

City Staff Opposes “Draconian” Code Enforcement

By Cathy Salustri

A Gulfport resident wants council to adopt laws that would allow the city to raze nuisance homes and bill the property owner for their destruction.

On May 22, the *Gabber* ran a letter about chronic nuisance properties from resident Lawrence Burke, who said Madeira Beach ordinance 2012-09 would help “clean up the city and get rid of the garbage we all have to live with.”

The ordinance, Burke wrote, gives Madeira Beach authority “to remove any long-term abandoned or derelict house at the owner’s expense and other means to clean up their city.”

The ordinance defines issues that can make a Madeira Beach property a “chronic” nuisance property, according to Section 34-402, including noise, litter, minors with alcoholic beverages, house parties, trespassing, cruelty to animals, prostitution, and loitering, among others. This does not include incidences

See *Codes*, page 14

Little League Still in the Game



Photo by Elizabeth Worthington
Jackson Shook winds up for a pitch. His mean pitching arm comes in part from his playing Gulfport Little League.

By Cathy Salustri

While some herald this past season as the last Little League season in Gulfport, both Gulfport Little League President Jon Harker and Gulfport City Manager Jim O’Reilly said such allegations are patently untrue.

This past February the reported that unless Little League enrollment did not increase, Gulfport Little League would likely combine with other cities. While some at the June 7 end-of-season ceremonies called it the “final season,” O’Reilly called that “absolutely not true.”

See *Little League*, page 7

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Trash Hound

Yolanda Roman and her dog, Duchess, scour Gulfport Boulevard for wayward fast food bags, errant cigarette butts, and other detritus left by passing motorists.

Cigarette butts, McDonald’s wrappers, and the odd soda bottle. Volunteers collected all of this and more during Saturday’s Gulfport Neighbors cleanup.

Although the stretch of Gulfport Boulevard between 49th and 58th Streets South has signs claiming certain local businesses have adopted the roadway to keep it clean, a cadre of early risers had no problem collecting litter around stop lights, businesses and intersections. Volunteers Mike Hanson and Doug Hudson both noted the abundance of cigarette butts, and others commented the concentration of butts seemed heaviest by traffic lights.

The Gulfport Neighbors will host another cleanup Sunday evening, June 29, on Gulfport Beach. Volunteers will gather at 5:45 p.m. at Pavilion Four.



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Coffee Club

Don't miss out on the Coffee Club that meets at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. on the first Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. Discussing current events, the economy and investing in a relaxed, informal setting, is a great way to get to know one another as you learn from Edward Jones financial advisor, Scott O'Berry. Coffee and doughnuts are provided.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. Call the Event Line at 727-893-5657.

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Acoustic Jam at Gulfport Library

Bring a guitar or acoustic instrument to the library Monday, June 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. for an informal jam session. Meet other musicians and exchange musical know-how in a fun and relaxed setting. As always, it's free! Questions? Call Alex Hooks, librarian, at 727-893-1073.

Movie Day

Tuesday, July 8 at 11 a.m. is free movie day at the Senior Center Snack Bar, 5501 27th Ave. S. Come watch a great current movie and grab lunch from the snack bar for only \$3.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information or to register for the class, please call the Event Line at 727-893-5657.

Attend this Home Ownership Expo

In recognition of National Home Ownership Month, Pinellas County is participating in the annual Home Ownership for People Everywhere Expo this June. The free HOPE Expo will be held on Saturday, June 28, from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Raymond James Financial Center, 880 Carillon Parkway, Tower 4, in St. Petersburg.

This year's event will feature more than 25 exhibitors, including

lenders, realtors, home inspectors, credit counselors and down payment assistance programs. The Community Revitalization Division of the Pinellas County Health and Community Services department and the Housing Finance Authority of Pinellas County will be among the participants available to discuss down payment assistance.

Attendees can also register for a daylong homebuyer's workshop, which is being offered in English and Spanish. The workshop provides a comprehensive overview of the home buying process. Those

who complete the workshop will receive a certificate that satisfies the education requirements for a variety of affordable housing loans and down payment assistance programs. Seating for the workshop is limited and registration is required.

Additional information and registration is available online at hopeexpo.org or by phone 727-446-3532 for the English seminar or 727-446-6222 for the Spanish seminar. H.O.P.E Expo is sponsored by Tampa Bay area nonprofit and government agencies, lenders and realtors.



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Display Advertising Tuesday - 5 pm
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Pass-a-Grille to Hold Public Meeting on Design Standards

The city will hold a public meeting as a next step in the Pass-a-Grille Pathway to the Future Project. At the meeting, residents will help staff create Design Standards and other solutions to the issues raised at previous events. The meeting will be held on Thursday, July 17 at 6 p.m. at the Warren Webster Building, 1500 Pass-a-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach. Visit stpetebeach.org.

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Deadline Nears to Sign Up for Parade

This Friday, June 27 is the deadline to sign up for the city of Gulfport July 4th parade celebration. Many businesses, family and friends have already joined in the fun. There is more room for you!

Registration is easy with the online interactive form at mygulfport.us. Go to events, upcoming events and click July 4th link. You will see a tab marked parade. Fill your information

in and save to your computer and send to gbiron@mygulfport.us. Don't have a computer? Stop by City Hall at 2401 53rd St. S. and pick one up and return to our customer service personnel.

The link is also posted on the city of Gulfport weekly email newsletter. If you are interested in receiving weekly information on city sponsored events and news, please email gbiron@mygulfport.us and add "newsletter" in the subject line. For more information, contact Gail Biron at 727-893-1118.

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Event to Benefit Flags and Wags

Flags and Wags is a non-profit organization whose goal is to assist in the mental and emotional recovery of military veterans with the assistance of rescued shelter dogs. Check them out at Salty's, 5413 Shore Blvd. S. in Gulfport on Friday, July 4 between noon and 8 p.m. to learn more. Visit flagsandwags.org or call Eric Myers at 727-452-8026.

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Have an Opinion about the St. Pete Pier?

In May, Mayor Rick Kriseman appointed a 21-member working group comprised of leaders from the neighborhoods, local businesses and previous stakeholders from previous pier discussions to determine the next steps in moving a new pier plan forward.

The working group now invites interested members of the public to join in the process by attending one of five public input sessions to be held from June 19 to July 2 at locations throughout the city. At each session, participants will complete a questionnaire regarding the functional elements to be included in the pier's future design, take part in a round table discussion and have an opportunity to speak with members of the working group.

The meetings will be held:

- Thursday, June 26 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Roberts Recreation Center, 1246 50th Ave. N.
- Monday, June 30 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Lake Vista Recreation Center, 1401 62nd Ave. S.
- Wednesday, July 2 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at J.W. Cate Recreation Center, 5801 22nd Ave. N.

Those who are unable to attend one of the sessions may complete the questionnaire online at stpete.org/

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piersurvey and submit any comments to the Working Group.

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Gulfport Neighbors Beach, Area Cleanups

The Gulfport Neighbors beach and area cleanups, for the summer, will now be held every other Sunday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. The next cleanup will be this coming Sunday, June 29.

Gulfport Neighbors invites Gulfportians and their friends and family to participate in this popular event. They will gather at Shelter 4

on Gulfport Beach. Please arrive at 5:45 p.m. to sign in.

If you are looking for an activity where you can get outdoor exercise and meet interesting people while reducing the pollution in our waterways and the litter in our community, this event is for you.

Please bring a picker/grabber and gloves and be sure to wear sun protection. Water will be provided.

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Seniors' Chat Room

Join others for a July 4th party at the Gulfport Senior Center's Chat Room on June 27 at 1:30 p.m. The Center is located at 5501 27th Ave. S. in Gulfport.

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Installation of New Officers at Post #125

Thank you to everyone who came out and supported their outgoing and incoming American Legion family officers on June 22 at the Post. Commander John Sloat will continue his office as Post #125 Commander with Don Vicheon being the newly elected Commander of The Sons of the American Legion. Liz Close will take the reigns from Charly Phipps as the newly installed Unit #125 President.

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Town Shores Red Hatters

Carole Sharp Lynch has arranged an art tour of the halls of the Raymond James Financial Center located at Ulmerton Road and Carillon Parkway. The tour is set for Tuesday, July 15 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for Red Hatters and others. They will meet at the Town Shores clubhouse at 9:45 a.m. to form car pools. Lunch at the Courtside Grill will follow the tour. Sign up now by calling Carole at 727-343-4483 and leave a message before July 9 to reserve your space.

August bunko will be on August 8 (second Friday) in the clubhouse. Call Carol Ringland at 727-345-2303 or Phyllis Miller at 727-347-3467 to sign up. August getaway will be to the movies and then to BJs.

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Non-Profits Can Apply for Support

The Gulfport Merchants Association is giving back to the community once again. Each year, the GMA donates a portion of its proceeds from Gecko-world, which includes the Gecko Pub Crawl (August 9), the Gecko Ball (August 23) and concludes with the end-of-summer street festival GeckoFest (August 30), to local 501c(3) non-profit organizations. Those interested in applying for support during the 2014-2015 cycle, must complete the request form now available at gulfportma.com by July 4.

The GMA and its community support program have given assistance to many organizations, including the Gulfport Little League, ASAP, Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center and its senior center pantry, Operation Santa, the Industrial Arts Center of Gulfport, the Gulfport Neighbors and more.

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Little League,

from front page

Gulfport Little League will combine with Southwest Little League, which it did this year to combat low enrollment. This means the boundaries for Little League stretched to include South Pasadena, Treasure Island and St. Pete Beach.

"There will still be a Gulfport Little League program as part of the combined Little League," O'Reilly said. Looking to the future, the two combined teams could merge, a more formal action. Both boards have voted in favor of the merger, which must be sanctioned by the district office. Even with a merger, O'Reilly stresses, Gulfport kids will still have a league in which to play. Without the combination, he says, Gulfport Little League will not survive.

"I have been told by representative in District Five this is necessary for Little League to survive in southwest Pinellas County," he said.

It comes down to numbers: not enough Gulfport kids sign up for Little League.

Joe Liberatore, the District Administrator responsible for Pinellas Little League south of Ulmerton (nine leagues in total), told the *Gabber* this past winter Gulfport would need to have an enrollment of at least 200 players to keep its boundaries intact.

This year, 75 kids played for Gulfport Little League, and Liberatore says combinations are frequent and non-binding.

"Lots of leagues do that every year," Harker said. "It happens all the time. For example, if Azalea has two or three senior girls, they need at least 10."

Lum Atkinson, the man for whom the city named its Little League ball fields, told the *Gabber* he wished things could stay the same for Gulfport Little League.

"I don't like it, but I don't know what can be done about it," he said of the low enrollment and combination of leagues. "You can't force kids to come out and play. You have the facilities and all of that, and they want to do something else. It's not like it used to be.

To O'Reilly, Harker, and others, though, what matters is not the combination or an eventual merger, but having a place for kids to play ball.

"Yes, it may have a different name," O'Reilly said of Gulfport Little League, "but we'll still have a place

for kids to play."

Harker says things, other than combining with Southwest Little League, are "status quo" and that Southwest Little League and Gulfport Little League will equally combine the two boards to ensure both communities have fair representation.

"We all work together," he said. "This is to make sure Little League stays here. Little League's not going anywhere."

Contact Cathy Salustri at Cathy Salustri@theGabber.com.

Depression and Bipolar Support Group

Depression and Bipolar Support Group meets at the Suncoast Center (in back), 4024 Central Avenue on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Call Les at 727-822-3480.



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Count the Tortoise Burrows at Boyd Hill

The Boyd Hill Nature Preserve gopher tortoise burrow survey is progressing nicely. By mid-May, they surveyed approximately 48 acres and recorded 169 burrows (active and inactive). This survey will provide data resulting in the production of a new distribution map, an estimate of population size, and determination of tortoise density per management unit. A large number of volunteers will be needed to complete this project. This is an opportunity

for individuals to learn about the ecology of this threatened species, while participating in actual wildlife research. For additional information on how to become involved with this project please contact: george@heinrichecologicalservices.com or 727-865-6255.

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Free Computer Classes at the Senior Center

New computer classes will begin in July at the Gulfport Senior Center. The Gulfport Library is offering two computer classes exclusively for seniors.

Computer for Beginners will be held on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. This class is a great opportunity to learn the basic functions of computers.

Advanced Computer Class will be held on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. Ready to learn a little more? Join the Wednesday class for a more in depth look at how to use your computer.

Both classes will be held at the Gulfport Senior Center. Must sign-up in advance! Space is limited.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information or to register for the class, please call the Event Line at 727-893-5657.

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Letters

From an Unhappy Gulfport Resident

Dear Editor: For many years the Gulfport Police Department had been known all over Pinellas County for being menacing bullies. For the past 10 years, I thought that had changed. However, I believe that the Gulfport PD is reverting back to becoming what they were before.

We recently had a death in the family. Our daughter and granddaughter arrived this past Sunday from Jacksonville. My family is affected with Myotonic Muscular Dystrophy, husband, daughter and granddaughter (who is severely affected). When the girls arrived, they met us in downtown Gulfport.

My daughter parked of course in a handicapped space, hung her handicapped pass on the mirror on her car. When she returned to her vehicle, the handicapped pass had fallen off the mirror and there was a \$250 parking ticket on her

windshield. However, the pass was visible.

Thinking that this could be rectified, she went to the police department to be met by the officer who wrote the ticket. He then told her that he was not going to rectify the ticket because her handicapped pass was not hanging from the mirror. He also told her that if she did not pay the ticket, a warrant would be issued for her arrest. He asked if she was permanently disabled. He told her to take the ticket to court, that they had video evidence that she was in the wrong. Really? Sounds a little threatening to me, how about you? She didn't rob a bank or steal bicycles or sell drugs.

This seems like Gulfport is back to being the menacing bullies of the 70s and 80s. To single out a person who is not only disabled, has a disabled child and her spouse is in the military and is deployed. Shame on you.

Martha Benner

...

Get Social with the Gabber

Here are some comments about last week's *Gabber* from the *Gabber's* "Gulfport Ideas and Opinions" Facebook group. Join the conversation at facebook.com/GabberNews and look for the link to Gulfport Ideas and Opinions under our "About" tab.

