



Gulfport Community Update

July 6 - 12, 2014

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Early morning fishing, sand sculptures of nautical nature, parade with over 50 units and fantastic fireworks were just some of the events enjoyed by attendees at the City of Gulfport's Independence Day celebration on July 4 (photos below). Beach and Shore Boulevards were full of revelers enjoying the day and evening.



Fire Chief James Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that **smoke detectors** are available free of charge to elderly and low income households *within Gulfport City limits*. Stop by the Fire Station or call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

2014 Hurricane Implementation Guides are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. Hurricane season in the Atlantic began on June 1 and ends November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits.

Upcoming Events:

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 about the Market visit www.gulfportma.com or call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com.

It's that time again! The **14th Annual Summer One Acts** returns the Catherine Hickman Theater July 10 - 20. Show times are 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday & Saturday, and Sundays at 2 p.m. The lineup consists of a combination of comedies, dramas and even one musical! Tickets are on sale now at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard; Gulfport Beach Bazaar, 3115 Beach Boulevard, and; Funkytown Resale Boutique, 5401 Gulfport Boulevard.

Enjoy shopping, entertainment and more at **Third Saturday Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard June 21, 6 - 10 p.m. For more information call 322-5217.

The next **Gulfport Library Garden Fourth Saturday Workshop** series is 2 p.m. Saturday, July 26 in the Library Community room. Participation is limited to 30 adults with one participant per household. Sign up at the Circulation Desk ASAP as this event is expected to fill to capacity quickly. Participants will build a vertical hanging planter to take home. The Home Depot on Tyrone Boulevard has been a major supporter of the Library's planned Seed Library and will be sponsoring this free event, and August's Earth Box workshop. Thank you to Home Depot Assistant Manager Lindsey Tornello and workshop leader Sandra Bennett for their ongoing support in making these events possible. Call the Library at 893-1073 for more information.

Everyone is invited to the City of Gulfport **Crime Awareness meeting** at the Neighborhood Center at 1617 49th Street at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of every month. For more information call 893-1111. The next meeting is August 4.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	152
Self-initiated calls for service	421
Offenses	55
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	31

Significant incidents or calls this week:

While on routine patrol on the evening of July 3, Officer Lavigne observed a car following another vehicle too closely. She activated her emergency lights, and the driver proceeded to drive slowly through the Recreation Center parking lot and then east on Shore Boulevard before pulling into a parking spot across from the beach bars. When he exited his car it was immediately apparent he was under the influence of something, and was arrested following a DUI test. He refused breath testing.

Three vehicles were towed from the beach area on July 4 because they were parked in the events area.

Sometime overnight unknown subject(s) cut a cable lock and stole a yellow tandem bike and a tan Huffy beach cruiser from a residence in the 3100 block of Clinton Street.

A resident in the 1000 block of 58th Street reported on the morning of July 4 that she left her garage open for approximately 45 minutes, during which time someone entered the garage and stole a \$2,000 bike for which she has no description or serial numbers.

A resident in the 5100 block of 13th reported that a bullet came through the roof of his house. It is suspected the bullet was the result of celebratory gunfire on the 4th of July.

Officers were dispatched to the 3200 block of 58th Street on July 5 regarding a naked male subject standing in his doorway. While officers were investigating the incident the suspect ran from the scene and attempted to flag down a cab. He was arrested for resisting without violence, and exposure of sexual organs charges were forward to the State Attorney's Office.

A silver 2006 Ford Fusion was taken from the 2500 block of Beach Boulevard on July 5, and recovered the next day. The vehicle sustained damage during the time it was missing, and the windows had been tinted.

An officer responded to the 5100 block of 28th Avenue after a caller reported damage to a vehicle. The vehicle is believed to have been struck by a bullet which caused a dent. It is suspected the bullet was the result of celebratory gunfire on the 4th of July.

An officer was dispatched to the 700 block of 54th Street regarding a late reported burglary to a residence. The suspect made entry through the kitchen window and stole two TV's and a PS3 Game System and two games.

