



A Neighborhood Watch Community A Bird Sanctuary Community

October 20, 2020



2020: A Community Odyssey John Fleming, President, Gulf Hills Civic Association

This year has been, at best, interesting. At the other end, it's been a whole lot of interruption and personal challenges sprinkled with individual loss and sadness. Yet, through all of this, our community has maintained its collective forward movement. I've been impressed and appreciative of how neighbors have taken advantage of the slowed pace and opportunity of the numerous challenges to get to know each other, in the real world and virtual.

For the civic association, we've responded to individual and group needs while deliberating and working using guidelines from Mississippi's Governor. Unfortunately, we've had to postpone and cancel events that would have brought neighbors too close together. This month, we're finally able to have our first "in person" event, Halloween in the Hills. Following, will be the annual Community Yard Sale, Neighborhood Cleanup, and Christmas in the Hills events. Please see those articles in this edition of Gulf Hills News.

The Gulf Hills community has spent a significant amount of energy in dealing with the inevitable changes of the Gulf Hills Golf Club and Gulf Hills Hotel purchases. The golf club reopening into a nine-hole course has not been a straight-line process, but is nearing an opening date. The hotel is finally courting a prospective buyer that looks to return the hotel to its resort fame and fun. Like opening the new Gulf Hills Golf Club, the hotel rebirth will take time, our patience, and support.

One thing we've realized this year is that we cannot do it all by ourselves.

Cont. on page 5 A Community Odyssey

Gulf Hills Civic Association Presents: Halloween in the Hills

Fall Festival and Trunk or Treating on the Gulf Hills Golf Club parking area and grounds

October 31, 2020 -- Noon to 4 p.m.

Follow continuing updates on details on its event notice at Gulfhills.org and look for announcements on the Gulf Hills Living Facebook Group. There will be plenty of treats and

fun. Follow us on Facebook – Halloween in the Hills. To reserve your "treat spot," please contact Jeanell at 228-697-4572 or Jeanell todaro@hotmail.com.

More information on page 3 Trick or Treating in Gulf Hills

Gulf Hills Golf Course — Opening Soon

Our neighborhood golf course is on the last few weeks of repair before returning to operation as a beautiful nine-hole course. Since being selected as the new owners and operators of the Gulf Hills Golf Club, Reagan and Don Pfeiffer have worked tirelessly to assess, plan, and convert the property to a playable course and manageable business.

As the opening dates have been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic, weather, and extensive damage to the greens, the current forecast is

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Board of Directore £



Santa Wears a Badge Gulf Hills Hotel



The sheriff's department is looking forward to teaming up again this year with the Gulf Hills hotel staff for our annual **Santa Wears a Badge** program. For the last six

years, citizens and businesses have generously donated to make sure the less fortunate children in our county find presents under their tree on Christmas morning. The ladies in the Gulf Hills Hotel go



above and beyond every year, filling the lobby with bikes, toys, and stuffed animals. We are truly grateful for the community support we get. We consider Santa Wears a Badge one of our shining moments.

Gulf Hills Civic Association Membership Drive - 2021

October brings a time to not just think about the upcoming parade of holidays (and parades), but the making of plans for the



next year. The Gulf Hills Civic Association has started their plans and it begins with you, the resident and neighbor. Take this opportunity to renew your membership for the coming year, send in your \$30 check with the enclosed membership form or go to Gulfhills.org and pay by credit card. Your full membership and participation will be key to the success of programs in the new year.

Lighting District Reminder Van Arnold, Lightning District Commissioner

Please report outages or malfunctioning streetlights to Mississippi Power at 800-487-3275. Give the address closest to the light. The Gulf Hills Lighting District is being charged for each light, working or not.

Recently, several residents have complained that MS Power has not responded to their reporting of malfunctioning lights. If you have a malfunctioning or burned out street light, email:



 \Diamond

vanmarnold@gmail.com with the location of that light. I will report it to MS power for proper replacement.

Work of the Association Your Full Participation is Critical

Often, the question is asked "what benefits or advantages come with the annual paid membership of the Gulf Hills Civic Association?" The answer can be placed in a short bullet list.

