



Gulfport Community Update

June 3 - 9, 2018

Channel 10 News Meteorologist Bobby Deskins and Pinellas County Emergency Management Special Projects Assistant Mary Burrell discussed last year's hurricane activity, how the weather will affect the Tampa Bay area, and how to plan for this year's storm season during the City's annual **Hurricane Seminar** at the Catherine Hickman Theater on May 31 (photos below). Fourteen hurricane-related vendors also provided information. The Atlantic Basin Hurricane season began June 1 and ends November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits! **Hurricane Guides** are available at Gulfport City Hall, the Library and Fire Station. The nearest pet-friendly shelter is Gibbs High School, 850 34th Street South, St. Petersburg.



Thousands of spectators enjoyed the **Second Annual Gulfport Grand Prix** NGK Spark Plugs Formula One Powerboat Championship and Boat Show along the Gulfport waterfront June 1 - 3 (photos below). The 17' powerboats are capable of speeds up to 120 mph. Attendees also viewed antique boats and enjoyed various vendors from around the county. A portion of proceeds benefitted the Michael J. Yakes Foundation, a local non-profit organization whose mission is to help underprivileged Gulfport children and seniors.



Gulfport Public Works Director Tom Nicholls reports that the City's paving contractor has scheduled **street paving for the following dates/locations**:

- 6/7 - 6/11; Shore Boulevard between 58th Street & Beach Boulevard
- 6/11 & 12; 28th Avenue between 58th Street & the Town Shores north entrance
- 6/12 - 6/15; 20th Avenue between 49th & 51st Streets, and 53rd Street between 7th & 11th Avenues

Affected streets will be closed to traffic during the project, and dates are subject to change due to weather conditions. For more information, call Public Works at 893-1089.

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 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 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.

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.

A Pulse Orlando Nightclub Vigil organized by City Councilmember Paul Ray will take place outside the Gulfport Public Library at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 12. We will never forget June 12, 2016 when the Pulse tragedy deeply impacted our LGBTQ+ Community. The City of Orlando and Orange County Government in collaboration with Pulse formally dedicated June 12 to the memory and honor of the 49 innocent lives taken at Pulse. *Orlando United Day - A Day of Love and Kindness* reaffirms the community's commitment to survivors and loved ones, and recognizes the global compassion and love displayed in the wake of the tragedy. Gulfport City Council and representatives from the Gulfport Public Library LGBTQ Resource Center will join the public in honoring those who lost their lives. For more information, call City Councilmember Ray at 826-7209.

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/ 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 **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	135
Self-initiated calls for service	423
Incident/offense reports	38
Arrests	5
Traffic citations	110
Ordinance violations	24
Residence checks	86

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

A gym bag containing boxing gloves was reported stolen from an unlocked car parked in the 5900 block of 20th Avenue in the early morning hours of May 31. A second unlocked vehicle at the residence was also entered, but nothing was taken.

An empty wallet was reported stolen from an unlocked car parked in the 5400 block of 10th Avenue.

Wilburn Folsom was arrested for loitering and prowling on June 1 after a resident reported a man rummaging through Gulfport Grand Prix vendor & pit crew tents.

Officers were dispatched to the 600 block of 52nd Way on June 2 after a caller reported that someone removed the protective cover from her neighbor's car, and damaged the car. The owners are on vacation, and officers are attempting to contact them.

Officers stopped a driver in on June 3 for running a stop sign at 52nd Street & 12th Avenue. The driver provided his registration and driver's license to the officer, but after being informed there was a seize tag order, he fled leaving his identification and registration behind.

Joseph "Seawall" Williams was issued a trespass warning after he was involved in an argument with another person at a residence in the 4600 block of 29th Avenue. Williams was gone when police arrived, but they located him later in the day.

Officers were dispatched to a report of a home invasion in the 1800 block of Gray Street on June 4. Upon police arrival, the resident stated that the suspect did not force his way into her home. Officers determined the man had already been warned for soliciting, and he was arrested for a City Ordinance Violation.

Police were notified of a man chasing a man and woman. They located the woman, and later made contact with the man who was chasing her. The woman admitted she was in a stolen vehicle that fled from St Petersburg police and almost struck an officer. She provided police with a name of the driver, and officers also located a witness who stated they could positively identify the man. The information was relayed to the SPPD.

