



Gulfport Community Update

June 26 - July 2, 2016

Gulfport City Hall & facilities will be **closed Monday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day**. Sanitation routes scheduled for Monday pickup will be collected on Tuesday, July 5. Tuesday's routes will be collected on Wednesday the 6th. There will be no yard waste pickup this week.

Fire Chief James Marenkovic advises Gulfport residents that ***Pinellas County bans the retail sale, purchase or use of fireworks that project into the air or explode. Anything that goes up or goes boom is illegal.***

City of Gulfport represented at the **St. Pete Pride Parade** on June 25 (photos below). Flags, lights and a special banner donated by the Roman family depicting Jo Silverleaf's painting "Gulfport Loves Orlando" wrapped the trolley.



OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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

Chief Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that **free smoke detectors are available to elderly and low income households within Gulfport City limits**. Call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

New **AED heart defibrillators** have been distributed to the Gulfport Marina, Casino, Senior Center, City Hall, Library, Recreation, various police patrol cars, all fire trucks and at Gulfport Little League field. The Gulfport Fire Department provides CPR and AED training through American Heart Association. Chief Marenkovic states "the defibrillator is a treatment for a life threatening cardiac arrest. By having this device, we are able to save more lives." For more information call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062.

Upcoming Events:

Enjoy **two First Friday Art events** on July 1: Stop by the Catherine Hickman Theater from 6 until 8 p.m. for an opening reception of Patsi Aguerro's exhibit *60 Paintings in 60 days* Patsi has shared her daily progress on Facebook and is now ready to share her work. Then stroll down to the Gulfport Gallery and Art Walk on Beach Boulevard, featuring artists, live music and restaurant venues for all pallets.

Visit the 49th Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** on the Tangerine Greenway every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The market focuses on locally made items, but SO49 will consider others in an effort to meet the needs of the community. For more information call 439-0164 or email jsrtraining@aol.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.

Everyone is invited to the City of Gulfport's **Independence Day Celebration** in the Waterfront District on Monday, July 4. The day's events begin with a Kid's Fishing Derby at the Recreation Center Seawall at 8 a.m. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Bring your own pole! This year's Family Sand Sculpture contest on Gulfport Beach from 10 a.m. until noon will have a Red, White & Blue theme. Bring your own tools and supplies. The little ones will have a great time with water slides, balloon entertainment and concessions at KIDZONE behind the Recreation Center from noon until 5 p.m. Food, fun, art and crafts vendors will offer their wares from 2 until 10 p.m. Live musical entertainment sets the Casino stage with Solar Exposer beginning at 5 p.m. The band recently received a nomination for 'Best Local Cover Band' in Creative Loafing's "Best of The Bay" annual awards in 2015 and has appeared at Rib Fest three years running. No 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! For more information call 893-1118 or email gbiron@mygulfport.us.

The next **Citywide Neighborhood Watch** meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 6 at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street. Guest speaker Assistant State Attorney Dora Kommininos will discuss domestic violence. Coffee and donuts will be served.

Dora Kommininos will also be the guest speaker at the **Tangerine/Tomlinson Neighborhood Watch** meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, July 11. For more information call Richard Grimberg at 893-1022.

The **Gulfport Boulevard Business & Beach Boulevard Business Watch** event is scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, July 19 at Boca Bay Grille, 2834 Beach Boulevard. For more information call 893-1022.

Everyone is invited to the Strand Neighborhood Watch Event at the Gulfport Recreation Center on Wednesday, July 20 at 7 p.m. Brandon Robinson from Stetson University Center for Excellence in Elder Law will be the guest speaker. For more information call 893-1022.

Catch the Gulfport Trolley to the newly renovated Al Lang Stadium for the Saturday, August 20 **Tampa Bay Rowdies** vs. FC Edmonton game; Adult tickets \$22/kids & students \$10, available at www.mygulfport.us/rowdiestrolley. Tickets are also available for the Saturday, September 17 vs. Carolina Railhawks game. Departure from the Casino begins at 5 p.m. and games are scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 893-1118.

