hundred twenty nine (2,429) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred thirty five (135) vessels.

#### **Transient vessels:**

Marina staff welcomed 2 30' sailboats, a 32' sailboat, 33' sailboat, 34' sailboat, 45' sailboat, 40' motor yacht and a 30' motorboat this week.

#### **Staff activities:**

- Attached weights to swim buoys.
- Pumped out boat on pier 3, slip 10.
- Replaced handle on pump-out valve.
- Adjusted guide poles on boat lifts.
- Replaced door on trashcan.

### **LEISURE SERVICES**

#### **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.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.

- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us domain and training new staff on GTV640 live meeting & programming operations.
- Updated meeting schedules, agendas & minutes, Recreation Center information and Trumba calendar on City website.
- Distributed July calendar at City facilities and Tuesday Market.
- Continued preparations for Flag Day & Independence Day events.
- Met with St Pete Pride organizers.
- Provided technical assistance for Historical Society event.
- Attended Pinellas County PIO meeting.
- Updated Casino Facebook page.

### **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).

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborhood 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 & 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 **multiple 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.

**Donuts for Dads!!** Stop by the Senior Center snack bar between 9 & 11 a.m. Monday, June 22 for a free donut and a cup of coffee.

Join us for our new **Summer Series** every Tuesday at 10 a.m. *Feel Grand with Jane Seymour* is a nationally-distributed television series hosted by the actress, artist and health advocate. Featuring some of the country's top physicians, the show provides insight on aging, how to prevent illness and what to do if it strikes, and most importantly, how to get the most out of what should be the grandest time of your life. Topics: Managing Pain (6/23) & Fixing Your Nutrition (6/30).

Whether you're new to Medicare or established recipient, learn some Medicare basics during **Getting Started with Medicare**, presented by Steven Reiser from Senior Benefit Solutions on Wednesday, June 24 at 2 p.m.

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 July 13. By appointment only; call 893-1231 to schedule a screening.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and glucose screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is June 25.

**Happy Birthday to You!** Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, June 26. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

Turn your favorite photograph into a work of art during **Painting with Judith** every Monday at 5:30 p.m. No experience necessary.

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.

**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 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 \$65.00 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):**

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Sunday, June 7     | 7 p.m. - Ballroom Dance featuring the Good Times Swing & Ballroom Fantasy Band (Turnout 24)   |
| Tuesday, June 9    | 9 a.m. - Rec Center Tai Chi (Turnout 16)<br>Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 23)<br>7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 61) |
| Wednesday, June 10 | 10 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 19)<br>6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 198)  |
| Thursday, June 11  | 9 a.m. - Rec Center Tai Chi (Turnout 8)<br>6:30 p.m. - Latin Night (Turnout 38)   |
| Saturday, June 13  | 6 p.m. - Quinceanera (Turnout 100)  |

**Casino (upcoming events):**

Friday, June 19      6 p.m. - The Impacts Tribute to Rock & Roll Admission: \$15 & \$20

Every Sunday      6 p.m. - Ballroom Fusion dance lesson with Swing Time  
7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$7

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

Every Wednesday    10 a.m. - Yoga  
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 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera  
8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$7

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

Sunday, June 7      9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 26)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, June 9      10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 15)  
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, June 11    10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)

Friday, June 12      11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 11)

Saturday, June 13    11:30 a.m. - Private party (Turnout 40)  
3:30 p.m. - Royal Community Holiness Church Dinner (Turnout 60)

**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

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

Sunday, June 7      6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

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

Tuesday, June 9      10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)  
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

**Scout Hall (upcoming events):**

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

**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 a.m. until 1 p.m.

**Public Programs/Meetings/Events:**

Tuesday, June 9, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for Beginners* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, June 9, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

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

Wednesday, June 10, 2 p.m. - *Advance Computer class.*

Wednesday, June 10, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, June 11, 10:30 a.m. - *Music & Me Toddler Storytime.*

Friday, June 12, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, June 13, 11 a.m. - Author Lynda Lippman-Lockhart discussion of her new novel *The Laundry Room.*

Saturday, June 13, 2 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Kick-off.*

**Upcoming Events:**

Friday, June 26, 10 a.m. - *Community Involvement Consulting:* A representative from Senator Marco Rubio's office will be available to meet individually with constituents on matters of interest and concern.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5:* Each week features a different activity. For more information call 893-1074 or visit the Library.

Every Monday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. - *Comedy/Improv Workshop.* For more information call 252-4413.

Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.* For more information call 360-9069.

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

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Hangout:* Each week features a different cool activity. We'll have prizes and snacks! For more information email [cklasson@mygulfport.us](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us).

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.* For more information contact contact Robyn Featherstone at [robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com](mailto:robynfeatherstonesq@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 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/Statistic March June 7-13, 2015:**

**Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation: 1,761 586  
Sun. 6/7 Library closed

Mon. 6/8	334	107
Tue. 6/9	336	103
Wed. 6/10	278	96
Thu. 6/11	252	89
Fri. 6/12	250	92
Sat. 6/13	291	86

### **Recreation Center**

The game room was reserved 2-6 p.m. Saturday June 13 for a baby shower with approximately forty five (45) in attendance.

### **Programs, Classes & Activities**

One hundred twenty seven (127) children have been registered for the **2015 Summer Recreation Program**, and twenty (20) for swim lessons. The program lasts eight weeks and is available to children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. 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 eight (78) teens are registered for the **2014-2015 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, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Spanish, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Women’s Self-Defense, Yoga and Zumba.