"I really enjoyed this week's Gabber, the mayor's corner was informative, Hard Candy's apology to Mayor Kriseman instilled a great deal of hope for many, and Juju Stevens' June gardens was awesome. Good reads thanks." – Paul Ray

"Re: the new gardening column VERY much enjoyed your new column today in the Gabber. We're really new at this gardening stuff...lived in condo over 24 years and this is our first real house and yard. Looking for suggestions re: what to plant and where? Right now depending on our lawn guy, but think we might do better with some suggestions. Thanks for the fun...Ed and Gil" –Ed Dunn

"Cathy, really good column in this weeks Gabber; be interesting what the follow up will be over time. Now how about lack of benches/place to sit when on long walks? We walked from Tangerine to 64th St. park and only place to take breather was Stetson; no place for parents to sit at park, etc. We are not old but we are not teenagers either, so need someplace to stop now & then when walking that far." – Lee Hoyland

"I agree with Paul, between a great Hard Candy and the addition of Juju's article, really good Gabber!" – Faun Weaver

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Open Studio for Portraits at Suntan

Treasure Island Art Guild has moved its Open Portrait Studio to its summer home. The group meets Friday mornings through August at the Suntan Art Center, 3300 Gulf Blvd. from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The public is welcome to join the group for a morning of artful fellowship. A live model is provided. For more information call 727-367-3818.

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Letters to the Editor

Please keep letters to the editor as brief and to the point as possible. Letters must be typed in upper and lower case on plain white paper or emailed to publisher@thegabber.com.

One letter per author every four weeks.

All letters are printed and edited for length and content at the discretion of the editors.

The Gabber encourages and welcomes all letters.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the views of the publishers, staff or advertisers.

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Raffle to Benefit CASA

Friends of Doug Strutz with Project Free Gallery is raffling a colorful and emotional sculpture to benefit CASA. Tickets are on sale at the Strutz Show Opening, Project Free Gallery, 2825 Beach Blvd. S. in Gulfport, through Friday, August 1 when the winner will be announced. For more information please stop by the gallery during regular business hours Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. till 6 p.m.

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Come Out and Play

Are you looking for something exciting to do to fill your summer Sunday afternoons? Would you like to play a game similar to bingo where you can win filet mignon, steaks, chicken and more? Then please come out to American Legion Post #125, 6440 5th Ave. S., Sundays between 1 and 3 p.m. and try your luck at Steak-ums. One card is only \$1. You can stay with one or play as many as you like. You can also come and enjoy great food from the grill. In the past proceeds have gone to many charitable organizations for vets and soldiers as well as sending qualified girls of high school age to Tallahassee for Girl's State. Call 347-6085 for more details. Come have some fun and meet some new friends.

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Life is in the Blood

On Wednesday, July 9 at 2 p.m., Debi McArthur, operations director of LBC Analysis, reveals revolutionary new approaches to maximizing one's lifestyle and health through diet, supplements and exercise. Debi states that Blood Optimizer is the world's first mobile nutritional live blood cell analysis clinic. She is introducing a sneak peek of live blood cell analysis, the new high definition visual analysis of an individual's live blood cells through informational seminars. This seminar will be held at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information or to register for the class, please call the Event Line at 727-893-5657.

...

Funny Thing Happened in June

By Yolanda Roman, Gulfport City Councilwoman, Ward 3

This day last year, the United States Supreme Court ruled unconstitutional the 1996 statute that for 16 years denied legally married same-sex couples lawful protections. The decision affirmed that no one, based on their choice of a life-long partner, can willingly be denied "equal justice" under US law. I am compelled to share my thoughts with you for several reasons.

First, 50 years ago on July 2, 1964, President Johnson signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For many painful reasons, elected officials were called upon *"to provide injunctive relief against discrimination...to protect constitutional rights...to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs..."* and free our country from institutional and unjustly segregation. The fight wasn't easy and cost the lives of many advocates. Ultimately, what prevailed was a federal Act to "end" acceptable and institutional norms of discrimination against United States citizens.

Fast forward 30 years and close to home, my brother informs us that he is gay. He struggles with what our family will think and do. What his role will now be with his nephews and niece. In a "New York minute," we went from being surprised (*"how is it we didn't know"*) to *"ok, now feed the kids."* He was still my mother's loving son, a brother, an uncle, a friend, a human being, a United States citizen. A citizen, denied by law, the basic right to marry the person he would come to love.

Another 20 years later and post DOMA, we find ourselves in a civil rights struggle to end overt marriage discrimination pointedly aimed directly at Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) US citizens. We find ourselves in a public policy debate that requires legislative and legal authority that must step in and guarantee all LGBT citizens equal rights and protections under all federal and state laws.

Today, the future is a *little* brighter for achieving improved civil rights for LGBT citizens. On June 13,

the Federal Office of Personnel Management announced it was removing the exclusion of transition-related health services for Federal Employee Health Benefits plans. On June 18, Fort Lauderdale City Commissioners boldly approved a "marriage-equality resolution," urging the governor and Florida legislature to legalize same-sex marriage. Last week in Dallas, the US Conference of Mayors agreed to urge federal courts and the US Supreme Court to allow same-sex couples nationwide to marry. On June 23, the Orlando City Council approved their Mayor's proposal to file a brief in a lawsuit that supports the overturning of Florida's ban on same-sex marriage. The Neptune Beach City Council passed a resolution supporting state legislation banning discrimination against LGBT people, encouraging the state laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of a person's sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. This week, Miami Beach joined Orlando's efforts in support of same-sex marriage in Florida, as well as recognizing legal marriages performed in other states. In April, Pembroke Pines, Palm Beach and Boca Raton began offering domestic partner benefits to city employees. Remember Gulfport's brave and bold stand two years ago?

Now what? The work toward ensuring unequivocal rights for our LGBT brothers and sisters, including the right to freely marry within the United States of America, is just beginning. It takes one city at a time, one state at a time, one court at a time, thoughtful legislators, committed citizens, federal and state agencies... to make things happen. Gulfport, 12,000 strong, can be one of these dominoes that get things in motion. We need action to help tear down the segregation walls erected in 2008 with passage of Florida Amendment 2 (banned same-sex marriage). I'm in. I know others here in Gulfport and in surrounding communities are in as well. The time is now.

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CareFest Seeks Volunteers

Volunteers are needed for various home repair projects, painting, mowing, weeding, yard work and cleanups throughout St. Petersburg neighborhoods on Saturday, September 27, 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sponsored by Somebody Cares Tampa Bay under the umbrella of CareFest USA, the annual week of compassion-related activities culminates with a day of service that gives back to the

community, benefiting individual homeowners, schools and non-profit organizations.

Neighborhood and community-based groups, houses of worship, corporate teams, school clubs, businesses and individuals are invited to participate in a variety of one-day projects. On September 27, CareFest St. Pete 2014 starts and ends at Lake Vista Park, 1401 62nd Ave. S. in St. Petersburg with check-in and light morning refreshments at 7:30 a.m., followed by projects conducted

from 8 a.m. to noon. Once finished at their project site, participants are invited back to Lake Vista Park for volunteer recognition, lunch and entertainment between noon and 1:30 p.m. The event wraps up with CareFest organizers and the mayor presenting certificates to all volunteer groups.

To learn more, visit carefestusa.com and click on "Get Involved," "Search for a Project," then "St. Petersburg."

For volunteer information, contact Aubri Shauger-Haley, Community Services, 727-892-5141, or Chris Cahall, CareFest St. Pete Co-Chair, 727-743-5695. Volunteers and groups can also receive information via e-mail to ICAN@stpete.org.

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Get Your Space for Enoch Davis Yard Sale

Is your home getting too cluttered? It may be time to do a little organizing around the house and see what you can sell. Join us for the community yard sale on Saturday, July 12 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Ave. S. To register for your 8-foot lot space, visit the front desk by Wednesday, July 7. Tables are \$10 each. Co-sponsored by Enoch Davis Senior Advisory Council and Golden Generations, Inc. For more information call 727-893-7159.

...

Gulfport Getaways to Heritage Village

No need to be a GEMS member to enjoy this exciting Gulfport Getaway.

On Thursday, July 10, experience life in the 19th century at Pinellas County's Heritage Village. Heritage Village features historic structures including a schoolhouse, church, railroad depot and a variety of historic homes.

Call GEMS at 727-893-2242 for more information and to reserve your seat by July 2. GEMS members are \$10, non-GEMS members are \$12. Price includes roundtrip transportation, parking, tour and a box lunch.

...

Some Holiday Closures, Garbage Day Changes

During the Fourth of July holiday week, residential trash collections in St. Petersburg will be slightly

affected by the holiday. Collections normally made on Thursday will be one day earlier, on Wednesday; and Friday collections will be picked up on Thursday. Monday and Tuesday collections will remain the same.

City facilities closed on Friday, July 4 for the Independence Day holiday include City Hall, Municipal Services Center, public libraries, recreation centers, Enoch Davis Center, Sunshine Center, Dwight H. Jones Neighborhood Center, Jamestown Apartments & Townhomes office, Coliseum, Mahaffey Theater at the Duke Energy Center for the Arts, The

Greenhouse and Sunken Gardens' business offices.

Facilities open to the public on Friday, July 4 include Boyd Hill Nature Preserve, three city golf courses (Mangrove Bay, Cypress Links and Twin Brooks), North Shore Aquatic Complex and eight neighborhood pools, Municipal Beach concession stand on Treasure Island, Municipal Marina Ship's Store, Sanitation Department brush sites and Sunken Gardens attraction (business offices closed). Visit stpete.org/holidays.

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Codes,

from front page when the resident is a victim of the crime.

After a property gets a nuisance designation in Madeira Beach, the property owner has 15 days to present an "action plan" to the city "outlining specific measures that the owner will take to curtail or eliminate the recurrence of nuisance activities at the property," according to the code.

If the property owner does not develop an action plan that meets the city's criteria, Madeira Beach can deal with the nuisances as it deems necessary and add the charges to the owner's tax bill. If the taxes go unpaid, the city may take the property.

Gulfport City Attorney Andy

Salzman says Gulfport should not adopt what Gulfport's Community Development Director Fred Metcalf calls "draconian" laws.

"It's very draconian and a lot more specific," Metcalf says of the Madeira Beach laws. He says Gulfport has laws that allow them to foreclose on a home after giving the property owner due process to correct the code violations. If the property owner remedies the violation, the case stops. If the property owner does not correct the problem, Community Development will direct city staff to fix any problems posing a threat to life and safety, such as broken windows. At that point, the city will place a lien on the property. If the property remains in consistent

violation and the liens continue to grow, the city can foreclose on the house after 30 days as long as the home is not homesteaded.

However, Gulfport City Manager Jim O'Reilly says, this has never happened, in part because the city doesn't enforce all it can in terms of codes, choosing to focus only on life and safety violations for abandoned, vacant properties. The city has started the process before, but never seen it to completion because every time the home has come into compliance.

"We work with people," Metcalf says. "We can go after the last owner and send them to the magistrate, and we can fine the heck out of the property, until we have it wrapped up in tens of thousands [of dollars]."

The chance of the city recouping that money, Salzman says, is slim.

"If we do that foreclosure, we're third in line" for the money, he says.

Metcalf says reports of vacant, abandoned homes are exaggerated.

"We simply don't have the problems that a handful of people think we do," he says, and when asked how many unoccupied homes Gulfport has, he calls the number a "moving target."

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Codes (cont'd.)

“What’s abandoned? Longer than a year? There’s no magic form of occupancy. It’s all about whether or not we can find someone to be responsible for the property,” he explains. Homes in trust, he says, aren’t abandoned, but it can take several years to resolve issues surrounding properties held in trust.

The real issue for Gulfport, he says, comes in the time between an owner walking away from a property and the bank foreclosing, which is an estimated smaller slice of the pie than homes for sale, vacant or currently unused.

Even for those properties, Salzman says, he knows of no legal precedent for the Madeira Beach law and does not believe such actions would stand up to legal scrutiny.

“We do not believe that this ordinance would be enforceable in the city based on the criteria that’s contained in it,” he says. “We can bring an injunctive action [against the property owner] for them to cease and desist this activity, [but] we believe that our process of doing it ensures due process.”

“They’re trying to apply criminal nuisance actions to zoning violations,” O’Reilly says.

The Madeira Beach ordinance allows the process to begin if a property receives three or more nuisance calls in 30 days. It takes more than 30 days to evict a bad tenant, Metcalf points out, and under the new law, that would mean a property owner could lose his property before he could legally evict a problem tenant.

Although Burke supports changing Gulfport’s laws to “start removing the abandoned houses in our city in order to protect the rest of the homeowner’s safety and property values,” Madeira Beach has never used its ordinance to its completion.

“We haven’t employed this ordinance to remove, foreclose, take and/or demolish unoccupied or derelict single family homes,” Crawford said in an email to O’Reilly.

Salzman adds that Gulfport has the same authority as Madeira Beach.

“There’s nothing in that ordinance that we don’t have the ability to do,” he says, although Metcalf says a judge would have to issue an order “that says ‘you can take it.’”

Gabber June 26 - July 2, 2014

Salzman, O’Reilly and Metcalf say the decision to work with people, which takes more time than a hard line against violation, comes from council direction, not staff. A change in direction would have to come from city council and, if council wished, all three said they would strictly enforce an ordinance with nuisance criteria similar to those outlined in the Madeira Beach ordinance.

“If the council wanted a more aggressive code enforcement and didn’t want us to work with people, we could do that,” Metcalf says. “You might need to add more code enforcement officers and get a lot of people ticked off because it’s a change in policy direction. We work with people. It takes a lot more time [and] that would stop with more severe enforcement.”

“Whatever direction we are given,” O’Reilly says, “we will tack to that point.”

..
Contact Cathy Salustri at
CathySalustri@theGabber.com.
...

Stars and Stripes Cookout

Eat, drink and celebrate freedom at the Stars and Stripes BBQ celebration at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S., on Thursday, July 3 at 1 p.m. Join your friends for a good old-fashioned Bar-B-Q with hotdogs, potato salad, watermelon, dessert, and more. Get your tickets now for only \$5 each. Call 727-893-5657.

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Tai Chi at the Casino

Gulfport Tai Chi classes for beginners start on July 1. The classes meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 9 a.m. at the Gulfport Casino, 5500 Shore Blvd. S. This gentle form of exercise is beneficial in maintaining body elasticity, heart health, bone strength, balance and more while avoiding stress on hip and knee joints. To obtain maximum benefits it is recommended you attend both classes. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per class. Call 727-345-6708.

