



# Gulfport Community Update

## July 7 - 13, 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.

The **Independence Day Celebration** in the Gulfport waterfront district was spectacular again this year, with kids' activities, live music, food vendors, a beautiful parade, and world-class fireworks. Visit <http://mygulfport.us/july-4th-celebration-in-gulfport> to view photos of the fishing derby, sand sculpture contest, kid's zone, parade and fireworks. Thank you to Mayor Henderson for singing the National Anthem and emceeding the parade, and to all who participated in this year's celebration. Photos below: Parade on Beach Boulevard.



### **Upcoming Events:**

Find great bargains for your summer reading pleasure at the **Circle of Friends Summer Book Sale** in the Friends Room at the Gulfport Public Library, 5501 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South on Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. ALL hardcover and paperback fiction will be on sale. For more information call Marilyn Field at 321-4035.

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](http://www.GulfportMA.com) or [www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket](http://www.facebook.com/gulfportfreshmarket), or email [gulfportmarket@gmail.com](mailto:gulfportmarket@gmail.com).

Find the perfect painting or sculpture during the **Third Saturday Gulfport Art-Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District on July 20, 6 - 10 p.m. For more information call 322-5217.

Join the City of Gulfport for **National Night Out** on Tuesday, August 6, 6:30 - 9 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street. For more information call Lt. Mary Farrand at 893-1111.

**Weekly Casino Ballroom Events**

- July 15 & 22, 7 p.m. - Hustle Classes/Lessons - \$10
- Every Tuesday, 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons, - \$7
- Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango Dance/ Lesson - \$7
- Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - Swing Dance/Lesson - \$7
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7 p.m. - Salsa Dance/Lesson - \$7
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, 6 p.m. - Band/Ballroom Dance and Band - \$7

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**Administration**

***Calls for Service:***

Offenses	65
Arrests	11
Traffic citations	42

**Significant incidents or calls this week:**

A resident in the 800 block of 54<sup>th</sup> Street South reported on the afternoon of July 4 that an acquaintance used a debit card several times without permission, and stole an iPad. Officer Samantha Obrart is investigating.

A reveler at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities reported that a male on a bike in the area of Beach Boulevard & 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue was in possession of drugs. Officers made contact with the man, identified as Craig Emery and noticed a small amount of marijuana on his bicycle pack. He was charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

On the evening of July 4 an intoxicated woman reported that she was sitting on the sidewalk in the area of 52<sup>nd</sup> Street & 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and put her iPhone down next to her. Three black males approached, and one snatched up the cell phone. The victim attempted to chase them into St. Petersburg but could not catch them. The case is ongoing.

GPD received several fireworks complaints on the 4<sup>th</sup> and observed 7 such violations, making contact with the involved parties. They issued warnings and there were no repeat violations.

An officer gave a ride to a 17 year-old female walking home from a friend’s house in the early morning hours of July 5, and discovered a strange man sitting on her porch. When officers questioned the man he only offered curse words and physically resisted when they attempted to remove him from the porch to arrest him. After being taken into custody he was identified as William Handing and was charged with resisting an officer, loitering and prowling.

A neighbor taking care of a duplex in the 2700 block of 50<sup>th</sup> Street for a friend discovered a man passed out on the bed when she went to check on the apartment early July 5. It was determined that Gary Krann had become extremely intoxicated the previous night and was kicked out of a

friend's house nearby. He stumbled into the duplex and passed out. He was arrested for trespassing.

On the afternoon of July 6 officers observed a couple riding a dirt bike on the street. The bike was not street legal, nor was it registered with the State of Florida. During the traffic stop, it was determined that the driver of the bike had a suspended license and was at felony status for this offense. Tedarrell Davenport was arrested for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Officers responded to Tomlinson Park early July 7 after a caller reported a partially submerged truck in the lake. There was nobody around the truck when officers arrived, and the owner was contacted. He told officers that he leaves the key in the truck and that it must have been stolen from his business where it was parked.