- Vote at annual meetings on maters before the civic association.
 - Participate as a Director for the GHCA.
- Have a direct voice in the direction of the association.
- Provide funds for activities of the GHCA.

Another question could be asked that would give a better look at what is needed

better look at what is needed from Gulf Hills residents in the work of the Gulf Hills Civic Association. "How can I fully participate in the Gulf Hills Civic Association?" While each resident has limitations on time and resources, the collective community can do many things. Let's look at the bullet list from this question



list from this question.
 Provide your household annual dues, currently \$30 per year

• This supplies funds for a variety of yearly expenses.

- Support for the Memorial Garden, other common areas
- Lease on the land for the entrance sign
- Publication of Gulf Hills News
- Management of Gulfhills.org
- Expenses for Events
- Attend the Annual Membership Meeting, the next scheduled for March 2021
 - At this meeting, official business is brought before the members for votes as special insight is shared with the members.
 - Election of Directors
 - · Changes to Bi-Laws
 - State of the County, Golf Course and Hotel Insights
- Bring forward and provide thoughtful feedback on issues common to the community.
- Volunteer to serve on work committees and during special activities.

• The GHCA is moving forward with a variety of programs where your expertise, special interest, and handy work are needed.

• Work will either be done by volunteers or paid for by the general funds of the civic association

Support your community newsletter while informing your neighbors about your business!



Buy this advertisement spot in the Next edition of the Gulf Hills News to be published around January, 2021





Sandy Cox MORTGAGE LOAN ORIGINATOR

sandy.cox@communitybank.net 228-215-2608 • Office 228-238-4681 • Cell 601-919-4562 • Fax NMLS# 910243 CommunityBank.net

2314 Bienville Blvd. • Ocean Springs, MS 39564

APPLY ONLINE: https://cbmortgage.mymortgage-online.com/SandyCox.htm



Trick or Treating in Gulf Hills - 2020 Saturday, October 31, noon to 4 PM

Halloween in the Hills! That's catchy and proved to be lots of fun last year. Combining an opportunity for a Trunk or Treat experience with the traditional "house to house" candy hunt provided additional and alternate opportunity for fun.



Some residents never get a Halloween participant, while others get plenty. The Gulf Hills' "Halloween in the Hills" provides an opportunity for residents and Gulf Hills friends to have plenty of safe Trick or Treating experiences.

Gulf Hills has many residents living on narrow streets with high traffic and/or many dark areas. However, there are several sections that are open, slower paced, and perfect for young ones, family groups, and teenagers hanging on to their childhood. Consider the following areas for your kids and groups:

- El Camino Real/Puerto/Hermosa
- Mesa/Orchard/Plano/Corto/Paraiso
- Cerro Verde
- Paso/Gulf Hills Hotel/Gulf Hills Golf Club/Windlo

SPEEDING What have you seen?

Our vehicle traffic and speeding task force has designed a survey that will be going out concurrent with this addition of Gulf Hills



News. We will be using the Gulf Hills Living, Gulf Hills Civic Association, Yahoo Groups, and direct email lists to distribute the survey. If you would like to participate in the survey and have not been offered, please send your email address to:

<u>President@gulfhills.org</u>. Your input will be used to facilitate ideas on helping drivers adhere to speed limits in Gulf Hills.

In this last area, The Gulf Hills Civic Association is sponsoring the second annual Halloween in the Hills Trunk or Treat. This year, since Halloween is on Saturday, the event will be expanded to a full fall festival during the daylight hours of noon to 4 p.m. The activities will be centralized at the golf club parking lot and nearby grounds. For more information on this, see the special information section for "Halloween in the Hills!" and the events section on Gulfhills.org.

If you are a "treater" especially looking forward to Trick or Treating this year, let us know on the Gulf Hills Living Facebook Group. When walking the streets, remember to follow the basic rules: have plenty of eyes on the group and surroundings while making sure traffic can see you; look for houses that have their lights on or a designated place to receive costumers; check your treats at home; be respectful of the places doing the treating – no tricks.

Christmas in the Hills Decorations Everywhere!

You know it's been coming. No global pandemic could stop Christmas and Gulf Hills will be celebrating with two big events. First is the decorating and lighting of the Memorial Garden. This event is going to be held a week into Advent as the first Sunday occurs during the Thanksgiving weekend. Gulf Hills families will gather at 5:30 p.m., Sunday, December 6th at the gardens to join in the lighting of the community garden decorations. Look for more details on the event page of Gulfhills.org.

