



Gulfport Community Update

September 15 - 21, 2013

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

2013 Hurricane Guides are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. Hurricane season in the Atlantic basin ends November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits.

Plan early and sign up your Gulfport address for the **Citywide Yard Sale** scheduled for Saturday, November 2. Applications are available at City Hall, Gulfport Library or online at www.mygulfport.us/yardsale. Applicants can also email addresses to jshea@mygulfport.us. A confirmation email will be sent. Deadline for registration is October 25. For more information call 893-1118. No phone-in addresses please; one address per application.

Upcoming Events:

Find the perfect conversation piece at **Third Saturday Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District on September 21, 6 - 10 p.m. Call 322-5217.

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made art and crafts, bath, body and 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 each Tuesday. For more information call Laura Garrison at 278-4285, visit www.GulfportMA.com or www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket or email gulfportmarket@gmail.com.

Cheer on your favorite athlete during the Keep Gulfport Weird Mini-Triathlon on Saturday, September 28. Check-in for registered participants begins at 6 a.m. and the race begins at 7 a.m. For more information call 893-1118 or 893-1066.

The **Tangerine Bluesfest** is scheduled for 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Saturday, September 28. Visit www.tangerinebluesfest.com or www.so49.org for more information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Administration

Calls for Service:

Dispatch calls for service	191
Officer initiated calls for service	243
Offenses	37
Arrests	8
Traffic citations	23

Significant incidents or calls this week:

David Wilson was arrested on an outstanding worthless check warrant during a routine traffic stop in the 2900 block of Dupont Street on the morning of September 12.

Officers responded to the 4900 block of 27th Avenue on the morning of September 12 regarding a deceased person. There were no signs of foul play, and the body was turned over to Medical Examiner's office.

A resident in the 1400 block of 60th Street reported on the morning of September 13 that several items, including a skill saw, Kindle Fire, and camera were missing from his home. The resident

suspected his son or the son's friends of the thefts. Ofc. Horning later confirmed that J.D. Haskins had stolen the items from his father's house and pawned them at two pawn shops on 34th Street South. Haskins was arrested and charged with theft & dealing in stolen property.

A woman reported that she was walking in the area of 27th Avenue & Beach Boulevard on the morning of September 13 when she observed a white male standing behind a fence touching himself. She continued walking and turned to discover that he was behind her. She chased him and called 911, but he fled the area in an unknown small blue vehicle, possibly a Mini Cooper.

A woman in the 5100 block of Preston Avenue reported that she observed a black male teenager reaching into her vehicle. She yelled at him and he ran away on foot, taking the security key fob from the vehicle with him. Officers searched the area but did not find anyone matching the subject's description.

A woman was witnessed by a store manager attempting to shoplift items from a business in the 5000 block of Gulfport Boulevard on the afternoon of September 15. The suspect fled the scene with goods in her purse after a brief struggle with the manager. Officers were patrolling the City late that evening and found the vehicle involved. Due to a good rapport officers have with the suspect's family, they turned her in to the police department that evening. She was transported to the Pinellas County Jail without incident.

The manager of a storage facility in the 700 block of 51st Street reported on the morning of September 14 that the locks on several units had been cut. A total of 27 units were found to have been tampered with. Management is contacting the renters of record.

Officers responded to the 5200 block of Gulfport Boulevard on the evening of September 14 after a BATS taxi driver advised that he almost backed into the pedestrian with his van. The pedestrian spat in his face when he exited his van to apologize. The suspect is unknown, but was described as a black female in her late 20s.

On the morning of September 15 a caller reported that someone in a truck had thrown something at his vehicle while he was driving on 49th Street South. The driver followed the truck through Gulfport where it stopped at 12th Avenue & 49th Street. After speaking with both drivers, officers determined the incident was the result of a road rage on the St. Petersburg side of 49th Street and St. Petersburg police responded to the scene.

An intoxicated female called 911 on the morning of September 15 accusing officers of stealing her knife during contact with her several hours earlier. She then informed the operator that she found her knife and hung up. Once officers made contact with the woman and determined she had no emergency needs. She was taken into custody for misuse of 911.

Officers discovered a suspicious vehicle parked at a storage facility in the 700 block of 51st Street early September 16, and heard noises inside a storage unit. Two subjects were located inside the unit and advised it was the only place they could be alone. They were informed of the city ordinance against living in a structure without potable water.

