



# *Gulfport Community Update*

*October 30 - November 5, 2016*

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Friday, November 11 in observance of **Veterans Day**. The Sanitation schedule will not be affected.

Recreation staff and City support staff hosted the annual **Spooktacular Halloween Bash** on Monday evening (photos below). Approximately seven hundred 700 people attended throughout the evening. A costume contest was held for prizes in age categories.



## **OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER**

**Hurricane Implementation Guides** are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits. The Atlantic basin Hurricane season began June 1 and ends November 30.

Fire Chief 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.

## Upcoming Events:

Visit the 49<sup>th</sup> Street South Business Association (So49) weekly **SoTangerine Market** on the Tangerine Greenway every Saturday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. The market focuses on locally made items, but SO49 will consider others in an effort to meet the needs of the community. For more information call 439-0164 or email [jsrtraining@aol.com](mailto:jsrtraining@aol.com).

Join the **Gulfport Merchants Inaugural Gulfport Extravaganza Crawl** 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Friday & Saturday, November 4 & 5. Many businesses between 4900 & 5800 Gulfport Boulevard will be participating along with additional vendors, offering food, gifts, prizes and discounts - *look for the blue balloons and lights along the strip!* The Gulfport Trolley will transport patrons throughout the event. For more information call 851-2167.

Join Gulfport resident, Historical Society Board member and author Cathy Salustri for a visual perspective of old Florida during the **Back Roads of Paradise Reception and book signing** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue 4 - 6 p.m. Friday, November 4. Cathy's book is available at Amazon.com. A portion of book sale proceeds will benefit the Gulfport Historical Society. For more information call 893-1118.

Ken Brady will perform with The Impacs during **First Friday Sock Hop** at the Gulfport Casino on Friday, November 4. Doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets: \$15 or 2 for \$25, available at the Casino and Beach Bazaar. Limited tables of ten available in advance for \$110.00; reserve at the Casino. Call 893-1070 for more information.

It's not too early to start holiday shopping at **First Friday Gulfport Art & Gallery Walk** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront District November 4, 6 - 10 p.m. Enjoy live music while you peruse art & craft vendors, then stay for dinner at one of Gulfport's many unique dining establishments. For more information call 322-5217. FREE Admission.

Whether you served in the military or serve on the volleyball court, join in the City of Gulfport and VETsports **Heroes Weekend** on Sunday November 6. The **Veterans Parade** begins at 11 a.m. on Beach Boulevard and heads south, with a stop for the ceremonial **ribbon cutting at the newly renovated Gulfport Beach parking lot** at approximately 11:30 a.m. Opening ceremonies for VETsports on Gulfport Beach begin at noon, followed at 1 p.m. by a musical celebration with the **New Horizon Band of Gulfport** inside the Casino.

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).

Dust off your unused stuff, clear out the clutter and sign up for the permit-free **Gulfport Citywide Yard Sale** scheduled for Saturday, November 12 (rain date, Sunday, November 13). Deadline to sign up your address for this year's brochure is Friday, November 4. Fill out a form at City Hall, 2401 53<sup>rd</sup> Street or the Gulfport Public Library, 5501 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue, email [gbiron@mygulfport.us](mailto:gbiron@mygulfport.us) with your Gulfport address, or register online at [www.mygulfport.us/citywide-yard-sale](http://www.mygulfport.us/citywide-yard-sale) (one address per registration). For more information call 893-1118.

The **Holy Name 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Festival** is Thursday - Sunday, November 10 - 13. Musical guests: James O'Neill and the Silver Shadows; Urban Gypsies and Karmic Tattoo. For more information call 347-9989.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

### Patrol

Dispatch calls for service

141

Self-initiated calls for service	425
Offenses	47
Arrests	7
Traffic citations	85
Ordinance violations	59

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers were dispatched to the 5100 block of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue on October 27 after a woman attempted to attack her live-in boyfriend with a mallet and sprayed him with mace when she learned that he had been associating with another woman. She was arrested.

