



# The Islander

September 2017

A Publication of the St. George Island Civic Club

The next club meeting will be on September 21. The speaker will be  
Franklin County Sheriff A.J. Smith

## **St. George Island 6-month Building Moratorium Proposed by County**

Gail Rieglmayer spoke to the 60 civic club members in attendance at the August meeting regarding a final Public Hearing on Tuesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m. at Courthouse Annex Building to establish a 6-month moratorium on new construction in the business district of St. George Island. During this 6-month moratorium, if it is established, the Board Of County Commissioners (BOCC) will create a St. George Island (SGI) Corridor Zoning Overlay District. Gail sent a memo to the BOCC recommending they create a SGI Commercial District Planning Committee (SCDPC) comprised of various stakeholders on SGI, such as, residential property owners from all areas on SGI (from the Plantation to the East End and all areas in-between), retail, property management, restaurants, realtors, SGI State Park, and others, in addition

the County Planning Department. The SCDPC would be tasked with soliciting input from other stakeholders and create a proposed draft plan for what criteria will be included within the SGI Commercial District.

*(See Moratorium, Page Two)*

## **Sheriff Smith to be September Speaker**

At the September Civic Club meeting, Sheriff AJ Smith will present an update on the status of county law enforcement and accept questions from the members in attendance at the end of his presentation.

He will discuss golf cart rules enforcement, especially underage drivers; speed enforcement and an explanation for the Fresh Start Visions initiative at the County jail. The hosts will be club VP James and Cindy Donald. The Civic Club President, Diane Bodenhamer is away attending daughter's wedding.



*Happy Door Prize winners from the last 2017 Summer Bingo Game*

*(Moratorium, From Page One)*

The County Commissioners would arrange with a neutral facilitator from the League of Counties or other entity to facilitate public workshops. These workshops would share the SCDPC's draft plan to solicit feedback and further input from community stakeholders so everyone who wishes to can have his/her voice heard.

The SCDPC would take the public input and tweak their draft plan and then share the revised plan with the community for consensus and support. Next, the SCDPC would submit the plan to the P&Z Planning Advisory Board for their review to decide whether to recommend approval of the plan to the County Commissioners.

Assuming the P&Z Advisory Board recommended approval, the County

Commissioners would review the plan and decide about conducting 2 additional Public Hearings before the new plan could be adopted.

Gail thinks it important that all constituencies be heard and involved in drafting overlay district criteria. She has urged the BOCC to hire an outside, neutral facilitator who doesn't have any ulterior motive for what is created.

She urged SGICC members to attend the Public Hearing and voice support for the moratorium, or if attendance is not possible, email the commissioners your support.

The BOCC members email addresses and telephone numbers are listed on the back page of this newsletter.

**Full Moon Climb at Cape St. George Lighthouse**

The September Full Moon Climb at the Cape St. George Lighthouse on St. George Island will be held on Tuesday, September 5. 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 7:57 p.m. and the "Harvest" moon will rise at 7:48 p.m. on September 5. The September full moon is called the Harvest moon because Native American tribes began *(See Lighthouse, Page Three)*

*(Lighthouse, From Page Two)*

harvesting their staple foods, such as corn, pumpkins, squash, beans, and rice at this time. Full Moon names are attributable to Native American tribes, most notably the Algonquin, who named the moons to mark the changing seasons.

After sunset, people are invited to climb to the top of the lighthouse 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.

**Diabetes Education Classes to Begin at Eastpoint Library**

Civic Club member Suzanne Laws is working with the library at Eastpoint to offer free diabetes education classes as a community project. The classes will be offered on the second Monday of the month beginning in September for 7 months from 4:30--5:30PM. They will be informal and consumer driven. The classes will be patterned after the American Association of Diabetes Educators' 7 Self-Care Behaviors. These include "Healthy Eating", "Being Active", "Monitoring", "Taking Medication", "Risk Reduction", "Problem Solving", and "Healthy Coping". The classes are designed for people who have type

1 and type 2 diabetes, prediabetes and their families.

