



Gulfport Community Update

June 18 - 24, 2017

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

Gulfport City Hall and facilities will be closed on Tuesday, July 4 in observance of **Independence Day**. Tuesday's Sanitation routes will be collected on Wednesday the 5th, and there will be no Wednesday yard waste pickup.

The Gulfport Recreation Center would like to thank the **Michael J. Yakes Foundation** for sponsoring nine Gulfport children for the 2017 Summer Program. Through sponsors such as your organization local Gulfport children can enjoy a safe fun-filled summer.



The **Gulfport Public Library is a Summer Break Spot**, offering free lunches and snacks for children 18 years and younger beginning at 11 a.m. every Monday - Friday through July 28. Summer Break spots are sponsored through the USDA Summer Food Service Program. No signup necessary; just drop in! For more information call 893-1074.

Pinellas remains under increased water restrictions imposed by Southwest Florida Water Management District. The District's modified Phase III water shortage order went into effect on May 24 and will remain in effect through August 1. Under the new order lawn watering is reduced to once a week and allowable watering hours are reduced. Micro-irrigation and hand watering of non-lawn areas is permitted. There are also limits on car washing, and homeowner associations may not enforce any deed restrictions that could increase water use. For additional details regarding watering new lawns and plants, reclaimed water and other water uses visit www.WaterMatters.org/restrictions.

Hurricane Guides are available at Gulfport City Hall, Library and 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

Fire Chief Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that **free smoke detectors are available to elderly and low income households within Gulfport City limits**. Call Chief Marenkovic at 893-1062 for more information.

Upcoming Events:

The **Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market** is a weekly year-round open-air market featuring fruits, vegetables and 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. - 3 p.m. Bring donations of non-perishable food, toiletries and personal needs for the Gulfport Multipurpose Center Pantry to the Gulfport Merchants Association tent every Tuesday. For more information visit www.gulfportma.com, call Susan Blankenship at 453-9093 or Chris Spencer at 902-2326, or email FreshMarket@GulfportMA.com.

The City of Gulfport Special Events Trolley will participate in the **St. Pete Pride Parade** on Saturday, June 24. The trolley will leave Gulfport City Hall at 3 p.m. and return immediately following the parade. For more information call 893-1066.

Everyone is invited to the **City of Gulfport's Independence Day Celebration** in the Waterfront District on Tuesday, July 4. The day's events begin with a Kids' Fishing Derby at the Recreation Center seawall at 8 a.m. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Bring your own pole! The Family Sand Sculpture contest on Gulfport Beach from 10 a.m. until noon will have a Red, White & Blue theme. Bring your own tools and supplies. Tuesday Fresh Market will take place downtown from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. No 4th of July would be complete without a Parade on Beach Boulevard at 6 p.m. The day's celebration caps off with a spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m. The trolley will begin looping offsite parking locations north of Gulfport Boulevard immediately following the parade. For more information email info@mygulfport.us or call 893-1066.

Visit art vendors, have dinner at one of Gulfport's many fine restaurants and enjoy a beautiful evening during **First Friday Art Walk** on July 7.

A **Zumbathon fundraiser for CASA** (Community Action Stops Abuse) will take place at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 8. Admission \$5 to participate or watch, with all proceeds benefiting CASA! For more information call Paula McCart at 813-455-8723 or visit www.casa-stpete.org/events/zumbathon.

Join Gulfport Police & Fire at the Catherine Hickman Theater at 6 p.m. Thursday, August 3 for **Gulfport Night Out**, an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Gulfport Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community and provides a great opportunity to bring police, fire, and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Call 893-1066 for more information.

Tickets for the August 9 **Tampa Bay Rays vs. Boston Red Sox** are available at the Gulfport Casino. The \$40 price includes round trip transportation to Tropicana Field via the Recreation Bus, a lower box seat and complimentary Ray's baseball hat, available at the redemption desk inside Tropicana Field. All Rays fans with tickets are invited to catch free a ride to the game. Departure from the Gulfport Casino begins at 5 p.m. Return trips begin during the 7th inning. For more information call 893-1066.

