

Gulfport's

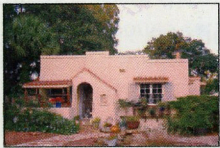
4th Annual

Pink Flamingo Home Tour

November 3, 2007

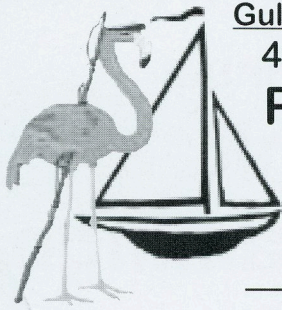
A Sail Thru The Years:

**Gulfport Marina District Homes
From the 1920s to the 2000s**



**Sponsored by
Gulfport Chamber of Commerce
The Gulfport Historical Society
The City of Gulfport**





Gulfport's

4th Annual

Pink Flamingo Home Tour

Saturday, November 3, 2007

10:00 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please be respectful of our home owners. No photography of any kind allowed.

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2007 Pink Flamingo Home Tour Committee

Jim Shuller, chair
Margo Scannell, volunteers
& office support
John Milford, photographer
Margie Milford, volunteers
Dolly Tickell, promotions
Mark Stevens, map
Michele King, flamingo art

Roger Turner, copywriter
Sally Wilkinson, volunteers
Bill Ward, map & home selections
Lori Rosso, chamber support
Greg Stemm, advertising &
program design
Lynne Brown, historical advisor

Special Thanks

To Our Wonderfully Special Homeowners; Dozens of Volunteers
Our Advertisers; Graphics by Tiki-Island.com (Tom Gibson); Ken
Reichart, The Gabber; City Staff; Chamber Office Volunteer
Staff; Paradise News

And a very special thank you to Michele King, whose vision to
showcase Gulfport's special homes began three years ago. Her
exceptional records and archives made our job easy!



Gulfport's Marina District looking west circa early

1970s - While the area did not officially become Gulfport's Municipal Marina until 1983, the basin has been used as a safe anchorage by sailors for decades. Gulfport's love affair with the water is reflected in the city motto "Gateway to the Gulf."

photo courtesy of
Gulfport Historical Museum

Welcome to Gulfport!

Welcome to the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce's fourth annual Pink Flamingo Home Tour. If you're a visitor to Gulfport, welcome to our little city on the bay – Boca Ciega Bay, our "Gateway to the Gulf." The Gulfport Historical Society and the City of Gulfport are co-sponsoring today's event.

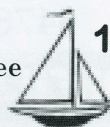
Our theme this year is "Sail Thru the Years," and with our selection of homes, most of them in Gulfport's "Marina District," you will be doing just that. The oldest house on the tour was built in 1925, the newest in 2006. All of them are special, made so by the people who live in them and love them. Whether it's because of the Italian tile in the bathroom, the mural painted across the front of the house, the variety of woods from around the world, or the tree growing through the kitchen, all of them are unique.

Gulfport has always been oriented to the water. The first settlers made their home on a bluff overlooking the bay in the late 1860s. For many years, the primary industry in town was fishing. A wharf and Casino built over the water in 1905, with a ferryboat to Pass-A-Grille, brought the first big wave of visitors. Our first sailing club, the Gulfport Yacht Club, was founded in 1938 as a teenage boys' club. It shut down during World War II because all the boys went off to war, but resumed operation soon thereafter and still exists today. The Gulfport Yacht Basin, the forerunner to our Gulfport Municipal Marina, was established soon after the war. The Boca Ciega Yacht Club moved to Gulfport from St. Petersburg in 1965.

The city went through several names, and several incarnations, before it officially became Gulfport in 1910. By any name, we like to think it's a special place. You will see in the following write-ups that our people not only love their homes – they also love their hometown. Maybe by the end of the tour today, you will begin to understand why.

Welcome to Gulfport and have a great tour.

The 2007 Gulfport Pink Flamingo Home Tour Committee
Jim Shuller, chair





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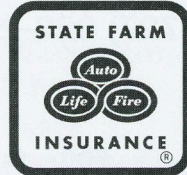
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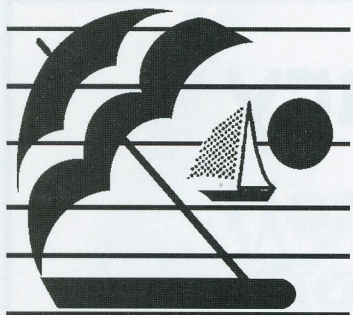
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Gulfport Chamber of Commerce

The Gulfport Chamber of Commerce is an association of over 200 local businesses and individuals working with dedication and commitment to steadily improve the business and community life of our area. Most importantly, the Chamber consists of people who realize that through the organization they can accomplish collectively what they can not individually. Managed by an elected volunteer Board of Directors and guided by a paid professional, the Chamber is dedicated to helping our community succeed.