Tickets for the **August 24 Tampa Bay Rays vs. Boston Red Sox and the September 21 vs. New York Yankees** games are available at the Gulfport Casino. The \$30 ticket price includes round trip transportation to Tropicana Field via the Gulfport Trolley, a lower box seat & complimentary Ray's baseball hat. All Rays fans with tickets are invited to catch free a ride to the game on the Gulfport Trolley. Departure from the Gulfport Casino begins at 5 p.m. Return trips begin during the 7th inning. All trolley trips this season take place on **\$2 Hotdog Wednesdays**. For more information call 893-1118.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	119
Self-initiated calls for service	359
Offenses	26
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	73
Ordinance violations	53

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

The Pinellas Park Police Department contacted GPD on June 23 and asked officers to visit the address listed on the registration of a vehicle that fled from a traffic stop. The vehicle's owner claimed the vehicle was stolen from her driveway sometime overnight.

Four unlocked vehicles were reported burglarized overnight: one each in the 1200 & 1300 blocks of Gray Street, one in the 1200 block of 59th Street, and another in the 5800 block of 20th Avenue. A fifth vehicle was reported burglarized overnight in the 2000 block of 59th Street. The owner stated that his car was locked but there were no signs of forced entry.

While officers were issuing a trespass warning to Zakia Walters, she advised she may have an outstanding warrant. Officers discovered three outstanding warrants for failure to appear, two for felony theft and one for telemarketing without a license. Walters was transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

The owner of Gulfport Mini Storage reported on June 24 that someone cut an electrical wire on the property.

Several people inside the Dollar General store were observed by employees attempting to hide merchandise in a possible attempt to shoplift. When they realized the employees were on to them, they returned the items to the shelves. Police responded and issued them trespass warnings at management's request.

Timothy Wetzstein was arrested for riding an unregistered motor scooter with a suspended Minnesota driver's license after a traffic stop in the 2800 block of Beach Boulevard.

Officers responded to a report of a possible deceased person inside a residence in the 5300 29th Avenue. With assistance from the fire department, officers were able to gain limited access to the residence and locate a deceased person on the floor which was covered with numerous bugs, roaches, trash and debris.

A man later identified as Michael Shannon walked into the Dollar General store with a bag on June 25 and stole wine, canned chili and hot dogs. Officer Lavigne located Shannon later in the evening and arrested him for felony retail theft.

Officers were dispatched to the 5200 block of 18th Avenue on June 26 after a man, upset that his vehicle had a flat tire, slapped and pushed his landlord to the ground after she attempted to calm him down. Scott Wynoni was gone when police arrived, and the landlord did not wish to prosecute.

A motorcyclist was severely injured after he lost control of his bike while traveling westbound in the 6100 block of Gulfport Boulevard, jumped the curb and struck a concrete pillar. He was transported to Bayfront Hospital as a trauma alert.

Richard Allen was arrested for felony DUI and driving on a suspended license after a traffic stop in the 5700 block of Gulfport Boulevard for an equipment violation. He refused to take a breath test.

A resident in the 5100 block of 29th Avenue reported on June 28 that several unsecured lawn tools were stolen from inside his carport at some point over the course of four days.

Wells Fargo Bank employees called the police when a woman later identified as Brenda Probasco became irate inside the lobby. Officers responded and gave Probasco a warning to leave but she refused and continued to curse loudly, upsetting bank patrons and staff. She was placed under arrest for disorderly conduct.

A resident in the 5700 block of 20th Avenue reported that prescription sunglasses and loose change were stolen from his vehicle. There were no signs of forced entry.

The **marine unit** was on the water for 4 hours this week. Two contacts were made, and a derelict vessel was identified.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	6
Cases assigned:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	3
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements received:	11
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	3
Cases unfounded-no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases still active:	6

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a burglary case, a hit & run, and a stolen vehicle; developed probable cause for a suspect in a stolen vehicle case and interviewed him at the jail regarding a vehicle burglary incident, and; developed probable cause for the arrest of a suspect for leaving the scene of a crash with property damage. Charges have been forwarded to the State Attorney's Office for prosecution.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a burglary case and a theft, and was called in for a death investigation. It was determined that caregivers Jennifer Poulos and Debra Poulos neglected the victim. They were arrested and charged with neglect of an elderly person. Jennifer Poulos was also charged with child neglect. Detective Crowson also interviewed victim in a sexual battery case and conducted sex offender checks.

School Resource Officer Motte and School Resource Officer Langston accompanied the Explorer post to the annual Florida Association of Police Explorers (FAPE) competition last week where they competed in 7 categories including active shooter, in progress, traffic stops, and many more. Unfortunately the post didn't place in any of the events, but they put a great effort forward.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano completed pawn checks on ten cases with a known serial number, named suspect or searchable property description, locating watch reported stolen on June 16; completed a review of property reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure the proper documentation was attached to the report indicating that the item had been entered into FCIC/NCIC, and; gave a crime analysis presentation at the monthly staff meeting.

