



## *Gulfport Community Update*

### *July 30 - August 5, 2017*

Gulfport Recreation Center teens and staff welcomed Gulfport first responders to a spaghetti dinner during a recent **Teen Night** (photos below). The teens made cookies and brownies for dessert. Following dinner, everyone socialized and played ping pong, foosball, etc. Teen night is every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 6 - 9 p.m. for teens in 6<sup>th</sup> grade to 17 years of age. For more information call John at 893-1079.



School supplies selling for \$15 or less, clothing, footwear, and certain accessories selling for \$60 or less, and personal computers/certain computer-related accessories selling for \$750 or less and purchased for home or personal use 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](http://www.floridarevenue.com).

**Southwest Florida Water Management District's (SWFWMD)** year-round water conservation measures are again in effect. Lawn watering is limited to no more than twice per week: Even addresses may water on Thursday and/or Sunday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.; Odd addresses may water on Wednesday and/or Saturday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.; Locations without a discernable address, such as rights-of-way and common areas inside a subdivision, may water on Tuesday and/or Friday before 10 a.m. or after 4 p.m.; Hand watering and micro-irrigation of plants (other than lawns) can be done on any day and any time. For additional details regarding watering new lawns and plants, reclaimed water and other water uses visit [www.WaterMatters.org/restrictions](http://www.WaterMatters.org/restrictions).

**City of Gulfport 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](http://www.mygulfport.us/toilet-rebate-program). Certain restrictions apply. For more information call 893-1016.

**Free smoke detectors are available to elderly and low income households within Gulfport City limits.** Call Fire Chief James 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.

**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

### **Upcoming Events:**

Seven larger-than-life geckos created by local artists for a live auction to benefit local charities will be on view for the first time during the **Third Annual Art Gecko Show** opening reception at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue 6 - 8 p.m. Friday, August 4.

The **Gulfport Merchants Association Art & Gallery Walk** takes place every first Friday & third Saturday 6 - 10 p.m. rain or shine, and is home to dozens of artisans and craftsmen. Gulfport's Historical Waterfront Arts District spans 6 city blocks and includes more than 35 unique locally owned shops, businesses, boutiques, galleries, bars & restaurants. There's never an admission fee and complimentary parking is available nearby with courtesy Gulfport Trolley rides available to and from off-site parking areas.

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).

Tickets for the August 9 **Tampa Bay Rays vs. Boston Red Sox** game 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 7<sup>th</sup> inning. For more information call 893-1066.

Meet your neighbors and help your community at the same time. The **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is Saturday, August 12, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Meet at Beach Pavilion #4. A limited number of pickers are available; if you have one please bring it. Water will be provided. For more information, visit [www.Gulfportneighbors.org](http://www.Gulfportneighbors.org).

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](mailto:jhaugen@hudsonmkt.com) or visit and “like” [www.Facebook.com/GeckoBall](http://www.Facebook.com/GeckoBall).

The **17<sup>th</sup> Annual Gulfport GeckoFest** promises a full day of free family-friendly fun on Saturday, September 2 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](http://www.Facebook.com/GeckoFest) or call 322- 5217.

Join us for **Gulfport Family Fun Day** on the Tangerine Greenway, 49<sup>th</sup> Street & 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. is September 16 Registration for the charity event benefiting the local Christmas toy shop is \$15 per person; 2 person teams required. For more information email Phil Reed at [JSRTraining@aol.com](mailto:JSRTraining@aol.com) or call 327-3509.

The **Citywide Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> 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 61<sup>st</sup> Street.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Patrol**

Dispatch calls for service	151
Self-initiated calls for service	474
Offenses	35
Arrests	7
Traffic citations	46
Ordinance violations	108

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 1600 block of 52<sup>nd</sup> Street reported on the morning of July 27 that a bicycle was stolen from her garage.

Officer Langston stopped a vehicle in the 800 Block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street on July 28 for driving with a headlight and tag light out. She smelled marijuana and found a small bag of marijuana and a pipe on driver Edward Yanez. He was referred to Adult Pre-arrest Diversion but failed to attend.

The owner of a business in the 2900 block of Beach reported that someone damaged the lock area of the door on a refrigerated trailer in the rear parking lot of the business.

Kyle Hansen was arrested for driving without a license after an officer stopped him in the 5300 block of Gulfport Boulevard for driving without headlights. An investigation revealed that Hansen never had a driver license issued.

A resident in the 1200 Block of 59<sup>th</sup> Street reported that he believed someone forged a document in an effort to take property from an impounded vehicle. The investigation continues.

