



Gulfport Community Update

July 16 - 22, 2017

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Duke Energy is installing **energy efficient LED nautical light fixtures at Ted Phillips Wood Ibis Park** (photo below). LED lamps generate significantly more natural white light than yellow HPS lamps. The more natural 'daylight' spread far and wide by LEDs creates greater visibility and safer conditions for motorists and pedestrians.



City of Gulfport Utilities residential water customers are eligible for a rebate of up to \$100 after the purchase and installation of a high efficiency water saving toilet. The application and guidelines are at www.mygulfport.us/toilet-rebate-program. Certain restrictions apply. For more information call 893-1016.

The **Gulfport Teen Night Program** collected school supplies for CASA's annual Backpack Drive which helps equip children with school supplies (photos below). Items collected included backpacks, paper, pens, pencils, graph paper, three ring binders, folders, composition books and other miscellaneous items children need to start off a new school year. Additionally, one individual donated more than 30 boxes of diapers, baby wipes and toys. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make this year's school supply drive a success!



School supplies selling for \$15, clothing, footwear, and certain accessories selling for \$60 or less, and personal computers/certain computer-related accessories purchased for home or personal use selling for \$750 or less will be exempt from sales tax during the 2017 **Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday** August 4 - 6. For more information and a list of qualifying items visit www.floridarevenue.com.

The **Gulfport Public Library is a Summer Break Spot**, offering free lunches and snacks for children 18 years and younger beginning at 11 a.m. every Monday - Friday through July 28. Summer Break spots are sponsored through the USDA Summer Food Service Program. No signup necessary; just drop in! For more information call 893-1074.

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 and will remain in effect through August 1. 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. 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 & 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 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.

Duke Energy's vegetation management contractors will perform **maintenance tree trimming in and around the City of Gulfport** during the third quarter of 2017. Duke will notify affected homeowners prior to trimming events, and tree crews will clean up debris associated with maintenance activities. Debris resulting from storm damage or other events unrelated to Duke's maintenance activities is the responsibility of homeowners.

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.

Join us for a meet and greet at the Clymer Park Pavilion at Gulfport & Beach Boulevards and take a walk through the **Gulfport Food Forest** at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 22. Meet volunteers, learn about the Food Forest, find out how you can get involved and taste what's growing! For more information call 560-0608.

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**. 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.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	119
Self-initiated calls for service	417
Offenses	36
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	54
Ordinance violations	47
Residence checks	91

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

Samantha Babbitt was arrested on an outstanding warrant for possession of marijuana on July 13 following a traffic stop in the 4900 block of 13th Avenue.

Sergeant Marotta ran the tag on a car at Gulfport Boulevard & 49th Street on July 14, and received information the car was reported stolen. Driver Christopher Toney was arrested vehicle

theft and possession of paraphernalia after a search of the car revealed 3 glass pipes with suspected marijuana residue.

Officers responded to a report of a fight on the beachfront on July 15. The two subjects had already separated when police arrived, and one of the two stated he was upset about how the other had stared at him in the beach restroom. Peace was restored and neither man wished to press charges.

A bicyclist crossing 49th Street at 14th Avenue just before dawn on July 16 entered the path of a southbound motorcycle. The resulting crash sent both riders to the emergency room. The scene was secured by Gulfport officers until the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office Major Accident Investigation Team arrived to conduct a crash investigation.

A cleaning service employee working inside a residence in the 1100 block of 59th Street reported that a gray Mustang pulled up to her car and an occupant reached through the open window and took her purse. The Mustang fled the area before police arrived.

An unsecured bicycle was reported stolen from outside the Family Dollar store.

Officers were dispatched to the 2900 block of Clinton Street on July 17 after a resident reported a male subject walking down the street with a rifle on his shoulder. Officers located the subject and determined he was carrying a broken air soft rifle and was on his way home.

