



Gulfport Community Update

June 10 - 16, 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.

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 50% rebate following replacement and inspection of a failing sewer lateral between a home and the City connection. The maximum rebate is \$3,500, and certain restrictions apply. Visit www.mygulfport.us/lateralrebate for more information.

Upcoming Events:

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.

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/ or call Kristin Ossola at 893-1118 for more information or to register for the parade.

The theme for the **4th Annual Art Gecko Show** at the Catherine Hickman Theater on Friday, August 3 is *Gecko Con*. Participating artists will create larger-than-life geckos depicting superheroes, villains, cult characters, imaginary locations and more from comics, books, movies, TV shows, animé and other media. The show will also feature selections from participating artists' regular body of work. The reception is free and open to the public. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and cash bar will be available. For more information email Jhaugen@GulfportMA.com.

The **11th Annual Gecko Crawl** will help kick off *Gecko Season* in Gulfport with sample drinks at six locations, a poker run, and a festive after party in Gulfport's colorful Waterfront District. The Crawl will take place 4 - 9 p.m. Saturday, August 11, with the after party beginning at 9 p.m. Advance tickets will be available at the Gulfport Beach Bazaar beginning Wednesday, July 4 for \$20, or \$25 the day of the event. For more information email bbanno916@gmail.com.

The **Annual Gecko Ball** has become known as Gulfport's party of the year! This year's *GeckoCon* theme celebrates the touchstones and characters seen in popular Comic Con events held around the world, including superheroes, villains, horror, animé, TV, film, comics, graphic novels and more. In addition to the live auction of the artists' geckos, the event includes dozens of silent auction items, costume contests, annual coronation of the Gecko Queen, catered tapas, cash bar, live music, dancing and more. The event will take place at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom 6-11 p.m. Saturday, August 25. Tickets \$35, available in advance beginning July 4 at Gulfport Beach Bazaar

or online at www.VisitGulfportFlorida.com. A portion of proceeds will be donated to the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation, Operation Regroup and the Sonia Plotnick Health Fund.

The **18th Annual Gulfport GeckoFest** promises a full day of free family-friendly fun on Saturday, September 1. GeckoFest is preceded each year by the Gecko Art Show, Gecko Crawl and Gecko Ball. Events are hosted by the non-profit Gulfport Merchants Association, and a portion of proceeds will be donated to the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation, Operation Regroup and the Sonia Plotnick Health Fund. Free parking and admission. Pet and family friendly. For more information, visit www.Facebook.com/GeckoFest.

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	123
Self-initiated calls for service	434
Incident/offense reports	43
Arrests	10
Traffic citations	94
Ordinance violations	27
Residence checks	101

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

A resident in the 5800 block of 26th Avenue reported on June 7 that she returned home following a weekend away and discovered water leaking from her car's driver side door. New damage was discovered on the top of the door frame where someone possibly tried to pry the door open.

A woman walked into City Hall and advised a City employee that a man in her car had a gun. A domestic related battery occurred while she was driving, and the man held a knife to her throat and threatened her with a gun. A handgun was recovered from the car, and Keenan Wynn was arrested for domestic related battery and 2 counts of aggravated assault.

Hannah Moffatt was arrested on an outstanding warrant for violation of pretrial release. She was taken into custody in the 5700 block of 12th Avenue without incident.

Officer Kellington stopped a car with a headlight out in the 1800 block of 49th Street and smelled marijuana when he made contact with the driver. A search of the vehicle revealed a shipping envelope containing a baggie of marijuana, two vials of e-cigarette filters containing cannabis oil and paperwork with the driver's name. Bobby Knight was arrested for possession of marijuana and cannabis oil.

An unlocked car with a spare key inside was reported stolen from the 6100 block of 8th Avenue on June 8. It was recovered the same day in Saint Petersburg.

Police were dispatched to a report of a disturbance between an Uber driver and a patron in the 6100 block of 12th Avenue. Officers spoke with the reporting party and the Uber driver and learned

a verbal altercation began over a missing phone. Police found the phone and return it to the owner. The driver had a warrant for false verification of ownership. He was arrested.