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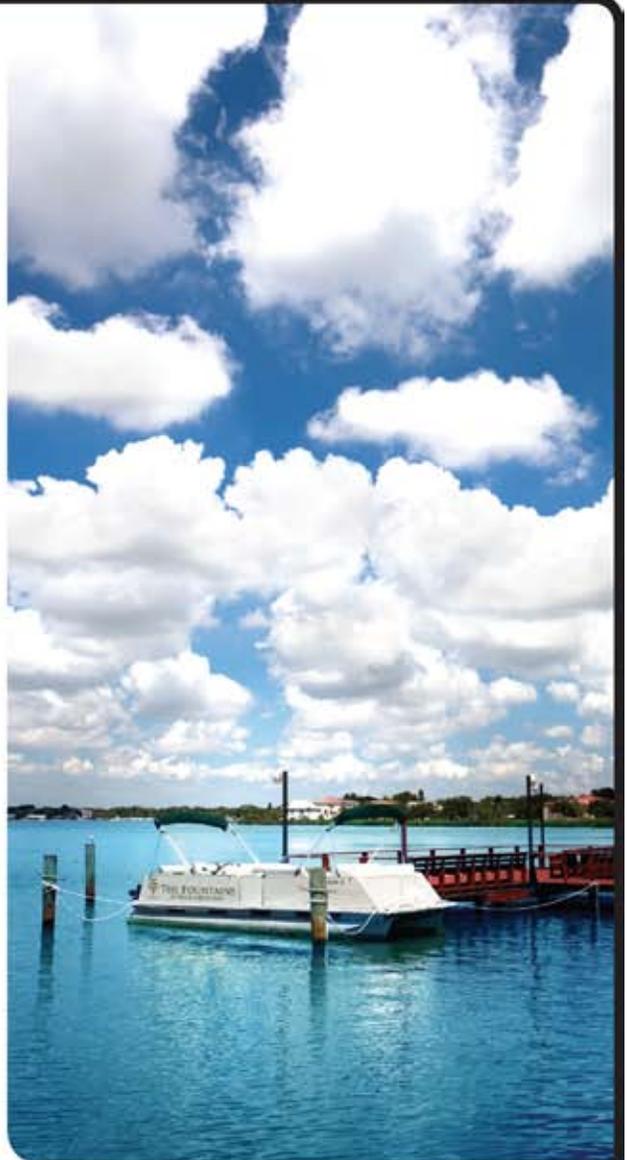
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Dinner and Tango

Join Kathleen and Steve Prucher on Saturday, July 12 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. for the "Milonga La Playa with Dinner Buffet" at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom. This is an Argentine tango dance and exhibition with \$15 admission at the door. Call 727-742-3368.

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Aqua Zumba at St. Pete Beach

Get all the fun and benefit of Zumba with low impact and all the resistance qualities of the water. This class is perfect for all ages and fitness levels. Burn calories, tone your whole body and have fun while you're doing it. Class is offered at The St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Cost is only \$5 SPB residents and \$6 for non-residents. This class also accepts Silver Sneakers. Call 727-363-9264 or visit spbrec.com.

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Fireworks on St. Pete's Waterfront

The city of St. Petersburg celebrates Independence Day with its annual fireworks display on Friday, July 4. The spectacular light display, sponsored by HCA Hospitals of West Florida, is scheduled to begin at 9 p.m., weather permitting. Fireworks start as early as 8:30 p.m. or as late as 10 p.m. depending on weather conditions. The fireworks display is visible all along the St. Petersburg waterfront with prime viewing from Vinoy, Albert Whitted, North Straub, Spa Beach and South Straub Parks, which are all on Bayshore Drive.

No alcohol or personal fireworks permitted. Parking lots include South Core, 101 1st Ave. S. and Mid-Core, 117 St. N. Variable message boards will direct spectators to available parking locations. Disabled parking is located in the North Shore ball field lot, 901 North Shore Dr. NE and along Beach Dr. on the east side and is available on a first come, first serve basis. Bicycle racks are located throughout the downtown area. Call 727-893-7441 or see stpeteparksrec.org.

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Thriving in Retirement

The Fountains at Boca Ciega Bay, 1255 Pasadena Ave. S., will host a complimentary brunch presentation called Thriving in Retirement on Wednesday, July 9 at 10:30 a.m. Attendees will discover new ways to stay mentally, physically and socially active, as well as learn about important financial topics such as tax reduction planning, investment risk management, health care planning and estate planning. Raymond James' senior vice president Gene Melamud will keynote the brunch presentation. A complimentary brunch will be served to preregistered guests in the Key West Dining Room overlooking Boca Ciega Bay. Space

is limited. Please RSVP to 727-346-6949 by July 7.

...

Sign Up for Summer Reading Program

Attention parents! It's not too late to sign your child up for the Gulfport Library's Summer Reading Program. They have a whole calendar of weekly fun events for kids and teens. The K-5th grade program meets Mondays from 3 to 4 p.m. The teen program meets Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. For more information contact Cailey Klasson, Youth Librarian, at 727-893-1133 or cklasson@mygulfport.us.

...

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8	9	5	3	6	7	1	4	2
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1	8	2	7	5	9	3	6	4
6	7	9	2	1	3	4	8	5
3	2	8	5	9	4	6	1	7
5	1	4	8	7	6	9	2	3

Gulf Beaches



Historical Museum

Join the Museum for the 4th of July

Kids, decorate your bikes with red, white and blue and come for an old-fashioned parade. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, friends and neighbors, join in and parade with them. Line the streets (a circular course between 8th and 10th) and wave your flags. Be a patriot! It's what this holiday is all about. Be there for an 8:30 a.m. start at Gulf Beaches Historical Museum, 115 10th Ave., Pass-a-Grille, St. Pete Beach. After the parade a treasure hunt for the children will be held among their exhibits. Event is free.



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The Gabs

At Saturday's Gulfport Boulevard Cleanup, we asked volunteers in front of which business they collected the most and the least litter.



John Herrick, South Pasadena: "Caldwell [least] and Citgo [most.]"

...



Leonardo Robledo, Gulfport: "I have to give kudos to Sunoco. They keep a clean lot. It's very well-manicured. McDonald's, it was all across the Boulevard. It was scattered all throughout."

...



Andrea Knoll, Gulfport: "Funeral home and the church [least.] The gas station and around the stoplight where everybody stops and throws out their cigarettes [most.]"

...



Brenda Knoll Budd, Gulfport: "The ones with the manicured grass [least] and the Citgo – the ones with the most cement [had the most.]"

...

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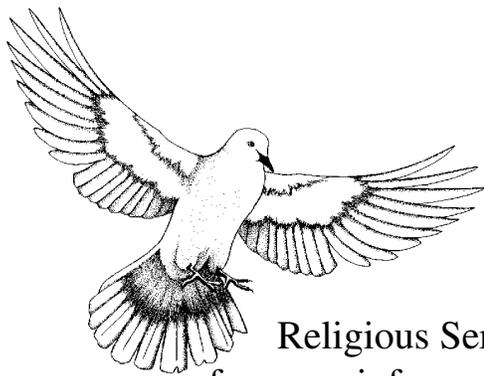
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Devotions take place every Sunday from 10:30AM until 11:30AM.

Study circles are offered every Tuesday night from 7:30-9:30PM.

Call the Baha'i Center @ 727-894-5791

Learn About Your Family History

Members of the Gulfport Branch, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will host family history classes for members of the Gulfport and St. Petersburg communities at no charge. Students will learn how to create a family tree, locate resources available to research their ancestors, and how to use online tools to track, organize and store their research.

The classes will be conducted by Cathy Paunov, the Branch's Family History consultant. Mrs. Paunov is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and Genealogy Consultant for the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

Subjects to be covered include getting started with family search, using computers and online resources to research and manage genealogical information, utilizing family resources, interviewing family members, and accessing other publicly available documents and data. Class members are encouraged to bring their laptops or tablets to each meeting.

Classes will be offered each Sunday from 10:15 to 11 a.m. beginning July 27. Members of the community interested in attending should contact Mrs. Paunov by email at cathypaunov@gmail.com to reserve a seat. There is no charge to attend but classes are limited and tend to fill quickly.

...

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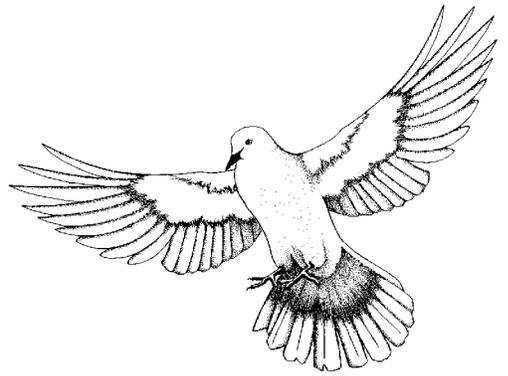
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Worship



Trinity Church Offers Members a Ride

Do you or your children want to attend church on Sunday, but don't have a way to get there? Trinity Church of The Nazarene, 1000 55th St. S. in Gulfport would like you and your children to visit and they can provide free transportation within the local area. They are a small church with bible based teaching for adults and kids. Please call 727-656-6209 for more information.

...

Come Celebrate a Second Bar Mitzvah

Dr. Paul Cohen, the lay leader of Congregation Beth Sholom in Gulfport, is celebrating a second Bar Mitzvah at 9:15 a.m. on July 5 at Congregation Beth Sholom, 1844 54th St. S. in Gulfport. This is special because young people of the Jewish faith initially become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah at age 13. Traditionally, it was thought that people enjoyed a life span of 70 years. Therefore, if someone is lucky enough to reach the age of 83, like Dr. Cohen, he/she has a second Bar Mitzvah. There will be a Kiddush in Paul's honor immediately following Shabbat Services. The community is welcome and invited!

...



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WWW.PAGCHURCH.ORG

Voluntary Prekindergarten Program

The City of Gulfport Recreation Center is currently accepting VPK (Voluntary Prekindergarten) vouchers for the 2014-2015 school year. VPK is free for children who live in Florida and who turn 4 years of age by September 1. Parents must apply at the Early Learning Coalition of Pinellas, Inc. and receive a certificate of eligibility. Program hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Hours for pre-registration are 9 a.m.

to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. The program begins on Tuesday, September 2. This program is being offered in addition to the Tot Time Program, which is for children who are between the ages of 3 to 5 and potty trained. Please call 893-1068 for more information.

...

Trains and Miniatures Extravaganza

The First Annual Trains and Miniatures Extravaganza will be held at the St. Petersburg Woman's Club, an Historic Waterfront location

at 40 Snell Isle Boulevard N.E., St. Petersburg, on Sunday, June 29 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

All are welcome to experience this delightful full-day event with trains and collectibles from around the country. Admission just \$3 per person, children 12 and under free with paid adult. See the LEGO® town with LEGO® train running around it and a breathtaking dollhouse mansion. Find the perfect collectibles for your own dollhouse or that train car you have always dreamed about. See first-hand the wonderful opportunities of membership in one of the oldest, most respected and community active organizations here in beautiful St. Petersburg. Proceeds to benefit the Historical Building Preservation Fund.

Call 727-823-9258 or visit StPetersburgWomansClub.org.

...

Be a Part of These Walking Tours

St. Petersburg Preservation (SPP) continues its summer evening historic walking tour series on Wednesday, July 9 at 7 p.m. in downtown St. Pete. Tour starts in front of Café del Mar, 243 Central Ave., in downtown's historic First Block and ends at the Hollander Hotel, one of a number of historic hotels that have been successfully restored in St. Pete. The Hollander was built in 1930. The tour will take in some of the best of downtown's architecture and historic buildings while highlighting the impact of the 1920s boom on the city and offering up some of the stories about sunshine, bathing beauties and sports that were used so successfully in marketing St. Petersburg in the 1920s and 1930s.

The summer walking tours are leisurely strolls lasting between 60 and 90 minutes and ending at a local business where tour-goers are welcome to get something to eat or drink and to continue in some fun conversation.

Tours are free for SPP members, \$5 suggested donation for non-members. Reservations are welcome but not required. Call 727-824-7802 or info@StPetePreservation.org.

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Crossword Puzzle

Solution on Page 18

ACROSS

- 1 Borsalino, e.g. MAR0190
- 4 *Ile de la* ____
- 9 ____ Kruger
- 13 Crick
- 15 Wan
- 16 Piece of pork
- 17 Piece of gossip
- 18 Highland flings
- 19 Head, in Le Havre
- 20 Call to mind
- 22 Charged particle
- 23 Buck follower
- 24 Lifer, for example
- 27 Odorless gas
- 28 Niobic drop
- 29 Actor Bisoglio
- 32 Reed and Harrison
- 33 Pre-1917 Russian rulers
- 34 Silkworm
- 35 Planets
- 36 Regal wrap
- 37 Noun suffix
- 38 Tune
- 39 Laissez ____
- 40 Welles or Bean
- 41 Model-A rival
- 42 Florence's river

DOWN

- 1 1979 musical film
- 2 Intr ____
- 3 *Cocoanuts* cast
- 4 Typing paper
- 5 Understanding phrase
- 6 Comic trio of yore
- 7 Lamprey
- 8 Nanny takes three
- 9 Chamber group
- 10 Smith, Barnard, etc.
- 11 Yellow Brick Road traveler

Relations

- 14 Appears
- 21 Bovine calls
- 22 Feisty deity
- 25 Fraser of tennis
- 26 Stable resident
- 27 Penthouse
- 30 Felony
- 31 Mortgage
- 32 Simba's call
- 33 *Half Moon Street* star
- 36 Marionette master
- 37 Composer Lecuona
- 39 Travel tariff
- 40 160-mile English river
- 43 Milk curdler
- 45 Heart line
- 47 Ruckus
- 48 *Girl, 20* author
- 50 Seine feeder
- 51 Byway
- 52 Belgian river
- 54 Resort, to pals
- 55 Pre-teen year
-

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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53					54	55				56			
57					58					59			
60					61						62		

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City Whys?

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Email your request to News@theGabber.com

By Cathy Salustri

City of Gulfport

Q: We have an easement in our back yard, no alley. One side is standard 4' chain link, our side is 7' wood.

So, I've discovered that the easement is getting enough foot traffic to have a beaten path. The path goes from the side of the house behind us directly to the back yard of the neighbor from hell. Anyone know if this is considered trespassing on our property? If we're responsible to clean and mow the easement, can we control people using it?

A: According to City Attorney Andy Salzman, yes.

"This appears to be a utility easement not a prescriptive easement, therefore, prohibiting trespassing would be allowable," he says. An example of a prescriptive easement would be a sidewalk or a right-of-way between a sidewalk and a road. Since this easement is not of this ilk, you can control who uses it.

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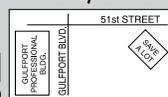
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Roaring Geckos Tickets Go On Sale

Break out your best Charleston dance moves! Roaring Geckos will be the theme of Gulfport's Sixth Annual Gecko Ball. The Roaring Geckos theme will evoke the Roaring Twenties, including its music, dancing, hair styles, clothing and costumes, fads, movies and other popular culture. Expect to experience costumes, music and décor celebrating flappers, hair bobs, Charlie Chaplin, "The Great Gatsby," "Guys and Dolls," the jazz age, Louis Armstrong, Rudolph Valentino, swing music and big bands, art deco and many other touchstones of the 1920s era.

