



Gulfport Community Update

May 6 - 12, 2018

The **sidewalk on Beach Boulevard at 29th Avenue South is closed** through June due to building construction. Pedestrians on Beach Boulevard are advised to use the crosswalks at 29th & 30th Avenues. Call the Gulfport Public Works Department at 893-1089 for more information.

The Gulfport Public Works Department will be repairing a failed sanitary sewer line connection at 59th Street & 25th Avenue South during the week of May 14. The repair will take place in the center of the road and is anticipated to be completed by week's end. Vehicles traveling in the area will experience minor traffic delays. For more information, call the Public Works Department at 893-1089.

The Gulfport Public Works Department and CERT joined the Boca Ciega Yacht Club for their annual **Fun Day** on Saturday, May 5. It was a beautiful day for free sailboat rides, kid games, live music, tours and door prizes provided by local sponsors.



Free smoke alarms are available to elderly and low income households within Gulfport City limits. Call Fire Chief James Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

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 available at www.mygulfport.us/toilet-rebate-program. Restrictions apply. Call 893-1016 for more information.

City Utilities residential sewer customers are eligible for a rebate of 50% up to \$3,500.00 after the replacement, purchase, installation, and inspection of a failing sewer lateral between the home and the city connection. Certain restrictions apply; visit www.mygulfport.us/lateralrebate for more information.

Upcoming Events:

The **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is Saturday, May 12 at 9 a.m. A limited number of pickers will be available; if you have one please bring it. Meet at Gulfport Beach pavilion #4. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and make a difference in the community.

The **Gulfport Community Garden will host a Workshop** at the garden, located at 5125 Preston Avenue at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 12. Everyone is welcome as the group creates a new raised bed, filling it with natural, healthy components that make up good soil. For more information, call George Zarillo at 845-242-7452.

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables, 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. - 2 p.m. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent. Visit www.gulfportma.com, call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com for more information.

Groove on down to **Hippie Dash 5k & 8k** at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 19. The race begins in front of the Gulfport Casino. Can't make it on race day? Choose the VIRTUAL option when registering at www.runsignup.com/Race/FL/Gulfport/HippieDash to receive your official bling and T-shirt! All proceeds benefit Goodwill's programs for adults with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

Join Mayor Sam Henderson and City Councilmember Paul Ray for the **LGBTQ Flag Raising** at the Gulfport Public Library at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 31. The ceremony coincides with the opening of a month-long exhibit of LGBTQ Gulfport artists. The LGBTQ Resource Center is a project of the non-profit Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Public Library. For more information on the LGBTQ Resource Center visit www.mygulfport.us/lgbtq-resources or call Library Director Dave Mather at 893-1075.

Get informed to be prepared during the **City of Gulfport Hurricane Seminar** at the Catherine Hickman Theater, 5502 27th Avenue at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 31. Admission is free. Attendees can enjoy a pizza slice and soft drink for \$3 beginning at 6 p.m. For more information, call 893-1118.

Gulfport's Shore Boulevard will transform into a mecca of activity during the **Second Annual Gulfport Grand Prix**, featuring the NGK Spark Plugs Formula One Powerboat Championship & Boat Show Friday - Sunday, June 1 - 3. Visit www.gulfportgrandprix.com for more information.

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.

Shop original art work, choose your favorite cuisine and enjoy live music during **Art & Gallery Walks** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront district from 6 until 10 p.m. every first Friday and third Saturday of the month. For more information, call 322-5217.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	157
Self-initiated calls for service	376
Incident/offense reports	48
Arrests	11
Traffic citations	86
Ordinance violations	29
Residence checks	71

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Four mailboxes in the 1400 block of 53rd Street were knocked over in the early morning hours of May 3.

A resident in the 5200 block of 20th Avenue reported on the morning of May 4 that sometime overnight someone broke into his van and stole tools and a dash cam.

Four Gulfport officers participated in a Countywide DUI wolf pack which resulted in two felony drug arrests and a DUI arrest.