Officers responded to the 5400 Block of 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue on July 28 after a caller reported a woman knocking on doors, asking for gas money. She matched the description of a woman who had been knocking on doors late at night. She was warned about City Ordinances.

A man picked up several items inside Dollar General and left without paying. Police spotted him running between houses in St. Petersburg where he dropped the merchandise. A K9 attempted to track him but was unsuccessful. The items were returned to the store.

A bicycle reported stolen in a recent burglary was found abandoned in Tomlinson Park on July 30. It was returned to the owner and a witness provided a description of the person who left it at the park.

A resident in the 2100 Block of 59<sup>th</sup> Street discovered his car missing on the morning of July 31. A female friend who stayed the night was gone as well. She acknowledged having the car via text message but would not say when she would return it before blocking the victim from further contact.

A resident in the 2800 Block of Upton Street reported on August 1 that someone entered his garage and removed a bicycle valued at \$400.

Officer Carter stopped a vehicle in the 4900 Block of Gulfport Boulevard for an equipment violation and smelled a strong odor of marijuana. A search revealed 28 grams of the substance and Trenton Keys was arrested for felony possession of marijuana.

Ashley Zelenak was arrested on a warrant for felony grand theft on August 2. She turned herself in at the PD.

Shane Cicoria was arrested for attached tag not assigned and no valid driver license. He also had an outstanding domestic battery warrant.

Ofc. Nieves stopped a car in the 4900 Block of Gulfport Boulevard for an equipment violation and discovered that driver Dorian Johnson appeared to be intoxicated. Johnson was arrested following a DUI investigation. His breath alcohol content was .119 and .122.

The Marine Unit was on the water for 7 hours this week. Five boater contacts were made.

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

New cases:	21
Cases assigned:	5
Cases suspended-no leads:	10
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	3
Supplements received:	9
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended/no leads:	2
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	7

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a runaway case, a burglary, a fraud, a theft, and a retail theft, and; developed probable cause for a suspect in a burglary case, and a suspect in a retail theft case.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, a death investigation and a robbery; and researched social media sites in a homicide case.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled quarterly seat belt citation data and submitted it to DHSMV; completed an analysis for Ofc. Smith regarding retail thefts; reviewed property

reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure proper entry into FCIC, and; completed pawn checks on 10 cases with a known serial number, named suspect or a searchable property description.

## **Records**

Reports reviewed	13
Supplements reviewed:	84
Public Records requests:	28
Background checks:	1
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints	0
Subpoenas processed:	2
Citizens assisted	29

## **MARINA**

Assisted with eighteen (18) pump outs evacuating three hundred forty (340) gallons of waste.

Pumped three thousand two hundred seventy six (3,276) gallons of gas and one thousand four hundred sixty one (1,461) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred fourteen (114) vessels.

### **Transient vessels:**

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

### **Marina Maintenance:**

- Repaired fuel nozzle on gas tank #2.
- Repaired/replaced line holders on various piers.
- Repaired downspout on Ship Store to redirect water flow.
- Repaired/replaced fire extinguisher boxes on pier #6.
- Performed routine maintenance on east pump out.
- Purchased and stocked ship store merchandise and drinks for resale.

## **LIBRARY**

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

Monday - Friday, noon - *Student luncheon.*

Monday - Friday, 1 p.m. - *Ukulele Academy for Children 7-12.*

Monday, July 24, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Gulfport Rocks.*

Tuesday, July 25, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

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

Wednesday, July 26, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers.*

Wednesday, July 26, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teen Water Balloon Fight.*

Wednesday, July 26, 7 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

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

Thursday, July 27, 11 a.m. - *Community Playdate.*

Thursday, July 27, 3:30 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime.*

Thursday, July 27, 6:30 p.m. - *A Plastic Ocean* documentary screening.

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

### **Upcoming Events:**

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.

Tuesday, August 8 & Thursday, August 24, 10 a.m. - *ACA Healthcare Navigators*: Onsite assistance with qualifying for coverage and selecting health insurance plans.

Tuesday, August 8, 10:30 a.m. & Thursday, August 17, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*: Cohosted by Gulfport Neighbors and the Library; learn about the services available through the City and the Library, information on bus routes serving Gulfport and access to the Pinellas Trail. Find out how you can participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization.

Thursday, August 10, noon - *Lunch & Learn presents Ancestry.com*: It's the largest, most comprehensive collection of genealogy data on the internet but using the site can sometimes be frustrating and intimidating. This class will focus on search techniques for getting the most from this huge collection of databases. First of two workshops. The second workshop will be on August 31 at noon and will feature Ancestry Family Trees.

