

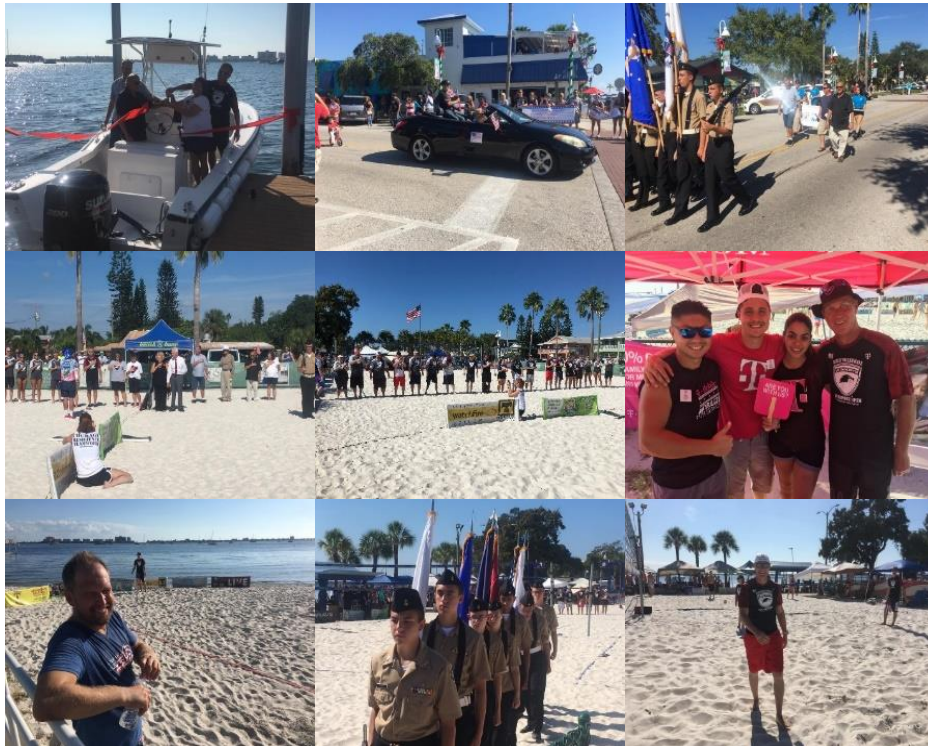


# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *November 11 - 17, 2018*

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Thursday & Friday, November 22 & 23 for **Thanksgiving**. Thursday's sanitation routes will be collected on Wednesday November 21, and Friday's routes will remain on schedule. There will be no yard waste pickup.

**Heroes Weekend** brought plenty of action to Gulfport on November 10 & 11 with the Grand Opening of the Municipal Mooring Field, Annual Veteran's Day Parade and the Seventh Annual VetSports Volleyball Tournament (photos below).



**Gulfport on the Go!** Visit [www.mygulfport.us/cityapp](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.gulfportma.com), call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email [FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com](mailto:FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com) for more information.

The Special Events Trolley & the Gulfport Merchants Chamber will represent the City during the **LocalShops1 Annual Shopapalooza Festival** at Straub Park in St. Petersburg on Saturday, November 24. Visit [www.facebook.com/events/235752013742987](http://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](http://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.

The next **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is 9 a.m. Saturday, December 8. 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.

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](http://www.sikpromotions.com/applicants/fall/holiday-hoopla). Stay for the **Boca Ciega Yacht Club 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lighted Boat Parade**. Parade participants can register at the club, 4600 Tifton Drive, or online at [www.sailbcyc.org/ChristmasBoatParade](http://www.sailbcyc.org/ChristmasBoatParade).

Join the City of Gulfport as we celebrate trees and their importance to the environment during the **Annual Arbor Day Celebration** at Tomlinson Park at 3:30 p.m. Friday, January 18. Children from the School Year Child Care Program will read excerpts and the Gulfport Teen Council will serve refreshments. Free Sweetgum and Red Maple seedlings will be available to guests while supplies last. Call 893-1118 for more information.

