



# *Gulfport Community Update*

*October 18 - 24, 2015*

## OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Lots of interesting items were discovered during the **Keep Pinellas Beautiful Clam Bayou Cleanup** on October 17 (photos below). Thirty five volunteers picked up 278 pounds of trash, filling 50 bags. Thank you volunteers, for your hard work and great smiles! See you at the next cleanup on March 12, 2016.



## Upcoming Events:

Visit the 49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** every Saturday, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. For more information, visit [www.SoTangerine.com](http://www.SoTangerine.com) or call 439-0164.

**Gulfport Neighbors' Junk in the Trunk** is back, offering even more ways for Gulfport residents to recycle, and clean & green Gulfport! Swap, trash or give away old furniture, appliances, tires, and other bulk items for free during our next event at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street on Saturday, October 24, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. No firearms, drugs, liquor, paints, chemicals

or batteries please. The Parks Department will offer Crepe Myrtle trees to the first 25 attendees donating a full bag of non-perishable food items or toiletries for the Gulfport Senior Center Pantry. Stop by for a cup of coffee and discuss your concerns with Gulfport Police Lt. Josh Stone and Community Resource Officer Zack Mills. Register bikes at no charge. Sign up for Code Red to be notified of emergency situations or critical community alerts. All Children's Hospital representatives will provide free bike helmets and teach the 5 steps to properly fitting a helmet, and the Gulfport Fire Department will distribute smoke detectors. This event is for Gulfport residents only. Proof of residency (driver's license or utility bill) is required. Gulfport Neighbors was recently recognized as Creative Loafing Magazine's *Best of the Bay*: Best Community Group. Join the Gulfport Neighbors network of volunteers; inspiring, motivating and uniting our neighbors to improve the quality of life in Gulfport. For more information, visit [www.facebook.com/gulfportneighbors](http://www.facebook.com/gulfportneighbors) or call 893-1118.

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](http://www.gulfportma.com), call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email [FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com](mailto:FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com).

Take a journey with Patsi Agüero during her two **Fine Art events** at the Catherine A. Hickman Theater, 5501 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue on Friday, November 6, 4 - 6 p.m., and an Art Interactive Event" at the Gulfport Arts Center, 2726 54<sup>th</sup> Street from 6 until 8 p.m. Patsi is a native Floridian with a Spicy Latin heritage. Her paintings reveal the vibrantly rich relationships between people and their environment, touched with a humor and personal spiritualism that is the core of her expression.

Meet at the pit behind Scout Hall at 7 p.m. Friday, October 30 if you dare for **Haunted Campfire: Ghost Stories around the Campfire**. For more information call 327-0505 or email [info@gulfporthistoricalsociety.org](mailto:info@gulfporthistoricalsociety.org).

Sign up your Gulfport address for the **November 7 Citywide Yard Sale**. Applications are available at Gulfport City Hall and Library or online at [www.mygulfport.us/city-wide-yard-sale](http://www.mygulfport.us/city-wide-yard-sale). Deadline for registration is October 30, so dig into the garage, closet or shed and get rid of all that stuff you haven't used for a year or more. In case of rain, the Yard Sale will be rescheduled to Sunday, November 8. For more information call 893-1118.

Get your family, organization or business in on the fun during **Heroes Weekend**. Get up early on Saturday, November 7 for the **Keep Gulfport Weird Triathlon**. Registration forms are available at [www.mygulfport.us/keep-gulfport-weird-triathlon](http://www.mygulfport.us/keep-gulfport-weird-triathlon). The \$10 registration fee must be received by Friday, October 30. Bring a chair and stay for the **Tangerine Blues Fest** on the Tangerine Greenway from noon until 10 p.m. Free admission: food & beverage vendors on premises. Participant applications for the **Veterans Day Parade** scheduled for 11 a.m. Sunday, November 9 are available at Gulfport City Hall or online at [www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend](http://www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend). The deadline to enter is Friday, October 30. The **4<sup>th</sup> Annual VetSports Beach Volleyball Gulfport Open** begins immediately after the Parade. Interested in forming a volleyball team? Visit the VETSports Facebook event page. For more information call 893-1118.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Patrol**

|                                  |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Dispatch calls for service       | 149 |
| Self-initiated calls for service | 341 |
| Offenses                         | 34  |
| Arrests                          | 3   |

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Traffic citations    | 33 |
| Ordinance violations | 13 |

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Diane Williams was arrested on October 15 on an outstanding warrant for non-payment of child support.

