



Gulfport Community Update

May 7 - 13, 2017

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

May 7-13 is **National Hurricane Preparedness Week**. The Atlantic basin Hurricane season begins June 1, and the Gulfport Fire Department offers the following tips to help stay safe:

- Devise an evacuation plan.
- Get your disaster supplies together.
- Call your insurance company for to make sure you have the right coverage.
- Check your home to make sure it's in good condition and can withstand a storm.
- Check in with your neighbors on their storm plans.
- Write down your hurricane plan so your whole family is in the know.

Pinellas County remains under watering restrictions implemented by the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The District's modified Phase I water shortage restrictions are in effect through July 31. Residents are encouraged to view a detailed listing of specific measures at www.swfwmd.state.fl.us/conservation/restrictions/swfwmd.php, and to sign up for the county's emergency and urgent alert public notification system at www.pinellascounty.org/alertpinellas. Call the water restrictions hotline at 1-800-848-0499 or 1-800-836-0797, ext. 2298 during business hours, or email Water.Restrictions@WaterMatters.org for more information.

Fire Chief James Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that **free smoke detectors are available to elderly and low income households within Gulfport City limits**. Call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

Need a ride in Gulfport? Call the **Multipurpose Senior Center Foundation GetGO free ride service** at 542-7757. The non-profit program transports residents to destinations within City limits free of charge.

Upcoming Events:

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and a wide variety of foods, hand-made arts & crafts, bath, body & wellness products, live music and more. Over 50 vendors and exhibitors participate each Tuesday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent every Tuesday. For more information visit www.gulfportma.com, call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com.

Don't miss the annual **City of Gulfport Hurricane Seminar** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 25. This year's guest speakers are WTSP Meteorologist Bobby Deskins and Mary Burrell from Pinellas County Emergency Management. Free Admission. Doors will open at 6 p.m. with hurricane related vendors and a 2 slice pizza special for \$3. Vendors are encouraged to email gbiron@mygulfport.us to reserve a free spot. All vendor requests will be reviewed by event facilitator Gulfport Fire Chief James Marenkovic. For more information call Gail Biron at 893-1118.

Join the City of Gulfport and American Legion Post 125 to commemorate **Flag Day** at Veterans Park on Wednesday, June 14 at 10 a.m. Special guest vocalist, former New York City Opera Soprano Catherine Bassett will perform. The New Horizons Band of Gulfport will entertain attendees with a preopening musical performance beginning at 9:30 a.m. This event is free and open to the public. For more information call 893-1118.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	155
Self-initiated calls for service	362
Offenses	44
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	71
Ordinance violations	61

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

Zibiginew Rusniak was arrested for driving under the influence on May 5 after his car collided with another vehicle at the intersection of 53rd Street & 26th Avenue. Due to the level of Rusniak's impairment, the investigating officer did not conduct field sobriety tasks. His breath test results were .289/.289, more than three times the legal limit.

Sergeant Marotta and Officer Carter participated in a countywide "Wolfpack" in which officers from all agencies patrol the county looking for traffic related violations and impaired drivers. They stopped Notier Gomez for having a headlight out, and he admitted to not having a valid driver's license. When Gomez exited the vehicle, a handgun was in plain view between the driver seat and center console. It was later discovered that the gun was loaded. Gomez was arrested for carrying a concealed firearm and no valid driver's license.

A tool box, sunglasses, speakers and prescription medication were reported stolen from an unlocked vehicle parked in the 5500 Block of 19th Avenue.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a suspicious vehicle after a resident in the 2900 block of 45th Street reported someone leaving the car in a parking lot and walking away. Officers checked the vehicle and discovered it had been reported stolen in St Petersburg.

A resident in the 5400 block of 29th Avenue reported on May 6 that someone took an item from her yard sale without paying for it.

A visitor to the marina area reported that a local resident's dog jumped on her, scratching her face and chipping her tooth. When police made contact with the resident, his dog did not match the complainant's description. She conceded that she must have been mistaken about the identity of the dog owner.

