



Gulfport Community Update

August 12 - 18, 2018

Gulfport on the Go! The City of Gulfport is pleased to announce the launch of our new mobile app. Visit www.mygulfport.us/cityapp for more information.

The **sidewalk on Beach Boulevard at 29th Avenue South is closed** 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.

Hurricane Guides are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library & Fire Station. The Atlantic Basin Hurricane season ends November 30. Have a plan and remember to restock your hurricane kits. Basic hurricane kit supplies to keep on hand:

- Flashlights and extra bulbs
- Water
- Battery-operated radio
- Fully charged battery-operated lanterns (no candles or kerosene lanterns)
- Extra batteries
- Matches
- Clock (wind-up or battery-operated)
- Plastic garbage bags
- Working fire extinguishers
- Scissors
- Clean change of clothes, rain gear, sturdy swamp boots

In an effort to reduce the environmental effect of plastic straws, the City of Gulfport has created a **Voluntary Strawless Summer Challenge** for City restaurants, bars and cafés. Gulfport businesses can participate through September 30 by abstaining from giving plastic straws to customers unless requested. Visit www.mygulfport.us/strawless-summer-challenge 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.

The **Annual Gecko Ball** has become known as Gulfport's party of the year! Our tenth 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 at Gulfport Beach Bazaar or online at www.VisitGulfportFlorida.com. A portion of proceeds will benefit the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation, Operation Regroup and the Sonia Plotnick Health Fund.

The **Eighteenth 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 **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is Saturday, September 8 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 Community Resource Officer Zack Mills and his special guest, Councilmember Paul Ray for **Coffee with a Cop & Councilmember** at Scout Hall, 5315 28th Avenue 9 - 11 a.m. Saturday, October 6. As always during Coffee with a Cop, there's plenty of socializing and meeting old and new friends.

The **Fifth Annual Mayors' 49th Street Cleanup & Fourth Annual Chiefs' Chat** along the Tangerine Greenway is Saturday, October 13. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m. The Cleanup begins at 9, and Chiefs' Chat begins at 10:30. Visit www.mygulfport.us/mayors-49th-street-cleanup-chiefs-chat for more information.

Celebrate the 108th anniversary of the City's incorporation during **Founder's Day: A Celebration of Gulfport** on Saturday, October 13. Party with old and new friends! Daytime activities are 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kick up your heels and show off your best moves during Gulfport under the Stars from 7:30 until 10:30 p.m.

In partnership with the Ocean Conservancy, Keep Pinellas Beautiful will coordinate the **2018 International Coastal Cleanup** in an effort to eliminate the impact of marine and terrestrial debris within Pinellas County ecosystems, including Clam Bayou. Join the City of Gulfport for a rewarding day of community improvement, engagement and beautification on Saturday, October 20, 9 a.m. - noon. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-international-coastal-cleanup-clam-bayou-nature-preserve-tickets-48448459647 for more information.

It's almost that time again! Bring your Gulfport I.D. and your junk to the **Gulfport Neighbors Junk in the Trunk** at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street on Saturday, October 27, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Drop junk that works at the free trade table. Free bike registration and helmets, costume contest and games for kids, have coffee with a cop, and get gardening tips from the community garden team.

The City of Gulfport is accepting addresses for the permit free **Citywide Yard Sale** brochure. The sale is scheduled for Saturday, November 3. In the event of rain, the sale will take place on Sunday the 4th. Pick up a registration form at Gulfport City Hall, 2401 53rd Street or the Gulfport Library, 5501 28th Avenue or register on line at www.mygulfport.us/city-wide-yard-sale no later than 4 p.m. Friday, October 26. No phone-in addresses please; one address per application. For more information, call 893-1118.

The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation and the Town Shores Masters Association will cohost the **Fifth Annual Monster Mash** at the Gulfport Casino 6 - 10 p.m. Saturday, October 27. Enjoy raffle

prizes, dance & costume contests while feasting on great eats. Everyone loves Halloween, so put on your best costume and join us!