A resident was arrested for violating the terms of her pre-trial release after she appeared at her mother's home despite a no-contact order issued by the court. She was taken into custody in the 5100 Block of 13th Avenue.

A man was arrested for trespassing at a bar on July 18 after being ordered by police a week earlier to not return.

Officers were dispatched to the 1400 block of 53rd Street on July 19 after a caller reported a man was stealing flowers from his neighbor's garden. The suspect admitted to the theft but the victim could not be located.

The marine unit was on the water for approximately 15 hour this week. Officer Marshall made contact with 5 boaters, and issued a citation for expired registration and a warning for a wake zone violation. Sergeant Burkhart made 7 boater contacts and took a resident on a ride along.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	17
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	14
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Supplements received:	10
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	2
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	2
Cases still active:	6

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a homicide case, a burglary, a grand theft auto, and a fraud.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, an auto theft and a death investigation; assisted with a homicide case, and; received and investigated follow up information on a suicide case.

Crime Analyst, Margaret Palmisano assisted with a homicide investigation; processed and distributed case agent evidence review forms; tallied and submitted semi-annual UCR data to FDLE; completed a review of property reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure proper entry into FCIC; completed pawn checks on 12 cases with a known serial number, named suspect or searchable property description, and; created and distributed a bulletin for Ofc. Langston in an attempt to identify a suspect in a grant theft case.

Records

Reports reviewed	10
Supplements reviewed:	74
Public Records requests:	21
Background checks:	7
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	6
Citizens assisted	24

MARINA

Assisted with twenty one (21) pump outs evacuating four hundred forty (440) gallons of waste.

Pumped six thousand fifteen (6,015) gallons of gas and two thousand four hundred three (2,403) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred seventy three (173) vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Marina Maintenance:

- Painted laundry room in preparation for installation of washers & driers
- Performed routine maintenance on east pump out.
- Purchased and stocked ship store merchandise and drinks for resale.
- Repaired, lubed and reinstalled gate on pier six-E.
- Replaced pump out valve on BCYC pier 7, slip 56.
- Refurbished and reinstalled dock box on pier 5, slip 28.
- Replaced line hangers on piers 3 - 8.
- Replaced dock box lid keepers on pier 2, slip 26.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday - Friday, noon - *Student luncheon.*

Monday, July 10, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Harry Potter party.*

Wednesday, July 12, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers.*

Wednesday, July 12, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teen Harry Potter trivia party.*

Wednesday, July 12, 7 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, July 13, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.

Thursday, July 13, 3:30 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.

Thursday, July 13, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night*.

Friday, July 14, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, July 15, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*.

Upcoming Events:

Monday, July 24, 1 p.m. - *Ukulele Academy for Children 7-12*: Learn to play the ukulele after a few lessons with instruction provided by the Tampa Bay Ukulele Society. Space is limited. Register at www.ukuleleacademy.eventbrite.com.

Monday, July 24, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Gulfport Rocks*: Join us for some outdoor fun in the Circle of Friends Reading Garden.

Wednesday, July 26, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teen Water Balloon Fight*: Help make our third annual contest the wettest one ever! Combatants will face off in our Reading Garden.

Thursday, July 27, 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, July 27, 6:30 p.m. - *A Plastic Ocean Documentary Screening*: In the center of the Pacific Ocean gyre our researchers found more plastic than plankton. The film documents the newest science, proving how plastics, once they enter the oceans break up into small particulates that enter the food chain where they attract toxins that are stored in seafood's fatty tissues, and eventually consumed by us. Hosted by City Councilmember Yolanda Roman. For more information visit www.plasticoceans.org.

Monday, July 31, 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.

Saturday, August 5, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: This month's film is based on a popular novel about the keepers of the Warsaw zoo who saved both animals and people during the World War II invasion of Poland. Starring Jessica Chastain, Johan Heldenbergh, and Daniel Bruhl. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, August 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program*: Presented by Jennie (Gilmore) White, Ode to Pluto Astrology. For more information call 207-332-0787 or email jennie@odetopluto.com.