The second event is our traditional Christmas Decorations contest. Judging will be Sunday, December 13th through Monday, December 14th. The winners will be announced on all of our electronic media options on Tuesday, December 15th, with yard signs and prizes distributed that day.



Join in with your neighbors for Christmas in the Hills. As they say, "the more, the merrier!"

October 20, 2020



www.bishopins.com

4 LOCATIONS COVERING THE COAST

Gulf Hills Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale Saturday, November 14th

One of the most successful community events for Gulf Hills is the annual Community Yard Sale. The advertising is paid by the Gulf Hills Civic Association while



more than two dozen residents provide the fun. To fully participate in the event, getting your address and specific information on the map and listing, send your Name, Address, and any "hype" you want for your sale. That information will be included on the announcement on Gulf Hills Living, and attachment to the event on Gulfhills.org, and go on "hand-outs" at the entrances the day of the sale.

To get your address in the listings, send your name and address to:

President@gulfhills.org

This information will be needed by Saturday, November 7th.

YARD SALE TIPS

Consider the following helpful hints when preparing and executing your sale:

<u>Be an early bird</u> – get started early, the customers certainly will. However, don't give up the big discounts first thing. A lot of early customers will be looking to push the price. If it's a great item, others will notice later in the day. and Ridge, put out at least one sign to direct buyers.

Mark items – or put them in bins with prices.

<u>Have cash available</u> – don't limit your success by limiting your ability to break a \$20. Keep your bulk cash in a safe place, bringing out only as needed. If possible, have someone in your sales team just handling the "bank." And, don't take checks. People know to bring cash and how to go get more.

<u>Organize your items</u> and bag items for selling per bag, per box.

Last, but not least – please look out for traffic safety and customers' parking.

Fall Neighborhood Cleanup Saturday, November 21st

Join your friends and neighbors in a morning cleanup of our Gulf Hills roadsides. On Saturday, November 21st, we will meet at the Gulf Hills Golf Club for coffee and donuts at 7:30 a.m., organize for picking



up trash, distribute bags and gloves, and move out about 8:00 a.m. for this annual event. Many residents pick up debris around their homes on a regular basis, but this is an opportunity for us to get to know each other, our special community, and tackle problem areas. Thanks to Gulf Hills Civic Association Director Charlie Sentell for leading this effort.

<u>Be visible</u> – if not on the main roads of Shore

October 20, 2020

Phenology: Another way to learn about your plants and backyard animals Gail Bishop

Citizen scientists across the United States are monitoring the cycles or phases of plants and animals using an online app, "Nature's Notebook", developed by the National Phenology Network. Phenology is the study of different life cycles such as developing leaves or blooming. Volunteers can either participate by recording data at established trails or at their properties. I coordinate the Gulf Coast Phenology Trail that includes 11 sites located in all Mississippi coastal counties and areas in Greater New Orleans. At most sites, we record data on wax myrtle, yaupon holly, red bay, red maples, and eastern baccharis. I also record phenology phases of beauty berries, wax myrtles, and tulip trees in my yard in Gulf Hills. By recording the observations on a weekly or biweekly basis of the same trees, we hope to learn if species are blooming or leafing out earlier based on climate change. Three years into the five-year study we are starting to see trends, but it is still too early to determine if warmer temperatures do impact the phases of plants. On a personal note, by looking closely at plants I am feeling connected to the outdoor environment and benefiting from the fresh air. If you are interested in learning more about Nature's Notebook go to www.usanpn.org or email me at Gulfcoastphenologytrail@gmail.com.

Golf Course Update - Cont

for play to start the second of November. This will include the reopening of the Capone's restaurant as a breakfast through late lunch service. The bar has been renovated and operating since the mandatory bar closure was lifted by Governor Reeves.

At the time of opening, membership packages will be available. Take this opportunity to show your support for our community partner and participate as a Gulf Hills Golf Club member, frequent the restaurant, and bring friends to play.