Craig Just was arrested on a warrant for probation violation on May 5 after officers were dispatched to a report of a person down behind a business in the 1500 block of 49th Street. Just appeared to be intoxicated and was lying on the ground when officers arrived. He was transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

A resident in the 5200 block of 28th Avenue reported that someone stole a ladder and lawnmower from their fenced yard.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a person smashing windows on a car in the 3000 block of 50th Street on May 5. Upon arrival they discovered a car parked on the street with the front windshield, back window and all of the lights shattered. A vehicle fled the scene, but a resident who witnessed the incident was able to provide follow up information to police.

Eric Pager was arrested for trespass after warning after he entered a business in the 5100 block of Gulfport Boulevard despite being trespassed the day before. Pager was gone when officers arrived, and was found at another business in the area where he was also trespassed.

Chadwick Skinner was arrested for violating a stalking injunction on May 8 after he appeared at a residence in the 3100 block of Clinton Street and had an altercation with a resident.

Officers were dispatched to the 5100 block of 14th Avenue after a caller reported that the previous tenants, identified as Shawn & Stacy Rodriguez, were attempting to break into an apartment they had recently vacated. They were gone when officers arrived but later found behind a business in the 1400 block of 49th Street. Shawn was arrested on outstanding warrants for drug charges.

A teacher at Gulfport Elementary reported that she left her cell phone on a bookshelf in her classroom and when she returned 20 minutes later it was gone.

Roberta Bielasz was arrested on an outstanding warrant for probation violation. She was taken into custody in the area of 18th Avenue & 49th Street and transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

Darius Phillips was arrested on an outstanding warrant for domestic battery. He was taken into custody in the 3100 block of Miriam Street and transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

The Marine Unit was on the water for approximately 10 hours this week. Seven boater contacts were made and one citation was issued for an inoperative anchor light.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

<i>New cases:</i>	8
Cases assigned:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	6
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
<i>Supplements received:</i>	1
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: 7

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, a runaway, a grand theft auto, a theft, and a hit & run; searched for a runaway at several locations in St. Petersburg, and; interviewed a suspect at the Pinellas County Jail.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for two fraud cases, a burglary, a theft and an auto theft; assisted Det. Pham in an attempt to locate a missing and possible endangered runaway, and; attended court for an auto theft case.

School Resource Officers Motte & Embry counseled 6 students this week; met with the parents of a student, and; escorted 6 truants to the office.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano reassigned and reviewed 79 electronic case agent evidence review forms; created and distributed and attempt to identify bulletin for Detective Crowson, and; conducted research to assist Detective Crowson with an investigation, and; compiled officer activity data for Commander Farrand.

Records

Reports reviewed 26
Supplements reviewed: 36
Public Records requests: 33
Background checks: 1
Bike registrations: 3
Fingerprints: 2
Subpoenas processed: 3
Citizens assisted 69

MARINA

Assisted with forty-seven pump outs evacuating eight hundred ten gallons of waste.

Pumped four thousand seven hundred forty-seven gallons of gas and one thousand eight hundred ninety-seven gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred ninety-five vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Staff activities:

- Replaced broken line holder.
- Posted Marina courtesy dock rules and Manatee information signs.
- Replaced GFI on pier #6
- Repaired break in main sewer pump out line on pier #5.
- Replaced damaged/missing piling caps throughout Marina.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, April 30, 3 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club.*

Monday, April 30, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night.*

Tuesday, May 1, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*.
Tuesday, May 1, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.
Tuesday, May 1, 1:30 p.m. - *German Conversation Club*.
Tuesday, May 1, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group*.
Tuesday, May 1, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.
Wednesday, May 2, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.
Wednesday, May 2, 3 p.m. - *Stranger Things Perler Beads for Teens*.
Wednesday, May 2, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.
Thursday, May 3, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.
Thursday, May 3, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.
Thursday, May 3, 6 p.m. - *Bees Learning mobile reading intervention program*.
Friday, May 4, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.
Saturday, May 5, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, May 12, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12-17*: Want to talk about anime, manga or gaming? Come to our first gathering for a meet & greet. We'll also screen a movie. Make a Ninja star & enjoy a snack! Call 893-1074 for movie title

Tuesday, May 15 3 p.m. - *Lego Club*: Kids, indulge your passion for the tiny building blocks of creativity! Meets in the Youth Services area.