Thursday, August 17, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club*. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. For more information call 893-1073.

Thursday, August 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.

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

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Bring a dictionary and bag lunch. 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 Thursday through August 24, 3:30 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime:* Programs include stories, songs, movement, and a craft or two for kids 3 - 5 years old.

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

Library Services/Statistic July 9 - 15, 2017:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,470	1,075
Sun. 7/9	Library closed	
Mon. 7/10	311	244
Tue. 7/11	251	214
Wed. 7/12	273	217
Thu. 7/13	275	223
Fri. 7/14	276	167
Sat. 7/15	246	155

PARKS & RECREATION

Technical Events

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

- Assisted with daily updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us.
- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Continued working on August events calendar.
- Commenced preparation of flyer for Penny for Pinellas.
- Uploaded City Council meeting agenda to Granicus.
- Began posting to social media sites.

Multipurpose Senior Center

The Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center invites everyone 50+ to sign up for free. The Center is open 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, and Fridays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information! Stop by the Senior Center for this month's calendar or download a copy at www.mygulfport.us.

The **City of Gulfport Telephone Reassurance program** is much more than a morning wake-up call. This free service offers Gulfport residents 50 years or older - and their families comfort, security, and peace of mind. Volunteers provide daily phone calls to registered members. If the member cannot be reached, the volunteer follows specific procedures to confirm there are no

major concerns. Registration is simple and free. If you or someone you know could use this service, call 893-2237 or stop by the Gulfport Senior Center at 5501 27th Avenue.

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

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

The **Gulfport Senior Center Pantry** is in need of peanut butter, tuna, dry cereal, pasta sauce, soups & canned meats. The pantry is open 1 - 3 p.m. every Monday & Thursday for qualified Gulfport residents 50 & older. Applicants should bring a photo I.D., a utility bill or bank statement and proof of income (SSI). For more information please see Rachel, or call 893-1231.

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

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.

Join John Herrick for a very exciting **Florida Birds presentation** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 24. A Floridian for 45 years, John is a volunteer for the Gulfport Senior Center and a Bird Steward. He will share pictures, stories, and insightful information about local Florida birds.

Join us on Thursday, July 27 for our next **Gulfport Getaway to William Dean Chocolates** where chocolate and art become one. Enjoy an afternoon tea prior to an exclusive tour of the candy kitchen. Every piece of artisan chocolate is handmade offering a "multi-dimensional palette": Want to be creative? For an additional \$5 you can make your own chocolate bar. Seats are limited; reserve no later than July 21. Round trip transportation, parking, guided tour & Afternoon Tea: GEMS members; \$30/nonmembers; \$32.

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 July 27.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, July 28. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

Meet Palms of Pasadena Hospital CEO Sharon Hayes at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 2 for a discussion of **Caring Connection**, a new program designed for seniors and their loved ones.

Let's all go to the movies! Our August **GEMS Getaway** will take us to the Sundial in St. Petersburg where attendees can peruse the many unique stores and watch a new release at Movieco. Space limited; reserve your seat by August 1. Round trip transportation & movie ticket: GEMS members \$13; nonmembers \$15.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free Memory Screenings the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is August 14. 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 August 18. 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, July 9	6 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time (Turnout 164)
Monday, July 10	7 p.m. - Quinceanera (Turnout 150)
Tuesday, July 11	9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 18) 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 14) 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lessons with Kathleen & Steve Prucher (Turnout 64)
Wednesday, July 12	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 17) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 240)
Thursday, July 13	9 a.m. - Tai Chi with John Amsallen (Turnout 13) 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 21)
Friday, July 14	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 32) 5 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 90)
Saturday, July 15	5 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 230)

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, July 9 2 p.m. - Gulfport Community Players (GCP) Summer One Acts (Turnout 111)

Thursday, July 13 8 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 29)

Friday, July 14 8 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 43)