A resident in the 1200 block of 63<sup>rd</sup> Avenue reported on October 16 that someone entered her unlocked vehicle and removed several items.

A resident reported that he left his black Trek bicycle with royal blue rims and gold pedals in a friend's carport in the 5400 Block of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and discovered later that someone took it.

Officers responded to a 3 car crash at 49<sup>th</sup> Street & Gulfport Boulevard early October 17. The at fault driver admitted that he was looking down when he struck two other vehicles. Nobody was injured, but 49<sup>th</sup> Street was closed for a period of time as two of the vehicles could not be driven from the scene.

A resident flagged down an officer to report a man stumbling around and urinating in Veterans Park. He was found asleep on the ground next to a bench in the park. The man was having difficulty standing and walking without assistance and was taken into custody under the Marchman Act.

Daniel O'Neill was arrested for an ordinance violation after officers found him asleep on the beach with an alcoholic beverage within his reach.

A stove was reported stolen from a home under foreclosure in the 4600 block of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

A resident in the 5300 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported on October 18 that a male came to her residence looking for a friend of hers and after she told the man the person wasn't there, he broke two windows on her vehicle.

Officers recovered a Mercedes GLK 350 reported stolen from a residence in St. Petersburg. Three people were seen running from the car which was returned to its owner after being processed.

Officers were dispatched to a traffic accident on October 19 after a driver attempted to merge into the outside lane of Gulfport Boulevard to yield the right of way to an emergency vehicle, and struck the vehicle next to him. No injuries were reported and damage was minor.

A man reported on October 20 that he left his vehicle unlocked with the windows down in the 4900 block of 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue. When he returned, he discovered someone had stolen his wallet from the center console.

Officer Cavanah has been working on the legal removal of several derelict vessels in Gulfport's jurisdiction on Boca Ciega Bay. Several derelict vessels have been removed. Sergeant Marotta manned the Marine Unit for 2 hours, making 1 contact and issuing a marine citation for no anchor light.

**Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)**

|                                |    |
|--------------------------------|----|
| New cases:                     | 18 |
| Cases assigned:                | 6  |
| Cases suspended-no leads:      | 4  |
| Cases cleared with arrest:     | 0  |
| Cases exceptionally cleared:   | 1  |
| Cases unfounded/no crime:      | 4  |
| Cases referred back to patrol: | 2  |
| Supplements received:          | 14 |

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Cases cleared with arrest:      | 1 |
| Previously cleared with arrest: | 3 |
| Cases suspended-no leads:       | 0 |
| Cases unfounded-no crime:       | 1 |
| Cases exceptionally cleared:    | 0 |
| Cases still active:             | 9 |

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a credit card fraud case and a burglary, and closed a vehicle burglary case by arrest.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for three auto theft cases, a vehicle burglary and a death investigation; interviewed and arrested a juvenile suspect at the Juvenile Detention Center for an attempted vehicle burglary, and; received an autopsy and toxicology report in a death investigation.

School Resource Officer Motte counseled/mentored 3 students; met with a parent; instructed one driver education class' hosted the Monday night Explorer meeting; provided security for 2 after school events, and; assessed a student for a BA52. He is also scheduled to teach several American Government classes in the near future.

School Resource Officer Langston completed police reports for a drug possession, an AOA, and one informational report; counseled 6 students; attended three parent conferences; responded to 3 disturbances; assisted SPPD with a burglary investigation by viewing the school's video cameras; interviewed students regarding an allegation of a lewd and lascivious offense which was determined to be false; responded to a trespasser on campus; participated in the school's breast cancer awareness walk; attended a school staff meeting, and; provided security for four events including football games and the homecoming parade.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano updated the sexual predator/offender display and pamphlet, removing a predator who recently moved out of the City of Gulfport; created and distributed a bulletin for Ofc. Lavigne to attempt to ID a retail theft suspect; created a Halloween safety tip flyer for the Gulfport PD Facebook page.