A resident in the 5600 block of 19th Avenue reported that a small suitcase was taken from her unlocked vehicle.

A resident in the 5700 block of 23rd Avenue reported on June 9 that three unauthorized charges appeared on her debit card, all made to Sprint stores.

Officers were flagged down by a resident in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard who reported that a juvenile female was a runaway. The teen also had an active pick up order for retail theft, and was taken into custody.

Officers were dispatched to a business in the 4900 block of 17th Avenue after an employee called to report two people were stealing items. When the employee confronted the pair, they offered to give the items back but the employee told them she was calling the police, and they ran out of the store with the stolen items.

A resident in the 6300 block of 11th Avenue reported in the early morning hours of June 10 that two people exited a black Toyota Tundra and opened the doors of both of his unlocked cars. The incident was caught on surveillance video, and nothing appeared to be taken.

Officer Smith made contact with 2 individuals inside a car parked in the 4900 block of 12th Avenue with wrong wheel to curb. There was a strong odor of marijuana in the car, and the two admitted to smoking a "blunt". A small amount of marijuana was found inside the car. Both subjects were given Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion APAD referral notices before being released.

Brandon Nichols was arrested on June 6 for violation of felony probation for a narcotics charge and driving while license suspended or revoked after officers stopped him for speeding in the area of Gray Street & Gulfport Boulevard.

Officers were dispatched to the 1400 block of 53rd Street after a caller reported he observed a man enter his unlocked car and rummage through the glove box. The resident chased him off and called police. Nothing was removed from the vehicle.

Erik McNeal was arrested on an outstanding warrant for possession and sale of cocaine following a traffic stop in the 2200 block of 52nd Street. McNeal ran from Officer Clague but was captured two blocks away. A charge of resisting an officer without violence was added to his arrest.

Peter Penrose was arrested on an outstanding warrant issued by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office. He was taken into custody in the 2200 block of Premier Drive without incident.

An x-box video game console was reported stolen from a vehicle parked in the 4900 block of 13th Avenue.

The marine unit was not in use this week.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	17
Cases assigned:	14
Cases suspended-no leads:	11
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
Supplements received:	20
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	13
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1

Cases exceptionally cleared 1
Cases still active: 5

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a theft case, a burglary, and a fraud. He also attended a state attorney investigation meeting.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for six vehicle burglary cases, a theft, a fraud, and a battery.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled the officer May 2018 activity report and open case lists; completed and analysis for Ofc. Ramos for a problem oriented patrol project; created and distributed a bulletin for Ofc. Smith in an attempt to identify vehicle burglary suspects, and; completed an analysis on vehicle burglaries and auto thefts.

Records

Reports reviewed 24
Supplements reviewed: 41
Public Records requests: 72
Background checks: 2
Bike registrations: 1
Fingerprints: 0
Subpoenas processed: 8
Citizens assisted 41

MARINA

Assisted with thirty pump outs evacuating six hundred-ten gallons of waste.

Pumped six thousand one hundred fifty-nine gallons of gas and three thousand six hundred twenty-five gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred eighty-four vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Staff activities:

- Installed master lock on live aboard mailbox, and commenced key distribution to marina residents.
- Repaired Casino floating dock rub rail.
- Inspected and scheduled installation of security gate crossbar.
- Fabricated and installed floating buoys to mark two sunken vessels.
- Replaced curtain hooks in upstairs men's shower area.
- Repaired water leak on pier c, slip 38.
- Cleared blocked drain and cleaned up water overflow in laundry.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday - Friday, noon - 1 p.m. - *Summer BreakSpot Program.*

Monday, June 4, 11:15 a.m. - *Rep. Charlie Crist Library Tour.*

Monday, June 4, 5:30 p.m. - *Tampa Bay Ukulele Society Workshop.*

Monday, June 4, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club.*

Tuesday, June 5, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*.
Tuesday, June 5, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.
Tuesday, June 5, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group*.
Tuesday, June 5, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.
Wednesday, June 6, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.
Wednesday, June 6, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading Program*.
Wednesday, June 6, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.
Thursday, June 7, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.
Thursday, June 7, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.
Thursday, June 7, 6 p.m. - *Bees Learning mobile reading intervention program*.
Friday, June 8, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.
Friday, June 8, 7 p.m. - *Summer Reading Kick/off Party*.
Saturday, June 9, 10:15 am. - *Yoga in the Garden*.