A caller in the 4900 block of Tangerine Avenue reported early July 8 that his business truck was broken into sometime between the evening of July 6 and the time of the report. The driver side window was broken and the inside of the cab was ransacked, but nothing was taken. The passenger side windshield wiper was broken off and the antenna was bent.

Officers responded to a reported hit & run in the 5400 block of Essex Avenue on the evening of July 8 after a large SUV struck a pickup truck and left the scene. Officers located the driver who admitted fault, and claimed he intended to go back to make restitution. He was issued three citations.

**Investigations:**

Documented Follow-Ups:	37
Cases Cleared With Arrest:	4
Previously Cleared With Arrest:	1
Cases Suspended-No Leads:	15
Cases Unfounded/No Crime:	0
Cases Exceptionally Cleared:	1
Cases Still Active:	16

Detective Pham interviewed an inmate at the Pinellas County Jail regarding an Identity Theft case; attempted to locate the victim of a carjacking case; conducted a live invest with the prosecutor regarding a Grand Theft case; looked for the suspect in the Walgreens Strong-arm robbery, and; continued efforts to find a robbery suspect in South St. Pete with negative results. He has requested SPPD officers for assistance. Detective Pham also investigated a Grand Theft case and exceptionally cleared it due to the suspect living out of the County, scheduled a non-arrest invest, and arrested Dennis Young for Dealing in Stolen Property.

Detective Embry spoke by phone with suspect Jessica Coppin and obtained a confession to a grand theft case. Coppin resides in Pasco County, and Detective Embry will set a Non-Arrest Invest which will be marked as exceptionally cleared. He got a database hit indicating that Evalio Ricks, a suspect in a Strong Arm Robbery at Wells Fargo a few months ago was arrested in Tampa by Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office on an outstanding warrant. Detective Embry also continued investigating his assigned cases.

Analyst Palmisano updated cost recovery figures, created and distributed a bulletin to GPD officers and area agencies for Officer Davis in an attempt to identify a suspect in a grand theft shoplifting case and started compiling data for the semi-annual UCR submission to FDLE. She also created and distributed bulletins from Det. Pham regarding a subject wanted for unarmed robbery, and Officer Parks regarding a subject wanted for burglary. Additionally, Analyst Palmisano completed pawn checks for 12 cases with a known suspect or identifiable property.

The Marine Unit was on the water for 16 hours during 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.

## **Records Section**

Reports reviewed:	15
Supplements reviewed:	276
Public records requests:	38
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	4
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	61

## **MARINA**

Pumped three thousand six hundred thirty six (3,636) gallons of gas, and one thousand sixty two (1,062) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred thirty two (132) vessels.

Assisted with eighteen (18) pump-outs evacuating two hundred eighty (280) gallons of sewage. This free service is well received by the boating public and helps keep our waters clean.

### **Transient vessels:**

Marina staff welcomed a 42' powerboat, 41' sailboat, 40' powerboat, two 30' sailboats, 26' sailboat, 44' powerboat and a 34' sailboat this week. Welcome to Gulfport!

## **LEISURE SERVICES**

### **Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport](http://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/GTV615/Live\\_Webstream.htm](http://www.mygulfport.us/GTV615/Live_Webstream.htm). 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.
- Provided control room coverage for July 10 Board of Adjustment meeting. Rebroadcast on GTV615 and made DVD copy for City Clerk.
- Unpacked, racked, and connected new encoder for GTV. Created a signal flow chart of new encoder in line with the GTV control room.
- Troubleshoot audio signal in GTV. Successfully created stereo image to BH and web.
- Completed August Events/Meetings calendar and sent to printer.
- Provided Technical Events coordination for 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration. Photographed festivities and uploaded pictures under latest news on City website.
- Continued updating and enhancements to City calendar, latest news, departmental pages, mobile website, Rec. Center on Leisure Services sub-site, resources page on Library sub-site and maintained mygulfport.us domain.
- Recorded voiceovers for two new video projects and mixed audio with music. Completed shot list of Casino for on location shoot.
- Continued compiling data for 2013/14 Historical Calendar.
- Continued working on City Council 2013/14 Events Resolution. Events Applications are to be completed by July 31 for next fiscal year of events.

