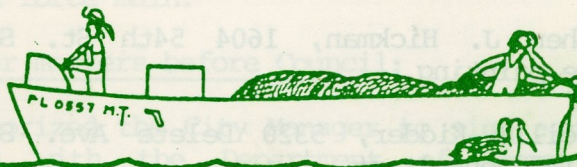


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APRIL, 1988 EDITION

THE CITY IN REVIEW



KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED

In January, the City published an Executive Summary Management Report which was made available to our citizens. The GULFPORT GABBER is presently printing the report on a weekly basis. We recognize that all our citizens cannot attend Council Meetings; therefore, we published the Summary, created the HELP line and now our "CITY IN REVIEW" newsletter.

We are dedicated to keep the community informed. We are interested in hearing from you also. The exchange of information must work both ways.

Our philosophy on management is very simple; you our citizens, are our managers. All of us working together for the City of Gulfport can create an inseparable bond and therein lies, our Community Spirit.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our re-elected Councilmembers, Gary Bartell and Judy Tonkin; to Mr. Clyde Johnson and Mr. Bob Gurski for their campaign efforts and the good campaign each of these candidates conducted.

I and the other Councilmembers, will be faced with many decisions on the local, county and state level this year. We will continue to make every effort to keep you informed and to solicit your input.

Sincerely,

Bert Williams
Mayor

CITY COUNCIL, ACTION TAKEN AN OVERVIEW

The City Council work session is the vehicle used for determining the items that will be placed on the Agenda for action. The City Council also receives information from the staff of a technical nature in packets for purposes of assisting them in formulating their decision. Although many hours are given at work sessions and Council meetings, many hours are also spent at home reading and researching material. The following represents an overview of actions approved by the Mayor and Council since January:

Ordinances:

Approved 87-20, Second Reading and Public Hearing, an ordinance amending appropriations ordinance no. 87-18 of the City of Gulfport, Florida covering the fiscal year beginning October 1, 1987 and ending September 30, 1988, being an additional appropriation providing funds for the area improvements program during said fiscal year; Providing an effective date. (First Reading 12/15; Published 12/26)

Approved 88-2, First Reading, an ordinance amending Section 22-5.10 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport; Adding a permitted use in CIA zoning district; Providing certain restrictions; Providing an effective date.

Approved 88-3, First Reading, an ordinance amending Section 22-6.06 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Gulfport; Prohibiting variances to off-street parking requirements in certain cases; Providing an effective date.

Planning & Zoning Board Recommendations:

Home occupational licenses were approved for:

P. David Martin, 4913 28th Ave. So., appliance repair and handyman.

Douglas and Brenda Jackson, 2629 Beach Blvd. So., (a) house cleaning, (b) errands, (c) painting and (d) lawn care.

Billy D. Leffler, 5829 21st Ave. So., assembling garments.

Stephen J. Hickman, 1604 54th St. So., house painting.

Priscilla Kidder, 5320 Delete Ave. So., wedding consultant.

Robert Laechelin, 5611 30th Ave. So., lawn service.

Gerry Payberg, 5948 Seabird Dr. So., bill paying service.

Purchasing:

Approved the acceptance of the proposal from Wade Trim to prepare portions of the Coastal Management/Conservation Element of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan in the amount of \$4,980.00.

Authorized the City Manager to go to bid for carpeting at the Library.

Authorized the City Manager to purchase two police cars at the state bid contract price of \$11,076.00 each.

Authorized emergency purchase of a 53 passenger 1979 school bus for the recreation department in the amount of \$7,950.00, funds to come from contingency.

Approved the award of bid to The Electric Connection, Inc., in the amount of \$7,477.00 for the lighting of Hoyt Field.

Approved the award of proposal for banking services to Southeast Bank.

Approved the renewal of the Police Law Institute Electronic Legal Bulletin in the amount of \$2,875.00.

Approved the award of bid to Castle Floor Covering in the amount of \$7,656.00 for carpet at the Library.

Approved the award of proposal to Port-A-Fab for modifications to the garbage transfer station and trailer.

Authorized the City Manager to go to bid for demolition of the water tower.

(continued on next page)

(COUNCIL ACTION, OVERVIEW...
continued from previous page)

Authorized the City Manager to go to bid for repairs to lift station #1 and associated force main.