Officer Clague stopped a car in the 1500 block of York Street for an equipment violation, and while speaking with driver Arron Trotman he smelled marijuana in the car. When Trotman opened the center console to look for his license Officer Clague saw a baggie containing approximately 32 grams of marijuana inside. Trotman was arrested for felony (over 20 grams) possession of marijuana.

A pedestrian reported that he stepped off of the curb somewhere on Beach Boulevard on June 5 and was clipped by a vehicle, knocking him to the ground and injuring his arm. The man went to several locations before coming to the police station. There are conflicting statements as to how he hurt himself, and a witness said he fell off his bike.

A resident in the 5000 block of 10th Avenue reported on June 6 that her juvenile nephew was out of control and broke a lamp in the driveway. She believed he was under the influence of something. He left the area before officers arrived.

Zachary Galpin was arrested after he kicked and damaged a neighbor's solar light. He attempted to run when officer's tried to interview him.

The marine unit was on the water for approximately 17 this week. Officers assisted with the Gulfport Grand Prix races on Saturday & Sunday, and Sergeant Woodman marked sunken vessels creating navigational hazards.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	11
Cases assigned:	1
Cases suspended-no leads:	5
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	4
Cases referred back to patrol:	1
Supplements received:	24
Cases cleared with arrest:	8
Previously cleared with arrest:	8
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	3
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	5

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

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for three fraud cases and a burglary. She also interviewed a two theft suspects at the Pinellas County Jail, leading to the location of a stolen item.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano Created a flyer on hot vehicle safety tips to be posted on the PD Facebook page; created a bulletin for Ofc. Palazzolo in an attempt to ID a retail theft suspect, and; performed a review of property reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure proper entry into FCIC, and pawn checks on 14 cases with a named suspect, known serial number or searchable property description.

Records

Reports reviewed	12
Supplements reviewed:	99
Public Records requests:	34
Background checks:	5
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints:	1
Subpoenas processed:	7
Citizens assisted	48

MARINA

Assisted with sixteen pump outs evacuating two hundred twenty gallons of waste.

Pumped four thousand one hundred twenty-nine gallons of gas and one thousand two hundred seventy-five gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred twenty-five vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Staff activities:

- Replaced/repared dock parts and electrical fitting covers on piers 5 & 4.
- Replaced dock line holders on pier 5, slips 2, 10 & 21.
- Replaced GFCI outlet covers for pier 5, slips 26 &32.
- Replaced AC pedestal cover on pier 6, slip 26.
- Mounted mailbox for live-aboard members.
- Installed wildlife informational & instructional signs at Williams Pier entrance.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Tuesday, May 29, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, May 29, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, May 30, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

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

Thursday, May 31, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

Thursday, May 31, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime.*

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *Bees Learning mobile reading intervention program.*

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Pride Flag Raising.*

Thursday, May 31, 6 p.m. - *ArtOut Opening Reception.*

Friday, May 25, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, May 26, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day.*

Upcoming Events:

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

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, 10:15 am. - *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. Please bring props if you want them. Taught by Christa Fairbrother, RYT and Certified Yoga for Arthritis Instructor.

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.

Every Monday beginning June 11, 1 p.m. - *Kids Read Aloud Book Club:* For grades 2-5. We'll read a different book every week and snacks will be provided by our Circle of Friends. Volunteer to read out loud or follow along with the group. For more information, call 893-1134.

Monday, June 11, 3 p.m. - *Kids Summer Reading Program: Pirates Rock!:* Arrrgghhh you ready to walk the plank? Make a cool spy glass, pirate shrink-dink keychain and search for treasure! For more information, call 893-1074. For kids age 5-12.

Wednesday, June 13, 3 p.m. - *Teen Summer Reading Program: Self Defense Skills:* We'll be joined by instructors from Cobra Self Defense for a hands-on class on basic skills and techniques to keep yourself safe.

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.

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, and Andy Serkis. Rated PG-13.

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.

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@mygulfport.us for more information.

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.

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 May 27 - June 2, 2018:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,470	1145
Sun. 5/27	Library closed	
Mon. 6/28	Holiday - Library closed	
Tue. 5/29	476	272
Wed. 5/30	232	202
Thu. 5/31	284	201
Fri. 6/1	258	212
Sat. 6/2	210	137

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 AV coverage for Hurricane Seminar & Gulfport Grand Prix.

