



May 2022



Mark Your Calendar
Stars & Stripes BBQ

Friday, July 1, 5-7 pm
@ the Senior Center

All the traditional fixin's
Hamburgers & Hot Dogs,
Coleslaw, Potato Salad, Baked
Beans, Watermelon, Apple Pie,
Iced Tea & Lemonade.

TICKETS \$10 @ the Center

SAVE THE DATE!
2023 Golf Tournament!

Mark your calendar now for The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation's first-ever Golf Tournament on Saturday, April 1, 2023 at Bardmoor Golf & Tennis Club. Contest Holes, Prizes, Lunch, and More! More details coming soon. Sponsorship opportunities available. All proceeds will directly benefit the Gulfport Senior Center Capital Building Campaign.

It's Not a Rumor! A Brand New Senior Center is On the Way!



In conjunction with the City of Gulfport, the Gulfport Multipurpose Senior Center is making plans to construct a new, larger and more senior-focused Center. Fundraising has already begun and construction is expected to begin in 2-3 years, when approximately 75% of the money has been raised. Once construction begins, the projected construction timeline is 12-18 months.

Funding will come from many possible sources: Federal/State/Local Grants, Corporate Donations and Individual/Private Philanthropy. The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation has already established a dedicated building fund and donations are being accepted.

The current Senior Center was built in 1983 making it almost 40 years old. Since then, the senior community has significantly increased and is projected to outnumber children, 18 years and younger, for the first time in U.S. history by 2030.



Not only has the number of seniors changed, the needs of seniors have also changed. The Gulfport Senior Center must adapt to these changing needs by offering a more holistic approach to aging by offering classes, services, and activities that inspire mental, physical, emotional, and social growth and well-being. To do this, additional space designed specifically for all levels of physical ability is needed. Scan the code or visit online:

<https://bit.ly/SeniorBuildingFund>

Meet Us at the Market in May & June



Foundation representatives will be attending the Gulfport Tuesday Fresh Market to meet you. Look for us by the Dog Pier Hot Dog Shop from 9-2. We'll be there to answer your questions about the Foundation Membership, the Veterans Park Memorial Ribbon Project, the Celebration Wall, and support for the new Senior Center. We'll be there on the following dates:
Tuesday, May 24 & Tuesday, June 21

Contact Us

Gulfport Senior Center Foundation

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GulfportSeniorFoundation.org

Please Join Us!

It feels great to know that you are helping provide top notch services for local Seniors.

Individual Membership is only \$35 for one year.
Lifetime Membership \$500

We Have Perks!

- Free subscription to Senior Life Publications magazine.
- Discounts offered by participating Gulfport merchants with membership.



Attention: Vendors

For information about the 2022 Fall Festival & Senior Resource Fair, call the Foundation:

727-893-1244

Foundations of Art: Sip, Chat & Paint is Back with Something Different



This fun event is returning by popular demand to paint a colorful Tropical Fish on **Monday, June 6, at 5:30-7:30 pm**. This is a great way to create a one-of-a-kind original work of art you'll be proud to hang on your wall. Or maybe a unique Father's Day gift.

The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation invites you to grab a friend and come out for an evening of fun while you create a work of art. Class is held in the spacious dining hall at the Senior Center. Refreshments are included: Each guest will receive an individually wrapped charcuterie plate and we'll be pouring from a selection of wines.

Class size has been increased to 24, but we still sell out every time, so it's a good idea to register early. It's only \$30 for an evening of fun with all supplies. The fun is free! If you register online there is a small processing fee. You may also pay by cash or check at the Foundation office in the Senior Center. Sign up here:

<https://cooltropicalfish.eventbrite.com>

All art supplies will be provided. Plus you'll get step-by-step instructions from an experienced art instructor on how to paint this unique colorful design. Thank you to Freedom Square of Seminole for providing the individual charcuterie plates.

March Events Net Almost \$14,000 for the Foundation

With lots of help from the community, almost \$14,000 was raised for the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation in March alone.

The most successful fundraiser was the **Gulfport Health & Wellness Expo**, back after a 2-year break due to the pandemic. More than 500 attended the March 19 event at the Gulfport Casino. Attendees were eager to learn more about health insurance options, alternative health care, legal services and much more. Thanks to dozens of vendors and five generous sponsors, the Expo brought in more than \$8,000. The 2022 Expo sponsors were The Centre @ St Pete Beach, Mobile Optix, IMA Medical Group, Jennifer Terrana Elder Law and Optimum HealthCare.

This year the Gulfport Think Tank committee added an interesting twist to the much anticipated **Best Seat in the House Chair-ity Auction** -- rather than Adirondack chairs, local artists reimagined gently used vintage chairs, bar stools, tables and mirrors.

Despite cold and damp weather, the March 12 auction at the Tiki Bar & Grill at 56th & Shore brought in more than \$5,000 for the Foundation. Many thanks to the Think Tank for choosing the Gulfport Senior Center Foundation as the beneficiary for this artful energetic event. Committee members are Angela Lagan, Carmen Cardona, Linda Domingo, and Karen Behmke Love.

ProSisters Radio donated \$600 from its **Gulfport Pride, Peace and Love Festival** that happened the next day. Festival sponsor Caddy's of Gulfport collected another \$106 for the Foundation at its Festival booth.