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

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.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	163
Self-initiated calls for service	400
Incident/offense reports	37
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	115
Ordinance violations	49
Residence checks	92

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers were dispatched to the 1800 block of 55th Street in the early morning hours of August 9 after a 911 caller reported that she found her mother deceased in her bed. The woman had been in failing health for some time and the death was expected.

Officers were dispatched to the 2800 block of Dupont Street on August 10 after a 911 caller reported that he discovered his wife deceased when he went to wake her from a nap. There were no obvious causes for her death, and detectives are working with the Medical Examiner's office for further investigation.

Thomas Smith was arrested for theft after he took a taxi to a residence in the 2000 block of 59th Street and didn't have enough money to pay the fare.

A resident in the 2500 block of Beach Boulevard was taken into custody under the Marchman Act on August 12 after her neighbor called police, concerned because the woman had been drinking since the previous day, and had fallen several times.

Johnny Bolden was arrested for Driving while License Suspended or Revoked following a traffic stop in the 500 block of 49th Street for driving 61 MPH in a posted 35 MPH zone. Bolden's license was suspended for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol.

Officers trespassed a Gulfport Library patron on August 13 after staff reported they witnessed him writing in books, and that he had done so several times in the last few months.

Amber Raney called police to report she wished to turn herself on an auto theft warrant from New York. She was taken into custody in the 800 block of Hull Street.

A resident in the 1400 block of 52nd Street reported on the morning of August 14 that his car was stolen sometime overnight. A spare key was taken in a previously reported residential burglary. The car was recovered in Palmetto.

Officers were dispatched to the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard after a caller reported her ex-boyfriend stole her purse. When officers spoke with the man, he stated the woman had taken his laptop. The officer recovered the purse and the situation was resolved.

Max Reiner was arrested on August 15 for trespassing following multiple warnings from all beachfront businesses.

A bank investigator reported that a former employee of a business in the 2200 block of 49th Street stole more than a thousand dollars, and cashed a fraudulent check before quitting her job. The investigation is ongoing.

The Marine Unit was taken to Pass-a-Grille Marina for maintenance.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

<i>New cases:</i>	5
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	3
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
<i>Supplements received:</i>	7
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended/no leads:	1
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	6

Records

Reports reviewed	26
Supplements reviewed:	40
Public Records requests:	23
Background checks:	2
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	1
Subpoenas processed:	2
Citizens assisted	39

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for an armed robbery case, a grand theft auto, a fraud, and a burglary. He also investigated an unattended death.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for two theft cases, and; attended a financial crimes investigations class.

School Resource Officers Motte, Embry, and Sigsbee wrote one police report; counseled 4 students; hosted 5 safety meetings, and provided instruction for five classrooms.

Officer Motte provided Active Assailant training to Boca Ciega High School staff; completed athletic contracts covering the football season; assisted the school with a minor disruption, and; met with Mr. Vigue on three occasions to discuss safety concerns on campus.

Officer Sigsbee completed an AOA regarding a child not attending school and possible physical abuse concerns; spoke with two students about classroom behavior while the behavior specialist

was busy handling other issues, and; submitted an emergency work order for a door that would not close properly.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano attended a financial crimes investigations class; compiled the PCSO call out report, and; completed pawn checks on 9 cases with a known serial number, property description or a named suspect.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	13
Supplements reviewed:	73
Public records requests:	26
Background checks:	04
Bike registrations:	03
Fingerprints:	01
Subpoenas processed:	11
Citizens assisted:	37

MARINA

Assisted with thirty-four pump outs evacuating five hundred fifteen gallons of waste.