The theme for the **Ninth Annual Gecko Ball is Geckostock**. Tickets go on sale July 4. The event will take place at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Boulevard 6 - 11 p.m. Saturday, August

26. Tickets are \$35 per person. For more information and updates email John Haugen at jhaugen@hudsonmkt.com or visit and “like” www.Facebook.com/GeckoBall.

The **17th Annual Gulfport GeckoFest** promises a full day of free family-friendly fun on Saturday, September 2, 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. This year’s street performers include jugglers, magicians, acrobats, face painters, dancers and aerialists. Favorite costumed characters will be roving the village ready to pose for your photos. GeckoFest is preceded each year by the Gecko Art Show, Gecko Crawl and Gecko Ball. All events are hosted by the non-profit Gulfport Merchants Association, and a portion of proceeds benefit local charities. Parking and admission is complimentary and the event is pet and family-friendly. For more information visit www.Facebook.com/GeckoFest or call 322- 5217

The **Citywide Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Neighborhood Center, 1617 49th Street. The **Marina District Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Lions club. 4630 Tifton Drive. The **Strand Area Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at the Gulfport Recreation Center. 5730 Shore Boulevard. The **Stetson Area Neighborhood Watch** meets at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Eleazer Hearing Room, 1401 61st Street.

The **Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month; location is determined by the type of training. Call Volunteer Coordinator Jim Wright at 893-1022 or email jwright@mygulfport.us for more information.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Patrol

Dispatch calls for service	197
Self-initiated calls for service	361
Offenses	35
Arrests	12
Traffic citations	70
Ordinance violations	40

Examples of arrests, significant incidents or calls this week:

Unknown suspects in a white Jeep drove into Clymer Park on June 15 and did several donuts around a tree before heading east bound on 24th Avenue.

Officer Carter stopped a vehicle traveling on 11th Avenue with 2 flat tires. Driver Ronald Raley appeared to be under the influence of alcohol, and was arrested following a DUI investigation. His breath alcohol content was .120/.116.

Officers were dispatched to the Boca Ciega Center on June 16 following an altercation between two residents. One of the involved parties punched the other on the side of the head multiple times. The incident was witnessed by a staff member who was able to separate them. The case was referred to the State Attorney’s office.

Ofc Langston stopped a car in the area of 49th Street & 13th Avenue and detected a strong odor of marijuana. During a search of the vehicle a baggie of suspected marijuana was found in the glove box. Trenton Keys admitted it was his and was given a Notice to Appear.

The manager at Family Dollar reported her cell phone was stolen while she was stocking shelves. Store video showed two female suspects picking it up and walking away.

Tara Lanahan was arrested for DUI after her car hit a curb and crashed into a garage in the 6200 block of 15th Avenue. She was located in the 6000 block of Gulfport Boulevard with a flat

tire and damaged front end, and admitted hitting the garage. Her breath alcohol content was .183/.179.

An unknown suspect entered a vehicle parked at a residence in the 2700 block of 49th Street on June 17 and took a briefcase containing an iPad mini, a checkbook, driver license and documents. There was no forced entry, but the owner states the car was locked. There is no suspect information. A latent impression was obtained and will be sent for comparison.

Someone in a silver vehicle stopped next to a truck parked in the 1500 block of 59th Street, opened the unlocked door and took a wallet. The truck owner attempted to chase the vehicle but lost it several blocks away.

A nail tech in the 1000 block of 49th Street reported that a customer walked out without paying. An officer responded and obtained video in an attempt to identify the suspect.

Tools were reported stolen from inside a fenced area of an asphalt business in the 4900 block of 15th Avenue on June 19. The gate was locked, but the fence appeared to be pulled back due to vehicles striking it, and may have been the point of entry. There are no suspects.

A resident in the 2800 block of Beach Boulevard reported on June 20 that she allowed an acquaintance to stay at her home, and he stole a PlayStation and games. He was seen on video leaving with the items.

Halie Copas was arrested for aggravated domestic battery and resisting with violence following an altercation with her boyfriend in the 2700 block of 49th Street, during which she hit him with a chair. An officer arrived on scene to find Copas walking to her car and ordered her to stop but Copas' got into her car and started the motor. He tried opening the door but she put the car in reverse and started backing, pulling the officer before he could let go. Copas was stopped by a state wildlife officer a short distance away and taken to Pinellas County Jail.