### **Records**

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Reports reviewed         | 14  |
| Supplements reviewed:    | 125 |
| Public records requests: | 15  |
| Background checks:       | 4   |
| Bike registrations:      | 0   |
| Fingerprints             | 0   |
| Subpoenas processed:     | 5   |
| Citizens assisted:       | 33  |

### **MARINA**

Assisted in twenty five (25) pump outs evacuating three hundred forty five (345) gallons of waste.

Pumped three thousand three hundred twelve (3,312) gallons of gas and two thousand three hundred forty nine (2,349) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred twenty eight (128) vessels.

### **Transient vessels:**

Marina staff welcomed a 30' sailboat and a 34' powerboat this week.

## **LIBRARY**

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

### **Public Programs/Meetings/Events:**

Monday, October 12, 3 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Club* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Tuesday, October 13, 2 p.m. - *Computer class for Beginners* facilitated by Alex Hooks.

Tuesday, October 13, 1 p.m. - *Ukulele group*.

Tuesday, October 13, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club* facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Tuesday, October 13, 5:30 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, October 14, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, October 14, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, October 15, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*, facilitated by Cailey Klasson.

Thursday, October 15, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The Tiger's Wife* by Téa Obreht over coffee & light refreshments.

Friday, October 16, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, October 17, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday, October 24, 11 a.m. - *Teen Book Giveaway & Games*: Sponsored by the Stetson Law Library student group.

Monday, October 26, 5 p.m. - *Acoustic Jam*: Alex invites everyone to bring their acoustic instruments for a second season of group musical creation.

Tuesday, October 27, 2 p.m. - *Ready, Set - Resume*: Come with questions and leave with a finished resume. Painless, maybe even fun. Retired career center director Judith Carruthers will lead you step-by-step through the process of writing a polished, effective resume.

Tuesday, November 4, 4 p.m. - *Middle School Robotics Club*: The group meets every second Tuesday of the month. Start creating and commanding your own robot! Registration required; see Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Saturday, November 14, 2:30 p.m. - Author Michael Cifone discussion of his book *Silent Cries and Traveling Forward*, personal accounts of living with traumatic brain injury.

Monday, November 16, noon - *Lunch & Learn with Herb Snitzer* The second in our ongoing series of hosting exceptional speakers. Mr. Snitzer's topic will be Jazz Art. Consider bringing lunch. Drinks will be provided. For more information call 893-1073.

Thursday, November 19, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club book club discussion of Me Talk Pretty One Day* by David Sedaris 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, November 21, 10:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*. For movie titles, call 893-1074.

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

Every Tuesday beginning November 3, 11 a.m. - *Gumbo Ya Ya Potpourri for Seniors Group*: Everyone is invited to join in for reminiscing mixed with trivia style gaming with a sense of humor! Recent transplant Sally Heirsch will lead fun activities for seniors. For more information call 893-1073.

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

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

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

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Email [robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com](mailto:robynfeatherstonesq@gmail.com) for more information.

Every Thursday, 10:30 a.m. - *Storytime*: Join us for stories & activities selected for toddlers & preschoolers in the Youth Services area 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/Statistics October 11-17, 2015:**  
**Items Circulated Patrons**

|                     |                |     |
|---------------------|----------------|-----|
| Weekly Circulation: | 1,987          | 652 |
| Sun. 10/11          | Library closed |     |
| Mon. 10/12          | 340            | 140 |
| Tue. 10/13          | 282            | 121 |
| Wed. 10/14          | 338            | 124 |
| Thu. 10/15          | 360            | 112 |
| Fri. 10/16          | 324            | 99  |
| Sat. 10/17          | 281            | 89  |

**PARKS & RECREATION**

**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/gtv-640](http://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.
- Updated meeting schedules, agendas & minutes, upcoming events, Recreation Center, Senior Center and water quality information on City website.
- Distributed November calendar at City facilities and Tuesday/Saturday Market vendors.
- Continued preparations for Citywide Yard Sale, Keep Gulfport Weird triathlon, Veterans Day Parade, and Gulfport Casino 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration.
- Set up laptop for October 20 City Council meeting, uploaded meeting video to City website and rebroadcast on GTV640.

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

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

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborhood 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 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South for more information.

Asthma can hamper your ability to lead a healthy, active life. Join us for **HCA St. Pete General Hospital's Health Talks "Take a Breath!"** at 2:30 p.m. Monday, October 26 and learn how to cope with this chronic lung disease.

