



The Islander

April 2014

A Publication of the St. George Island Civic Club

Alan Pierce Speaks to Civic Club

County Manager Alan Pierce spoke to attending members of the Civic Club on March 20. Alan began his presentation with the pros and cons of becoming a municipality. The pros would be self-control and some State moneys. The cons would be additional taxes to support the new city: mayor, clerical position/s and a city council. County taxes and assessments wouldn't change. The city could still opt for law enforcement provided by the County.



Alan Pierce

He followed up with a discussion of a special district for SGI, noting that special districts are out of political favor currently. (See *Alan Pierce, Page Two*)

Cape St. George Light Offers Free Climbing on April 12

Florida Lighthouse Day will be celebrated on Saturday, April 12, with free climbing at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island.

The Lighthouse, Museum, and Gift Shop will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and there will be no charge for climbing to the top of the Lighthouse on Florida Lighthouse Day. Climbers still need to get a free ticket at the Lighthouse Gift Shop to present to the Lighthouse Keeper before they climb. All climbers must be at least 40 inches tall.

Florida Lighthouse Day is celebrated annually in April to commemorate the State's remaining lighthouses. While there were at one time 59 lighthouses to guide mariners into the state's ports and rivers, the (See *Lighthouse, Page Two*)

Two former members pass away

Manley Siler and Jerry Cook, two former members of the Civic Club, passed away in March.

Manley retired from Hewlett Packard after a long career as an engineer. He worked on the Saturn rocket program during the moon shots in the 70's and 80's. He leaves his wife Glen and 2 children. Donations in his memory should be made to Trinity Episcopal Church in Apalachicola.

Jerry retired from Lockheed Marietta and is survived by his wife Jane. Jerry and Jane moved to North Carolina last year to be closer to family during Jerry's illness.

The next Club meeting is April 17.

(Alan Pierce, From Page 1)

A special district is what Eastpoint Sewer and Water District is; it is a district created by a "special" act of the Florida Legislature to serve a specific purpose. The current governor is very much opposed to special districts, but special districts are tools that can be used by communities to finance things like sewer and water improvements. Since the current Governor does not like them, Alan doesn't think the legislature will create one for St. George Island. Mason Bean asked if the purchase of St. Joe Company Land by the Mormon Church would have any effect on County Residents. Alan responded that he did not know of any plans by the Church to develop any of the property. Any development would still have to be approved by Federal and State Governments.

(Lighthouse, From Page 1)

Cape St. George Light is one of only 30 currently standing in Florida. The glass in the lantern room of the Lighthouse has been recently replaced, enhancing the spectacular views of the Gulf of Mexico and Apalachicola Bay from the top of the Lighthouse. Visitors climb 92 wooden stairs and an eight-rung ladder to access the lantern room. For more information, please contact the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 850-927-7745 or Terry Kemp at 850-927-2000.

Upcoming Events

Apalachicola - Ilse Newell Concert: Bay Area Choral Society on Sunday, April 13 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 79 Sixth Street. Apalachicola Bay Area Choral Society presents Easter Messiah - Merel Young, Director and Karl Lester, Pianist. For more information, contact: www.apalachicolahistoricalssociety.org

Lighthouse Sunset/Full Moon Climb

The April Full Moon Climb at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island will be held on Monday, April 14. The Sunset/Full Moon Climb will take place from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 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 8:06 p.m. and the moon will rise at 7:44 p.m. on April 14. 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 Lighthouse Gift Shop at 850-927-7745.

Apalachicola Antique & Classic Boat Show

Apalachicola will host the 16th Annual Apalachicola Antique & Classic Boat Show on Saturday, April 19, 2014. Antique boats, examples of classic and traditional vessels, workboats, and fiberglass and aluminum classics will all be on display throughout the day. This festival emphasizes the maritime history of our picturesque coastal town. Special highlights include home-built boats by skilled craftsmen, authentic oyster boats and workboats, antique outboard engines, plus antique automobiles and artist booths. The Apalachicola Maritime Museum will host tours aboard the Heritage, a 58-foot wooden Herreshoff-designed ketch and have *(See Boat Show, Page Three)*

(Boat Show, From Page Two)

demonstrations of steam engines with their beautiful antique steam powered vessels. The Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will have displays on the Apalachicola River and its flora and fauna, along with booths featuring: the Coast Guard Auxiliary, kids model boat building, the National Weather Service and boat building demonstration throughout the day. The Apalachicola Traders' Canoe, a hand built 50-foot long vessel used between 1750-1850, recovered from the Apalachicola River will be on display at the Cotton Warehouse and the restored 1877 gaff-rigged schooner the Governor Stone will also be in attendance.

