



Gulfport Community Update

July 19 - 25, 2015

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Upcoming Events:

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made arts & crafts, bath, body & wellness products, live music and more. Over 50 vendors and exhibitors participate each Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent every Tuesday. For more information 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 **Gulfport Night Out** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue on Thursday, August 6, 6 - 8 p.m. Check out Police and Fire vehicles and the Marine unit. The Fire Department will present a Fire Water demo. You can snap a picture with the 1925 Lafrance fire truck! GPD will offer free bike registrations, helmets and a bike rodeo sponsored by All Children's Hospital. Other demonstrations include the St. Petersburg Police department K-9 unit and Amos the Wonder Horse. The Pinellas County Sheriff's Department will display the Forensic Mobile unit for participants to learn more about the process. Pinellas County Consumer Services will hand out important information. Florida Fish and Wildlife information has a presentation booth and kids can check out their boat. Sunstar will be on hand with their special robot. Other demonstrations include the Florida Highway patrol rollover simulator. Enjoy free kid friendly activities with popcorn, sand art necklaces, a high striker for kids, mini hoop shot basketball, etc. For more information call Lieutenant Stone at 893-1111.

An opening reception for an exhibit of the works of the nine local artists chosen to create geckos for this year's Gecko Ball charity auction will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, August 7 in the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue. Light refreshments and a cash bar will be offered. The exhibit, featuring selections of the artists' other works will be on display through August 31. This year's artists are Janet Folsom, Denise Keegan, Lenne Nicklaus-Ball, Owen Pach, Tom Pitzen, John Ricci, Jonathan Schork, Frank Strunk III and Matt Worsham. They work in a variety of media including painting, mixed media, steel, glass, wood, fabric, stone and others, but create and embellish their geckos from any materials they choose. This first-ever Gecko Artists' Show is the first of four events in Gulfport's growing roster of gecko-themed events, celebrating the City's unofficial favorite reptile at summer's end. Other Gecko Season events include the **8th Annual Gecko Crawl and Poker Run** on August 8; **7th Annual Gecko Ball** on August 29 (this year's theme is Gecko Gras); and the **15th Annual GeckoFest** street festival on September 5. The Crawl and Ball are ticketed events for adults only. GeckoFest is a free, day-long event offering attractions for all ages. The geckos will be on display throughout the Gulfport Waterfront District in the weeks leading up to Gecko Ball.

The 49th Street South Business Association (SO49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** will begin on Saturday, August 15. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.SoTangerine.com or call 439-0164.



Tickets for the **August 27 Tampa Bay Rays vs. the Minnesota Twins game** are available at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard. The \$25 price includes round trip transportation via the Gulfport Trolley. Rays fans who already have tickets are invited to catch free a ride to the game. Departure from the Casino to Tropicana Field begins at 5 p.m. Return transportation will begin during the seventh inning. For more information call 893-1070 or 893-1118.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	162
Self-initiated calls for service	402
Offenses	41
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	56

Significant incidents or calls this week:

A Town Shores resident reported on the morning of July 16 that their red Saturn Vue was stolen from the parking lot overnight.

Jaclyn Garrison was arrested during a probation check after several drug and paraphernalia items were found in her home.

Officers were dispatched to the 1400 block of 53rd Street after a caller who was housesitting for the homeowner reported that someone broke in through a window and stole two TVs, jewelry and other items. Two hats left at the scene were collected for evidence.

A resident in the 5700 Block of 25th Avenue reported on July 17 that a rifle was missing from his home when he returned from vacation out of state. His girlfriend and roommate were at the residence during his absence, but denied knowledge of the theft.

A resident in the 5400 block of 30th Avenue reported on July 18 that sometime overnight, someone entered their fenced in back yard and stole a blue and white boys 21 speed bike.

William Rountree was arrested after he stole a bag of socks from the Dollar Store. Officer Hutsko located him in an alley on the St. Pete side of 49th Street. Rountree also had multiple outstanding felony warrants for his arrest.

An unknown person burglarized a residence in the 5300 block 8th Avenue. A gun, video surveillance DVD and cash were taken. There was no sign of forced entry.

An unknown person forced their way into a residence in the 1600 block of 53rd Street and stole jewelry.

An officer was dispatched to All Children's Hospital regarding a female victim with a gunshot wound to the thigh. She attempted to break up a fight between Armani Dilworth and another male. Dilworth accidentally shot himself while attempting to pull a gun out of his pocket then fired 3 shots at the victims, striking the female. Dilworth was located at a hospital in Tampa.

A resident in the 5200 block of 18th Avenue reported on July 19 that someone entered her home through an unlocked sliding glass door sometime between 5 & 9:30 p.m. and took jewelry and two Kindle Fire tablets.

