



# *Gulfport Community Update*

## *October 28 - November 3, 2018*

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Monday, November 12 in observance of **Veterans Day**. The Sanitation schedule will not be affected.

The **International Coastal Cleanup** at the Clam Bayou Nature Park was a huge success on October 27. Fifty volunteers collected 470 lbs. of trash. A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers for your hard work in making this cleanup one of the best yet!



**Gulfport on the Go!** Visit [www.mygulfport.us/cityapp](http://www.mygulfport.us/cityapp) for more information on our mobile app.

The **City of Gulfport Phase II sidewalk replacement project on 59<sup>th</sup> Street South between 26<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Avenues** commenced on October 29, and is expected to take approximately two weeks to complete. Please call the Gulfport Public Works Department at 893-1089 for more information.

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

- Flashlights and extra bulbs
- Water
- Battery-operated radio
- Fully charged battery-operated lanterns (no candles or kerosene lanterns)
- Extra batteries
- Matches
- Clock (wind-up or battery-operated)
- Plastic garbage bags
- Working fire extinguishers

- Scissors
- Clean change of clothes, rain gear, sturdy swamp boots

### **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 City of Gulfport permit-free **Citywide Yard Sale** is Saturday, November 3. In the event of rain, the sale will take place on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>. Brochures will be available on the outside brochure display at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard; Gulfport Municipal Marina, 4630 29<sup>th</sup> Avenue; the Gulfport Public Library, 5501 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and; online at [www.mygulfport.us/gulfport-city-wide-yard-sale](http://www.mygulfport.us/gulfport-city-wide-yard-sale). For more information, call 893-1118.

Join Community Resource Officer Zack Mills for **Coffee with a Cop** at the St Petersburg Ballet Conservatory, 1500 58<sup>th</sup> 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 Chef'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/](https://www.facebook.com/events/28961215171973/).

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 next **Gulfport Neighbors Beach Cleanup** is Saturday, November 10 at 9 a.m. A limited number of pickers will be available; if you have one please bring it. Meet at Gulfport Beach pavilion #4. This is a great way to meet your neighbors and make a difference in the community.

The Pinellas County Solid Waste division will visit the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.pinellascounty.org/solidwaste) for more information.

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](http://www.mygulfport.us/heroesweekend).

Interested in learning more about Gulfport? Everyone is invited to the **Welcome to Gulfport Workshop** at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, November 13 and 6 p.m. Thursday, November 15. Informative take home information and presentations. Presented by the Gulfport Public Library and the Gulfport Neighbors. For more information, call 893-1074.

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.

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).

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            134

Self-initiated calls for service	478
Incident/offense reports	47
Arrests	6
Traffic citations	118
Ordinance violations	68
Residence checks	31

Examples of arrests or significant incidents or calls this week:

Kaitlyn Campbell was arrested on October 25 for a warrant from Sarasota County for possession of a controlled substance. She was taken into custody in the 5700 block of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

Officers were dispatched to a report of two people shouting at each other at a bus stop in the 5500 block of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Eric Thomas, who initially provided a false name to Officer Priest had an outstanding warrant for failure to appear for a retail theft charge. He was also charged with providing a false name, and transported to the Pinellas County jail.

A purse was reported stolen from an unlocked car parked in the 2400 block of 49<sup>th</sup> Street on the evening of October 27.

A gold watch, a money clip with \$50, and debit cards were reported stolen from an unlocked car parked in the 5100 block of 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue on October 28. The victim also reported that his vehicle had been broken into a week before but he did not report it.

Sergeant Vandenberg stopped a vehicle with an expired temp tag in the area of Gulfport Boulevard & Oleander Way. The driver admitted to having a small amount of marijuana under his seat. He was issued an Adult Pre-Arrest Diversion referral for possession of marijuana.

A patron at a laundromat in the 1600 block of 58<sup>th</sup> Street reported someone stole her laundry after she briefly left the business.

Darquel Quarterman was arrested for DUI and possession of Marijuana following a traffic stop on October 29. He refused to submit to a breath test.

Officers were dispatched to a late reported battery at a school bus stop on October 30. A student exited the bus in the 5100 block of 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue and was attacked by two students from another school. An adult was present during the attack and video recorded the incident. The two suspects left the area in a vehicle with the adult who recorded the incident. Gulfport Police are working with the School Resource officer in an attempt to identify the suspects.

Officers were dispatched to Stetson Law College following a report of racist fliers being posted around campus. Officer's spoke to the Assistant Director of Public Safety who stated they would handle the issue from within.