Officer Obrart was conducting traffic enforcement in the area of Tangerine Avenue & Gulfport Boulevard when she observed a vehicle exceeding the speed limit. The driver did not immediately stop after Officer Obrart initiated a traffic stop at 64th Street & GPB, but she eventually pulled into a parking space in the area of Gulfport Boulevard & Oleander Way. She was subsequently arrested for possession of a controlled substance and violation of probation. The vehicle was seized as it was used in the commission of a felony.

An officer was dispatched to the 2000 block of 55th Street after a resident reported a bicycle theft. The bike was left unlocked in the backyard, but the owner was able to provide the serial number and the bicycle has been entered in FCIC as stolen.

Officers made contact with two male juveniles walking through Town Shores in the early morning hours of July 7. One fled from the officer while the other stayed behind. The second male stated they had come to the location to find bicycles. The other male was identified and charges are pending.

Officers responded to the 1400 block of York Street after reported someone broke into the rear door and stole a black .45 caliber semi-automatic handgun.

Officers responded to solicitors in the 5700 block of 18th Avenue on the afternoon of July 7. The subjects were previously warned to not solicit without a permit issued by the City, and were issued city ordinance violations.

A resident in the 5100 block of 15th Avenue reported on the morning of July 8 that he left his front door unlocked overnight and woke up to find his 55" TV, PS3 and tablet stolen.

A resident in the 1200 block of 60th Street reported that a silver men's bike was stolen from her screened in front porch.

A resident in the 5600 block of Tangerine Avenue reported that 2 amplifiers were stolen sometime between November 2013 and March 2014 while he was in jail. While the officers were talking with him he became uncooperative and went back into his house.

A juvenile reported that while he was in the library, someone stole his bicycle which had been locked to the bicycle rack. There were no witnesses.

While conducting a traffic stop on July 9, Officer Ross observed a vehicle run the red light at 49th Street & GPB. The vehicle stopped and the driver got out and ran away. Officer Ross checked on the vehicle and discovered it was a rental. The rental company had been notified it was stolen, but it had not yet been reported to law enforcement.

An unmarked law enforcement truck was stolen from the side yard of a residence in the 5000 block of 12th Avenue. Law enforcement related equipment was inside the vehicle. The vehicle was recovered in St Petersburg, but some of the equipment was not recovered.

There were three reports of shoplifting from the Family Dollar this week.

The Marine unit was on the water for 16 hours on Independence Day. Approximately 40 contacts were made throughout the day as boaters were advised they needed to maintain a 900 foot perimeter from Williams Pier where the fireworks were set up for the evening's display.

Investigations:

New cases:	15
Cases assigned:	6
Cases suspended-no leads:	6
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements received:	15
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	2
Cases suspended/no leads:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	12

Detective Pham: attempted to locate a burglary suspect at several locations in St. Pete; conducted pawn checks; spent approximately 20 hours typing supplements; assisted with the Independence Day celebration, and; attended Basic Excel class.

Detective Crowson: interviewed a suspect in an armed burglary case; investigated a fraud and sent two subpoena requests; assisted Detective Pham with attempting to locate a burglary suspect; assisted with the Independence Day celebration, and; completed a found property report.

Margaret Palmisano: continued compiling data for the semi-annual UCR submission to FDLE; submitted the quarterly seatbelt citation data to DHSMV; compiled information for the July 7 Crime Awareness meeting; completed pawn checks on 10 cases with a known serial number or named suspect and set up alerts on 2 cases; created and distributed a bulletin for Det. Pham to attempt to locate a suspect wanted for burglary; created a bulletin for Ofc. Lavigne to attempt to ID a suspect in retail theft, and; completed the monthly PCSO crime scene call out report.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	16
Supplements reviewed:	59
Public records requests:	23
Background checks:	1
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints:	3
Subpoenas processed:	20

Citizens assisted: 28

MARINA

Pumped four thousand nine hundred seventy five (4,975) gallons of gas, and two thousand four hundred ninety three (2,493) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred forty nine (149) vessels.

Assisted in thirty six (36) pump outs evacuating one thousand twenty eight (1,028) gallons of waste.

Transient Vessels:

Staff welcomed a 30' powerboat, 28' sailboat, 21' powerboat, 22' sailboat, 40' sailboat, and a 34' sailboat this week.