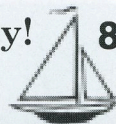
The overall objective of the Gulfport Chamber of Commerce is to advance the general welfare and prosperity of the business community and the citizens of Gulfport and surrounding areas. All necessary means of promotion are given to the economic, civic, commercial, cultural, industrial and educational interest of the greater Gulfport area. We are a private, not-for-profit business organization and not part of any city or state government. More than 90 percent of our membership is comprised of local small businesses and we are the only organization which represents the business interests of the entire Gulfport area, including members in South Pasadena, the beaches and St. Petersburg.

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- Business of the Year Award*
- Representation of business interests to the City of Gulfport*
- Aggressive promotion of Gulfport and surrounding areas*
- Representation of Gulfport area at the State Level*

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www.gulfportchamberofcommerce.com





Gulfport Historical Museum
5301 28th Avenue South

#1

Our museum building began its life across 53rd Street as the original home of the First Methodist Church. That was in 1913. It was moved to its present location in the 1950s when the church built its new building. Since then, it has housed the Boy Scouts (it was the first Scout Hall), the Red Cross and the Civil Air Patrol. Then, after the Gulfport Historical Society was formed in 1981, the Society petitioned the city to use the building as a museum. Permission was granted in 1984. Since then, the museum has housed all of the records, archives and artifacts related to the history of Gulfport. The building also underwent a major renovation in 1998, after the ceiling collapsed during a storm. Stop by weekdays 2-4 p.m. or Saturday, 10 a.m. to Noon.

Welcome to the Museum,
Gulfport Historical Society



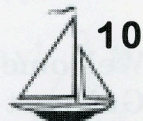


#2

5122 31st Avenue South

In 2005, we got lost while trying to find a place to relocate in St. Petersburg, stumbled across Gulfport and fell in love with it. We chose the Marina District because we said, if we're going to live in Florida, it has to be on the water. Then we found our 1953 ranch-style house on realtor.com. The most outstanding architectural feature of the house is the way the kitchen is built around a large oak tree. That tree is our favorite indoor feature, and our favorite outdoor feature is the view of Boca Ciega Bay. We love the laid-back feel of Gulfport. It is so nice to live in a place where you can be yourself.

**Welcome to our home,
Reggie and Keith**





#3

5100 31st Avenue South

Our son attended the Stetson University law school and introduced us to Gulfport. We were driving along 31st Avenue looking for a home on the waterfront and found this 1951 house. The entry artwork and large sliding-glass doors that open to the bay drew us in; the very old oak tree hammock with a view rolling down to the bay sealed the deal. Special features of our home include the covered-deck entry and the rear deck that runs the entire width of the house. We enjoy Gulfport's small-town environment, the local shops, and the eclectic, friendly population.

Welcome to our home,
Barry and Robin



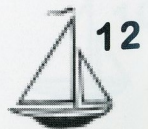


#4

2834 Upton Street South

Not wanting to live in a cookie-cutter community, I was looking for an “Old Florida” home near a marina when I found this 1949 cottage-style house. The sailboat sounds drew me to the Marina District and I enjoy my wonderful views of the marina and of the gardens around my home. I also love my puppies, and I think I have the biggest dog-crate kennel in the area. What do I like most about Gulfport? The people here.

**Welcome to my home,
Carol**



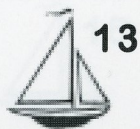


#5

2702 Upton Street South

Although one of us (Toffer) is a Tampa native, both of us were drawn to Gulfport for the diversity of its people and the charm of its urban fabric. Our 1940s ranch-style house appealed to us because of its big windows and wonderful light, and also because of the ships' medallions inset into the exterior brick of the house. Once you pass the Royal Poinciana tree at the front entrance, you'll spot the "blue bottle" tree that helps to keep goblins away from our many tropical plants, fruits and palms. We credit *The Gabber* with introducing us to our home.

