



Gulfport Community Update

July 13 - 19, 2014

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Tickets for the **September 4 Tampa Bay Rays home game** are available at the Gulfport Casino. The \$25.00 ticket price includes transportation to Tropicana Field via the Gulfport Trolley, a lower box seat and a complimentary Ray's baseball hat, available at the redemption desk inside Tropicana Field. Rays fans already holding a ticket are invited to catch free a ride to the game. Departure times are: 5 p.m. for batting practice; 6 p.m. for pre-game, and; 7 p.m. for game time. All departures are from the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard. For more information call 893-1070.

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:

Experience a dining, shopping and cultural experience unlike any other at **Third Saturday Gulfport Art Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront district July 19, 6 - 10 p.m. New artists showcasing a variety of sculpture and paint mediums, jewelry, photography, fish rubbings, up-cycled items, handmade/designed clothing and accessories, body products and more are on offer. Complimentary parking is available with courtesy trolley rides from off-site parking areas. Gulfport events are pet and family friendly.

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.

The next **Gulfport Library Garden Fourth Saturday Workshop** is 2 p.m. Saturday, July 26. Participation is limited to 30 adults with one person per household. Sign up at the Circulation Desk. Participants will build a vertical hanging planter to take home. The Home Depot on Tyrone Boulevard, a major supporter of the Library's planned Seed Library will sponsor 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.

The next **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is Sunday, July 27, 6 - 8 p.m. at Gulfport Beach Complex at Shelter #4. Please bring a picker, grabber and gloves, and be sure to wear sun protection. Water will be provided.

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. The next meeting is August 4. For more information call 893-1111.

Everyone is invited to **Gulfport Night Out** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue on Thursday, August 7, 6 - 8 p.m. Attendees can meet and learn about the Gulfport Police and Fire Departments. Staff will showcase information on other Departments within the City. Check out Gulfport's prime patrol vehicles and Marine unit. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Department

will display the Forensic Mobile unit for participants to learn more about the process. Enjoy free kid friendly activities with popcorn, sand art necklaces, a high striker for kids, mini hoop shot basketball and more. A representative from the newly-formed monthly Crime Watch meeting will advise citizens on how to get involved. For more information call 893-1111.

The theme of this year's **Gecko Ball** is *Roaring Geckos*, evoking the Roaring 20s era of Americana. In addition to the live auction of participating artists' geckos, the event includes several dozen silent auction items, costumes and costume contests, dinner buffet, cash bar, live music, dancing and more. The Gecko Ball is scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday, August 23 at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard. Tickets are \$35, available in advance at Gulfport Beach Bazaar, 3115 Beach Boulevard, or online www.GulfportMA.com. A portion of proceeds from Gecko Ball, the August 9 Gecko Pub Crawl and GeckoFest on August 30 will benefit local charities and fund the commission of a public art installation.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	143
Self-initiated calls for service	495
Offenses	30
Arrests	8
Traffic citations	34

Significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers responded the 5700 block of 13th Avenue on the afternoon of July 10 after a neighbor observed two subjects pedal away on a lime green Huffly beach cruiser. The neighbor alerted the bike's owner who called police. The unlocked bicycle was taken from a front yard and the owner was unable to provide a serial number.

Officers were dispatched to a reported disturbance in the 6300 Block of 9th Avenue. Upon arrival they made contact with a man arguing with his daughter over living arrangements for the daughter's brother who has a history of criminal behavior. A warrant check revealed the brother had an outstanding warrant out of Marion County and he was arrested without incident.

A woman was arrested for assault and throwing a deadly missile on July 11 after she threatened her sister with a garden paver stone during an argument.

Officers responded to the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard in the early morning hours of July 12 regarding a fight between two individuals in which one was struck by a beer bottle, causing several small lacerations. The victim refused medical treatment and did not wish to press charges. The other subject fled the area prior to officers' arrival.

A resident in the 5600 Block of 31st Street reported a fight between neighbors on the morning of July 13. Upon arrival officers determined that an intoxicated woman had been arguing with her ex-girlfriend and the woman's new boyfriend. The male involved had scratches on his back, but did not want to prosecute so everyone involved was told to stay away from one another.