A resident in the 4900 block of Newton Avenue reported on July 20 that his surveillance video recorded a black male enter his driveway and attempt to open the doors on his vehicle. The subject then crossed the street and attempted to enter two vehicles at a neighbor's home. All of the vehicles were locked and no entry was made.

Michael Sampson was arrested on an outstanding warrant from Virginia after Officer Crane spotted him walking in the area of 49th Street & Tangerine Avenue. Sampson had drugs and paraphernalia on him at the time of his arrest, and admitted to stealing a lawn mower in a separate case, resulting in a theft charge.

A resident in the 1400 block of 57th Street reported that someone entered their home through a side window between 11 a.m. & 5 p.m. on July 19 and stole a Nintendo Wii and Kindle Fire.

Officers responded to the 5200 block of Jersey Avenue on July 22 regarding an argument in which one subject was burning property belonging to the other. While officers were on scene, one of the subjects slammed a door on the other, intentionally striking him. He was arrested and taken to PCJ.

A Lexus belonging to the owner of Joy Foods was stolen from the parking lot sometime in the last week. SPPD recovered the vehicle at 25th Street & 20th Avenue South, completely stripped.

Officer Ross arrested Dennis Coble on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear for tampering with a coin machine.

The marine unit was not in use this week.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	11
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	5
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases referred back to patrol:	2
Supplements received:	6
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Previously cleared with arrest:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	0
Cases unfounded-no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases still active:	3

Investigator Highlights

Sergeant Woodman cleared a sexual battery case with an arrest.

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations in an exploitation of an elderly person case, an attempted murder, and a grand theft; completed supplements on a grand theft case and an attempted murder; investigated a shooting at Gulfport Liquors in which a female victim was shot in the leg, and; cleared a grand theft case with an arrest.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations on a grand theft case, petit theft, burglary, and a homicide, completing supplements on the grand theft and homicide cases and reviewing key subpoena returns in the homicide case; interviewed and arrested Byron Brown for grand theft, and; interviewed a suspect in a petit theft case and a burglary case.

School Resource Officer Motte is assisting patrol during summer break and assisting with the countywide explorer academy.

School Resource Officer Langston is a patrol during summer break. She cleared a theft case with an arrest and referred charges to the SAO.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano submitted the semi-annual UCR data to FDLE; created and distributed attempt to ID bulletins for Det. Pham in a residential burglary case and for Ofc. Ross in a shoplifting case; compiled the monthly PCSO call out report; compiled and distributed the open case lists; completed an analysis on residential burglaries, and; completed a review of stolen property with a known serial number to ensure entry into FCIC/NCIC.

Records Section

Reports reviewed	11
Supplements reviewed:	71
Public records requests:	21
Background checks:	2
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	6
Subpoenas processed:	9
Citizens assisted:	38

MARINA

Assisted in forty three (43) pump outs evacuating five hundred thirty two (532) gallons of waste. Pumped one thousand three hundred sixty eight (1,368) gallons of gas and one thousand seven hundred seventy five (1,775) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred five (105) vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Technical Events

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

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us domain and training new staff on GTV640 live meeting & programming operations.
- Updated meeting schedules, agendas & minutes, and Recreation & Parks information on City website.
- Commenced preparation of September events calendar and Gulfport Night Out event.
- Continued updates to Casino Facebook page.

Multipurpose Center

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

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 \$65.00 plus \$2.00 per ride. Beginning in August, GEMS will provide transportation to Bay Pines VA Hospital & Medical Center, Northside Hospital & Medical Centers 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 **multiple volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants, Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center at 5501 27th Avenue South for more information.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and glucose screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is July 30.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, July 31. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

A new **LGBT Support & Resource Group** will meet at the Senior Center at 5:30 p.m. every Monday beginning August 3. The group will focus on and discuss unique challenges that the older LGBT population faces: Healthcare, Financial Security, Social Isolation, Access to Aging Programs and Services, and much more with occasional guest speakers.

Join Financial Advisor Scott O'Berry for a discussion of current events, the economy & investing over coffee and donuts in a relaxed setting during **Coffee Club** at 10 a.m. Tuesday, August 4.

Be an advocate for your medication safety by learning what questions to ask your doctor and pharmacist during **Medication Safety Tips** on Wednesday, August 5 at 2 p.m.

Join your friends for an **Ice Cream Social** on Thursday, August 9 at 3 p.m. Tickets must be obtained prior to event. Limit 2 tickets per person. Sponsored by Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab.

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 10. By appointment only; call 893-1231 to schedule a screening.

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

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

Here's your chance to check out new shopping venues during our next **Gulfport Getaway** on Tuesday August 11. We'll stop at Trader Joe's, The Fresh Market, and Mazzaro's Italian Market. Reserve your seat by August 5. GEMS members; \$5/nonmembers \$7.

Learn how to harness the **Law of Attraction** at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, August 12. Master Life Coach Kathy Lane will explain how to use the power of thoughts to positively impact health & well-being.

