



Gulfport Community Update

June 21 - 27, 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.

The Gulfport Neighbors and the City of Gulfport hosted another successful **Junk in the Trunk** with the help of numerous volunteers (photos below). Junk was dumped and treasures were scored for repurposing. The Gulfport Gecko Gardeners answered horticultural questions, while Gulfport's Police Department fitted helmets and registered bikes for attendees.



Upcoming Events:

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.

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

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 **4th 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 4th 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 28th Avenue; Senior Center & Theater, 5501 27th Avenue; Hoyt Field, 2306 56th Street; Chase Park, 54th Street & 28th Avenue; Ted Phillips Wood Ibis Park, 58th Street & 28th 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 no later than Friday, June 26. For more information, email gbiron@mygulfport.us or call 893-1118.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	157
Self-initiated calls for service	406
Offenses	40
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	28

Significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 2000 block of 53rd Street reported on June 18 that she allowed a man she hired to weed her lawn to use the restroom. She discovered after he left that her medications were missing from her drawer.

The owner in of a business in the 4900 block of 15th Avenue reported on June 19 that the window of his vehicle was damaged sometime overnight, possibly by a BB gun.

Officers were dispatched to the 5900 Block of Bayview Circle after a caller reported that he was battered by his intoxicated wife. The victim had a laceration on his head and several items inside the home had been broken. Rosa Williams was located at a neighbor's home and arrested for felony battery on a person over 65 years of age.

Officers responded to the 900 block of 49th Street after a motorcycle rider lost control of his bike. Robert Brewer sustained injuries to his leg and was transported to a hospital. He exhibited signs of intoxication, but refused to submit to testing and was charged with DUI.

A resident in the 5300 13th Avenue reported on the morning of June 20 that his Chevrolet pickup truck was borrowed by a friend, and returned during the night with the keys placed in an agreed-upon spot. The truck was gone when the resident awoke. An acquaintance of the victim is suspected of stealing the vehicle.

James Mitchell was arrested at his estranged wife's home for violating a domestic violence injunction after police spotted his vehicle parked there. Officer Petit made contact with Mitchell at the front door.

A woman reported that her car was stolen from a friend's residence in the 4900 block of 14th Avenue. She let her friend borrow the vehicle and initially thought it had been repossessed.

A resident in the 2600 block of Upton Street reported that someone entered her unlocked vehicle and opened an empty jewelry box. Nothing was taken.

A resident in the 2200 block of Horan Way left her vehicle unlocked overnight and discovered on the morning of June 21 that several items were missing.

A resident in the 2600 block of Tifton Street reported that their car window was broken and an item was stolen from inside. The resident's estranged spouse is suspected.

Officer Crane stopped a vehicle in the 5400 block of 11th Avenue and discovered driver Kelly Smith had a suspended license, no insurance, and had been convicted in the past for the same offenses. She was arrested.

A resident in the 2600 block of Upton Street left his vehicle unlocked overnight, and several items were stolen. Video of the incident was obtained from the victim's surveillance system.

Officers responded to the vicinity of 58th Street & 18th Avenue regarding 2 males approaching vehicles in driveways. The caller lost sight of them after a brief chase. No vehicles were entered and nothing was taken.

A man walking his bicycle past Gulfport Square on June 22 accidentally bumped a bike that was parked there. The man whose bike was bumped became angry and pushed the other man. A witness called police but the victim did not wish to prosecute.

A resident in the 5600 block of 25th Avenue reported on the morning of June 23 that his brown 2006 F150 was stolen sometime overnight. The victim parked the truck at this location at approximately 5 p.m. the day before.

An officer was dispatched to the 2400 block of Premier Drive on the afternoon of June 24 after a caller reported that a man came to her door claiming to have been hired by the Pasadena Yacht & Country Club to perform pest control. A neighbor advised the victim that two other men had entered her residence while she was distracted by the first suspect. The resident discovered that several thousand dollars' worth of jewelry was missing. The suspects left the area in a late model gold colored minivan.

Marine Unit: The marine unit was out for about 6 hours this week. Two contacts were made and two citations issued.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	13
Cases assigned:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	4
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0

Cases unfounded/no crime:	8
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements received:	19
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	3
Cases suspended-no leads:	1
Cases unfounded-no crime:	2
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases still active:	11

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham followed up on a theft case and a strong-arm robbery case; completed supplements on a theft and a stolen vehicle; assisted Sgt. Woodman with a homicide investigation; completed a probable cause affidavit for a suspect wanted for burglary/stolen vehicle, and; attended Advanced Cold Case Long Term Missing Investigations training.