Thursday, August 10, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night*: In this 2015 inventive, independent Canadian film, a closeted Newfoundland teen named Oscar (Connor Jessup) dreams of becoming a special-effects makeup artist, and is terrified of his macho father finding out the truth about his sexuality. When Oscar falls for Wilder (Aliocha Schneider), a handsome and worldly co-worker at the hardware store, he is forced to confront his fears. Also starring Isabella Rossellini, voicing the role of Buffy the hamster! The film won the Best Canadian Feature award at the Toronto International Film Festival. (Not rated.) Refreshments are available. Donations will be accepted to benefit the LGBTQ Resource Center. For movie title call 893-1074.

Monday, August 14, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program: Total Eclipse of the Sun; an Astrological Perspective*. Together we will explore the ancient practice of astrology as it relates to the upcoming solar eclipse. We will discuss the potential energy shift presented by this auspicious event. How might it affect our country and our personal lives, and how can we take the best advantage of the energy? Curious and courageous volunteers are welcome to call ahead with their date and time of birth, and as time allows, we will take a peek at your charts. Presented by Jennie (Gilmore) White, Ode to Pluto Astrology. For more information call 207-332-0787 or email [jennie@odetopluto.com](mailto:jennie@odetopluto.com).

Thursday, August 17, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Blood Meridian* by Cormac McCarthy. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy Sponsored by the 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*: We're screening one based on a popular children's book, about a suit-wearing, briefcase-carrying baby who teams up with his 7-year-old brother to save the world. This animated feature stars the voice talents of Alec Baldwin, Steve Buscemi, Lisa Kudrow, and Tobey Maguire. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Thursday, August 24, 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.

Monday, August 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, September 5, 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@mygulfpport.us](mailto:cklasson@mygulfpport.us) for more information.

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@gulfpporttoastmasters.com](mailto:contact@gulfpporttoastmasters.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 23-29, 2017:**

#### **Items Circulated   Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,646	1,254
Sun. 7/23	Library closed	
Mon. 7/34	339	248
Tue. 7/35	322	212
Wed. 7/26	260	206
Thu. 7/27	273	181
Fri. 7/28	238	178
Sat. 7/29	197	153

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

### **Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulfpport.us](http://www.mygulfpport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfpport](http://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](http://www.mygulfpport.us/gtv640). Spread the word!

- Assisted with daily updates and enhancements to mygulfpport.us.
- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.

- Posted upcoming events to social media sites.
- Made updates to website.
- Created designs for e-newsletter.

### **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](http://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 27<sup>th</sup> 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.

Avoid headaches and save yourself from making a costly mistake. The Gulfport Police Department will offer tips and answer questions regarding **what you should do if you are in a car accident** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 9.

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

Learn the basic functions of your phone: how to download apps, take/send pictures, add contacts, adjust the phone settings, and more at the next **Android Cell Phone & Tablet Instructional Class** at 11 a.m. Friday, August 11. Registration is required; call 893-5657.

St. Anthony's Memory Disorder Clinic will offer **free Memory Screenings** Monday, 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 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 August 31.

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 23	3:30 p.m. - Contra Dance with Tampa Friends of Old Time Dance (Turnout 94)
Monday, July 24	7 p.m. - USA Ballroom dance (Turnout 101)
Tuesday, July 25	9 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 17) 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 4) 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lessons (Turnout 571)
Wednesday, July 26	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 14) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 234)
Thursday, July 27	9 a.m. - Tai Chi with John Amsallen (Turnout 9) 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 12)
Friday, July 28	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 27)

#### **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*):**

Thursday, July 27 7 p.m. - *PLAY Performing Arts Beauty & the Beast Jr.* (Turnout 141)

Friday, July 28 5 p.m. - *PLAY Performing Arts Beauty & the Beast Jr.* (Turnout 87)  
7:30 p.m. - *PLAY Performing Arts Beauty & the Beast Jr.* (Turnout 148)

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

Friday, August 4, 6 p.m. - *Gecko Art Show Opening Reception*: The show will also feature selections from the participating artist's regular bodies of work in a variety of media. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Cash bar.

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

Sunday, July 23 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 15)  
1 p.m. - Birthday party (Turnout 35)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, July 25 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 28)  
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Thursday, July 27 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 29)

**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 24      11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 26)  
Tuesday, July 25      10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 16)  
Thursday, July 26      11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 12)  
Friday, July 27      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 is reserved 9 a.m. - 11 p.m. Saturday, August 5 for a family reunion, and 3 - 7 p.m. Saturday, August 12 for a baby shower.

Nine children have been registered 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.

