



Gulfport Community Update

October 7 - 13, 2018

Gulfport on the Go! Visit www.mygulfport.us/cityapp for more information on our mobile app.

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

Hurricane Evacuation Plan Advice for Residents with Special Needs:

Whether or not you go to a special needs shelter, here is some good advice to keep in mind when preparing for hurricane season:

- Start a personal support network of people you can count on during an emergency.
- Create an emergency health information card that is customized to you.
- Create an emergency contact list with names and phone numbers of family members, friends, doctors, insurance information and hospital preferences.
- Conduct an ability self-assessment. Know what you can and cannot do. Talk with your health care provider about a realistic plan.
- Maintain a current list of medications and at least a two-week supply.
- Keep important equipment and assistive devices in a consistent, convenient and secure place.

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:

Join Gulfport Mayor Sam Henderson & St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman on Saturday, October 13 as they co-host the **5th Annual Mayors' 49th Street Cleanup**. The event will feature community groups including Chart 411, Keep Pinellas Beautiful, Tampa Bay Watch, LOCAL Shops1, So49,

Gulfport Merchant's Chamber, Plastic Free Gulfport, Child's Park Neighborhood Association, the Gulfport Public Library and others. The Urban Gypsies of Florida will kick off the event and energize volunteers with their innovative combination of Tribal, Gypsy, Disco, Bluegrass, 70's Rock, Folk & Funk. The event takes place on the Tangerine Greenway at 49th Street & Tangerine Avenue. Cleanup participants will be divided into four teams and will clean 49th Street and its adjacent alleys from the Pinellas Trail to Gulfport Boulevard/22nd Avenue. Registration begins at 8:15 a.m., Mayors' Welcome is at 9 a.m., and the cleanup begins at 9:15. Join Gulfport Police Chief Rob Vincent and St. Petersburg Police Chief Tony Holloway for the **4th Annual Chiefs' Chat Community Forum** at 10:30 a.m. Register at www.mygulfport.us/mayors-49th-street-cleanup-chiefs-chat/. For more information, call 893-1118.

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 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Kick up your heels and show off your best moves during Gulfport under the Stars from 6 until 10:30 p.m.

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 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 20, 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.

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 27, 9 a.m. - noon. Visit www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-international-coastal-cleanup-clam-bayou-nature-preserve-tickets-48448459647 for more information.

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 7 - 11 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!

Put on your best costume and bring the kids to the **Halloween Bash** at the Gulfport Recreation Center 7 - 9 p.m. Wednesday, October 31. Carnival games, Costume Contest, Haunted House, Tot Boo Room and Snack Shack. For more information, call 893-1068.

Join Community Resource Officer Zack Mills for **Coffee with a Cop** at the St Petersburg Ballet Conservatory, 1500 58th Street on Saturday, November 3, 8 - 10 a.m. As always, there's plenty of socializing and meeting old and new friends.

The WRD Restaurant Association and the Gulfport Neighbors will host the **Third Annual Gulfport Chief's Table** 6 - 10 p.m. Monday, November 5. This outdoor fine dining experience will highlight

Gulfport's thriving food scene and feature the offerings of eleven local restaurants and chefs at a community table on Beach Boulevard in Downtown Gulfport. For more information visit www.facebook.com/events/28961215171973/.

Whether you served in the military or serve on the volleyball court, join the City of Gulfport, Stetson University and VETsports for **Heroes Weekend** on Saturday & Sunday, November 10 & 11. This is a great way for the community to participate in Veteran's Day while giving back to local Veterans. Get involved by entering in the parade or entering your team in the VETSports volleyball tournament. For more information or to register, visit www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend.

The Pinellas County Solid Waste division will visit the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, November 10 for the **Annual Household Electronics and Chemical Mobile Collection Event**. Call 464-7500 or visit www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste for more information.

The Special Events Trolley & the Gulfport Merchants Chamber will represent the City during the **LocalShops1 Annual Shopalooza Festival** at Straub Park in St. Petersburg on Saturday, November 24. Visit www.facebook.com/events/235752013742987 for more information.

View the works of 17 artists in 15 Gulfport studios during the **Art Jones Studio Tour** on Saturday & Sunday, December 1 & 2. The tour will begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. on Sunday, and includes the works of painters, photographers, ceramicists, fiber artists, sculptors, fashion designers and more. There's something for every taste and budget. And it's free! For more information, visit www.facebook.com/events/745355715803710.