Thursday, May 17, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of A Brief History of Seven Killings* by Marlon James. Copies available at the Circulation Desk. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, May 17, 3:30 p.m. - *Reading Paws*: Young readers boost their confidence by sharing a story with Maya, a specially trained Golden Retriever. She visits our children's area on the third Thursday of every month.

Thursday, May 17, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*: Cohosted by Gulfport Neighbors and the Library. Learn about services available through the City and Library. Find out how to participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization. Call 893-1074 for more information.

Saturday, May 19, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: Latest film in a vast interstellar series. The two sides of the force are in sharp focus in this tragedy about acceptable casualties, facing the truth of family dysfunction, and how damaging expectations can be. Stars Daisy Ridley, John Boyega, Mark Hamill, and Carrie Fisher. Rated PG-13. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Monday, May 21, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: For more information call 893-1073.

Tuesday, May 22, 10:15 a.m. - *Gentle Yoga for Adults*: Nourish your body and spirit with mindful movement, breath work, and meditation. This slow-paced class welcomes all levels and each month will feature a different set of postures. Bring props if you want them. The class is taught by Christa Fairbrother, RYT and Certified Yoga for Arthritis Instructor. For more information and to sign up, call Cailey Klasson 893-1074.

Thursday, May 24, 11 a.m. - *Community Playdate*: Get acquainted with other caregivers of toddlers & preschoolers in a relaxed, informal setting.

Saturday, May 26, 1 p.m. - *Silly Sock Monsters*: We'll supply the materials, you supply your imagination to design a goofy face for your creation. Craft for kids who are ages 8-12.

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Pride Flag Raising*. See page 2 for more information

Thursday, May 31, 7 p.m. - *Second Annual ArtOut Opening Reception: LGBTQ Artists in Gulfport*. See page 2 for more information.

Saturday, June 2, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: A fast-paced spy thriller. Ballerina Dominika Egorova is recruited to a special school in the Russian Intelligence service, where she learns to use her body as a weapon. Her first mission targeting a CIA agent threatens to unravel the security of both nations. Stars Jennifer Lawrence, Joel Edgerton, Ciaran Hinds, Jeremy Irons, and Charlotte Rampling, and is rated R. Call 893-1074 for title.

Tuesday, June 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@mygulfport.us for more information.

Thursday, June 7, 7 p.m. - *Waltzing Matilda*: Join Tampa Bay's Favorite Drag Performer and Creative Loafing Best of the Bay Reader's Pick 2013 & 2017 Matthew McGee for the debut of an all-new show: a country western cabaret. This autobiographical honkytonk revue is more Hee Haw than CMA as Matthew is joined by Tampa Bay's celebrated music man Michael Raabe as Clem for a melodious trip down memory lane, featuring songs by some of country music's biggest stars. Get ready for lots of laughs, big hair and multi-colored fringe as "Miss McGee" two-steps her way into your heart. Appropriate for all ages. Tickets \$20, or \$25 for early access with hors d'oeuvre reception and preferred seating, available at Beach Bazaar & Gulfport Casino: **NOTE: This event will take place at Catherine Hickman Theater, 5501 27th Avenue.**

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *K-5th Grade Science Club*: We'll try a fun new activity every week, explore engineering through building with Lego's, and meet other young scientists and engineers in the community! Email cklasson@mygulfport.us or call 893-1074 to register.

Every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. - *German Conversation Club*: Enjoy conversing in a relaxed atmosphere with others. All levels are welcome; this is not a class, simply an opportunity to engage with others interested in improving fluency.