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

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

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us domain.
- Continued organizing Fiscal Year 2014/15 events schedule.
- Updated Community Development, Recreation & Senior Center pages on City website.
- Uploaded agenda for July 9 Board of Adjustment meeting to Granicus, provided control room coverage during meeting, rebroadcast on GTV-615 and uploaded video to City website.
- Sent August calendar to Events Supervisor for review.
- Distributed newsletter and calendars to Tuesday Market vendors.
- Continued production of Bike Theft PSA video.

Multipurpose Center

The Gulfport Multipurpose Center invites everyone 50+ to sign up for free. The Center is open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, & Fridays, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information! Stop by the Senior Center for a copy of this month's calendar or download your copy at www.mygulfport.us.

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

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

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **multiple volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, come join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants, Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center at 5501 27th Avenue South for more information.

The Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center was jumping with activity and excitement at the **Stars & Stripes BBQ Celebration** on July 3 (photos below). There was good food and great company with special guests Councilmember Dan Liedtke, Councilmember Michael Fridovich, and District 69 State Representative Kathleen Peters.



Concerned about your memory? Peggy Macaluso from the Alzheimer's Association offers a **free Monthly Memory Screening Clinic**, providing information and confidential advice to Gulfport Senior Center members the second Monday of every month, from 9 a.m. until noon. The next clinic is July 14. You **MUST** call 893-1231 to schedule a screening.

Cynthia Touchton of Stifel Investment Services will share financial planning strategies to help prevent you from running out of money in your lifetime during **Understanding the Risks in Retirement** at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 16.

Where have you been lately? Share your travel stories, pictures and tips during our next monthly **Bon Voyage Travel Discussion Group** at 1 p.m. Thursday, July 17, and let's explore the world together! The group hosts a new guest speaker every month.

Enjoy a **Day of Pampering** on Tuesday, July 22 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. when Heatherlee from Mary Kay will give a complete makeover to the first 10 people who sign up.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate Senior Center members' June birthdays with cake, games and more at 2:30 p.m. Friday, July 25. This monthly event is sponsored by Dolphin's View.

The Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab Center offers **free balance & blood pressure screenings** at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. The next screening is July 31. Blood Pressure Checks provided by Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab Center & Vein Screenings by Premier Vein Institute.

The Senior Center will host a showing of **HBO's Alzheimer's Project** documentary series on Friday, August 1 at 10 a.m. Take a look at the faces behind the disease and the forces leading us to a cure.

The **Coffee Club** meets at the Gulfport Senior Center at 10 a.m. the first Tuesday of every month to discuss current events, the economy and investing in a relaxed, informal setting. The next gathering is August 4. Meet new friends and learn great tips from financial advisor Scott O'Berry over coffee and doughnuts.

Join us at 3:30 a.m. Monday, August 4 for **Franklin D. Roosevelt: American Royalty**, presented by Eckerd College about the life and ideals of America's 32nd President.

Join Linda Burhans for **Tips for Caregivers** as she encourages self-care and joyful response to your role as a family caregiver on Wednesday, August 6 at 1:30 p.m.

Have a fun filled day exploring *The American Soldier* exhibit at the Museum of History during our next **Gulfport Getaway** on Thursday, August 7. This exhibit covers America at war from the Civil War to the streets of Baghdad. Call GEMS at 893-2242 before August 1 to reserve your seat. GEMS members: \$14/nonmembers \$16.

Join us for lots of fun & laughter at **These Joints are Jumping** on Friday August 8 at 11 a.m. when we'll dance in our chairs to music we love!

Join in the fun at our next **Puzzle Party** at 11 a.m. Friday, August 8. Learn to play Sudoku, Binairo and much more. Prizes provided by The Puzzle Pages.

Watch a free, current movie and get a \$3 lunch deal during **Movie Day at the Snack Bar** at 11 a.m. Tuesday, August 12.

The Springs at Boca Ciega Bay offers **free Blood Sugar Screenings** at 10:30 a.m. on the second Thursday of every month. The next screening is August 14.

Everyone is welcome at the **Dolphin's View Healthy Heart Cooking Class** at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, August 14.