Records

Reports reviewed	5
Supplements reviewed:	85
Public Records requests:	39
Background checks:	7
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	15
Citizens assisted:	37

MARINA

Assisted in twenty two (22) pump outs evacuating four hundred ten (410) gallons of waste.

Pumped five thousand three hundred fifty nine (5,359) gallons of gas and one thousand six hundred thirty (1,630) gallons of diesel fuel fueling one hundred eighty (180) vessels.

Staff activities:

- Inspected, repaired and lubricated all gate locks.
- Installed/replaced line holders on various docks.
- Repaired and cleaned dock boxes on various slips.
- Performed routine preventive maintenance on pump-out stations.

Transient vessels:

Staff welcomed six vessels of various type and size this week.

LIBRARY

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

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

Monday, June 20, 5:30 p.m. - *Change Your Water, Change Your Life*, presented by Crea Egan.

Tuesday, June 21, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Tuesday, June 21 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, June 21 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, June 21, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, June 22, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, June 22, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

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

Wednesday, June 22, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, June 23, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, June 23, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga.*

Friday, June 24, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, June 25, 5:30 p.m. - *Change Your Water, Change Your Life*, presented by Crea Egan.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, July 2, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: Selections intended for adults to enjoy more complex and challenging films in a quiet and relaxed atmosphere. For movie title, call 893-1074.

Tuesday, July 5, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga* for parents and babies ages 6 weeks to 18 months. Instructed by registered yoga teacher Ms. Christa, the group meets on first Tuesday of the month. Meet other new parents and babies in the community, stretch, laugh, get some strength back and rejuvenate! Call 893-1074 cklasson@mygulfport.us for more information.

Monday, July 11, 5 p.m. - *Astrology Program*: Release your Cosmic MOJO as we explore the ancient practice of astrology as it relates to your modern life. For more information call 207-332-0787 or email jennie@odetopluto.com.

Tuesday, July 12, 1 p.m. - *Healthy Mind/Healthy Body Book Club*: The group meets on the second Tuesday of the month. If you have interest in understanding the relationship between our thoughts and their influence on the physical body, this club is for you. Email klane@untieyourwings.com for more information.

Thursday, July 14, noon - *Lunch & Learn, Create Your Own Rain Garden*: Presented by Brian Niemann of the Pinellas County Extension service. Bring your lunch; drinks will be provided. Call 893-1075 for more information.

Thursday, July 14, 2 p.m. - *Florida Character Reenactment*: Steve portrays an Irish immigrant who enlists as a soldier in the Second Seminole War soon after arriving in America. A Q&A session with the audience will follow. For more information call 893-1073.

Saturday, July 16, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Thursday, July 21, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie*. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, July 21, 1 p.m. - *Lupus Foundation Outreach Seminar*: Practical advice and resources. Help yourself or someone you know. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, July 21, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*: Co-hosted by Gulfport Neighbors and the Library. Learn about the services available through the City and the Library. Find out how you can participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization.

Thursday, July 28, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga*: The group meets on the fourth Thursday of each month.

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

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club*: We try a fun new activity every week, explore engineering through building with Legos, and meet other young scientists and engineers in the community! Parents get to join in on the fun too! Email cklasson@mygulfport.us or call 893-1074 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Email robynfeatherstonesg@gmail.com for more information.

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers in the Youth Services area. Cailey leads the group in singing songs, playing instruments & networking with other caregivers in our community.

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

Library Services/Statistic June 19 - 25, 2016:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,176	581
Sun. 6/19	Library closed	
Mon. 6/20	246	84
Tue. 6/21	191	83
Wed. 6/22	166	88
Thu. 6/23	221	106
Fri. 6/24	173	110
Sat. 6/25	175	103

PARKS & RECREATION

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, and assisted with updates to social media pages.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued daily updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us and social media sites.
- Continued preparation of 2016-2017 events list and First Friday Art Reception schedule & contracts.
- Received participant applications for Independence Day parade.
- Facilitated Gulfport Trolley parade participants roster prior to event
- Completed Independence Day parade participant applications list
- Updated July events calendar on GTV640 and Independence Day video promo.

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.