- Assisted IT Department with daily operations.

## **Parks**

Set up orange fencing, barricades, trash barrels and extra electrical poles etc. in preparation for Independence Day celebration, and removed following event.

Replaced flag at Pier, broken fence rails at Clam Bayou & Wood Ibis Parks, bench on Coast Guard Auxiliary dock, and light on Caldwell Park “Welcome to Gulfport” sign.

Repaired fallen fence rail at Tangerine Greenway, broken fence rail at Clam Bayou and railing on Skate Park half-pipe.

Inspected all parks for needed repairs.

Inspected Beach Boulevard power outlets in preparation for 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, and replaced outlets at two locations.

Removed decking, sistered support beam under dock and refastened deck boards.

Painted dog waste poles and boxes at various City locations.

Removed scorekeeper’s stand at Hoyt field and hung support beams for decking installation.

Replaced irrigation control wires at Clymer Park and turned off controllers in all parks following heavy rains.

Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades and repaired mower tire.

Trimmed, weeded, mulched & cleaned Beach Streetscapes, City complex, Veterans Park and Library grounds; hand raked around pavilions and benches, and cleared debris from beach.

Mowed Clymer, Clam Bayou, Wood Ibis, Veterans & Caldwell Parks, City Complex, Chase Block, Dog Parks, Tangerine & Clymer Greenways, Library/28<sup>th</sup> Street signage area, Senior Center grounds, Recreation Center grounds, Marina, Lions Club, 49<sup>th</sup> Street terminus, Neighborhood Center and 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue median.

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. The **summer schedule with new pickup times and trips** is available at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center, from GEMS drivers or online at [www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org). 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**

Approximately 100 participants enjoyed the **Stars and Stripes BBQ** at the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center on July 3. Hamburgers with all the fixings were served along with other planned activities. Thank you to our sponsors: Eagle Lake Rehab & Care Center, Griswold Home Care, Gulfport Beach Bazaar, Lasting Legacy, Smokin' J's BBQ, and the Health Rehab Centre at Dolphins View. Thank you to Mayor Henderson for serving as grill master! Proceeds benefited the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation.

The Gulfport Multipurpose Center is open Monday, Thursday & Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and; Tuesday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. through summer. Wii Bowling classes will be offered at 6:30 p.m. every first & third Tuesday; Italian Class for Beginners every Tuesday at 6 p.m.; Italian Dance Practice every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m., and; Card Games every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. Like us on **Facebook at Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation**. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information!

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.

**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 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 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

Sign up today to enjoy all the **classes and events** offered at the Gulfport Senior Center. Ask Gail or Rachel to give you a tour! This is your Center! Pick up a copy of the June schedule at the Senior Center or online at [www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org](http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org). The Senior Center currently offers 49 monthly classes for residents over 50 to choose. Membership required.

Over 50 and ready to get fit and meet new friends? Visit the **Foundation Fitness Center**. Summer hours are Monday, Thursday & Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Tuesday & Wednesday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Annual membership is \$25 or \$40 a couple. Stop by the Multipurpose Center and take a tour of our state-of-the-art fitness facility.

July **beginner & intermediate computer classes** are full. Call Rachel at 893-1231 to sign up for August classes.

Everyone is invited to the Healthy Vision Institute's **free Senior Vision Seminar** Wednesday, July 17 at 1:30 p.m.

Want to know more about Hospice? Join Janet Pattison on Thursday, July 25 at 1 p.m. for a **Hospice and Caregiving informational seminar**.

**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. To schedule an appointment call 893-2237 or 893-1231.

A representative from the Community Law Program will visit the Multipurpose Center at 10 a.m. Friday, July 19 offering **free legal help** for people over 60 who meet certain criteria. Call 582-7480 for more information.

**AARP Driving Classes** will be offered August 6 and 13 at 12:45 p.m. Participants must attend both days. \$12 for AARP member and \$14 for non-member. Call 893-1231 to register.

Want to learn to play Contract Bridge? **Beginners Bridge 101** at 11 a.m. every Monday is for you!