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

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

SHINE services are free, unbiased, and confidential. Call 893-2237 or 893-1231 to schedule an appointment.

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

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

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

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

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

Casino (*last week's events*):

Sunday, June 29	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson with Carol Baker 7 pm - Ellis Hale's Band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 36)
Monday, June 30	7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance (Turnout 112)
Tuesday, July 1	9 a.m. - Summer Rec Tai Chi (Turnout 20) 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Paul Kirk 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance (Turnout 11) 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 41)
Wednesday, July 2	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Swing Dance Lesson 8 p.m. - Swing Dance (Turnout 214)
Thursday, July 3	9 a.m. - Summer Rec Tai Chi (Turnout 17) 6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 15)

Casino (*upcoming events*):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Dance Admission \$7
Every Tuesday	9 a.m. - Summer Rec Tai Chi 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	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 9 a.m. - Summer Rec Tai Chi
6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7

Saturday, July 12 8 p.m. - Argentine Tango Milonga La Playa Admission \$15

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

Sunday, June 29 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, July 1 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 11)

Thursday, July 3 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 14)

Neighborhood Center (*upcoming events*):

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every first - third Sunday 9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services

Every fourth Sunday 9:15 a.m. - Bible study

Every Tuesday & Thursday 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi

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

Thursday - Saturday, July 10-12 & 17-19, 8 p.m. & Sunday, July 13 & 20, 2 p.m. - The Gulfport Community Players 14th Annual Summer One Acts. Tickets: \$15, available at the Gulfport Area Chamber of Commerce, Beach Bazaar, Funkytown Resale & Casino, or by calling 322-0316.

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

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

Monday, June 30 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 31)

Tuesday, July 1 10:30 a.m. - Line Dancing (Turnout 10)

Wednesday, July 2 11 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 4)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Wednesday 10:30 a.m. - Yoga

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Line dancing

LIBRARY

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

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, June 30, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading program for grades K-5.*

Tuesday, July 1, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, July 2, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, July 2, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading program.*

Thursday, July 3, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime.*

Thursday, July 3, 1 p.m. - iPad workshop facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Saturday, July 5, 10 a.m. - *Circle of Friends LGBTQ Collection Book Sale.*

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, July 12, 11 a.m. - *Beginning Digital Camera Workshop:* Cathy Salustri returns to show you how in this popular class. Space is limited. Stop by the Reference Desk or call 893-1073 to pre-register.

Monday, July 14, 5 p.m. - *Kathleen Peters Q&A session:* Rep. Peters is running for reelection to continue representing District 69 in the Florida House of Representatives. This event is sponsored by the Service Employees International Union.

Tuesday, July 15, 11 a.m. – Guardian as Litem informational program: Learn about this program which provides a powerful voice for Florida's children, facilitated by Community Outreach Coordinator Kristi Tolmer. For more information call 647-1858.

Thursday, July 17, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Hallucinations* by Oliver Sacks over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Saturday, July 19, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day:* Enjoy flicks with popcorn provided by our Circle of Friends. For movie titles, call 893-1074.

Tuesday, July 22 - *SCORE Counseling:* FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals. For more information or to schedule an appointment call 893-1073.

Saturday, July 26, 2 p.m. - *Home Gardening:* Struggling to get sprouted? Ongoing garden gripes? Master Gardener Val Boyles shares her expertise to help you get budding along! Attendees are invited to stay after class and informally discuss their gardening-related issues.

Monday, July 28, 5 p.m. - *Acoustic Jam Session:* Join in and get in touch with your musical self. For more information call Alex at 893-1073.

Thursday, August 7, 1 p.m. - *Beginning iPad Workshop:* Learn to use and enjoy your new technology. Pre-register for this very popular class at the Reference Desk or call 893-1073.

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading program for teens.* For more information on youth summer programs, call Youth Services Librarian Cailey at 893-1133.

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

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

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

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

Every Friday through August 15, 10 a.m. - *Meditation Classes*: Ted Leitho will lead participants in a series of six relaxing sessions. Bring a pillow to sit on the floor if you wish, and explore the wisdom of Katha Upanisad, translated by Swami Lokeswarananda. For more information call 893-1073.