A purse was reported stolen from an unlocked truck parked in the 1400 block of 55<sup>th</sup> Street on October 28.

The resident in the 2600 block of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street reported on the morning of October 29 that sometime overnight someone broke her car's headlight and dented the front bumper. Her teenage granddaughter, who had been gone all night stated she came home because she "heard that some vehicles in the area had been damaged." Ofc. Heaton reported that the vehicle was parked so close to the house that nobody could have gotten in front of it to cause the damage and that it looked like someone had driven the car and hit something. The victim insisted that her granddaughter could not have done such a thing.

Sanaya Daxon was arrested on several outstanding warrants for uttering forged checks after officers were dispatched to a report of a theft in the 5600 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

A resident in the 5700 Block of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported that his truck was stolen from in front of his home. The truck, which had been left unlocked with the ignition key in the center console, was found unoccupied the next day in the area of 47<sup>th</sup> Street & 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue South.

Jeffrey Weinberger was arrested for disorderly conduct and criminal mischief after the McDonald's manager reported that an intoxicated person was throwing things outside the business. Weinberger broke a cement trash can in half and damaged the newspaper machine in front of the business.

A resident in the 5300 Block of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported on October 30 that someone entered his house and stole a handgun.

Sometime overnight someone smashed the front window and door of the cell phone shop in the 1000 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street, but did not enter the business.

An employee of the coin laundry in the 1600 block of 58<sup>th</sup> Street discovered on November 1 that a man had broken into the locked restroom, causing damage. The subject fled before police could respond.

Edward Burke was arrested on an outstanding warrant. Burke attempted to run from officers but after a short foot pursuit, gave himself up without further incident. He was also charged with resisting an officer without violence.

A resident in the 2500 block of 57<sup>th</sup> Street reported that her car was stolen from in front of her house sometime overnight.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a domestic incident in the 2500 block of Beach Boulevard. Upon arrival they saw and heard the suspect attacking the victim inside the residence. A male was arrested and the female victim was transported to the hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

The marine unit was not on the water this week.

## **Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)**

New cases:	17
Cases assigned:	3
Cases suspended-no leads:	10
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	3
Cases referred back to patrol:	0
Supplements received:	19
Cases cleared with arrest:	3
Previously cleared with arrest:	5
Cases suspended/no leads:	2
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	9

## **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, a burglary, a retail theft, a grand theft, and a stolen vehicle. He also added new charges to Nicholas Tersigni for fraudulent use of credit card and uttering forged checks.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a hit and run case, three frauds, a runaway, a death investigation and a robbery; reviewed subpoena returns and submitted new subpoenas; investigated a hit and run case and charged the juvenile suspect with leaving the scene of an accident, and; located and arrested a juvenile runaway with outstanding violation of probation pick up orders.

School Resource Officers wrote three police reports this week; counseled 9 students; met with the parents of two students, and; Baker Acted a student.

Officer Motte has been in contact with the volunteer coordinator for Walk like MADD and is arranging Explorers to assist in the setup/cleanup of the event.

Officer Langston responded to a trespasser and reckless driver on school campus; assisted patrol with perimeter on an assault/battery call; worked the Halloween Bash at the Rec Center with the explorers, and; provided security for a football game and the Homecoming parade.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano compiled and distributed cost recovery data; the amount the police department is entitled to receive from defendants as reimbursement for costs associated with conducting a criminal investigation. She also completed an analysis on vehicle burglaries, auto thefts and recovered stolen vehicles occurring between July 20 & October 31.