Bring your Gulfport I.D. and your junk to the **Gulfport Neighbors Junk in the Trunk** at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> Street, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Saturday, January 26. Trash it, swap it or donate it. Free bike registration and helmets, have coffee with a cop, and get gardening tips from the community garden team.

**PAVA's 2Cool Art Show** returns to the Gulfport Casino for the eighth year on Saturday & Sunday, February 2 & 3. Thirty-five juried artists will show and sell a variety of hand crafted visual and functional works in paint, wood, ceramics, photography, metal, glass, mixed media and jewelry. Admission and parking are free. This event is hosted by the Professional Association of Visual Artists, the City of Gulfport and the Gulfport Downtown Merchants Association.

The **Gulfport Merchants Association Fourth Annual Gulfport Fine Arts Festival** returns to Veterans Park, 5350 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Saturday & Sunday February 9 & 10. The juried art show will feature fine works of art from across the region, including; 2D, 3D, ceramic, glass, metal, mixed media, wood, acrylic, collage, oil, pastel, ink, fine photography, watercolor, and fine jewelry. Free parking and admission.

**Gulfport Peace, Love & Pride 2019** comprises three events in one all happening in and around the Historic Gulfport Casino on Sunday, February 10, noon to 5 p.m. There's a chili cook-off, music festival and pride marketplace.

The **Sonia Plotnick Health Fund's Annual Lady in Red Ball for Women** in the Casino Ballroom is Saturday, February 9. Beginning Friday, February 15, the Gulfport Library's LGBTQ Resource Center will host **ReadOut 2019**, a three-day event celebrating lesbian authors. For more information, visit [www.gulfportpride.com](http://www.gulfportpride.com).

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 49<sup>th</sup> Street. The **Marina District Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Lions Club, 4630 Tifton Drive. The **Strand Area Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Recreation Center, 5730 Shore Boulevard. The **Stetson Area Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Eleazer Hearing Room, 1401 61<sup>st</sup> Street.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **Patrol**

Dispatch calls for service	128
Self-initiated calls for service	514
Incident/offense reports	47
Arrests	13
Traffic citations	127
Ordinance violations	68

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Reginald Campbell was arrested on several outstanding warrants on November 8. He was taken into custody in the 2200 block of York Street.

Officers were dispatched to the 5600 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue after a caller reported a dog, possibly hit by a vehicle, was dragging itself across the road. They found the dog and transported him to the emergency animal clinic, and notified the dog's owner through Facebook of his whereabouts.

A 13-year old boy was reported missing from his residence in the 1800 block of 59<sup>th</sup> Street. He was last seen leaving for school at approximately 6 a.m. Officers were not able to locate him, but returned home the next day.

Officers responded to a report of a domestic altercation in the 1300 block of 60<sup>th</sup> Street after a man and his adult son got into an argument because the father wanted the son to leave the residence. The son was arrested after he pushed his father onto the ground, causing him to injure his hip and back.

Nathan Greene was arrested for felony driving while license suspended/revoked following a traffic stop in the 1400 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street on November 10.

Officers were dispatched to the 6200 block of Pasadena Point Boulevard after a caller reported his surveillance video showed a male in a dark sedan pull up to his house and break into his truck, stealing a bag containing his wallet and keys to the truck. The suspect also tried to break into another vehicle in the same driveway.

Ian Steele was arrested for marijuana possession after he was stopped for speeding on Gulfport Boulevard near Horan Way. Officer Pope smelled marijuana in the car, and a bag was found in the car containing a felony amount of the substance. Steele admitted he had just picked it up from his dealer, and was transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

Jason Olivo was arrested for driving without a valid driver license after Officer Petit stopped the car Olivo was driving for a nonworking headlight in the 1300 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street.

Officer Pope stopped Aaron Locks at Gulfport Boulevard & Horan Way on November 11 for speeding. Locks did not have identification on him and gave a false name. A relative arrived and gave Officer Pope his Locks' real name. Locks had a suspended license, and a search of the vehicle revealed a small amount of marijuana. Locks was transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

Officers were dispatched to the 2500 block of York Street after a resident had a disagreement with his step daughter. He chased her outside the residence while throwing items at her, and held her on the ground by the neck. He was arrested on battery charges.