Join us for song and good cheer during the **City of Gulfport Holiday Tree Lighting** in Clymer Park at 7 p.m. Monday, December 3. Enjoy an evening of light refreshments and festive music presented by the Gulfport Recreation division; meet the Mayor & City Council. Santa will visit and listen to little ones' holiday wishes. For more information, call 893-1118.

Enjoy festive music, hand crafted holiday items and roving characters during the **Tenth Annual Holiday Hoopla** on Beach Boulevard in the Waterfront district, your one stop local shopping for the holidays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday, December 8. Vendor information available at www.sikpromotions.com/applicants/fall/holiday-hoopla. Stay for the **Boca Ciega Yacht Club 33rd Annual Lighted Boat Parade**. Parade participants can register at the club, 4600 Tifton Drive, or online at www.sailbcyc.org/ChristmasBoatParade.

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	120
Self-initiated calls for service	413
Incident/offense reports	30
Arrests	12
Traffic citations	107

Ordinance violations	41
Residence checks	84

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Officers were dispatched to the 5600 block of 17th Avenue on October 4 after a caller reported two juvenile subjects breaking into a work van and stealing keys and a wallet. Neighbors chased the suspects, one of whom stopped running, returned the keys and wallet, and was taken into custody. The other continued running and attempted to hide in the bushes at a nearby residence. A K9 team was able to track him, and he was also arrested. Both were charged with burglary.

Natalie Minish was arrested after an employee of a business in the 2800 block of Beach Boulevard reported Minish entered the store, picked up a bottle of wine and stated, "you owe me this", and left without paying. Minish was at her residence and did not deny taking the wine, telling officers the store took sixteen dollars from her in the past so they owed her the wine. She was transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

Barbara Lawson was arrested on October 5 on an outstanding warrant for failing to have a child attend school following a traffic stop in the 5600 block of Gulfport Boulevard.

Bennie Smarr was arrested for criminal mischief after his girlfriend reported he threw her cell phone to the ground during an argument, causing it to break into pieces. He was taken into custody in the 1400 block of 49th Street.

Officer Priest observed Carrie Baker on October 6 arriving at a residence in the 2200 block of 53rd Street belonging to an elderly man she is being investigated for exploiting. Baker had been warned previously to not drive due to her license being suspended, and to stay away from the victim while the exploitation case is being investigated, but she kept returning. She was arrested.

Officers were dispatched a report of a dispute between two neighbors in the 2200 block of 53rd Street. Ronald Arnold was upset over comments his neighbor made towards Arnold's wife, and went to the neighbor's residence to confront him. A physical altercation ensued, and both men were injured. Arnold was arrested for battery against a person over 65 years old, and transported to the Pinellas County Jail after he was medically cleared at the hospital.

A juvenile turned herself in at the Police Department on October 7 for several juvenile warrants issued by Pinellas County.

Two juvenile males were seen by a resident going through her vehicle in the 1200 block of 59th Street. They ran away before officers arrived, but the officers were able to develop suspects in the case.

A resident in the 1100 block of 59th Street reported that their home was burglarized, and \$24,000 worth of jewelry was taken.

Officers were dispatched to the 5600 block of 15th Avenue on October 8 after a resident called 911 to report two males were attempting to get into her neighbors fenced backyard. The suspects, both juveniles on probation for multiple offenses including burglary and giving false names to officers, were located down the street. Officers found latex gloves in their pockets during a search, and both were transported to the Pinellas Juvenile Assessment Center.

Brittany Jenkins was arrested on an outstanding warrant for Housing Assistance Fraud on October 10. She was taken into custody at her residence in the 5600 block of 18th Avenue.

The **marine unit** was on the water for approximately 17 hours this week. Marine unit officers made contact with 13 vessels, issued 2 marine citations, and assisted with the return of a dog who jumped from a vessel in the bay. Sergeant Woodman went to the Bay Pines boat ramp to assist with the removal of derelict vessels in Boca Ciega Bay.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

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

Investigator Highlights

Sergeant Woodman arrested Marquelle Drymon for a July 2017 homicide that occurred on Miriam Street. He has been charged with murder in the second degree.

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a burglary, a theft, and a death investigation.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a three theft cases and a fraud.

Officer Motte assisted Boca Ciega High School administration with breaking up a minor fight; located missing property; escorted a trespasser off campus, and; conducted a safety meeting in preparation for the BCHS vs Gibbs football game, and provided security for the game.

