



Gulfport Community Update

June 11 - 17, 2017

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in observance of **Independence Day**. Tuesday's Sanitation routes will be collected on Wednesday the 5th, and there will be no Wednesday yard waste pickup.

Pinellas remains under increased water restrictions imposed by Southwest Florida Water Management District. The District's modified Phase III water shortage order went into effect on May 24. Under the new order, lawn watering is reduced to once a week, and allowable watering hours are reduced. Micro-irrigation and hand watering of non-lawn areas is permitted. There are also limits on car washing, and homeowner associations may not enforce any deed restrictions that could increase water use. The restrictions will remain in effect through August 1. For additional details regarding watering new lawns and plants, reclaimed water and other water uses visit www.WaterMatters.org/restrictions.

Hurricane Guides are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and Fire Station. The Atlantic basin Hurricane season ends November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits. Basic hurricane kit supplies to keep on hand:

- Flashlights and extra bulbs
- Water
- Battery-operated radio
- Fully charged battery-operated lanterns (no candles or kerosene lanterns)
- Extra batteries
- Matches
- Clock (wind-up or battery-operated)
- Plastic garbage bags
- Working fire extinguishers
- Scissors
- Clean change of clothes, rain gear, sturdy swamp boots

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.

The City of Gulfport Special Events Trolley will participate in the **St. Pete Pride Parade** on Saturday, June 24. The trolley will leave Gulfport City Hall at 3 p.m. and return immediately following the parade. For more information call 893-1066.

It's time to get creative with our long tradition of welcoming local businesses, organizations, family and friends to join the **City of Gulfport Independence Day Parade** on Tuesday, July 4.

Bring your red, white and blue and register now at www.mygulfport.us/july_4th_celebration. Click on the "parade" tab, fill in your information, hit submit and wait for an email confirmation. Or fill one out at City Hall at 2401 53rd Street and return it to customer service. Deadline for registration is Friday, June 23. For more information call 893-1066.

Join Gulfport Police & Fire at the Catherine Hickman Theater at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 3 for **Gulfport Night Out** an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Gulfport Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community and provides a great opportunity to bring police, fire, and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Call 893-1066 for more information.

Tickets for the August 9 **Tampa Bay Rays vs. Boston Red Sox** are available at the Gulfport Casino. The \$40 price includes round trip transportation to Tropicana Field via the Recreation Bus, a lower box seat and complimentary Ray's baseball hat, available at the redemption desk inside Tropicana Field. All Rays fans with tickets are invited to catch free a ride to the game. Departure from the Gulfport Casino begins at 5 p.m. Return trips begin during the 7th inning. For more information call 893-1066.

The theme for the **Ninth Annual Gecko Ball** is Geckostock. Tickets go on sale July 4. The event will take place at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard 6 - 11 p.m. Saturday, August 26. Tickets are \$35 per person. For more information and updates email John Haugen at jhaugen@hudsonmkt.com or visit and "like" www.Facebook.com/GeckoBall.

The **17th Annual Gulfport GeckoFest** promises a full day of free family-friendly fun on Saturday, September 2, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. This year's street performers include jugglers, magicians, acrobats, face painters, dancers and aerialists. Favorite costumed characters will be roving the village ready to pose for your photos. GeckoFest is preceded each year by the Gecko Art Show, Gecko Crawl and Gecko Ball. All events are hosted by the non-profit Gulfport Merchants Association, and a portion of proceeds benefit local charities. Parking and admission is complimentary and the event is pet and family-friendly. For more information visit www.Facebook.com/GeckoFest or call 322- 5217

The **Citywide Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street. The **Marina District Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Lions club. 4630 Tifton Drive. The **Strand Area Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Recreation Center. 5730 Shore Boulevard. The **Stetson Area Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Eleazer Hearing Room, 1401 61st Street.

The **Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month; location is determined by the type of training. Call Volunteer Coordinator Jim Wright at 893-1022 or email jwright@mygulfport.us for more information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	136
Self-initiated calls for service	425
Offenses	30
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	53
Ordinance violations	25

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers were dispatched to the 5000 block of Jersey Avenue on June 8 after a caller reported loud noises in her neighbor's yard. A witness reported seeing a white male shooting a handgun in a nearby backyard. The resident of that address was contacted and claimed that an old acquaintance fired a gun in the yard. The resident stated he made the shooter leave, and advised he did not have any information on the suspect.