Upcoming Events:

Monday - Friday, noon - 1 p.m. - *Summer BreakSpot Program*: Free lunches available to children 18 and younger during summer. No library card required.

Saturday, June 16, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Series*: New superhero movie from the Marvel Universe! T'Challa, King of Wakanda, must defend his isolated, technologically-advanced country from a vengeful outsider. Stars Chadwick Boseman, Danai Gurira, Letitia Wright, Lupita Nyong'o, Angela Bassett, Forrest Whitaker, Daniel Kaluuya, Martin Freeman & Andy Serkis. Rated PG-13.

Monday, June 18, 3 p.m. - *Kids Summer Reading Program*: For more information, call 893-1074. For kids age 5-12.

Monday, June 18, 5 p.m. - *Basic Hand Embroidery*: Make a simply adorable embroidery craft! Use needle and thread to create a decorative hedgehog to display in your home or give as a gift. We will be using a design found in the book "Lunch-Hour Embroidery" by Adrienne Smitke. This program is for Teens and Adults. Supplies are limited. Call 893-1073 to sign up.

Tuesday, June 19, noon - *Lunch & Learn presents Can I Be Gay and Still be Spiritual?:* A panel of Christian and non-Christian leaders from the Interfaith Tampa Bay Pride Worship Service will give short presentations about how their faith traditions are working to make themselves more open and accepting to LGBTQ seekers. Presented by the LGBTQ Resource Center.

Wednesday, June 20, 2 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading Program Paranormal Ghost Hunting Tips & Tricks*: We'll be joined by Bonnie Korniak of A.U.R.A (Alliance for Unveiling and Researching Anomalies) Paranormal who will go over the basics of paranormal investigating and clue us in on haunted hot spots in our area. Open to teens and tweens in grades 6-12.

Thursday, June 21, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Redeployment* by Phil Klay. 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.

Thursday, June 21, 7 p.m. - *Open Mic Night & Poetry Slam featuring special guest Gulfport Poet Laureate Peter Hargitai*: Add your voice to a celebration of the spoken word! Slam poetry,

readings and storytelling will be part of this open mic evening. Email amira.obeid@gmail.com to sign up or for more information.

Tuesday, June 26, 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, June 28, 11 a.m. - *Community Playdate*: Get acquainted with other caregivers of toddlers & preschoolers in a relaxed, informal setting.

Thursday, June 28, 6:15 pm. - *Fermented Foods Workshop*: Learn nutritious and delicious ways of fermenting food at home! Fermented foods are packed with probiotics, great for your gut health, and delicious too! We will be joined by Sarah Arrazola, founder of St. Pete Ferments who will teach us how to get started in your own kitchen.

Monday, July 2, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of Oscar Wilde: The Unrepentant Years* by Nicholas Frankel. Copies available at the Circulation Desk.

Tuesday, July 3, 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@mygulport.us for more information.

Thursday, July 5, 5 p.m. - *Lesbian Feminist Hot Spots in the South*: Press party celebrating the July 1 release of the quarterly journal, *Sinister Wisdom* featuring the topic *Hot Spots* in which it explores the southern spaces where lesbians gathered and organized, including stories from Gainesville, Miami, Nashville, Louisville, Atlanta, Richmond and Durham. Local writers will read their works and answer questions. Everyone is invited. Light refreshments will be served.