Suzanne has been involved in diabetes education and management for 40 years and is now retired. She is a registered dietitian, certified diabetes educator, and a board certified advanced management specialist. She can be reached at (850)933-5770 or email at [suzdiabed@juno.com](mailto:suzdiabed@juno.com)

**Proposed Change in Franklin County Building Height Limits**

At the next Board of County Commission (BOCC) meeting Tuesday, September 5th, the BOCC to consider a new ordinance which will make it very difficult to change Franklin County's height limit. This request has already made with the City of Apalachicola. Here is a link to an article in the Apalachicola TIMES which covered it:

<http://www.apalachiatimes.com/news/20170817/height-limit-could-get-stricter>

There is currently an applicant who is requesting the City of Apalachicola to allow a variance to go beyond the current height limits. There is a scheduled Quasi Judicial public hearing with the Apalachicola Board of Adjustment on September 13th at 5 p.m. to review this matter. If granted this could begin a precedent to exceed The Franklin County current height limit.

## **SGIVFD news:**

Jay Abbott still has "I Support SGI VFD" t-shirts for sale in long and short sleeve versions for only \$25 dollars for the short sleeve and \$30 for the long sleeve. He said: "you can buy them and wear them" to show your support. If you can't get by the station, they'll be up for sale again at the 9/21 SGICC meeting. Talk it up - contribute!!!

## ***Upcoming Events***

### **Photographer-Workshop presentation**

From September 1st to the 27<sup>th</sup>, local Photographer and Florida Master Naturalist John Spohrer will be giving workshops at 117 Market Street in Apalachicola. John has lived on the Forgotten Coast since 1980 and has published 2 photo journalism books. The scheduled workshops begin Friday, September 1: Open House Wine Reception will be from 5:30-7pm. Meet John, see his work, and enjoy some light refreshments. Free admission. For more information, call 850-653-9699. Or go to:

<http://onthewaterfrontgallery.com/hohn-spohrer-photographer-workshop-show-sep-1-27/>

The website is:

[onthewaterfrontgallery.com/](http://onthewaterfrontgallery.com/)

## **Rib Cookoff**

A food and fun fundraiser to benefit Franklin Needs and raise money for their 2017 PINK OUT even will be held on Labor Day, September 4 at Journey's of SGI. Enjoy free kayak and paddleboard demos by Journey's of SGI. \$10 BBQ plates on sale at 11 am.

## **Coastal Cleanup**

Apalachicola Riverkeeper, along with the Franklin County Departments of Parks & Recreation and Solid Waste & Recycling, is co-sponsoring the Ocean Conservancy's 31st Annual International Coast Cleanup, the world's largest volunteer effort to help protect our oceans, lakes and rivers. This will be held on Saturday, September 16, from 8:30am to 11:30am at 17 locations in Franklin County and an 18<sup>th</sup> location at Saint Vincent NWR. They will provide trash bags, T-shirts, gloves, water, snacks, and data cards. Volunteers should bring sunscreen, bug spray, protective clothing, and sturdy shoes.

### **Cleanup Locations and Where to Meet:**

- Apalachicola: 10' Hole Battery Park – under the bridge
- Apalachicola – Abercrombie Landing – 12<sup>th</sup> Street out about 4 miles

*(See Cleanup, Page Five)*

*(Cleanup, From Page Four)*

- Bald Point State Park: 146 Box Cut Rd, Alligator Point
- Carrabelle: City Pavilion on Marine Street
- Carrabelle: Carrabelle Beach Across from RV park
- Eastpoint: Downtown Pavilion Area on HWY 98
- Eastpoint: Marion Millender Park – off Patton St.
- Lanark Beach: Public Access Pt. – Arizona St. south of Hwy 98
- St. George Island: Downtown Lighthouse Park – in front of lighthouse
- St. George Island State Park: Check-in at Park Gate (appropriate for adults)
- For more information, call 850-927-3776 or email at [adalong@uab.edu](mailto:adalong@uab.edu)

## Rock By The Sea

Rock By The Sea presents this annual charity music festival hosted at Harry A's at 28 W. Bayshore Dr., St. George, Island from Thursday,



September 21 through Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> and will feature artists including Steve Everett Amy Gerhartz, Alex Guthrie Music, Boo Radley, Brian Fechino, Caleb Hawley, The Currys, David Borné, The Georgia Flood, Lindsey Matthews, Michael Tolcher, and Stolen Rhodes.