The Gecko Ball will be held at the historic waterfront Gulfport Casino Ballroom (5500 Shore Blvd. S.) from 6 until 11 p.m. on Saturday, August 23. The event gets larger and more popular each year, including over the top décor, cocktail specials, cash bar, hors d'oeuvres, a dinner buffet, commemorative photo booth, dozens of silent auction items, and the popular live auction of geckos created by local artists. Once again, a new Gecko Queen will be crowned at the ball as the queen and court are presented to assembled ball-goers.

Dress a la 1920s or dress as a gecko, or combine the two! A costume contest will determine some of the best outfits in the house. Costumes are encouraged but are not mandatory. Appearing live at this year's ball, the "Z Street Speakeasy Band" will offer dance floor-ready tunes from the 20s through today. There will be many other surprises in store, creating what has become known as Gulfport's party of the year!

Tickets for Gecko Ball are \$35 per person and will go on sale at 9 a.m. on Friday, July 4 at the Gulfport Beach Bazaar's Box Office, 3115 Beach Blvd. S. The line for tickets will begin forming as early as 7 a.m., so bring a lawn chair. Tickets will continue to be available at the Beach Bazaar during regular store hours, as well as online with a credit or debit card at GulfportMA.com until the event sells out. The Gecko Ball sells out every year, so would-be ball-goers are encouraged to purchase tickets as far in advance as possible. While they last, tables of 10 are available

Gabber June 26 - July 2, 2014

for group reservations only if all tickets for the table are purchased in person at the Beach Bazaar at one time.

The Gecko Ball occurs one week prior to the annual GeckoFest street festival (August 30), and each year the ball's theme also lends itself to costumes that GeckoFest participants are encouraged to wear and flaunt during the Fest's walking parade.

The annual Gecko Pub Crawl will be held August 9 this year, and a portion of proceeds from all three Gecko events will once again benefit a local non-profit group, as well as the commission of a public art installation.

For more information and updates on the Gecko Ball, go to Facebook.com/Geckoball. GeckoFest, Gecko Ball and Gecko Pub Crawl are all sponsored by the non-profit Gulfport Merchants Association. Contact Richard Radovic (rradovicjr@gmail.com or 727-204-8101) for details.

...

Laughter Yoga Winds Down

Gulfport Laughter Yoga has suspended their Tuesday sessions and will wind down their season June 28 at 10 a.m. in Veterans Park (weather permitting) by O'Maddy's at 5350 31st Ave. S. in Gulfport. Classes will return in October.

...

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Horoscope Guide

By Holiday Mathis

If you think your words have been misunderstood or your efforts misconstrued, this week's cosmic grace will be just what you need to set things right. Tuesday is "re-dos" day. That's when three weeks of Mercury's backward antics will end and free second chances will be handed out to those who feel they need one. Also this week, Pluto opposes the sun on the 4th of July, adding an extra layer of significance to America's birthday celebration.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). This week feels like a steep climb, and the summit is nowhere in sight. You had a similar feeling about a month ago, and look how far you've come since then -- miles above and ahead of where you were. Take note of and collect tangible evidence of your progress because it will motivate you to power on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You'll open yourself up to experience the mystery of love this week. It's exciting and scary, too, because it requires that you let go of certainty and the idea that you can mold, monitor and manipulate what happens -- you can't. Love is a force of goodness, but it is an uncontrollable force.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Surrender will not come as an impulse -- that's quitting. Surrender takes time, especially when what you're surrendering to is love. Love's process will be gradual. Little by little, you'll decide to trust, and finally you will trust enough to let go of your own interests and live in what's good for the relationship.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You sense that something in your environment that is seemingly insignificant will someday become priceless -- but which thing is it? If you really think about it, you'll come up with an excellent answer and make a move to either preserve it or enjoy it to the full extent this week while it is still easy to do so.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Who takes care of you best? Sometimes it's you, but this week you may be slacking on the job due to the high

levels of energy required to take care of yourself and others simultaneously. That's why it wouldn't hurt to call in some back up, delegate a few tasks and make yourself generally more comfortable.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A new fascination becomes even more enchanting as the week progresses. By the weekend, you won't be sure whether the attraction is becoming your world or blocking your view of it, but one thing is certain: It will have taken hold so strongly that you'll be in its throes for a good while.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). To be uncertain or, worse, certain of something false is so unsettling to most that they would rather not risk the condition. But because your goal is to be happy, you willingly will give up, if necessary, the persistent, unconscious goal that most humans possess: to be right.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). They were your friends, and then, when you weren't paying attention, they suddenly turned into your family. You'll care for and celebrate them as such this week and with great pleasure. Boundaries and barriers melt away, but you are well within the golden circle of good karma: What comes around goes around.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You don't have much to lose this week, so go for it. Perhaps these words from the philosopher Marcus Aurelius will help you: "Our loss is limited to that one fleeting instant, since no one can lose what is already past, nor yet what is still to come -- for how can one be deprived of what one does not possess?"

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The others may be loyal and true, but they'll never know you as well as you know yourself. You are the person you have to spend time with every day, so you may as well become besties. This week's events will help you learn how to make yourself feel comfortable, content and maybe even delighted.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Many around you won't be able to see the big picture. They can't connect the dots

because they don't recognize them as dots to begin with. You know what's significant. Share this gift with those around you, because many will be feeling lost. Your large-scale vision will provide a sense of direction.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You're a master of diplomacy, and yet energy is much more transferable than most people think. That's why the most effective acts of diplomacy are born from your genuine and deep respect for others. You'll meet many different kinds of people this week and gain an education as you get to know and understand their ways.

This Week's Birthdays: You are drawn to people who are compassionate, gentle and deeply loving, probably because these qualities are so strong inside you. Your relationships with kindred spirits will be the jewels of your year, though bonus money in July and an exciting financial boost in October will also be exciting times of note. There's a professional advancement in August you've long worked toward. New cultures and interests will inspire your personal life in September and April.

...

Music at Gulfport Beach Pavilion #6

Monday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Harold & Donna alternating weeks with Len & Arlene

Tuesday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Open

Wednesday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Karaoke Mike Furman

Thursday, 1-3:30 p.m.

Dancing & Karaoke with Dave & Cookie

1st & 3rd Friday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Entertainment Dorothy & Jim

Saturday, 1-3 p.m.

Ray & Ann, Entertainment

Sunday, 1-3:00 p.m.

Woody & his accordion, Music for listening & dancing

Weather permitting

10 Things You Need to Know About Buying Storm Windows & Doors

If you ask StormFitters' CEO Bill Covington why he's so passionate about windows and doors, he'll probably share some pretty exciting hurricane stories. Bill has been in the construction and remodeling business for over 30 years and has taken part in over 15,000 remodeling projects. Having seen the damage Florida storms can cause, he knows the importance of having the right windows and doors and why they matter in protecting your home from devastation.

So what do Tampa Bay homeowners need to know when you consider buying new windows and doors to safeguard your home? Bill didn't give a single reason. He gave ten. Here are the **StormFitters' Top 10 things to remember when you buy.**

- 1. Deal direct with a local, well-established company.** Know the people you will have doing the work, as well as the products that will be used. Proper installation ensures the products will perform as well as possible and deliver maximum protection.
- 2. Skip the middleman and save money.** Buying from a company that purchases directly from the manufacturer allows homeowners to get the best products, even custom-made for our weather, at the best prices.
- 3. Insist on master craftsmen** to measure every opening and do the installation. You get better quality installation and a better fit. StormFitters doesn't use sub-contractors. Only their team of professionals does the work and they stand behind every job.
- 4. Get a LIFETIME WARRANTY.** Any warranty is only

as good as the company behind it. Buy the highest quality windows and doors from a company that will be there for you. With thousands of installations in Tampa Bay, StormFitters is quite proud of their track record.

- 5. Be sure to get complete hurricane protection products** for your Florida home, whether it's hurricane shutters or high-impact windows and storm doors. Don't settle for less – the money you save might not be enough to replace what you could lose!
- 6. Products should be stringently tested and registered.** Products that offer storm defense should be tested for structural, wind resistance, impact strength, and insulation values. They should also be approved by the State of Florida.
- 7. Custom-made products deliver a perfect fit,** without altering openings. StormFitters doesn't upcharge for custom sizes.
- 8. Ask about energy efficiency.** All StormFitters windows and doors with low-E, argon gas-filled glass will save you up to 40% on your air conditioning and heating bills and make your home more comfortable year-round.
- 9. Free Estimates.** Professionals will come to you, measure and provide you with a complete estimate and price. StormFitters window and door experts estimates are good for 30 days to give you time to make a smart decision.
- 10. SAVE EVEN MORE if you purchase during special events and promotions.** Visit the StormFitters Showroom during the Open House and enjoy special discounts.



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Gulfport Goes to the Ballpark



The Gulfport Trolley took Rays' fans from the Casino to Tropicana Field Thursday as part of a special city promotion.

Thursday night, June 19, Gulfportians and friends took advantage of discounted Rays' tickets. City officials negotiated a deal with the Rays to offer \$25 lower box seats. The price included a free Rays' ball cap and trolley transportation to and from the game. Tickets for the next game – a September 4 game against the Toronto Blue Jays – are on sale now only at the Gulfport Casino.

Summer Dive-In Movies

Summer Dive-In Movies are back at the St. Pete Beach Community Aquatic Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr. Bring your noodles, floats and chairs to lounge by the pool while watching a movie on their big inflatable screen out under the stars! They have Dive-Ins scheduled every Friday night through August 8. Snacks, drinks and glow jewelry will be sold. No outside coolers or food allowed. Doors open at 8 p.m. Admission is only \$4 per person. This event will be canceled in inclement weather. For the full schedule of Dive-In movies visit spbrec.com or call 727-363-9264.

...

Learn to Swim

The St. Pete Beach Aquatic Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr., is offering "Learn to Swim Classes" for all ages through the American Red Cross. From infants six months of age to seniors, classes will teach proper technique and tips for safety in any water environment. Classes are held Monday through Thursday and run in two-week sessions of 30-minute classes. Classes are available morning and evening to fit every schedule. A two-week session is only \$40 for residents of St. Pete Beach and \$45 for non-residents. Visit spbrec.com or call 727-363-9264.

...

USCG Safe Boating Program

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 78 has a 13-week continuous Safe Boating program every Tuesday, 7 p.m., Warren Webster Community Center, 1500 Pass-a-Grille Way, St. Pete Beach (1 mile south of Don CeSar). Start at your convenience. First day, come at 6:30 p.m. to register. Begin any Tuesday and finish 13 weeks later or take up to two years to finish.

The schedule is as follows: July 1, "Piloting Your Boat – Part A," July 8 "Piloting Your Boat – Part B (Chart Exercise)," July 15, "Powering Your Boat," July 22 "Knots," July 29 "Weather."

Cost is \$40 for 13 weeks and includes new 400-pages of materials. Call Jim at 360-4846.

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Audition for "Black Comedy"

St. Petersburg City Theatre will hold auditions for "Black Comedy" on Monday, July 21 and Tuesday, July 22 at 7 p.m. Auditions will be held at the theatre at 4025 31st St. S. in St. Petersburg.

There will be a six-week rehearsal period. Actors are encouraged to attend the first night of auditions as the second night will be considered a call-back and only a limited number of new applicants will be seen. Cold readings from the script.

"Black Comedy", written by Peter Shaffer and directed by Rob Colwell, will run from September 12 through 28, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2 p.m.

at St. Pete City Theatre as part of the theatre's 90th season. Set in 1965, "Black Comedy" involves a struggling artist about to meet both his fiancée's father and a major art investor on the same evening. In an attempt to impress, the artist has borrowed a room full of antique furniture from his vacationing neighbor. As preparations are made for the evening, the apartment building loses power. Much more is revealed about the artist than he ever wanted brought to light.

Casting needs:

- Brindsley Miller: age 19-27, a young sculptor, intelligent and attractive, but nervous and uncertain of himself. A physically demanding role requiring athletic abilities.
- Carol Melkett: age 19-25, his fiancée. A young debutante; very pretty, very spoiled; very silly. Her sound is unmistakable, terrifying deb quack.
- Miss Furnival: age 55-70, prissy and refined. Clad in the blouse and sack skirt of her gentility, her hair in a bun, her voice in a bun, she reveals only the repressed gestures of the middle-class spinster, until alcohol undoes her.
- Colonel Melkett: age 55-70, Carol's commanding father. Brisk, barky, yet given to sudden vocal calms which suggest a deep and alarming

instability. It is not only the constant darkness which gives him his look of wide-eyed suspicion.

- Harold Gorrige: age 35-55, the bachelor owner of an antique-china shop, and Brindsley's neighbour. His friendship is highly conditional and possessive: sooner or later, payment for it will be asked. A specialist in emotional blackmail, he can become hysterical when slighted, or (as inevitably happens) rejected. He is older than Brindsley by several years.
- Schuppanzigh: age 35-55, a German refugee, chubby, cultivated,

and effervescent. He is an entirely happy man, delighted to be in England, even if this means being employed full time by the London Electricity Board.

- Clea: age 19-27, Brindsley's ex-mistress. Mid-twenties; dazzling, emotional, bright and mischievous. The challenge to her to create a dramatic situation out of the darkness is ultimately irresistible.
- Georg Bamberger: an elderly millionaire art collector, easily identifiable as such. Like the electrician, he is a German.

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SPCA Pet of the Week



Say hello to Tiny! Tiny is a playful 3-year-old Terrier mix who arrived at SPCA Tampa Bay in mid-May as a transfer from another shelter. Tiny is energetic and full of life. Tiny would make a great addition to an active family that wouldn't mind spending time exercising and playing with him outdoors. If you bring him home, this silly boy is sure to bring a smile to your face. Tiny would like to be an only dog in his next home. Come meet Tiny at SPCA Tampa Bay

today, 9099 130th Ave. N., Largo or check him out online at Spcatampabay.org.

Heart Healthy Cooking Class

You are invited to a heart healthy cooking class at the Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S. on Thursday, July 10 at 2:30 p.m. The chef from The Health and Rehabilitation Centre at Dolphins View will show you how to put together a delicious and healthy meal.

Space is limited. You must reserve your spot by calling the Senior Center at 727-893-5657.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information or to register for the class, please call the Event Line at 727-893-5657.

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- ★ 29th Av. & Beach Blvd.
- ★ 28th Av. & Beach Blvd.
- ★ 23rd Av. & Beach Blvd.
- ★ 27th Av. & Beach Blvd.
- ★ 15th Ave. & 58th St.
- ★ 18th Ave. & 55th St.
- ★ Wood Ibis Park – 58th St.
- ★ 23rd Av. & 54th St.
- ★ 28th Av. & 54th St.
- ★ Recreation Ctr., 5730 Shore Blvd.
- ★ Wood Ibis Park – 28th Av.
- ★ 58th St. & Shore Blvd.
- ★ Marina, 4630 29th Ave. (as needed)

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→ = Marina Route

* Trolley may be hailed Anywhere along route

City of Gulfport Free Trolley Service Route: 4:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Off Site Parking Locations for Friday, July 4th
Provided by the City of Gulfport, Florida (Last stop 10:45 p.m.)