At 5:30 pm BackPorch Revival, an Old-Time String Band will play at Riverfront Park, bring your own chair. There will also be a Sunday cruise up the Apalachicola River. The Apalachicola Maritime Museum will also have a special open house Friday evening with a reception from 6:00-8:00 pm Questions? Please call (850) 653-9419 or email us at info@apalachicolabay.org, or visit <http://www.antiqueboatshow.org>.

“On Golden Pond” by Panhandle Players Dixie Theatre, Avenue E on Friday, April 25 through Sunday, April 27. This heart-warming production was turned into a movie in the early eighties and starred Henry Fonda and Katharine Hepburn. It is a love story of Ethel and Norman Thayer, who are returning to their summer home on Golden Pond for the forty-eighth year. They are visited by their divorced, middle-aged daughter and her dentist fiancé, who then go off to Europe, leaving his teenage son behind for the summer. The boy quickly becomes the "grandchild" the elderly couple have longed for, and as Norman revels in taking his ward fishing and thrusting good books at him, he also learns some lessons

about modern teenage awareness—and slang—in return. In the end, as the summer wanes, so does their brief idyll, and in the final, deeply moving moments of the play, Norman and Ethel are brought even closer together by the incidence of a mild heart attack. Time, they know, is now against them, but the years have been good and, perhaps, another summer on Golden Pond still awaits. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. and a Sunday matinee at 3 p.m.

Carrabelle Riverfront Festival

Friday, April 25 through Saturday, April 26. Carrabelle CARES and the City of Carrabelle cordially invite you to attend the 24th Annual Carrabelle Riverfront Festival on Friday, April 25th and Saturday, April 26th for the "Pirates of the Carrabelle". Please help celebrate the culture, history and vitality of coastal Carrabelle. Our annual festival offers regional arts and crafts, family friendly attractions and local culinary treats.

The two-day event held each spring on Marine Street caters to locals and visitors alike and attracts crowds from across the panhandle.

The unique unpretentious charm of Carrabelle is on display as we celebrate our laid back life style with unique hometown attractions like Carrabelle's own Fishy Fashion Show, Pet Parade and the Procession of the Species. The hours of the festival are 4PM to 8 PM on Friday and 9:00 AM to 5:00 pm on Saturday. Admission is FREE.

This year there will be a free golf cart shuttle service throughout the Festival that will be devoted to helping folks or who find it hard to walk a long way move through the festival easily. It will make continuous rounds from the Carrabelle CARES' host (*See Carrabelle, Page Four*)

(Carrabelle, From Page Three)

tent at the intersection of US 98 and Marine Street down through the whole Festival to the Wharf Pavilion at the other end of Marine Street. Franklin County Emergency Management, Weems Hospital and the First Responders will offer shady rest areas and a "boo-boo" station along the way where the shuttle will stop. A new venue at the corner of Marine Street and Avenue C, the "History Hill Heritage Stage" will be a great place to rest, be entertained by the musical, historical adventures of Sammy Tedder or Frank Lindamood, and still be in the middle of everything.

Two special parking areas for individuals with disability tags will be provided this year on Avenue B between the Hometown BP and the Georgian Motel and on the east end of Avenue C between Third Street and Marine Street close to the new Sands Field Park. You can call 697-2141 on the days of the festival for more information.

Apalachicola - Patriot's Day

The third annual Patriot's Day celebration in Franklin County will take place on Saturday, April 26 at 11 a.m. at Veteran's Memorial Plaza, on Market Street in Apalachicola. The program will begin with a welcome from Jimmy Mosconis followed by an invocation by Rev. Charles Scott and the Presentation of Colors by the Port St. Joe High School ROTC. Tamara Marsh will sing the Star Spangled Banner. Tommy Larsen, Commander of American Legion Post 82 in Lanark, will lead the Pledge of Allegiance and veterans David Butler and Arnold Toliver will place a patriotic wreath

at the foot of the memorial. Don Carroll will close the ceremony with a benediction and blessing of the food.

New this year is an essay contest for schoolchildren. The top three essays on "What patriotism means to me" will be read at the ceremony. A Cajun lunch will be served at noon. Cost of the meal is \$7 for adults and all children eat free.

Time for Renewal of memberships has passed

If you did not pay your membership dues by April 1, you are no longer considered an active member and will not be eligible to vote on any issues. Dues are \$20 per person and can be mailed to SGI Civic Club, P.O. Box 451, Eastpoint, FL 32328.

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Please visit our website: www.sgicivicclub.org for the latest news from St. George Island and the surrounding area. Email us at sgicivicclub@gmail.com

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