Officer Embry spoke with students planning to fight at school, preventing the fight occurring, and provided security for a football game.

Officer Sigsbee instructed three first and second grade classes on interactions with police officers to include activities at the school, and equipment they carry.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano compiled the monthly PCSO call out report; compiled and submitted quarterly seatbelt citation data to The Department of Highs Safety and Motor Vehicles; compiled the Criminal Investigative Section monthly report; conducted a review of property reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure proper entry into FCIC, and; completed pawn checks on 8 cases with a known serial number, named suspect or searchable property description.

Records Section

Reports reviewed:	22
Supplements reviewed:	72
Public records requests:	37
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	1
Fingerprints:	0
Subpoenas processed:	5
Citizens assisted:	47

MARINA

Assisted with eighteen pump outs evacuating three hundred fifteen gallons of waste.

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

Transient vessels:

Staff welcomed 4 vessels this week.

Staff activities:

- Replaced shrimp tank brass 2" ball valve.
- Reorganized fenced maintenance area.
- Performed routine inspections on waste pump out systems, and filled oil reservoir for gas dock pump out system.
- Relocated public trailer parking signs and fire extinguisher along perimeter fence next to marina building.
- Reinstalled protective railing/hose bracket assembly on transient dock.
- Cleaned and organized area under marina building.
- Investigated loss of function of marina security camera.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday, October 1, 3 p.m. - *Science Club for grades K - 5.*

Monday, October 1, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of Queerly Beloved by Jacob and Diane Anderson-Minshall.*

Tuesday, October 2, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga.*

Tuesday, October 2, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, October 2, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, October 2, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, October 3, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting.*

Wednesday, October 3, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime.*

Wednesday, October 3, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, October 4, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

Thursday, October 4, 6 p.m. - *Hispanic American Heritage Month celebration.*

Thursday, October 4, 7 p.m. - *Bees Learning.*

Friday, October 5, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Upcoming Events:

Saturday, October 13, 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.*

Tuesday, October 16, 3 p.m. - *Lego Club: Build with Legos, wood blocks and more! Open to children ages 4-10 with a caregiver.*

Thursday, October 18, noon - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The March by E.L. Doctorow. Copies available at the Circulation Desk. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.*

Thursday, October 18, 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, October 18, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*: The story of the "Tales of the City" author which moves between playful and poignant and laugh-out-loud funny. With help from friends including well-known actors, Armistead Maupin offers a disarmingly frank look at the journey that took him from the jungles of Vietnam to the bathhouses of 70's San Francisco to the front line of the American culture war. (Not Rated) Call 893-1074 for title.

Saturday, October 20, 1:30 p. m. - *Free Family Movie Series*. Enjoy an animated feature based on Latino culture that is quite a crowd pleaser! Aspiring musician Miguel, confronted with his family's ancestral ban on music, enters the Land of the Dead to find his great-great-grandfather, a legendary singer. The film features the voices of Anthony Gonzalez and Gael Garcia Bernal. Rated PG. Call 893-1074 for title.

Tuesday, October 24, 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 wish. 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, October 25, 11:30 a.m. - *Community Playdate*: Get acquainted with other caregivers of toddlers & preschoolers in a relaxed, informal setting.

Thursday, October 25, 5 p.m. - *Skull String Art*: If you're in Grades 6-12, join us for our Halloween inspired string art! We'll use wood, nails, and string to create a spooky looking skull to display in your room or give to a friend. Call 893-1134 for additional details.

Thursday, October 25, 7 p.m. - *Circle of Friends Fundraiser for Gulfport Historical Society*: Join us for this very special and worthy event. Call 893-1074 for more information.

Monday, October 29, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic night*. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, October 30, 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 plus prizes for the winning team. Call Cailey Klasson at 893-1074 or email cklasson@mygulfport.us for more information.

Tuesday, November 6, 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 the 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.

Every Monday, 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 September 30 - October 6, 2018:

Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,447	1,200
Sun. 9/30	Library closed	
Mon. 10/1	208	209
Tue. 10/2	274	214
Wed. 10/3	256	188
Thu. 10/4	233	194
Fri. 10/5	193	182
Sat. 10/6	271	143

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 November 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.

Learn how music is processed in the brain regardless of age or cognitive reserve, what music adds to our emotions and memories, and how it improves productivity & creativity during **Healthy Aging with Dr. Cate: Music-Food for Your Brain & Soul** at 2:30 p.m. Monday, October 15.