Officers responded to the 5700 block of 13th Avenue after a tenant called to report that she had been locked out of a house she rents while she was hospitalized. The landlord was advised of the proper method of eviction and the matter was resolved.

Officers initiated a theft of medication investigation on the afternoon of September 16 after a caregiver for an elderly man discovered two bottles of mail order prescription medications missing. The victim had allowed three people to move into his house several months prior. He then suffered a stroke and is currently in a rehab facility. One of the roommates signed for the medication when it was delivered.

Officers assisted GFD on the evening of September 16 after a resident in the 5800 block of 26th Avenue, who had been drinking heavily, stood on a chair to retrieve something from an overhead cabinet and apparently fell. The subject was trauma alerted to Bayfront.

Two students from St. Petersburg were arrested after one of them got into an argument at school with a third student and threatened to attack the victim at school the following day. The second suspect posted threats against the victim on Facebook, and the original suspect joined in on the conversation, continuing hostile behavior towards the victim. The suspects were court ordered to have no contact (direct or indirect) with the victim. However, one of the two continued harassing the victim after being released from the Pinellas County Juvenile Assessment Center, and was arrested again.

Irving Millard was arrested for child abuse on the afternoon of September 18 after several witnesses reported he was forcing a 5 year-old boy in his care to crawl on the hot pavement as punishment for losing a pair of shoes. The child's hands were swollen and beginning to blister. Millard is the boyfriend of the child's mother.

Investigations:

New Cases:	23
Cases Assigned:	5
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	10
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	1
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	0
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	6
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements Received:	35
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	1
"Previously" Cleared With Arrest	6
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	4
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	3
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	2
Cases Still Active:	19

Detective Hanh Pham took Alan Drew Danks into custody for Grand Theft, and investigated a suspicious death which was determined to be of natural causes or an accidental overdose. He also recovered a firearm reported stolen approximately five months ago, and sold to a pawn shop in St. Petersburg. The female who sold the firearm has been identified and he is attempting to locate her for questioning. Additionally, Detective Pham took the police boat out on Saturday and made contact with what appeared to be a derelict vessel. The vessel's registration has expired, and he is attempting to locate and identify the owner.

Detective Embry interviewed suspect Kalvin Devonshire for Grand Theft and Dealing in Stolen Property. Devonshire confessed to both crimes, but the victim refused to prosecute. He also interviewed suspect Michael Singer at the Pinellas County Jail for Check Fraud and Grand Theft Auto. Singer confessed to both crimes, but the cases were exceptionally cleared due to lack of prosecution because the victim passed away. Additionally, Detective Embry interviewed suspect Daniel Spencer regarding theft of antique furniture and tools. Spencer admitted to stealing and selling the items. That case was exceptionally cleared due to lack of prosecution.

Officer Motte mediated several altercations preventing fights from occurring, mentored several students on better life choices, investigated a petit theft with no follow up information, investigated a grand theft with no current follow up information, and completed two Baker Act evaluations. He also met with the students arrested two weeks ago in a mass campus brawl in an attempt to resolve conflicts between the groups, and covered an off duty detail for a varsity football game between Boca Ciega & Northeast High School. Boca Ciega won!

Officer Langston completed an investigation involving a possible suicidal student. The student met the qualifications for Baker Act and was transported to PEMHS. She also responded to an assist another agency CPI call regarding the alleged abuse/neglect of a student, investigated an

incident involving the theft and vandalism of a student's property, assisted in an investigation and recovery of a stolen kindle fire, assisted the St Petersburg Police Department with two separate investigations, interviewed a robbery victim, and attempted the recovery of a runaway student. Officer Langston also responded to a number of on campus disturbances throughout the week. Additionally, Officer Langston mediated with a group of students in an attempt to prevent a fight from occurring, counseled a student caught skipping school about making better decisions, spoke with a student regarding the possible criminal repercussions of making verbal threats, and attended a SRO meeting regarding increased gang activity on school campuses throughout Pinellas County. She also completed her initial proposal for the peer mentoring program, and submitted it to the mentoring coordinator for review. Officer Langston is currently compiling a list of student names with their street nicknames and adding that information into ACISS for future reference, and updating high risk student information and photos in ACISS.