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

Transient vessels:

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

Staff activities:

- Cleaned/prepped pump out boat, and stored on designated boat lift.
- Continued inspection of power meters on pier 6 and contacted electrician regarding logic meter components.
- Sprayed weed control in several areas at marina.
- Recovered network connections following thunderstorm.
- Replaced light bulbs in restrooms.
- Inspected pump out systems and fuel sumps.
- Fueled marina work truck.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, August 6, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of Oscar Wilde: The Unrepentant Years* by Nicholas Frankel.

Tuesday, August 7, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*.

Tuesday, August 7, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.

Tuesday, August 7, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group*.

Tuesday, August 7, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, August 8, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, August 8, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.

Wednesday, August 8, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, August 9, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.

Thursday, August 9, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*.

Friday, August 10, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, August 11, 1 p.m. - *Yoga in the Garden*.

Saturday, August 11, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12 - 18*.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, August 18, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Series*: British film about a woman who, after discovering her husband is having an affair, seeks out her unconventional older sister. Once she allows her sister to drag her to a dance class, she begins to once again find her feet. Stars Imelda Staunton, Timothy Spall, Joanna Lumley, and Celia Imrie. Rated PG-13. Call for movie title.

Monday, August 20, 5 p.m. - *Beauty of Nature Art Reception*: Join us in our Friends meeting room for the launch of an exhibit of paintings by local artist Oliver Norden. Artworks on display through August 30.

Wednesday, August 22, 1 p.m. - *Beginner Painting for Adults*: Follow along as we paint a beautiful scene of the Aurora Borealis! Use brushes, acrylic paints and a few unexpected items. Space is limited; registration required.

Thursday, August 23, 11 a.m. - *Community Playdate*: Get acquainted with other caregivers of toddlers & preschoolers in a relaxed, informal setting.

Thursday, August 23, 4:30 p.m. - *Bees Learning Craft*: Activity for children provided by the mobile reading lab staff. Email leahveal@beeslearning.org or call 404-308-0295 for more information.

Tuesday, August 28, 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.

Monday, August 27, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic night*. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Saturday, September 1, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Series*: Romantic and realistic view of what it might be like sharing one's last vacation with Alzheimer's. The subject is handled delicately and with humor as well as pathos. Enjoy a love story starring Helen Mirren and Donald Southerland. Rated R Call 893-1074 for title.

Tuesday, September 4, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga* for parents and babies ages 6 weeks to 18 months. Instructed by registered yoga teacher Ms. Christa, the group meets on first Tuesday of the month. Meet other new parents and babies in the community, stretch, laugh, get some strength back and rejuvenate! Call 893-1074 cklasson@mygulfport.us for more information.

Thursday, September 6, 7:55 p.m. - *3D Paper Robots for Grades 4-7*: Use paper, tape and glue to create awesome robot sculptures. Registration required: call 893-1134 to sign up.

Saturday, September 8, 1 p.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, September 8, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12 - 18*: Gather fans of anime, manga, gaming! We'll screen a movie. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Thursday, September 13, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series: Marina* is a transgender woman in Santiago, Chile whose older boyfriend Orlando becomes ill and unexpectedly dies. In the face of her grief Marina must cope with hostility and unacceptance from Orlando's family and their attempts to shut her out of Orlando's funeral and force her out of the home she shared with him. Winner of the 2018 Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. (Rated R) Call 893-1074 for title.

Monday, September 17, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of Queerly Beloved By Jacob and Diane Anderson-Minshall*. Copies available at the Circulation Desk.

Tuesday, September 18, 3 p.m. - *Lego Club*: Build with Legos, wood blocks and more! Open to children ages 4-10 with a caregiver.

Tuesday, September 18, 7 p.m. - *Trivia Night*: Are you a trivia buff? Do you love watching Jeopardy!? Want to show off your esoteric knowledge? Grab some friends and make a team. Light refreshments and prizes for the winning team.

Thursday, September 20, 6 p.m. - *An Evening with Tim Dorsey*: Acknowledged as "Florida's king of mayhem," the author talks about his recently published novel *The Pope of Palm Beach*.

Thursday, September 20, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club*. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Thursday, September 20, 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.

