



GULF HILLS NEWS



A Neighborhood Watch Community

A Bird Sanctuary Community

October 31, 2018



From the President

Dave Philo, President, Gulf Hills Civic Association

Wow, what a hot summer and it doesn't look like it is over yet. I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer.

This is the time of year where there is a lot of activity. We just finished a record setting Cruising the Coast and in November, will be able to enjoy The Peter Anderson Festival in Ocean Springs. Here in Gulf Hills, we will have our annual Yard Sale followed by our fall clean up. Details for these events are addressed elsewhere in this newsletter. As usual in December, we will have our Christmas Decorating Contest. There is also an article about this event.

December is the gift giving season and if you are faced by the same dilemma I have been in the past, I have a suggestion. Instead of wondering what to get people and worrying about if they will like it or not simply make a donation to their favorite charity in their name. You won't have to worry at all and you can be assured that the recipients will be very grateful. Remember, a gift always means more when is truly useful.

As usual, I am making my plea for people to get more involved in the community. We always need Board Members. **WE** have three members whose terms expire in March and we also have a couple of vacancies. If you are interested please contact any Board Member. We are also always in need of articles for this newsletter. If you can provide an article to Van Arnold, our very capable editor.

On behalf of myself and the entire Board, I wish you a good Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and a very happy and prosperous New Year.



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Gulf Hills Annual Community Yard Sale

Our 2018 Community Yard Sale is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 10th at 8 AM .We typically hold it in November on the first Saturday after the Peter Anderson Festival. This is always a popular community event and we certainly hope that this year will be no exception. Last year was a great success with **XX** registered participants and about **X** who did not bother to register. We had 200+ eager buyers show up for the sale and we would love to (surpass those numbers this year.

Continue page 2 Yard Sale

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GULF HILLS COMMUNITY ANNUAL YARD SALE (Cont.)

We have three 3'x10' banner signs which will be prominently displayed at the three Gulf Hills entrances by Monday, November 5th. Ads will be placed in: the Sun Herald, Craigslist and BiloxiYardSales.com. We also put together and distribute a handout that includes a Gulf Hills map and the plotted addresses of all registered participants. The Gulf Hills Civic Association sponsors this event and there is **NO** cost to the participants. Of course, we certainly encourage all Gulf Hills residents to join the Gulf Hills Civic Association.



To register your Yard Sale, please send me an email mends1@bellsouth.net that includes your address and you will be included on the handout. It takes a while to put the handout together so, if you wait until the last minute, you may not be included. I would also once again encourage all residents to join the Gulf Hills Yahoo Users Group; since this is how we keep our residents updated on community news and events. Directions on how to join the Yahoo Group are included in this newsletter. Successful Yard Sales generally require some thought and pre-planning. Be sure to have price stickers on most items and be sure to have lots of change and small bills. It's not unusual for someone to pull out a \$100 bill to pay for a \$2.50 item. Also, be-

ware of thieves. Theft is not a big problem, but it's always a possibility. I wish a fun and successful day to all residents who participate in this great annual event. It also wouldn't hurt any to pray for good weather.

YARD SALE TIPS

Be an early bird: Get started by 8:00, as yard sale customers like to start early to get the best deals.

Be visible: Join together with a pal who has a visible, accessible home—Shore Dr., of course, is ideal. More stuff attracts more customers—another good reason for friends to sell together.

Signage: If you don't live on Shore Dr., put up signs at intersections directing customers to your home. Set out a sign on your lawn that advertises what you have for sale, for example, tools, clothes, books, and so on.

Mark items: Have your prices clearly marked or tagged, but be prepared to negotiate. This is part of the fun for many yard sale customers, so try to be flexible!

Have cash ready: It's a good idea to have ones, fives and tens handy in order to give change in case a customer wants to pay with a large bill. Don't leave your money unattended, of course.

Insist on cash: Accept checks only from someone you know.

Organize your items: Try bagging small, single items that you want to sell together—such as children's blocks--in clear plastic bags.



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From Our Sheriff - Mike Ezell

Greetings and Happy Fall to Gulf Hills Citizens!

Several deputies and I have just returned from Gulf County, Florida. That's one of several areas in the Florida panhandle that was hit hard by Hurricane Michael on October 10. We all remember the help we got from around the country after Katrina, and we wanted to step up and do the same for our Florida friends. We cooked thousands of meals for first responders and military personnel who were working recovery around the clock. We are happy to have done our part to get the folks over there back to some kind of normal. They have a long way to go as we did, but they're on the right track, thanks to the generosity of so many.