Analyst Palmisano completed an analysis on auto thefts occurring in the City of Gulfport, created a bulletin for Det. Pham to attempt to identify two suspects in a fraud case, created one bulletin each for Det. Pham and Det. Embry to attempt to ID suspects in two retail theft cases, created and distributed open case lists and completed a review of domestic violence cases for follow-up with the victim, and conducted pawn checks for 16 cases with a known suspect or identifiable property.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	9
Supplements reviewed:	70
Reports disseminated:	9
Public records requests:	7
Bike registrations:	2
Fingerprints:	2
Subpoenas processed:	16
Citizens assisted:	28

MARINA

Pumped two thousand eight hundred forty seven (2,847) gallons of gas, and one thousand seventy five (1,075) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling ninety eight (98) vessels.

Assisted with twenty seven (27) pump-outs evacuating three hundred ninety (390) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

Transient Vessels:

Staff welcomed a 31' sailboat and three powerboats this week.

Staff Activities:

- Replaced light bulbs in dry storage area and light at fish cleaning table.
- Completed pump out maintenance.
- Removed weeds from kayak storage.
- Inspected and cleaned gas and diesel sumps.

LEISURE SERVICES

Technical Events

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

www.mygulfport.us/gtv-615. It's a great way to keep in touch with out of town family and friends!
Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued updating and enhancements to City calendar, latest news, departmental pages, mobile website, Leisure Services Rec. Center & Library sub-site resources & employee Intranet, and maintained mygulfport.us domain.
- Finalized Historic Calendar and sent to printer.
- Continued preparation for Historical Society Birthday Bash and updated webpage.
- Met with Officer McLaughlin to discuss GPPD presentation board.
- Continued preparations for welcome package.
- Provided technical audio and visual set up at the theater on Wednesday.
- Provided control room coverage of regular and special City Council meetings. Made DVD copies for City Clerk and rebroadcast on GTV615.
- Commenced preparations for Veteran's Heroes weekend event.
- Uploaded Yard Sale application and information to City website.

Parks

Inspected electrical outlets citywide; reset breaker at Beach playground, and replaced outlet at pavilion #6.

Inspected parks for repairs; repaired fence post at Clam Bayou & picnic benches at band shelter.

Sanded, coated and painted green metal bench outside Library reading area.

Replaced flags throughout City.

Inspected pier for repairs and repaired garbage container door.

Painted doggie cleanup boxes and replaced signage at Clam Bayou, Gulfport Municipal Marina, Beach and Veterans & Caldwell Parks.

Removed weeds, tilled and reworked clay at Little League fields.

Recessed plaque on tennis court bench.

Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.

Trimmed, weeded, mulched & cleaned City complex, Senior Center & Library grounds; trimmed palms at Clam Bayou, hand raked around pavilions and benches, and cleared debris from beach.

Mowed Senior Center, Library grounds, 28th Street signage area, Recreation Center field, Chase Block, Dog Park, Clymer Greenway, Veterans Park, Hoyt perimeter & 56th Street drainage area.

Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas. Trash receptacles were emptied and the Bocce Ball courts were inspected for needed repairs.

Other Activities:

- All City park 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.

GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mini-Bus Service)

The City of Gulfport offers transportation service for residents 55 and older. GEMS (Gulfport Extended Mobility Service) offers rides to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. The \$65 annual registration fee entitles members to ride GEMS for \$2 per one-way trip and is good for one year from date of registration. 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. Riders must have a green schedule card to use this service. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Multipurpose Center

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

The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation has ordered 10 Toshiba laptop computers equipped with Windows 7 and the MS Office Suite. The new computers will be network-ready, providing access for email and web browsing and will be used exclusively for the Center's monthly **Basic and Intermediate Computer Training Courses**. Both courses are curriculum based and offer the student a "real world" Windows-based learning experience. Classes will begin in September. We are pleased to have former NASA Headquarters Chief Computer Systems Engineer Anne Marie Pemberton as our instructor. Classes are open to adults 50 and older. Gulfport residents pay \$40 for a series of 4 weekly classes, and the nonresident fee is \$50; beginner classes are on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. and Intermediate classes are on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Proof of age and residency is required at enrollment time. September classes are full, and there are no classes scheduled for October. Call 893-2237 for more information.

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborly Dining & Meals on Wheels** programs, offering lunches for seniors 60 and older. Call Joe at 344-2111 to inquire about the program or 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 Gulfport residents 50 and older. Applicants should bring a photo I.D., a utility bill or bank statement and proof of income (SSI). For more information please see Gail or Rachel, or call 893-1231.

The Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center has **multiple volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, come join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with over 50 programs, classes and workshops offered right here in Gulfport. 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. If you have any interest in volunteering for the Center and are 18 years or older, please call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center at 5501 27th Avenue South.

How important is your quality of life? Learn to bring new personal satisfaction into your world at the **Access Community Services Workshop** on Wednesday, September 25 at 1:30 p.m.

The Senior Center's annual **Night in Italy** event is scheduled for Friday September 27. Dinner will be served at 6 p.m., followed by a dance performance by the Italian Folk Dancers in the Hickman Theater. Tickets: \$10, available at the Senior Center.

Want to know more about Hospice? Join Janet Pattison from **Suncoast Hospice** on Monday, September 30 at 2:30 p.m. for free information.

A **Bring Your Own Computer (B.Y.O.C.) Social Media class** is offered every Monday at 10 a.m. to help seniors understand social sites like Facebook. Call 893-1231 to register. Space is limited.

The **Laugh, Smile & Reenergize** group meets every Monday at 12:45 p.m.

Join Aston Hugh for **Easy Tai Chi** at the Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street every Tuesday & Thursday at 10 a.m. Designed for all levels of ability and mobility, Aston's technique focuses on breathing and meditation, resulting in improved agility, mobility, balance, and stress relief. This class is open to Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center members. For more information call Rachel at 893-1231.

The **Coffee Club** meets the second Thursday of each month at 9 a.m.

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.

Challenge your mind and have fun during the **Puzzle Pages Party** at 11 a.m. on the second Friday of every other month!

Do you know someone who lives alone and could use a call? Volunteers for the **Reassurance Telephone Program** call Gulfport seniors every Monday through Saturday between 7:30 & 8:30 a.m. To sign up for this program, please 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 every third Tuesday of the month between 9:30 & 11:30 a.m. 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 organization for reuse, recycle or education.

The **Senior Center Singing Group** has been discontinued until a new volunteer instructor is found. We are also looking for a volunteer pianist for the group. For more information call Gail at 893-2237.

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center

Casino (last week's events):

Sunday, September 8	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson Carol Baker 7 p.m. - Mario DeLeon' Band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 53)
Tuesday, September 10	Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson (Turnout 18) 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom class (Turnout 4) 2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing 6:30 p.m. - Beginner Argentine Tango Lesson with Kathleen &

	Steve 8 p.m. - Milonga/Dance (Turnout 38)
Wednesday, September 11	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 191)
Thursday, September 12	7 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Salsa dance (Turnout 36)
Saturday, September 14	7 p.m. - The St. Pete Glitter Queens Fundraiser for Creative Clay Children's Program Dinner & silent auction (Turnout 225)

Casino (Upcoming Events):

Sunday, September 22 & 29	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance Admission \$7
Every Tuesday	12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$7 6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson 8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$7
Every Wednesday	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$7
Every Thursday	7 p.m. - Salsa lesson with Carol Rivera 8 p.m. - Salsa dance Admission \$7

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events)

Wednesday, September 11, 7:30 p.m. - Magic Show photo shoot & rehearsal.

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events)

Thursday, September 26, 8 p.m. - *Comic Magic Show* for ages 7 & up featuring Cesar Domico. Tickets: \$20 in advance/\$25 at the door. For more information call 1-800-838-3006, ext.1.

Neighborhood Center (Last week's events):

Sunday, September 8	9:30a.m.- Faith Cathedral Int'l Church Services (Turnout 18) 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous
Thursday, September 12	7 p.m. - Pasadena Point Homeowners meeting (Turnout 6)

Neighborhood Center (Upcoming events):

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting
Every first - third Sunday	9:30 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services
Every fourth Sunday	9:15 a.m. - Bible study

Scout Hall (Last week's events):

Monday - Friday	7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Tuesday, September 3	11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 10)
Wednesday, September 4	10:30 a.m. - Yoga class (Turnout 13)
Friday, September 6	10 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 5)

Scout Hall (Upcoming Events):

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

The Gulfport Library offers free one-on-one computer instruction on a first come basis every Monday and Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Tuesday, September 10, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open AA meeting.*

Wednesday, September 11, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, September 11, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*, facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Wednesday, September 11, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, September 12, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime for Toddlers & Preschoolers.*

Thursday, September 12, 1 p.m. - *iPad for Beginners Workshop*, facilitated by Dave Mather & Cailey Klasson.