Officers were dispatched to the 4700 block of 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue on October 31 after a caller reported his car was stolen from his driveway. He was able to track the car on an app, and it was recovered in St. Petersburg.

John Reynolds was arrested for resisting an officer without violence following a reported disturbance in progress in the 1300 block of 60<sup>th</sup> Street. Reynolds ran away when officers arrived. They shouted at him numerous times to stop, but he kept walking away. An officer deployed his Taser and took Reynolds into custody. He complained of pain, and was transported to a hospital where he was medically cleared before being transported to the Pinellas County Jail.

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

<b>New cases:</b>	13
Cases assigned:	2
Cases suspended-no leads:	9
Cases cleared with arrest:	0

Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	2
<b>Supplements received:</b>	7
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:	7

### **Investigator Highlights**

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

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for two burglaries, an auto theft, two frauds and an identity theft.

Officer Motte coordinated three safety meetings regarding camera and gate/access issues. He also hosted the Monday night police explorer meeting with Officer Kellington, covering the topic of defensive tactics.

Officer Embry assisted St. Pete Police in recovering a runaway juvenile; investigated a battery; spoke with a student regarding an issue in her classroom, and; provided security for a football game.

Officer Sigsbee took part in the Parent University on October 25, hosting two presentations on Active Assailant training and why it is conducted; met with a child who had been placed at Family Resources, and did not want to return. After some discussion the child agreed to return to Family Resources without issue.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano attended financial crime investigation training presented by FCIAA; updated a Halloween safety tips flyer for posting on Facebook, and; created and distributed a bulletin for Acting Sergeant Wiltse in an attempt to identify a grand theft suspect.

### **Records Section**

Reports reviewed:	9
Supplements reviewed:	100
Public record requests:	57
Background checks:	3
Bike registrations:	0
Fingerprints:	1
Subpoenas processed:	4
Citizens assisted:	37

### **MARINA**

Assisted with twenty-four pump outs evacuating two hundred ten gallons of waste.

Pumped one thousand four hundred eighty-nine gallons of gas and one thousand three hundred seventy gallons of diesel fuel, fueling forty-seven vessels.

### **Transient vessels:**

Staff welcomed 12 vessels this week.



### **Staff activities:**

- Installed shelving in maintenance area.
- Performed monthly meter readings for all slips.
- Repaired tailgate on Marina work truck.
- Inspected pump out systems and filled pump oil reservoirs.
- Inspected pier 6, and tightened dock board screws.

### **LIBRARY**

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

Monday, October 22, 3 p.m. - *K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Club*.

Tuesday, October 23, 10:15 a.m. - *Gentle Yoga for Adults*

Tuesday, October 23, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club*.

Tuesday, October 23, 5:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting*.

Wednesday, October 24, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers meeting*.

Wednesday, October 24, 4 p.m. - *Preschool Storytime*.

Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*.

Thursday, October 25, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime*.

Thursday, October 25, 11:30 a.m. - *Community Playdate*.

Thursday, October 25, 5 p.m. - *Skull String Art*.

Thursday, October 25, 7 p.m. - *Friends Helping Friends*.

Thursday, October 25, 7 p.m. - *Bees Learning*.

Friday, October 26, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

Saturday, November 3, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Series*: If you're in the mood for wild and at times over the top social satire, you'll enjoy rapper Boots Riley's writing and directorial debut. Rated R. Call 893-1074 for title.

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

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

Thursday, November 8, 4 p.m. - *Teen Book Club*: Join us for "The Book was Better", for young adult books that have been adapted into recent movies. Our first selection is *Every Day* by David Levithan. We'll chat about the book and watch the movie. Snacks and drinks will be provided. For more information or to sign up call Cailey at 893-1074 or email [cklasson@mygulfport.us](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us).

Thursday, November 8, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Film Series*: Filmed over the course of four years, this documentary is an intimate story about a family in transition following the journey of trans teen Bennett as he navigates youth, sobriety and the ramifications of his changing gender identity. (Not Rated) Call 893-1074 for title.

Saturday, November 10, 1 p.m. - *Raven's Guild for ages 12 - 18*: Gather fans of anime, manga, gaming! This month, we will feature the "Imagination Station" Socratic seminar, in which Guild

members will enjoy an open discussion about different manga/anime styles and learn skills they will use later in life while having fun! Conversations will be based on select sections in the text *Anime essentials: Everything a Fan Needs to Know*, by Gilles Poitras. We'll also have snacks and screen a movie. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library. Call 893-1074 for movie title.