Saturday, September 22, 1 p.m. - *Clowning Around Circus Crafts & Games for Grades K-5*: We'll make a lion mask, clown hats and fake cotton candy, and play a few carnival games.

Thursday, September 27, 5 p.m. - *Make a Diddley Bow*: This one string guitar is made of a wooden dowel, old cigar box and various hardware found around your garage! Make it, play it, or give it to a friend! For Grades 6-12. Registration required: call 893-1134 to sign up.

Every Monday beginning September 10, 3 p.m. - *Science Club for grades K - 5*.

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, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*: Join us for an afternoon story, songs, movement and crafts! Everyone welcome but geared for 2-5 year-olds.

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, 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 August 5 - 11, 2018:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1620	1196
Sun. 8/5	Library closed	
Mon. 8/6	283	244
Tue. 8/7	271	218
Wed. 8/8	333	177
Thu. 8/9	305	181
Fri. 8/10	299	157
Sat. 8/11	221	151

PARKS & RECREATION

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport to watch videos of recent City events, or access live & 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 September 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. 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. Help our page grow and get valuable daily information!

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.

Hula on over to the Gulfport Senior Center for some tropical fun during our annual **Tiki Time Luau** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 22. Enjoy a cool ice cream social, music and dancing to the rhythm of steel drums, and a variety of fun games. Tickets: \$2, available at the Senior center lobby desk; remaining tickets will also be available at the door on a first come basis.

Discover the rich cultural heritage of Ybor City & learn about the role Ybor City played in Tampa's development and its reputation as the Cigar Capital of the World during the Thursday, August 23 **GEMS Getaway to Ybor City Museum State Park & Columbia Restaurant**. Round trip transportation, admission & transportation: GEMS members \$20/nonmembers \$24. Meal paid for separately.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games, and more at 3 p.m. Friday, August 24. Sponsored by Simply Healthcare.

Enjoy a delicious lunch & a craft beer when the **Out-to-Lunch Bunch** visits the Brass Tap on Monday, August 27. Then shop to your heart's desire at the Tyrone Square Mall's new stores. Round trip transportation: GEMS members \$4/nonmembers \$6. Meal paid for separately.

Join All Care Medical Consultants Medical Director Dr. M.I. Yamani at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 28 for **About That Sugar... Addiction** to learn how sugar consumption leads to biochemical changes in the body.

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and health screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is August 30.

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, September 13.

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 September 10. Call 893-5657 to schedule an appointment.

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 September 21. 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, August 7 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 13)
 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 30)
 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango (Turnout 74)

Wednesday, August 8 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 185)

Thursday, August 9 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi (Turnout 13)

Friday, August 10 11 a.m. - Chair yoga (Turnout 20)
 7 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time (Turnout 196)

Casino (upcoming events):

Every first & third Sunday 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
 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 first & third Thursday 7 p.m. - Salsa Dance/Lesson Admission \$8

Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom

Every second Friday 7 p.m. - Soul Night with Swingtime Admission \$8

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

Sunday, August 5 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services (Turnout 13)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Saturday, August 11 6 p.m. - Baby shower (Turnout 55)

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, August 6 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 19)

Tuesday, August 7 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 22)

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 is reserved 1 - 5 p.m. Saturday, August 18, and 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Saturday, August 25 for baby showers.

The **2018 Summer Recreation Program** ended with one hundred thirty-five children registered.

Thirty-five children have been registered **2018/19 School Year Child Care program** for children who will be entering Kindergarten thru age 14. Two are nonresidents. 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.

Three children are registered for the **2018/19 Tot Time program**, and eight for **VPK**. Tot Time is a hands-on preschool program for children ages 3-5 that aims to make learning fun for children, and helps prepare them for Kindergarten. VPK is FREE for children who live in Florida and who turn 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply with Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, Inc. and receive a Certificate of Eligibility to attend the program. Both programs aim to make learning fun for children and help prepare them for Kindergarten, and are limited to 10 children each. Class begins Tuesday, September 4. Program hours are 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Hours for registration are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday. Call 893-1068 for more information.