Detective Crowson completed supplements for a stolen vessel, 2 burglaries, a fraud, a grand theft and 2 auto thefts; investigated a suspicious death and attended the autopsy the following day; attended a State Attorney's Invest for two vehicle burglaries involving the same arrested juvenile, and; conducted research on a juvenile in connection to recent vehicle burglaries and auto thefts.

School Resource Officer Motte assisted patrol and attended the State of Florida Association of Police Explorers (FAPE) competition.

School Resource Officer Langston covered the Summer Bridge Program at Boca Ciega High School; assisted patrol, and; attended the State of Florida Association of Police Explorers (FAPE) competition.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano completed pawn checks on 15 cases with a named suspect, known serial number or searchable description completed a review of stolen property with a known serial number to verify documentation of entry into FCIC/NCIC; sorted and distributed the case agent evidence review forms; created and distributed open case lists; updated the sex offender display in the police lobby and the sex offender pamphlets removing 2 offenders that recently moved out of the city and adding one that recently moved into the city.

Records Section

Reports reviewed	19
Supplements reviewed:	124
Public records requests:	17
Background checks:	2
Bike registrations:	10
Fingerprints	14
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	39

MARINA

Assisted in fifty six (56) pump outs, evacuating eight hundred twenty two (822) gallons of waste.

Pumped four thousand two hundred sixty one (4,261) gallons of gas and one thousand six hundred seventy nine (1,679) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred thirty six (136) vessels.

Transient vessels:

Marina staff welcomed 30' powerboat, 21' powerboat, 28' sailboat, 25' sailboat and a 22' sailboat this week.

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at www.mygulfport.us/gtv-640. Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us domain and training new staff on GTV640 live meeting & programming operations.
- Updated meeting schedules, agendas & minutes, Recreation Center, Senior Center, Casino and Cultural Facilities information, and Trumba calendar on City website.
- Commenced preparation of August calendar.
- Continued preparations for Flag Day & Independence Day events.
- Assisted with preparations for Employee Health Expo
- Uploaded Trolley video and Hurricane Seminar video to You Tube
- Set up equipment and worked at Junk in the Trunk event.
- Continued updates to 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.

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborhood 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 **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 27th Avenue South for more information.

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. June 30 topic: Fixing Your Nutrition.

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 July 30.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, July 31. 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):

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| Sunday, June 14 | 7 p.m. - Ballroom Dance featuring the Good Times Swing & Ballroom Fantasy Band (Turnout 15) |
| Tuesday, June 16 | 9 a.m. - Rec Center Tai Chi (Turnout 18)
Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 16)
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 74) |
| Wednesday, June 17 | 10 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 19)
6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 198) |
| Thursday, June 18 | 9 a.m. - Rec Center Tai Chi (Turnout 9)
7 p.m. - Pinellas County Job Corps Summer Formal (Turnout 200) |

Friday, June 19 6 p.m. - The Impacs Tribute to Rock & Roll (Turnout 345)

Saturday, June 20 4 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 85)

Casino (*upcoming events*):

Saturday, June 27 9 p.m. - Argentine Tango Milonga

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

Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):

Thursday- Saturday, July 9-11 and 16-18, 8 p.m., and Sunday, July 12 & 19, 2 p.m. - *Gulfport Community Players 15th Annual Summer One Act Festival*: Thirteen original, short plays in one evening. Tickets \$15: available at Gulfport Beach Bazaar (cash or check only), one hour before show time in the Theater lobby, or online at www.GulfportCommunityPlayers.org.

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

Sunday, June 14 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 26)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, June 16 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 15)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, June 18 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)

Friday, June 19 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 11)

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 14 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous
Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Tuesday, June 16 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:

Monday, June 15, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5*
Tuesday, June 16, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for Beginners* facilitated by Alex Hooks.
Tuesday, June 16, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*
Tuesday, June 16, 7 p.m. - *Susan Gore discussion of her book Coming Out in Faith*
Wednesday, June 17, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*
Wednesday, June 17, 2 p.m. - *Advance Computer class.*
Wednesday, June 17, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Hangout.*
Wednesday, June 17, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*
Thursday, June 18, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*
Thursday, June 18, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Plato's Republic* over coffee & light refreshments.
Friday, June 19, 6:45, p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Upcoming Events:

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, prizes and snacks! For more information email cklasson@mygulfport.us.
Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.* For more information contact Robyn Featherstone at 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 14-20, 2015:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,891	601
Sun. 6/14	Library closed	
Mon. 6/15	310	118
Tue. 6/16	367	100
Wed. 6/17	425	107
Thu. 6/18	275	81
Fri. 6/19	270	90
Sat. 6/20	223	83

Recreation Center

The game room was reserved 2-7 p.m. Saturday, June 20 for a Graduation party with approximately forty (40) in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 12:30-4:30 p.m. Saturday, June 27 for a dinner party.