### **Staff Activities**

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Health Fair meeting on Wednesday.

Shanoah Washington-Davis worked the room rental on Saturday.

The **Teen Council meeting** was cancelled due to no quorum in advance.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Calls for Service:**

- 33 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 4 Vehicle Crashes
- 2 Elevator Rescues
- 1 Fuel Spill
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

### **Life Safety:**

- 4 Fire re-inspections
- 1 Permit Review
- 2 Site Plan Reviews

Lieutenant Burford on the “B” shift is preceptor for an EMT student from the St. Petersburg College Field Internship Program.

A-Shift participated in Hero's Day at the Gulfport City Library on June 15 to educate children about safety and the job of a firefighter. A demonstration was performed with a firefighter wearing personal protective equipment and SCBA.

Four Paramedic candidates are scheduled for interviews on June 25. Two will be chosen to move forward in the selection process for the open position.

Chief Marenkovic attended the PALS Strategic Planning Seminar at Eckerd College on June 16. The group discussed reconstructing the CME, and standardization of all EMS response bags.

The Gulfport Firefighters continued their St. Pete College June CME this week. This month's topic is face to face hands-on Pediatric Emergency Scenarios.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance**

- Painted offices and repaired electrical outlet at City Hall.
- Prepped and stained doors at Library.
- Replaced filters on a/c units at all City buildings.
- Ran errand to Goodyear for Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor.
- Replaced fluidmaster and flapper in toilet in Police Department ladies restroom.
- Repaired a/c in computer room at City Hall and mopped up leaking water.
- Treated all City buildings for pests.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

### **Parks**

- Replaced American Flags throughout City.
- Unloaded and assembled furniture and hung bulletin boards at Library.
- Replaced trash cans at pier, Caldwell Park and Shore Boulevard.
- Continued sealing picnic tables at beach.
- Replaced motor in shop exhaust fan and ceiling tiles in restroom.
- Cut wood pallet for Recreation Center art project.
- Reworked sand at beach volleyball courts
- Cleared blockages in drinking fountains in City parks.
- Continued replacement of tree lights & electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Trimmed, weeded, mulched and cleaned beds at Veterans & Wood Ibis Parks, Neighborhood Center & 49<sup>th</sup> Streetscapes, raked leaves around benches & pavilions, and cleaned beach.
- Mowed Clymer & Veterans Parks, Chase Block, Senior Center & Library grounds, 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue sign areas & City Complex.
- Recreation Center, Marina, Lions Club, Beach, City Complex & beach green spaces, York Street & 49<sup>th</sup> Street termini, Caldwell & Tomlinson Parks, Pasadena entrance, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue medians, Hoyt perimeter, Clymer & Tangerine Greenways, Chase block, Dog Park & Wood Ibis drainage area.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- Repaired irrigation along Clymer Park, Veterans Park, 49<sup>th</sup> streetscapes and Senior Center.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.

- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged all ball fields daily.

### **Streets & Sanitation**

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture & electronics.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout City.
- Repaired asphalt and potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential and commercial automated trash containers, and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned and removed debris from storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways & sidewalks.
- Replenished recycled mulch bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Crushed and disposed of derelict 30' sailboat at Marina.
- Disposed of old tires and parts from city garage.
- Installed "No Trailer Parking" signs at Marina.
- Removed tree stumps and roots on Beach Boulevard in front of Bo-Tiki.
- Removed seaweed and debris along beachfront.
- Delivered two 300-gallon trash containers to beach in preparation for Gulfport Neighbors weekend clean-up event.

### **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).
- Completed routes 31, 32, 33 & 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 26 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 11 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 102 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 15 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.
- Replaced 1 meter that was stuck and not recording water usage.
- Repaired backflow at 4918 Gulfport Boulevard following vehicle strike.
- Replaced 2" wet tap on 59<sup>th</sup> Street in preparation for replacement waterline supplying 5800, 5802, 5804, 5806, 5806, 5810, & 5812 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **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.

## Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced windshield spray nozzles & hose on Police vehicle #54.
- Delivered GEMS Bus #11 to a/c repair shop.
- Replaced tires on Utilities truck #22.
- Replaced defective batteries in Fire Engine #E17.
- Replaced hydraulic extender hoses in Sanitation vehicle #29.
- Replaced a/c dryer, and removed front pump shaft on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Replaced hydraulic hose on Sanitation vehicle #47.
- 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, 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](http://www.pcclb.com).

**Code Enforcement** activities continue in Section 4 of the City, also known as the Art District which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and east from 49<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup> & 59<sup>th</sup> Streets.

The number of code enforcement cases for May was 189. The fiscal year-to-date total is 1,326. The number of citizen complaints was 18 for a fiscal year-to-date total of 114. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 8.6 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 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](http://www.mygulfport.us).

### **July 1 Planning and Zoning Board and July 21 City Council/CRA meeting:**

AV15-01; Application for Vacation of Public Right-of-Way, City Ordinance to vacate a portion of the East-West Alley between 51<sup>st</sup> & 52<sup>nd</sup> Streets and North of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. (FIRST READING)

### **July 7 City Council/CRA meeting:**

OE15-01; 3121 Beach Boulevard; CRA application request for an Outdoor Entertainment permit for an existing restaurant.