The Senior Center's **singing group** meets in the dining area on Mondays at 2 p.m. The group is looking for a volunteer pianist. Please call Gail at 893-2237.

Join Aston Hugh for a new **Easy Tai Chi** class every Tuesday & Thursday at 10 a.m. at the Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street. 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.

To view the Senior Center calendar in its entirety visit <http://www.gulfportseniorfoundation.org>.

**Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater & Gulfport Neighborhood Center**

**Casino (last week's events):**

Sunday, June 30	6 p.m. - Ballroom Dance Lesson 7 p.m. - Voices in Jazz 20-piece big band & Ballroom dance (Turnout 36)
Monday, July 1	7 p.m. - Hustle dance lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 22)
Tuesday, July 2	9 a.m. - Intermediate Tai Chi with Marge (Turnout 32) Noon - Intermediate Ballroom lesson with Carol Baker (Turnout 14) 1 p.m. - Beginner Ballroom lesson (Turnout 7) 2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing 6 p.m. - Birthday Party (Turnout 400)
Wednesday, July 3	6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime 7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime 8 p.m. - Swing dance (Turnout 328)
Friday, July 5	8p.m. - Argentine Tango La Playa Milonga & dinner buffet (Turnout 63)
Saturday, July 6	6. p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 135)

**Casino (Upcoming Events):**

Every Sunday	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance Admission \$7
Monday, July 15 & 22	7 p.m. - Hustle lesson with Carol Baker Admission \$10
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):**

Saturday, July 5, 7 p.m. - Free Family Movie Night presents *ET the Extraterrestrial* (Turnout 7)

**Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):**

Thursday-Saturday, July 11-13 & 18-20, 8 p.m. and Sunday, July 14 & 21, 2 p.m. - The Gulfport Community Players present the *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer One Act Festival: A refreshing medley of comedies and light drama.* Tickets: \$15, available at the Gulfport Casino, Beach Bazaar & Gulfport Chamber of Commerce or by calling 322-0316.

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

Sunday, June 30	6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous
Monday, July 1	7 p.m. - Gulfport Democratic Club Meeting (Turnout 32)
Friday, July 5	5 p.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 19)

**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
Monday, July 1	10:30 a.m. - Dance Fusion class
Tuesday, July 2	11 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 12)
Wednesday, July 3	10:30 a.m. - Yoga class (Turnout 7)
Thursday, July 4	9:30 a.m. - Bob's Band practice
Friday, July 5	9 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 4) 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

**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, July 2, 9 a.m. - *Community Involvement Consulting* with Joel Brown of Representative Bill Young's office.

Tuesday, July 2, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open AA meeting*.

Wednesday, July 2, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Prompt Short Story Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, July 3, 2 p.m. - Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5: *Construction Production*, facilitated by Cailey Klasson

Wednesday, July 3, 3 p.m. - Teen Summer Reading Program: *Movie & Ice Cream Halfway party*, facilitated by Cailey Klasson

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

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday, July 13, 10 a.m. - *Circle of Friends Book Sale*. Shop for sizzling bargains in the cool comfort of the Frances Purdy Friends Room.

Saturday, July 13, 1:30 p.m. - *Crafts Club for All Ages: Summer Crafts & Christmas in July*. Pat shares some great ideas to help you enjoy this season as well as the next one.

Wednesday, July 17, 2 p.m. - *Dig Into Summer Reading Program for Grades K-5*: We'll dig into ancient Egypt and discover the treasures in the pyramids like mummies!

Wednesday, July 17, 4 p.m. - *Beneath the Surface Teen Summer Reading Program Viva Florida! Paranormal Addition*: We'll be celebrating Florida's 500<sup>th</sup> birthday with cupcakes and a paranormal speaker who will let us know if our library is haunted. For more details on our Summer Reading programs call Youth Services Librarian Cailey at 893-1073.

Thursday, July 18, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman over coffee & light refreshments. Stop by the Circulation Desk to pick up a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Saturday, July 20, 11 a.m. - *Beginning Digital Camera Workshop*: Digital is the way to go for fast and easy results. Cathy Salustri shows you how to capture those moments!