Saturday, July 15 2 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 64)
8 p.m. - GCP Summer One Acts (Turnout 76)

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

Sunday, July 9 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 17)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, July 11 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 28)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Thursday, July 13 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 25)

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, July 10 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 30)
Tuesday, July 11 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 15)
Thursday, July 13 11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 12)
Friday, July 14 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 4)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

Every Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga
Every Tuesday 6 p.m. - Meditation class
Every Tuesday & Friday 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing
Every Thursday 11 a.m. - Meditation class

Recreation Center

The game room was reserved 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. for a family reunion with 60 in attendance, and 5 p.m. - 11 p.m. Saturday, July 15 for a family reunion with 60 in attendance

The game room is reserved 1 - 5 p.m. Saturday, July 22 for a family reunion.

Registration is underway for the **2017/18 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.

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 hangout 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 forty eight children have been registered for the **2017 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14.

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

Four **Gulfport Teen Councilmembers** attended the monthly meeting on Friday. Marivel Gutierrez and Justin Shea facilitated. Topics discussed: Advisor Report; approval of the May minutes; new terms for FY 17/18; the Florida League of Cities Conference; old business and new business.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Gulfport Teen Council meeting on Friday.

Alton Hooker worked the room rentals on Saturday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 47 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Trauma Alerts
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 5 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Wires Down
- 1 Gas Leak

Life Safety:

- 10 Fire Inspections
- 3 Re-Inspections
- 1 Ansul Hood Permit
- 1 Plans Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is August 17, and will take place at Gulfport City Hall. Call 893-1022 or email jwright@mygulfport.us for more information.

The Gulfport Fire Department replenished their Pet Oxygen Mask thanks to a donation from Invisible Fence. In case an animal is overcome by smoke in a structure fire, we are able to give them oxygen, making them more viable for transport to a veterinarian.

The Gulfport Fire Department has completed annual Pump Recertification test per ISO requirements. Pumper 17 passed after minor valve repairs and Engine 17 passed after rebuilt valve repairs. NFPA 1911 helps ensure in-service fire apparatus are serviced and maintained to keep them in safe operating condition and ready for response at all times.

Chief Marenkovic met with Justin Shea and James Wright to discuss the site plan for Gulfport Public Safety Night Out on August 3.

Chief Marenkovic and Firefighter Campbell attended the Gulfport Fire Pension Board meeting on July 20.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Completed monthly pest control on all City buildings.
- Set up Council Chambers for Council meeting.
- Cleaned carpets at City Hall, Public Services and Library.
- Replaced five ton air conditioning unit and soap dispenser at Fire Department.
- Buffed tiled areas, removed chain hangers, hung magazine rack, and replaced several ceiling tiles at Library.
- Replaced men's restroom sign at beach.
- Repaired fences at Clam Bayou and Wood Ibis Parks.
- Replaced door closer in Dog Park ladies' restroom and cleared blocked toilet in men's restroom.
- Lubricated doors at historical building and Theater.
- Repaired ceiling fan at Senior Center.
- Delivered mail to Post Office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Repaired gutter at Hoyt Field.
- Replaced hose bib at Recreation Center.
- Cleared blocked fountain in Tangerine Lake.
- Replaced fence posts at Veterans, Wood Ibis and Clam Bayou Parks.
- Inspected event power polls along Beach Streetscapes.
- Hung new signs in City parks.
- Cleaned restrooms at little league, beach and outside Casino.
- Oiled bench swings on beach and Pier.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Beach, Library & Senior Center green spaces, hand raked around benches & pavilions, cleaned beach, picked up trash and emptied receptacles on Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- Mowed Veterans, Tomlinson & Caldwell Parks, Dog Park, Neighborhood Center, Beach, Recreation Center, Senior Center & Library green spaces, Clymer Greenway, Chase Block, 55th Street medians, 14th Ave medians, and Pasadena entrance area.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades and replaced battery and fuel filters on Toro mower, and battery in truck #716.
- Repaired irrigation at Hoyt Field, Clymer Park & City Complex.
- 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.
- Installed sidewalks at 9th Avenue & Freemont Street, 13th Avenue & 64th Street, and at Senior Center.
- Reset storm drain lid at 23rd Avenue & Beach Boulevard.