Hard to believe, but the holidays are quickly approaching. The same old tired scams that prey on people all year just won't go away. Please be aware of some holiday themed scams, such as people calling asking for money to help needy or homeless children and/or families at Christmas. DO NOT give your personal banking information to anyone over the phone. There are plenty of legitimate organizations that accept donations all year for the less fortunate in our community. Also, don't fall for any calls from someone claiming to be from the IRS that they are investigating you for not paying taxes.

Continue Page 5—OUR SHERIFF

Holidays in the Memorial Garden

Mary Ann Westfall

With the arrival of autumn, our thoughts turn to cooler weather, shorter days and, before we know it, the holidays with all their activity. In Gulf Hills, the holidays mean the Memorial Garden will be glowing with lights and decorations for everyone to enjoy. But, this garden doesn't decorate itself! The Gulf Hills Garden Club spearheads this labor of love every year, and our small group could use the talents of anyone who is able to help us accomplish all the jobs associated with decorating the garden.

In years past, it has taken the few volunteers who take on this job two to three days to complete. Let's see if we can pull together and knock it out in ONE day this year!

Decorating the garden will begin at 9 am on November 24, which is the Saturday after Thanksgiving. There will be hundreds and hundreds of lights to inspect and string through the trees and flowerbeds, dozens of ornaments to hang in the trees throughout the garden, assemblage of the large wood reindeer, and other decorations to install.

We invite and encourage anyone who can spare a few hours that Saturday to help us make your Memorial Garden the holiday wonderland we all enjoy. Just show up at the garden anytime that day...and bring your ladder. You'll see us working!

Thanks go out to our Gulf Hills neighbor Pat DeHaan who has created unique decorations for us

Continue Page 5—GARDEN



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Fishing in Gulf Hills

Robert Manley

Warning, if you're bothered by the thought of hooking live shrimp for bait, don't read this article.

The summer doldrums are just about over. The fishing around Gulf Hills is going to get much better very soon. The shrimp are in the marsh big time now, and the specs will be moving in shortly. I'm speaking from personal experience over the last 14 years, but regretfully, I'm working a thousand miles away for the next 5-1/2 months at least. I'll fly home next weekend to take an old boss fishing, and next Christmas, but you'll have to catch the fish for me for now.

If you haven't had a chance to fish in our marsh during this time, get ready for a treat. The best fishing starts about the last week in October, but it is really best in November and the first few weeks of December. It starts dropping off with the first hard freeze. Buy some live shrimp. You need a bait bucket with a bubbler, or a bait well in a boat, to keep them alive. Put a float about 2-1/2 above the hook and fish at the mouths of canals and along the drop offs to the channels in the canal.



Look for the large dark spot in the shrimp's head. That is the shrimp's brain. Hooking it through that spot kills it very quickly. You want it to stay alive and swim around looking delicious to specs. Hook the shrimp

ahead of that spot and just under the forward projecting horn on his head. You can also hook him sideways through the last joint in his tail. I catch more fish hooking through its head.

Oh yes, you are very likely to catch redfish while you're fishing for specs. Redfish need to be 18" long minimum, and you can only keep three of them a day per person. You'll also occasionally catch drum and sheepshead. Small drum can have dark vertical bars on them, like sheepshead, but there is a big difference. The sheepshead's spines are long and very sharp. Also, you can put your thumb in a drum's mouth to pick him up, but a sheepshead will bite it off. Both are delicious, though. There is no size or number limit on them. If you catch a long, silvery fish that leaps out of the water constantly while swimming a million miles an hour, that's a lady fish. It's fun to catch, but it's not edible. I use them for crab bait. The specs need to be 15" long and the limit is 15 fish per person.

Make sure you fish a moving tide. The only thing that bites well in slack tide are catfish. I don't knock them. Hardhead catfish and gaff-top catfish are delicious fried. I've eaten lots of them, but they don't compare to specs or redfish. They're simply a pain (often literally), to remove from a hook and clean, besides being slimy. Their spines are barbed and the wounds from them get in-

Continue Page 5—FISHING

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Fishing (Continue)

ected easily. Use a hook remover flipper to get them off a hook safely. Be careful where you flip them. If you're an adult, be sure you have a fishing license. You can call 1-800-5go-hunt to buy a license. You will need your driver's license and credit card. If you're a senior, like me, and a resident, you can get a lifetime fishing license for \$5. If you're less than 15 years old, I believe, you may not need a license, but check that age.