Officers responded to a battery in progress in the 5100 block of Gulfport Boulevard, and made contact with the victim who advised Shane Trauger had spat on her and threatened her. The victim provided text messages and officers reviewed video from the location. They also discovered Trauger had an outstanding warrant. He was arrested for battery and the warrant.

A resident in the 5100 block of 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue reported on November 12 that someone stole her bicycle from her front yard sometime during the night on November 10.

Janet Trumpy and William Gale were arrested for theft on November 13 after they ordered lunch from a business in the 5400 block of Shore Boulevard, and had no money or means to pay.

Someone forced entry to a shed in a fenced backyard in the 5400 block of 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue and stole a lawnmower.

A resident in the 1100 block of 55<sup>th</sup> Street called to report she had two firearms she wished to turn in for destruction. She advised that one of the weapons may have been stolen. It was determined

that a Sig Sauer P226 handgun was reported stolen in a residential burglary in 2005 in Pinellas Park. The firearm was recovered and the owner notified.

Ada Lewis was arrested for loitering and prowling after Sergeant Burkhart found her in the outdoor bar area at Neptune's after business hours on November 14.

Officers assisted with traffic control during a fire at a home in the 1500 block of Hull Street. The Gulfport Fire Department determined the fire started on the stove. Nobody was injured, and no foul play is suspected.

Prescription medication was reported stolen from a car parked in the 5400 block of 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue while the owner dined at a local establishment.

The marine unit was on the water 28 hours this week. Officers conducted 4 vessel stops, made 24 boater contacts, and posted a 24-hour notice on an illegally moored vessel.

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

<b>New cases:</b>	14
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	8
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	4
<b>Supplements received:</b>	3
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	3

### **Investigator Highlights**

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a burglary case and a fraud.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a runaway juvenile case. She also Investigated and tracked down a possibly endangered runaway who was found in Fort Myers.

Officer Motte escorted a trespasser; assisted with a missing juvenile investigation; facilitated a safety meeting; assisted with a civil matter that resulted in property being recovered, and; assessed a student for a Baker Act.

Officer Embry is on medical leave. Various officers and detectives filled in for him.

Officer Sigsbee investigated a 3-vehicle crash in the school parking lot; wrote 1 police report; counseled a student; hosted a safety meeting; instructed 3 classrooms for the Great American Teach-in, discussing scuba diving and the importance of the ocean, and; attended the weekly teacher training session to discuss the remaining active assailant drills.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano created and distributed a missing juvenile bulletin for Detective Crowson; compiled the CIS monthly report, and the October PCSO call out report, and; started an analysis of vehicle burglaries.

### **Records Section**

Reports reviewed:	25
Supplements reviewed:	59

Public record requests:	18
Reports disseminated:	29
Background checks:	1
Bike registrations:	2
Fingerprints:	0
Subpoenas processed:	10
Citizens assisted:	40

### **Professional Standards**

The following policies are in the review process: Written Directive 101A - Intermediate Weapons; Written Directive 102 - Law Enforcement Response; Written Directive 105 - Arrest and Transport Procedures, and; Written Directive 200 - Standards of Conduct and Discipline

Written Directive 415 - Traffic Crash Investigations is awaiting the Police Chief's signature.

### **Training Coordination**

Officer Smith attended 30 hours of a 40 hours course regarding the use of speed measurement devices.

### **Applicant Screening**

Eight Police Officer applications are being processed.

### **MARINA**

Assisted with eighteen pump outs evacuating one hundred ninety-five gallons of waste.

Pumped two thousand six hundred sixteen gallons of gas and three hundred seventy-five gallons of diesel fuel, fueling fifty-two vessels.

### **Transient vessels:**

Staff welcomed 5 vessels this week.

### **Staff activities:**

- Replaced leaking water valves on pier 6, slips 31 & 29.
- Replaced dock box on pier 7, slip 27.
- Installed security chain to vessel with delinquent slip fees on pier 4, slip 24.
- Inspected Casino dock.
- Inspected pier 2 and tightened dock board screws.
- Installed containers to organize materials & spare parts.
- Inspected pump out systems and filled pump oil reservoirs.