A boater reported on June 9 that he tied up his dinghy at Osgood Point and it was missing when he returned.

A resident in the 5500 block of 15th Avenue reported that someone entered his carport overnight and stole power tools.

A resident in the 6100 block of 8th Avenue reported that someone entered his backyard shed the day before and stole power tools.

Officer Marshall conducted a traffic stop in the 5100 Block of Gulfport Boulevard on June 10, and smelled marijuana. The owner the vehicle consented to a search during which marijuana and paraphernalia was found. Maggie Donnelly and Andrew Miller were arrested for possession of marijuana and paraphernalia. Donnelly was also cited for driving while license suspended or revoked.

Officers responded to the 5100 block of 16th Avenue on June 11 after a caller reported that he got out of his car to check something in the back seat, and a subject walking by got into the car and drove away. The car was recovered the next day and processed for forensics.

Several items were reported stolen from an unlocked car parked in the 4900 block of 20th Avenue.

Officer Ross and Marshall took the police boat out to a transient boat on June 12 to look for Keith LaFrance who was wanted for stealing from TLC the day before. After initial denials from his girlfriend that he was on the boat, LaFrance was found hiding under a bed. He was charged with misdemeanor theft.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a domestic altercation in progress in the 5100 Block of 14th Avenue. When they arrived they found Stacey Rodriguez behind her house, in possession of a needle, spoon and unknown pills, about to shoot up. She was arrested for possession of paraphernalia, and the pills were submitted for testing.

A taxi driver reported that he transported 3 teenage females to the 1800 block of 56th Street and they fled on foot without paying the fare.

An unknown subject entered an open garage in the 5100 block of Tangerine Avenue on June 13 and stole a bicycle. The owner was unable to provide the bike's make or model.

The owner of Habana Café reported on the morning of June 14 that an American flag was stolen from the business sometime overnight.

The Marine Unit was on the water for 8 hours this week. Four boater contacts were made, and Marine officers arrested a battery suspect following an altercation in a local bar.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	15
Cases assigned:	4
Cases suspended-no leads:	1
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Supplements received:	14

Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	14

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a Grand Theft Auto case, a Hit & Run, and a Burglary.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for four fraud cases, an auto theft, a theft, a criminal mischief, and a missing/runaway juvenile case; investigated an attempted suicide; interviewed a suspect in a criminal mischief case and forwarded charges to the State Attorney’s Office for prosecution, and; followed up on leads in an attempt to locate a missing juvenile/runaway.

Records

Reports reviewed	7
Supplements reviewed:	120
Public Records requests:	32
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	3
Fingerprints	1
Subpoenas processed:	0
Citizens assisted:	36

MARINA

Assisted with thirty four (34) pump outs, evacuating six hundred seventy five (675) gallons of waste.

Pumped three thousand nine (3,009) gallons of gas and one thousand seventy seven (1,077) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling ninety two (92) vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Marina Maintenance:

- Purchased hose and fuel dispenser filters.
- Replaced gas and diesel nozzles on fuel dispensers.
- Replaced/repared faulty water valves at Boca Ciega Yacht Club.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday - Friday, noon - *Student luncheon.*

Monday, June 5, 5 p.m. - *Tampa Bay Ukulele Society Workshop.*

Tuesday, June 6, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, June 6, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, June 6, 6:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, June 7, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers.*

Wednesday, June 7, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout.*

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

Thursday, June 8, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

Thursday, June 8, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night.*

Friday, June 9, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Friday, June 9, 7 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Kick-off Party.*

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, June 17, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day.* We'll screen a sweet science fiction romance about the first boy born on Mars who falls in love with an old-fashioned Earth girl in spite of the physical dangers posed by the difference in gravity and the miles between them. Starring Asa Butterfield and Gary Oldham. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, June 19, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Kids Yoga.*

Wednesday, June 21, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teens Art on the Cart.*

Thursday, June 22, 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, June 22, noon - *Lunch & Learn: LGBTQ Homeless Youth Project:* Features video footage of theatrical performances depicting the challenges facing the alarming number of LGBTQ youth displaced from their homes in Pinellas County. Members of the Project will be on hand to speak and take questions.