Other matters before Council:

Authorized the City Manager to sign agreement with the Department of Community Affairs for Local Government Comprehensive Planning Assistance Program for 1987-88.

Authorized the City Manager to go to bid for paving of 19th Avenue and Dupont Street and installation of underdrains at the intersection of 27th Avenue and 57th Street.

Authorized Glace and Radcliffe to do field survey of Area A, Phase II of the Area Improvements Project in the amount of \$4,238.00.

Authorized the City Manager to request proposals for modifications to the transfer station belt and trailer.

Approved appointments of 2 members to the Planning and Zoning Board for two year terms to expire March 1990: Michael Morris, Al Rota.

Approved appointments of 3 members to the Board of Adjustment for a three year term to expire March 1991: Colleen Camp, Terry Lee Schoenberg, Ruth Cooper.

Approved appointments of 4 members to the Senior Citizens Advisory Committee on Aging for a three year term to expire March 1991: Frances Purdy, Donald Wollam, Ellen Steiger, Bette Dunn.

MEETINGS & SESSIONS

The City of Gulfport Council Meetings are held at City Hall on the first and third Tuesday of each month. At these meetings the Council takes official action on agenda items.

The City Council Work Sessions are held on the Thursday preceding each Council Meeting. The Council sets and discusses the agenda for Tuesday nights meetings. No formal action is taken.

The City Planning and Zoning Board meets the first Wednesday of each month, when there is an agenda. The board has the

authority to make, amend and add to the master plan for the physical development of our City, to control subdividing and platting of land, and to draft an official map of the City. The Board also participates in the preparation of the City's Capital Improvements Program. The Board hears applicants for home occupational licenses, requests for changes in zoning and considers site plan reviews. This Board is a recommending body to the City Council.

The Board of Adjustment meets on the second Wednesday of each month, when there is an agenda. The Board has the power to hear and determine appeal from refusals of building permits and is empowered to permit exceptions to and variances from the zoning regulations. This Board is a decision making body however, their decisions may be appealed to City Council.

All meetings and work sessions begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held at City Hall. If you require further information regarding meetings, contact the Office of the City Clerk.

CEM-COM NEEDS YOU!

The Citizen-Employee-Management Communications Committee CEM-COM, needs its first citizen volunteers to continue the theme of the Mayor and City Council, "We are all a part of the management team; we are civil servants and the citizens are our managers". Citizen input and participation is imperative in making the CEM-COM committee a vibrant force.

Once a month the Committee will be driven in a City vehicle through section of the City. Through general consensus they will compile a list of perceived code violations or other observed problems. The list will be given to the Police Chief who will have 48 working hours to identify if there are code violations on the list. Those items listed and not in violation of code, but are the responsibility of an in-house department; will be forwarded to the proper department attached to the City Manager Action Memorandum form. The department will have 48 working hours to respond to the Committee, of the action taken with copies to the City Manager.

Committee Members will work on a rotating basis. Please call the 327-HELP line (327-4357) to volunteer for this Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

"DID YOU KNOW?"

This column will be dedicated to City department functions in forthcoming issues. We want to give you an idea of the productivity of an average month. For this edition, we have chosen the Public Works Department. Here is what the month of February looked like:

The City Garage is responsible for ensuring that all City vehicles are operational with priority given to emergency vehicles. The Garage received 63 work orders this month which represented \$6,852.13 in parts and labor costs.

The Street Division is responsible for all roadways and sidewalks and often assists the Utilities Division. This Division was instrumental in placing 50 tons of shell in alleys throughout the City; trimmed 3 truck loads of vegetation to maintain clearance; removed dead trees at 3 locations; placed approximately 8 yards of milled asphalt at 57th Street and 27th Avenue; cleaned catch basins in area bounded by 49th, 44th 26th and 31st; performed storm drain repairs at 4 locations; repaired 5 traffic signs/control fixtures; replaced 10 faded stop signs and used 2.11 tons of asphalt to fill potholes and small overlays.