Join Dedicated Senior Medical Center & Wellcare for **popcorn and a movie** in the Catherine Hickman Theater at 1 p.m. Tuesday, October 16. *The Greatest Showman* celebrates the birth of show business, and tells of a visionary who became a worldwide sensation.

Health Insurance can be confusing: hospitalization, prescription drug coverage, emergency services, wellness services. The **2018 Open Enrollment Insurance EXPO** at 3 p.m. Wednesday, October 17 brings the available insurance companies to you. FREE admission.

Discover Florida's some of aquatic & terrestrial animals and ecosystems during our Thursday, October 18 **GEMS Getaway to the Florida Aquarium**. Explore the large simulated wetlands environment located under a tall glass atrium; observe shallow bays, beaches and a coral reef ecosystem encompassed in half a million gallons of natural seawater. Round trip transportation & admission: GEMS members \$36/nonmembers \$41.

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 October 19. Call 582-7480 to schedule.

Technology is constantly changing, making it hard to keep up with the latest changes, devices, & trends. Join us at 1:30 p.m. Friday, October 19 for **Tech Tips with Stetson: Smart Phones & Tablets** Space is limited: call 893-5657 to register.

Has your balance become unsteady? Have you fallen in the past? Afraid of falling again? If so, the **Balance & Fall Prevention Workshop** at 1 p.m. Tuesday, October 23 may be life changing for you! Presented by Wayne Whittle, PT. Space is limited: call 893-5657 to register.

Join the GEMS Getaway gang on our Tuesday, October 23 tour of **Creative Clay & Consignment Shop**, an art center that focuses on helping people with disabilities achieve full and inclusive lives through access to the arts. Afterwards, we will stop by Baskin Robbins for ice cream. Round trip transportation & admission: GEMS members \$4/nonmembers \$6. Ice cream paid for separately.

Learn what you need to know to make informed Medicare option decisions during **Medicare 101: Understanding Your Benefits** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, October 24. Presented by Steve Reiser of Senior Benefit Solutions.

Learn the basic functions of your Apple iPhone or iPad during our next **iPhone/iPad Instruction class** at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, October 25. Space is limited: call 893-5657 to register. Presented by the Gulfport Library.

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 October 25.

Celebrate Oktoberfest with us on Friday, October 26 with the Out-to-lunch Bunch visits **Hofbrauhaus**. Steeped in Bavarian tradition, Hofbrauhaus brings beer, food & fun to the table. Round trip transportation: GEMS members \$4/nonmembers \$6. 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, October 26. Sponsored by Simply Healthcare.

Discover a great selection of jewelry, home décor, cook books, collectibles and many other goodies during our next **First Friday Flea Market** at 9 a.m. Friday, November 2.

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Thursday, November 8. Get your **flu shot** at the same time. Bring your insurance card & photo ID. See front desk volunteer for details on accepted insurances.

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 November 12. Call 893-5657 to schedule an appointment.

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, October 1 10 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 21)

Tuesday, October 2 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 34)
12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 11)
6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango (Turnout 57)

Wednesday, October 3 6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 238)

Thursday, October 4 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 25)
6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 18)

Friday, October 5 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 31)

Saturday, October 6 6 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 155)

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

Catherine Hickman Theater *last week's events*):

Friday, October 5 7 p.m. - *Synchrony Arts Productions presents Mary Poppins* (Turnout 70)

Saturday, October 6 7 p.m. - *Synchrony Arts Productions presents Mary Poppins* (Turnout 54)

Catherine Hickman Theater upcoming events):

Friday, October 12, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Historical Society Presents Changes Along the Bayou; Gulfport Then and Now Art Reception*. Meet Gulfport photographer Bob Bates and see his recreated vintage Gulfport photos. Pia's Tattoria will provide snacks. Free admission, cash bar.

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, September 30 6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Thursday, October 4 3:30 p.m. - Juvenile Welfare Board meeting (Turnout 14)

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, October 1 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 25)

Tuesday, October 2 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 8)

Friday, October 5 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 11)

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

Thirty-eight 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.

Seven children are registered for the **2018/19 Tot Time program**, and nine 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.

Fifty-one teens are registered for the **2018/19 Teen Night Program**, a great hangout for teens 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, Gentle Yoga, Hatha Yoga, Kai Chi Do, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Watercolor.

