



The Islander

February 2016

A Publication of the St. George Island Civic Club

The next club meeting is February 18. The speaker will be a representative from Big Bend Hospice. Social hour begins at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00. Program begins at 7:30. We now have a new website address: Stgeorgeislandcivicclub.org.

Turtles Were the Subject for the January Club Meeting

Dr. Mariana Fuentes, an Assistant Professor at Florida State University, spoke about her research projects from Australia to future ones in the Gulf Coast area.



Dr. Mariana Fuentes

Dr. Fuentes is a marine and conservation biologist, whose main research interests focus on conservation planning, natural resource management, and on climate change impacts on marine mega-fauna, especially marine turtles. She is currently undertaking a postdoctoral fellowship at the ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies to develop tools to systematically prioritize the management of marine mega-fauna under multiple threats, with the aim of enhancing allocation of limited resources. She has worked closely with government, non-government organizations and indigenous agencies throughout Australia, Barbados, Brazil, Kenya, Vanuatu and the USA.

Through her research, she is concerned with science that is applied to conservation and management issues, increase the knowledge and capacity of Indigenous communities to manage their own resources, use research as tool for teaching and engaging students and bring awareness to issues related to turtle conservation.

Civic Club Present at Apalachicola Oyster Cook-off

The St. George Island Civic Club raised over \$1,000 for the Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department at the Annual oyster cook-off on Saturday, January 16. Members Mason Bean, Jimmy & Phyllis Lewis, Fran & Ann Giknis, Fred Stanley and Steve Childress cooked funnel cakes and fried



From left: Ben Mathewson, Mason Bean, Ann & Fran Giknis, Fred Stanley and Steve Childers (not pictured Jimmy & Phyllis Lewis)

Oreos for the crowd that were able to enjoy a beautiful warm and sunny day in Apalachicola.

Full Moon Climb at Cape St. George Lighthouse

On Monday, February 22, the Sunset/Full Moon Climb will take place from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Climb to the top of the Cape St. George Light and watch the sunset and the rise of the full moon.

The sun will set at 6:34 p.m. and the "Snow" moon will rise at 6:43 p.m. on February 22. The February full moon is called the Snow moon because the heaviest snows generally fall in February. Full Moon names are attributable to native American tribes, most notably the Algonquin, who named the moons to mark the changing seasons.

The Sunset/Full Moon Climb includes 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.

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. Because space is limited, reservations are recommended. For reservations or more information, please contact the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 850-927-7745.

Fifth Annual SGI Tour of Homes

The fifth annual St. George Island Tour of Homes will be held on February 13.

Seven distinctive and beautiful homes will be featured during the fifth annual St. George Island Tour of Homes from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 13, benefitting the St. George Lighthouse Association (SGLA). Also included on the tour are the Cape St. George Lighthouse and Keeper's House, and the St. George Plantation Clubhouse. Tickets are \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 on the day of the Tour. Tour weekend will begin with a kick-off event on Friday, February 12, featuring a

special presentation, refreshments, cash bar, and door prizes. Josh Hodson, manager of the St. George Island State Park, will talk about the scenic and award-winning park's wildlife and other amenities. This event, which is free for Tour of Homes ticket holders and \$5.00 for others, will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Jay Abbott Firehouse, 324 East Pine Avenue, St. George Island.

Tour tickets are available at the Lighthouse Gift Shop on St. George Island. To order tickets, call the gift shop at (850) 927-7745. Tickets will be available on Tour day at Lighthouse Park and at the St. George Plantation Clubhouse.

SGLA is a non-profit Florida corporation organized to preserve, maintain and promote the Cape St. George Lighthouse. The Lighthouse was reconstructed in 2008 after collapsing in 2005. SGLA also built a replica of the Lighthouse Keeper's House which includes a museum and gift shop. Funds raised by SGLA are used for the ongoing maintenance of the Lighthouse, the Keeper's House and Lighthouse Park, and this year will help fund a new exhibit featuring a replica of the Cape St. George Light's third order Fresnel lens.

For more information, please visit our website at www.sgitourofhomes.com.

Upcoming Events

Mardi Gras Barkus Parade

On Saturday, February 6, in downtown Apalachicola. Sponsored by The Mystic Krewe of Salty Barkers. Theme for this year: WOOFSTOCK.

See dogs dressed as hippies, flower pooches, the Grateful Dogs - with their people in similar garb. Brightly adorned golf carts, floats and boats, music and beads - lots of beads. An after party with authentic Cajun food, liquid sustenance, games, a picture (*See Woofstock, Page Three*)

(Woofstock, From Page Two)

booth, live music and dancing. Come immerse yourself in the sights, sounds, smells, and tastes promised by this fun event. All proceeds go to the Apalachicola City Dog Park and the Franklin County Humane Society. Mark your calendars now. Call 269-568-9468 or 850-670-5064 for info or to pre-register.

13th Annual Mardi Gras Dinner & Ball

Saturday, February 6, at 5:30 p.m. at the historic Coombs Armory in Apalachicola. For more information or to reserve a seat or table call (850) 653-3113.

Snowbird Appreciation Day

Snowbird Appreciation Day, will be held on Tuesday, February 9th. The event is sponsored by the St. George Island Business Association, who invites all winter visitors in the area to enjoy an evening out on St. George Island. If you consider yourself



a visitor to the area, you're welcome to participate! This year Snowbird Day consists of happy hour, dinner and live music. The event is being held from 4:00pm-6:00pm at Harry A's Restaurant at 28 West

Bayshore Drive. Price is \$12 per person. Pre-sale tickets are available at Sometimes it's Hotter. Tickets will also be available at the door. Happy hour (cash bar) starts at 4:00pm along with live music. Low Country Shrimp Boil dinner will be served at 5:00pm. If you have any questions, please call Sometimes it's Hotter 850-927-5039.

