



Gulfport Community Update

July 17 - 23, 2016

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

A section of Shore Boulevard parking is temporarily closed for construction of the Shore Boulevard Improvement project. Shore Boulevard is open between 58th Street & Beach Boulevard. Additional parking is available at the Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard. Beach pavilions will not be available for rent during construction, but will be available on a first come basis. Call 893-1089 for more information.

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.

Upcoming Events:

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 first **Community Workshop** for the City of Gulfport Municipal Marina to explore options for enhancement and future facilities is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, July 25 in Gulfport City Hall Council Chambers. The project will include public engagement to define stakeholder and community desires for marina enhancements, and will include concept plan alternatives reflective of the community's ideas and wishes. For more information call Community Development Director Fred Metcalf at 893-1095, or email fmetcalf@mygulfport.us.

The new **Hoyt Park Inaugural Neighborhood Watch** will host their inaugural meeting at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Avenue at 7 p.m. Monday, July 25. Guest speaker Brandon Robinson will discuss *Scams and How to Avoid Them*.

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.

Join Gulfport Police & Fire at the Catherine Hickman Theater at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 4 for **Gulfport Night Out**. Special musical guests the New Horizon Band of Gulfport will perform from 7 until 8 p.m. Call 893-1111 for more information.

The topic for the Monday, August 8 **Tangerine/Tomlinson Neighborhood Watch meeting** will be *Traffic Stops: the Temporary Detention by Police* The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center. Call 893-1022 for more information.

Keep Pinellas Beautiful and the Gulfport Neighbors will join forces on Saturday, August 13 from 9 until 11 a.m. for the **Gulfport Beach Cleanup**. The group will meet at beach shelter 4. Email Gulfport_neighbors@yahoo.com for more information.

The Gulfport City Council will host a **Budget Workshop** in City Hall Council Chambers at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 11 to discuss the proposed fiscal year 2016/17 budget. Residents are encouraged to participate. For more information call 893-1012.

The monthly **Strand Neighborhood Watch meeting** is Wednesday, August 17 at 7 p.m. at the Gulfport Recreation Center. Brent Bardell of the SPCA will discuss *Animal Abuse*. Call 893-1022 for more information.

New to Gulfport or just want to know more information? The monthly **Welcome to Gulfport Workshop**, cohosted by Gulfport Neighbors and the Library is Thursday, August 18 at 6 p.m. Learn about City & Library services available, and find out how to participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization. Call 893-1074 for more information.

Everyone is invited to the **CERT meeting** at the Gulfport Police Department at 7 p.m. Thursday, August 18. Call 893-1022 for more information.

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.

The topic for the 7 p.m. August 24 **Stetson Neighborhood Watch meeting** is *Current Scams and How to Avoid them*, presented by Brandon Robinson. Call 893-1022 for more information.

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	125
Self-initiated calls for service	338
Offenses	33
Arrests	14
Traffic citations	52
Ordinance violations	33

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 5100 block of 9th Avenue reported on July 14 that sometime overnight someone stole an orange girl's bicycle and a green girl's bicycle from her fenced backyard.

A resident of Seaside Villas reported on July 15 that his green Giant Iguana bike was stolen from the third floor landing of his building where it had been chained to the railing.

Two juveniles were arrested in the 2800 block of Beach Boulevard in possession of a stolen bicycle. A stolen key FOB and several bracelets were found in a bag inside the bike's basket.

Officers were dispatched to the 5400 block of 14th Avenue after a caller reported a male threatening to stab another male. Both parties were intoxicated. Frederick Vandetta was arrested.

Officers were dispatched to a report of an intoxicated male threatening others in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard. The man was intoxicated and playing Pokemon Go. After he calmed down he was sent on his way.

Kwane Miller was arrested July 16 on an outstanding warrant for Violation of Probation.

Officers spoke with the father of a juvenile who was having a continuing argument with other juveniles through Facebook messages. His son was warned to cease his involvement before it escalated to written threats of violence, a criminal violation.

James Murphy was arrested for DUI after an officer stopped his vehicle for a nonworking headlight. Murphy performed poorly on field sobriety tasks and refused to submit to a breath test.

GPD & GFD responded to a vehicle fire at an apartment complex in the 3000 block of 49th Street on July 18. After the fire was extinguished, it was determined that the car had been recently driven and the fire was the result of an internal malfunction.

A resident in the 5100 block of 31st Avenue reported that someone stole his bicycle from his open garage and left a different bicycle behind. That bicycle was impounded by officers and processed for evidence.