## **Records**

Reports reviewed	14
Supplements reviewed:	111
Public Records requests:	23
Background checks:	5
Bike registrations:	3
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	24
Citizens assisted:	47

## **LIBRARY**

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

Monday, October 24, 3:15 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Club.*

Tuesday, October 25, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Tuesday, October 25, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, October 25, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Tuesday, October 25, 7 p.m. - *Poet Laureate Poetry Reading.*

Wednesday, October 26, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, October 26, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language.*

Wednesday, October 26, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout.*

Wednesday, October 26, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, October 27, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

Thursday, October 27, 11 a.m. - *Community Play Date.*

Thursday, October 27, 3:30 p.m. *Kids Yoga.*

Thursday, October 27, 7 p.m. - *Juniper Concert.*

Friday, October 28, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday, November 5, 10 a.m. - *How to Conduct Productive Meetings workshop:* presented by the Gulfport Toastmasters. For more information call 871-9402 or email [bob@tropicalfocus.com](mailto:bob@tropicalfocus.com).

Saturday, November 5, 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, November 7, 5 p.m. - *Adult Coloring Program:* We provide the artwork and supplies for participants to embellish while they relax and listen to soothing music.

Tuesday, November 8, 1 p.m. - *Healthy Mind/Healthy Body Book Club meeting:* If you have interest in understanding the relationship between our thoughts and their influence on the physical body this club is for you. For more information email [klane@untieyourwings.com](mailto:klane@untieyourwings.com).

Thursday, November 10, noon - *Lunch and Learn iPad Class:* Learn to get the most out of your device. Bring your Apple iPad and passwords, and lunch. Drinks will be provided. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library.

Monday, November 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program:* Release your Cosmic MOJO as we explore the ancient practice of astrology as it relates to your modern life. For more information on the next topic call 207-332-0787 or email [jennie@odetopluto.com](mailto:jennie@odetopluto.com).

Thursday, November 14, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night:* New monthly event! Free popcorn and bottled water provided. Sponsored by the LGBTQ Resource Center. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Tuesday, November 15, 4 p.m. - *Tween Tinker Lab:* The group meets every third Tuesday of the month for hands-on exploration and experimentation. See Cailey in Youth Services to sign up or call 893-1074.

Thursday, November 17, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck.* Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, November 17, 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, November 17, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*: Learn about the services available through the City and the Library. Find out how you can participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization.

Saturday, November 19, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Thursday, November 24, 11 a.m. - *Community Play Date*: Follows Toddler Storytime every fourth Thursday of the month, a great opportunity to meet other parents and caregivers in a supportive environment and introduce your little one to new sights, sounds, toys, and new friends.

Thursday, November 24, 3:30 p.m. - Kids Yoga: Meets every fourth Thursday of the month.

Monday, November 28, 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, December 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](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us) for more information.

Every Monday, 3:15 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! Call Cailey at 893-1074, or email [cklasson@mygulfport.us](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us) for more information.

Every Monday - 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: Monday - French; Tuesday - Italian; Wednesday - Spanish; Friday - German. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

Every Tuesday, 3 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*: Enjoy conversing in a relaxed atmosphere. This is our most popular language group so far!

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 [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. 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 October 23 - 29, 2016:**

#### **Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,282	715
Sun. 10/23	Library closed	
Mon. 10/24	197	87

Tue. 10/25	208	92
Wed. 10/26	233	124
Thu. 10/27	222	124
Fri. 10/28	196	130
Sat. 10/29	222	144

## **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, 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 preparation of 2016-2017 events list and First Friday Art Reception schedule & contracts.
- Continued accepting registrations for Yard Sale and Heroes Weekend Parade lineup.
- Continued preparation of Yard Sale brochure and Heroes Weekend program.
- Updated November event calendar on City website.
- Assisted with Junk in the Trunk event.
- Updated Events, Library, Recreation Center & Senior Center webpages, and uploaded City meeting minutes & Board of Adjustment agenda to City website.
- Set up November input information for GTV640.
- Set up audio equipment for Library event.
- Attended Gulfport Extravaganza planning meeting.

### **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 **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 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 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 Multi-Purpose 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 at 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South for more information.

Breathing in second hand smoke and air pollution can cause/irritate many conditions including Asthma, Cancer, COPD, Diabetes, Gum (Periodontal) Disease, Heart Disease and Stroke. Join Todd Ringeisen, BS, RRT at 2:30 p.m. Monday, November 7 for **HCA Doc Talk: Breathe Easy - Protect Yourself Against Second Hand Smoke and Environmental Exposures**.