A woman house sitting at a residence in the 5500 block of Tangerine Avenue reported that someone entered the home and stole a television. As responding officers began investigating, the complainant changed her mind about reporting the incident. An offense report was generated to document the allegation.

A boater reported that someone entered to her boat sometime last week and stole jewelry.

A business owner in the 3100 block of Beach Boulevard reported on May 7 that the business's bank account was accessed without authorization, and fraudulent purchases were made.

A resident in the 2800 Block of 47th Street reported his neighbor spat on him because he would not turn his music off. He did not wish to prosecute.

A resident in the 5600 block of Tangerine Avenue reported on May 8 that her unlocked vehicle was stolen sometime overnight.

A resident in the 2800 block of 53rd Street reported that she had confirmation that a package she was expecting from the U.S. Postal Service had been delivered, but she never received it. The package was most likely stolen.

Sergeant Burkhart stopped a vehicle in the 2300 block of 56th Street because it had a headlight out and did not have a license plate affixed to it. He determined the vehicle was reported stolen

earlier in the day, and driver Sean Michael Fletcher was wanted by Clearwater Police for burglary and grand theft. He was arrested.

A stolen vehicle was found in an alleyway in the 5000 block of 10th Avenue on May 9. The owner was reporting the incident to the SPPD at the same time Gulfport officers located the car.

A resident in the 5600 block of Newton Avenue reported that her car alarm went off and when she went outside to check on it, she heard footsteps running away. The resident indicated that attempting to enter her car by pulling on the door handle will activate the alarm. The vehicle was locked so the suspects could not get inside.

A vehicle left running and unattended was reported stolen from the 4900 block of 10th Avenue on May 10. Witnesses reported that a white male with messy blond hair was the culprit. The vehicle was recovered by the St Petersburg Police Department later in the day.

A Family Dollar employee reported that a male exited the store with a basket full of items without paying for them. He was last seen eastbound toward 49th Street on foot.

The Marine Unit was on the water for 15 hours this week. Six boater contacts were made, including an arrest on warrant. Marine unit officers also assisted in locating a boat that had been burglarized earlier in the week.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	16
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	7
Cases cleared with arrest:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	5
Supplements received:	8
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	2
Cases suspended/no leads:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	5

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, a burglary, and a grand theft auto. He also investigated an unattended death.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for an auto theft case and a fraud.

School Resource Officers Motte and Langston wrote 3 police reports this week; counseled 9 students; met with the parents of three students; attended a safety meeting, and; initiated a Baker Act.

Officer Motte taught the Gulfport Police Explorers a training block on Marchman/Baker Acts.

Officer Langston completed two mental health assessments this week; recovered two juveniles reported missing from St Petersburg; provided information to the HOME team regarding a student, and; assisted with senior activities, including the senior walk and picnic.

Records

Reports reviewed	25
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Supplements reviewed:	66
Public Records requests:	63
Background checks:	5
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	6
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	52

MARINA

Assisted with thirty six (36) pump outs, evacuating four thousand nine hundred ninety (4,490) gallons of waste.

Pumped two thousand six hundred sixty (2,660) gallons of gas and one thousand eight hundred seventy two (1,872) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred thirteen (113) vessels.

Transient vessels:

Staff welcomed six vessels of various type & size this week.

Staff activities:

- Replaced pump-out line on pier 4.
- Replaced damaged line hangers on pier 5.
- Replaced shutoff valve on pier #7 for Boca Ceiga Yacht Club.
- Tightened replaced deck screws on Gulfport Casino Courtesy Dock.
- Replaced 30amp service and receptacle on pier 6, slip 17.
- Performed routine maintenance on pump-out stations.
- Purchased and constructed additional boxes for storage of maintenance supplies.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, May 1, 3:15 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club.*

Monday, May 1, 5 p.m. - *Tampa Bay Ukulele Workshop*

Tuesday, May 2, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga.*

Tuesday, May 2, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, May 2, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, May 2, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, May 3, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers.*

Wednesday, May 3, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout.*

Wednesday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

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

Saturday, May 6, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day.*

Upcoming Events:

Tuesday, May 16, 3 p.m. - *Tween Tinker Lab*: The group meets on third the Tuesday of each month for hands-on exploration and experimentation. Preregistration required. See Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Thursday, May 18, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club* discussion of *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. For more information call 893-1073.