Iver Olson was arrested for felony possession of marijuana following a traffic stop in the 2300 block of 49th Street. There was a strong odor of marijuana in Olson's car and a total of 22 grams of the substance was found in the car.

Officers were dispatched to Boca Ciega High School after Pinellas County School Police reported a vehicle leaving the campus at 2:45 a.m. The car was stopped and the four juveniles inside, all students at the school, stated they were on the property because they were bored. They were released to their parents.

A resident in the 5200 block of 14th Avenue reported on the morning of June 21 that sometime overnight someone threw a landscaping brick through the back window of her car. She stated she was not having problems with anyone and had no idea why anyone would do this.

A resident in the 5900 Block of Pelican Bay Plaza reported he was notified that he won a Las Vegas Lottery, and over the course of a month he paid out \$80,000 in "fees and taxes" before a bank teller realized he was a victim of fraud. An investigation is underway.

The **Marine Unit** was on the water for 7 hours this week. Seven boater contacts were made and a domestic violence investigation was completed.

Criminal Investigative Section (CIS)

New cases:	8
Cases assigned:	0
Cases suspended-no leads:	7
Cases cleared with arrest:	0
Cases exceptionally cleared:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Supplements received:	15
Cases cleared with arrest:	1

Previously cleared with arrest:	0
Cases suspended/no leads:	0
Cases unfounded/no crime:	1
Cases exceptionally cleared	0
Cases still active:	13

Investigator Highlights

Detective Pham conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for a fraud case, a grand theft, and a burglary. He also issued probable cause for Mario James who was taken into custody for burglary, and probable cause for the arrest of Lamonte Walker for residential burglary.

Detective Crowson conducted follow up investigations and completed supplemental reports for three auto thefts and a missing/runaway juvenile case, and followed up on leads in attempt to locate a missing juvenile/runaway.

Crime Analyst Margaret Palmisano distributed a cancellation of a missing person/runaway bulletin; completed pawn checks on 18 cases with a named suspect, known serial number or searchable description, and; completed a review of property reported stolen with a known serial number to ensure proper entry into FCIC/NCIC.

Records

Reports reviewed	7
Supplements reviewed:	39
Public Records requests:	39
Background checks:	2
Bike registrations:	3
Fingerprints	2
Subpoenas processed:	10
Citizens assisted:	35

MARINA

Assisted with fifty two (52) pump outs, evacuating one thousand one hundred sixty five (1,165) gallons of waste.

Pumped one thousand eight hundred sixty four (1,864) gallons of gas and five thousand six hundred fifty nine (5,659) gallons of diesel fuel, fueling one hundred seventy two (172) vessels.

Transient vessels:

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

Marina Maintenance:

- Inspected, repaired and lubricated gate locks.
- Installed/replaced line holders on docks.
- Repaired and cleaned dock boxes on various slips.
- Performed routine and preventive maintenance on pump out stations.
- Purchased and stocked drinks, snacks and marina supplies in ships store.
- Removed and disposed of derelict dinghy from Boca Ciega Bay.

LIBRARY

Public Programs/Meetings/Events:

Monday - Friday, noon - *Student luncheon.*

Monday, June 12, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Kids Painting Workshop.*

Monday, June 12, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program*

Monday, June 12, 7 p.m. - *LGBT Equality: The Path Forward.*

Tuesday, June 13, 12:30 p.m. - *French Conversation Club.*

Tuesday, June 13, 2 p.m. - *Ukulele Group.*

Tuesday, June 13, 6:45 p.m. - *Free Thinkers Open Twelve Step meeting.*

Wednesday, June 14, 10 a.m. - *Gulfport Writers.*

Wednesday, June 14, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teens 3D Printing.*

Wednesday, June 14, 7:30 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters.*

Thursday, June 15, 10:30 a.m. - *Toddler Storytime.*

Thursday, June 15, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of The Riders of the Purple Sage by Zane Grey.*

Thursday, June 15, 3:30 p.m. - *Reading Paws.*

Friday, June 16, 5:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club.*

Saturday, June 17, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day.*

Upcoming Events:

Monday, June 26, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Giving Tree Drum Circle.*

Monday, June 26, 5 p.m. - *Open Mic night:* Open to all comedians, singer-songwriters, poets, storytellers, musicians, jugglers and stage magicians. For more information call 893-1073.