Tuesday, November 13, 10:30 a.m. & Thursday, November 15, 6 p.m. - *Welcome to Gulfport Workshops*: Cohosted by Gulfport Neighbors and the Library. Learn about the services available through the City and the Library. Find out how you can participate in our award-winning Gulfport Neighbors organization. Call 893-1074 for more information.

Tuesday, November 20, 3 p.m. - *Lego Club*: Build with Legos, wood blocks and more! Open to children ages 4-10 with a caregiver.

Wednesday, November 14, 1 p.m. - *Holiday Cards & Gift Tags*: Join us for some holiday cheer and crafts! We'll be designing and decorating cards and gift tags! Templates, stamps and embellishments will be provided. Supplies are limited; call 893-1074 to register.

Thursday, November 15, noon - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* by Karen Joy Fowler. Copies available at the Circulation Desk. Sponsored by the Circle of Friends of Gulfport Library. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Friday, November 16, 3:30 p.m. - *Fall Crafts for Kids*: If you're in Grades K-5, then join us for Fall-themed crafts! We will make cards to give thanks, a turkey magnet, and a 3D pumpkin. Call 893-1134 for additional details.

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.

Tuesday, November 20, 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.

Monday, November 26, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic night*. Call 893-1073 for more information.

Tuesday, November 27, 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](mailto:cklasson@mygulfport.us) for more information.

Thursday, November 29, 11:30 a.m. - *Community Playdate*: Get acquainted with other caregivers of toddlers & preschoolers in a relaxed, informal setting.

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 21 - 27, 2018:**

#### **Items Circulated Patrons**

Weekly Circulation:	1,482	1,275
Sun. 10/21	Library closed	
Mon. 10/22	278	248
Tue. 10/23	199	193
Wed. 10/25	259	217
Thu. 10/25	241	208
Fri. 10/26	281	187
Sat. 10/27	216	159

## **PARKS & RECREATION**

### **Technical Events**

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

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

### **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](http://www.mygulfport.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 **Neighborhood Dining & Meals on Wheels** program, offering lunches for seniors 60 and older. Call Joe at 344-2111 to inquire about the program or to lend a hand as a volunteer driver.

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

The Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center has **many volunteer opportunities** available. If you want to make a difference and help your community, join the volunteer program at the Senior Center. It's a great way to meet new friends and to get acquainted with more than 50 programs, classes and workshops. Volunteers assist as Lobby Receptionist, Fitness Center Attendants, Reassurance Callers, Class/Activity Instructors, Special Events, Food Pantry, Clerical Support, Flea Market, Promotions, Bingo, Card/Magazine organizing, etc. Call Rachel at 893-1231 or stop by the Center for more information.

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

November is National Hospice Month, a good time to learn more about the compassionate care that Suncoast Hospice provides to our community. Did you know that patients & families who choose hospice care live longer, and report feeling better both emotionally & physically? Did you know that there is rarely any out-of-pocket expense for hospice care? Join us at 3 p.m. Monday, November 5 for **Empath CHAT: What You Learn About Hospice May Surprise You & Name That Tune!** as we learn about and dispel the myths surrounding hospice care. We need some fun after all that learning so let's play an exciting game of 50s, 60s & 70s Name That Tune!

Join Attorney Catherine Blackburn at 2 p.m. Wednesday, November 7 for **Taxes, Trusts, & Inheritance**. This free presentation is packed with great legal information: how estate, gift & income taxes work, how Revocable Living Trusts and Wills work, how inheritance with or without a will or trust works, and more. Don't miss out!!

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.

Join us on Thursday November 8 for our **Gems Getaway to the Florida Aquarium**, and discover many of Florida's aquatic & terrestrial animals and ecosystems. Explore the large simulated wetlands environment under a tall glass atrium, 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.

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.

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 November 16. Call 582-7480 to schedule.

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

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

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.

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.

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 22      10 a.m. - Yoga (Turnout 14)

Tuesday, October 23      10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 30)

12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 14)  
6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango (Turnout 62)

Wednesday, October 24 7 a.m. - Keller-Williams seminar (Turnout 88)  
6 p.m. - Swing dance with Swingtime (Turnout 183)

Thursday, October 25 10:30 a.m. - Tai Chi with Richard Barracato (Turnout 27)  
6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 23)

Friday, October 26 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 27)  
6:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 130)

Saturday, October 27 7 p.m. - Monster Mash 2018 Halloween party (Turnout 130)

**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 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 (upcoming events):**

Thursday - Saturday, November 1 - 3 & 8 - 10, 8 p.m., and Saturday & Sunday, November 3 & 4 and 10 & 11, 2 p.m. - *Gulfport Community Players Present Jerome Bixby's The Man from Earth*: Tickets \$18 in advance at Beach Bazaar; \$20 at the door (cash only) within one hour of performance, or online at [www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org](http://www.gulfportcommunityplayers.org).