IN Concert: Tyler Tolles Quartet

On Friday, February 12, at 102 St James Avenue in Carrabelle, the Ilse Newell Fund for the Performing Arts presents the Tyler Tolles Quartet, originally based out of the San Francisco Bay Area and has performed in a number prestigious festivals such as the Next Generation Jazz Festival and the Monterey Jazz Festival. For more information, call 850-697-2180.

Panhandle Players present Dixie Swim Club

Join the Panhandle Players on Friday, February 12, at the Methodist church in Port St. Joe and Saturday, Feb. 13 and 14 @ 7:30 pm at the Eastpoint Fire House at 24 Sixth Street

Tickets available at:
Downtown Books, Apalachicola
Some like it Hotter, St. George Island
Butler Agency, Eastpoint
Carrabelle Junction
No Name Cafe, Port St. Joe
Caribbean Coffee, Mexico Beach
Tickets are \$15 each. For more information, call 404-326-7791.

Dixie Theatre presents Oystertown

On Saturday, February 20, 24 and 27, at the Dixie Theatre on 21 Avenue E, Apalachicola. Oystertown combines *(See Oystertown, Page Four)*

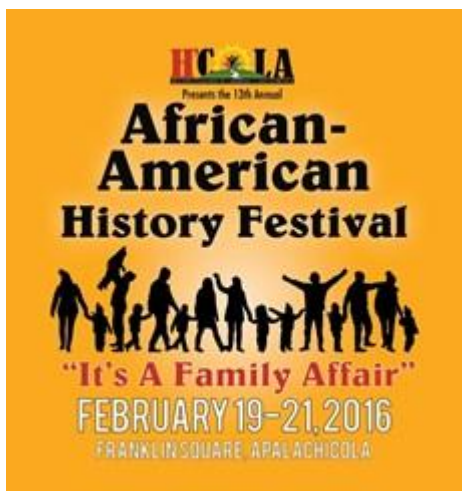
(Oystertown, From Page Three)

storytelling, music and historic archival footage to celebrate and examine the history of this hidden hamlet on the Forgotten Coast of Florida. Apalachicola is a small town that could be anyone's hometown. It is filled with a rich history steeped in Southern tradition and American history. Join Dixie



Theatre veterans Cleo Holladay, David Hemsley Caldwell, and many others as they weave tales of how Apalachicola began and where it's future. In the tradition of Dixie Theatre favorites, *Leaving Iowa*, *Smoke on the Mountain* and *Almost Maine*, *Oystertown* explores what makes us all the same and what makes this forgotten gem on the Gulf Coast so unique. Tickets are \$25 and can be reserved by calling the box office at 850-653-3200.

African-American History Festival



The Hillside Coalition Of Laborers for Apalachicola cordially invites you to the

13th Annual African-American History Festival, February 19 –21 in beautiful, historic Apalachicola!

Come experience the excitement of Spectacular Live Entertainment, Vendor Exhibits, Decadent Food, Inspirational Speakers, Handmade Arts and Crafts, Awesome Music, Sensational Dance and much, much more!

Headline entertainment includes The P&W Trio, The Dream Reality Revue, The Sharper Boys, and many more local and regional artists!

H'COLA's Annual African-American History Festival celebrates and showcases the African-American aspect of Apalachicola and Franklin County's unique history while celebrating the national recognition of African-American History Month.

The festival opens Friday@ 4pm. This year's kick-off event is a Mardi Gras Masquerade Party. Grab your favorite costume and mask and join H'COLA for an evening of great fun leading into the main attractions on Saturday beginning with the festival parade at 10am, and festivities all day until 8pm. The festival concludes Sunday with outdoor interdenominational worship at noon.

Vendor space and sponsorships still available! For more information, call 850.323.0544 or 850.653.7515. Visit website, **hcola.org** and like their Facebook page for a full list of events. *The 13th Annual African-American History Festival is brought to you in part by the Franklin County TDC.*

Forgotten Coast Chef Sampler

The Apalachicola Bay Chamber of Commerce will host the 16th Annual Forgotten Coast Chefs Sampler on Sunday, February 28, from 6:00-9:00 pm. Chefs from all over the Forgotten Coast will *(See Chef's Sampler, Page Five)*

(Chef's Sampler, From Page Four)

prepare their most creative dishes at the historic Fort Coombs Armory located on 4th Street and Avenue D in Apalachicola. Sample an array from our area restaurants.



Our talented shopkeepers and local designers give the event an extraordinary touch and add creative flair by decorating each table individually. The tables range from elegant to artistic and funky. Tickets are \$60. For more information, call the Apalachicola Bay Chamber at (850) 653-9419 or email us at Execdirector@apalachicolabay.org

Thanks to the Franklin County Tourism Council for Upcoming Events

Challenge to Civic Club Members

The Board of Directors has challenged Club members to reduce the ecological footprint by bringing their own reusable plates, flatware and glasses to the Club meetings.

Please visit our website

www.stgeorgeislandcivicclub.org for the latest news from St. George Island and the surrounding area. ***(Note new website address)*** Email us at sgicivicclub@gmail.com

It's time to renew dues for 2016

Dues are \$20 per person and can be mailed to SGI Civic Club, P.O. Box 451, Eastpoint, FL 32328. Checks may be made to SGI Civic Club.

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