While on patrol in the early morning hours of July 14, Officers Priest & Ross observed a bicycle lying in the street. When they approached, a subject carrying a bike tire walked up to them from a yard. Officers determined that the subject and a friend were planning to steal a bike from the front porch of the residence, and the friend jumped the fence and ran when the patrol car pulled up. The friend was located at a residence a few blocks away and both were arrested.

The Dollar General Store manager flagged down Officers Priest and Ross to have two juveniles trespassed from the store. While officers were talking with the juveniles the manager reviewed security video and discovered that they had stolen items from the store. The items were located

on one of them and he was arrested for retail theft. The other juvenile will have charges referred for providing a false name. Both were released to a parent.

A woman reported that she left 2 envelopes, each containing a piece of jewelry on the front seat of her car while she was inside a business in the 1900 Block of 49th Street, and when she returned the envelopes were gone. She thought she had locked the car, but stated that the passenger door does not always lock. There was no sign of forced entry.

Officers responded to the Family Dollar Store on the afternoon of July 16 after an employee reported that three subjects entered the store and each took a bag of chips and a bottle of Gatorade, and left without paying. Officer Langston reviewed the surveillance video and recognized one of the subjects. Officers attempted contact with the juvenile at his residence but he was not at home.

An officer responded to the Gulfport Community Players building after someone wrote gang related markings on the rear door. There were no witnesses.

A resident in the 3000 block of 54th Street reported that a wallet and keys were missing from their vehicle. The vehicle has not been driven in over 2 months and the wallet was last seen at that time. It is unknown how entry was made but there were no signs of forced entry.

Investigations:

New cases:	22
Cases assigned:	4
Cases suspended-no leads:	16
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases referred back to patrol:	2
Supplements received:	23
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	3
Cases suspended/no leads:	2
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	3
Cases still active:	14

Detective Pham conducted follow-up investigations at several locations in Gulfport and St. Pete; made an arrest in a burglary case; exceptionally cleared a criminal mischief case; conducted pawn checks; spent about 25 hours typing supplements, and; attended a sex crimes intelligence meeting.

Detective Crowson assisted a Child Protection Investigator with an interview in a juvenile sexual battery case; assisted Detective Pham with interviewing a burglary suspect; assisted Detective Pham with interviewing an auto theft suspect, and; investigated three burglary cases.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled semi-annual UCR data and submitted it to Chief Vincent for approval before submission to FDLE; completed pawn checks on 19 cases with a named suspect, searchable property or a known serial number, and set up alerts on 6 cases; commenced preparation of an analysis of retail thefts; compiled and distributed the open case lists; created and distributed an Attempt to ID bulletin for Detective Crowson in a credit card fraud case; created and distributed an Attempt to Locate bulletin for Detective Crowson for a subject wanted for burglary, and; researched traffic crashes and citations for Officer Lavigne.

Records Section

Reports reviewed: 21

Supplements reviewed:	77
Public records requests:	22
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	4
Fingerprints:	3
Subpoenas processed:	1
Citizens assisted:	28

MARINA

Pumped two thousand seven hundred sixty five (2,765) gallons of gas, and two thousand four hundred forty four (2,444) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred twenty one (121) vessels.

Assisted in twenty nine (29) pump outs evacuating three hundred eighty five (385) gallons of waste.

Transient Vessels:

Staff welcomed a 41' powerboat, 50' powerboat, 37' powerboat, 39' powerboat 40' sailboat and a 34' sailboat this week.

Staff activities:

- Repaired south pump-out and halyard on flag pole.
- Procured drinks for resale.
- Removed, repaired & reinstalled dock box on pier five, slip nine.
- Performed slip count.

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.
- Continued production of Bike Theft PSA video.
- Updated Recreation & Senior Center pages on City website.
- Provided control room coverage for July 15 City Council meeting, rebroadcast on GTV-615 and uploaded video to City website.
- Distributed August calendar to City facilities.
- Attended Gulfport Night Out planning meeting.

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.

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' July birthdays with cake, games and more at 2:30 p.m. Friday, July 25. This monthly event is sponsored by Dolphin's View.

Worried about the high cost of long term care? Attend **Afraid You Can't Get Medicaid** on Monday, July 28 at 2:30 pm. Elder Law Attorney April Hill will offer advice how to prepare for the high cost of long term care with insurance, private funds and Medicaid.

The Senior Center offers a free **Mini Health Fair** 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, and 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.

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.