Mindful Movement Instructor Katherine Campbell will offer tips & techniques to keep you safe in your home during **Fall Prevention** at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 28.

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

Find out if you are eligible for a free caption phone that displays text of conversations on a large color touchscreen when **Clear Captions** visits the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Monday, November 2.

Join Financial Advisor Scott O'Berry for a discussion of current events, the economy & investing over coffee & donuts during **Coffee Club** at 10 a.m. Tuesday, November 3.

Join Heidi Crockett of Aging Care Advocates for **Using Neurobiology to Improve Communication & Relationships** on November 4 at 2:30 pm. This is the first class of an exciting 4-part Health Series.

Find great deals during **First Friday Flea Market** on November 6, 9 a.m. - noon.

Enjoy a healthy snack as Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance Services presents **Fruit for Thought** the second Monday of every month. The next meeting is November 8.

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

What if you knew how to empower your whole being & give yourself exactly what you need? Barbara Newborn guides you to do just that with her 3-part series **Empowerment of Healing: Body, Mind, & Soul** on Monday, November 9 at 3 p.m. November's topic: BODY.

Enjoy lunch and a free current movie during **Movie Day at the Snack Bar** at 11 a.m. Tuesday, November 10.

Enjoy ice cream with your friends during our **Monthly Ice Cream Social** at 3 p.m. Thursday, November 12. This event is sponsored by Pinellas Point Nursing & Rehab.

The **LGBT Support & Resource Group** meets at 5:30 p.m. every first & third Monday of the month. The group focuses on unique challenges confronting older LGBT citizens.

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

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

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

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

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

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Sunday, October 11    | 6 p.m. - Ballroom Fusion dance with SwingTime (Turnout 97)  |
| Tuesday, October 13   | Noon - Ballroom lessons/dancing with Carol Baker (Turnout 15)<br>7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 52) |
| Wednesday, October 14 | 10:30 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 17)<br>6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 228)              |
| Thursday, October 15  | 6 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 21)   |
| Friday, October 16    | 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 21)<br>8:30 p.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 150)                        |
| Saturday, October 17  | 7 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 91)   |

#### **Casino (upcoming events):**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Every Sunday    | 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson<br>7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$8  |
| Every Tuesday   | 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker<br>2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8<br>6:30 p.m. - Beginning Argentine Tango lesson<br>8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8 |
| Every Wednesday | 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn/Joyce Bloom<br>6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime<br>7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime                               |

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

Every Thursday 6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera  
8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8

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

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

Sunday, October 11 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 21)  
2:30 p.m. - RCH church dinner (Turnout 50)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Tuesday, October 13 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 14)  
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, October 15 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 15)

**Neighborhood Center (*upcoming events*):**

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every first - third Sunday 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services

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

Every Tuesday 7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

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

Every first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crimewatch meeting

**Scout Hall (*last week's events*)**

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

Monday, October 12 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 27)

Tuesday, October 13 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 10)

Friday, October 16 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 13)

**Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):**

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

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

**Recreation Center**

Ready to get into the spooky spirit? Show off your scary creations during this year's **Halloween Decorations Contest**. Stop by the Gulfport Recreation Center or City Hall to pick up an application. The deadline to enter is noon on Monday, October 26. No one knows what time the

hearse will travel through the City of Gulfport, but please be ready by 6:30 p.m. on the 26<sup>th</sup>. There are three theme categories: General for single homes; haunted house for single haunted houses, and; commercial for single business or professional locations, including home occupations. A plaque & certificate will be presented to one winner for each category during the City Council meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday, November 17.

Get your kids and costumes ready for the **Spooktakular Halloween Bash** at the Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard on Saturday, October 31. Festivities will begin at 6 p.m. and will include Trunk-or-Treat, a frightful Haunted House, Boo-Room for tots and carnival games with prizes. The Haunted Snack Shack will sell hot dogs for a \$1, "potion" for 25¢ and chips for 25¢. The Costume Contest begins at 7 p.m. Winners will be chosen from eight age categories: 0-1, 2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, 10-12, 13-17 and Family. There will be three awards given in each age category. Plan to be there, as we are "dying" to see you!