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

Library Services/Statistic June 22 - 28, 2014:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,889	591
Sun. 6/29	Library closed	
Mon. 6/30	460	125
Tue. 7/1	390	113
Wed. 7/2	335	116
Thu. 7/3	365	124
Fri. 7/4	Holiday - Library closed	
Sat. 7/5	298	96

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room was rented 3 - 7 p.m. Saturday, July 5 for a birthday party with approximately sixty five (65) in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 7 p.m. - midnight Saturday, July 12 for a birthday party, and 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday, July 26 for a family reunion.

Programs, Classes & Activities

One hundred twenty two (122) children have been registered for the **2014 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. Registration fees are \$17 for residents and \$22 for non-residents. Summer camp program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra fee. For more information call the Recreation Center at 893-1068.

Contractual classes currently in session: Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Live in Color Meditation, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis, Urban Survival Bootcamp, Women's Self-Defense and Yoga.

One hundred seven (107) teens are registered for the **2013/14 Teen Night program**, a great hangout for teens in grades 6-12 providing recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects. The teens utilize the gymnasium, game room and outdoor area. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents. Program hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 6 - 9 p.m.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez, John Lapham, Nicole Latragna, Joanne McRoberts, Alton Hooker, Shanoah Washington, Asaph Graham, Elizabeth Brown-Worthington, Robert Cole & Madison Daigle manned the Rec Center's Sand Sculpture Contest, water slides & concessions during the Independence Day Celebration on Friday.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 20 new, 27 closed
- Water payments: 1,203 totaling \$17,5254.70
- On-Line Water payments: 207 transactions totaling \$12954.78
- Bright House payments: 26
- Utility Bills Mailed 1,257
- Payroll 7/3/14: 170 transactions totaling \$171,826.65

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 38 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 5 Structure Fires
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 3 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Odor/Smoke Investigation
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 5 Fire Inspections
- 2 C.O's
- 2 Plans Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. The next meeting is Thursday, July 17 at 7 p.m. For more information call 916-8014 or visit www.gulfportcert.com. Thank you to all the CERT Team members who helped with the food booth, parade security and fireworks detail during the Independence Day celebration.

Staff Activities:

- Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Burford and Chief Marenkovic taught Heartsaver with AED/CPR course to Casino, Recreation Center & Senior Center Personnel on July 10;
- Chief Marenkovic attended the orientation and the first Response Operations Coordinators (ROC) meeting at the new Emergency Management & EOC/Dispatch facility in Largo on July 9.
- Gulfport Fire Department had a busy but Independence Day. The 1925 LaFrance Engine participated in the parade and special Rescue 17 was in service in a small ATV borrowed from the Public Safety Department from Pinellas County, responding to 3 calls in the downtown area. Pumper 17 was dedicated to fire suppression at the Fireworks staging area. Chief James Marenkovic conducted Fire Inspections and staffed the Unified Command Post in the Casino with Police Lt. Mary Farrand. Gulfport's CERT Team assisted with pedestrian control and monitoring public safety.
- A Paramedic Student from St. Petersburg College Field Internship Program continues his ride along with Firefighter/Paramedic Burford on the "B"- shift as his preceptor.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired toilet in women's restroom at beach.
- Installed two new railing posts at Historical Museum.
- Transferred 15 chairs from Casino to Theater.
- Replaced soap dispenser in men's restroom outside Casino.
- Cleared a/c drain on unit above Theater lobby, and replaced several ceiling tiles in lobby & men's restroom.
- Ran errands to purchase vehicle parts for Vehicle maintenance Supervisor.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Replaced GFCI outlets on Beach Boulevard event electrical boxes.
- Replaced garbage cans and repaired electrical wiring on Williams Pier.
- Replaced flag at Williams Pier and fire station.
- Rekeyed shop door.
- Installed volleyball storage box at beach courts.
- Replaced tree lights on 2908 & 3050 Beach Boulevard.
- Installed several dedication bricks at the Library outside reading area.
- Repaired gate at Gulfport Lions Club.
- Repaired irrigation at Clymer Park & Chase Block.
- Trimmed, weeded & cleaned Lions Club & 49th Streetscapes.
- Mowed & trimmed Clymer, Tonkin & Caldwell Parks, Dog Park, City Complex, Library grounds, Senior Center grounds, City Complex, Pasadena entrance area, 28th Street signage area, Beach & Marina green spaces, Chase Block, Scout Hall, 49th Street & York Street termini, medians on 14th Avenue and 55th Street.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, replaced tire on Toro mower and pulleys on all mowers.
- Hand raked around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas. Trash receptacles were emptied and the Bocce Ball courts were inspected for repairs.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- 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 potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential automated trash containers and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned debris from City storm grates, inlets and outfalls.
- Set out garbage and recycling containers for 4th of July events.