Players To Open Summer Festival

The Gulfport Community Players will once again swing into summer with their "14th Annual Summer One Act Festival" in July. There are a variety of comedies, dramas and even one musical in their 13-play line-up this year. These are all very short plays, from 5 to 15 minutes each, and are sure to entertain their audiences. These are all original plays, never before seen by any audience anywhere.

The festival will run from July 10 through 20 at the Catherine A. Hickman Theater of Gulfport. This theater is located on Beach Blvd. at 26th Ave. S. in Gulfport. Curtain times are Thursday, Friday and Saturday 8 p.m., and 2 p.m. on Sunday. There is a map showing just how to get to the theater on the Players' web site at gulfportcommunityplayers.org.

Tickets are on sale now at many locations in and around Gulfport for just \$15 each. You'll find them available at the Gulfport Beach Bazaar, the Gulfport Casino, the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce, and also at Funkytown Resale Boutique. You can also get them at the Hickman before the curtain, or use their will-call number 727-322-0316, and have them waiting for you at the ticket booth before the curtain. Be sure to pay for and pick the latter at least a half hour before curtain time. If not, the tickets may be sold to others waiting in line.

There is plenty of free parking at the theater and in surrounding areas of Gulfport. There is also a concession stand in the lobby of the theater for your convenience.

For your dining enjoyment there are many fine restaurants located in the Arts District of Gulfport, just south of the Hickman Theater. Be advised though that, especially on Friday and Saturday nights, they can and do get crowded. It's advisable to show up at least two hours before curtain time if you plan on eating in the Gulfport Arts District on those nights and then attending their performance later.

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Gulfport's July 4th Celebration

The city of Gulfport invites everyone to the Fourth of July celebration with an amazing line-up of fun and exciting activities in the downtown waterfront district on Friday, July 4, 2014!

To keep you informed, street closures are on the following streets starting at 6 a.m.: Beach Blvd. will be closed from 31st Ave. S. to Shore Blvd. Shore Blvd. will be closed from 54th St. S. to 56th St. S. 54th St. S., south of Essex Avenue will also be closed. Beach Blvd south of 28th Ave. S. to 31st Ave. S. will be temporarily closed for the community parade from 5:45 PM until 7 PM.

Other early closings for the fireworks include Williams Pier (corner of Shore Blvd. S. and 54th St. S), which will close at 7 a.m. Tuesday morning, July 1 until Saturday morning, July 5 at noon. At that same time, perimeter buoys will be placed 900 ft from the Williams Pier. The Casino dock will be closed from 6 a.m. until after the fireworks show. Limited beach access will be granted for non-motorized dinghies. Interested boaters can dock at the Gulfport Municipal Marina the day of the event for a \$1.50 per foot fee plus tax.

Any un-authorized boats parked at the Casino dock will be towed to a safe location. Also, fencing will be placed on the seawall at Veteran's Park (corner of Shore Blvd. S. and 54th St. S). Other safety issues include "sparklers only" on Gulfport Beach.

The open-air trolley will be running from 4 to 11 p.m. to pick up passengers from remote parking spots to make your journey more convenient to Gulfport. Remote parking spots include: Recreation Center (5730 Shore Blvd. S.), Library (5501 28th Ave. S.), Senior Center and Theater (5501 27th Ave. S.), Hoyt Field (2306 56th St. S.), Chase Park / Museum / Scout Hall (54th St. S. and 28th Ave. S.), Ted Phillips Wood Ibis Park (58th St. S. and 28th Ave. S.), and the Gulfport Municipal Marina (4630 29th Ave. S.). Look for the new red and white "Event Parking" signs delineating offsite parking locations. If you see the trolley, just give the driver a wave and they will pick you up along the route.

Get up, have your coffee and breakfast early and bring the kids to the Kid's Fishing Derby, at the Recreation Center seawall, from 8 to 11 a.m. (Registration for the derby will start at 7:30 a.m. followed by a Free Family Sand Sculpture Contest, sponsored by the Gulfport Recreation Division, on Gulfport Beach, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (registration will start at 11:15 a.m.). The theme will be Nautical. City staff will be on Gulfport Beach behind the Recreation Center from noon to 5 p.m. with a variety of free kid friendly activities!

Starting the evening, local vendors offer a variety of arts, crafts, food delicacies and patriotic knick-knacks for your enjoyment, from 2 to 9 p.m. At 5 p.m., enjoy live music on the Casino outside main stage with Echo 84. The community parade will begin promptly at 6 p.m. making its way down Beach Blvd. to the Gulfport Casino, where it will head west on Shore Blvd. to 58th St. S. Make sure to grab a good viewing spot! Meet the mayor and council with a welcome at 6:30 p.m. at the Casino stage.

At 9:05 p.m. an always-amazing fireworks display off of Gulfport Beach along Shore Blvd. S. will offer an exceptional closing of the day's festivities. The city welcomes all to celebrate the Fourth of July in the city of Gulfport! For more information please email Gail Biron, City of Gulfport Technical Events Specialist at gbiron@mygulfport.us or call 727-893-1118.

Something Bugging You? Tell the World!

Go to Reader Posts

the **Gabber**.com

Vendors Wanted

Kenneth City Social Club is holding their annual flea market in September. This is an indoor/outdoor sale. Space is limited. Reserve your \$10 table today by calling Dick at 727-345-4323.

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Creative Writing Camp for Kids

Looking for something creative to do this summer? Sign up now for a kids-only creative writing camp at Gulfport's City of Imagination.

Keep St. Pete Lit, in conjunction with Gulfport's City of Imagination, will offer a free creative writing camp for fourth graders through high school freshmen. The camp will take place from 9 until 11 a.m.; it starts July 28 and will run through August 1. Please email dreamsfloat@icloud.com to register your child; class size is limited.

You can find City of Imagination at 2726 54th St. S. in Gulfport, between the two dog parks and immediately west of Scout Hall. Although the class is free, both City of Imagination and Keep St. Pete Lit welcome donations.

...

Treasure Island Islettes Give Back

On May 20 Mary Cox, President of the Treasure Islettes, and Millie Fant, Chairman of the Beautification Committee, presented a check in the amount of \$5,000 to Bob Minning, Mayor of the city of Treasure Island. The money will be used towards the planting of flowers along the causeway and by city buildings. Last year, the Islettes donated \$25,000 which was used for the planting of palm trees on the beach walk.

Further, the Treasure Island Islettes' Scholarship Committee, chaired by Rosemary Thompson,

was happy to award the following students with a \$1400 scholarship each for the 2014-15 school year: Amanda Culp, University of Florida, Architecture; Lidija Barauskas, Florida State University, College Of Law; Katherine Gomez, University of Central Florida, Public Affairs; and Jennifer Dawson, Florida State University, Sports Medicine/Physical Therapy.

One of the Islettes' continuous fundraising events includes bingo games held year round, every Thursday at 6:45 p.m. and at 7:45 p.m. at the Treasure Island Community Center, 120 108th Avenue. Funds raised from these games benefit local scholarships and the bingo is open to the public.

The club meets September through May at the Treasure Island Community Center on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. Membership is open to women who are residents and non-residents of Treasure Island. For information on joining the Treasure Islettes, contact Vice President Marian Alton at 727-360-0164 or contact by email: tresurei2@aol.com.

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Introductory Digital Photography Workshop

Do you feel overwhelmed by all the features your camera has to offer or not sure what features your camera has? The St. Pete Beach Community Center, 7701 Boca Ciega Dr., will be offering an Introductory Digital Photography Workshop once a month from 6 to 9 p.m. The cost is only \$10 per class. This workshop is designed to give the complete novice a solid understanding of their compact digital camera and the fundamental knowledge needed to embark upon a lifetime's exploration of photography. For class dates and more information visit spbrec.com or call 727-363-9245.

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Sock Hop with the Impacs

The legendary Impacs are hosting another fantastic Sock Hop Dance Party at the historic Gulfport Casino at 5500 Shore Blvd. S. on July 18 from 6:30 to 10 p.m. This time, The Impacs will welcome special guests Bo Santos, master of doo-wop and Aaron Angello, national recording artist from the Rockin' Blues. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door and available now at the Gulfport Casino Ballroom and Beach Bazaar Box Office at 3115 Beach Blvd. S. or theimpacs.com. For more information, contact 727-512-0046.

...

Find the Music in You

Have you always wanted to make music? Donna Dobbs, an experienced music educator, composer and musician, has developed a way for you to find the music in you, get it out and play it. The idea is to mix musicians and non-musicians, a room full of instruments and a great facilitator to play the songs America loves. Find the Music in You provides a way to discover a part of yourself that may have been hidden for a lifetime, have fun, learn more about your special abilities and create something that will give you lasting pleasure. No experience or talent required. The \$10 workshop will be held at City of Imagination, 3009 54th St. S. on Thursday, July 3, from 3 to 5 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m. Call 727-480-0865 or register online at FindTheMusicInYou.com.

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FAB Fiber Arts Camp

There's still time to get spinning at Fiber Arts Camp for campers between the ages 10 to 14. There are five themed camps left from which to choose and include activities such as basic of knitting, crocheting and weaving for beginners. Learn to card and spin wool to make really cool projects. Dye fabrics to make a book, or up-cycle and repurpose materials to make jewelry, dolls and bags. We'll also weave a few tales about Florida's first people, the Tocobaga Indians and Spanish Conquistadors and sample some native foods.

The camp instructor is Elizabeth Neily, an accomplished period

clothing designer and self-confessed history nut who has spent many years pursuing her interest in historic textiles and handcrafts. A big fan of experiential learning, she is dedicated to working with kids, inspiring them to learn through projects, play and good old-fashioned fun. She also loves wilderness crafts and pioneer cooking. As a living history presenter she tells stories woven out of the fabric of Florida's fascinating past. She has taught at Great Explorations, The Science Center and the Tampa Bay History

Center. She and her husband, artist Hermann Trappman, create and install exhibits in museums and galleries all over the state and offer experimental archaeology programs.

FAB Fiber Arts camp is sponsored by First Florida Frontiers in partnership with FAB Fiber in the Art Village Courtyard, 5440 29th Ave. S., Gulfport.

For more information about the camp contact Elizabeth at 727-744-7051 or email office@floridafrontier.com.

...

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Attorney Keith Sanders, Handles Foreclosure Defense and Bankruptcies with Experience and Sensitivity

You could say my motto is 'been there, done that,'" says Keith Sanders, from Sanders Law, P.A.

He says that for two reasons. First, he says his more than 20 years of experience as an attorney specializing in handling "literally thousands" of bankruptcies means that he has dealt with virtually any kind of problem or issue that might arise with them. And, secondly, he had to file a Chapter 13 bankruptcy himself. He says that experience makes him very sensitive to the kinds of things people face when making the difficult decision to file.

"Most attorneys have never been in a situation where they have been worried about how to keep the lights on, but I have been there myself so I can really relate to what people are going through," said Sanders. "Plus, many people are very embarrassed when they come to me, but when I tell them how embarrassing it was for me to have to stand in front of judges and colleagues who knew me and go through the process myself, that usually helps to put people more at ease and understand that I have been there and done that MYSELF."

"You know, in 99 percent of bankruptcy cases the situation is that bad things happen to

good people. They have gone through an expensive health crisis or a divorce or just got in over their head with debt."

He began his career as a staff attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice in Atlanta. He is licensed to practice law in both Florida and Georgia.

"I like what I do because I feel like I can help people get a fresh start," said Sanders.

"Since the initial consultation is free, you really don't have anything to lose to meet with me and we can assess your situation and see how it might be best for you to proceed. **Bankruptcy can be one solution to getting back on your feet financially, but it may not be the best or only solution for you.**

Sanders has held a number of seminars and written professional papers concerning bankruptcy law in general, ECF requirements and new issues. He is a former director of the Bankruptcy Section of the State Bar of Georgia.

The firm also handles Short Sale negotiations, defense against foreclosures, wills & trusts, civil litigation and personal injury.

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Bankruptcy is a non taxable event as far as the IRS is concerned.

We understand this is not an easy process or concept to grasp. We would like an opportunity to explain in depth and in terms that are relatable to you, the homeowner, just what this means and how it could be of benefit to you and your future. Every situation is different and therefore has a different solution, so please call us and let us discuss what is best for you, and then you can decide what course to take. Remember there are "LEGAL SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR FUTURE" and we would like the chance to show those to you.

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Local Obituaries

ASSENHEIMER, ANNA, 44, of St. Pete Beach was born Feb. 26, 1970 in Czechy, Poland. Anna passed away Thursday, June 5, 2014 at home under the loving care of her husband and Hospice, mere hours after celebrating their 9th wedding anniversary. A private though generous individual and a strong woman in mind, body and soul, Mrs. Assenheimer was beautiful, compassionate and talented. From her garden to her creativity, Anna's integrity and commitment was evident in all that she endeavored. Anna will be forever remembered as a wonderfully loving mom to her 3 dogs, Diego, Chelsea and Maya, a true friend and the best wife. She is survived by her husband, Perry James Assenheimer, Jr.; her parents, Karol and Genowefa Fraczek; her sister, Marta Kowalska and husband, Robert; her brother, Marek Fraczek; many uncles, aunts, a niece, two nephews, a great-nephew, cousins, in-laws, friends and colleagues. A funeral Mass was held on Friday, June 20, 2014 at St. John's Catholic Church on Blind Pass Rd., St. Pete Beach. In lieu of flowers, Anna would have wanted donations to be made to SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N., Largo, FL 33773, spcatampabay.org.

...

BENNER, HAROLD, 84, formerly of Bradenton, Florida, died June 22, 2014. Husband, father, teacher, scholar, Man of Letters, man of God. We will all miss you and think of you every day. Please give mom a big kiss. Love, from your children, grandchildren and all those lives you touched in your time here with us, Dad. God'speed, your loving family.

...

CLARK, FRANCIS "SMOKEY," 52, peacefully passed away at home on Friday, June 20, 2014 after a 2-year battle with cancer. Smokey is survived by his loving wife, Alicia; children Chase (Stacy), Daniel and Emily; and 5 grandchildren. Smokey was an avid golfer and bowler and was known by many in the community for his role in softball. He also had a great love for camping with family and friends. Smokey was an active member of the Gulfport Lions Club and he was due to be installed as club president for the upcoming year starting July 1; and he was a recipient of a Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest honor bestowed by Lions Club International. A Celebration of Life will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Gulfport Lions Center, 4630 Tifton Drive S. Gulfport, on Saturday, June 28. BYOB and/or please bring a covered dish to share.