**Welcome to our home,
Toffer and Dee**



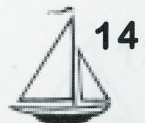


#6

2636 Upton Street South

We like to think we didn't find our home in Gulfport – it found us. It's a 1925 Mediterranean-style house that we've designed to make you feel like you're in Tuscany. We named it "Journey's End." The master bedroom features an Italian marble open shower and a vintage slipper bathtub that formerly belonged to the first publisher of the *St. Petersburg Times* (and was floated by barge across Tampa Bay to St. Pete). There are details everywhere: hand-hewn ceiling beams, hand-painted murals, antique ironwork and an antique bricked courtyard with a free-form lagoon pool. What we like most about Gulfport is that it's a place where neighbors become family.

Welcome to our home,
Carol and Sharon



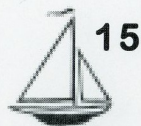


#7

2637 47th Street South

We discovered Gulfport while dining here. The brick streets, quaint downtown area, the diversity of our neighbors, and the overall friendly feeling drew us in and led to the purchase of our 1952 ranch-style home. That it was within walking distance to the Gulfport Marina was an added plus. Our favorite feature of the house: the two sets of French doors that allow circular movement and lead out to the private back yard. Also look for the unique integrated plastered ceiling cove moldings.

**Welcome to our home,
Gary and Roseanne**





#8

4624 27th Avenue South

We came down to Florida from Cincinnati and found Gulfport when we became friends with a long-time resident. The thing we like most about our 1950 mid-century ranch is that we can walk to the bay and to the park. Of special note are the retro bathroom and the cone ceilings. What we enjoy most about Gulfport is the sense of community – being able to walk down the street and talk to neighbors.

Welcome to our home,
Ron and Mike



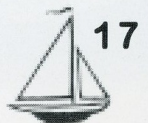


#9

2642 Tifton Street South

I (Dennis) received my first speeding ticket here in 1958. Then five years ago, my sister moved to Gulfport, so we decided to look for a piece of land to build a house on. We found this lot in the Marina District and completed our home in 2006. Our biggest hurdle was raising the house 6 feet, due to the flood plane, and doing it in a way that would “fit” the community and the neighborhood. Our kitchen is our favorite indoor feature, the pool and the spa our favorite features outdoors. We enjoy living in Gulfport because it’s tolerant, has great shopping, and is on the beach.

**Welcome to our home,
Dennis and Lorraine**



Gulfport's 4th Annual Pink Flamingo Home Tour



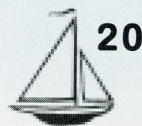


#10

2705 Miriam Street South

Originally, I escaped Atlanta and vacationed in Gulfport, lured by the picture-postcard quality of the place, the sailboats and the beautiful nature park. Then I went from vacation home to permanent residence on the same street when I purchased this 1958 ranch-style home. The heart of the house is the signature, handcrafted kitchen. I also had a new tile roof installed, similar to the original but more dramatic. My friend Scott and I landscaped the yard. I consider Gulfport a real find, its beauty a step back in time. Like others, I don't want it to change too much, but realize that change can be good. I encourage everyone to be careful of this fine balance.

Welcome to my home,
Kevin



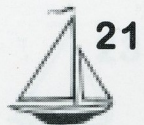


#11

2838 Miriam Street South

I first heard about Gulfport when I crossed paths with a Gulfport resident while traveling through Tennessee. Then when I retired, I learned about a house in the Marina District going on the market. Since I've always enjoyed boats and the waterfront, I purchased this 1982 contemporary home. The angled walls and a variety of hardwoods from around the world stand out. So does the fact that there are only five windows. I tend to use words like eclectic and laid back when people ask me what I like about Gulfport.

Welcome to my home,
Bill





#12

2811 45th Street South

Like many northerners, I came to Florida to live on a boat. But I made a wrong turn onto 22nd Avenue South, spotted the Gulfport sign, made another turn onto Beach Boulevard and knew I was home. I settled on buying a small ranch house built in 1960 and a small boat. My Florida room looks out over the butterfly garden and an array of bamboo, which I enjoy. And I have an original Keith Stillwagon mural on the garage door. My favorite things about Gulfport include the diversity of people from all walks of life and orientations, all getting along, and the pride residents have in living here.