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

AARP's Home Fit Workshop educates older adults on how to navigate living spaces to allow them to remain in their own homes as they age. Join us 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 13 at to learn to evaluate your home for "livability" should you or a family member become unable to use stairs or need to rely on assistive devices. A Home Fit facilitator will help you understand how homes can be designed and modified to help you get around independently in all of your living spaces as safely as possible. Attendees will also receive a copy of the Home Fit Guide.

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.

Join the **GEMS Getaway** gang on June Friday, 14 for a guided tour of the James Museum and take in of a vast collection of western & wildlife art that evoke the spirit of a wide open frontier and the beauty of life in the wild. Then enjoy lunch at the Museum's Canyon Café. Round-trip transportation & tour: GEMS members \$14/nonmembers \$16. Meal paid for individually.

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.

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.

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):

Monday, May 21 5:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 72))

Tuesday, May 22 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 27)
12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 18)
6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango with Kathleen & Steve Prucher (Turnout 60)

Wednesday, May 23 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 212)

Thursday, May 24 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 25)

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, May 31 7 p.m. - Hurricane Seminar (Turnout 73)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):

Friday, June 8, 6 p.m. - Enjoy music and light refreshments and meet Irina Lapin, June's featured artist for *Transform/Provoke*, featuring mixed media/paper collage. Cash bar. Free and open to the public

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, May 27 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 first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crime Watch meeting

Scout Hall (last week's events):

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

Friday, June 1 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

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 seven 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.

Forty-six 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.

Teen Councilmembers Katelyn Latragna, Connor Rowell and Haley Wyble started painting the Little Library on Thursday.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff meeting on Wednesday.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 45 Emergency Medical Calls

- 1 Trauma Alert
- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 Fire Alarm
- 3 Vehicle Crashes
- 3 Fires Outside Structure
- 2 Water Rescues

Life Safety:

- 11 Fire Inspections
- 2 Re-Inspections
- 1 Occupant Load
- 2 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 June 21.

The Incident Command System (ICS) set up in the Casino during the Gulfport Grand Prix with Chief Marenkovic, Inspector Lundh, P17, E17, SR17 Fireboat 11, the Gulfport Police Department and CERT. Seven medical emergencies were reported.

The Gulfport Firefighter/Paramedics started 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.

Chief Marenkovic met with representatives from Municipal Emergency Services for a demo of the New Scott SCBA Air-Pak X3 Pro. We discussed features and benefits, cleaning, decontamination and serviceability, and are awaiting approval of a FEMA grant submitted on behalf of the project.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Cleared blocked toilet in Dog Park men's room.
- Replaced electrical outlet and installed mirrors in Beach restrooms.
- Repaired paper towel dispenser and replaced toilet seat at Casino.
- Relocated water cooler and replaced two electrical outlets at Library.
- Repaired toilet in break room and replaced ceiling tiles at Public Services building.
- Repaired toilet at Scout Hall.

Parks Maintenance

- Cleaned rain gutters at Library, Senior Center & Recreation Center
- Installed extra seating in Recreation Center bus.
- Installed light fixtures in beach restrooms.
- Installed air hose reel at gas pumps.
- Repaired shelving in Public Works closet.
- Repaired wire fence rail at Shore Boulevard project.
- Mounted new benches at Caldwell Park.
- Removed seaweed from beach.
- Mowed City Complex, Clymer, Tomlinson, Wood Ibis, Clam Bayou & Veterans Parks, Senior Center, Library, 55th Street medians, Tangerine Greenway & trail spur.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Turned on irrigation timers at ball fields.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.

- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Library, Clymer Park & Beach streetscapes, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and replaced belts on mower.
- 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 #45, 46, 47 & 48 of monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 15 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 148 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Completed 7 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Tested 7 backflow preventers.

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 lateral at 6344 9th Avenue.
- Inspected 3 sanitary manholes throughout City.

Stormwater

- Cleared rain debris from inlet structures throughout City.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced mirror brackets and light reflector on Recreation Center vehicle #68.
- Replaced 2 fuel filters on Sanitation vehicle #40.
- Replaced battery on Streets Division vehicle #85.

- Replaced 2 fuel filters on Water Division vehicle #77.
- Replaced pads and rotors on Police vehicle #9.
- 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 have moved to 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:

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 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.