From page 1 a Community Odyssey

We are a community of more than 400 homes. The aggregate experience, knowledge, and care of our residents gives us an advantage waiting to be tapped. Early in the quarantines, neighbors got to know each other while having more time to spend at home. Walking around and conversing was great, even if it was 10 feet apart. We got to know each other, also, through the community of our so-cial media, Gulf Hills Living, which has evolved into a very useful tool.

I encourage each of you to join in one or more of the upcoming events, using appropriate precautions for you and your family's particular risk factor. If you use a computer and internet services, get acquainted with the Gulf Hills Living Facebook Group and our website, Gulfhills.org. We need each other. Gulf Hills Civic Association needs your full participation.

From Our Sheriff - Mike Ezell

I hope all of you are well. I'm sure you'd agree 2020 has been a wild ride! COVID-19, wildfires, hurricanes, floods, work stoppages, and a very contentious election year are our new normal. Who



knows what we can expect next in the fall and holiday season? November 3rd is the Presidential election. On your ballot you will also see two versions of a medical marijuana amendment, **Initiative 65** and **Alternative 65A**.

Both these measures would amend the Mississippi Constitution to provide for the establishment of a medical marijuana program in Mississippi for individuals with a debilitating medical condition, as certified by state licensed physicians. If they pass, they'll become part of the state constitution with no oversight or regulation. It is NOT a question of being "for or against" marijuana, but rather that the constitution is not the place to put a product to be sold, medical or otherwise. There is NO other product in the constitution.

As your sheriff, I oppose this legislation. Hear are a few reasons why:

alone, we answer between 2,600 and 2,800 calls per month.

- Drivers could become impaired. Currently, there is no roadside test to measure THC, the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana. In Colorado and Washington State, marijuana-impaired fatalities have more than doubled since 2018.
- If enacted, this amendment would give complete constitutional control to an unelected, unaccountable Mississippi State Department of Health. Why would we vote to give to give such control to ANY unelected state agency?
- We could see increased access to adolescents and youth. The way the amendment is written, a teenager with a headache could get marijuana and of course, share with friends.

There is a lot more information regarding medical marijuana. I urge you to educate yourself before the November election and decide if you think we need this in our state. I personally believe if this legislation passes, it will eventually lead to statewide legalization of all marijuana.

few reasons why: Thank you for your support. My staff and I are here to serve you anytime.

October 20, 2020

Announcement of Retirement Donna Brown

Dear Gulf Hills Neighbors:

As you may know, the hotel has been for sale for quite some time. The transition to a new owner is very near and looks favorable to our community with the new owner.

Our epic journey has been on-going because of you and many other members of the Mississippi Gulf Coast who have supported us in the resurrection of this Grand Dame with her magnificent history, her undeniable heritage, and her big heart. It has been both an honor and a privilege to work with you in contributing to the Gulf Hills Hotel legacy. I thank you from the bottom of my heart for allowing us to take care of you and your family members all these years.

In June of this year, I advised our current ownership of the following: "As Frank Sinatra so poignantly sang – And now, the end is near. I've reached the final curtain and I'm doing it MY WAY!." I have now worked 55 years on a fulltime basis. With this in mind, I believe it's time for me to RETIRE! My health is good and there's nothing wrong. I have loved being here for just shy of 20 years. We've been through the worst hurricane on record, recession, depression, government shut-downs, stock market crash, oil spill, cancer, fish kill, algae bloom, pandemic & economic disaster, and so on & so forth. It's been the best of times and it's been the worst of times. We've gotten through it all!"

I am stepping down and out as General Manager effective October 1st. This is my last communication in my official capacity as a working woman. Going forward I will be enjoying time with my fur babies, Macie & Katie Brown, and spending time catching up with family and friends. There is also travel in my future as the glorious and majestic National Parks of our awesome USA are calling my name. 'Tis time for me to go! My new contact info: <u>donnabrown.retiredn2020@gmail.com</u> . My cell phone number remains the same as it has always been my personal cell.