- Removed debris and cleaned garage following weekend event.
- Continued automated street sweeping service.
- Completed asphalt patchwork at various City locations.
- Replenished recycled mulch bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Removed dead palm tree on Beach Boulevard.
- Added fill and set grade to alleyway between Gulfport Boulevard & 24th Avenue, and between 52nd & 53rd Streets.
- Removed vehicle obstructions in alleyway on 10th Avenue between 49th & 51st Streets.
- Cleaned city yard and truck wash area.
- Reset curb stops in City Hall and Senior Center parking lots
- Assembled concrete forms for new stormwater lids.

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 # 23, 24, 25, 26 & 27 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 84 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 2 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 129 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 3 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Replaced 2 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.
- Completed semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Completed annual DEP required testing of 20 backflow devices due in June.
- Distributed lead and copper sample containers to residents for testing.
- Repaired water breaks at 3054 Beach Boulevard & 5933 Bayview Circle.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service at lift stations 1 & 2.
- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Daily per trip vehicle check inspection.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2, Police & Fire Departments and Multipurpose Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Cleaned and televised sewer lateral at 1020 Gray Street.
- Cleared sewer main line stoppage on Essex Avenue between 54th & 56th Streets.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Repaired wiring harness between PCM and ABS brake module on Police vehicle #54.
- Repaired A/C system on Police vehicle #501.
- Replaced circuit breaker for radio, emergency lights, and siren equipment on Police vehicle #111,
- Replaced brake rotors on Police vehicle #102,
- Replaced throttle up work switch on Lightning Loader #88.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

For more information, 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.

Staff anticipates sending out **Business License renewal notices** sometime in July. A license is good from October 1 of the current year through September 30 of the following year. If the license is not renewed by October 1 a 10 percent penalty shall be applied for the month of October, and 5 percent for each month thereafter until it is paid. If you have paid your fee but continue to get a request for payment, let us know so we can make sure your account is corrected. For more information regarding business tax receipts call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063.

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

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

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR, REMEMBER:

- Talk to friends and neighbors for recommendations.

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

WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:

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

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

Code Enforcement activities continue in Section 3 of the City, also known as the Southwest Neighborhood Area which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west from 58th & 59th Streets to the City Limits.

The number of code enforcement cases for June was 199 for a fiscal year-to-date (YTD) total of 1,759. The number of citizen complaints was 36 for a YTD total of 162. The YTD ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 9.2 percent.

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

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

July 9, 2014 Board of Adjustment Results:

- V14-13; 2808 Kipp's Colony Drive South; Variance request to:
 - 1) reduce the left-hand side one-third setback requirement by 6 inches, from 30 feet to 29 feet 6 inches to allow for the proposed reconstruction of a catwalk; and
 - 2) reduce the right-hand one third setback requirement by 15 feet 10 inches, from 30 feet to 14 feet 2 inches to allow the proposed reconstruction and widening of a previously existing dock and the installation of a proposed boat lift. ALL APPROVED.
- V14-13; 3128 Beach Boulevard South; Variance request to reduce the accessory structure minimum setback requirements:

- 1) by 12 feet, from 12 feet to 0 feet for the separation distance to the principal structure; APPROVED
- 2) by 6 feet, from 6 feet to 0 feet from the side property line; APPROVED TO BE 1 FOOT FROM SIDE OF PROPERTY LINE
- 3) by 6 feet, from 6 feet to 0 feet for the separation distance to another accessory structure for the construction of a proposed accessory structure (Tiki hut). APPROVED.