Thursday, May 18, 3:30 p.m. - *Reading Paws*: Maya would love to hear one of your young reader's favorites. She visits our children's area on the third Thursday of every month.

Thursday, May 18, 5 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*: Cohosted by Gulfport Neighbors and the Library. Learn about the services available through the City and Library, and how you can participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization

Saturday, May 20, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, May 22, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic night*: Open to all comedians, singer-songwriters, poets, storytellers, musicians, jugglers and stage magicians. For more information call 893-1073.

Tuesday, May 23, 2 p.m. - *Love Letters from Gulfport*: Based on Hannah Brencher's renowned project The World Needs More Love Letters, we will handwrite encouraging and loving letters. Our letters can be placed around the community or sent to someone in need of a boost. If you think you don't have the words, don't worry. We can all work together.

Thursday, May 25, 11 a.m. - *Community Playdate*: Follows Storytime on the fourth Thursday of the month. Get acquainted with other caregivers of toddlers & preschoolers in a relaxed, informal setting.

Thursday, May 25, 3:30 p.m. - *Kids Yoga*: Meets every fourth Thursday of the month.

Tuesday, May 25, 6 p.m. - *Asian Pacific Storytime & Family dinner*: Families are invited for a celebration of Asian Pacific Island Heritage Month. Registration required; seating is limited. Call 893-1134 or stop by the Library to sign up.

Thursday, June 1, 7 p.m. - *ArtOut LGBTQ Artists in Gulfport Opening Reception*: Launch of the month-long exhibit at the Library. Selected works by 10-12 Gulfport artists in a variety of media.

Saturday, June 3, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: Selections intended for adults only to enjoy more complex and challenging films in a quiet and relaxed atmosphere. For movie title, call 893-1074.

Monday, June 5, 5 p.m. - *Tampa Bay Ukulele Society Workshop*: Final class in a series of monthly instructional sessions; Teacher Landis Braddock teaches techniques to help improve performance.

Tuesday, June 6, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga* for parents and babies ages 6 weeks to 18 months. Instructed by registered yoga teacher Ms. Christa, the group meets on first Tuesday of the month. Meet other new parents and babies in the community, stretch, laugh, get some strength back and rejuvenate! Call 893-1074 cklasson@mygulfport.us for more information.

Thursday, June 8, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night*: Free popcorn and bottled water provided. Sponsored by the LGBTQ Resource Center. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Friday, June 9, 7 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Kick-off Party*: Start summer with a blast from Mad Science! Stay tuned for details of upcoming programs for children and teens every Monday & Wednesday. For more information call 893-1134.

Monday, June 12, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program*: Presented by Jennie (Gilmore) White of Ode to Pluto Astrology. For more information call 207-332-0787 or email jennie@odetopluto.com.

Every Monday, 3:15 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club*: We try a fun new activity every week, explore engineering through building with Legos, and meet other young scientists and engineers in the community! Parents get to join in on the fun too! Call Cailey at 893-1074, or email cklasson@mygulfport.us for more information.

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Bring a bag lunch and a dictionary. A different language group meets each weekday: Tuesday - French; Italian; Wednesday - Spanish; Friday - German. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

Every Tuesday, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step* meeting. For more information call 360-9069.

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

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

Every Wednesday, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*: Games and activities for teens and tweens.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Email contact@gulfporttoastmasters.com for more information.

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

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

Library Services/Statistic April 30 - May 26, 2017:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,413	619
Sun. 4/30	Library closed	
Mon. 5/1	211	80
Tue. 5/2	284	79
Wed. 5/3	214	120
Thu. 5/4	188	110
Fri. 5/5	227	116
Sat. 5/6	284	104

PARKS & RECREATION

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at www.mygulfport.us/gtv640. Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list, and assisted with updates to social media pages.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued daily updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us and social media sites.
- Continued preparations for Hurricane Seminar & 4th of July celebration.
- Continued work with web designer on issues concerning new website changes.
- Continued preparation of June calendar.