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Free blood sugar and blood pressure screenings will be offered on Thursday, August 13 at 10:30 a.m.

Bring your cell phone Thursday, August 13 at 2 p.m. Tony & Christine from The Cell Phone Solution will be here to answer your questions during **Cell Phone Q&A**.

Find out how you can receive a free phone that displays text of conversations on a large color touchscreen. **Clear Captions** is Friday, August 14 at 10 a.m.

Turn your favorite photograph into a work of art during **Painting with Judith** every Monday at 5:30 p.m. No experience necessary.

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

SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) is a free program offered by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and the Area Agency on Aging. Specially trained volunteers visit the Gulfport Senior Center every first & third Tuesday of the month to assist clients with Medicare, Medicaid and health insurance questions, providing one-on-one counseling and information. SHINE services are free, unbiased, and confidential. Call 893-2237 or 893-1231 to schedule an appointment.

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

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

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

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

Casino (last week's events):

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|--------------------|--|
| Sunday, July 12 | 7 p.m. - Ballroom Fusion dance with Swingtime (Turnout 132) |
| Tuesday, July 14 | 9 a.m. - Rec Center Tai Chi (Turnout 18)
Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Paul Kirk (Turnout 9)
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 59) |
| Wednesday, July 15 | 10:30 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 24)
6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 251) |
| Thursday, July 16 | 9 a.m. - Rec Center Tai Chi (Turnout 11)
6 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 41) |

Casino (upcoming events):

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|---------------|---|
| Every Sunday | 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. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson
8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8

Every Wednesday 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn
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

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

Sunday, July 12 2 p.m. - *Gulfport Community Players (GCP) 15th Annual Summer One Act Festival* (Turnout 100)

Thursday, July 16 8 p.m. - *GCP 15th Annual Summer One Act Festival* (Turnout 56)

Friday, July 17 8 p.m. - *GCP 15th Annual Summer One Act Festival* (Turnout 59)

Saturday, July 18 8 p.m. - *GCP 15th Annual Summer One Act Festival* (Turnout 140)

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

Sunday, July 12 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 39)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, July 14 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, July 16 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 12)

Friday, July 17 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 6)

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

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Scout Hall (*last week's events*)

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

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

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

LIBRARY

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

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, July 13, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5.*

Monday, July 13, 5:30 p.m. - *Comedy/Improv Workshop.*

Tuesday, July 14, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for Beginners* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, July 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, July 15, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, July 15, 2 p.m. - *Advance Computer class.*

Wednesday, July 15, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Hangout.*

Thursday, July 16, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

Friday, July 17, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, July 18, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day.*

Upcoming Events:

Friday, July 31, 7 p.m. - *Teen Gaming Party:* Final Teen Summer Program event. Celebrate with pizza, prizes, and PS4!!! Permission slip signed by parent is required to join in on the fun.

Thursday, August 6, 7 p.m. - *End of Summer Party with Didgeridoo Down Under.* All ages are invited to experience the fascinating sounds of Australia's signature musical instrument at this fabulous after-hours event.

Saturday, August 15, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day:* For movie titles call 893-1074.

Thursday, August 20, 11 a.m. - Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of *The Analects of Confucius* over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Call 893-1073 or visit the Library for more information. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5:* Each week features a different activity. For more information call 893-1074 or visit the Library.

Every Monday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. - *Comedy/Improv Workshop.* For more information call 252-4413.

Every Tuesday, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information call 360-9069.

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

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Hangout:* Each week features a different cool activity, prizes and snacks! For more information email cklasson@mygulfport.us.

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

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

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

Library Services/Statistic March July 12-18, 2015:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	2,002	715
Sun. 7/12	Library closed	
Mon. 7/13	375	116
Tue. 7/14	386	130
Wed. 7/15	387	136
Thu. 7/16	372	118
Fri. 7/17	244	77
Sat. 7/18	211	95

Recreation Center

The multipurpose room was rented 3-7 p.m. Saturday, June 18 for a birthday party with fifty five (55) in attendance.

The multipurpose room is reserved 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, July 25 for a family reunion.

Programs, Classes & Activities

One hundred forty four (144) children have been registered for the **2015 Summer Recreation Program**. The program lasts eight weeks and is available to children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Summer Program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra fee. For more information call the Recreation Center at 893-1068. Children from the Summer Program participated in a Fish-A-Thon on Wednesday morning (photos below).



Eighty two (82) teens are registered for the **2014-2015 Teen Night Program** for teens in middle school thru age 17. Program hours are 6 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Spanish, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Women's Self-Defense, Yoga and Zumba.

