



# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *May 13 - 19, 2018*

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

**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](http://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](http://www.mygulfport.us/lateralrebate) for more information.

### **Upcoming Events:**

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](http://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.

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](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) for more information.

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 *Second Annual ArtOut Opening Reception* 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](http://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 27<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.gulfportgrandprix.com) for more information.

The next **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is Saturday, June 9 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.

Join the City of Gulfport and American Legion Post 125 to commemorate **Flag Day** at Veterans Park at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 14. This event is free and open to the public. Special guest

vocalist and former New York City Opera Soprano Catherine Bassett will perform. The New Horizons Band of Gulfport pre-opening musical performance begins at 9:30 a.m. For more information, call Technical Events Specialist Kristin Ossola at 893-1118.

It's time to get creative with our long tradition of welcoming local businesses, organizations, family and friends to join the **City of Gulfport Independence Day Celebration** on Wednesday, July 4. The City of Gulfport has an amazing lineup of fun and exciting activities in the downtown waterfront district. Visit [www.mygulfport.us/july\\_4th\\_celebration/](http://www.mygulfport.us/july_4th_celebration/) or call Kristin Ossola at 893-1118 for more information or to register for the parade.

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.

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	123
Self-initiated calls for service	404
Incident/offense reports	38
Arrests	9
Traffic citations	94
Ordinance violations	26
Residence checks	104

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Linda Morgan was arrested on May 10 on an outstanding warrant for failure to appear for reckless driving.

Officers were dispatched to the 2800 block of Beach Boulevard after a resident reported an unleashed dog ran out of a garage and attacked her while she was walking her dog down an alleyway. The dog's owner was issued an ordinance violation for dog at large.

A St. Petersburg resident reported that his daughter, who attends Boca Ciega High School did not return home from school. She got into trouble at school and did not want to face parental consequences, but returned home later in the evening.

Dwayne Dalton was arrested on May 11 on two warrants for failure to appear on traffic charges after a resident in the 4900 block of 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue requested he be trespassed from the property.

While attempting to catch a stray dog on May 12, Ofc. Nicita found two juveniles smoking marijuana in a vehicle parked in a backyard in the 5300 block of 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue. One of the two was arrested for multiple felony warrants and the other was arrested for possession of paraphernalia.

Richard Brichett was arrested for DUI following a traffic stop in the 2200 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street for failing to maintain a single lane. He is believed to have been under the influence of narcotics and a urine test is pending.

Edward Vasquez was arrested for probation violation after an officer stopped him in the 5200 block of 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue for riding a bicycle without lights. He is currently on felony probation for aggravated battery and was out after his 10 p.m. curfew.

A resident in the 2100 block of 56<sup>th</sup> Street reported on May 13 that he awoke the day before and found a man that he met at a bar several months ago standing in his room. The man had broken into the house through a sliding door and asked the resident for money. He gave the man \$12 and walked him out of the house. The resident realized the next day that the man had stolen several items from his house.

Joseph Keifer was arrested on an outstanding warrant issued by Dakota County, Minnesota for receiving a stolen vehicle after Officers Ramos and Carter stopped him in the 5000 block of 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue for riding his bicycle at night without lights.

Officers were dispatched to the 2200 block of 53<sup>rd</sup> Street in the early morning hours of May 15 after a caller reported that someone was banging on his neighbor's door. Upon arrival they observed David Knoll shouting and throwing items around the common area. Knoll was previously issued a trespass warning for the front of the residence. He was arrested for disorderly conduct.

A delivery truck attempting to turn south onto 52<sup>nd</sup> Street clipped the electronic crosswalk sign on the southwest corner, breaking it off its mounting arm. The driver was cited for careless driving.

A resident in the 4900 block of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue called 911 and reported that someone had taken her children from her residence. She then hung up. Officers made contact with her and the children's father, with whom she is involved in a custody dispute. The children were returned to their mother who did not wish to pursue the matter.

Gulfport Elementary Principal Hathaway reported that a student had not been picked up from school. The child's parent was at a hospital due to a medical emergency so Officer Palazzolo took the child home where a guardian was waiting.

A resident in the 1100 block of 55<sup>th</sup> Street reported that someone poured water into his gas tank.

The marine unit was on the water for approximately 6 hours this week. Officer Marshall made contact with 15 boaters, and conducted 5 vessel stops and 5 safety checks.

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

<b><i>New cases:</i></b>	4
Cases assigned:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	4
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
<b><i>Supplements received:</i></b>	17
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	3
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	3
Cases exceptionally cleared	1
Cases still active:	10

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a burglary case, a theft, a runaway and an animal cruelty case, and; recovered a runaway.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a sexual battery case and a check fraud.

School Resource Officers Motte & Embry counseled 6 students this week; wrote 1 police report; met with the parents of two students, and; escorted 10 truants to the office.