Tuesday, June 27, 2 p.m. - *Love Letters from Gulfport:* Based on Hannah Brencher's renowned project The World Needs More Love Letters, we will handwrite encouraging and loving letters. Our letters can be placed around the community or sent to someone in need of a boost. If you think you don't have the words, don't worry. We can all work together.

Wednesday, June 28, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teens Giant Jenga & Mini Golf.*

Through June 30 - *ArtOut: LGBTQ Artists in Gulfport:* Month-long exhibit showcasing selected works in a variety of media by Gulfport 13 artists reveals a vibrant display of local talent. For more information call Jessica Sager at 608-0070 or email jessica.sager@live.com.

Saturday, July 1, 1 p.m. - *Grownup Movie Day:* Join us for the story of an interracial couple who travel to spend a weekend with the girl's parents. As the visit goes on, it moves from awkward to disturbing to shocking in a movie that is both funny and horrifying. For movie title call 893-1074.

Monday, July 3, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program 4th of July Kid's Crafternoon.*

Wednesday, July 5, 3 p.m. - *Teen Movie & Sundae.*

Thursday, July 6, 7 p.m. - *Daughter of the Revolution: the Documentary:* Film by Új Budapest Filmstúdió, produced by László Kántor and directed by Tünde Talás focuses on local poet/writer Peter Hargitai who lived in Budapest as a 9-year-old during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. The experience haunts his life, and it is not until 50 years later that he publishes the book, the story of a 14-year-old girl who becomes a woman warrior. To mark the 60th anniversary of the uprising, he comes to Budapest with his son to revisit his past. He narrates his journey as a

young immigrant in America and reflects on his motives to write his book as a way of dealing with his traumatic experiences and to pay tribute to the legacy of all young Hungarian women who fought for freedom. Animated scenes are weaved into the narrative and bring the novel to life. The multilevel historical narrative and the film's innovative structure resonate today for audiences young and old.

Monday, July 10, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Harry Potter Day!!!*

Monday, July 10, 5:30 p.m. - *Astrology Program*: Together we will explore the ancient practice of astrology as it relates to your modern life. The chart can reveal what we want and need, and how we trip ourselves up. Curious and courageous volunteers are welcome to call ahead with their date and time of birth, and as time allows, we will take a peek at your charts. Presented by Jennie (Gilmore) White, Ode to Pluto Astrology. For more information call 207-332-0787 or email jennie@odetopluto.com.

Wednesday, July 12, 3 p.m. - *Summer Reading Program Teen Harry Potter party!*

Thursday, July 13, 7 p.m. - *LGBTQ Movie Night*: An independently-produced "broad comedy," stars *RuPaul's Drag Race* season six winner Bianca Del Rio (Roy Haylock), as school teacher Richard, fired from his job in a small Texas town after community members discover he is gay. He returns "in disguise" as his drag persona Bianca to wreak havoc on those who have discriminated against him. Also starring Rachel Dratch, Alan Cumming, Margaret Cho, Lola Botha and RuPaul. Refreshments available. Donations will be accepted to benefit the LGBTQ Resource Center. For movie title, call 727-893-1074.

Saturday, July 15, 1:30 p.m. - *Free Family Movie Day*: This month's movie is the next outing a wildly popular series based on colorful building blocks. It features a black-masked vigilante! An annoying teenage sidekick! Super villains! And the voice talents of Will Arnett, Michael Cera, Rosario Dawson, and Ralph Fiennes. Rated PG. For movie title, call 727-893-1074.

Thursday, July 20, 11 a.m. - *Coffee/Talk Book Club discussion of Dead Man's Walk by Larry McMurdy*. Sponsored by Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library. Visit the Circulation Desk to borrow a copy. For more information call 893-1073.