Our Sheriff (Continue)

The IRS does not make calls, they send letters. Some of our citizens have alerted us that deputies are calling them about not reporting for jury duty and they must come to the courthouse to pay fines. This too is bogus, and we advise you to just hang up the phone.

The sheriff's department is excited to be involved in the fall/holiday festivities that are underway throughout the county. We will give Thanksgiving food baskets to needy families and our deputies will again participate in the Santa Wears a Badge program to insure underprivileged children find presents under their tree. We will also lead Christmas parades in our community, with Mardi Gras parades soon following. We hope to see y'all out at some of these events. As your sheriff, my staff and I are committed to provide the best service to all citizens of Jackson County with professionalism, fairness, and integrity.

Garden (Continue)

to display in the trees and the flowerbeds. For questions or additional information, contact Mary Ann Westfall via text or phone: 228-424-0975.

Christmas Decorating Contest

The time is near for the Christmas Decorating Contest. The following categories will be judged: Most Religious, Best Overall, Best Door, Best Mailbox, Best Animated, Best Traditional, Most Creative and Best Tree. The judging will take place between December 17th and the 21st. This year we are trying to get judges from outside Gulf Hills. At the time of this writing we don't know who that will be. Be assured, there will be judges. Merry Christmas to all and good luck with your decorations.



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GULF HILLS HOTEL & UPCOMING HAPPENINGS *Donna Brown, GM, Gulf Hills Hotel*

'Tis the season...to get ready for your family, friends and Santa's arrival in 2018! In true Gulf Hills Hotel style, we'll once again be decorated in our finest Christmas attire for all to see and enjoy. It's quite an undertaking and is done mainly by our very own Becky Bartles and Barbie Canaga. Pat Dehaan, our Night Auditor and Artist in Residence, has contributed immensely to the effort with her large and whimsical pieces of elves, toy soldiers, nutcrackers and just about everything else Christmas. Donna Thone, Esther Galle, Steve Bartles and Larry Reed all contribute to the effort whether it be hanging from the ladders or helping with whatever needs to be done. We will begin the process around the 1st of November and hope to be finished by the 15th at the very latest. I know, I know... you want to know why so early and before Thanksgiving? It's two-fold: The Christmas Party season begins in mid-November; and we, the staff, enjoy it so much and want to work within the ambience created by it for as long as we can! We encourage everyone to come by for a visit over the Holidays. It's truly magical in scope. Many a picture has been taken around our beautifully appointed 14' Christmas Tree in the lobby. It makes for a wonderful family photo!



A friendly reminder – your family and out-of-town guests receive a very special rate here at the hotel. Every guest room that is occupied over the Christmas holiday is outfitted with a small Christmas Tree complete with lights. Santa always knows who is here (both naughty and nice) to spend the night with us on Christmas Eve and he dutifully leaves a present for them under our Lobby tree! We also set out cookies, various other goodies, hot chocolate and hot apple cider in the evenings from Christmas Eve through to New Year's Eve when the Bubbly finds its way, too.

SOUND OFF (from Yahoo Group)

In all my years of being in this email group, I've never seen any discussion on maybe putting in a sidewalk along Shore. It scares me to death to exercise along that street (mostly due to speeders on a 2 lane road). I know if there was one, my kids and I would use it to ride bikes on and walk to friends houses. Has this idea ever been thrown around?

Great idea, but some places there wouldn't be space for one. We do have a terrific traffic problem in Gulf Hills. Wednesday around 4:30 pm I witnessed 3 drivers purposely, without slowing down, running stop signs. One on East Puerto and two on Shore! All within 3 to 4 minutes!

Drive along Shore and you will see elegant, majestic trees that would have to be removed in order to have a sidewalk all along Shore. Not to mention houses whose front yard sits on a hill that goes directly to the street Utility poles that would have to be moved. The expense would be exorbitant!!!

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 **2018**. *If you have already paid dues for this calendar year 2018, Please disregard.*

Please fill in your name, _____

Address, phone number, and _____

Email address. _____

Mail to the address above. _____

If the mailing label has PAID by your name, you have paid your 2018 dues.

SEASONAL GARDENING

Mary Ann Westfall, Gulf Hills Garden Club

As we transition to fall and winter, so do our gardens. With the shortening of the day length, everything slows down in the garden, meaning less vigorous growth in plants and less activity with insects.

This is an excellent time to get out in the garden, now that it's hopefully cooler, and do some clean up and preparation for next spring—which will roll around again before we know it.



Fall is the time to plant those spring-blooming bulbs that herald the return of the active growing season.