- Distributed May calendars and event information to Tuesday Market vendors and Gulfport Welcome Center.
- Assisted staff with exhibit setup in preparation for Theater Art reception.
- Assisted with Pride event promotions, flyer and ticket creation.

Multipurpose Senior Center

The Gulfport Multipurpose Senior 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.

The **City of Gulfport Telephone Reassurance program** is much more than a morning wake-up call. This free service offers Gulfport residents 50 years or older - and their families comfort, security, and peace of mind. Volunteers provide daily phone calls to registered members. If the member cannot be reached, the volunteer follows specific procedures to confirm there are no major concerns. Registration is simple and free. If you or someone you know could use this service, call 893-2237 or stop by the Gulfport Senior Center at 5501 27th Avenue.

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

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborly Dining & Meals on Wheels** program, offering lunches for seniors 60 and older. Call Joe at 344-2111 to inquire about the program or to lend a hand as a volunteer driver.

The **Gulfport Senior 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 Monday & 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 Multipurpose Senior Center has **many volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants, Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center for more information.

Join us on the third Monday of every month at 10:30 a.m. when Wendy discusses an important health topic during **Health Talks with Humana**. The next discussion is May 15.

The Multipurpose Center will host a **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea** at 2 p.m. Monday, May 15. Fancy dresses, hats, gloves, and pearls are welcome but not required. Music will be provided by *Musical Chairs*. Space is limited; 2 complimentary tickets per person. Tickets must be obtained advance and will be available on May 8. Sponsored by The Princess Martha.

Learn the basic functions of the Apple iPhone and iPad; How to download apps, take pictures, add contacts, adjust your phone settings, protect your phone, and more at the next **iPhone/iPad Instruction Class** on Wednesday, May 17 at 1:30 pm. Space is limited; call 893-5657 to pre-register.

Learn some tips & techniques to keep you safe & independent at home by reducing your risk of falling on Wednesday, May 17 at 2 p.m. during the **Fall Prevention** discussion presented by American in Homecare.

The Community Law Program provides **free legal assistance** at the Senior Center at 9:30 a.m. the third Friday of every month. The next meeting is May 19. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

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 May 25.

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, June 6.

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, June 8.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is June 12. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule.

The **FUNDamentals of Watercolor** class meets every Tuesday at 10 a.m. This basic class uses a limited palette which emphasizes watercolor techniques including color selection, color mixing, blending and glazing, and use of the color wheel to choose a personal palette. No prior drawing or painting experience is necessary. Registration is required.

Bring your game face for a friendly game of **Texas Hold'em** every Tuesday & Friday at high noon. No stakes; chips only.

The Last Word - Writing an Obituary is offered at the Senior Center at 4:30 p.m. every third Tuesday. Learn the ins and outs of writing and placing an obituary in the local press from local writer, editor and instructor Diane Craig. Call 893-5657 to register.

The Seasoned Sowers Garden Club meets on the first & third Tuesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Get down & dirty with one of America's favorite hobbies. No experience needed! Natural-born green thumbs & first-time gardeners welcome.

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):

Tuesday, May 2	9 a.m. - Tai Chi with Marge Grudzinski (Turnout 17) Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 25) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 59)
Wednesday, May 3	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 37) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 278)
Thursday, May 4	11 a.m. - Senior Living Guide Banquet (Turnout 160) 7 p.m. - Grand Prix volunteer banquet (Turnout 50)
Friday, May 5	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 24) 7 p.m. - Sock Hop with the Impacs (Turnout 82)

Saturday, May 6 4:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 120)

Casino (*upcoming events*):

Most Sundays 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson
7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$8

Every second Sunday 6 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time Admission \$8

Every Tuesday 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker
2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8
6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lessons with Kathleen & Steve Prucher
8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8

Every Wednesday 10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn/Joyce Bloom
6 p.m. - Bonus dance lesson with Swingtime
7 p.m. - Beginner Swing lesson with Swingtime
8 p.m. - Swing dance Admission \$8

Every Thursday 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Pat Van Leuvan