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 5. Meet new friends and learn great tips from financial advisor Scott O'Berry over coffee and doughnuts.

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.

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 August 11. You **MUST** call 893-1231 to schedule a screening.

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.

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, August 21, and let's explore the world together! The group hosts a new guest speaker every month.

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, July 6	6 p.m. - Ballroom Fusion dance hosted by Swingtime (Turnout 205)
Tuesday, July 8	9 a.m. - Summer Rec Tai Chi (Turnout 25) 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Paul Kirk 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance (Turnout 9)

- 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson
8 p.m. - Milonga dance (Turnout 37)
- Wednesday, July 9 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime
7 p.m. - Swing Dance Lesson
8 p.m. - Swing Dance (Turnout 197)
- Thursday, July 10 9 a.m. - Summer Rec Tai Chi (Turnout 22)
6:30 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 20)
- Saturday, July 12 8 p.m. - Argentine Tango Milonga La Playa (Turnout 74)

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
- Friday, July 18 6 p.m. - The Impacs band & dance. Advance tickets: \$15; \$20 at the door

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

- Sunday, July 6 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 35)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous
- Monday, July 7 7 p.m. - Crime Watch meeting (Turnout 34)
- Tuesday, July 8 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 11)
- Thursday, July 10 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 14)
1 p.m. - CPR training (Turnout 12)
5:30 p.m. - Citizens Police Academy (Turnout 17)

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, July 10 8 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) Summer One Acts (Turnout 71)

Friday, July 11 8 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 46)

Saturday, July 12 8 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 72)

Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):

Thursday - Saturday, July 17-19, 8 p.m. & Sunday, July 20, 2 p.m. - *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, July 7 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 24)

Tuesday, July 8 10:30 a.m. - Line Dancing (Turnout 12)

Wednesday, July 9 11 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 14)

Friday, July 11 11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 7)

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, July 7, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading program for grades K-5.*

Tuesday, July 8, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, July 9, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, July 9, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading program.*

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

Thursday, July 10, 11 a.m. - *LGBTQ Book Collection meeting* facilitated by Dave Mather.

Friday, July 11, 9 a.m. - *Library Staff meeting.*

Friday, July 11, 10 a.m. - *Meditation Class*.

Friday, July 11, 3 p.m. - *Teen Anime Club* facilitated by Sheri Stanley.

Friday, July 11, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, July 12, 11 a.m. - *Beginning Digital Camera Workshop* facilitated by Cathy Salustri.

Upcoming Events:

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: Building a Hanging Garden Planter*. Create space for additional growth! Attendees are invited to stay after class and informally discuss their gardening-related issues. Pre-registration required. Call 893-1073 for more information.

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.

Wednesday, July 30, 7 p.m. - *Sayonara Summer: End of Summer Japanese Snack Party for Teens*.

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.

Saturday, August 12, 12:30 p.m. - *Suddenly in Command! Boating Safety Workshop*: Circumstances while on the water can suddenly change, thus promoting a passenger to captain. How should you react if placed in this situation? Reps from the USCG Auxiliary will lead the discussion on how best to deal with emergencies when the captain is "out of commission." For more information call 419-260-3592.

Every Monday through July 21, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading program for grades K-5*.

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 through July 23, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading program for teens*. For more information on youth summer programs, call Youth Services Librarian Cailey at 893-1133.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. For more information contact Robin Riddell at riddell@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 leads participants in a series of 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 July 6 - 12, 2014:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	2,144	684
Sun. 7/6	Library closed	
Mon. 7/7	465	152
Tue. 7/8	366	116

Wed. 7/9	377	116
Thu. 7/10	353	110
Fri. 7/11	281	93
Sat. 7/12	276	81

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room was rented 7 p.m. - midnight Saturday, July 12 for a birthday party with approximately eighty five (85) in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday, July 26 for a family reunion.

Programs, Classes & Activities

One hundred twenty seven (127) 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 nonresidents. 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 attended the Teen Council meeting at City Hall on Friday.

Shanoah Washington worked the room rental on Saturday.