The multipurpose room was reserved 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday, October 17 for a baby shower with thirty five (35) in attendance.

### **Programs, Classes & Activities**

Forty five (45) children are registered for the **2015/16 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. Monthly fees are \$150 for residents and \$188 for non-residents. Bus transportation is available from Pasadena Fundamental, Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Douglas Jamerson Elementary.

Nine (9) children have been registered for the **2015/16 Tot Time Program**, and ten (10) 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 turn 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.

Twenty three (23) teens are registered for the **2015/16 Teen Night Program** for teens in middle school thru age 17. Program hours are 6 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Annual registration fee: \$2 for residents, \$22 for nonresidents.

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

### **Staff Activities:**

Jaylissa Williams worked the room rental on Saturday afternoon.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Calls for Service:**

- 44 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 3 Structure Fires
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 5 Vehicle Crashes
- 2 Fires Outside Structure

### **Life Safety:**

- 12 Fire Inspections
- 2 C.O.

- 2 Life Safety Plan Review

Paramedic Gerard Grady and EMT Lesley Jordan staffed Special Rescue 17 detail during the Gulfport Historical Society 5K Mullet Run on October 16.

Gulfport Fire Department and HCA Hospitals recognized Firefighter/Paramedic Michael Hays as Paramedic of the year. He received his award on October 20 for providing quality patient care and exemplary service to the community. Mike also does our entire EMS inventory ordering for the department.

Chief Marenkovic renewed the FY15-16 Training Center Agreement and COI with the American Heart Association.

Gulfport Firefighters are wearing pink & blue t-shirts during the month of October, in support of women with breast cancer and the *Cares Enough to Wear Pink* campaign.

GFD Paramedics continued their Advanced Cardiac Life Support Renewal (ACLS) course this week. ACLS refers to a set of clinical interventions for the urgent treatment of cardiac arrest, stroke and other life threatening medical emergencies, as well as the knowledge and skills to deploy those interventions.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

Staff continues daily water quality testing at Gulfport Beach and Marina. The beach is currently open. The results of October 22 are provided below. Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) for the most up-to-date information.

| <b><u>Gulfport Casino</u></b> |                    | <b><u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u></b> |     |                    | <b><u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u></b> |     |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|-----|--------------------|--|-----|--------------------|
| Sample ID                     | Date/Time          | Result  | MDL | Analyzed date/time | Result   | MDL | Analyzed date/time |
| 1529507-01                    | 10/22/15 7:55 a.m. | 4 B   | 4   | 10/22/15 8:50 a.m. | 10 U   | 10  | 10/22/15 8:50 a.m. |

  

| <b><u>Gulfport Marina</u></b> |                    | <b><u>Enterococci EPA 1600 – (CFU/100 ML)</u></b> |     |                    | <b><u>Fecal coliform – SM 922D- (CFU 100 ML)</u></b> |     |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|---|-----|--------------------|--|-----|--------------------|
| Sample ID                     | Date/Time          | Result  | MDL | Analyzed date/time | Result   | MDL | Analyzed date/time |
| 1529507-02                    | 10/22/15 8:10 a.m. | 4 B   | 4   | 10/22/15 8:50 a.m. | 10 U   | 10  | 10/22/15 8:50 a.m. |

| <b><u>Good</u></b>                              |  | <b><u>Enterococcus Results Description</u></b>      |  | <b><u>Poor*</u></b>                                       |   |
|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| 0-35 Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water | 0-35 CFU/100 ml Enterococcus sp Geometric Mean | 36 – 104 Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water |  | 105 or greater Enterococcus sp per 100 ml of marine water | 36 and over CFU/100 ml Enterococcus sp Geometric Mean |

  

| <b><u>Good</u></b>  |  | <b><u>Fecal Coliform Results Description</u></b>            |  | <b><u>Poor*</u></b>  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| 0-199 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water |  | 200-399 fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water |  | 400 or greater fecal coliform organisms per 100 ml of marine water |  |

\*A poor rating may result in a resampling event to confirm poor conditions; otherwise a Health Advisory or Warning will be issued immediately. These indicate that contact with the water at this site may pose increased risk of infectious disease, particularly for susceptible individuals. A reading of NR means “No Result”. This could indicate that no sample was taken at this point because of weather or other factors, or that an analysis result was not obtained from the laboratory.