The Utilities Division is responsible for our water and sewer systems. You will often see these vehicles driving from site to site. The Utilities Division repaired 4 service lines, 3 distribution mains, 9 leaking valves and 6 leaking meters; they read 5349 water meters which included 43 special readings; they made 98 water service disconnects which included 38 for nonpayment; they made 96 water service connections; cleared 2 main line sewer stoppages and rebuilt 8 sewer laterals; cleaned 1200' of 8" main sewer line and performed other tasks which included the collection of water samples for the County Health Department.

The Sanitation Division actively made bi-weekly pickups on each of 3 residential routes; a total of 8,484 customer stops with rear loading garbage trucks was

accomplished; 677.06 tons of garbage was hauled to the Pinellas County Resource Recovery plant with our transfer trailer; the automated side loading garbage truck made 282 site visits at 117 customer sites to pick up 488 each of 300 gallon containers and 367 each of 150 gallon containers and 45 unscheduled special trash pickups.

The City is proud of the 31 employees affiliated with the Public Works Department. These employees are service oriented and are dedicated to the goals and objectives of the Department. Whether we have rain, sunshine, cold or hot weather these tasks must be completed on a day to day basis. The employees welcome your comments.

MARINA MASTER PLAN

The City is reviewing a Master Plan for the Marina Area. The Marina fund is a fund separate from the general fund that is funded by taxes and franchise fees. This fund is totally supported by the fees generated by the slip renters.

There are several proposed plans which have been presented at public meetings. The proposals and pictures of these are available in City Hall. If you would like a copy or would like to review a copy of the proposal, please come by the City Clerk or City Manager's office and pick up a copy.

HYPERTENSION, DIABETES, ANEMIA, GLAUCOMA

Block out time on June 15th & 16th. We will have the St. Anthony's Hospital Mobile unit at the Fire Station to examine those citizens in the Community for Hypertension, Diabetes, Anemia, Glaucoma who wish to participate. The testing is free and the results are confidential and mailed directly to your home. The City has offered this service to its employees in the past. This year we want to expand it to the community at large. You must schedule an appointment by calling the City Personnel Office, 321-1158 Extension 119. A special diet will be given to you and must be adhered to for 24 hours prior to testing. We encourage you to take advantage of this program.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

The City's Recreation program has been very busy through the winter months. This Department sponsors many programs throughout the year and there is something for everyone. Information on Recreation events and activities may be obtained by calling the Recreation Department at 321-1158 extension 610.

The After-School Recreation program has been very popular. It involves children between the ages of 6 to 12 (and 5 yr. olds in Kindergarten). Held at Community Center from 2:30-4:30 p.m., with extended care until 5:30 p.m. Transportation provided from Gulfport Elementary, Bear Creek Elementary and Holy Name School. Cost \$20 per month, plus annual \$10 registration fee. Program is open to Gulfport residents only.

The Summer Youth program involves those children between the ages of 6 to 13. It is an eight-week program which runs from June 20 through August 12th and is open only to Gulfport residents. Cost is \$60 for one child and \$40 for each additional child (also \$10 annual registration fee is applicable). Lunch is provided through Pinellas County Food Service Program. Hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with extended care until 5:30 p.m. Activities include sports, arts and crafts, Library, games, pool, table tennis, swimming, field trips and special events.

The Teen Club ranges from ages 13 to 19. The Teen Club meets at the Community Center every other Wednesday at 7 p.m. The Club hosts the Teen Dances held at the Center monthly. plan fund raisers, enjoy field trips and participate in community service projects. All Gulfport teens are invited and encouraged to join.

The Spring Break program, from ages 6 to 12 was held at the Community Center, Monday, March 28 through Friday, April 1st. Hours were 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with extended care til 5:30 p.m. Cost was \$12 and included a skating field trip. The Spring Break program was well received.

The Easter Egg Hunt was held at the Community Center on Saturday, April 2nd. The age groups were from 5 and under, 6 to 8 yrs., and 9 to 12 yrs. The hunt started promptly at 9 a.m. All children brought a basket for the hunt and had a wonderful time.

The Walking Club, primarily for seniors, now has a membership of 10-15 people. Mary Jo Love is the coordinator for this program which meets every Tuesday and Thursday between 9:00 and 10:00 a.m. There is a \$5.00 membership fee which includes a "T-shirt". Although most walking is done locally averaging 2 to 4 trips per month; a special field trip was held on March 22nd at the Myakka State Park. Myakka is located in Sarasota and we are pleased with the attendance of between 30-40 walkers who participated at this event. The membership is open, if you're interested in physical fitness and a good time, call the Recreation Department.