...

HANSON, ROBERT V., SR., 92, of South Pasadena, passed away peacefully on June 17, 2014 in his home surrounded by his family. He moved to St. Petersburg in 1957 and was an automobile dealer for over 40 years, here and in Springfield, IL. He was born December 29, 1921. He graduated from Springfield High School in 1940 and from St. Petersburg College in 1995. He served his country during WWII as a B24 pilot and flew 35 sorties in the 15th Air Force while stationed in Venosa, Italy. Bob was an active member of the St. Petersburg Civitan Club, past president and received the Four Chaplains Award in 2010. He was a longtime parishioner of St. John Vianney Catholic Church and served as head usher for many years. Former builder and owner of the Georgian (Page) Terrace and Satellite Motels in Treasure Island, and past president of Treasure Island Chamber of Commerce. Former member for over 30 years of St. Petersburg and Pass-A-Grille Yacht Clubs, VFW (Post 39), Knights of Columbus (#2105), and Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association for over 65 years. One of his proudest memberships was in the United Flying Octogenarians (active pilots over 80 years of age). He was a life member of the 15th Air Force Association and Past Chairman of 485th Bomb Group Reunion Association and publisher (with his wife Lynda) of their annual news publication for many years. Bob enjoyed flying, exercising, walking, travelling, and attending USF and SPC as a senior student. Bob was predeceased by his wife, Lynda L. Hanson nee Loper, on June 19, 2013. Survivors include his children, Robert Jr. (Donna), Pinellas Park, Thomas (Kathleen), Chillicothe, OH, Russell (Renee), Port Orange, John, St. Petersburg, Paul, St. Petersburg, Pamela Hanson (Dr. William O.) Phillips, Winter Springs, Kathryn Hanson Carder, St. Petersburg, Patricia Hanson (David) Brewer, Tampa; nine grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the School Fund for St. John Vianney Catholic Church School, 445 82nd Ave., St. Pete Beach, FL 33706. A memorial gathering was held on Monday, June 23 at Beach Memorial Chapel,

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Obituaries (cont'd.)

St. Pete Beach. Memorial Mass was Tuesday, June 24 at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, St. Pete Beach. Beach Memorial Chapel, 727-360-5577.

...

KLOPP, CARL J., passed away unexpectedly but peacefully in his home on Father's Day, June 15, 2014. He was 92 years young! He has gone ahead leaving behind his loving wife of 28 years, Lorraine Klopp, his 3 children, Carl J. Klopp III and his wife Sherry, Catherine C. Hanson and her husband Peter, and Mary E. Johnson and her husband Rob, along with his step-daughter Deborah Stafford and her husband Bruce, and step-son Michael Hannon; and his sister, Elizabeth Woolcock. He had 9 grandchildren, Sherry, Dawn, CJ, Christina, John, Casey, Sarah, Heather and Marissa. There were 8 great-grandchildren, Rachel, Coleton, Jenna, Quinton, Delaney, Ryan, Maxwell and Carter. Carl graduated from Wilbur Wright Trade School. He was also a veteran in World War II, serving in the Navy as a Seabee. After the war, he came home and married, started a family and a career. Carl was a Tradesman with the Pipefitters Local 636 and Sheet Metal Local 292 in Michigan. When he retired from work he moved to Treasure Island, Florida, with his wife Mary (Mae) but sadly she passed away leaving him lonely until he found love again with Lorraine. He enjoyed many days golfing and taking trips. He belonged to the Pasadena Country Club and made many wonderful friends. He was a man of few words, unless you needed his advice or support; then his words were *priceless!* Anyone who knew Carl would say he was a kind and thoughtful man. He was happiest when spending time with his wife Lorraine, golfing, dancing or watching their favorite shows. Many days they spent listening to their music. There are no words to express how much his friends and family will miss this wonderful man. "Such a Light to our Lives, Such a Beautiful Soul." There will be a Celebration of Life on Saturday, July 12, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Pasadena Country Club, located on 6300 Pasadena Pt. Blvd., in Gulfport, Florida.

...



REGAN, THOMAS PATRICK, 74, of Gulfport, died Thursday, June 19, 2014 peacefully at home. Tom was a wonderful man,

giving, and caring, he cared for his family, his extended family, and strangers on the street. He was a friend of Bill W's and he made it his mission to help others join the friendship. Born in New York, he met Peachy, his loving wife of 52 years, while at a St. Ignatius teen Friday night mixer. A full blooded Irishman, he could be feisty at times, but always maintained a good sense of humor. The women in his life taught him that sarcasm could be a very powerful tool. And he was skilled. One of his favorite quotes was "Never let the truth get in the way of a good story!" Tom worked for IBM for 35 years in sales. Thomas will always be missed by his beloved wife, Patricia and his loving children Siobhan Falk and Stephanie Regan. He was devoted to his grandchildren Zachary and Regan Falk, and Owen Riley. He also will be missed by his sisters, Sister Peg Regan and Mary Regan, many nieces and nephews, extended family and all of his devoted friends. Peachy and Tom would be grateful if you would consider a donation in Tom's name to the Suncoast Hospice Foundation (thehospice.org). Memorial Mass will be scheduled at Most Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church soon. Visit ALifeTribute.com for details.

...



TONKIN, JOHN C., 74, of Gulfport died on Sunday, June 15, 2014. He is survived by his daughter Lynn, son-in-law Denis

and two grandchildren, Denis and Ciarra, along with his two sisters Sharon and Beth. A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, June 28 at 12 p.m. at American Legion Post 125, 6440 5th Ave. S., St. Petersburg. This is a pot luck, bring a dish if you'd like and share a memory about John.

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Somethin' on my mind

By Bill Northrop

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Keeping our Soldiers Here

Harry Reid (D), Nevada, Senate Majority Leader said last week the U.S. should not send troops to deal with the new Iraq crisis because it's just a civil war and the U.S. should stay out of other people's civil wars. Not much to disagree with there and there's no public support for sending more troops into Iraq, anyway.

President Obama, however, has already ordered 300 "infrastructure support" or "advisors" in. That's in addition to a couple hundred more to protect our embassy. These are probably prudent moves and probably not enough if our embassy is in danger. He is worried about "mission creep," however.

The fact is, Sen. Reid's pronouncement is much easier to declare than

achieve. Our troops are already in 150 countries across the globe and are there for a number of reasons, not the least to deal in one way or another with civil or warring factions in other countries. These are legacies of our involvement in civil wars past and present.

Korea was a civil war between the north and south, between communists and non-communists (it took years to get to a democratic form of government in Korea). Vietnam was another. Before that there was the Russian Civil War (1917), the Cuban early and later uprisings, Spanish-American war (Cuba and the Philippines), Panama, Grenada, then, later it was the Afghanistan civil war (with the Soviets) and the Yugoslavia uprisings (Kosovo from Serbia), Haiti, Libya and Tunisia, and, of course, Iraq and Afghanistan. President Bill Clinton

stop the Rwanda massacres. The point is that these occurred under both Democrat and Republican presidents and congresses. It seems to go with the territory of being a world leader.

In fact, such intrusions, exclusive of Iraq and Afghanistan, are on-going. We recently sent 300 troops to Uganda and that's on top of 100 or more sent into the Congo both to deal with uprisings there. Countries we're in include South Sudan (45), Somalia (24), Nigeria (20 plus), Niger (100), Mali (10), Djibouti (4,000), Chad (80), and bases in Burkina Faso and Ethiopia. All in all we have 160,000 troops abroad in all sorts of capacities. Most want us there even if it's just for the money they get (Krygstan). Most of Europe wants us there (we have 67,000) because then they don't have to spend their own money on defense.

It's not all bad and it's not all good. We are protecting our own turf. It's no coincidence that wars, other than our own, have not reached our shores. So, we get involved to protect ourselves, to keep the fights over there, to punish others, to protect world oil supplies for us and others, to keep our influence, and for humanitarian reasons. We did intervene in two European wars that some said were only Europe's problems.

As I said, sometimes we do good and sometimes bad. Sometimes we get it right and sometimes wrong. Iraq we got wrong (although if they had had weapons of mass destruction that then?), achieved some goals and then, they and we blew that. The so-called good war (President Obama), Afghanistan, we might have been right because the Taliban were shielding Al Queda. However, if we aren't able to keep it, will it be right or wrong? Should we protect Israel from its neighbors? Should we keep Iran from getting the bomb? Should we protect anyone but ourselves?

Saying we should just back out to our own shores is easy, but doing it is more difficult than getting into messes abroad.

There are consequences, long and short term, for whether we get in, stay out, or stay in. None are 100 percent predictable, and all have unintended consequences. Each situation has its own set of circumstances which have different appearances depending upon different perspectives.

Rhetoric just doesn't cut it.

...



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Everyday Cheap\$Kate

By Mary Hunt

Careful! The Kids Are Watching

If you speak English in your home, your kids are not likely to come out speaking Italian. Kids learn everything through observation and imitation. And they don't miss a thing. Kids are shaped at the very beginning of life by the way their parents live. They are ever-attentive witnesses of grown-up behaviors. They take their cues from what they see and hear.

Want your kids to grow up with healthy attitudes about money? Start living the way you want them to become. Let your kids regularly catch you in the act of living financially responsible lives and you'll be on your way to raising financially responsible kids.

You really cannot start too early modeling healthy money attitudes for your kids. Here are 20 ways you can start right now to raise financially responsible kids even if yours are still toddlers, excerpted from my book, "Raising Financially Responsible Kids," which remains my most favorite of all because it's about my kids and the plan we created.

Let them observe that you have money and you take good care of it.

Let them see you use money as an ordinary and normal part of life.

Let them see you put money in the church offering. Make sure they catch you being generous with others and sharing what you have.

Tell your kids stories about the ways you are practicing frugality in order to save money.

Allow them to see you deposit money in the bank.

Let them see the way you pay for groceries with cash.

Teach them that money is important in our lives because we can exchange it for things we need and want.

Talk about money as casually as you talk about other things like sports and laundry.

Use coins to teach your preschoolers to count. It's effective and acknowledges their curiosity about money.

Talk about the different shapes and colors of items in the store. It gives little ones something to do instead of wanting everything they see.

While a passenger in the grocery cart, allow your little one to hold the coupons or the list. Talk about finding the best value.

Say, "We don't choose to spend our

money that way" more often than you say "We can't afford it."

Remember preschoolers are listening and learning from everything they see you do and hear you say.

Use coins to teach the different denominations. Three and four-year-olds can learn to put all the pennies into one cup, the nickels into another and so on.

Visit the library and park with your preschooler more often than the market or mall.

Give rewards of hugs and praise—not money. Creating the expectation of cash payment at every turn is a habit you'll regret in adolescence.

Monitor television time and opt for non-commercial viewing and videotapes when possible.

Let preschoolers participate in household chores to enjoy the security of belonging -- not to get paid.

Intervene between advertisers and your kids. Preschoolers can't always tell when the television show ends and the ad begins.

Make sure your children grow up with a strong sense of gratitude, thankful for all they have.

...



Carlos A. Labrador, MD: Physician • Kitty Labrador: Office Manager
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Gabber June 26 - July 2, 2014

WellNEWS

All the news that's fit.

By Scott Lafee

Heading to the Hospital

Visits to emergency rooms for traumatic brain injuries (TBI) rose nearly 30 percent from 2006 to 2010, but researchers say that's not necessarily bad news. It may be attributable to increased awareness and diagnoses.

Using numbers from the Nationwide Emergency Department Sample database, University of Pittsburgh scientists surveyed millions of ER

visits at 950 hospitals, then looked at U.S. census data to determine incidence rates.

They found that there were an estimated 2.5 million visits to the ER for TBI in 2010, an increase of 29 percent from 2006. By comparison, total ER visits over that time period rose 3.6 percent.

The majority of the increase was due to diagnosed concussions or unspecified head injury, most notably in children under age 3 or adults older than 60. Most recorded visits

were for minor injuries, and most patients were discharged without being admitted.

BODY OF KNOWLEDGE

An adult's small intestine is about 15 feet longer than his or her large intestine, but the large intestine is three times greater in diameter. The primary job of the small intestine is to extract nutrients from consumed food and drink. The large intestine's main job is to absorb water from digested matter, creating stool for disposal.

GET ME THAT. STAT!

A liter of organic milk requires 80 percent more land than conventional milk to produce, has 20 percent more global warming potential, releases 60 percent more nutrients into water sources, and contributes 70 percent more to acid rain, according to the KQED report "Food Labeling: How to Identify Conventional, Organic and GMO Produce."

DOC TALK

A hasselhoff is an emergency room patient whose injuries are the result of bizarre circumstances. The name refers to former "Baywatch" actor David Hasselhoff, who suffered a freak injury in 2006 when he hit his head on a chandelier while shaving. The broken glass severed four tendons as well as an artery in his right arm, which required immediate surgery.

PHOBIA OF THE WEEK

Agyiophobia -- fear of crossing busy streets

OBSERVATION

"Getting fit is all about mind over matter. I don't mind, so it doesn't matter." -- Adam Hargreaves, author of "Mr. Lazy's Guide to Fitness"

LAST WORDS

"God will pardon me. That's his line of work." -- German poet Heinrich Heine (1797-1856)

...

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American Legion Activities

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Lunch Served 11am-3pm Ron's Karaoke 7pm	Kitchen Open 11-2pm Dinner 4:30-6:30pm Southern Knights Band 7-11pm	Southern Knights Band 7-11pm Dinner 4:30-6:30pm	Breakfast Buffet 8:30-11am S.A.L. hamburgers and hot dogs 12-3pm Steakums 1-3pm	No Lunch Served	Lunch 11-3 Ron's Karaoke 7pm	Lunch Served 11am-3pm Euchre 1pm Bingo 6pm Kitchen Open for Bingo

Legion Riders meet first Monday 7 pm
 Junior Auxiliary meets 1st Saturday 10:30
 Auxiliary July 8 6:30 E-bd 7:00pm reg mtg. July 1 6:30
 Special Mtg Board Members Only
 Legionnaires meet 6/23 6:30 E-Bd 7 pm regular mtg.
 S.A.L. meets last Monday 7 pm

Service Officer Bob Cannon's available Thursdays from
 9am – 12 noon to offer assistance.
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 1:00 pm. Win steaks, chicken and more.