Staff Activities

Shanoah Washington-Davis worked the room rental on Saturday afternoon.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 40 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Haz-Mat Response

Life Safety:

- 17 Fire Inspections
- 1 Fire Re-inspection
- 1 Plans Review

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

Chief Marenkovic attended the PALS meeting at Palm Harbor Station 65 on July 21. Topics of discussion included the restructuring of CME and the upcoming ACLS renewal, and new Trauma Transport protocols which go in effect first week of August.

The Gulfport Fire Department is undergoing annual pump recertification tests for ISO requirements. Pumper 17 passed this week and Engine 17 is scheduled for testing next week. NFPA 1911 helps ensure in-service fire apparatus are serviced and maintained to keep them in safe operating condition and ready for response at all times.

Jose Hernandez has successfully completed pre-employment screening for the open Firefighter/Paramedic position. He will begin employment with the City on August 4.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired a/c unit and lights in Theater lobby.
- Cleared blockage in toilet at City Hall.
- Painted over graffiti at Neighborhood Center.
- Installed ceiling tiles at Fire Station.
- Replaced toilet paper dispenser in Dog Park men's restroom.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Removed nails from tables at beach pavilion #7.
- Pressured washed benches and tables at Library, Senior Center, Clymer Park & pier.
- Replaced boards on benches at Clam Bayou and Marina.
- Cleared debris from street drain at 49th Street terminus.
- Repaired bench swings on beach.

- Cleaned screens on Wood Ibis lake fountains.
- Set up fencing and trash/recycling containers in preparation for Volleyball Tournament, and removed following event.
- Continued sealing picnic tables.
- Continued replacement of tree lights & electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Trimmed, weeded, mulched and cleaned beds at Fire Station, Police compound, Veterans & Clymer Parks, raked leaves around benches & pavilions and cleaned beach.
- Mowed Tangerine Greenway, Gulfport Beach, Recreation Center & Marina green spaces, Veterans, Wood Ibis & Caldwell Parks, City complex, Pinellas Trail spur, 14th Avenue medians, Dog Park & Clam Bayou.
- Repaired irrigation at Chase block, Dog Park and Caldwell Park.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards following weekend events.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged all ball fields daily.

Streets & Sanitation

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture & electronics.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout City.
- Repaired asphalt and potholes throughout City.
- Assembled & delivered new residential and commercial automated trash containers, and replaced broken containers.
- Cleaned and removed debris from storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways & sidewalks.
- Cleaned truck stalls and storage area in City yard, and disposed of old tires & debris.
- Removed debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Restocked recycled mulch bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Reset stop sign at 48th Street & 29th Avenue.
- Repaired roadway at 51st Street & 26th Avenue, 54th Street & 19th Avenue, and at 58th Street & 23rd Avenue.

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at points of connection to water distribution system (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes 31, 32, 33 & 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 3 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 9 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 124 miscellaneous Customer Service Department generated service orders.
- Completed 6 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Replaced 4 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.

- Reviewed permit application for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water sample at Gulfport Beach for quality testing.
- Collected biweekly bacteriological samples on water distribution system.
- Replaced 6 old water meters with new electronic meters.
- Continued semi-annual water system and hydrant flushing required by DEP.
- Repaired water break at 2843 57th Street.
- Removed 2" temporary water line servicing 6100-6150 Gulfport Boulevard.

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.
- Televised sewer lateral and main line at 821 53rd Street.
- Cleared stoppage in grease trap that services City truck wash.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced pads and rotors on Police vehicle #154.
- Replaced front tires, pads and rotors on Police vehicle #7.
- Performed preventative maintenance on Police vehicle #111.
- Replaced ignition module, and replaced coil on Building Maintenance vehicle #65.
- Replaced water soaked air filter, and reinstalled underbody valance in Police vehicle #12.
- Replaced battery in Sandpro Groomer.
- Performed preventive maintenance and various small repairs on City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

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

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

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

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR, REMEMBER:

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

WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:

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

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

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

The number of code enforcement cases for June was 231. The fiscal year-to-date total is 1,557. The number of citizen complaints was 20 for a fiscal year-to-date total of 134. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 8.6 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 please visit the Special Documents section of the City's website at www.mygulfport.us.

July 21 City Council/CRA meeting results:

AV15-01; Application for Vacation of Public Right-of-Way, City Ordinance to vacate a portion of the East-West Alley between 51st & 52nd Streets and North of 8th Avenue. APPROVED

August 12, 2015 Board of Adjustment:

V15-18; 2810 47th Street South; Variance requests for the proposed construction of an 18' x 30' screen room with a composite panel roof which will connect the house to the currently detached garage:

- Reduce the required principal structure rear yard setback requirement by 19 feet, from 25 feet to 6 feet;
- Reduce the required separation distance between the principal structure (proposed screen room) and the north side of an existing shed by 10 feet, from 12 feet to 2 feet; and
- Reduce the required separation distance between the principal structure (proposed screen room) and the west side of the existing shed by 11 feet, from 12 feet to 1 foot.