THANK YOU! TED & TED

In our attempt to present our First Edition of THE CITY IN REVIEW, we would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation to Ted Havness, Publisher of the GULFPORT GABBER and Ted Phillips from the Kenmore Building for their continued support.

Ted Havness, through the years has always reported our Department schedules, City events and much more. The GULFPORT GABBER is our local newspaper and has always been active in keeping the community informed on all local events. We will be working closely with the GABBER this year in getting the CEM-COM Committee information to the citizens.

Ted Phillips, has been the gentleman responsible for all the information placed on the cable information channel. It was Ted's idea and the response from the community has been very positive.

We appreciate the efforts of both these gentlemen. Keeping the community informed is important to us all.

AIDS

AIDS is a deadly disease and each of us in the coming years will be affected by the disease one way or another. We will either know someone or know of someone that has been diagnosed with the virus or who has full blown AIDS.

As Public Administrators, we must be knowledgeable on the subject for the community and for our employees. The City AIDS Team is comprised of the Police Chief, Jim Sewell, E.M.S. Director, George Hensley, Risk Manager, Peggy Psaledakis, City Manager, Kathy S. Rice, City Labor Attorney, Reynolds Allen and City Doctor, R. Morgan Massey. As a team, each of us will be responsible for employee policies, training and keeping the community informed. The one area we recognize as being paramount to the issue is the elimination of panic and fear through education.

We interviewed our City Doctor, who is a Medical Doctor with a Masters Degree in Public Health. She formerly worked in the Pinellas County Health Dept. as a Senior Physician, including 7 months as Acting Director. She practiced Occupational Medicine in the U.S. Army for 2 years and also did research in the field of Occupational Medicine as a faculty member of the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. Dr. Massey is currently on staff for the City of Gulfport as the City's Medical Doctor. The following is our interview and we hope this additional information will assist in keeping with our educational responsibilities:

Q. How many people do you think may be infected with the virus in the Tampa Bay Area?

A. Based on the rates at which people test positive to the HIV (Human Immune Deficiency Virus) antibody test, my guess is that there are 10,000 people infected in Pinellas County alone. Of those people, 1/3 to 1/2 will probably develop AIDS within the next five years.

Q. Can you contract AIDS by non-sexual contact?

A. Yes, the IV drug users sharing needles and syringes. You cannot contract the infection casually, such as hugging, socializing with, social kissing, sharing utensils, and so on.

Q. What is the life expectancy of an AIDS patient?

A. Probably less than 2 years from date of diagnosis of full blown disease.

Q. In your opinion, how many are infected in this country?

A. Over 2 million, and 3 million would not surprise me.

Q. What happens to someone who is infected with the virus?

A. Over about a five year period you would expect about 25 to 50% of the people to have no symptoms. They would be infected with the virus and their body fluids might be contagious (sexually or IV drug use). Another group of about the same size would have symptoms of the virus infection itself. These are fatigue, fever, chills, night sweats, swollen glands, possibly weight loss and general feeling of not feeling well. This is called ARC (Aids Related Complex). About 1/3 to 1/2 of the infected people will develop AIDS. What distinguishes AIDS is the development of an opportunistic infection or certain types of cancer. An opportunistic infection is an unusual infection of a sort that people with healthy immune systems do not get. An example is pneumocystis carinii (PCP). A certain percentage of infected people develop symptoms from brain infection with the virus, which include memory loss and disorientation. They may have difficulty doing simple calculations and other menial tasks.

Q. How did the disease start?

A. No one really knows, it may have developed in Africa, but there is no way we can be sure.

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Q. Would you hire somebody who had AIDS?

A. Yes, if they were qualified and physically capable of doing the work.

Q. Should the average person be concerned about catching the disease?

A. Everett Koop, Surgeon General of the United States, has said that it is not who you are but what you do that puts you at risk with AIDS. If you have multiple sexual partners and don't take precautions, whether you're gay or straight, you have some risk of AIDS. You are not at risk however, from your casual friends and co-workers unless you have sex or do drugs with them.