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Bar Bingo 7pm Food Served	Fish & Shrimp 6-8pm Music by Geno 6:30-9:30pm	Steak Dinner 6-8pm Lee Jay Nelson 6:30-9:30pm	Sports & Pizza 12-6pm	Bucky Burgers 5-8pm Karaoke 6:30-9:30pm		Dinner Special 6-8pm Trivia

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	Bar Bingo 7pm	Karaoke 9pm-12am				

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 bar games every day. Fish fry last Friday of the month,
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AmVets Post 8

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Happy Hour 9-11am & 4-7pm Jam Session 6-10pm Food available 6-8pm	Tiki open 4pm Dinner 5-7:30pm Karaoke 7-11pm	Tiki open 12noon Grill open 1-5pm Live Music 1-5pm Steak-O 4-6pm	Breakfast 8-10:30am Tiki open 12noon Grill open 1-5pm Live Music 1-5pm	Euchre 1pm Happy Hour 9-11am & 4-7pm Drink specials 8pm-Close	Happy Hour 9-11am & 4-7pm Karaoke 7-11pm Drink specials 8pm-Close	Tiki open 5pm Karaoke 7-11pm Bingo 7pm Food Available

Ladies Auxiliary meet 1st Sunday each month at 11:30am
 Sons of AmVets meet 1st Monday each month at 7pm

AmVets meet 2nd Sunday each month at 11:30am
 Steak-O every Saturday at 4pm



By Robert J. Myers, Esq.

What is Disclaimer of Interest?

Disclaimer of interest, in the law of inheritance, wills and trusts, is a term that describes an attempt by a person to give up their legal right to benefit from an inheritance (either under a will or through intestacy) or through a trust. A disclaimer of interest cannot be changed. There are a number of reasons why a person might wish to avoid an inheritance, particularly if the proceeds would only go to their creditors, or if it would drastically affect their income tax liabilities. Under the common law, a person who disclaimed their interest would be treated as though they had died before the trust or will came into effect. This was a

sensible option if the disclaiming party was an heir by descent, whose own children would then take in his place and without the imposition of a gift tax.

Disclaimer of interest is also called a renunciation. A disclaimer of interest must be complete, and not a partial disclaimer. Such a disclaimer can be made by a legal guardian on behalf of a person who lacks the capacity to make the disclaimer themselves, but this usually requires a finding by the Probate Court that the disclaimer is in the ward's best interest.

The disclaimer must be in writing and submitted to the Probate Court overseeing the administration of the estate within a legally specified time period, which is usually 12 months after the death of the person from whom the disclaiming party stands to inherit, or 12 months after the creation of a trust by a living person. An affidavit may be required in which the disclaiming party must swear that he or she has not received any compensation for the disclaimer. The disclaimer must also take place before the disclaiming party has

enjoyed any benefits of the trust or inheritance.

In addition to the more typical disclaimer under wills, an individual may also be able to disclaim his interest as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy or employee benefit plans. It may also apply to concurrent interests in real property that automatically transfer after death by operation of law rather than by the rules of inheritance (such as joint tenancies or tenancies by the entirety).

Mr. Myers is the owner of Akerson Law Offices which is located at 1135 Pasadena Avenue South, Suite 140, St. Petersburg, Florida. The telephone number is 727-347-5131. Mr. Myers welcomes calls regarding this article and other related legal topics. This column outlines general legal principles and is not intended to give you legal advice. If you have a specific question about the law, please consult an attorney.

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Gulfport Fire Chief James Marenkovic would like to remind Gulfport residents that smoke detectors are available free of charge to elderly and low income households within city limits. Stop by the fire station, 5314 23rd Ave. S., or call Chief Marenkovic at 727-893-1062 for more information.

...

Chito Ryu Karate

The Gulfport Recreation offers Chito Ryu Karate two nights a week. Chito Ryu is a traditional Japanese martial art. In these classes you will learn self-defense, focus and self-discipline, conditioning, exercise regiments, the Kata Art form and weapons training. Classes are on Monday and Thursday evenings from 6:30 to 8 p.m. For more information, contact Adell at 727-459-1399.

...

Caregiver's Support Group

Are you feeling overwhelmed with the responsibilities and challenges of being a caregiver? You are not alone! On-going support for you is essential.

The Gulfport Senior Center, 5501 27th Ave. S., offers a support group for caregivers every Wednesday from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. This peer-led group has met weekly over the years sharing tips, offering encouragement, and discussing the trials, demands, and overwhelming experience of being a caregiver for their loved one.

Must be a registered Gulfport Senior Center member. Membership is easy and free for all individuals 50 years of age or older. For more information, please contact Rachel at 727-893-1231.

...

Home Gardening Workshops

As part of the new series of monthly gardening workshops sponsored by the Gulfport Library, Master Gardener Val Boyle will share her

knowledge about the creepy crawlies that we find in our gardens.

Val will help us learn how to identify the good guys from the bad guys and share methods of welcoming those that help our gardens thrive while discouraging those that make us want to throw in our gardening gloves in defeat.

Participants are invited to bring samples of plants with "problems" as well as their gardening questions.

After the workshop there will be a brief meeting for those who have volunteered to work on the upcoming Gulfport Library Seed Library.

New volunteers are welcome to stay and learn more.

Mark your calendar to join in the Garden Workshop series which will be held the fourth Saturday of each month at the Gulfport Library from 2 to 3 p.m. Planned upcoming workshops include:

June 28: Val Boyles, The Good, Bad and Ugly of Garden Pest Control

July 26: By Reservation Only! Building a Hanging Garden Planter

August 23: Creating and Growing Plants in an Earth Box

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To Catch a Thief

By Gulfport Police Chief Robert Vincent



When you're awakened in the middle of the night by helicopter rotors and sirens accompanied by red and blue flashers and bright spotlights, the logical assumption is that something is up.

Exactly what that is, however, can be just about anything. It doesn't always mean a murderer or rapist is on the loose.

Recently, Gulfport officers were asked to locate a man who was wanted by the Pinellas Sheriff's Office for several counts of dealing in stolen property. When the officers found him, the suspect took off running, and the law enforcement machine went to work.

Since we share communications with the sheriff's office, deputies were already monitoring the situation, and they responded immediately. In this densely populated county with over twenty law enforcement agencies routinely working across

jurisdictions, this is an everyday occurrence. Gulfport and PCSO patrol units set up a perimeter, and sheriff's investigators requested air and K-9 support. For over an hour we searched; unfortunately, the suspect was able to evade capture. For the moment. He was apprehended a few days later under similar circumstances. A Gulfport officer spotted and recognized him, and with assistance from St. Petersburg Police this time, the suspect was apprehended by a K-9 while hiding under a house.

Is all this overkill for a thief? Is catching this kind of crook worth the expense and public inconvenience of saturating a neighborhood with a dozen or more officers and deputies, a couple of police dogs, and a helicopter? Well, you be the judge.

Consider that this man was wanted for 28 counts of dealing in stolen property. Each count is a second-degree felony punishable by up to fifteen years in prison. Consider that theft of property is Gulfport's number one crime, has been for years, and is routinely among residents' top complaints to police.

Some may think that such efforts should be reserved for violent offenders, but I'm the one who would be stuck explaining to the victims of the thefts and burglaries that we didn't catch the criminal because we just didn't try hard enough. That doesn't sit well with me, but I don't think there is a perfect answer. I see this particular case as a job well done, and I wouldn't hesitate to put forth the same effort again. The best we can do is keep the resources available and leave it to the best judgment of our trained and experienced officers to make the right decisions on how and when to use them.

In the meantime, we'll do our best to let the public know if there is ever a dangerous fugitive on the loose. We can send instant media alerts to news outlets, post messages on our Facebook page, and we invite residents to sign up for our new emergency alert system: alertregistration.com/GulfPortFL/.

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Register for Learn to Swim Program

When children in our community learn to swim we all shine. Let us teach your child to swim. Lessons are available mornings and evenings for infants six months to adult.

Classes include swim lessons from beginner through advanced levels and diving. Lessons are taught by certified American Red Cross water safety instructors. Programs vary at every pool site. Sessions are Monday through Friday and last two weeks in duration with advancing levels upon passing each session. Cost per session is \$39/person.

ADVANTAGE Membership required or register with a valid driver license or photo ID of parent or legal guardian and complete Hold Harmless Agreement. Register Thursday, July 3, Thursday, July 17 and Thursday, July 31 during normal operating hours. Reduced rates are also available for residents with Medicaid, food stamp cards

or free school lunch and reduced lunch status forms. Register at pool locations: Walter Fuller, 7883 26th Ave. N., 727-893-7636; Northwest, 2331 60th St. N., 727-893-7723; Childs Park, 1227 43rd St. S., 727-893-7730; E.H. McLin, 602 14th St. S., 727-893-7635; Fossil Park, 6739 M.L. King Jr. St. N., 727-893-7440; Jennie Hall, 1025 26th St. S., 727-893-7725; Lake Vista, 1450 60th Ave. S., 727-893-7745; Shore Acres, 4142 Shore Acres Blvd. NE, 727-893-7752; North Shore Aquatic Complex, 901 North Shore Dr. NE (no registration July 31), 727-893-7727. Programs vary at every pool site. For more on pool lessons and pool information, see stpeteparksrec.org.

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iLearn at the Library



Librarian Alex Hooks helps Gulfportian Charles Hellmann with his iPad during the Gulfport's monthly iPad class. Hellmann has had his iPad mini for a month and came to the class to learn more about how to use it.

"This has been very good," he said. "It's a nice class."

Hooks assists librarian Cailey Klasson, who teaches the class on the third Thursday of each month. Although Klasson works as the youth librarian, she told the *Gabber* retirees make up the bulk of her students.

Lithuanian-American Club Lunch

The Lithuanian-American Club at 4880 46th Ave. N. in St. Petersburg is serving lunch every Thursday at 1 p.m. The summer schedule of luncheons is one week koldunai and the other week cepelinai.

The cost is \$7 for entree, side, dessert and coffee. This Thursday's menu is soup, koldunai (meat dumplings) served with bacon and/or sour cream, dessert and coffee. As usual, they have Lithuanian beer and fresh baked bread to buy every Thursday.

Call Vida at 866-7936 for more information. Everyone is welcome.

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Outdoor Market in Midtown

Check out the weekly outdoor market in Midtown! Deuces Live, a Florida Main Street Community, produces the Deuces Live Sunday Market, every Sunday on 22nd Street S. and Ninth Ave., from 1 to 6 p.m.

The market features live entertainment every week and a unique array of vendors offering home baked goods, fresh produce, fruit, flowers, plants, seafood and meats, arts and fine crafts, gifts, baskets and more. Rain or shine, and all year long, the new Deuces Live Sunday Market is a shopping and economic opportunity in Midtown for the entire community.

Vendor booths are now available at a low rate of \$60 for four weeks (one month). Vendors are required to register and provide their own tent. To become a vendor, or for more information, please contact Veatrice Farrell, Deuces Live Main Street Program, deuceslivespetemainstreet@gmail.com or 727-433-8237.

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Here's How

By Pat Logan

Repair & Fix

Fix Cracks in Asphalt Driveway That Stay Fixed

Dear Pat: The asphalt driveway at my house was replaced just several years ago, but some cracks have developed. I have tried to repair them, but they keep opening up. How can I make a permanent repair?
-- Anna G.

Dear Anna: It can be very disappointing to install a new driveway that looks great and then have ugly cracks form in just a couple of years. You should contact the company that installed the new asphalt driveway to see if they will repair it for you.

It may be difficult to make it look like new again. Since your asphalt driveway is relatively new, serious cracks indicate there are some problems with the gravel base. The asphalt company should have totally removed all the old asphalt, leveled and compacted a gravel base, and then laid the new asphalt layer.

With an unstable gravel base, for whatever reason, there probably is not a "permanent" repair for the current cracks. This does not mean you cannot make repairs that last several years, but smaller cracks appearing through the repair are probable. Smaller cracks are easier to fix and, if you are lucky, they may be small enough that they are not an aesthetic issue.

Another problem you may have had with the repair is you did not follow

the repair material manufacturer's instructions. People typically don't read the instructions thoroughly and just start filling in the crack. One common problem is to fill the crack when the temperature outside is too cold for the repair material. It may be warm enough during the day, but it may get too cold the first night before it is set. This results in poor adhesion.

The repair material instructions may also recommend a maximum thickness for the repair. Filling the entire depth of a deep crack can result in too much shrinkage. If there is a deep crack, it should first be filled with a foam backer rod. The ideal depth of the repair material should not be more than twice the width of the crack.

Don't give up and assume things are hopeless because it is important to keep those cracks as filled and closed as possible. Wherever there is a crack, water can seep through it into the ground. This will make the

base even more unstable.

This is a particularly serious problem in cold climates. Water expands as it freezes. If it rains during the daytime and then the temperature drops below freezing at night, the water in the crack can freeze. This expanding ice will force your previous repair compounds out of the crack.

No matter what type of repair material you select, clean out the crack as thoroughly as possible. This is important so the repair material has a solid surface to which to adhere. Use a screwdriver to dig out any big chunks and then a stiff brush followed by a wet/dry vacuum to remove the fine particles.

There are many types of crack-repair materials available. When repairing a smaller crack during warm weather, a pourable type of material works well. Repair material in a tube that fits a standard caulking gun works well anytime and makes it easier to eliminate voids. Once the repair material is installed, sprinkle it with sand, place a piece of plywood over it, and drive the car over it to level the surface.

...

Try your hand at Sudoku

Solution on Page 18

	3		1	4				
					7	1		2
	6					7	3	
	5		4		2		7	
7		3				2		9
	8		7		9		6	
	7	9					8	
3		8	5					
				7	6		2	

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Qi Gong Class in Pass-A-Grille

The St. Pete Beach Recreation Department has added a new class at the Warren Webster facility in Pass-A-Grille, 1500 Pass-A-Grille Way. Qi Gong is an ancient Chinese health care system that integrates slow graceful movements, breathing techniques and deep relaxation. Class is held every Tuesday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. Join anytime.

For more information call Joyce Lockwood at 727-433-9237 or email lockwoodjoyce@yahoo.com.

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Apply for Social Services Grants

Social service agencies may now apply for \$446,000 in grants from the City of St. Petersburg. Grant applications are due Monday, July 7 by 4 p.m. and are available online at stpete.org/socialservices.

They are also available at the Maximo Resource Center, 4815 34th St. S. or call 727-866-7177.

Funding is limited to social service programs that provide homeless services and/or homeless prevention services. Priority for funding: homeless families with minor or

dependent children (highest priority), unaccompanied youth (second priority) and chronic homeless adults (third priority).

Grant awards will not be offered to agencies requesting less than \$10,000 or more than \$40,000. An agency can request funding for more than one program, but the total request cannot exceed \$40,000. Agencies must submit only one application.

In Fiscal Year 2014 the city allocated social services grants to 17 organizations in the community.

...