For more information, go to:

[rockbythesea.org/](http://rockbythesea.org/)

## Bay-Friendly Landscaping



The Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve will be hosting a bay friendly landscaping workshop on Friday, September 22, 1:00-3:30 pm. Yard design and maintenance can have a big effect on adjacent water bodies. Participants will learn about resources to help them transform their yard into a luscious bay conscious landscape that attracts birds and wildlife. The class will also feature innovative Green Infrastructure techniques such as rain gardens, green roofs, and bio-swales. Following the discussion portion of the workshop participants will have the option, for a small fee, to assemble their own rain  
*(See Landscaping, Page Six)*

(Landscaping, From PageFive) barrel that they can take home. The workshop will be held at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve at 108 Island Dr., Eastpoint. The class is free, but rain barrels are \$20.00 per barrel. For more information, call 850-670-7743 or go to: [anerrbayfriendlylandscaping.eventbrite.com](http://anerrbayfriendlylandscaping.eventbrite.com)

### Lantern Making Workshops

The Carrabelle Lighthouse Association will once again be offering their very popular Lantern-Making Workshops with Delores and Lauren. Past year's lanterns have included colorful paper lanterns, wrought iron looking lanterns cleverly (*See Lanterns, Page Six*) (*Lanterns, From Page Five*) made from boxes, and even 3 foot tall lanterns that were working replicas of the St. George Island Lighthouse! Materials, instruction and hands on help will be provided at each workshop. Participants will be able to explore their creative side and personalize their lantern to make it uniquely their own. At the end of the workshop, attendees will go home with their own lovely, finished lantern. The 2017 workshop schedule:

- Saturday, September 23, 1-4:30 pm
- Saturday, September 30, 1-4:30 pm

- Saturday, October 7, 1-4:30 pm

Participants are then encouraged to bring their glowing creation to the Lantern Fest birthday celebration for the Crooked River Lighthouse on Saturday, October 21, from 6-10 pm. Details on the types of lanterns to be made at the workshops will be posted on the Crooked River Lighthouse's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CrookedRiverLighthouse/>.

### 13th Annual Museum Day Live!

The Carrabelle History Museum at 106 Avenue B SE, Carrabelle, will open its doors free of charge on Saturday, September 23, from 10 am to 5 pm as part of *Smithsonian magazine's* 13<sup>th</sup> annual Museum Day Live! On this day only, participating



museums across the United States emulate the spirit of the Smithsonian Institution's Washington DC-based facilities, which offer free admission every day, and open their doors for free to those who download a (*See Museum, Page Seven*)

*(Museum, From Page Six)*

Museum Day Live! ticket.

Inclusive by design, the event represents Smithsonian's commitment to make learning and the spread of knowledge accessible to everyone. Last year's event drew over 200,000 participants, and this year's event is expected to attract more museum-goers than ever before.

"We are pleased to be participating again in this year's Museum Day Live! event", said Tamara Bibb Allen, Museum Director. "The Carrabelle History Museum's mission is to preserve the history and culture of Carrabelle and the surrounding area. Participating in Museum Day Live! allows us to share the wonderful story of Carrabelle with more visitors."

In honor of this promotion, Ray Andersen, a local professional artist, will be at the museum from 10 am-12 noon working on a beautiful, historical mural of Carrabelle's working waterfront circa 1880-1920. This large painting in progress depicts a time when lumber, seafood, turpentine and people all met at the waterfront. Come see this amazing art in progress and meet Ray!