Q. Does the virus survive outside the body?

A. No, it is easily killed by environmental conditions and simple disinfectants. It would not survive, for example, in a sewer pipe.

For further information concerning this issue, these agencies are available to answer your questions:

State AIDS Hotline **1-800-FLA-AIDS
(352-2437)**

National Hotline for AIDS 1-800-221-7044

Center for Disease Control 1-414-639-3311

MAMMOGRAPHY UNIT VISITS CITY

The City recognizing the need of the community and those individuals who may have transportation problems; contacted St. Anthony's Hospital for assistance. On March 10, the mammography unit arrived and located itself at the Fire Station. Eighteen clients participated. The cost was \$50.00. The next scheduled visit will be on April 29th at the same location. The April 29th visit has a full schedule. A mammography is an early detection for cancer therefore the City plans to invite the unit back sometime in June. Let us hear from you. We will ask them back as often as needed, call us at 321-1158 Ext. 119.

TWO FEDERAL GRANTS MEAN \$\$\$\$ & PROGRAMS

In recognition of the limitations of City income, the Police Department made a concerted effort in 1987 to supplement its budget through the acquisition of federal grants. Two grants, totalling \$30,400 were obtained through the Florida Department of Community Affairs.

The first grant, with \$5,000 in funds, fosters an intensive education and enforcement effort aimed at compliance with the State's Child Restraint Law. The grant, which is now being implemented, allows for the development of a media program using television, radio, and news papers to educate Gulfport citizens about the need for the use of child restraints and seat-belts. A directed enforcement program began April 1st, following six weeks of public information and education.

The second grant, using \$25,400 of Federal Justice Assistance Act funds implements the Senior Citizen Community Crime Prevention Program. The primary purpose of this grant is to allow us to provide more intensive crime prevention efforts and victim assistance/advocacy directed toward the City's senior citizens.

MAYOR & COUNCIL TO ADDRESS LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

We often think of our City elected officials as those individuals elected to address our local ordinances, set our policies, approve our annual budget and handle numerous other tasks on the local scene. True but not all together true. Our Mayor and Council are important to us beyond the local issues. They are instrumental in having an input on all legislative issues which have an impact on our City.

The Mayor and Council on the legislative front will have input this year on Municipal Finance and Taxation, Urban Administration, Intergovernmental Relations, Environmental Quality and Ethics and Personnel.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the Florida League of Cities legislative priorities, please contact the Public Relations Department at City Hall.

CALL 327-HELP

RSVP and CEM-COM now activated.

Call 327-HELP (327-4357) our new 24 hour HELP line. We want to hear from you and we want the opportunity to respond to your concerns.

In our effort to deal with all community concerns we anticipate the 24 hour line will be utilized by those citizens within the community that cannot attend our Council meetings. At all Council meetings and workshop session there is a Public Session, where citizens have the opportunity to bring before the Mayor and Council many problems or concerns. We recognize the need to reach out further, therefore our newly installed HELP line will additionally serve the community in answering problems. Simply call our HELP line leave your name, phone number, address and problem. The City will "RSVP" to you within 48 hours. A City Manager Action Memorandum will be completed on all calls received and reviewed by the City Manager.

We do care about our citizen concerns, allow us to "RSVP" your problems or concerns by simply calling our HELP line.

778.8 COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS REALIZED

The City in cooperation with the court system in Pinellas County, agreed to accommodate those individuals, that have been given the opportunity to work off possible incarceration time. Through the Community Service program candidates have reported to the City for job assignments. For the past six months 778.8 service hours were completed representing \$4,596.09 in labor to City projects.

Each department in the City is given the opportunity to request these workers through the Personnel Office when the need arises. The Parks Department has utilized 422 hours and the Library 356.8.

THE CITY'S VICTIM ADVOCACY PROGRAM

As a result of the grant funding received the program has been set in motion. As citizens you have rights, if you have become a victim. Under the Florida Victim Bill of Rights:

You have the right to information concerning services, including crime victim compensation and community-based treatment programs.

You have the right to information concerning your role in the criminal justice process.

You have the right to information concerning protection from intimidation.

You have the right to notification of scheduling changes with respect to appearances.