But, also important to plant at this time of year are certain seeds that need a period of

cold in the ground to perform at their best the following summer. A popular Coastal flowering plant seed that benefits from this period called stratification is Echinacea, or coneflower. Plant these seeds now and watch your coneflower plants explode with growth next summer.



Echinacea

Also, think about planting cold weather blooming plants, such as pansies and snap-

dragons, to add color to your winter landscape.

Now is a great time to divide and replant in new locations your overly

large plants—especially

those that spread by rhizomes and tubers. With the milder temperatures and less intense sunlight of fall and winter, these plants can better develop and establish new roots and get acclimated to their new locations before the return of warm weather. The best time to divide these plants is while they are still growing strong.

Adding compost to your garden now will provide nutrients to all the life forms in your soil, enhancing the conditions for vigorous plant growth next spring and summer.

This is a great time apply leaf and wood mulch to your garden, which will increase your garden's soil production as it decomposes. These mulches increase beneficial bacteria and fungi in the soil, providing conditions for successful vegetable growing during the warm season.

And, finally, walk through your garden and collect any potentially diseased or infected plant material and dispose of or burn to rid your garden of damaging pests and plant diseases.



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.

Use the landfills whenever possible -- especially during the dry spells in an effort to prevent fire hazards -- Plus the Seaman Landfill is free to residents!

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

Contact the Solid Waste Department with any questions on the type of items that can be picked up at 228-872-8340 or the website:

www.co.jackson.ms.us/departments/solid-waste/

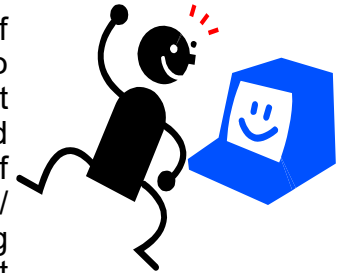
Garbage Pickup Reminder



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.

Join Gulf Hills Yahoo Groups

The sole purpose of the Gulf Hills Yahoo Group site is to keep us informed about activities from neighborhood watch observations of suspicious characters/vehicles, to strange acting animals that could inflict disease to our loving pets. So if you have not already, please join. It's easy:



- 1) You will need an email address to join; you can get one at Yahoo.com
 - 2) Go to groups.yahoo.com/group/gulfhills
 - 3) Click the blue button that says "Join this group"
 - 4) Request membership using your Yahoo email
 - 5) The moderator will send approval shortly
- If you have trouble, contact the moderator:
Barry Mends mends1@bellsouth.net 228-382-7723

Lighting District Reminder

Gulf Hills Lighting Commissioners, ask that you report outages or malfunctioning streetlights to Mississippi Power at 800-487-3275. Give Mississippi Power the address closest to the light. The District is being charged for each light, working or not. Remember, the lights are for our safety.

Helpful Phone Numbers

UTILITIES

Electric: (MS Power)	800-532-1502
Power outage/trouble	800-487-3275
Natural Gas: (Center Point)	896-7500
Phone: (AT&T)	888-757-6500
Cable: (Cable One)	374-5900
Water & Sewer: (WJCUD)	872-3898

COUNTY SERVICES

Health Department	875-1336
Sheriff- Hwy 609 substation	875-0475
Planning Department (Zoning)	769-3112
Road Department	875-4545
Rubbish Disposal (Landfill)	872-8340
Justice Court	875-4125

PUBLIC SERVICES

Ambulance (Acadian)	762-0214
Fort Bayou Fire Dept. 911 or	818-0370
Refuse (Waste Pro)	818-5393
St Martin Community Center	392-7361

HEALTH CARE

Singing River Hospital	809-5000
Ocean Springs Hospital	818-1111
Bethesda Free Clinic	818-9191
Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence	875-5433

LIBRARIES

Ocean Springs Library	875-1193
St Martin Library	392-3250

EMERGENCIES DIAL

COUNTY OFFICIALS

Troy Ross, District 4 Supervisor	769-3457
Brian Fulton, County Administrator	769-3088
Josh Eldridge, Chancery Clerk	769-3124
Randy Carney, Circuit Clerk	769-3040
Anthony Lawrence, District Attorney	769-3045
Mike Ezell, Sheriff	769-3015
Vicki Broadus, Coroner	769-3197
Joe O'Neal, Road Manager	826-2547
Nick Elmore, Tax Assessor	769-3070
Joe Tucker, Tax Collector	769-3074

Upcoming Community Dates

Flag Day Thur June 14
Independence Day Wed July 4
Labor Day Mon September 3

Annual July Sidewalk Sale Sat July 21
Mississippi Tax Free Weekend Fri July 27—28