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Hard Candy

By Cathy Salustri

Conversations with El Cap: Joni Mitchell Songs in My Head

El Cap and I are in Hilton Head for a few days to see his parents. We do this periodically because he is a good sort of son who likes to see his parents, and also, well, Hilton Head rocks. Aside from it not being in Florida, it's pretty great. It's the best study in tourism planning I've seen: the place can be packed, and they've worked it out so that you don't realize how crowded it is until you get past the last roundabout and you see droves of vaguely pink tourists heading back to their cars in the off-site parking lot.

And this is how the conversation started. For those of you who read my non-Gabber blog (shameless plug: cathysalustri.com), you know that El Cap and I have often-bizarre conversations, everything from road signs with anteaters on them to why he thinks Rhianna's music is fine as long as Andy Williams sings it.

Here's what we talk about on road trips:

Me: Oh, hey, Gulfport's going to pave the beach parking lot. I'm thinking of writing a column about it. I don't want to see it paved.

El Cap: Why are they paving it?

Me: Er, I'm not sure. I guess because the old one isn't working.

El Cap: It works. We parked there the other night. Are they using shell?

Me: No, they're paving it with, you

know, pavement.

El Cap: So it's going to be a black parking lot?

Me: Yup.

El Cap: What about the runoff into the bay?

Me: They say the sand and shells are so hard packed now it doesn't really matter, that it will be the same.

El Cap: Do they have a study that tells them that?

Me: Uh, no. I don't think so.

El Cap: Why can't they just grade and rake it?

Me: I don't know.

El Cap: Has council voted on this yet?

Me: I'm not sure. I think they'll have to, though, because of the cost.

El Cap: How much will it cost?

Me: I don't know. More than \$10,000, probably.

El Cap: When are they doing this?

Me: Ah, I'm not sure. Probably this coming budget year. I should probably call the city manager and ask.

El Cap: They're going to have to take it down a foot or so to put in new basalt or put a new foundation in, right, to put in the blacktop? Why can't they just turn it over – take what's there, mix it all up, lay it down again, and make it semi-permeable again? They could put in drains.

Me: Er, I don't know.

El Cap: Once you pave it, you can't put a bike path in, you can't plant it. I don't think they should do anything until they have a plan. Have businesses been complaining about people tracking in shells?

Me: I don't think so.

El Cap: Well, these are questions that would need to be answered before they pave it.

Me: I'm sure they know the answers.

El Cap: Who's "they"?

Me: City staff. What would you do instead?

El Cap: I don't know. It's a beach parking lot; let's stay beachy. Everybody likes our quaint alleys because they're not paved. I think that should hold true for the parking. That's me talking with no knowledge whatsoever, but it seems easier to get it re-graded every year or two instead of the maintenance blacktop requires.

Me: Well, look at me, I have no knowledge of anything here, and I'm more than happy to talk about it.

El Cap: Who knows? It might be a nice spot for a carousel.

El Cap's snarky references aside about my rabid support for a carousel on the beach, he did inspire me to do my job. I called our city manager and asked him about the project, and the bottom line? The city's open to other solutions, but no one's presented anything better. This isn't an approved project, and the lot does need work: those shells are so packed down the automotive runoff doesn't go anywhere but on our beach and into our bay.

I know we're not Hilton Head. We don't have the resources for off-site parking. That ship has sailed, and that's OK: We're our own town, with our own character, and I wouldn't trade that for anything.

But that doesn't keep me from hearing Joni Mitchell in my head.

..

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My Grandmother's Garden

By Juju Stevens

June Gardens – Part 2

When we left off, we were talking about some of the requirements for a June garden, including crop types, planting suggestions and soil pH balance. Your goal is a pH between 6.0 to 7.5.

Take a look at the pH of your water supply, as well, to make sure that your water isn't assaulting your plants. My rain barrel water, for example, is extremely acidic. I check it fairly regularly to make sure that it won't stunt the plants' growth. Both wood ash and lime will bring down the acidity; elemental sulfur will raise acidity, as will mulch. Remember: If you use mulch, you need to be more attentive to fertilizing your plants.

Why pay attention to pH? When it is lower than 6.0, the plant has trouble absorbing nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium; when it's too high, it has trouble absorbing iron, manganese and phosphorus. (Think of the nutritional labels on store food – you want your home-grown food to contain all the vitamins and minerals it's supposed to.)

The acidity of the soil is also related to the dreaded blossom end rot. If you've never seen it, it's a heartbreaking event. A perfectly

beautiful 2" butternut squash, eggplant, pepper or tomato can become an alien landscape overnight. It is almost always caused by a combination of a lack of calcium in the soil and improper watering. Less commonly, if the pH in your soil is too low, the plant cannot absorb enough calcium to harden off its "skin" for protection.

Blossom rot is one of the reasons you want to make sure your plants have plenty of root room. In order for a plant to absorb nutrients through the roots, you have to soak the soil to the roots. Surface watering doesn't really help in plant growth and can contribute to other issues, including various species of plant fungus. Don't freak if your first few fruits on a plant have blossom rot; it's fairly common and sometimes effects only the first two or three fruits as the plant begins to produce.

Soil cures for blossom rot are pretty basic. First, make sure that you are watering thoroughly. In order to prevent fungus, make sure that you are not wetting the leaves if they have no chance to dry before sunset. Most plant food contains calcium, so a regular fertilization schedule is important. You can also supplement the mineral content of your soil with actual calcium – whey, yoghurt,

powdered milk and even calcium supplements from the vitamin section at the store. I dissolve oyster shell based calcium supplements in water, add them to my watering can with more water and give my plants a little feed every few weeks.

In the long run, crushing and adding eggshells into your compost pile or garden will supply calcium to the soil, but it takes several years for the eggshell to break down.

When your seedlings are ready to plant, mix a little fertilizer in the soil and make sure that the ground is soaked with water. One of the mistakes I habitually make is planting too many plants or seeds too close together. It's hard to throw out healthy seedlings, but it really must be done in order to have a healthy garden. You can plan your garden with an empty row for these babies. As you thin your seedlings you can put them in this row or another container. All of them will not survive the move, so don't expect every seed to yield a plant.

No matter what the bag of extra dirt you bought reads about feeding plants for six months, it is wrong. You need to fertilize edible plants every three to four weeks, depending on the plant, the soil and the brand of fertilizer.

..

Juju does not claim to be a master gardener, though she says she "was a member of the Junior Garden Club before I hit puberty." Juju's columns are based on consultations with Florida certified master gardeners, various gardening books, Internet research and, primarily, her own experiences in her own and her grandmother's gardens. Says Juju, "The first thing I learned about gardening in Florida was to forget everything I learned about gardening anywhere else."

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Some services offered may require a construction competency license. To verify the license of a person or firm, call the PINELLAS COUNTY CONSTRUCTION LICENSING BOARD at 536-4720. All major work will require a permit from your local Building Department.

SERVICE GUIDE

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General

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice Is Hereby Given That On Thursday, July 10th at 9:30am

The Storage House, located at 1219 49th St. S., Gulfport FL 33707, will conduct a cash sale to the highest bidder pursuant to Statute 83.906 of Florida Self Storage Act.

The Contents are believed to be the following:

Tenant	Unit	Contents
Marquetta Reeder	#136	Household Goods
Ashlea Webb	#14	Household Goods

June 19 & 26, 2014

PLACE YOUR AD HERE - \$15.00 for 20 words, includes notarized affidavit of publication and tear sheet. \$5.00 notary fee. 321-6965.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

GERMAN TECHNOLOGY, INC. gives notice and intent to sell, for non payment of parts, labor and storage fees, the following vehicle on July 15, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. at 10881 75th St. N. Largo, FL 33777. Said Company reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. 2006 BMW VIN#WBAHN83576DT26600 June 26, 2014

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

EAST BAY TIRES & AUTO gives notice and intent to sell, for non payment of parts, labor and storage fees, the following vehicle on July 22, 2014 at 10:00 A.M. at 3530 East Bay Drive, Largo, FL 33771. Said Company reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. 2007 Toyota VIN#JTDJT923075036906 June 26, 2014

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR PETITION TO RELOCATE WITH MINOR CHILD/SUPPLEMENTAL PETITION TO MODIFY PARENTING PLAN- Jennifer Mary Feddon, You are notified that a petition to relocate with minor child has been filed for your child and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to Steve Ullum whose address is 3922 Casaba Loop, Valrico, FL 33596 on or before 7/7/2014, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 800 East Twiggs Street, Room 101, Tampa, FL 33602 or (Mailing address) P.O. Box 3450, Tampa, FL 33601, before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

Yard/Garage Sale

6580 BOUGAINVILLE AVE. S.-(off 64th St. and Pasadena Ave. S.). Fri. & Sat. 9am.-2pm. Tools, Plants, Lots of Misc.

ESTATE SALE-Town Shores Diplomat Unit 204. Thursday, Friday & Saturday. 9a.m.-3p.m. General Household Items, Antique Bedroom Set.

ESTATE SALE-976 8th Ave. S. Sat. 6/28. 8a.m.-2p.m. Household items.

Card of Thanks

PRAY 9 HAIL MARY'S for 9 days, request 3 wishes, 1 business & 2 impossible. On the 9th day, publish this article, your wishes will be answered even if you don't believe. T.A.B.

PLACE YOUR AD HERE - Starting at \$15 per issue. Call 727-321-6965.

Gabber June 26 - July 2, 2014

City of Gulfport Public Notices



CITY OF GULFPORT MEETINGS

City Clerk's Office

July 2014

July 1, 2014

City Council Meeting
CANCELLED

July 2, 2014

Planning & Zoning Board/LPA
NO MEETING

July 4, 2014

Holiday
CITY HALL CLOSED

July 9, 2014

Board of Adjustment
6:30 pm

July 11, 2014

Teen Council
3:00 pm

July 15, 2014

City Council Meeting
7:00 pm

All meetings are open to the public and are held in City Hall Council Chambers, located at 2401 53rd St. S., unless otherwise noted. Meetings may occasionally be added, cancelled or rescheduled after this list is published.

Card of Thanks

NOVENA TO ST. JUDE - May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified, loved and preserved, throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen. Sacred Heart of Jesus, have mercy on us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the hopeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day. By the 8th day, your prayer will be answered. Say it for 9 days. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you, St. Jude. C.S.

PRAYER TO ST. JUDE - This novena has never been known to fail. This novena must be said for 9 consecutive days. Publication must be promised. Oh Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present urgent petition. In return, I promise to make your name known and call you to be invoked. St. Jude, pray for us all who invoke your aid. Amen. Say 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Marys & 3 Gloria's. R.S.

MAY THE SACRED Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world. Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Blessed Mother, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer for nine days, nine times a day. Then publish this prayer. Thank You, Jesus. G.F.

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City of Gulfport Public Notices

Card of Thanks

NEVER FAILING PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL - St. Michael, the Archangel, Defend Us In Battle; Be Our Defense Against the Wickedness and Snares of the Devil. May God Rebuke Him We Humbly Pray; and Do You Oh Prince of the Heavenly Host, By the Power of God, Thrust Into Hell Satan and the Other Evil Spirits Who Prowl About the World For the Ruin of Souls. Amen. St. Michael, I Resort to Your Protection and in My Faith, Offer This Light Which Shall Burn Every Tuesday. Comfort Me in My Difficulties and While Lodging in the House of Our Savior Intercede for Me and My Family That We Will Be Able to Hold God Close to Our Hearts and Be Provided for in All of Our Necessities. I Beseech You, to Have Infinite Pity in Regard to Favors I ask of You (Name Them) So That I May Be Able To Overcome All Difficulties as You Did the Dragons at Your Feet. Our Father (Say 3 Times). Hail Mary (Say 3 Times). Glory Be (Say 3 Times). This Prayer is to be Said 9 Tuesdays, in Succession and Each Tuesday a Candle Shall Be Lighted and a Copy of This Prayer Lft in the Church to Help Another Soul in Distress and Support the Devotion to St. Michael. This Miraculous Saint Grants Everything, No Matter How Difficult, Before the Termination of 9 Tuesdays. G.B.

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Eton #209- 1BR/1BA, updated kitchen & bathroom,
bldg on front of complex..... WINTER, 6 MOS +1 DAY (181) \$850/mo

Lancaster #415- 2BR/2BA, Deluxe end unit..... WINTER, 6 MOS +1 DAY (181) \$1250/mo

Lancaster #604- 1BR/1BA, Deluxe ANNUAL \$950/mo

CALL US FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS BUYING **SELLING** LEASING

Real Estate

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fax (727) 327-7830

Deadline: Tuesday 5pm | Monday 3pm if proof is required - display only



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SIZZLING NEW GULFPORT SUMMER LISTINGS!!!



New Listing: 3007 Beach Blvd

Includes: Adorable Beach Blvd boutique/shop. Spacious owners living quarters
BONUS: detached air cooled finished garage- can be leased as retail space.
Lush private garden on huge corner DOUBLE LOT! Best location in GULFPORT!!!!

**UNIQUE GULFPORT
COMMERCIAL LIVE/WORK COMPOUND**



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3BR/2BA, PRICE REDUCED! \$144,000**



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Lifestyle!**



5801 Gulf Blvd • St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

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**CITY OF GULFPORT'S
4TH OF JULY
CELEBRATION!**

FRIDAY, JULY 4, 2014

MARINA'S FISHING DERBY
Recreation Center Field (Seawall)
8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
(Registration at 7:30 a.m.)

**GULFPORT RECREATION
FAMILY SAND SCULPTURE CONTEST**
Nautical Theme
On Gulfport Beach
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

KIDZONE!
On Gulfport Beach
Behind Recreation Center
Noon to 5:00 p.m.

LIVE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT
Outdoor Casino Event Stage
with Echo84 Band
5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

FOOD, FUN, ART'S & CRAFTS VENDORS
Downtown Waterfront District
2 p.m. to 9 p.m.

PARADE ON BEACH BOULEVARD
6:00 p.m.

MAYOR & COUNCILMEMBER'S WELCOME
Outdoor Casino Event Stage
6:30 p.m.

SPECTACULAR FIREWORKS DISPLAY!
9:05 p.m.

For more information call: (727) 893-1118

FIREWORKS

VIEW ON GULFPORT
BEACH
9:05 P.M.



REMOTE PARKING: The Gulfport Trolley will be available from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. for free transport from the following parking areas: Library (5501 28th Ave. S.), Senior Center and Theater (5501 27th Ave. S.), Hoyt Field (2306 56th St. S.), Chase Park (54th St. S. and 28th Ave. S.), Ted Phillips Wood Ibis Park (58th St. S. and 28th Ave. S.) and Gulfport Municipal Marina (4630 29th Ave. S.)

Last drop off is 10:45 p.m.