Friday, September 13, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, September 14, 11 a.m. - *Youth Book Writing Workshop & Contest.*

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, September 21 - *Free Family Movie Day*: It's been a long summer, so join us as we resume our monthly program. Enjoy flicks with popcorn provided by our Circle of Friends. Show times are 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. For movie titles call 893-1074.

Tuesday, September 24 - *SCORE Counseling*: FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals. Call 893-1073 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Tuesday, October 1, 9 a.m. - *Community Outreach*: A staff member from Congressman C.W. Bill Young's office will provide information and solicit questions and concerns from the public.

Thursday, October 3, 1 p.m. - *Medicare/Affordable Care Act Q&A session*: How will the Affordable Care Act affect me and my family? Bring your questions to this informational session and open discussion forum.

Every Monday, 6 p.m. - *Victors Support Group for Victims of Sexual Assault.*

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

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

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Free and open to the public. For more information contact Robin Riddell at rriddell@gmail.com.

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

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

Every Saturday, 11 a.m. - *Youth Book Writing Workshop & Contest*: Participants in grades 1-12 will attend workshops and have the opportunity to create a book. The winning book to be published by Trace Taylor Books! Parents welcome to attend. For more information call 893-1073.

**Library Services/Statistic September 8 - 14, 2013:
Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,779	564
Sun. 9/8	Library closed	
Mon. 9/9	303	94
Tue. 9/10	340	96
Wed. 9/11	277	91
Thu. 9/12	305	104
Fri. 9/13	306	99
Sat. 9/14	238	73

Recreation Center

The game room was rented Saturday, September 14, noon - 4 p.m. for a birthday party with approximately forty (40) in attendance.

Pavilion #7 is reserved Friday, September 20, 2 - 8 p.m. for a private function.

The game room is reserved for a birthday party on Saturday, September 21, 3 - 7 p.m.

Pavilion #7 is reserved Saturday, September 21, 4 p.m. - dusk.

The game room is reserved Saturday, September 28, 1 - 6 p.m. for a baby shower.

Programs, Classes & Activities

Thirty eight (38) children are registered for the **2013/14 School Year Child Care Program** for children in Kindergarten thru age 14. Program hours are until 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra charge. Annual registration fee is \$17 for residents and \$22 for non-residents with monthly fees of \$146 for residents and \$292 for non-residents. Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary. The program is licensed by the Pinellas County License Board.

Twelve (12) children are registered for the **2013/14 Tot Time Program**, and six (6) for **VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten)**. Tot Time is a pre-school, hands-on program for children ages 3-5. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who turned 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply at the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas County, Inc. and the child must receive a Certificate of Eligibility. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. Registration fees for the Tot Time Program are \$17 for residents and \$22 for nonresidents.

Contractual classes: Fencing, German, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Spanish for Beginners, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Urban Survival Bootcamp, Yoga and Zumba.

Forty eight (48) teens are registered for the **2013/14 Teen Night program**, a great hangout for teens in grades 6-12 providing recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects. The teens utilize the gymnasium, game

room and outdoor area. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents. Program hours are Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 6 - 9 p.m.

Fifteen (15) **FY2012/13 Skate Park** registrations have been issued to date.

Four regular Teen Councilmembers were in attendance at the monthly meeting on Wednesday. Topics discussed were Advisor report, the approval of July's minutes, introduction of a new member, review of Resolution No. 2013-54 and election for new positions.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Customer Service and Finance

Account Activity (Water and/or Marina):	22 new, 0 closed
Water payments:	1581 totaling \$201,004.60
On-Line Water payments:	105 transactions totaling \$14,236.23
Bright House payments:	18
Utility Bills Mailed 9/11/13:	1260
Accounts Payable 9/6/13	288 transactions totaling \$119,363.66
Mail processed 9/5/13:	384 pieces totaling \$447.02
Purchasing Cards report:	231 transactions totaling \$35,910.42

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 28 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 4 Structure Fires
- 1 Vehicle Crash
- 2 Gas Leak
- 2 Wires Down

Life Safety:

- 5 Fire Inspections
- 1 C.O.'s

The CERT Team will host a *Keep Gulfport Weird Mini Triathlon* organizational meeting at 4 p.m. Tuesday, September 24 at the Gulfport Senior Center. The event is Saturday, September 28, and CERT will provide public safety/crowd control. Volunteers will meet at the church at Gulfport & Beach Boulevards at 6:30 a.m. Saturday. The event will last approximately 90 minutes.