Donna Brown

We Really Missed the Recycling Program Ronda Powell, Jackson County Solid Waste Director

After Hurricane Sally wrecked areas of Baldwin County, Alabama and the Pensacola, Florida area, Gulf Hills residents noticed that the recycling cans were left untouched the following Tuesday. While Jackson County Solid Waste department had put a notice on their website, it mostly went unnoticed and Gulf Hills neighbors started their own investigation. An inquiry by the GHCA Directors to Ronda Powell, JC Solid Waste, brought an apology, news article, and the following insight into the recycling program. Included in her return email is also the status of the "Hazardous Household Waste Day" that was cancelled this year. Please note, ECUA is located in Pensacola and was heavily damaged. Until back in service, your normally recycled material is going with the regular garbage.

Note: the recycling collection resumed this week

"We have a single stream recycling collection system. The recycle material collected at curbside is taken to a transfer station. Transfer stations are limited to how much material can be on the "floor" at one time and no material is left overnight. In our case, where there are no MRFs located nearby, the transfer station makes it economically feasible to transport large volumes of material all at once to the applicable facility. This method is used for household garbage in areas that do not have municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills nearby. In Jackson County, garbage collect-

ed at curbside goes straight to the MSW landfill in Harrison County. Our recycling material is loaded into a 53' trailer (~20 tons per trailer) for transport to ECUA. ECUA is a "dirty" MRF (material recovery facility). Therefore, they do all the sorting and baling of recycle materials. ECUA does and has the ability to manage large amounts of recycling material. They are able to examine loads for contamination before putting them on a conveyor belt for sorting. In the unincorporated area of Jackson County, from January 2020 through June 2020, we diverted **1493.82** <u>tons</u> out of the landfill. The garbage that went to the landfill for the same time period was **14,951.67** <u>tons.</u> That is really good, especially for an unincorporated area of a County.

I am very hopeful that 2021 will be a better year and allow us to celebrate Earth Day in our usual way. By hosting the Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event with our many industry sponsors. After almost 20 years of hosting this event, it is the first time, that Jackson County has canceled. The event has always been held rain or shine. But this year, it just wasn't safe for the 120 volunteers and sponsors. These Environmental Steward's devoted contribution to this program is why it is so successful in Jackson County. We have already started coordinating the event but again it is contingent on the pandemic situation. Please return this form with Your membership dues to:

Gulf Hills Civic Association P.O. Box 475 Ocean Springs, MS 39566-0475

I have enclosed payment in the amount of **\$30.00** for my Gulf Hills Civic Association membership dues for the year **2021**. or go to gulfhills.org and pay by credit card. There is a **\$2.00** service fee when paying by credit card.

If the mailing label has PAID by your name, you have paid your 2021 dues.

Please fill in your name,

Address, phone number, and

Email address.

Mail to the address above.

Cut Along the dotted lines

Flashbacks

Van Arnold, Editor, Gulf Hills News



A PORTION OF THE NEW 18-HOME GOME COURSE AT GULF HILLS, NEAR OCEAN SPRINGS

WAY DOWN SOUTH Vol 2 No 18 May 15, 1926 OUR NEWEST GOLF COURSE

Gulf Hills, MS, - Work on the 1st 9 holes of the Gulf Hills golf course, pronounced as a tournament course and one of the sportiest in America by experts, is now nearing completion and it is up to Mother Nature to smile her sweetest and bring grass of fairways and greens up in a velvety carpet so that play may be started in the early part of June as was originally planned.

The Gulf Hills course will have 18 holes, although number 17 and 18, in addition to one and seven, will be the 1st nine ready for play, so as to finish the game at the Club House. Following is a brief description of the last three holes to be completed.

No 7, 440 yards, Par 4; This is proclaimed by leading professionals as the most picturesque and finest two shot hole in the country. The tee shot, a drive, should carry over a ravine to a level top of a hill. IF the 2nd shot is a short mashie niblick pitch to cup sets down nicely on account of the sloping green. The green is self guarded and situated on the highest point of Gulf Hills.

No. 17, 176 yards, Par 3; A full mashie iron shot will carry off the large tee on the side of the hill across a

water hazard to a well raised green. For the average player a spoon or fill midiron shot will get the proper result of down the middle. No serious trouble will develop if just short of the green and over the water, but the 2nd must be picked up well for a pitch shot to the cup. The green is well trapped on both sides and is on the side of a hill. It is a snappy par 3.