Thursday, July 20, 3:30 p.m. - *Reading Paws*: Maya would love to hear one of your young reader's favorites. She visits our children's area on the third Thursday of every month.

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 12:30 p.m. - *Lunch in a Foreign Language*: Bring a bag lunch and a dictionary. A different language group meets each weekday: Tuesday - French; Italian; Wednesday - Spanish; Friday - German. For more information call Mel Donovan at 893-1074.

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, 3 p.m. - *Teen Hangout*: Games and activities for teens and tweens.

Every Wednesday, 6 p.m. - *Gulfport Toastmasters*. Email contact@gulfporttoastmasters.com for more information.

Every Thursday, 10:30 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 Friday, 6:45 p.m. - *Women's AA Club*. For more information call 893-1073.

Library Services/Statistic June 11 - 17, 2017:
Items Circulated Patrons

Weekly Circulation:	1,826	1186
Sun. 6/11	Library closed	
Mon. 6/12	345	220
Tue. 6/13	306	204
Wed. 6/14	316	215
Thu. 6/15	347	201
Fri. 6/16	276	195
Sat. 6/17	221	118

PARKS & RECREATION

Technical Events

Visit www.mygulfport.us or www.youtube.com/user/cityofgulfport to watch videos of recent City events. Cable and DSL internet users can access live and web stream rebroadcasts at www.mygulfport.us/gtv640. Spread the word!

- Distributed press releases to Gabber, and weekly Constant Contact newsletter to email distribution list, and assisted with updates to social media pages.
- Rebooted TV station equipment.
- Continued daily updates and enhancements to mygulfport.us and social media sites.
- Continued preparations for St. Pete Pride parade, 4th of July celebration Gulfport Night Out, Rays Trolley Experience, Geckoball, & Geckofest.
- Distributed calendars and event information to Tuesday Market vendors and Gulfport Welcome Center.
- Continued preparation of 2018 events list.

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 Fridays, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Like us on Facebook at Gulfport Senior Center and Foundation. Help our page grow and get daily valuable information! Stop by the Senior Center for this month's calendar or download a copy at www.mygulfport.us.

The **City of Gulfport Telephone Reassurance program** is much more than a morning wake-up call. This free service offers Gulfport residents 50 years or older - and their families comfort, security, and peace of mind. Volunteers provide daily phone calls to registered members. If the member cannot be reached, the volunteer follows specific procedures to confirm there are no major concerns. Registration is simple and free. If you or someone you know could use this service, call 893-2237 or stop by the Gulfport Senior Center at 5501 27th Avenue.

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

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

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

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

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

The Senior Center offers free blood pressure and health screenings at 10 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month. Our next **Monthly Mini Health Clinic** is June 29.

The **Out-to-Lunch Bunch is spicing it up at Carmelita's Mexican Restaurant** on Thursday, June 29. Enjoy fresh, authentic Mexican food from a local favorite for over 20 years. Round trip transportation: GEMS members; \$4/nonmembers \$6. Meals are selected from menu & paid separately.

Happy Birthday to You! Help us celebrate this month's birthdays with cake, games and more at 3 p.m. Friday, June 30. Sponsored by Robert Galban of Family Focus Insurance.

A **Special Flea Frenzy** is scheduled for 9 a.m. - noon Friday, July 7. Everything will be priced at \$2 or less in order to make room for new items.

It's important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 6.

The Alzheimer's Association offers free **Memory Screenings** the second Monday of each month, 9 - 11:30 am. The next screening is July 10. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule.

Learn the latest strategies for building brain and heart health at the next **Healthy Aging with Dr. Cate: Secret of the Tin Man** at 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 12. Dr. Cate will offer her translation of proven lifestyle choices.

The **Out-to-Lunch Bunch will visit Big Apple Chinese Buffet** restaurant on Thursday, July 13. Enjoy a large selection of Chinese and American cuisine. Round trip transportation: GEMS members; \$4/nonmembers \$6. Meals are selected from menu & paid separately.