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/Knitting*: Know how to knit? Want to learn or get better doing it? We'll supply the needles and yarn.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*: call 537-9098 for more information.

Every Thursday, 10:15 & 11 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, 3:30 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*: Join us for an afternoon story, songs, movement and crafts! Everyone welcome but geared for 2-5 year-olds.

Every Thursday, 6 p.m. - *Bees Learning*: Mobile reading intervention program. Classes held in RV parked in front of Library. **Registration required.** Email leahveal@beeslearning.org or call 404-308-0295 for more information.

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

Library Services/Statistic April 29 - May 5, 2018:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,622	1,294
Sun. 4/29	Library closed	
Mon. 4/30	355	268
Tue. 5/1	264	218
Wed. 5/2	262	198
Thu. 5/3	262	205
Fri. 5/4	271	202
Sat. 5/5	189	149

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!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Assisted with daily updates and enhancements to City website.
- Posted upcoming events to social media sites.
- Created designs for e-newsletter.
- Made preparations for upcoming events.
- Provided photographic coverage for BCYC Fun Day.
- Continued preparation of June calendar.

Gulfport 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 Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. 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. Find us on Facebook at www.FB.com/GulfportSeniorCenter.

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.

Worried about your memory? St. Anthony's Memory Disorder Clinic offers free, confidential **Memory Screenings** between 9 a.m. & noon on the second Monday of each month. The next screening is May 14. Call 893-5657 to schedule an appointment.

Don your finest attire and join us for a **Mother's Day Afternoon Tea** at 2 p.m. Monday, May 14. Space is limited. Tickets **MUST** be obtained in advance. Sponsored by The Fountains at Boca Ciega Bay.

Join Steven Dante at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 16 for information about your current **Life Insurance policy** or one you may consider purchasing. Donuts and coffee will be served.

Join the GEMS Getaway gang on Thursday, May 17 for **A Day at the St. Petersburg Museum of History**. This *Lifestyles After 50* event will feature exhibits, prizes and goodies available as you wander through the museum. Grab lunch for only \$6 while you learn a little history of the Sunshine City. Round trip transportation: GEMS members \$6/nonmembers \$8. Lunch paid for individually.

Learn to download apps, take/send pictures, add contacts, adjust phone settings and more during the **iPhone/iPad Instructional Class** at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, May 17 Space is limited; call 893-5657 to preregister.

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 May 18. Call 582-7480 to schedule.

Join Wendy for our monthly **Health Talk with Humana** at 10:30 a.m. Monday, May 21. This month's topic: *Battling the Aging Brain*.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games, and more at 3 p.m. Friday, May 25. Sponsored by Simply Healthcare.

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 May 31.

Discover a great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles, and many other goodies at **First Friday Flea Market** on June 1 at 9 a.m.

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, June 14.

Have you always wanted to learn to play Bridge but thinks it's too difficult? Join the **Bridge 101** class every Monday at 9 a.m. This class is for those who know nothing or almost nothing about Bridge. Learn to bid and all the tricks to playing.

Are you overwhelmed with the responsibilities & challenges of being a caregiver? You are not alone! On-going support for you is essential. The **Caregivers Support Group** meets at 1 p.m.

every first & third Friday of the month. This peer-led group will share tips, offer encouragement, and discuss the trials, demands, & overwhelming experience of caring for a loved one.

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.

Join us at 1 p.m. every Wednesday for **Clubhouse Chatter**, offering open discussion about the MLB season and your hometown Rays; the good, the bad and the ugly and what the season could have been. Topics will include Player Personnel, Draft Picks, Farm System (Minor Leagues), Coaching Staff, Spring Season, Ticket Pricing, and of course the future of Tropicana Field. Rays staff and players will be invited attend.