### **LIBRARY**

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

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

Monday, November 5, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of No Ashes in the Fire* by Darnell Moore.

Tuesday, November 6, 10:15 a.m. - *Mommy & Me Yoga*.

Tuesday, November 6, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.



Tuesday, November 6, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group*.

Tuesday, November 6, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday November 7, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, November 7, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.

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

Thursday, November 8, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.

Thursday, November 8, 4 p.m. - *Teen Book Club*.

Thursday, November 8, 7 p.m. - *Bees Learning*.

Thursday, November 8, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*.

Friday, November 9, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

Saturday, November 10, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12 - 18*.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday, November 17, 1:30 p. m. - *Free Family Movie Series*: Screening the long-awaited sequel about a family of superheroes who wear fabulous red uniforms (with *NO CAPES!*) This animated feature stars the voice talents of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Sarah Vowell, Huck Millner, Bob Odenkirk, and Samuel L. Jackson. Rated PG. Call 893-1074 for title.

Monday, November 26, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic Night*: Everyone is invited to share their performing talents, both musical and otherwise. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, November 27, 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.

Through November 30 - *Transcending Gender: Bodies and Lives*: Eight posters on display in the reading area commemorating learning about and understanding transgendered people.

Saturday, December 1, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Series*: A safecracker from the Parisian underworld is framed for murder and condemned to life in the notorious penal colony on Devil's Island. Determined to regain his freedom, the title character forms an unlikely alliance with quirky convicted counterfeiter Louis Dega, who in exchange for protection, agrees to finance his conspirator's escape. This film is a thrilling adventure and a powerful portrait of the resilience of the human spirit, even in the face of utter inhumanity. Stars Charlie Hunnam, Rami Malek. Rated R. Call 893-1074 for title.

Monday, December 3, 6 p.m. - *LGBTQ Book Club discussion of Her by Cherry Muhajni*. Copies available at the Circulation Desk.

Tuesday, December 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 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](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us) for more information.

Tuesday, December 4, 7 p.m. - *Bay Voices Holiday Concert*: Formed in 2007 after several members of the former Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus got together and realized how much they missed singing together, the group has grown in popularity and renown, and has performed concerts at venues including the Salvador Dali Museum, University of Tampa, International Plaza, the Sandpearl Resort and several local churches. Under the direction of Stephen L. Allen, they will perform Christmas and Chanukah favorites to ring in the season. Sponsored by the LGBTQ

Resource Center, a project of the non-profit Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Public Library. Join us for this fabulous holiday event and refreshments.

Thursday, December 6, 5 p.m. - *Modern Masterpieces for Grades 6-12*: Join us for a painting party! We'll use paint and tape to create beautiful modern masterpieces. No experience necessary. Supplies will be furnished. Space is limited; call 893-1134 to register.

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

Wednesday, December 12, 1 p.m. *Negative Space Collage*: Glue tissue paper, magazines, patterned paper and cardstock on canvas to create a colorful image using negative space. Choose your subject matter; animals, nature, love, etc. Limited supplies; call 893-1074 to register.

Thursday, December 13, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*: Rachel Weisz stars as a successful New York photographer who, hearing of the death of her father, returns to the London Jewish Orthodox community of her upbringing after having been shunned years earlier for her attraction to a childhood female friend. Navigating a range of emotions in her old community and a range of attitudes from hostile to welcoming among family and former friends, the attraction to her old friend, now married is rekindled. Rated R. Also starring Rachel McAdams. Call 893-1074 for title.

Friday, December 14, 3:30 p.m. - *Winter Crafts for Grades K-5*: Join us to make seasonal decorations at the library! We'll be making adorable no-sew sock snowmen and polymer clay ornaments. Call 893-1134 for more information.

Through December 19 - *Verna McClain Art Exhibit*: Digitally manipulated photographs of Gulfport scenes on display in our Friends Room. Call 893-1073 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](mailto:leahveal@beeslearning.org) or call 404-308-0295 for more information.

Every Friday, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*: For more information call 893-1073.