Join us at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November for the **Senior Center Fitness Center Grand Reopening**. Enjoy light refreshments and check out the new fitness equipment generously donated by the Gulfport Multi-Purpose Senior Center Foundation. Tour the facility, test the state of the art equipment and register to become of member of the Gulfport Senior Center. FREE registration (must be at least 50 years old).

The Gulfport Police Department will offer **Personal Safety Tips** to reduce your risk of becoming a victim on Wednesday, November 9 at 2 p.m. Staying safe is not an accident! Be proactive.

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

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is November 14. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule.

Enjoy a healthy snack as Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance Services presents **Fruit for Thought** at 10 a.m. the second Monday of every month. The next meeting is November 14.

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 November 18. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

Gulf Coast Legal Services, Inc. provides quality **legal advice and services** to Gulfport Senior Center participants 10 a.m. - noon every fourth Monday of the month. The next meeting is November 28.

Discover a great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles, and many other goodies during **First Friday Flea Market** on December 2, 9 a.m. - noon.

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, December 6.

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.

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.

**The Last Word - Writing an Obituary** is offered at the Senior Center at 4:30 p.m. every third Monday. 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 third Tuesday of every month at 9:30 a.m. to spruce up the Senior Center Patio with therapeutic herbs and beautiful flowers. No experience needed! Natural-born green thumbs and first-time gardeners are 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):**

- Monday, October 24      7 p.m. - USA Ballroom Dance (Turnout 82)
- Tuesday, October 25      9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 23)  
Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 23)  
7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 65)
- Wednesday, October 26      10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 24)  
6:30 p.m. - Swing Dance/Costume Ball with Swingtime (Turnout 334)
- Thursday, October 27      9 a.m. - Tai Chi with John Amsallen (Turnout 16)  
6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 19)
- Friday, October 28      11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Pat Van Leuvan (Turnout 18)
- Saturday, October 29      7 p.m. - Monster Mash III (Turnout 152)

**Casino (upcoming events):**

- Friday, November 4      6 p.m. - Sock Hop with The Impacs Tickets: \$15 or 2 for \$25
- Most Sundays      6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson  
7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance 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

Monday, November 28 7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance Members \$5/nonmembers \$8

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

Thursday, October 27, 6 p.m. - Meet the Candidates forum (Turnout 70)

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

Thursday - Saturday, November 3 - 5 & 10 - 12, 8 p.m. and Saturday & Sunday, November 5 & 6 and 12 & 13, 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players present *Over the River and Through the Woods*, a tender, loving comedic look at an Italian-American family by Joe Di Pietro. Tickets: \$18, available at Beach Bazaar and online at [www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org](http://www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org), or \$20 at the door within one hour of performance.

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

Sunday, October 23 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 22)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, October 24 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 21)  
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, October 27 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 22)

**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 (November meeting cancelled)

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

Sunday, October 23 9 a.m. - Calvary Christian Assembly church services (Turnout 12)

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

Monday, October 24 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 18)

Tuesday, October 25 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)  
6 p.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 10)

Thursday, October 27 11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 12)

Friday, October 28 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 9)

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

Every Sunday                    9 am - Calvary Christian Assembly church services

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 multipurpose room is reserved 7 - 11 p.m. Saturday, November 5 for a birthday party, and 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, November 12 for a life tribute.

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

Seventy two children are registered for the **2016/17 School Year Child Care program** for children who will be entering 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.

Seventeen children have been registered for the **2016/17 Tot Time program/VPK**, a hands-on pre-school program for children ages 3-5, that aims to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten. Sixteen Tot Time/VPK participants and sixteen adults visited the Florida Aquarium in Tampa on Friday.

Eighteen teens have been 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.

**Contractual classes:** Bootcamp, Karate, Pickle ball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Watercolor.

### **Staff Activities**

Recreation Center staff worked the Halloween Bash on Monday evening.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport sixteen Tot Time/VPK participants to the Florida Aquarium in Tampa on Friday.