Programs, Classes & Activities

One hundred thirty two (132) children have been registered for the **2015 Summer Recreation Program**, and twenty two (22) 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 nine (79) 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

Shanoah Washington-Davis worked the room rental on Saturday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 35 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Elevator Rescue
- 1 Gas Leak

Life Safety:

- 9 Fire Inspections
- 1 Site Plan Review

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

Four Paramedic candidates were interviewed on June 25. Two will be chosen to move forward in the selection process for the open position. A selection should be made by August.

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.

Chief Marenkovic & Lieutenant Scott Burford participated in a FirstWatch, First Pass training module with Pinellas County EMS and Dr. Jameson. This software program will help with Quality Assurance review on patient care reports.

Chief Marenkovic and Inspector Lundh attended a Piper Fire Protection Ansul Hood System Seminar on June 24. The lecture covered Florida Fire Code and UL 300 & UL1254 with Pre-Engineer system requirements.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Replaced belt on a/c unit at City Hall.
- Cleared drains on two a/c units at Library.
- Reset fire panel at Senior Center following storm, repaired ice machine in kitchen, and set up rooms for daily activities.
- Repaired table leg at Recreation Center.
- Cleared blocked toilet in Dog Park men’s restroom.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Assembled television stands at Recreation Center.
- Unloaded pipe and fitting for Water Department.
- Cleared trash from Tangerine Pond.
- Reworked sand at beach volleyball courts.
- Installed upcoming event banner on Gulfport Boulevard.
- Continued aerating ball fields.
- Continued replacement of tree lights & electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Trimmed, weeded, mulched and cleaned beds at Library, City Complex & Recreation Center, trimmed palms at the marina & Clam Bayou, raked leaves around benches & pavilions, and cleaned beach.
- Mowed 28th Street sign area, Wood Ibis, Clam Bayou & Clymer Parks, trail spur, Senior Center, Library, Recreation Center, Marina & Lions Club green spaces, York & 49th Street termini, and both dog parks.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- Repaired irrigation at Clymer & Veterans Parks, 49th 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.
- Reset speed limit sign at 64th Street & 9th Avenue following vehicle strike.
- Set up barricades and trucks for “Junk-in-the-Trunk” weekend event.
- Cleared and reopened sidewalk at 52nd Street & 26th Avenue.

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 45, 46, 47 & 48 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 25 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 74 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 6 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.
- Installed 500' of 2" water line in easement behind Town Shores Market.
- Installed new service lines & backflows at 5802, 5804, 5806, 5808, 5810 & 5812 28th Avenue.
- Located water service lines on 25th Avenue.
- Located gas main and confirmed depth of lines in preparation for paving on 25th Avenue.
- Repaired water break at 2915 Clinton Street.

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.
- Replaced sewer lateral at 2401 52nd Street.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Removed tire and replaced valve stem on Police vehicle #154.
- Repaired tire on Sanitation vehicle #30.
- Charged Freon, and replaced tail light bulbs on Police vehicle #54.
- Replaced transmission cooler hose and refilled transmission fluid in Sanitation vehicle #44.
- Picked GEMS Bus #11 from A/C shop.
- Delivered Police vehicle #6 to Suncoast Chrysler for warranty repairs.
- Towed Police vehicle #12 to City garage following fuel pump failure.
- Performed preventive maintenance and various small repairs on City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the **New Business Checklist** on the City website at www.mygulfport.us under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

For more information, including a number of workshops, on starting a new business, visit the **Pinellas County Economic Development Small Business Development Center** website at www.pced.org/entrepreneurs or call 464-7332. They also offer personalized business consulting to help you become successful with your startup business.

Building Division staff tries to take special time to work with homeowners embarking on do-it-yourself projects. Whether it's deferred maintenance or new improvements, 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 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 49th Street to 58th & 59th Streets.

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.

Beginning in July Code Enforcement activities will move to Section 5 of the City, also known as the Marina District which comprises the southeast portion of the City and generally extends south from 26th Avenue to the water and east from 49th Street to the City boundaries. 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.

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 51st & 52nd Streets and North of 8th 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.