

THE AUGUST ISLANDER

Next meeting August 16, Newt Colston will update the water situation on SGI

Social begins at 6:30 p.m., Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the Civic Hall at the SGI Firehouse, 324 E. Pine Avenue

BYOB and a covered dish

Carrabelle cancels WMSI purchase

On July 23, the following email was sent out by Commissioners of the City of Carrabelle:

“The Public Meeting for Thursday has been canceled and will not be rescheduled at this time.”

This meant that action by Carrabelle to purchase Water Management was postponed and may not happen at all. This was accomplished by the actions of many Islanders pulling together into an effort to have better control of issues facing us.

On Thursday, August 2, several SGI residents made the trip to Tallahassee to sit in on the Florida Public Service Commission's hearing on Water Management Services, Inc. (WMSI) rate increase requests. Speakers for the SGI Water District were: Mason Bean, Rick Watson, Newt Colston, Don Murry, Ed Aguiar and District One County Commissioner Pinki Jackel. Island resident Walter Armistead also spoke on his own

behalf.

Several of the speakers asked the Commission, if they approved the rate increases, to set up escrow accounts to ensure that WMSI actually paid for the improvements asked for in the rate increase request.



***Franklin County Commissioner
Pinki Jackel***

During the hearing before the Public Service Commission, Marvin Friedman, the WMSI attorney, proposed that the Phase I and Phase II rate increase requests be combined and that a 36% base rate be adopted immediately and that this amount be escrowed. The PSC approved this proposal. This was one of the requests made by our speakers.

Now the hard part begins. The Committee has a lot to do fairly quickly if an

application is made to the State of Florida's revolving loan fund by the first of the year.

Some of the challenges involved are:

- * Establish a legal water entity on the island. (SGI Water District, Inc.)
- * Establish a fair price for the water.
- * Who will operate the system if it is taken over by an Island entity?
- * The need to retain an attorney.

There are other issues that need to be addressed and these will be discussed at future meetings of the SGI Water District.

On August 8, a conversation was held between SGI Civic Club President Mason Bean and the owner of WMSI, Gene Brown re: the possible sale of the utility. There is still the question if the committee should follow up on the purchase of WMSI, find a purchaser of WMSI or follow through with the question of a MSBU. This will be addressed at the Civic Club meeting on August 16.

Full Moon Climb at Cape St. George Lighthouse

The second August Full Moon Climb at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island will be held on Friday, August 31. Since August is a “blue moon” month, meaning that there are two full moons in the month of August, there were 2 Full Moon Climbs scheduled. The first climb was on Thursday, August 2, and the second on August 31. The Sunset/Full Moon Climb will take place from 8:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and will include light hors d'oeuvres and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon. Cost is \$15.00 for the general public and \$10.00 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association.



The sun will set at 8:02 p.m. and the moon will rise at 7:56 p.m. on August 31. After sunset, people are invited to climb to the top of the lighthouse for a breathtaking view of the full moon, as space and time permit. Cost is \$10.00

for the general public and \$5.00 for SGLA members. The Cape St. George Light is located in St. George Lighthouse Park at the center of St. George Island, where Island Drive (the road off the bridge) ends at Gulf Beach Drive. Parking is available in lots at either side of the park. Because space is limited, reservations are recommended. For reservations or more information, please contact the St. George Island Visitor Center at 850-927-7744 or toll free at 888-927-7744.



Summer Bingo Continues

Summer Bingo is here on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. So far this year, we have had 1,133 bingo players and made \$3,005.



Marilyn Bean and Jim Dunkin count quarters at Bingo

Remember the cost is just 25 cents per card per game

making it the cheapest fun game in town.

Upcoming Events:

SGI - Enter the St. George Plantation 2012 Photo Contest until August 28th.

Rules & Guidelines

- Entrants may submit photographs of St. George Island, Apalachicola or Franklin County, accompanied by a written release form granting St. George Plantation Owners' Association permission to publish your photo.
- Any person identifiable in the photograph must also sign the release.
- A parent must sign the release for any minor pictured.
- Include the following information on a label affixed to the back of the photograph:
Your name, address and phone number
Title of photo or brief description
- Entries must be on disk and professionally printed or in PDF or JPG format of less than 5 MBs.
- Entry must be mailed or emailed to photocontest10@sgpoa.com by August 28th, 2012 to: Plantation Photo Contest
1712 Magnolia Road
St. George Island, FL 32328
- Two entries per photographer.
- Entry fee is \$5.00 per entry with check made payable to SGPOA at the above address.
- Winners will be notified by September 14th, 2012.

PRIZES

- First Place: \$150

- Second Place: \$100
- Third Place: \$50
- People's Choice: \$50

Carrabelle - Antique Fishing Lure Exhibit

Through Thursday, August 30 at 106 S.E. Avenue B, in Carrabelle there will be a Special Summer Exhibit at the Carrabelle History Museum!

Antique Fishing Lures, Rod & Reels and Collectibles from the collection of Frank Carter will be on display. The exhibit will be open Thursday – Saturday 10 am – 5 pm or by appointment by calling 850-524-1153.

The 9th Annual Kingfish Shootout

in Carrabelle begins on Saturday, August 4, through Sunday, August 5. This weekend event gives everyone an opportunity to enjoy themselves while advocating a wonderful cause that helps so many. All proceeds go to the Leukemia Research Foundation. Call 850-697-8400 for more information.

SGI - 15th Annual St. George Island Sizzler One Mile Fun Run and 5K Race

Saturday, August 11, at Lighthouse Park, St. George Island. A Tate's Hell Track Club Production benefiting the Franklin County Humane Society
 4:00 pm - On-Site Registration in Lighthouse Park
 7:00 pm - One Mile Fun Run
 7:30 pm - 5K Race
 8:00 pm - Post Race Party and Awards

Registration will be on site. \$25.00 per registrant includes T-shirt, race packet, one Post Race Party Ticket
 \$20.00 No-shirt option includes race packet, one Post Race Party Ticket
 \$10.00 Student Rate for school cross country teams includes race, one Post Party Ticket.



On-site registration fee is \$30.00 for Race, Post Party and Shirt (if available).
Post Race Party and Awards
 This year's party and awards presentations will be held at the Lighthouse Pavilions in the center of St George Island. Overall awards are hand crafted by local artist Ann Eason. Enjoy fresh local seafood, beverages while awards are presented. Additional Post Party Tickets \$10.00 Adults, \$5.00 Children under 12. For more information, call 850-509-2191.

Apalachicola - Water Street Festival of Ice on Saturday, August 11. Apalachicola's Second Saturday Celebration - A salute to Dr. John Gorrie; the man who brought the ice to ice cream, the snow to snow cones, and the cool to our hot, hot summers.

Maritime Museum Hosts Archaeology Talk - On Friday, August 17, at 103 Water Street, Apalachicola. The Apalachicola Maritime Museum will host a talk on maritime archaeology on Aug. 17. Jason Burns, maritime project manager at Southeastern Archaeological Research, Inc. will give the presentation which will be followed by a shrimp boil on the docks. For more information call 850-653-2500.

Paddling Trip - Enjoy the Apalachicola River and Bay by joining the Apalachicola Riverkeepers at 232 Water Street on their monthly paddling trip on Aug. 25 in and around the Apalachicola River and Bay. The trips are free to members and \$30 for non-members. For more information, call 850-653-8936.

**Visit our website at:
www.sgcivicclub.org**

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