## **Records**

Reports reviewed	24
Supplements reviewed:	80
Public Records requests:	30
Background checks:	4
Bike registrations:	2
Fingerprints:	7
Subpoenas processed:	12
Citizens assisted	47

## **MARINA**

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

Pumped five thousand forty-three gallons of gas and two thousand eight hundred thirty gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred ninety-five vessels.

### **Transient vessels:**

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

### **Staff activities:**

- Installed/adjusted dock lines on piers and numerous boats during astronomical high tides.
- Inspected piers for repairs.
- Replaced GFI located on Pier #3, and installed new GFI in pump out shed.
- Installed *Fire Hose Location* signs on fire boxes.
- Replaced damaged dock boxes on all piers.
- Replaced damaged/missing piling caps at Marina & Boca Ciega Yacht Club.

## **LIBRARY**

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

Monday, May 7, 3 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Club*.

Monday, May 7, 5:30 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*.

Monday, May 7, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club*.

Tuesday, May 8, 10:30 a.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshop*.

Tuesday, May 8, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.

Tuesday, May 8, 1:30 p.m. - *German Conversation Club*.

Tuesday, May 8, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, May 9, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, May 9, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

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

Thursday, May 10, noon - *Lunch & Learn presents DIY Switchplate Covers*.

Thursday, May 10, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.

Thursday, May 10, 6 p.m. - *Bees Learning mobile reading intervention program*.

Thursday, May 10, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*.

Friday, May 11, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, May 12, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12-17*.

### Upcoming Events:

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 ages 8-12.

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Pride Flag Raising*. See page 1 for more information

Thursday, May 31, 7 p.m. - *Second Annual ArtOut Opening Reception: LGBTQ Artists in Gulfport*. See page 1 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.

Monday, June 4, 5:30 p.m. - *Tampa Bay Ukulele Society Workshop*: Last in a series of monthly instructional sessions taught by Landis Braddock. Join us for a fun-filled Strum & Sing Jam.

Monday, June 4, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of Hurricane Child by Kheryn Callender*. Copies available at the Circulation Desk.

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](mailto: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 country western cabaret show. 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 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

Friday, June 8, 7 p.m. - *Summer Reading Kick/off Party*: Save the date for our fabulous start with entertainment provided by the Bucky & GiGi Show. Keep checking our Facebook page for updates to our awesome summer lineup of activities and events for all ages.

Saturday, June 9, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild*: Gather fans of anime, manga, gaming! Perfect your artistic skills this month by drawing characters. We'll also screen a movie. Supplies and refreshments provided by the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library. For ages 12-18. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Thursday, June 14, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*: Join us for this special Pride Month installment of our monthly Film Series. While the LGBTQ community began to experience greater visibility in the wake of 1969's Stonewall riots, generations had quietly lived their lives before, out of the public eye. Filmmaker Stu Maddux reveals this hidden history by unearthing a treasure trove of rare home movies made by gay people, some dating back to the 1930s that have long languished in the backs of closets. Projecting the viewer back in time, these private moments open a fascinating window into the surprising vibrancy of unheralded LGBT lives. (Not rated) As part of our Pride Month celebration we will feature a guest speaker from the Tampa Bay International Gay & International Film Festival (TIGLFF) who will briefly talk about TIGLFF and introduce the film. Call 893-1074 for title.

Tuesday, June 19 3 p.m. - *Lego Club*: Kids, indulge your passion for the tiny building blocks of creativity! Meets in the Youth Services area.

Thursday, June 21, 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, June 21, 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.

Every Monday, 3 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 May 6 - 12, 2018:**  
**Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,581	1,237
Sun. 5/6	Library closed	
Mon. 6/7	283	220
Tue. 5/8	300	217
Wed. 5/9	270	200
Thu. 5/10	276	206
Fri. 5/11	220	163
Sat. 5/12	220	163

**PARKS & RECREATION**

**Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport](http://www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport) to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at [www.mygulfport.us/gtv640](http://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.
- 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](http://www.mygulfport.us). Find us on Facebook at [www.FB.com/GulfportSeniorCenter](http://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 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.

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*.

The Area Agency on Aging Pasco Pinellas and the Princess Martha Senior Living Community have teamed up to bring you the most up to date **Hurricane and Disaster Preparedness Planning** information on Wednesday, May 23 at 2 p.m. Learn everything you need to be prepared for hurricane season including how to create a Family Disaster Plan, a supply kit for you and your pet, and many other useful tips and resources.

Join us on Thursday, May 24 for an exciting GEMS Getaway to the Suncoast Primate Sanctuary, home to over 100 animals: apes, lemurs, exotic birds, reptiles, & more who had nowhere else to go. GEMS members \$18; nonmembers \$20.