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff meeting on Wednesday.

**Teen Councilmembers** Cameron Althaus, Katelyn Latragna and Robert Wolf worked the Halloween Bash Boo Room for toddlers on Monday evening.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Calls for Service:**

- 49 Emergency Medical Calls
- 4 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 4 Vehicle Crash

- 2 Fire Outside Structure

### **Life Safety:**

- 10 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 1 C.O.'s
- 1 Smoke Detector

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** trains volunteers in disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area, and in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search & rescue, team organization and disaster medical operations. The group meets monthly. The next meeting is 7 p.m. Thursday, November 17 at the Gulfport Police Department.

Gulfport Firefighters are testing for Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support recertification. Certification is valid for three years.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance**

- Repaired light fixture at Casino.
- Assisted with construction of Recreation Center Halloween Bash haunted house. Repaired a/c unit at Library.
- Delivered mail to post office for Finance Department.

### **Parks**

- Continued working on Recreation Center haunted house.
- Raked volleyball courts, and replaced flag windscreen.
- Installed sidewalks at Dog Park.
- Repaired flag poles and replaced flags at Veterans Park.
- Graded, removed concrete and added top soil in planter beds at Marina, and cleaned tire tracks from sidewalks.
- Continued work on tree lights and electrical outlets along Beach Boulevard.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned and mulched Veterans & Clymer Parks and Casino green spaces.
- Repaired irrigation at Senior Center and Marina.
- 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 daily.

### **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 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 49<sup>th</sup> Street holding area.
- Relocated signage at Marina.
- Installed diamond barricades at 58<sup>th</sup> Street terminus.
- Installed new signs at 49<sup>th</sup> Street & 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Palletized electronics collected during Junk in the Trunk.

### **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).
- Disconnected water service at 44 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 77 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 24 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.
- Repaired water breaks at 4921 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 1219 61<sup>st</sup> Street.
- Repaired 6" mainline water break at 59<sup>th</sup> Street & Shore Boulevard.
- Excavated depression area next to sidewalk at 51<sup>st</sup> Street & 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, repaired leak in first joint of pipe and structure, poured concrete collar and backfilled area.

### **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.
- Weekly vehicle safety and maintenance inspection.
- Televised sewer lateral at 6302 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Televised and pressure-jetted sewer lateral at 6301 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Replaced 40-horsepower pump at Lift Station #1 with backup pump.

### **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Reattached rear view mirror and side mirror in Water vehicle #78.
- Replaced batteries in Recreation Center Bus.
- Investigated intermittent traction control/ABS problem in Police vehicle #7.
- Replaced tires on Sanitation vehicle #43.
- Replaced front shock absorbers and center carrier bearing on Water vehicle #17.

- Repaired electrical problem in Police vehicle #12.
- Investigated and found cause of coolant loss in Sanitation vehicle #31.
- 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 464-7723. 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](http://www.pcclb.com).

#### **Business Tax Receipts**

**Business License renewal notices** have been mailed. A license is good from October 1 of the current year through September 30 of the following year. If the license is not renewed by October 1 a 10 percent penalty will be applied for the month of October and a 5 percent penalty for each month thereafter until paid. If you have paid your fee but continue to get a request for payment, let us know so we can ensure your account is corrected. Call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063 for more information.

**Thinking of starting a new business?** Visit the “City of Gulfport New Business Checklist” page at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section. Call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063 for more information.

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.

**Code Enforcement** activities have moved to Section 1 of the City, also referred to as the Stetson Area which comprises the northwest portion of the City and generally extends south from 7th Avenue to Gulfport Boulevard and east from 64<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup> Street.

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 visit the Special Documents section at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us).

**November 9, 2016 Board of Adjustment:**

V16-21 - 5925 Bayview Circle South; Variance request to reduce the right-hand one-third setback requirement by 18 feet, from 26 feet 8 inches to 8 feet 8 inches to allow for the installation of a new boat lift and construction of a new catwalk to service the boat lift.