Tuesday, July 23 - *SCORE Counseling*: FREE & helpful advice from experienced business professionals. Call 893-1073 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

Thursday, July 25 - *iPad for Beginners Workshop*. Learn to use and enjoy your new technology. Each session is limited to 15 participants. Call 893-1073 to reserve a seat.

Saturday, July 27, 11 a.m. - *Intermediate Digital Camera Workshop*: Build your skills & advance your level of expertise. Open to participants of the *Beginning Digital Camera Workshop* only.

Tuesday, August 6, 9 a.m. - *Community Involvement Consulting*: A representative from Congressman C.W. Bill Young's office will provide information and solicit questions and concerns from the public. First come, first served.

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, 3 p.m. - *Teen Zone*. Challenge your friends on the latest XBOX 360 games or just hang out and enjoy free refreshments.

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Summer Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers. Don't miss our special *Summer Storytime Garden Jamboree* on the last Thursday of every month. Sing songs, play instruments & have a great time in the new Circle of Friends Garden!

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

**Library Services/Statistic June 30 - July 6, 2013:  
Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,751	570
Sun. 6/30	Library closed	
Mon. 7/1	331	106
Tue. 7/2	352	119
Wed. 7/3	362	109
Thu. 7/4	Holiday - City Hall closed	
Fri. 7/5	369	117
Sat. 7/6	308	102

**Recreation Center**

The Game room is reserved for Family Reunions on Saturday, July 20, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., and Saturday, July 27, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Programs, Classes & Activities**

One hundred sixteen (116) children are registered for the **2013 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended care until 6 p.m. for an additional fee. Participants enjoy activities, field trips, lunches, positive role models and a safe environment to call their own.

**Contractual classes:** Chair Yoga, Fencing, Gymnastics, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tai Chi, Tennis, Yoga and Zumba.

Eighty (80) teens are registered the **2012/13 Teen Night program**, a great hang out 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.

Ten (10) **FY2012/13 Skate Park** registrations have been issued to date.

**Staff Activities**

Recreation Staff worked the Sand Sculpture Contest, inflatables and concessions during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Calls for Service:**

- 50 Emergency Medical Calls
- 4 Structure Fires
- 1 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Gas Leak
- 2 Single Engine Response
- 2 Fires Outside Structure

**Life Safety:**

- 5 Fire Inspections

- 1 Re-Inspection

The **CERT Team** meets monthly at the Gulfport Multipurpose Center, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South. The next meeting is Thursday, July 18 at 7 p.m. CERT educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area, and trains them 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](http://www.gulfportcert.com).

Thank you to the CERT Team for helping with the food booth, parade security and fireworks detail during the City's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration.

#### **Staff Activities:**

- The Gulfport Fire Department will present Firefighter/EMT Christopher Mathis with a Medal of Valor at the July 16 City Council meeting for his quick lifesaving actions after a neighbor's toddler was found at the bottom of the family pool.
- Fitch & Associates will present their final report to the Board of County Commissioners at a Work Session on July 19.
- The Florida Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services has renewed the Gulfport Fire Department's Advanced Life Support License through August 17, 2015.
- Gulfport Fire Department Engine 17 participated in the Parade during the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, and Special Rescue 17 was in service in a small ATV borrowed from the Public Works Department to better negotiate through the downtown crowd; Pumper 17 was dedicated to fire suppression at the Fireworks staging area. Inspector Frank Vento performed Fire Inspections on all vendors and Chief Marenkovic staffed the Unified Command Post in the Casino with Police Lt. Stone. Gulfport's CERT Team assisted with pedestrian control and monitoring public safety. Special Advanced Life Support Rescue 17 responded to 3 calls around the downtown area. The event went quite well.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **Building Maintenance:**