Welcome to my home,
Mary



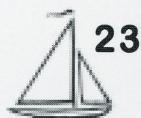


#13

2807 45th Street South

I (Benjamin) am a New Jersey native and always enjoyed going to the Shore during the summer. So Domenic and I were looking for a reasonably priced home in an up-and-coming neighborhood that was near the water and where our dogs could play. This 1960 house fit the bill. We enjoy the openness of the interior of the house and the landscaping around the pool area. The quietness of the area and the tranquility of the marina are what we like most about Gulfport.

**Welcome to our home,
Benjamin and Domenic**



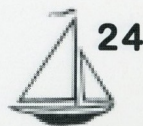


#14

2800 45th Street South

Gulfport grew on us. We were introduced to the area by a friend who relocated here. Then we traveled along the waterfront hoping to find a home for sale – and we did. Our 1950s home, originally a duplex, has a 1920s marble soda fountain and lots of period memorabilia throughout, including a Wurlitzer Nickelodeon piano (yes, it plays on nickels) with a stained-glass front panel. We also have a great view of Clam Bayou from the all-glass gabled room we added to the water side of our house. Our most recent projects have been the landscaping and the new kitchen, combining two duplex kitchens into one. What we like most about Gulfport is that it's a charming, relaxed, comfortable place to live. And it's not a bad location for a witness protection program.

Welcome to our home,
Bob and Gerry



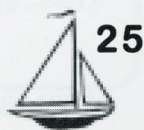


The Peninsula Inn and Spa
2937 Beach Boulevard South

#15

Our inn is one of the oldest remaining buildings in Gulfport, one of only four to be formally designated “historic.” It was built in 1914 as the Bay View Hotel and quickly became the center of the town’s social life, hosting not only visitors but parties, political meetings and school fundraisers for three decades. In the mid 1940s, it became a “restorium” and, later, the Cedars Hospital, then sat vacant for many years. After extensive reconstruction, it reopened in 2002 as The Peninsula, offering 10 guest rooms, fine dining, a relaxing spa, beautiful gardens and outdoor spaces, and entertainment. We are a proud member of the Historic Hotels of America.

Welcome to the Inn,
Karen and Bob



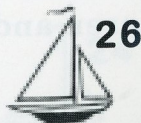


#16

Sea Breeze Manor Bed and Breakfast Inn 5701 Shore Boulevard South

The manor began as a single-family home built in 1923, then was converted into a bed and breakfast inn by Lawrence and Patty Burke in 1996. I am a Long Island native who, after spending 20 years in Washington, DC, was looking to live on the water. Fate stepped in and landed me in Gulfport as an innkeeper. The Manor has 7 rooms total and extensive refurbished antiques throughout. The two cottages are even puppy friendly. This “Old Florida” home has an unpretentious tropical-themed luxury.

**Welcome to the Manor,
Lori**



Gulfport



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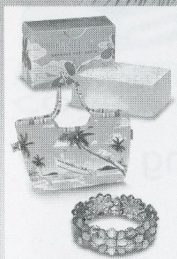
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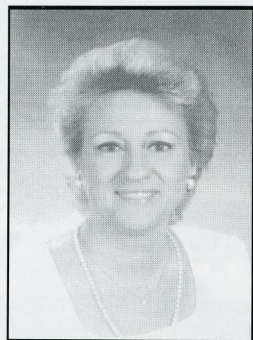
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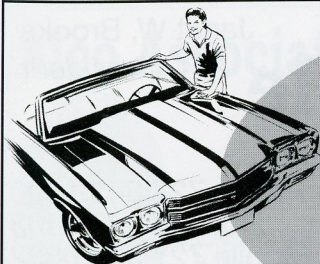
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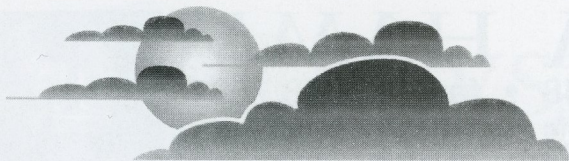
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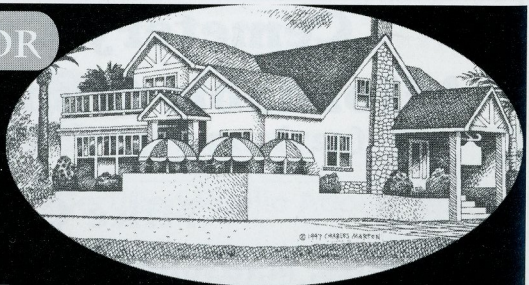
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