## **Building Maintenance**

- Installed split system on a/c unit in Parks office, and repaired City Hall computer room a/c unit.
- Made new signpost for floating dock area.
- Hung magazine rack at Library, and cleared blocked toilet in men’s restroom.
- Resealed 6 windows at Fire Station.
- Completed monthly pest control on all City buildings.

- Repaired sink drain in bar area at Casino.
- Cleared blocked a/c drain at Police Department.
- Delivered mail to main Post Office for Finance Department.

## **Parks**

- Commenced building Haunted House in preparation for Recreation Center Boo Bash.
- Aerated Ball Fields.
- Repaired irrigation at Recreation Center and Ball Fields.
- Mowed City complex, Senior Center, Library & Recreation Center green spaces, Clymer & Veterans Parks, 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue sign area and Clymer Greenway; bush hogged Tangerine Greenway retention areas and cleared debris from drains.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Beach Boulevard Streetscapes, Chase Block, Cleaned up and trimmed up outside reading area at the Library, Trimmed debris away from open docks at Clam Bayou and reworked shell, hand raked around benches and pavilions, and cleaned beach.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades, and Greased Bush Hog, Replaced oil pump in pole chain saw, replaced ignition coil on line trimmer, sharpened reel mowers.
- 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.
- Removed trash following Saturday Tangerine Greenway market.
- Removed hazardous debris from sidewalk in front of Bank of America.
- Trimmed and opened the alleyway on 63<sup>rd</sup> Street between 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Avenues.
- Restocked recycled mulch bin at Neighborhood Center.
- Installed fence posts and rehung fencing in alleyway at 55<sup>th</sup> Street & 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Reset "No Parking" sign at 57<sup>th</sup> Street & 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Repaired depression in roadway at 57<sup>th</sup> Street & 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue and removed barricades.
- Disposed of old tires and parts from City Garage.

## **Water**

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the points of connection to water distribution system (includes Saturday & Sunday).

- Daily inspection and read of Wholesale meters (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes # 31, 32, 33 & 34 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 2 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services are still off.
- Completed 125 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 9 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Replaced 1 old meter with new electronic meter.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Continued locating water mainline valves throughout City.
- Replaced water service at 5837 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Buried water services and installed boxes on 8 vacant lots in PYCC.
- Flushed water system in Marina area to improve water quality.
- Repaired fire hydrant at Coast Guard Station.

### **Sewer**

- Daily rainfall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Weekly generator exercise & preventive maintenance check on lift stations 1 & 2.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance at Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall & Senior Center.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Cleaned and televised sewer lateral at 5108 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Repaired faulty sensor wire on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Replaced battery in Parks vehicle #52.
- Replaced lower control arm, ball joint, tie-rod adjusting sleeve and rear u-joints on Building Maintenance vehicle #65.
- Removed lower rotating assembly for re-sealing Sanitation vehicle #88.
- Replaced battery and repaired hydraulic leak in Toro Groundsmaster.
- Removed and cleaned EGR valve on Parks vehicle #53.
- Unlocked and greased rear support wheel on Parks Department bush hog mower.
- 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](http://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](http://www.pced.org/entrepreneurs) or call 464-7332. They also offer personalized business consulting to help you become successful with your startup business.

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

On anything other than small and simple DIY projects we recommend homeowners consider using a licensed contractor. Unless you are very handy and have the necessary skills to take on

more complex construction projects, larger projects can quickly overwhelm those less skilled in construction methodology and management.

### **Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **WHEN SELECTING A CONTRACTOR, REMEMBER:**

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

#### **WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:**

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

For more information call the board at 582-3100 or visit [www.pcclb.com](http://www.pcclb.com).

**Code Enforcement** activities continued this week in Section 3 of the City, also known as the Southwest Neighborhood Area which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west from 58<sup>th</sup> & 59<sup>th</sup> Streets to the City Limits.

The number of code enforcement cases for September was 192. The fiscal year-to-date total is 2,236. The number of citizen complaints was 12 for a fiscal year-to-date total of 164. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 8.0 percent.

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

To review Code Enforcement activities documents for more detailed information and a map of the Code Enforcement areas please visit the Special Documents section of the City's website at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us).