CERT meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27th Avenue South. The next meeting is Thursday, October 17 at 7 p.m. CERT trains volunteers in disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area, and in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search & rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. For more information call Bob Worthington at 916-8014 or visit www.gulfportcert.com.

Staff Activities:

- GFD's C-19 Panasonic Toughbooks are still undergoing reconfiguration by the County with the new Zoll Data Management Console software for electronic Patient Care Reports. The FD expects to go live with receiving calls the week of September 23.

- The United States Fire Administration announced today the release of their "Firefighter Fatalities in the United States in 2012" report. There were 81 on-duty Firefighter fatalities last year occurring in 31 states, one territory and one overseas military facility. Thirty nine Firefighter deaths were caused by heart attacks, a record low but deaths caused by vehicle crashes were up, with 18 firefighters killed as the result of 14 accidents: six involving POVs, six involving apparatus, and six resulting from two aircraft incidents.
- Chief Marenkovic attended a PALS meeting at Eastlake Fire District Station 57 on September 17.
- Gulfport Fire Firefighter/Paramedics completed their St. Petersburg College 2013 Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) refresher training final exam/megacodes this week. All members passed the course.
- Inspector Vento met with a property owner who is considering opening a new business at 5209 Gulfport Boulevard. They discussed Business licensing and fire safety. He also met with the owners of a new roofing company opening soon at 5009 8th Avenue, and the owner of a new printing company at 4903 8th Avenue to schedule a C.O. inspection.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance:

- Repaired/replaced PVC fencing at Neighborhood Center storage area.
- Replaced sink in men's restroom at Dog Park.
- Replaced "Safe Place" sign at Fire Station.
- Repaired toilet in Recreation Center employee lounge and shelves in gym closet.
- Set up Council Chambers for meeting.
- Repaired toilet in City Hall ladies' restroom.
- Installed new sink drain in Senior Center kitchen.
- Delivered mail to main Post Office for Finance Department.
- Transported several City vehicles to Tampa for repairs.
- Performed routine daily maintenance duties at all City buildings.

Streets & Sanitation:

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Completed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture and electronics.
- Continued curbside bagged leaves pick-up.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste.
- Completed asphalt patchwork at various locations.
- Delivered new automated containers for trash.
- Replaced broken automated containers
- Removed two large granite pieces on 58th Street, reset granite level and filled hole with new sod.
- Removed large tree limb obstructing roadway following storm.
- Emptied and removed recycling containers around Volleyball Courts following event.
- Trimmed overhanging palm trees in the alleyways.
- Cleared trees blocking roadway along 12th Avenue.
- Realigned storm drain cover at 58th Street & 20th Avenue.
- Installed "Dead-End" sign at 52nd Street terminus.

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 35 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 6 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 76 Customer Service-generated miscellaneous service orders.
- Completed 1 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locate.
- Replaced 3 water meters that were stuck and not recording usage.
- Replaced 5 old water meters with new style meters.
- 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.
- Watered new sod placed on drainage swale 52nd Street terminus.
- Repaired 6" water break in Town Shores.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service at lift stations 1 & 2.
- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Daily per trip vehicle check inspection.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2, Police & Fire Departments and Multipurpose Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Cleaned and televised sewer main at 2825 50th Street.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced head & gasket on Sanitation Truck #46 brake system air compressor.
- Repaired grabber arm system on Sanitation Truck #41.
- Replaced fuel pump relay, auto shut off relay & ECM on Parks Department Vehicle #85.
- Replaced belts on Fire Truck #E17.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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

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 (727) 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 check their website at www.pcclb.com.

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 beginning home improvement projects give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss plans and inspections that may be necessary, to explain code requirements and help you through the process.

Staff anticipates sending Business License renewal notices out in mid-August. Licenses are good from October 1 of the current year through September 30 of the following year. If a license is not renewed by October 1, a 10 percent penalty shall be applied for the month of October and a 5 percent for each month thereafter until it is paid.

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

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

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