Saturday, July 7, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day*: A twisted tale of two assassins carrying out a sinister mission, a teacher battling a fatal illness, an enigmatic janitor and a curious waitress leading a dangerous double life. Murderous consequences unravel in the dead of night as their lives all intertwine at the hands of a mysterious criminal mastermind hell-bent on revenge. Stars Margot Robbie, Simon Pegg, and Mike Myers. Not rated. Call 893-1074 for title.

Thursday, July 12, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*: Call 893-1074 for title.

Saturday, July 14, 10:15 a.m. - *Yoga in the Garden*: We're taking it outside this summer! Tend your body and spirit with mindful movement & meditation in our lovely garden. This slow-paced class welcomes all levels. Bring props if you wish. Taught by Christa Fairbrother, Certified Yoga for Arthritis Instructor & RYT.

Saturday, July 14, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12 - 18*: Gather fans of anime, manga, gaming! This month, we're hosting a spicy ramen challenge! Due to limited supplies preregistration is required. Sign up at the Library, or call to place your name on the list. Take part in a world-wide trend that has everyone breathing fire like dragons! We'll also screen a movie. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Every Monday, 1 p.m. - *Kids Read Aloud Book Club for grades 2-5*: We read a different book every week and snacks are provided by our Circle of Friends. Volunteer to read out loud or follow along with the group. For more information, call 893-1134.

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, 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 June 3 - 9, 2018:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,843	1,204
Sun. 6/3	Library closed	
Mon. 6/4	328	225
Tue. 6/5	339	212
Wed. 6/6	296	194
Thu. 6/7	289	179
Fri. 6/8	367	179
Sat. 6/9	206	127

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.
- Commenced preparation of July 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 **Neighborhood 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.

Donuts for Dads! All Dads are invited to stop by the Senior Center for a bag of donuts and a cup of coffee 9 a.m. - noon Monday, June 18. Stay for a while and catch up with other Dads as we honor all the wonderful guys in our lives!

For decades, scientists and doctors assumed that cancer and brain disease were caused by damage to some critical stretch of DNA within one's genome. Recently a more complex picture has emerged. Learn more during **Epigenetics: Cancer, Brain Disease, & Your DNA** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 20.

Ever wondered what happens to your garbage when you throw it away? Join us on June 21 as we tour the **Pinellas County Solid Waste Facility**. Learn about the County's waste-to-energy system, sanitary landfills, recycling programs, and the household electronics & chemical collection center (HEC3). Round-trip transportation & tour: GEMS members \$6/nonmembers \$8.

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, June 21. Space is limited; call 893-5657 to pre-register.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games, and more at 3 p.m. Friday, June 22. Sponsored by Simply Healthcare.

Go from opinion to knowledge by learning the facts about FHA reverse mortgages during **A Look Inside Reverse Mortgages** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 27. Questions welcome. Refreshments will be served.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and health screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is June 28.

Enjoy going back in time? Hop on the GEMS bus on June 28 for this great **getaway trip to Heritage Village**. Visit the 21-acre living history museum with 33 historic attractions including a variety of historic homes, general store, railroad depot, 2 schools, church, & more! Afterwards, we will stop for a delicious meal & pie at the Pie Factory. Round-trip transportation: GEMS members \$8/nonmembers \$10. Meal paid for individually.

Discover a great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles, and many other goodies at **First Friday Flea Market** on July 6 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 July 9. 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, July 12.

The Community Law Program provides **free legal assistance** at the Senior Center at 9:30 a.m. the third Friday of every month. The next meeting is July 20. 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 & eye glasses at the Senior Center. Staff forwards the items to the proper organizations for reuse, recycle or education.