No. 18, 385 yards, Pat 4; This is an interesting and nice par 4 hole with a full high drive across a small gentle ravine to a farther hillside, a carry of about 175 yards. The 2nd should be a nice mashie to a raised green on a level hill top. The average player will meet with no trouble on the drive even on the side of the slope to the level of the fairway. The 2nd shot

is a mid-iron or mashie iron to the green. The rough on the right is overgrown with tall pines and magnolias.



Helpful Phone Numbers

UTILITIES				
Cable: (Sparklight)	374-5900			
Electric: (MS Power) 800-532-1502				
	-487-3275			
Natural Gas: (Center Point)	896-7500			
Water & Sewer: (WJCUD)	872-3898			
COUNTY SERVICES				
Animal Shelter	497-6350			
Health Department	875-1336			
Justice Court	875-4125			
Planning Department (Zoning) 769-3112				
Road Department	875-4545			
Rubbish Disposal (Landfill)	872-8340			
Sheriff– Hwy 609 substation	875-6963			
PUBLIC SERVICES				
Ambulance (Acadian)	762-0214			
Northwest Fire Dept. 911 or	818-0370			
Refuse (Waste Management)	832-3144			
St Martin Community Center	392-7361			
HEALTH CARE				
Singing River Hospital	809-5000			
Ocean Springs Hospital	818-1111			
Merit Hospital	432-1571			
Bethesda Free Clinic	818-9191			
Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence 875-5433				
OTHER				
Wild at Heart (Wildlife)	669-7907			
LIBRARIES				
Ocean Springs Library	875-1193			
St Martin Library	392-3250			

Upcoming Community Dates

Halloween in the Hills: Saturday October 31 Daylight Savings Time Ends: Sun November 1 Election Day: Tuesday November 3 Peter Anderson Festival: Sat-Sun Nov 7 & 8 Community Yard Sale: Saturday November 14 Community Cleanup: Saturday November 21 Thanksgiving Day: Thursday November 26 Memorial Garden Lighting: Sunday Dec 6 Christmas Decorating Judging: Dec 13 & 14 Christmas Day: Friday December 25 New Years Day: Friday January 1, 2021 Martin Luther King Day: Monday January 18 Groundhog Day: Tuesday February 2 Presidents Day: Monday February 15 Mardi Gras: Tuesday February 16

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Get Connected to Yahoo/Facebook

Join one or more of these social media groups to get involved and connected with your fellow residents of Gulf Hills.



- Gulf Hills Yahoo Group
- Gulf Hills Living Facebook Group
- Gulf Hills Civic Association Facebook Group
 Here's how to connect:

1) **Gulf Hills Yahoo Group** -- You will need a Yahoo email address to join. Go to

- 1 groups.yahoo.com/group/gulfhills
- 2. Click the blue button that says "Join this group"
- 3. Request membership using your Yahoo email
- The moderator, Van Arnold will send approval.

For Gulf Hills Living Facebook Group

- 1. Log into Facebook (get an account using your current email)
- 2. Search in Facebook for the group (Gulf Hills Living), then click a request to join.
- 3. Answer the required questions.

One of the administrators, Jackie Parker or John Fleming, will review your answers and approve as appropriate.

For Gulf Hills Civic Association Facebook Group

- 1. Pay your annual membership fee to the Gulf Hills Civic Association. You can find the instructions in this newsletter or go to Gulfhills.org.
- 2. Send an email to one of the Facebook Group administrators that you have paid your annual membership fee. Their emails can be found on the front page of this newsletter or at Gulfhills.org.

Administrators for Gulf Hills Civic Association Facebook Group are John Fleming, Philip Demoran, and Jeanell Todaro. One of them will send you an invite to join this group.

Garbage Pickup Reminder

Household garbage pickup is scheduled each Tuesday. On **THREE** major holidays (New Years, Thanksgiving, Christmas) pickup will be postponed a day. Check the holiday schedule in the newspaper or on TV.

Rubbish Reminder

Rubbish (no-household garbage) pickup is scheduled for the second week of every month and all limbs and debris need to be put out by 7:00 am Monday of that week.

Limitations of Rubbish Pick-Up

The maximum volume of trash, trees, debris and/or vegetation that Jackson County may remove per pick-up per month is 3 cubic yards.