Thursday, June 22, 6 p.m. - *An Evening with Tim Dorsey:* The author returns to regale fans of his Florida fiction with further tales of Serge Storms and discuss his most recent novel, *Clownfish Blues.*

Monday, June 26, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Giving Tree Drum Circle.*

Monday, June 26, 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, June 27, 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.

Wednesday, June 28, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teens Giant Jenga & Mini Golf.*

Thursday, June 28, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teens Giant Jenga & Mini Golf.*

Through June 30 - *ArtOut: LGBTQ Artists in Gulfport:* Month-long exhibit showcasing selected works in a variety of media by Gulfport 13 artists reveals a vibrant display of local talent. For more information call Jessica Sager at 608-0070 or email jessica.sager@live.com.

Saturday, July 1, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day:* Join us for the story of an interracial couple who travel to spend a weekend with the girl's parents. As the visit goes on, it moves from awkward to disturbing to shocking in a movie that is both funny and horrifying. For movie title call 893-1074.

Monday, July 3, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program 4th of July Kid's Crafternoon.*

Wednesday, July 5, 3 p.m. - *Teen Movie & Sundae.*

Thursday, July 6, 7 p.m. - *Daughter of the Revolution: the Documentary*: Film by Új Budapest Filmstúdió, produced by László Kántor and directed by Tünde Talás focuses on local poet/writer Peter Hargitai who lived in Budapest as a 9-year-old during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. The experience haunts his life, and it is not until 50 years later that he publishes the book, the story of a 14-year-old girl who becomes a woman warrior. To mark the 60th anniversary of the uprising, he comes to Budapest with his son to revisit his past. He narrates his journey as a young immigrant in America and reflects on his motives to write his book as a way of dealing with his traumatic experiences and to pay tribute to the legacy of all young Hungarian women who fought for freedom. Animated scenes are weaved into the narrative and bring the novel to life. The multilevel historical narrative and the film's innovative structure resonate today for audiences young and old.

Thursday, July 13, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night*: An independently-produced "broad comedy," stars *RuPaul's Drag Race* season six winner Bianca Del Rio (Roy Haylock), as school teacher Richard, fired from his job in a small Texas town after community members discover he is gay. He returns "in disguise" as his drag persona Bianca to wreak havoc on those who have discriminated against him. Also starring Rachel Dratch, Alan Cumming, Margaret Cho, Lola Botha and RuPaul. All are invited to our movie series on the second Thursday evening of the month. Refreshments are available. Donations will be accepted to benefit the LGBTQ Resource Center. For movie title, call 727-893-1074.

Thursday, July 20, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club* Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. For more information call 893-1073.

Thursday, July 20, 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.

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 June 4 -10, 2017:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,929	648
Sun. 6/4	Library closed	
Mon. 6/5	394	81
Tue. 6/6	371	96
Wed. 6/7	309	91
Thu. 6/8	273	111

Fri. 6/9	335	124
Sat. 6/10	238	127

PARKS & RECREATION

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfpport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfpport to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at www.mygulfpport.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 mygulfpport.us and social media sites.
- Continued preparations for St. Pete Pride parade, 4th of July celebration Gulfport Night Out, Rays Trolley Experience, Geckoball, & Geckofest.
- Distributed calendars and event information to Tuesday Market vendors and Gulfport Welcome Center.
- Continued preparation of 2018 events list.

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.mygulfpport.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.

Calling all Dads.. You have been dealt an invitation to celebrate **Father's Day** with pizza and a hand of friendly poker on Monday, June 19 at 3 p.m. Put on your poker face and get ready for some friendly fun! Space is limited; tickets must be obtained in advance and are available at the Senior Center Reception Desk.

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 June 29.