You have the right to advance notification of arrest, release, and other judicial proceedings relating to the accused.

You have the right to consultation by the state attorney about release of the accused, plea agreements, and participation in pretrial diversion programs.

You have the right to prompt return of recovered property, unless there is a compelling reason for it to be retained.

You have the right to notification of your employer or creditors regarding any absences or serious financial difficulties resulting from the crime.

You have the right to general assistance in attending court, such as transportation, parking, and child care.

You may reach our victim advocate, Sharon Bauer by calling the Police Dept. at 321-1158 between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. You may receive additional information on the States Child Restraint Law by contacting Helen Wertel at this same number.

CITY MANAGEMENT TEAM RECEIVES ASSIGNMENTS

City Manager, Kathy Rice met with the City's Management Team on March 9, 1988 and issued assignments for preparation of the upcoming Union negotiations. The Police Benevolent Association represents the Police Department bargaining unit employees. The three year contract, which was negotiated in 1985, will expire on September 30, 1988. The City's negotiating team will be very busy for the next few months. The first negotiating meeting will commence in May.

OUR CITY IN REVIEW

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our first edition. Our goal is to keep you advised of our City operations, projects, Council actions and from time to time those issues concerning all municipalities throughout the state.

We would like to hear from you. Perhaps there are questions or concerns you may have which you would like to see answered in our newsletter. Drop us line, if we don't respond through our newsletter we will respond to you!

WE HONOR OUR COMMUNITY

Our City was settled in 1886 and became a fishing village. Mullet fishing was the primary industry and fish was shipped up and down the coast. Our original settlers sustained their livelihood through this industry.

In honor of those men and women, our original settlers, we dedicate the front design of this newsletter. We also take this opportunity in thanking Michael Taylor, our City Drafter, for his creative ability in designing the front page.

COUNTY ADVISED OF CITY'S POSITION ON EMS SERVICE

The Gulfport City Council has discussed at length the 1988 Emergency Medical Services First Responder Agreement. The City has a unique situation that should be satisfactorily taken into account. Some of our concerns were addressed in the letter from Mr. Marquis dated February 16, 1988.

The City of Gulfport has always provided a cost effective service to the citizens with the lowest funding of all contracted departments. Needless to say we have more runs on an overage than 7 departments which are funded at a higher level. The effect of this is to punish the cost efficient departments and to reward those who have managed to amass a large funding amount over the years.

The City of Gulfport is truly unique as Mr. Marquis's letter states. We are only asking that we be given the same funding as those agencies which are eligible for a two paramedic rescue unit. This suits our situation as we obviously do not come under the marginal cost allowance since we do not have a paid fire department. We are now providing a two paramedic rescue at a cost of \$2,000 more annually than the private sector can provide a one paramedic unit.

Since our uniqueness has been recognized, we need the county commission to take action to allow the City of Gulfport to be funded as a separate two paramedic rescue unit under the terms of the contract as presented.

(Excerpts of the letter sent to, Chairperson George Greer, Board of County Commissioners by Mayor Bert Williams on behalf of the City Council)

Call
327 HELP
(327-4357)



We Want To "Zero" In
On Your Concern!

TALKING TRASH

Residential garbage collections are made twice a week, either Monday and Thursday or Tuesday and Friday. Pickups are in the alley or, where there is no alley, at the curb. To avoid being missed, have the garbage out early. The collectors presently start work at 7:30 a.m. You may have up to 5 cans, bags, boxes and/or tied bundles, none of which may weight more than 50 pounds. Cans may be up to 30 gallons. Cans or boxes must have a lid; bags must be tied or sealed. Curbside cans must be taken back to the house the day they are emptied.

Commercial establishments, high rise condos and the like are served by 150 or 300 gallon containers. These containers are picked up as required and as arranged by the owner from locations approved by the City.

Discarded furniture, appliances, carpet and such items are picked up on Wednesday. If you need a special pickup call 321-1158 and ask for the Public Works Department. A fee is charged for these special pickups. The fee varies depending on how much there is.

If there are any questions or problems, please call Public Works.

"WHERE WILL ALL THE LIBRARIANS GO"?