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, April 29	3:30 p.m. - Contra dance with Tampa Friends of Old Time Dance (Turnout 54)
Tuesday, May 1	10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 25) 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 24) 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango with Kathleen & Steve Prucher (Turnout 63)
Wednesday, May 2	8 a.m. - Keller-Williams seminar (Turnout 45) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 251)
Thursday, May 3	10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 25) 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 11)
Friday, May 4	7 p.m. - Boca Ciega High School Prom (Turnout 362)
Saturday, May 5	6:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 88)

Casino (upcoming events):

Select Sundays	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom dance Admission \$8
Every second Sunday	6 p.m. - Soul Night with Swingtime Admission \$8

- Every fourth Monday 7 p.m. - U.S.A. Dance ballroom dance: members \$5, non-members \$8
- Every Tuesday 9 a.m. - Tai Chi with Dann Oliver
 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato
 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker
 2 p.m. - Ballroom dancing 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
 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 with Dann Oliver
 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato
 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera
 8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8
- Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom
- Every third Friday 7 p.m. - Sock Hop with The Impacs

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Sunday, April 29 8 p.m. - *Gulfport Community Players present Mornings at Seven* (Turnout 90)

Friday, May 4 6 p.m. - *First Friday Art Reception* (Turnout 50)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *City of Gulfport Hurricane Preparedness Seminar*: See page 2 for more information.

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, April 29 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, May 1 5:30 p.m. - SAT Seminar (Turnout 8)

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. - Faith Cathedral International Bible study

Every first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crime Watch meeting

Scout Hall (last week's events):

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

Monday, April 30 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 19)

Tuesday, May 1 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 10)

Scout Hall (upcoming events):

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing

Every Thursday 11 a.m. - Meditation class

Every Friday 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing

RECREATION CENTER

The game room was reserved 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, May 5 for a birthday party with 30 in attendance.

The game room is reserved; 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday May 12 for a banquet; 1 - 5 p.m. Saturday, May 19 for a baby shower, and; 4 - 9 p.m. Saturday, May 26 for a graduation party.

Registration us underway for the **2018 Summer Recreation Program** for Gulfport residents currently enrolled in the School Year Child Program. The program is available to children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Hours of registration: Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Summer program hours are 7:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. with extended hours available until 6 p.m. for an extra fee. For more information call the Recreation Center at 893-1068. To date thirty-five children have been registered. Four have also been registered for swim class.

Twenty-four children are registered for the **2017/18 Tot Time program**, and six for **VPK**. Tot Time is a hands-on preschool 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.

Seventy-eight children are 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.

Forty-one teens are registered for the **2017/18 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, Gentle Yoga, Essential Oils, Karate, Pickleball, Slow Flow Yoga, Table Tennis, Tennis and Zumba.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff Meeting on Thursday.

Micheal Williams worked the room rental on Saturday.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport thirty Gulfport Elementary students and three adults to Boyd Hill Nature Preserve on Tuesday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 40 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 3 Structure Fires
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Wires down
- 2 Fires Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 4 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 2 Plan Review
- 1 C.O.

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is May 217.

The Gulfport Fire Department continued their May 2018 CME this week. This month's topics: Environmental Emergencies, Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Patients Under the Influence.

Chief Marenkovic and Timothy Burton are updating the Special Needs Hurricane Evacuations list. We have also worked Rachael Cataldo from the Senior Center to evaluate potential evacuees and eliminated non-current evacuees.

The Gulfport Fire Department participated in elevated standpipe operation training at the St. Petersburg Drill ground this week.

Chief Marenkovic met with City staff and Grand Prix Boat Race coordinators to discuss event planning and logistics.

Inspector Lundh attended a Fire Seminar in Tampa for the new updated fire codes.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Repaired locks on Coast Guard Station door.
- Relocated thermostat in Recreation Center gym, repaired a/c drain line, set up for Tot Time graduation, and primed and delivered "Little Library".
- Repaired loose electrical wiring and replaced exterior bulbs at theater.
- Replaced shelves in Senior Center pantry, primed ceiling tile and patched exterior wall.
- Patched walls at Neighborhood Center.
- Covered leaking air vent on Fire Department roof.
- Repaired toilet at Historical Museum.
- Updated Information Technology office.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Finance Department.