The **Out-to-Lunch Bunch is spicing it up this month at Carmelita's Mexican Restaurant** on Thursday, June 29. Enjoy fresh, authentic Mexican food from a local favorite for over 20 years. Round trip transportation: GEMS members; \$4/nonmembers \$6. Meals are selected from menu & paid separately.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, June 30. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

A **Special Flea Frenzy** is scheduled for 9 a.m. - noon Friday, July 7. Everything will be priced at \$2 or less in order to make room for new items.

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, July 6.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is July 10. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule.

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 July 21. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

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 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):

Sunday, June 4 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance with Daniel Fugazzotto (Turnout 22)

Tuesday, June 6 9 a.m. - Tai Chi with Marge Grudzinski (Turnout 18)
 Noon - Flood Insurance Forum (Turnout 21)
 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 50)

Thursday, June 8 9 a.m. - Tai Chi with John Amsallen (Turnout 14)
 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 20)

Friday, June 9 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 20)
 6 p.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 85)

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, June 4 2 p.m. - SAGES presents *The Deal Maker* (Turnout 103)

Tuesday, June 6 7 p.m. - New Horizons Band Spring Fling concert (Turnout 70)

Friday, June 9 7 p.m. - RisingSTARZ Theater Group presents *Rogers & Hammerstein's South Pacific* (Turnout 95)

Saturday, June 10 7 p.m. - RisingSTARZ Theater Group presents *Rogers & Hammerstein's South Pacific* (Turnout 98)

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Thursday, June 29, 7:30 p.m. - Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library & LGBTQ Resource Center Present *Keith Haring; Radiant Child*: One-man show depicting the life and work of famed gay artist Keith Haring, performed by Chad Jacobs, directed by Christopher Rutherford, and written by Jeff Norton. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets: general admission \$20, or \$25 for 6 p.m. reception with hors d'oeuvres and preferred seating; available at Gulfport Public Library, Casino & Beach Bazaar. A cash bar will also be available.

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

Sunday, June 4 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church (Turnout 13)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, June 6 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 26)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, June 8 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 27)

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, June 5 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 34)

Tuesday, June 6 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

Thursday, June 8 11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 12)

Friday, June 9 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 12)

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 is reserved 2 - 6 p.m. Saturday, June 17 for a Graduation celebration.

Registration is underway for **2017/18 Tot Time/VPK program**. 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. Class begins Tuesday, September 5.

Thirty nine 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.

One hundred thirty seven children have been registered for the **2017 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have performed Kindergarten thru age 14. Nineteen are registered for swim lessons.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Hoop Jam, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Zumba.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 35 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 2 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 1 Boat Fire
- 1 Elevator Rescue

Life Safety:

- 18 Fire Inspections
- 3 Re-inspections
- 2 Plans Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is June 15, and will take place at Gulfport City Hall. The topic is Traffic Control.

Lieutenant Firefighter/Paramedic Burford is preceptor for a St. Petersburg College Field Internship Program EMT Student.

Five Firefighter/Paramedic applicants are scheduled for interviews to fill the vacation position on the A-shift.

Gulfport Fire staff completed their June Face to Face CME. The topics were Tachycardia Rhythms, Synchronized Cardioversion and external Cardiac Pacing.

Chief Marenkovic attended a Data Drive Focus Group meeting on June 13 to discuss funding with County EMS/Fire Admin staff for the upcoming ALS agreement.