Every fourth Monday 7 p.m. - U.S.A. Dance ballroom dance: members \$5, non-members \$8

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

Sunday, April 30 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) present Foolish Fishgirls & The Pearl (Turnout 79)

Friday, May 5 6 p.m. - First Friday Art Reception featuring the photography of Jacie Ramsey (Turnout 85)

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

Sunday, April 30 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, May 2 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 25)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, May 4 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 22)
2:30 p.m. - Juvenile Welfare Board meeting (Turnout 16)

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, May 1 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 26)

Tuesday, May 2 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 13)

Thursday, May 4 11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 20)

Friday, May 5 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday 6 p.m. - Meditation class

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

Every Thursday 11 a.m. - Meditation class

Recreation Center

The game room was reserved 2 - 9 p.m. Saturday, May 6 for a birthday party with 35 in attendance.

The game room is reserved 6 - 10 p.m. Saturday, May 13 & 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday, May 20 for graduation parties, and 3 - 8 p.m. Saturday, May 27 for a Family Reunion.

Eighty two children are registered for the **2016/17 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.

Twenty three children are registered for the **2016/17 Tot Time program/VPK**. Registration is underway for the **2017/18 Tot Time Program/VPK**. Tot Time is a pre-school, hands-on program for children ages 3-5 that aims to make learning fun for children, and helps prepare them for Kindergarten. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who turn 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply with Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, Inc. and receive a Certificate of Eligibility to attend the program. Classes begin Tuesday, September 5. The Tot Time/VPK Program participated in the Annual Dirty Day on Thursday with fun activities that included water play, mud, painting and bubbles.

Twenty seven teens are registered for the **2016/17 Teen Night Program**, a great hang out for teens in grades 6-12. Teen Night provides recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects.

Fifty five children have been registered for the **2017 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Seven are registered for swim lessons.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Hoop Jam, Karate, Pickleball, Powder-Puffs Cheerleading, Table Tennis, Tennis, Watercolor, Yoga and Zumba.

Staff Activities

Alton Hooker worked the room rental on Saturday afternoon.

Jami Rowell and John Lapham attended phone system training on Tuesday.

Marivel Gutierrez and Joanne McRoberts attended phone system training on Tuesday afternoon.

Jami Rowell and John Lapham attended Summer Food Program Training in Largo on Wednesday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 45 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 3 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Gas Leak
- 2 Fire Outside Structure
- 1 Water Rescue

Life Safety:

- 13 Fire Inspections
- 5 Re-inspection
- 1 Site Plan meeting

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. the third Thursday of every month. The next meeting is May 18 at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street South.

Gulfport Firefighters continued working on their May online CME this week, a continuation of April's instruction; Clinical Decision Making Patient Care.

Lieutenant Firefighter/Paramedic Grady on the "A" shift and Lieutenant Firefighter/Paramedic Burford on the "B" shift are preceptors for two EMT Students from the St. Petersburg College Field Internship Program.

An applicant has been chosen for the open Firefighter/Paramedic position on the "A" shift. She has completed the background investigation, polygraph and psychological exam, and is undergoing medical history/drug screening.

GFD staff is training at the Pinellas County Drill Grounds on High Rise Fires, Standpipe Connections, Vertical Ventilations and Water Flows this week.

PUBLIC WORKS

Parks

- Hand watered new sod at Tomlinson Park.
- Pressure washed picnic tables at Wood Ibis Park.
- Cleaned light fixtures and replaced bulbs in Casino outside restrooms.

- Replaced toilet in Police Department and Casino outside restrooms.
- Replaced sprinkler head at City Hall.
- Repaired bench swing at beach.
- Hung signs in Public Works shop and break room.
- Planted crape myrtles around City Complex.
- Replaced toilet seat and lights in Neighborhood Center restrooms.
- Hung doggie boxes on trashcans at Dog Park and along Tangerine Greenway.
- Installed bench, and replaced bench slats at Recreation Center.
- Removed wind screen at beach volleyball courts and prepped for replacement.
- Replaced hardware on gates at Senior Center.
- Sealed and coated picnic tables.
- Oiled bench swings at beach and Williams Pier
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Veterans Park and Library green spaces, raked around benches, pavilions and cleaned beach.
- Picked up trash and emptied receptacles.
- Mowed Marina & Neighborhood Center green spaces, Hoyt Perimeter, 55th Street medians and Chase Block/Dog Park.
- Repaired irrigation at Recreation Center.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged ball fields.