#### **Library Services/Statistic October 28 - November 3, 2018:**

##### **Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,787	1,261
Sun. 11/4		Library closed



Mon. 11/5	308	236
Tue. 11/6	283	200
Wed. 11/7	324	191
Thu. 11/18	271	201
Fri. 11/9	282	201
Sat. 11/10	307	169

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

### **Technical Events**

Visit [www.mygulport.us](http://www.mygulport.us) or [www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulport](http://www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulport) to watch videos of recent City events, or access live & web stream rebroadcasts at [www.mygulport.us/gtv640](http://www.mygulport.us/gtv640). Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list.
- Assisted with daily updates and enhancements to City website.
- Posted upcoming events to social media sites.
- Created designs for e-newsletter.
- Made preparations for upcoming events.
- Provided photographic coverage for Hero's Weekend event.

### **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.mygulport.us](http://www.mygulport.us). Find us on Facebook at [www.FB.com/GulfportSeniorCenter](http://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 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

**Gulfport Extended Mobility Service (GEMS)** offers transportation to grocery stores, medical appointments, etc. Gulfport residents 55 & older or residents with a disability can take advantage of GEMS door to door service for a yearly membership of \$65 plus \$2 per ride. GEMS also offers transportation to Bay Pines VA Hospital & Medical Center, Northside Hospital and the St. Pete Beach Family Aquatic Center. For more information call 893-2242 between 8 a.m. & 1 p.m.

The Senior Center participates in the **Neighborly Dining & Meals on Wheels** program, offering lunches for seniors 60 and older. Call Joe at 344-2111 to inquire about the program or to lend a hand as a volunteer driver.

The **Gulfport Senior Center Pantry** is in need of peanut butter, tuna, dry cereal, pasta sauce, soups & canned meats. The pantry is open 1 - 3 p.m. every Monday & Thursday for qualified Gulfport residents 50 & older. Applicants should bring a photo I.D., a utility bill or bank statement and proof of income (SSI). For more information, please see Rachel or call 893-1231.

The Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center has **many volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants,

Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center for more information.

Need a ride in Gulfport? Call the **Multipurpose Senior Center Foundation GetGO free ride service** at 542-7757. The non-profit program transports residents to destinations within City limits free of charge.

Registered food pantry participants can pick up a **Family Thanksgiving Meal** graciously donated by students from St. Jude the Apostle and the Senior Center Foundation. Meals will be available 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Monday, November 19 thru Wednesday, November 21.

Join us at 10 a.m. Monday, November 19 for a **Humana Health Talks 2019 Benefit review meeting**. Bring a Friend!

Join Dedicated Senior Medical Center & WellCare for a **Matinee Movie & popcorn** in the Catherine Hickman Theater at 1 p.m. Tuesday, November 20. The lives of four lifelong friends are turned upside down after reading the infamous *50 Shades of Grey*, catapulting them into a series of outrageous life choices. PG-13

Grab a bite to eat during our Tuesday, November 27 **Gems Getaway Out-to-Lunch Bunch to Smokey Bones** where good food and good service are a priority. Then start your holiday shopping at **Robert's Christmas Wonderland**, one of the largest & most beautiful Christmas & Collectibles Stores in America, and explore the magical holiday forest, home to 200 Christmas trees. Round trip transportation: GEMS members \$6/nonmembers \$8. Meal paid for separately.

Join us for a **Fall Fashions Trunk Show** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 28 when Bon Worth brings the store to you for an afternoon of shopping adventure. Bon Worth has been recognized in the senior community for their mature women's designs in comfortable styles & easy-care fabrics at moderate prices that are suitable for Florida weather. Start your holiday shopping with special discounts, door prizes, & refreshments. See you there!

Get into the holiday spirit with a special evening **Gems Getaway Holiday Light Tour to the Florida Botanical Gardens** on Thursday, November 29 & Tuesday, December 4, and to the **Lights of Lake Park Estates** on Thursday, December 13 & Tuesday, December 18. Delight in the shimmering lights, holiday entertainment, beautiful flora, and warmth of the season. Round trip transportation & suggested admission donation: GEMS members \$8/nonmembers \$10.

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 November 29.

**Happy Birthday to You!** Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games, and more at 3 p.m. November 30. Sponsored by Simply Healthcare.