Five **Teen Councilmembers** were in attendance at the monthly meeting on Friday, with Advisors Marivel Gutierrez and Christine Brown facilitating. Topics discussed were Advisor report, approval of June minutes, Florida League of Cities conference, new terms, Old Business and New Business.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

- Account Activity (Water and/or Marina): 20 new, 14 closed
- Water payments: 1,219 totaling \$184,812.21
- Utility Bills Mailed 07/16/14: 1,650
- Bright House: 21
- On-Line Water payments: 185 transactions totaling \$11,622.79
- Accounts Payable 07/11/14: 741 transactions totaling \$614,466.06
- Mail processed: 1,700 pieces totaling \$606.93
- Purchasing Cards: 242 transactions totaling \$34,576.71

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 32 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 2 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspection
- 1 C.O.

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. The next meeting is Thursday, August 21 at 7 p.m. For more information call 916-8014 or visit www.gulfportcert.com.

Staff Activities:

- The Gulfport Fire Department has scheduled annual pump testing for the E-One 2004 Pumper 17 and E-One 2012 Engine 17 as required for ISO Pump Recertification.
- Chief Marenkovic attended the Pinellas Advanced Life Support (PALS) meeting at the new Pinellas County EMS Center for Pre-Hospital Medicine. SPC Provost of Health Education Dr. Nicotera is working to rapidly address our current needs, CME Attendance Tracking through Angel, and 2013 Transcripts.
- The FD has been granted permission to use a building at the old Gulf Coast Museum to establish a training center and simulation lab. The building features two large classrooms and space to store training equipment. The County is purchasing "high fidelity" "human patient simulators" that will bring realism to our training and scenario based skill assessments.
- The Pinellas County Medical Directors Office has issued new Narcotic Lockboxes with cyber keys to all EMS providers. The CyberKey II is an electronic key used to operate CyberLock cylinders. It has memory that contains encrypted access codes, a list of locks it may access, schedules of authorized dates and times it may access locks, and a begin-end date range during which the key will operate. Each time a key touches a CyberLock cylinder, it records the lock ID, date, time, and authorization status.
- 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

- Replaced ballasts in Senior Center room #107 & Recreation Center game room closet.
- Repaired tables at Recreation Center and lamp fixture at outside lunch area.
- Removed graffiti from back door at Neighborhood Center.
- Transferred 30 boxes from City Hall to Public Services building storage area for Finance Department.
- Repaired a/c unit on west side of Casino.
- Installed new drinking fountain in upstairs Public Services building break room.

- Rehung “Emergency Intercom” sign in front of City Hall.
- Replaced deck boards at Casino.
- Delivered food from Library to Senior Center for Food Drive.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Repaired benches at Tomlinson & Wood Ibis Parks, pier & beach.
- Replaced fuses in lights at Hoyt field.
- Repaired electric wires on Casino boat dock.
- Replaced mechanical timer & outlet on Beach Boulevard streetscape lighting
- Installed I dedication bricks at Library outside reading area.
- Ordered gate for Caldwell Park.
- Rehung electrical conduit for lighting on Williams Pier, and cleaned benches on pier.
- Ordered new hardware for all ball field gates & fences.
- Repaired irrigation at Clymer Park, Senior Center & Library, and replaced rain sensors at Library, Senior Center, and Caldwell & Veterans Parks.
- Trimmed, weeded & cleaned 49th Streetscapes.
- Mowed & trimmed Clymer, Veterans, Clam Bayou, Tomlinson & Wood Ibis Parks, Chase Block, Tangerine greenways & pond, Library, Senior Center & Recreation Center grounds and Dog park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and repaired back blower, line trimmer & stick edger.
- 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 grade and added millings in the alleyways per direction.
- Continued automated curbside street sweeping.
- Removed and disposed of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Reset storm water lid at 53rd Street & 12th Avenue.
- Checked sidewalks for obstructions in Stetson area.
- Filled in asphalt roadway depression at 914 Hull Street.
- Graded beach area and cleaned stormwater outfall.

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 and 35 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 47 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 26 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 95 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 7 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Replaced 1 meter that was 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 58 backflow devices due in June.
- Collected filled lead and copper sample containers from residents for testing.
- Collected biweekly bacteriological samples on water distribution system.
- Installed new service line and meter at 5913 20th 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 rear brakes on Police vehicle #07.
- Dropped fuel tank and replaced fuel pump & sending unit in Police vehicle #103.
- Replaced fuel shut off solenoid in Parks Department tractor #73.
- Replaced ball joint assembly and repaired broken steering column on Parks Department tractor #23
- Repaired coolant leak on Sanitation truck #43.
- 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.

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.