A business owner in the 5500 block of Gulfport Boulevard reported on July 19 that sometime overnight someone removed the driver side window from his work van and went through the contents. Nothing was reported stolen.

Officers were dispatched to the 5800 block of Skimmer Point Boulevard early July 20 after a resident returned home from a bike ride and discovered two teenagers who had just broken into two of his vehicles. The resident chased one of the teens out the back gate and confronted him, and the teen punched him in the eye. He was located on 27th Avenue and arrested for vehicle burglary, battery on a person over 65, and VOP. He is currently on felony probation for burglary. Sergeant Vandenberg contacted the mother of the arrested teen and asked her to identify the female with him during the burglary. She lied about the whereabouts of the girl and her father who were inside the house, and was arrested for resisting an officer without violence.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	13
Cases assigned:	4
Cases suspended-no leads:	8
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	0
Supplements received:	6
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	0
Cases unfounded-no crime:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	4

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a grand theft case, a fraud, and a burglary. He also visited four pawn shops to obtain video evidence for a burglary/dealing in stolen property case.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a neglect/manslaughter case and a theft/fraud case; collected medical records and other evidence, and met with an assistant state attorney in a neglect/manslaughter case; and collected evidence in a theft/fraud case.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano compiled and distributed the open case lists and covered records for 8 hours.

Records

Reports reviewed	15
Supplements reviewed:	27
Public Records requests:	33
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	2
Fingerprints	3
Subpoenas processed:	9
Citizens assisted:	62

MARINA

Assisted in forty three (43) pump outs evacuating five hundred thirty two (532) gallons of waste.

Pumped five thousand seventy eight (5,078) gallons of gas and two thousand ninety seven (2,097) gallons of diesel fuel fueling one hundred eighty seven (187) vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

LIBRARY

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, July 11, 3 p.m. - *Kids Summer Reading Program: Yoga + Art = Fun.*

Monday, July 11, 5 p.m. - *Astrology program.*

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

Tuesday, July 12, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, July 12, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, July 13, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, July 13, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Wednesday, July 13, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading Program: Epic Water Balloon Fight.*

Wednesday, July 13, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, July 14, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, July 14, noon - *Lunch & Learn: Create your own Rain Barrel.*

Thursday, July 14, 2 p.m. - *Florida Character reenactment.*

Friday, July 15, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, July 16, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day.*

Upcoming Events:

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

Tuesday, August 2, 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@mygulport.us for more information.

Tuesday, August 2, 7 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading Program Party:* Celebration! Pizza, Prizes, Playstation! Our fantastic fiesta has it all.

Thursday, August 4, 7 p.m. - *Kids Summer Reading Program Party:* Capping the end of our summer program with the comic antics of Jiggle Man!

Saturday, August 6, 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.

Monday, August 8, 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, August 9, 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.

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@mygulport.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 robynfeatherstonesq@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 July 10 - 16, 2016:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,452	887
Sun. 7/10	Library closed	
Mon. 7/11	214	101
Tue. 7/12	256	120
Wed. 7/13	237	123
Thu. 7/14	310	158
Fri. 7/15	201	192
Sat. 7/16	230	176

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.
- Continued preparation of August calendar.

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.

Celebrate Christmas in July when **Gulfport GEMS Getaway visits Robert's Christmas Wonderland** on Tuesday, July 26. Robert's is one of the largest & most beautiful Christmas & collectibles stores in America. GEMS members, \$6/nonmembers, \$8.

Did you know that there are almost 1500 children in the Foster Care/Dependency System in Pinellas County? Children right here in our community who need a voice to speak for them. **Guardian ad Litem** volunteers are that voice! To find out more about becoming a volunteer join Community Outreach Coordinator Karen Malo at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 27 for an informative presentation on this life changing volunteer opportunity.

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.

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, August 2.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Monthly Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is August 8. 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 August 8.

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center on Thursday, August 11 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. The next meeting is August 19. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

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, July 10 6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 138)

Tuesday, July 12 9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 12)
Noon - Ballroom lessons with Luigi (Turnout 23)
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (turnout 50)

Wednesday, July 13 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 12)
6:30 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 226)

Thursday, July 14 9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 9)
6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 41)

Friday, July 15 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 13)
6 p.m. - Third Friday Sock Hop with The Impacs (Turnout 71)

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 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
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 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
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

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Sunday, July 10 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) Summer One Acts (Turnout 96)

Thursday, July 14 8 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 33)

Friday, July 15 8 p.m. - GPC Summer One Acts (Turnout 48)

Saturday, July 16 2 p.m. - GPC Summer One Acts (Turnout 35)
8 p.m. - GPC Summer One Acts (Turnout 66)

Catherine Hickman Theater (*upcoming events*):

Saturday, July 23, 1 p.m. - Capt. Bob Worthington Memorial service/Life Celebration

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

Sunday, July 10 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 17)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, July 12 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 15)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, July 14 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 17)

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, July 10 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 10)

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

Monday, July 11 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 12)

Tuesday, July 12 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 20)

Friday, July 15 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 12)

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 2 - 6 p.m. Saturday, July 16 for a Birthday party with 40 in attendance.