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 #31, 32, 33 & 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 16 locations for non-payment of service.

- Completed 4 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 106 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 14 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 2 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Replaced 2 old meters with new electronic meters.
- Repaired water break at 5125 17th Avenue.

Sewer

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

Stormwater

- Excavated and installed storm manhole base, two pieces of 15" pipe and one 12" pipe at Beach Boulevard & 56th Street, bricked walls up to grade, installed 8" top slab, and backfilled with base material to grade.
- Repaired curb inlets on northeast & northwest corners of Shore Boulevard & 56th Street.
- Repaired curb inlet, replaced top and poured concrete flume from street to inlet at Northwest corner of 55th Street & 11th Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Ran diagnostic testing on GEMS vehicle #93.
- Replaced battery on Park vehicle #710.
- Repaired wiring for deck lid release for Police vehicle #91.
- Changed oil and filters on Police vehicles #111 & #525.
- Replaced front tires on Sanitation vehicle #43.
- Installed tablet bracket on Sanitation vehicle #88.
- Checked operation of tailgate on Street vehicle #34.
- Replaced coolant and coolant reservoir on Street vehicle #35.
- Replaced rear brake pads and oil & filter on Street vehicle #69.
- 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.

The longer daylight hours of summer means more time for home improvement projects. **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 4 of the City also referred to as the Art District which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and east from 49th Street to 58th & 59th Streets.

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.

Planning and Development

August 2, 2017 Planning & Zoning Board and August 15, 2017 City Council/CRA meeting:

Discussion of the monitoring and evaluation of the Public Information Program Strategy Plan for the Community Rating System Program.

August 9, 2017 Board of Adjustment meeting:

V17-14; 2720 50th Street South; Variances requested to:

- 1) acknowledge the existing encroachment of the separation distance requirement of 3 feet, from 12 feet to 9 feet between the accessory structure and the existing house;
- 2) acknowledge the existing rear yard setback encroachment for the existing detached accessory structure (garage with apartment) of 9.12 feet, from 15 feet to 9.12 feet, from 15 feet to 5.88 feet;
- 3) reduce the required separation distance between the proposed exterior stairs to be rebuilt and the existing house by 7 feet, from 12 feet to 5 feet;
- 4) reduce the required separation distance between a proposed attached roofed cover to be attached to the garage and covering an existing concrete slab and the existing house by 3 feet from 12 feet to 9 feet; and
- 5) reduce the rear yard setback distance for an accessory structure for the proposed attached roofed cover to be attached to the garage and covering an existing concrete slab by 9.12 feet from 15 feet to 5.88 feet.

V17-15; 3001 56th Street South; Variances requested to:

- 1) acknowledge the existing encroachment of the house into the front yard setback requirement by 0.5 feet from 25 feet to 24.5 feet; separation distance requirement of 3 feet, from 12 feet to 9 feet between the accessory structure and the existing house;
- 2) acknowledge the existing secondary street side yard setback encroachment of the house by 1.2 feet from 12 feet to 10.8 feet;

- 3) acknowledge the existing interior side yard setback encroachment for house by 1.2 feet, from 6 feet to 4.8 feet;
- 4) reduce the required side yard setback distance by 1.2 feet, from 6 feet to 4.8 feet for the construction of a proposed new deck and steps to be attached to the house and located on the interior side yard; and
- 5) reduce the required front yard setback distance by 5 feet from 19 feet to 14 feet in addition to;
- 6) reduce the secondary street side yard setback distance by 3 feet from 12 feet to 9 feet for another proposed new deck and steps to be located on the front of the house.