Thirteen children have been registered for the **2017/18 Tot Time program**, and five for **VPK**. Tot Time is a pre-school, hands-on program for children ages 3-5 that aims to make learning fun for children, and helps prepare them for Kindergarten. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who turn 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply with Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, Inc. and receive a Certificate of Eligibility to attend the program. Class begins Tuesday, September 5.

Fifty three 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.

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

**Teen Councilmembers** Cameron Althaus, Katelyn Latragna and Sarah Eisenbaum volunteered during the Summer Program's End of the Summer Camp Day Color Extravaganza.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Calls for Service:**

- 34 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Trauma Alerts
- 1 Citizen assist

- 3 Vehicle Crashes

### **Life Safety:**

- 2 Fire Inspections
- 1 C/O
- 1 Permit

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](mailto:jwright@mygulfport.us) for more information.

Gulfport Firefighters are scheduled for training on the use of the new water rescue board, and Emergency Vehicle Operator Course training to ensure safe vehicle operations.

Fire Department participated in Gulfport Public Safety Night Out on August 3, offering fire truck tours, handouts and a chance to play with the fire hose.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance**

- Replaced a/c filter on all City units.
- Inspected roofs on all City buildings following Tropical Storm.
- Replaced latching mechanisms on card reading doors at City Hall.
- Adjusted door closer and replaced fluidmaster and toilet flapper in restroom at City Hall.
- Hung dry erase board in City Manager's office.
- Replaced faucet in men's restroom and replaced two service lines at Casino.
- Replaced faucet in men's handicap restroom at beach.
- Repaired toilet at Dog Park.
- Modified bench at Historical building.
- Rebuilt toilet in men's restroom at Hoyt Field.
- Cleared blocked toilet in staff room at Recreation Center.
- Cut locks and hauled kayak for Police Department.
- Delivered bike to Police Department, and hung painting in PD office.
- Replaced computer board for electronic read out.
- Delivered mail to Post Office for Finance Department.

### **Parks Maintenance**

- Hung bulletin board in CM office.
- Cleaned and refilled doggie boxes.
- Inspected and replaced flags throughout City.
- Cleaned restrooms at little league, beach and outside Casino.
- Oiled bench swings on beach and Pier.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Chase block, Dog Park and Casino green spaces, hand raked around benches & pavilions, cleaned beach, picked up trash and emptied receptacles on Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- Mowed Tomlinson, Veterans, Wood Ibis, Clam Bayou & Caldwell Parks, beach & Recreation Center green spaces, Tangerine Greenway, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue medians, trail spur and Pasadena entrance area.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades and replaced tire, blade spindle and belt on mower.
- Repaired irrigation at Casino & Recreation Center.

- 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.
- Disposed of illegal dumping at Osgood Point.
- Repaired brick street at 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue & 56<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Manned sandbag station and set out barricades for high water and street flooding in preparation for Tropical Storm Emily.

### **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 2 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 6 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 105 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 2 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Replaced 4 old meters with new electronic meters.

### **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.
- Manually controlled pumps at Lift Stations to avoid Sanitary Sewer Overflow.
- Emergency tanker truck called to help with high inflows of ground water into Sewer System.

## Stormwater

- Cleaned storm drains on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 52<sup>nd</sup> Street to 55<sup>th</sup> Street, and storm drain inlets south of Gulfport Boulevard.

## Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced air conditioning condenser fan motor, air leak and wire for right rear top clearance light on Recreation vehicle #6.
- Replaced oil and filter on Fire vehicle #P-17, and Police vehicles #7, 9, 155, 526 & 530.
- Replaced alternator, oxygen sensor & spark plugs, and performed fuel induction service on Police vehicle #9.
- Cleared misfire code for check engine light on Police vehicle #12.
- Replaced cooling fan and air conditioner belts on Sanitation vehicle #29.
- Replaced tires on Sanitation vehicles #42 and 43.
- Replaced driver's window regulator and headlight on Sanitation vehicle #45.
- Replaced and programmed engine control module on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Replaced battery on Sanitation vehicle #69, and 2 batteries on Water vehicle #22.
- Performed preventive 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](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.

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](http://www.pcclb.com).

**Code Enforcement** activities have moved to Section 5 of the City, also referred to as the also referred to as the Marina District which comprises the southeast portion of the City and generally extends south from 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the water and east from 49<sup>th</sup> Street to City boundaries.

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](http://www.mygulfport.us).

## **Planning and Development**

### **August 9, 2017 Board of Adjustment meeting:**

V17-14; 2720 50<sup>th</sup> 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 56<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **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.