Parks Maintenance

- Mowed City complex, Senior Center, Library & Recreation green spaces, 28th Avenue sign area, Clymer Park, Chase block & dog park.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.

- Repaired irrigation at Clymer, Veterans & Caldwell Parks, Senior Center, Library & City complex.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched at Library, Senior Center, Chase block, Historical building & 50th Street terminus, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and adjusted bucket lever on tractor.
- All City park trash and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playgrounds.

Streets & Sanitation

- Completed billable work orders for pick-up of brush, electronics & appliances, trash & furniture, and items requested for pick-up by Code Enforcement.
- Picked up residential bagged leaves, as requested.
- Delivered/replaced residential recycling bins with information sheets.
- Assembled & delivered new automated trash containers, and replaced broken containers, as requested.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout the City.
- Patched asphalt throughout City as needed.

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at the 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 #9, 10, 11 & 12 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 12 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 102 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Completed 14 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Replaced 2 meters that were stuck or damaged and not recording water usage.
- Performed annual inspection and testing on 23 backflows due in April.
- Replaced 13 water meters with E-Coder R900i meters.
- Repaired water breaks at 5313 13th Avenue and 5201 10th Avenue.
- Installed new water service tap at 5827 Skimmer Point Boulevard.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 and #2.
- Daily rainfall check and documentation, (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Daily ground water elevation recording (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations #1 & 2, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.
- Collected bay water samples, (twice a week), at Gulfport Beach, Clam Bayou, and Marina, for quality testing.
- Replaced sewer tap for 4928 Tradewinds Drive.

Stormwater

- Repaired storm water structure with lid replacement at Library.
- Formed and poured concrete driveway that was previously removed for sewer excavation.
- Assisted Parks Division with plant removal, and brick flower bed repair at Clam Bayou.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced grabber cable and mud flaps on Sanitation vehicle #44.
- Replaced headlight on Police vehicle #9.
- Replaced hydraulic valve on Sanitation vehicle #47.
- Replaced alternator on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Replaced radiator on Sanitation vehicle #46.
- Replaced fuel pump on Building Maintenance vehicle #24.
- Replaced fuel pump on Streets Division vehicle #85.
- Performed preventive maintenance and various small repairs on City vehicles, as needed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Division

The longer daylight hours of summer create opportunities for those do-it-yourself projects you may have put off until now. Before you embark on your home improvement project give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss your plans and see what permits and inspections may be necessary, to explain code requirements and to help you through the process. Whether it's deferred maintenance or new improvements, many elect to do these projects themselves. Building Division staff tries to take extra time to work with homeowners embarking on these do-it-yourself (DIY) projects.

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 jobs can quickly overwhelm those less skilled in construction practices and management.

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

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.

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.co.

Business Tax Receipts

A Business License is good from October of the current year through September 30 of the following year. For questions regarding business tax receipts, call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063.

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the City's website for the "City of Gulfport New Business Checklist" at www.mygulfport.us under the Community Development Building Department tab in the Information & Regulations section. Call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063 for more information.

Call the Small Business Development Center at Pinellas County Economic Development at 464-7332 or visit www.pced.org/entrepreneurs for information, including a number of workshops on starting a new business. They also offer personalized business consulting to help you become successful with your startup business.

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. If you wish to make a complaint using e-mail 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

May 9, 2018 Board of Adjustment Meeting results:

V18-06; 4914 27th Avenue South; To reduce the front yard setback requirement by 12 feet 6 inches, from 25 feet to 12 feet 6 inches to allow for the proposed conversion of an enclosed non-conditioned front porch to become habitable/conditioned space, and the construction of a new open deck and steps to the existing front of the house which is located within the Conservation Overlay District. APPROVED

V18-09; 5509 17th Avenue South; To reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 7 feet 6 inches, from 15 feet to 7 feet 6 inches to allow for the razing of two previously permitted accessory structures and the proposed construction of a new replacement accessory structure in the same location. APPROVED