**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.

Our Thursday, May 31 **GEMS Getaway will take us to Shell Key**, one of the best shelling & birding natural preserves on the Gulf Coast. Find beautiful shells, birdwatch or snorkel at this wonderfully undeveloped barrier island. Round-trip transportation, boat shuttle, beach umbrella, mask & snorkel and bottled water: GEMS members \$30/nonmembers \$32.

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.

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 June 11. Call 893-5657 to schedule an appointment.

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.

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 June 15. Call 582-7480 to schedule.

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):**

Monday, May 7	8 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 40)
Tuesday, May 8	10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 30) 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 29) 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango with Kathleen & Steve Prucher (Turnout 69)
Wednesday, May 9	8 a.m. - Keller-Williams seminar (Turnout 36) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 229)
Thursday, May 10	11 a.m. - Senior Living Guide luncheon (Turnout 170) 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 17)
Friday, May 11	11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 27) 7 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time (Turnout 231)

#### **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):**

Saturday, May 12, 7 p.m. - Indi-ED comedy show (Turnout 120)

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

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *City of Gulfport Hurricane Preparedness Seminar*: See page 1 for more information.

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

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

**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, May 7 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 21)

Tuesday, May 8 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 4 - 8 p.m. Saturday May 12 for a banquet with 85 in attendance.

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

Fifty-four children have been registered for the **2018 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Five have also been registered for swim class. 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 893-1068.

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, John Lapham, Jami Rowell and Micheal Williams assisted with the Tot Time/VPK Graduation on Friday.

Geno Green worked the room rental on Saturday.

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

Five **Gulfport Teen Councilmembers** attended the meeting on Friday. Advisor Marivel Gutierrez facilitated. Topics discussed; Advisor Report, Approval of the March minutes, Old Business and New Business.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Calls for Service:**

- 44 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 3 Structure Fires
- 3 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Fires Outside Structure
- 1 Water Rescue

## **Life Safety:**

- 11 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 2 Site Review for Boat Races
- 3 C.O.s

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is May 24. CERT will participate in WebEOC Training on June 9.

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

Chief Marenkovic attended an Opitma Predict mapping meeting with the County Staff to learn about EMS response area coverage.

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

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance**

- Replaced ballast and faucet in ladies restroom at Library.
- Completed monthly pest control on all City buildings.
- Repaired flag light at Beach.
- Built step for stage at Recreation Center.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Finance Department.

### **Parks Maintenance**

- Aerated baseball fields.
- Cleaned and organized maintenance shop & storage area.
- Installed safety tape on barricades.
- Installed cigarette butt cans on beach, and groomed volleyball courts.
- Continued replacement of decking at Casino.
- Mowed Wood Ibis Park, Clam Bayou, Trail Spur & 56<sup>th</sup> Street drainage area.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Repaired irrigation at Recreation Center & ball fields.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched at Clymer & Caldwell Parks and Library, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers and sharpened/replaced blades.
- 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 #23, 24, 25, 26 & 27 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 12 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 6 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 111 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Completed 18 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Tested 53 backflow preventers.
- Replaced battery for backup generator at Police Department.
- Relocated 2 water meters in preparation for sidewalk project on 59<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **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.
- Repaired City sewer lateral at 1105 55<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Cleaned and televised sewer lateral at 1119 61<sup>st</sup> Street.
- Inspected 21 sanitary manholes throughout City.

## **Stormwater**

- Repaired storm inlet, and installed new cover at 59<sup>th</sup> Street & 26<sup>th</sup> Ave.
- Cleared outfall blockage at 54<sup>th</sup> & Shore Boulevard.

## **Vehicle Maintenance**

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 embarking on home improvement projects give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss your plans and see what permits and inspections may be necessary, and code requirements 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](http://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](http://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](http://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 49<sup>th</sup> Street to 58<sup>th</sup> & 59<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.mygulfport.us).

**June 13, 2018 Board of Adjustment Meeting:**

V18-10; 6329 Pasadena Point Boulevard South; Variances requested:

1. To reduce the right-hand one-third setback requirement by 17.4 feet, from 41.4 feet to 24 feet for the proposed construction of a new dock and new boat lift;
2. To increase the allowable length of the dock by 8 feet, from 62 feet to 70 feet; and
3. To increase the allowable length of the catwalk by 4 feet, from 62 feet to 66 feet for a new catwalk to service another new boat lift to be located on the left-hand side of the existing dock.

V18-11; 1301 59<sup>th</sup> Street South; Variances requested:

1. To reduce the required front yard setback by 6.2 feet, from 25 feet to 18.8 feet for the proposed construction of an open deck on the front of the house;
2. To reduce the required secondary street side yard setback by 5.85 feet from 12 feet to 6.15 feet for the proposed construction of a partially covered deck; and
3. To reduce the required secondary street side yard setback by 5.8 feet from 12 feet to 6.2 feet for the proposed construction of an open deck.