Holidays are a time to celebrate. But for those who have lost someone it can be a time of deep sorrow. Even years after a loss, many people find the holidays are still hard. Join us at 3 p.m. Monday, November 3 for **Empath Health Chats: Can We Talk**, focusing on ways to honor and remember our loved ones who are gone. We'll discuss coping strategies, and provide a checklist to help you discuss your feelings with your family and loved ones.

Join Andy Malivuk from Seniors Helping Seniors on Wednesday, December 5 as he discusses important tips for **Successful Aging**. This discussion will cover excerpts from the New York Times Bestseller *The Blue Zones* which offers individuals and caregivers lessons for living longer.

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, December 7.

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

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center at 10 a.m. Thursday, December 13. Get your **flu shot** at the same time. Bring your insurance card & photo ID. See front desk volunteer for details on accepted insurances.

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 December 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):**

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Sunday, November 4  | 6 p.m. - Ballroom dance (Turnout 17)  |
| Monday, November 5  | 10 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 15)   |
| Tuesday, November 6 | 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 36)<br>12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 9)<br>6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango (Turnout 55) |

Wednesday, November 7 8:30 a.m. - Keller-Williams seminar (Turnout 79)  
6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 215)

Thursday, November 8 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 32)  
6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 12)

Friday, November 9 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 289)  
7 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time (Turnout 167)

**Casino (upcoming events):**

Wednesday, November 21 6 p.m. - Lindy Hop Lesson  
7p.m. - East Coast Swing Lesson  
8 p.m. - Swing Dance with The Hot Rod Hornets

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 Monday 10 a.m. - Yoga

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*):**

Sunday, November 4 2 p.m. Gulfport Community Players (GCP) *present Jerome Bixby's The Man from Earth* (Turnout 16)

Thursday, November 8 8 p.m. - GCP presents *The Man from Earth* (Turnout 45)

Friday, November 9 8 p.m. - GCP presents *The Man from Earth* (Turnout 67)

Saturday, November 10 2 p.m. - GCP presents *The Man from Earth* (Turnout 18)  
8 p.m. - GCP presents *The Man from Earth* (Turnout 53)

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

Friday, November 16, 7 p.m. - *Nan Colton presents a live historical portrayal of world renowned American writer & abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe.* Sponsored by the Senior Center Foundation. Tickets \$18 at Gulfport Welcome Center, Foundation office, Casino and at the door.

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

Sunday, November 4 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church service (Turnout 12)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

**Neighborhood Center (*upcoming events*):**

Every Sunday 6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every first - third Sunday 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services

Every first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crime Watch meeting

**Scout Hall (*last week's events*):**

Sunday, November 4 10 a.m. - Bridal shower (Turnout 25)

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

Monday, November 5 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 32)

Tuesday, November 6 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 15)

Friday, November 9 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**

Forty-eight children are registered **2018/19 School Year Child Care program** for children in 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, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis & Tennis.

### **Staff Activities**

Jami Rowell assisted with the Gulfport Teen Council during the Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday.

John Lapham used the school bus to transport 34 Gulfport Elementary students and four adults to St. Petersburg College on Tuesday.

Marivel Gutierrez attended the Senior Staff Meeting on Wednesday.

**Teen Councilmembers** Cameron Althaus, Katelyn Latragna, Connor Rowell & Robert Wolf participated in the Veteran's Day Parade on Sunday.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Calls for Service:**

- 47 Emergency Medical Call
- 1 Trauma Alert
- 2 Structure Fires
- 1 WFF
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Water Rescue
- 1 Gas Leak
- 2 Odor/Smoke Invest

#### **Life Safety:**

- 8 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-inspection
- 3 C.O.
- 1 Fire Final

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Monday of the month. The next meeting is November 19.

The Gulfport Firefighters IAFF 4966 are still in contract negotiations with the City.

Gulfport Fire Department Paramedics successfully completed their 16 credit-hour Emergency Pediatric Care Course online with practical skill training created by the American Academy of Pediatrics.



Chief Marenkovic met with a representative from the American Red Cross to discuss the 2019 MLK day of Service Sound the Alarm program.