Gulfport Casino, Catherine Hickman Theater, Neighborhood Center & Scout Hall

Casino (last week's events):

- Tuesday, June 5 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 27)
12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 25)
6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango with Kathleen & Steve Prucher (Turnout 61)
- Wednesday, June 6 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 212)
- Thursday, June 7 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 23)
6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 5)
- Friday, June 8 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 29)
7 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time (Turnout 164)

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 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 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 second Friday 7 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time Admission \$8

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

- Thursday, June 7 7 p.m. - Matthew McGee presents *Waltzing Matilda* (Turnout 174)
- Friday, June 8 6 p.m. - Irina Lapin Art reception (Turnout 13)

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

- Sunday, June 3 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church services (Turnout 15)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting
- Saturday, June 9 2 p.m. - Baby shower (Turnout 40)

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 first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crime Watch meeting

Scout Hall (last week's events):

- Monday - Friday 7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
- Monday, June 4 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 25)
- Friday, June 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

One hundred eleven children are registered for the **2018 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14. Fourteen are 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.

Fifty-two 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, Essential Oils, Hatha Yoga, Karate, Pickleball, Slow Flow Yoga, Table Tennis, Tennis and Zumba.

Four Gulfport Teen Councilmembers attended the monthly meeting on Friday. Advisor Marivel Gutierrez facilitated. Topics discussed: Advisor Report, approval of May's meeting minutes, Old Business & New Business.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez facilitated the Gulfport Teen Council meeting on Friday afternoon.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 40 Emergency Medical Calls

- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 2 Gas Leak
- 1 Single Engine Response

Life Safety:

- 6 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 2 Plans 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 June 21.

The Gulfport Firefighter/Paramedics continued their June 2018 Face to Face CME. This month's topics include violent patient and de-escalation of a patient on scene with situational awareness.

Inspector Lundh attended a NFA class on Ocala on June 13.

Chief Marenkovic, met with the City Manager and the IAFF 4966 President to begin negotiations for the Collective Bargaining Firefighters contract which expire September 31.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Installed memorial plaque on wall outside Senior Center and repaired lock on kitchen door.
- Repaired a/c at City Hall.
- Repaired dugout roofs at Hoyt & Little League Fields.
- Inspected electrical outlet at Fire Department.
- Installed shelving in Public Works Department storage closet.
- Replaced sinks and faucets in Beach Restrooms.
- Repaired bay door at Garage.
- Painted trim at Casino.
- Cleaned gutters and roof at Recreation Center.
- Replaced grip on workout equipment at Little League Field.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Finance Department.

Parks Maintenance

- Groomed Volleyball courts and beach for tournament.
- Removed graffiti from pavilion behind Recreation Center.
- Repaired tennis court nets at Chase block.
- Repaired outlet at Williams Pier.
- Replaced power switch on exhaust fan at Fire Department.
- Removed sod/weeds and graded Dog Park.
- Removed seaweed from beach.
- Mowed Wood Ibis Park, Clam Bayou & trail spur.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Inspected irrigation at Clymer Park, and repaired irrigation at Library & Senior Center.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.

- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Clymer Park & Beach Streetscapes, removed trees from Tangerine Greenway in preparation for construction, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, adjusted carburetor on line trimmer and replaced throttle cable.
- 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 27 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 3 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 123 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Completed 15 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Tested 10 backflow preventers.
- Repaired drinking fountain at Clam Bayou.
- Repaired damaged backflow at 4526 29th Avenue.
- Repaired water break at 5130 Preston Avenue.

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 broken sewer clean-out at 5402 11th Avenue.
- Inspected 5 sanitary manholes throughout City.

Stormwater

- Inspected and cleaned 10 storm structures throughout City.

- Cleaned, repaired and replaced top on storm inlet 51st Street & Tangerine Avenue.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced hose on Utilities vehicle #22.
- Fixed air leak on Sanitation vehicle #47.
- Replaced 2 tires and brakes on Sanitation vehicle #47.
- Replaced grease fittings on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Adjusted brakes on GEMS vehicle #11.
- Replaced fan shroud on Sanitation vehicle #43.
- 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.com.

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 5 of the City, also referred to as the Marina District which comprises the southeast portion of the City and generally extends south from 26th Avenue to the water and east from 49th 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. 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.

June 13, 2018 Board of Adjustment Meeting results:

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. ALL REQUESTS APPROVED

V18-11; 1301 59th 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. ALL REQUESTS APPROVED