- Installed new wheels on Police Department east exit gate.
- Installed new wall bracket for handicap sink and replaced toilet flapper in Dog Park men's restroom.
- Completed annual termite inspection.
- Repaired door lock at Recreation Center.
- Checked all City buildings for roof leaks.
- Repaired hockey goal and men's restroom urinal at Recreation Center.
- Pumped water from storage room and repaired air conditioning unit at Casino.
- Assisted Senior Center with 4<sup>th</sup> of July Party setup and cleared air conditioner drain line.
- Checked fluids and delivered two generators to Parks Department in preparation for 4<sup>th</sup> of July events.
- Delivered mail from City Hall to main Post Office.
- Repaired toilet and sink handle in Garage.
- Replaced safety eye on Neighborhood Center south gate.
- Replaced electronic locking mechanism timer panel on Casino outside restroom doors.
- Repaired air conditioning unit drain over employee area at Library.
- Installed mini blinds in A & B rooms at Recreation Center.
- Picked up parts in Tampa for Garage.

- 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.
- Assembled and delivered new 40 & 90 gallon automated containers.
- Removed and disposed of several loads of debris from the 49<sup>th</sup> Street holding area.
- Cleaned storm grates following recent rains.
- Removed illegal dumping at Osgood Point.
- Completed asphalt patchwork citywide.
- Removed debris in roadway on Shore Boulevard.
- Removed debris and dead Oak tree from Lincoln Cemetery per Code Enforcement direction.
- Delivered new 6-yard dumpster to 59<sup>th</sup> Street & 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Delivered multiple containers to Boca Ciega High School for week-long event, and removed following event.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping at Beach.
- Placed barricades around downed power line at 57<sup>th</sup> Street & 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Opened and cleared weep drain under island at Recreation Center.
- Cleaned and removed debris from storm water box and reset cover at 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue & Beach Boulevard.
- Removed cut limb obstruction at 57<sup>th</sup> Street & 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.
- Delivered barricades for Block Party at 2646 Upton Street.
- Laid 20 yards of shell at Beach parking lot.
- Installed "Road Closing" signage and set up garbage and recycling containers for 4<sup>th</sup> of July event.
- Removed trash & debris following Tuesday Fresh Market.
- Cleaned storm water grates, inlets, and outfalls following heavy rains.
- Completed asphalt roadwork at 52<sup>nd</sup> Street & 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Continued removing debris from storm drains citywide.
- Trimmed tree limb obstruction per Fire Department direction.
- Installed millings and graded alley at 54<sup>th</sup> Street & 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Reset and straightened signs along the roadway.

### **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 # 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 64 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 10 non pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 69 Customer Service-generated miscellaneous service orders.
- Completed 3 Sunshine One-Call Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- 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.
- Repaired water break at 2820 Dupont Street.

## **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 sewer main line on Essex Avenue.

## **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Replaced radiator cooling fan in Police Vehicle #09.
- Replaced broken engine torque strut in Police Vehicle #19.
- Replaced bad wiper motor in Police Vehicle #16.
- Repaired hydraulic oil leak on Sanitation Truck #42.
- Repaired hydraulic oil leak on Sanitation Truck #46.
- Replaced broken windshield on front end loader.
- Performed routine maintenance, repairs, etc. on various City vehicles.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

With the longer hours of summertime before us, the visions of those home improvement projects start to become a reality. Before you embark on your home improvement project give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss your plans and see what inspections may be necessary, to explain code requirements and to help you through the process. 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](http://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.

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the New Business Checklist at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

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

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](http://www.mygulfport.us).

## **July 10, 2013 Board of Adjustment Results:**

V13-11; 2301 York Street South; Variance request to:

- Acknowledge the existence of a non-permitted, nonconforming 8' x 10' shed with respect to the minimum rear and side yard setback requirements; and
- To reduce the minimum setback requirements for the existing shed by 1 foot from 3 feet to 2 feet from the rear property line, and by 1.5 feet from 3 feet to 1.5 feet from side property line. BOTH REQUESTS WERE DENIED.

V13-12; 1619 56<sup>th</sup> Street South; Variance request to reduce the side yard setback requirement by 2 foot, from 12 feet to 10 feet to construct an attached, open carport. APPROVED.

Distribution:

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