Gulfport Extended Mobility Service (GEMS) offers transportation to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. Gulfport residents 55 & older or residents with a disability can take advantage of GEMS door to door service for a yearly membership of \$65 plus \$2 per ride. GEMS also offers transportation to Bay Pines VA Hospital & Medical Center, Northside Hospital and the St. Pete Beach Family Aquatic Center. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

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

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

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

Join Financial Advisor Scott O'Berry for a discussion of current events, the economy & investing over coffee & donuts during **Coffee Club** at 10 a.m. Tuesday, July 5.

Stretch out in an oversized reclining chair at **Cobb Tyrone Luxury 10 Theaters** for *Finding Dory* on Thursday, July 7. Reserve your seat by July 1. GEMS members \$12/nonmembers \$14. Price includes round trip transportation and movie ticket.

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

Enjoy a healthy snack as Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance Services presents **Fruit for Thought** at 10 a.m. the second Monday of every month. The next meeting is July 11.

Learn about **Advanced directives** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 13 when Professor of Ethics and Law Christian Moriarty will detail the different types, the importance of having one, and how to obtain one.

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

The Community Law Program provides **free legal assistance** at the Senior Center at 9:30 a.m. the third Friday of every month. Call 582-7480 to qualify and to schedule an appointment. The next meeting is July 15.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and health screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is July 29.

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

The Last Word - Writing an Obituary is offered at the Senior Center at 4:30 p.m. every first & fourth Monday. Learn the ins and outs of writing and placing an obituary in the local press from local writer, editor and instructor Diane Craig. Call 893-5657 to register.

One-On-One Tech Support with Jaclyn meets every Monday at 12:30 p.m. and every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Assistance is not limited to specific devices. All electronics and skill levels are welcome.

Gulfcoast Legal Services, Inc. will provide quality **legal advice and services** to Gulfport Senior Center participants 10 a.m. - noon every fourth Monday of the month.

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

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

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

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

Casino (last week's events):

- Sunday, June 19 4:30 p.m. - wedding reception (Turnout 110)
- Tuesday, June 21 9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 14)
 Noon - Ballroom lessons with Luigi (Turnout 22)
 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (turnout 57)
- Wednesday, June 22 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 14)
 6:30 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 224)
- Thursday, June 23 9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 12)
 6:30 p.m. - Pinellas County Job Corps Dance (Turnout 100)
- Friday, June 24 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 14)

Casino (upcoming events):

- Monday, July 25 7 p.m. - USA Ballroom Dance Members \$5/nonmembers \$8
- Most Sundays 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson
 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$8
- Every Tuesday 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker
 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8
 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lessons with Kathleen & Steve Prucher
 8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8
- Every Wednesday 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn/Joyce Bloom
 6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime
 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime
 8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$8
- Every Thursday 6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera

8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom

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

Sunday, June 19 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 21)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, June 21 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 15)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, June 23 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 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services

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

Every Tuesday 7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

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

Every first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crimewatch meeting

Scout Hall (*last week's events*)

Sunday, June 19 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 11)

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

Monday, June 20 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 23)

Tuesday, June 21 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 17)

Friday, June 24 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 11)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

Every Sunday 9 am - Calvary Christian Assembly church services

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday & Friday 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room was rented 5 - 11 p.m. Saturday, June 25 for a family reunion with 80 in attendance.

Programs, Classes & Activities

One hundred twenty three children have been registered for the **2016 Summer Recreation Program**. The program lasts eight weeks and is available to children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Hours of registration are Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Summer program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra fee. For more information call the Recreation Center at 893-1068.

Fifty seven teens are registered for the **2015/16 Teen Night Program** for teens in middle school thru age 17. Program hours are 6 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis and Tennis.

Staff Activities

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 48 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 Structural Collapse
- 1 Fire Alarms
- 5 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Single Engine Response
- 1 Wires Down

Life Safety:

- 9 Fire Inspections
- 3 Re-Inspections
- 1 Plan Review
- 1 Site Plan Review

The next **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** training session is 7 p.m. Thursday, July 21. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Police Department.

Gulfport Firefighters continued their annual physicals this week. The physicals include a series of tests for Firefighter safety and wellbeing per NFPA 1500 requirements.

Chief Marenkovic attended the Pinellas County Fire Chief's Association meeting at the Epi-Center in Largo on June 23.

The Fire Chiefs from Gulfport, South Pasadena, Treasure Island, Madeira Beach and St. Pete Beach met with James Angle from St. Petersburg College and Fire Training staff regarding the planning of the Lieutenant Assessment Exam for all the departments taking place in September. The group reviewed draft versions of all scenarios, dimensions and the written exam.