Programs, Classes & Activities

One hundred thirty five 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.

Sixty two 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:

- 44 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Vehicle Fire
- 2 Wires Down

Life Safety:

- 13 Fire Inspections
- 4 Re-Inspections
- 1 C.O's
- 1 Plans Review

The Gulfport Fire Department continued their July online CME for recertification of Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) this week. Testing will take place in November

The Gulfport Fire Department participated in Water Rescue training at the St. Pete Beach Recreation Center, learning surface swimming and rescues for Lifeguard certification.

Chief Marenkovic and Firefighter/EMT Brian Campbell attended the Firefighters Pension Plan meeting on July 21.

Inspector Lundh attended the Pinellas County Fire Marshals meeting at the Epi-Center in Largo on July 21.

Lieutenant Grady provided fire extinguisher training for the CERT team on Thursday.

The Gulfport Fire Department is hosting two EMT Students from St. Petersburg College internship field program, Lt. Firefighter/Paramedic Grady on the "A"- shift is one preceptor and the second student on "B"-shift is with Lt. Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Burford.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Relocated numerous items from City Hall to storage.
- Installed new light fixture at City Hall flag pole.
- Cleaned hood system at Little League complex.
- Performed monthly pest control at all City buildings.
- Replaced ladies restroom sign at Dog Park.
- Replaced light switch in office at Senior Center.
- Cleared blocked toilet in ladies restroom at beach.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Repaired flower pots at Recreation Center.
- Ordered irrigation supplies and located tie-in valve on beach in preparation for improvements.
- Filled in wash out holes along sea wall at Recreation Center and Marina area.
- Repaired bench swing at beach.
- Lowered flags to half-staff.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Mowed Recreation Center, Neighborhood Center, Marina & Lions Club green spaces, Veterans Park, Chase block, Dog Park, Clymer Greenway, 55th Street median and York Street & 49th Street termini.
- Repaired irrigation at Library, Clymer Park and City Complex.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Clam Bayou, Clymer Park, Senior Center & along Beach Streetscapes, and cleaned beach.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blade, repaired pole chain saw, stick edger and line trimmer.
- 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.
- Restocked recycled mulch pile at Neighborhood Center.
- Reset pavers on 25th Avenue between 57th & 58th Streets.
- Replaced stop sign & pole at 52nd Street & 25th Avenue.
- Cleaned signs around Theater.

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 #31, 32, 33 & 34 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 21 locations for non-payment of service.
- Performed 1 non-pay recheck to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 113 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 12 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Replaced 3 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Replaced 7 old meters with new style electronic meters.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Made final connections to new water service lines at 2807, 2813, & 2829 57th Street, replaced sod and graded alley.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 and #2.
- Daily rain fall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- 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.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced front control arm, front strut & mount, and brake master cylinder on Police vehicle #102.
- Aligned front end on Sanitation vehicle #44.
- Replaced battery in Police vehicle #2.
- Tightened tracks on Water Division excavator.
- Replaced fuel pump in Police vehicle #9.
- Replaced and repaired steel hydraulic extension lines on Sanitation vehicle #29.
- Repaired tire on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Replaced starter 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 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.

The number of code enforcement cases for June was 332. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 1,503. The number of citizen complaints for June was 27, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 106. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 7.0 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. 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.

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.

August 10, 2016 Board of Adjustment:

V16-15; 5137 29th Avenue South; Variance request:

1. to reduce the side yard setback requirement by 4.14 feet, from 10 feet to 5.86 feet, and;
2. to reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 29.23 feet, from 40 feet to 10.77 feet to allow for a proposed addition to an existing detached dwelling unit that is part of a multiple family use of the property.

V16-16; 2401 54th Street South; Variance request due to an existing, unpermitted 6' x 16' shed:

1. to reduce the separation distance from the principal structure by 5 feet, from 12 feet to 7 feet, and;
2. to reduce the side yard setback requirement by 3 feet, from 6 feet to 3 feet.