Registration is underway for the **2018/19 Teen Night Program**, a great hangout for teens in grades entering middle school through age 17. 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 and Tennis.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff meeting on Wednesday.

Friday's **Teen Council meeting** was cancelled due to no quorum in advance.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 46 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 1 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms

Life Safety:

- 12 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-Inspections
- 2 Plans Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is September 20.

The two finalists selected to fill the two vacant Fire Fighter/Paramedic positions continued undergoing health and background screenings this week. Their first day of employment will be September 4.

The State of Florida Department of Health Bureau of Emergency Medical Services will perform a site visit to renew the Gulfport Fire Department's Advanced Life Support License through August 2019.

Chief Marenkovic attended a conference call with the County EOC pertaining to the DEP Red Tide event grant reimbursement process.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Painted walls in City Hall men's room.
- Repaired ice machine in City yard.
- Lubricated locks for school crossing chains.
- Replaced flapper on toilet at Public Services building.
- Repaired doorstep at Recreation Center.
- Secured water line to wall at Little League field.
- Prepped and painted posts for Beach sign.
- Reset time clocks following power outage.
- Performed annual inspection of all City fire extinguishers.
- Replaced filter on water cooler in Garage.
- Cleaned vents at City Hall.
- Performed monthly pest control on all City buildings.
- Repaired gate at Police Station compound.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Finance Department.

Parks Maintenance

- Reset marina rock beds
- Mowed City complex, Senior Center & Library green spaces, Clymer & Veterans Parks, and Dog Parks.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Repaired irrigation at Casino.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Marina green spaces, baseball fields, City complex & Casino, 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 21 locations for non-payment of service.

- Completed 4 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 121 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Completed 10 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected drinking water microbial samples on City distribution system.
- Replaced 2 water meters which were 20+ years old with E-Coder R900i meters.
- Continued annual water distribution system flushing and fire hydrant inspection.
- Continued cleaning and painting City fire hydrants.
- Performed annual testing of 38 backflows due in August.
- Placed 5 Code Enforcement “Notice of Violation” door hangers.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 and #2.
- Daily rainfall checks 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 at Gulfport Beach, Clam Bayou & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced City sewer lateral at 4920 27th Avenue.
- Cleaned and televised sewer lateral at 1601 52nd Street, replaced 12’ of lateral and installed clean-out to grade.
- Performed inspections on 2 sanitary sewer manholes.
- Televised new sewer line and city lateral at 5626 9th Avenue for lateral rebate program.
- Adjusted/reattached sewer manhole rings and covers at 9 locations.
- Replaced control room a/c unit at Lift Station #2.

Stormwater

- Cleaned outfalls in Tangerine Lake and along Tangerine Greenway.
- Cleaned outfall in retention area at Gulfport Elementary School.
- Cleaned storm inlets at 22 locations.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Replaced hydraulic hoses on Sanitation vehicle #88 and Streets vehicle #79.
- Replaced brakes on Sanitation vehicle #45.
- Replaced tire on Police vehicle #31.
- Changed oil filler cap on Fire vehicle #E-17.
- Replaced radiator, and upper radiator hose on Police vehicle #18.
- Performed preventive maintenance and various small repairs on City vehicles, as needed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Building Division

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? Checkout 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 2 of the City, also known as the Northeast area which generally extends north to 7th Avenue, south to Gulfport Boulevard, west to 58th Street and east to 49th Street.

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.

August 1, 2018 Planning & Zoning Board and August 21 City Council/CRA meeting(s):

C18-02; 5602 Gulfport Boulevard South; Conditional use application for a request for site plan approval with outdoor seating as an accessory use, for an approved conditional use drive-through facility accessory to a permitted use (restaurant). P&Z RECOMMENDED APPROVAL