It is important to **Know Your Numbers**. Have your blood sugar and blood pressure checked at the Senior Center at 10:30 am. Thursday, July 13.

Are you worried about your memory? St. Anthony's Memory Disorder Clinic is offering **FREE & CONFIDENTIAL Memory Screenings** on Monday, July 17. By appointment only; call 893-5657 to schedule.

Join us for **Health Talks with Humana** at 10:30 a.m. Monday, July 17 when Wendy will discuss this month's topic: *Making a Healthy Change*.

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 July 21. Call 582-7480 to schedule an appointment.

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.

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 and eye glasses at the Senior Center. Staff forwards these 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, June 11	6 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time (Turnout 154)
Tuesday, June 13	9 a.m. - Tai Chi with Marge Grudzinski (Turnout 21) Noon - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker (Turnout 19) 7 p.m. - Argentine Tango lesson & dance (Turnout 29)
Wednesday, June 14	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn (Turnout 16) 6 p.m. - Swing Dance with Swingtime (Turnout 237)
Thursday, June 15	9 a.m. - Tai Chi with John Amsallen (Turnout 9) 6:30 p.m. - Latin Night with Carol Rivera (Turnout 23)
Friday, June 16	11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Joyce Bloom (Turnout 16)
Saturday, June 17	5:30 p.m. - Wedding reception (Turnout 140)

Casino (upcoming events):

Most Sundays	6 p.m. - Ballroom dance lesson 7 p.m. - Band & Ballroom Fusion dance Admission \$8
Every second Sunday	6 p.m. - Soul Night with Swing Time Admission \$8
Every Tuesday	9 a.m. - Tai Chi 12 p.m. - Ballroom lessons with Carol Baker 2 p.m. - Ballroom dance Admission \$8 6:30 p.m. - Argentine Tango lessons with Kathleen & Steve Prucher 8 p.m. - Milonga dance Admission \$8
Every Wednesday	10 a.m. - Yoga with Barbara Newborn/Joyce Bloom 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 9 a.m. - Tai Chi
6 p.m. - Latin Night lesson with Carol Rivera
8 p.m. - Latin dance Admission \$8
Every Friday 11 a.m. - Chair yoga with Pat Van Leuvan

Every fourth Monday 7 p.m. - U.S.A. Dance ballroom dance: members \$5, non-members \$8

Catherine Hickman Theater (last week's events):

Sunday, June 11, 3 p.m. - RisingSTARZ Theater Group presents *Rogers & Hammerstein's South Pacific* (Turnout 150)

Catherine Hickman Theater (upcoming events):

Thursday, June 29, 7:30 p.m. - Circle of Friends of the Gulfport Library & LGBTQ Resource Center Present *Keith Haring; Radiant Child*: One-man show depicting the life and work of famed gay artist Keith Haring, performed by Chad Jacobs, directed by Christopher Rutherford, and written by Jeff Norton. Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are available at Gulfport Public Library, Casino & Beach Bazaar: general admission \$20, or \$25 for 6 p.m. reception with hors d'oeuvres and preferred seating. A cash bar will also be available.

Gulfport Neighborhood Center (last week's events):

Sunday, June 11 9 a.m. - Faith Cathedral Int'l Church (Turnout 38)
6:15 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Tuesday, June 13 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 20)
7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous

Thursday, June 15 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi (Turnout 21)

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 fourth Sunday 9:15 a.m. - Bible study

Every Tuesday 7 p.m. - Overeaters Anonymous meeting

Every Tuesday & Thursday 10 a.m. - Easy Tai Chi

Every first Wednesday 7 p.m. - Crimewatch meeting

Scout Hall (last week's events)

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

Monday, June 12 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga (Turnout 27)

Tuesday, June 13 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 12)

Thursday, June 15 11 a.m. - Meditation class (Turnout 12)

Friday, June 16 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing (Turnout 7)
5 p.m. - Girl Scouts Fun Night (Turnout 16)

Scout Hall (*upcoming events*):

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

Every Monday 11 a.m. - Chair Yoga

Every Tuesday 6 p.m. - Meditation class

Every Tuesday & Friday 10:30 a.m. - Line dancing

Every Thursday 11 a.m. - Meditation class

Recreation Center

The game room was reserved 2 - 6 p.m. Saturday, June 17 for a Graduation celebration with 10 in attendance.