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

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Replaced shower head in Police Department ladies' shower.
- Performed semi-annual maintenance and monthly a/c filter replacement on all City a/c units.
- Removed camera casing outside Recreation Center for repair of building exterior.
- Repaired large cooler in Senior Center kitchen.
- Completed annual fire alarm inspections at the Senior Center and Neighborhood Center.
- Re-treated food pantry and Senior Center offices for weevils.
- Repaired a/c unit in Police Department break room.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Prepped area behind casino for A/C unit installation.
- Disconnected power on sidewalk lights at beach in preparation for replacement.
- Inspected electrical outlets and placed picnic tables under pavilion at Clymer park.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed Beach, Recreation Center, Library, Senior Center & Marina green spaces, City Complex, Clymer & Tangerine greenways, Caldwell, Clam Bayou, Tomlinson & Wood Ibis Parks, medians at 14th Avenue & 55th Street, Pasadena entrance area & Trail spur.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt Field, Caldwell Park and along 49th Streetscape.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Beach Streetscapes, Casino, Veterans Park and Library, mulched and raked around benches and pavilions, and cleaned beach.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blade, adjusted bed knives on reel mowers, and replaced adjustment bar on beach rake tractor and bump head on line trimmers.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged ball fields daily.

Streets, Stormwater & Sanitation

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture & electronics.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout City.
- Repaired asphalt and potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential and commercial automated trash containers, and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned and removed debris from beach, storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways, alleyways & sidewalks.
- Cleaned debris, cans and trash following Tuesday Market.
- Removed debris from Lincoln Cemetery.

- Replenished recycle bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Replaced vandalized stop sign at 52nd Street & 14th Avenue.
- Straightened traffic control signs from 56th to 58th Streets and from 28th Avenue to Shore Boulevard.
- Cleaned storm lines and vacuumed of debris at various locations throughout City.
- Assembled extra trash containers in preparation for Independence Day celebration.

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the points of connection to water distribution system (Includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and recording of rainfall (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily check of ground water levels (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes #45, 46, 47, and 48 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 24 locations for non-payment of service.
- Performed 1 non-pay recheck to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 98 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 6 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Replaced 1 water meter that was stuck and not recording usage.
- Replaced 6 old meters with new style electronic meters.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Connected new service line across Beach Boulevard for water fountain.
- Repaired water breaks at 5619 Shore Boulevard & 5145 17th Avenue.
- Replaced meter, backflow, and service line at Gulfport Beach Restrooms.
- Replaced water service lines to 5601, 5619 & 5659 Shore Boulevard, 3131 56th Street, and at 3113 Clinton Street.
- Connected new 2" water main lines to existing main at Clinton Street & 31st Avenue.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 and #2 including (Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily rain fall check and documentation (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily ground water elevation recording (including Saturday & Sunday).
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations 1 & 2, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Replaced sewer laterals and clean-outs at 1119 56th Street & 5602 12th Avenue.
- Replaced 8" sewer main line at 56th Street & 12th Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced grabber belt on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Replaced proximity switch, refilled hydraulic tank, and sent Sanitation vehicle #46 to alignment shop for proper alignment.
- Replaced tires, and pushrod on Sanitation vehicle #45.
- Replaced tires on Sanitation vehicle #47.
- Replaced power steering reservoir, and hydraulic hose on Sanitation vehicle #44.
- Replaced water separator retaining ring on Sewer vehicle #79.
- 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, 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 continued this week in Section 1 of the City, also known as the Stetson Area which comprises the northwest portion of the City and generally extends south from 7th Avenue to Gulfport Boulevard and east from 64th Street to 58th Street.

Because the City has one inspector who focuses on one section at a time, we depend on residents to call in violations when they see them. We will inspect within one working day of a complaint to verify any violation. Please call 893-1061 if you see violations. If the inspector is unavailable, leave as detailed a message as possible to help us find the violation. Complaints can be anonymous, but if you want a follow-up you will have to leave contact information which means the complaint is no longer anonymous. E-mail correspondence is considered a public record, so if you wish to make a complaint using e-mail, please understand that such communications are not anonymous.

Beginning in July, code enforcement activities will move to section 2 of the City, also known as the Northeast Area which generally extends north to 7th Avenue, south to Gulfport Boulevard, west to 58th Street and east to 49th Street. To review Code Enforcement activities documents for more detailed information and a map of the Code Enforcement areas visit the Special Documents section at www.mygulfport.us.