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.
- Cleaned and removed debris from beach, storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways, alleyways & sidewalks.
- Cleaned debris, cans and trash following Tuesday Market.
- Restocked recycled mulch pile in Neighborhood Center parking lot.
- Removed several loads of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Continued automated curbside street sweeping throughout City.
- Removed garbage and debris following First Friday Art Walk, Boca Ciega Yacht Club Fun Day and Volleyball tournament.
- Deodorized commercial 300 containers behind restaurants in WRD.
- Repaired/replaced signs throughout City.
- Continued dust control spraying in alleys throughout City.

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).
- Daily inspection and recording of rainfall (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily check of ground water levels (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Completed routes #23, 24, 25, 26 & 27 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 25 locations for non-payment of service.
- Performed 10 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 133 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 15 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced 1 old meter with new electronic meter.
- Removed old fire hydrants at Gulfport Boulevard & 51st, 52nd and 54th Streets, and Installed new hydrants and 6" valves
- Installed new water service line at 5310 21st Avenue.
- Replaced 2" water valve in 54th Street alleyway between Gulfport Boulevard & 23rd Avenue.
- Removed tree stump and rebuilt 6" water valve at 23rd Avenue & 54th Street.
- Cut and capped 6" water lines at Gulfport Boulevard and 51st & 54th Streets.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 & 2.
- Daily rain fall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations 1 & 2, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.

Stormwater

- Removed three old storm structures at 9th Avenue & Freemont Street and prepared area for replacement structures.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Checked charging system on Police vehicle #7.
- Replaced windshield washer nozzles and evacuated/recharged air conditioning system on Police vehicle #9.
- Changed engine oil and filter, performed multi-point safety inspection and topped off fluids on Police vehicles #55 & 526.
- Replaced rotator motor on Sanitation vehicle #29, exhaust pipes and PTO drive shaft on Sanitation vehicle #41, low beam headlights and grabber belt on Sanitation vehicle #42, driver side low beam headlight on Sanitation vehicle #46, driver side window handle on Sanitation vehicle #88 and batteries on Water vehicle #80.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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

For more information, including a number of workshops, on starting a new business, visit the **Pinellas County Economic Development Small Business Development Center** website at www.pced.org/entrepreneurs or call 464-7723. 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 582-3100.
- Check with the Department of Justice and Consumer Services at 464-6200 to determine the number of complaints against a business.
- Ask the contractor for references and follow through with verifying them.
- Ask the contractor for proof of insurance.
- Never deal with anyone who solicits or appears at your home unannounced.
- Obtain a minimum of two bids for the work to be done.

WHEN SIGNING A CONTRACT, MAKE SURE:

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

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

Code Enforcement activities continued this week in Section 2 of the City, also known as the Northeast Area which generally extends north to 7th Avenue, south to Gulfport Boulevard, west to 58th Street and east to 49th Street.

There were 78 cases for April. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 806. The number of citizen complaints for April was 26, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 192. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 23.8 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 Code Enforcement areas visit the Special Documents section at www.mygulfport.us.

May 10, 2017 Board of Adjustment Results:

V17-08; 2007 57th Street South; Variance application to reduce the secondary street side yard setback requirement by 7 feet, from 12 feet to 5 feet for the proposed construction of a swimming pool and pool deck without a screen enclosure, within a side yard subject to a special setback requirement. APPROVED

V17-09; Vacant lot on Trade Winds Drive South - Lot 37, part of lots 36 and 38 and part of Lots 5 of B and T replat.; Variance application to reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 13 feet, from 25 feet to 12 feet for the construction of an elevated, open-sided deck and stair extension as part of a proposed new single-family house. WITHDRAWN