Registration is underway for **2017/18 Tot Time/VPK program**. Tot Time is a pre-school, hands-on 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. Class begins Tuesday, September 5.

Thirty nine teens are registered for the **2016/17 Teen Night Program**, a great hangout for teens in grades 6-12. Teen Night provides recreation and social activities, and offers monthly field trips, cooking projects, guest speakers and service projects.

One hundred thirty seven children have been registered for the **2017 Summer Recreation Program** for children who have completed Kindergarten thru age 14.

Contractual classes: Bootcamp, Hoop Jam, Karate, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Tennis & Zumba.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Calls for Service:

- 35 Emergency Medical Calls
- 2 Structure Fires
- 4 Fire Alarms
- 1 Odor Smoke/Invest
- 1 Fire Outside Structure

Life Safety:

- 14 Fire Inspections
- 3 Re-Inspections
- 2 C.O.'s

The **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** meets at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting is July 20, and will take place at Gulfport City Hall.

Lieutenant Firefighter/Paramedic Fuchs is preceptor for a St. Petersburg College Field Internship Program EMT Student.

Five Firefighter/Paramedic applicants are scheduled for interviews to fill the vacation position on the A-shift.

Chief Marenkovic attended an EMS-Leadership Group (formerly PALS Group) conference call on June 20, and the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs Association meeting on June 21.

PUBLIC WORKS

Building Maintenance

- Performed monthly pest control at all City Buildings.
- Repaired Bocce Ball court and installed plaque on Beach.
- Patched holes in restroom ceiling at Casino and installed two light fixtures and soap dispenser in ladies outside restroom.
- Delivered chairs from Scout Hall to Historical Building.
- Removed graffiti at Library.
- Patched holes and painted at Neighborhood Center and Senior Center.
- Replaced chair in Parks Department office.
- Relocated mini refrigerator at Police Department.
- Replaced soap dispenser at Recreation Center, repaired play kitchen and toilet in ladies restroom.
- Patched walls in Theater lobby.
- Delivered mail to Post Office for Finance Department.

Parks

- Retied windscreen to fence at volleyball courts.
- Fabricated new base anchor for ball fields.
- Removed sand from sand boxes at the recreation center in preparation for replacement.
- Pressure washed library walkway and brick areas.
- Repaired electric conduit and inspected concrete under pier.
- Hung white boards in Public Works offices.
- Replaced shower head in Recreation Center restroom.
- Cleaned restrooms at little league, beach and outside Casino.
- Oiled bench swings on beach and Pier.
- Trimmed, weeded, cleaned & mulched Library & Senior Center grounds, hand raked around benches & pavilions, cleaned beach, picked up trash and emptied receptacles on Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- Mowed Beach, Marina, Lions Club and Recreation Center green spaces, Caldwell Park, 14th Avenue medians and Pasadena entrance area.
- Cleaned screens on lake fountains at Wood Ibis Park.
- Greased mowers, sharpened/replaced blades and replaced sprockets and chains on reel mowers.
- Repaired irrigation at Clymer & Caldwell Parks and Senior Center.
- Picked up trash and emptied bins along Beach & Shore Boulevards.
- Staff continues to rake Gulfport Beach & volleyball areas every Monday and Friday. Trash and debris were picked up along the water and children's playground areas.
- All City parks trash containers and cigarette waste containers were emptied.
- Watered all non-irrigated areas.
- Cleaned all City playground areas.
- Mowed, raked, lined and dragged ball fields.

Streets & Sanitation

- Delivered recycling bins with information sheets.
- Performed billable work orders for brush, Code Enforcement, trash/furniture & electronics.
- Removed and disposed of animal carcasses from City rights of way.
- Removed and disposed of illegal dumping and curbside yard waste throughout City.
- Repaired asphalt and potholes throughout City.
- Cleaned and removed debris from beach, storm drains, inlets, and storm water outfalls and reset storm grates throughout City.
- Set grade and added millings in alleyways per direction.
- Removed limbs & branches obstructing City roadways, alleyways & sidewalks.
- Cleaned debris, cans and trash following Tuesday Market.
- Restocked recycled mulch pile in Neighborhood Center parking lot.
- Removed several loads of debris from 49th Street holding area.
- Removed abandoned boat from Gulfport Marina.
- Continued dust control spraying in alleys throughout City.