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

Sunday, October 21      9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church service (Turnout 11)  
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

**Neighborhood Center (upcoming events):**

Every Sunday              6 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting  
Every first - third Sunday    9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral International Church services  
Every first Wednesday      7 p.m. - Crime Watch meeting

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

Monday - Friday            7 a.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Monday, October 22        11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 28)  
Tuesday, October 23       10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 10)  
Friday, October 26         10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 12)

**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, Gentle Yoga, Hatha Yoga, Kai Chi Do, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis and Watercolor.

### **Staff Activities**

Marivel Gutierrez attended a Skate Park planning meeting on Tuesday morning.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

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

- 45 Emergency Medical Calls
- 1 Structure Fire
- 1 WFF
- 2 Fire Alarms
- 2 Vehicle Crashes
- 1 Water Rescue
- 1 Gas Leak
- 2 Odor/Smoke Invest
- 1 Vehicle Fire

#### **Life Safety:**

- 10 Fire Inspections
- 1 Re-inspection
- 1 C.O.
- 1 Permit Review
- 1 Plans Review

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center.

The Gulfport Fire Department Paramedics continued their Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) Course online with practical skill training this week. The 16-credit hour course was created by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Final exam will be in November.

The Gulfport Firefighters IAFF 4966 met with City Staff on October 31. We have not reached an agreement with the Union.

Chief Marenkovic conducted a fire investigation at the Golden Sands Condominiums on October 29. The cause of the fire was electrical in nature.

Chief Marenkovic performed a walk-thru at the Gulfport Recreation Center for the annual Haunted Halloween event on October 31. No violations were noted.

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

#### **Building Maintenance**

- Repaired outlet in gym, and assisted with preparations for Halloween event at Recreation Center.
- Installed hand dryers in restrooms at Scout Hall.
- Repaired toilet at Casino.
- Repaired neon clock at Historical Museum.
- Replaced ceiling tile at Senior Center.
- Assisted with Art Show setup at Library.



- Repaired sink drain and air conditioning unit at Neighborhood Center.
- Delivered mail to main post office for Building & Finance Departments.

### **Parks Maintenance**

- Continued construction of Recreation Center Haunted House.
- Replaced events banners on Gulfport Boulevard.
- Continued monitoring effects of Red Tide on Gulfport Beach.
- Mowed City complex, lift station, Clymer & Caldwell Parks, Library, Senior Center, Neighborhood Center & Recreation Center green spaces, and 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue sign area.
- Cleaned & sanitized event trashcans.
- Repaired irrigation at Clymer Park, relocated irrigation main line at Recreation Center in preparation for Skate Park, and tracked control wire issues at City complex & Senior Center.
- Cleaned restrooms at Little League, beach and outside Casino.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched lift station area, and Recreation Center & Neighborhood Center green spaces, and hand raked around benches & beach pavilions.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades and ordered parts for stick edger.
- 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).
- Disconnected water service at 2 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 5 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 99 miscellaneous service orders generated by customer service department.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected drinking water microbial samples on City distribution system.
- Replaced 2 water old water meters with E-Coder R900i meters.
- Cleaned, inspected and painted 16 fire hydrants
- Installed meter and backflow at 1825 49<sup>th</sup> Street for Trolley Market.

### **Sewer**

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 and #2.
- Daily rainfall checks and documentation, (includes Saturday & Sunday).

- Daily ground water elevation recording (includes Saturday & Sunday).
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations #1 & 2, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Beach, Clam Bayou & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced 8" butterfly valve at Lift Station #2.
- Televised new line for sewer lateral rebate program.
- Inspected 2 manholes and replaced inflow preventers.
- Refilled generators and added fuel treatment

### **Stormwater**

- Inspected 2 storm water structures, and replaced lids.
- Installed 18 storm water placards on storm lids.

### **Vehicle Maintenance**

- Replaced coolant temperature sensor and a/c fans on Police vehicle #18.
- Replaced fuel cap on GEMS Vehicle #3.
- Replaced wheel seal on Sanitation vehicle #31.
- Performed transmission flush and replaced fuel filters on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Replaced mirror on Sanitation vehicle #40.
- Replaced marker lights on Sanitation vehicles #40 & #88.
- 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? Check 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** have moved to 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:**

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.

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.

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.