The Gulfport Fire Department has renewed their Emergency Medical Services provider license. As an EMS Provider in the State of Florida, we are responsible for every action of every component of emergency medical services provided pursuant to licensing. This responsibility includes, but is not limited to ensuring proper oversight by the medical director, ensuring that all personnel are appropriately certified, trained and operating pursuant to protocols, maintain all equipment and vehicles required and complying with all laws and regulations. We are valid until August 2019.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Performed semi-annual preventative maintenance on all City air conditioning units, and replaced filters.
- Repaired fire alarm panel and bookshelf at Casino.
- Painted gate latch at Library.
- Patched walls and cleared blockage in ice maker at Neighborhood Center.
- Hung bulletin board and adjusted door on records room at Police Department.
- Replaced ceiling tiles at Public Services Building.
- Replaced water cooler, repaired restroom stall, door closer and fence, cleaned gutters and installed electrical outlets for water fountains at Recreation Center.
- Replaced smoke detector and reset fire panel at theater.
- Delivered mail to Post Office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Lowered flags in observance of Pulse Night Club memorial.
- Installed shelving in maintenance room.
- Installed foul line markers at ball fields.
- Replaced trashcans at beach pavilions.
- Set up trash and recycling bins in preparation for Volleyball tournament and Flag Day, and removed following events.
- Installed 2 water coolers at Recreation Center.
- Cleaned restrooms at little league, beach and outside Casino.
- Oiled bench swings on beach and Pier.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched City complex, hand raked around benches & pavilions, cleaned beach, picked up trash and emptied receptacles on Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- Mowed City Complex, Senior Center, Library, Neighborhood Center & Recreation Center green spaces, Clymer, Veterans & Tomlinson Parks, Dog Park, 55th Street medians Chase block, Tangerine Greenway & Hoyt perimeter.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades and adjusted belts, chains & blades on reel mowers.
- Repaired irrigation at Veterans Park
- 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.
- Performed 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.
- Removed abandoned boat from Gulfport Marina.
- Continued dust control spraying in alleys throughout City.
- Removed dead palm at 21st Avenue & 52nd Street and Laurel Oak at 15th Avenue & 52nd Street.
- Removed broken sidewalks on 23rd Avenue between 57th & 58th Streets, and Newton Avenue and 51st & 52nd Streets.
- Cleaned debris from storm grates along 11th Avenue.

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 12 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 12 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 99 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 11 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.
- Replaced 1 meter that was stuck and not recording water usage.

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.
- Monitored Lift Station #1 following storm-related power outage.
- Contractor preformed semiannual inspection on generators in preparation for hurricane season.

Stormwater

- Excavated, formed and poured concrete curb at Northwest and Northeast corners of Freemont Street and 9th Avenue.
- Replaced sidewalk at 9th Avenue & Freemont Street following storm pipe repair.
- Cleaned 15" storm line on 54th Street from Gulfport Boulevard to 25th Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced battery at Marina lift station #1.

- Replaced oil and filter on Police vehicle #104.
- Pressure tested cooling system and replaced radiator cap on Recreation vehicle #68.
- Replaced battery on Sanitation vehicle #30.
- Replaced right front tire on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Replaced passenger front headlight on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Replaced fuel filter on Street vehicle #38.
- Performed preventative maintenance, repairs and duties as needed.

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 3 of the City, also known as the Southwest Neighborhood Area which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west from 58th & 59th Streets to the City Limits.

There were 99 cases for May. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 904. The number of citizen complaints for *May was 17, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 209. 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.

June 14, 2017 Board of Adjustment meeting results:

V17-10; 2720 57th Street South; Variance request to reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 5 feet 9 inches, from 25 feet to 19 feet 3 inches feet for the continued use of an existing aluminum patio cover. APPROVED

V17-11; 4743 Baywood Point Drive South; Variance requests:

- 1) To reduce the required setback from the secondary street of double frontage lot by 10 feet from 25 feet to 15 feet to recognize the existing encroachment of the rear of the house;

- 2) To reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 15 feet, from 25 feet to 10 feet or the demolition of a rear portion of an existing house for the proposed construction of new living space; and
- 3) To reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 13 feet, from 25 feet to 12 feet to enclose an existing covered porch to create new living space. ALL APPROVED

V17-12; 5913 Bayview Circle South; Variance request to reduce the left-hand one-third setback requirement by 10.67 feet, from 26.67 feet to 16 feet to allow for the removal of the existing dock, catwalk and boat lift, and proposed construction of a new boat lift and catwalk to service the boat lift to be located on the left-hand side of the proposed new dock that will be built in the center one-third of the waterfront area. APPROVED

V17-13; 6307 11th Avenue South; The following variance requests result from the submittal and two subsequent revisions of a building permit application (201700439) to add an addition to the rear of the existing house which creates separation distance issues between an accessory structure and primary structure:

- 1) To acknowledge the current separation distance of 6 feet between the accessory structure and the existing house; and
- 2) To reduce the required separation distance between the accessory structure (carport) and the new house addition by 8 feet, from 12 feet to 4 feet. DENIED