Water

- Daily Chloramines sampling at 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 #31, 32, 33 & 34 of the monthly meter reading schedule.
- Disconnected water service at 10 locations for non-payment of service.
- Completed 7 non-pay rechecks to confirm water services were still off.
- Completed 134 miscellaneous customer service department service orders.
- Completed 5 Sunshine One-Call, Call Before You Dig Utility Locates.
- Reviewed permit applications for fences, driveways and irrigation.
- Collected bay water samples at Gulfport Shores, Gulfport Beach & Marina for quality testing.
- Replaced 3 meters that were stuck and not recording water usage.
- Installed new water service at 5949 Bay Drive.
- Replaced 4" water meter at 1401 61st Street, and meter & backflow at 1401½ 61st Street.
- Repaired water breaks at 6013 Tangerine Avenue and on 13th Avenue & 54th Street.

Sewer

- Daily preventive maintenance and service to Lift Stations #1 & 2.
- Daily rain fall check and documentation.
- Daily ground water elevation recording.
- Weekly generator exercise and preventive maintenance check on Lift Stations 1 & 2, Fire Department/Garage, Police Station/City Hall, and Senior Center.
- Replaced modem and reprogrammed Programmable Logic Controller (PLC) at Lift Station #1.
- Reprogrammed PLC at Lift Station #2.

Stormwater

- Installed lids on new storm water curb inlets at 9th Avenue & Freemont Street.
- Graded areas around storm inlets in preparation for sod installation.
- Modified precast manhole for placement on Shore Boulevard.

Vehicle Maintenance

- Repaired air conditioning unit on Fire truck #E-17.
- Replaced hydraulic hose on Sanitation vehicle #42.
- Performed quarterly maintenance inspection on GEMS vehicle #3.
- Repaired fuel problem on Parks tractor #711.
- Replaced fuel pump and radiator hose on Police vehicle #9.
- Repaired tire on Police vehicle #526.
- Replaced oil and filters on Sanitation vehicles #29, #31, #40, #41, #42, #43, #44, #45, #46, #47, #88 & #38, and Police vehicle #9.
- Performed preventative maintenance, repairs and duties as needed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Thinking of starting a new business? Check out the **New Business Checklist** on the City website at www.mygulfport.us under the Online Services/Documents and Publications section.

For more information, including a number of workshops, on starting a new business, visit the **Pinellas County Economic Development Small Business Development Center** website at www.pced.org/entrepreneurs or call 464-7723. They also offer personalized business consulting to help you become successful with your startup business.

The longer daylight hours of summer means more time for home improvement projects. **Building Division** staff tries to take special time to work with homeowners embarking on do-it-yourself projects. Whether it's deferred maintenance or new improvements, many are electing to do these projects themselves. Before embarking on home improvement projects give us a call at 893-1024 to discuss plans and see what inspections may be necessary, or for an explanation of code requirements.

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 projects can quickly overwhelm those less skilled in construction methodology and management.

Don't take chances with unlicensed contractors

The Pinellas County Communications Department offers the following information when looking for qualified contractors:

The 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.

"Do your homework and follow the guidelines and resources provided to you by the Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board," said Executive Director Rodney Fischer. "Why take a chance with your money and safety?"

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.

Code Enforcement activities continued this week in Section 3 of the City, also known as the Southwest Neighborhood Area which generally extends south from Gulfport Boulevard to the water and west from 58th & 59th Streets to the City Limits.

There were 99 cases for May. The fiscal year-to-date total number of cases is 904. The number of citizen complaints for *May was 17, making a fiscal year-to-date total of 209. The fiscal year-to-date ratio of complaints to total number of cases is 23.8 percent.

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, so if you wish to make a complaint using e-mail, please understand that 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.