You are not going to find them in Lake Tahoe, Rio de Janeiro or Timbuktu and you're not going to see them for awhile. These women who have been dedicated to our community for so many years; who have been entrusted with our intellectual well-being, with the additional responsibility of educating our children by exposing them to the literary world. These women, our Librarians, will lock the Library doors from April 18th through May 6th. No, we won't gain access to them, as they parade around the Library wearing blue jeans, tennis shoes and sweat shirts. They will move and shift 50,000 volumes of books and 39 ranges of steel shelving with assistance from the City Maintenance crew.

Eighteen years ago the Library had 642 square yards of carpeting installed. Yes, that was eighteen years ago. It's time for new carpeting. As a result of the financial support from the Friends of the Library and monies appropriated by the City, the eighteen year old carpeting will be replaced.

The Friends of the Library is an organization closely connected to the Library. They present monthly educational programs during the fall and winter months, always supporting the Library with gifts of money for reference books, children's programs and many other worthwhile Library materials.

Our Library offers so much to our citizens including our children. Each Tuesday evening the Library becomes story-time for children. The children listen, laugh and have fun while parents browse and read.

"Where will all the Librarians be"? On May 7th they will no longer be in blue jeans and tennis shoes; they will re-open the doors to the Library on that date. You will enjoy the "new look"!

CITY VEHICLES SPORT "BUMPER STICKERS"

"Allow us to RSVP your concern"! That is what you will be seeing on our bumper stickers. We are interested in what you have to say. The 327-HELP line phone number is also identified on our bumper stickers. So, let us hear from you. Anyone interested in receiving a bumper sticker, free of charge, simply call us on the HELP line, leave your name and address and request for a bumper sticker and we will be pleased to mail one to you.

CITY OF GULFPORT NEWSLETTER

Published by the City Of Gulfport
Kathy S. Rice, City Manager/Co-Editor

Comments should be addressed to:

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City of Gulfport
P. O. Box 5187
Gulfport, Florida 33737
321-1158 Extension 118

IT WAS ONLY YESTERDAY!

Although it seems as though it was only yesterday that the Senior Center opened its doors to the public, this coming October we will have been providing services to the elderly of our community for five years.

Despite its relatively young age, our Senior Center has developed into a facility that offers a comprehensive service delivery system to all the needy individuals young and old, of Gulfport. Services include such programs as Congregate Dining and Meals on Wheels, which provide at least on nourishing hot meal per day; Telephone Reassurance; Friendly Visitation; Social Service Assistance; Medic-Aid and Social Security Assistance; Income Tax Assistance; free health screening such as blood pressure testing; door to door mini-bus transportation; monthly U.S.D.A. food distribution; and numerous recreational and educational activities.

We estimate that during our normal operating hours, which are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., nearly 750 individuals use this center every day for one purpose or another.

Currently, one of the most popular activities offered at the Senior Center is the Senior Dance, every Monday and Thursday night. An overflow crowd of our mature set gathers to dance the evening away to the live music of the "Velvet Tones". Although there is no charge at the door, contributions, which are split evenly between the band and the Senior Center, are graciously accepted.

ON APRIL 20, 1988 the Senior Center is going to hold its first annual Senior Fair. It is an event which we hope will develop into an annual affair. The Fair will be designed to promote a broad spectrum of activities that are available to our mature citizens. The following schedule of events is preliminary and therefore subject to change. We do however, feel fairly comfortable that any changes will be very minor.

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Presentation by Dr. Waldman on hearing Impairments, to be followed by individual testing in Room 104.

10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Performance by the Boca Ciega Jazz Ensemble.

11:00 - 11:15 a.m. Stretcherzise demonstrations lead by Dr. Parks and various participants.

11:15 - 12:00 p.m. Presentation on Horticulture and the Wide World of Libraries.

12:15 - 1:00 p.m. Entertainment by our well known "Ukulele Ladies".