Staff Activities

Marivel Gutierrez attended a Holiday Hoopla event meeting on Wednesday afternoon. She also facilitated the Teen Council meeting on Tuesday.

Four Gulfport Teen Councilmembers attended the monthly meeting on Tuesday. Advisor Marivel Gutierrez facilitated. Topics discussed: Advisor Report, Approval of July's minutes, Meeting day and time change, Events, Old Business and New Business.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 35 Emergency Medical Calls
- 3 Structure Fires
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 1 Elevator Rescue
- 2 Outside Structure Fires
- 1 Gas Leak
- 1 Odor/Smoke Invest

Life Safety:

- 13 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-inspection
- 2 C. O's
- 1 Smoke Detector
- 1 Site Plan Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The topic of the next meeting will be rehabilitation with CERT RH17.

Gulfport Firefighters IAFF 4966 met with City Staff on October 11 to continue negotiations. Another meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 31.

The Gulfport Fire Department EOC was partially activated as we monitored Hurricane Michael's path.

All GFD Paramedics and EMT's have renewed their Florida Department of Health Certifications.

Gulfport Fire Department Paramedics continued their Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) online course this week. This 16 credit-hour course was created by the American Academy of Pediatrics. The final exam will take place in November.

All Paramedics and EMT's are renewing their Department of Health, State of Florida Certifications. Certifications will be renewed by December 1.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Moved boxes from City Hall to Public Service building storage area.
- Repaired south gate at Neighborhood Center.
- Cleaned vents at Recreation Center, extended drain system, repaired flushometer & a/c unit, purchased supplies and commenced construction of Haunted House.
- Patched holes at Theater.
- Repaired drawer in office at Senior Center.
- Purchased paint for Parks Department.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Building & Finance Departments.

Parks Maintenance

- Removed flux lilies and parking island at Library.
- Relocated mainline behind Recreation Center in preparation for new skate park. Mowed City complex, Senior Center, Library & Recreation Center green spaces, Veterans, Wood Ibis, Clam Bayou, Tomlinson, Tangerine, Clymer & Caldwell Parks, 14th Avenue median and Pasadena entrance area.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Repaired irrigation at Recreation Center.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Neighborhood Center & Library green spaces and Clam Bayou, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades, and repaired electrical power for Little League shed.
- 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.
- Filled 250 sandbags in preparation for flooding resulting from Hurricane Michael.

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 17 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 12 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 123 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.

- Completed 18 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected drinking water microbial samples on City distribution system.
- Replaced 8 water old water meters with E-Coder R900i meters.
- Installed new backflows & meters at 4931, 4935, 4937, 5003 & 5009 Gulfport Boulevard.
- Repaired water break at 2913 Beach Boulevard.
- Placed 2 Code Enforcement “Notice of Violation” door hangers for high grass/trash in easements.

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.
- Inspected 25 sewer manholes for defects.

Stormwater

- Replaced stormwater inlet at 1617 49th Street.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Changed oil on Police vehicles #514, 525, 26 & 103.
- Replaced fuel pump on GEMS vehicle #93.
- Replaced marker light and wiper blades on Sanitation vehicle #31.
- Replaced 2 Tires on Police vehicle #26.
- Replaced pump on Sanitation vehicle #41.
- 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? Check out the City's website for the "City of Gulfport New Business Checklist" at www.mygulfport.us under the Community Development Building Department tab in the Information & Regulations section. Call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063 for more information.

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

Code Enforcement activities continued this week in Section 4 of the City, also referred to as the Art District which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and east from 49th Street 58th & 59th Streets.

Because the City has one inspector who focuses on one section at a time, we depend on residents to call in violations when they see them. We will inspect within one working day of a complaint to verify any violation. Please call 893-1061 if you see violations. If the inspector is unavailable, leave as detailed a message as possible to help us find the violation. Complaints can be anonymous, but if you want a follow-up you will have to leave contact information which means the complaint is no longer anonymous. E-mail correspondence is considered a public record. If you wish to make a complaint using e-mail such communications are not anonymous.

To review Code Enforcement activities documents for more detailed information and a map of Code Enforcement areas visit the Special Documents section at www.mygulfport.us.

Planning and Development

October 10, 2018 Board of Adjustment Meeting Results:

V18-15; 6285 10th Avenue South; Variance request to reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 10 feet, from 25 feet to 15 feet to allow for the conversion of the existing garage into habitable space and proposed construction of a new attached 2-car garage. APPROVED.