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Building Maintenance**

- Assisted United AC with inspection at Gateway Plaza building & Public Services building.
- Repaired toilet at Senior Center.
- Repaired envelope dispenser at City Hall.
- Repaired broken bench at Tomlinson Field.
- Repaired outlets at Little League Snack Bar.
- Removed stalls and commenced renovations at beach restrooms.
- Removed cabinets at History Museum.
- Moved chairs and tables to Neighborhood Center in preparation for event.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Building & Finance Departments.

### **Parks Maintenance**

- Reinstalled plaques around flag pole at beach parking / volleyball courts
- Remove cabinets at museum (from water damage) replaced sub flooring
- Moved bus around for filming at recreation center
- Removed partitions from beach bathrooms for renovations
- Lowered and raised flags throughout the city
- Continued monitoring effects of Red Tide on Gulfport Beach.
- Mowed City complex, Beach, Marina & Recreation Center green spaces & Caldwell Park.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Continued relocation of irrigation mainline for Skate Park project, and ordered irrigation supplies for Trolley Market Square project.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Recreation Center green spaces, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, 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 22 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 58 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 73 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Completed 13 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 1 water old water meter with E-Coder R900i meter.
- Cleaned, inspected and painted 3 fire hydrants
- Repaired water break at 1208 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.
- Relocated water line & hose bib, and removed water fountain & drain at Skate Park site.

### **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.
- Televised new lateral line for sewer lateral rebate program.
- Inspected manhole structure.

### **Stormwater**

- Graded fill at Recreation Center in preparation for new Skate Park.
- Plate-tamped skate park pad and took soil samples for density tests.
- Cleaned storm drain structure at 3104 Beach Boulevard.

### **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Replaced belt tensioner on Parks vehicle #24
- Changed oil on Police vehicles #9 & 7, and Fire vehicle #E-17.
- Replaced hydraulic hoses on Parks vehicle #706.
- Repaired grabber arm main wire on Sanitation vehicle #47.
- Replaced tires on Public Service vehicle #13.
- Replaced horn on Sanitation vehicle #45.
- 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](http://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](http://www.mygulfport.us) under the Community Development Building Department tab in the Information & Regulations section. Call Lisa Giddens at 893-1063 for more information.

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

**Code Enforcement activities** continued this week in Section 5 of the City, also referred to as the also referred to as the Marina District which comprises the southeast portion of the City and generally extends south from 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the water and east from 49<sup>th</sup> Street to City boundaries.

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

To review Code Enforcement activities documents for more detailed information and a map of Code Enforcement areas visit the Special Documents section at [www.mygulfport.us](http://www.mygulfport.us).

## **Planning and Development**

### **November 14, 2018 Board of Adjustment Meeting results:**

V18-16; 2619 54<sup>th</sup> Street South; Variance request to:

1. reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 13 feet, from 15 feet to 2 feet; and
2. reduce the separation distance requirement from the existing house by 9 feet, from 12 feet to 3 feet to allow for the proposed construction of a detached accessory structure (20' x 25' carport) at the rear of the property. ALL REQUESTS APPROVED

V18-17; 4412 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue South; Variance request to reduce the front yard setback requirement by 24 feet, from 25 feet to 1 foot to allow for the proposed construction of a new two-car garage and laundry room to the front of the existing single-family house. APPROVED

V18-18; 2908 56<sup>th</sup> Street South; Variance request to:

1. Reduce the separation distance requirement from the existing detached accessory structure (garage) by 8 feet, from 12 feet to 4 feet; and
2. To reduce the side yard setback requirement by 0.18 feet, from 6 feet to 5.82 feet to allow for the proposed construction of a new bathroom to an existing bedroom and to match the existing side yard setback of the house. ALL REQUESTS APPROVED

### **December 12, 2018 Board of Adjustment Meeting:**

V18-19; 2801 Seabreeze Drive South; Variance request to reduce the rear yard setback requirement by 3 feet, from 20 feet to 17 feet to allow for the construction of an outdoor kitchen and relocating existing pool equipment.

V18-20; 2801 Seabreeze Drive South; Variance request to reduce the right-hand side outer one-third setback requirement by 10.67 feet, from 26.76 feet to 16 feet to allow for the construction of a proposed new boatlift.