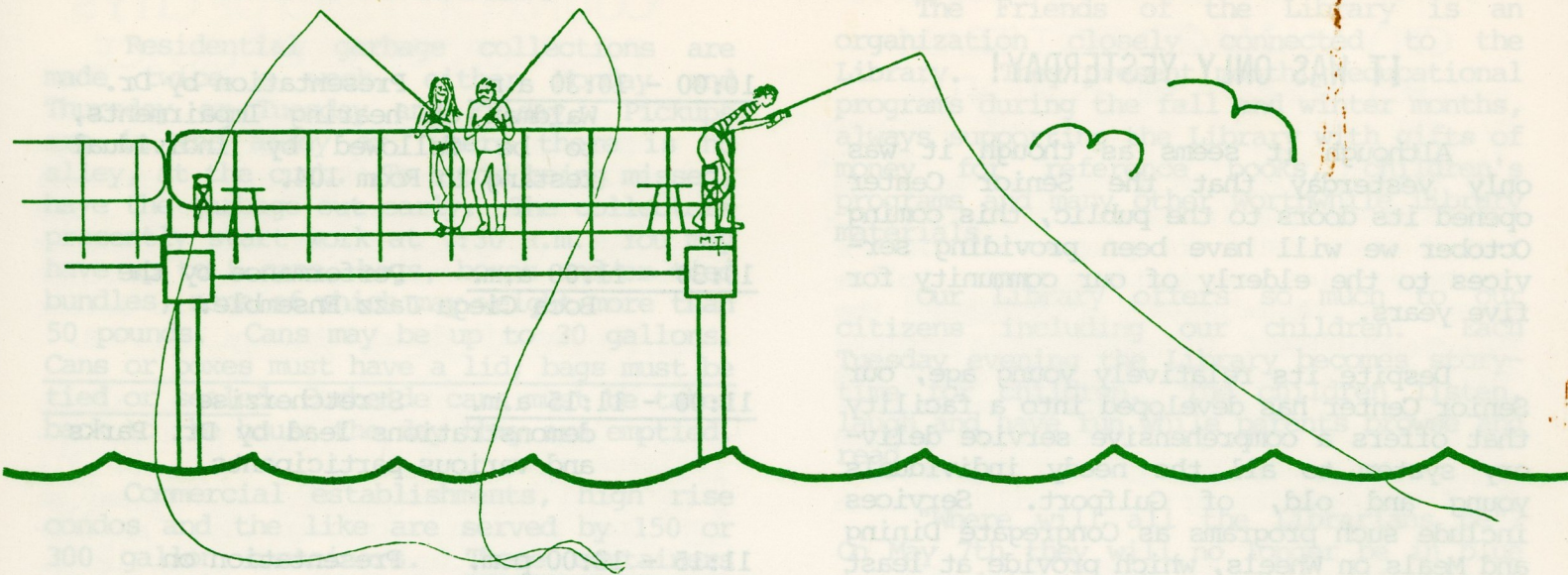
1:00 - 1:45 p.m. "Cooking for one" presentation by Nan Jansen.

1:45 - 2:30 p.m. Demonstration of proper make-up application for mature ladies by Jean Lewis.

2:45 - 3:15 p.m. Performance by the "Cabbage Patch Cloggers".

All the scheduled events will be held in the large hall of the building. Running concurrently with those events will be various health related activities such as Blood Pressure testing, Glaucoma testing, Blood Sugar testing and Food examinations. There will also be numerous representatives of various social service, health, and recreational agencies who will be at the Center to provide information concerning their respective programs.

We hope that it will be a day of entertainment and useful information for most of our mature residents. G.E.M.S. will provide transportation to eligible residents to and from the Senior Fair.



"THE CATCH OF THE DAY"

The new City Pier has been in service for the past two years. The cold weather brought in speckled trout, catfish, whiting and lots of pinfish, reported by our anglers. The pier extends out 1200 feet and in shallow waters through the cold winter season it's not unusual to pull in speckled trout. Our anglers have also reported the once the weather gets a bit warmer "the catch of the day" will head for deeper waters but the fishing is still good. A brisk walk to the pier just before sunset offers some of the most beautiful sunsets over looking Boca Ciega Bay. Whether it's fishing you're interested in or a magnificent sunset, the pier is one of the most popular places in town. The pier was dedicated January 27, 1986 for the enjoyment of the citizen of Gulfport.

THIS SPACE RESERVED!

In support of our civic organizations we are reserving this space in our next newsletter. Please submit your organization activities and schedules to enable us to get the word out. Your contributions to the community are important to us all. Call the Personnel Department and let us work with you.