In addition, for this special day the Carrabelle History Museum will have a temporary exhibit showcasing the railroad and steamboats of Carrabelle's boom time. Come learn the fascinating history of the transportation of a bygone era along with the music and sounds that reflect

the lives of the working class people of those times.

### **Current exhibits:**

#### **Carrabelle's "First People"**

Growing collection of pottery shards and other artifacts from Carrabelle's "first people", native peoples who lived here over two thousand years ago.

#### **The Steamship Tarpon**

The *SS Tarpon* was key to building the Carrabelle community in the early 1900's before sinking off the port of St. Andrews. The exhibit focuses on

*(See Museum Day, Page Seven)*

*(Museum Day, From Page Six)*

the local residents and heroes who were part of the crew. This is thought to be one of the most complete accounts of this ship in the country.

#### **Salt and the Civil War**

Artifacts include a very rare Civil War era salt kettle found buried in the harbor at Alligator Point.

#### **Other Exhibits**

In addition, there are many other exhibits, artifacts and photos of various local industries, such as seafood, logging, mechanics and gas stations, and of Carrabelle families from the pioneer days to the present. The museum also contains a butter churn, a cast iron stove, an old wash board and more. The original "World's Smallest Police Station", the medical bag of the beloved midwife "Miss Tillie" Miller and a collection of the oldest city records available are

*(See Museums, Page Eight)*

*(Museums, From Page Seven)*

all on display/

The Carrabelle History Museum is open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10 am to 5 pm.

The Museum Day Live! ticket is available for download

at [Smithsonian.com/museumday](http://Smithsonian.com/museumday).

Visitors who present the Museum Day Live! ticket (printed or on a Smartphone) will gain free entrance for two at participating venues on September 23, 2017. One ticket per household is permitted. For more information about Museum Day Live! call (850) 697-2732. Or go to: [www.crookedriverlighthouse.org](http://www.crookedriverlighthouse.org)

### **Water Street Festival**

The community is invited to celebrate the Water Street Hotel's 10-year anniversary on September 23, 2017.

This free event will include live music, food trucks and street vendors.

Come celebrate with Water Street Hotel from 12 noon until 8 p.m.

*(See Water Street, Page Eight)*

*(Water Street, From Page Seven)*

For more information, call 850-653-3700, or go to:

[www.waterstreethotel.com/](http://www.waterstreethotel.com/)

### **Tony Partington**

“Fly Me To The Moon” Presented at Rio Carrabelle at Corner of Hwy 98 & Hwy 67 Tallahassee Street, Carrabelle, at 8 pm. As the Pre-Season Opener, Tony Partington and his friends will be delighting you with

Jimmy Van Heusen & Sammy Cahn songs! Let's Get Re-Acquainted with an All Star House Band Jam For more information, call (850) 307-0098, go to:

[www.caribbeanraftrentals.com/events](http://www.caribbeanraftrentals.com/events)

### **National Estuaries Day**

The Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) will celebrate National Estuaries Day on Friday, September 29, at 108 Island Drive, in Eastpoint. Activities will include dozens of free, fun and educational activities for kids and adults including marine animal touch tanks, and estuary-themed games. The Sea Turtles of the Forgotten Coast exhibit will demonstrate what a sea turtle nest might look like, and show videos of nesting sea turtles and hatchlings! Attendees can also tour the ANERR's impressive 5,400 square foot Nature Center with its three large aquariums filled with local estuarine and marine life, an 80-foot long mural depicting the area ecosystems, and a hands-on Bay Discovery Room.

For more information, call (850) 670-7700 or go to

[www.apalachicolareserve.com/](http://www.apalachicolareserve.com/)

### **Workin' on the Railroad**

The Carrabelle History Museum at 501 Saint James Ave Hwy 98, Carrabelle, is featuring another *(See Railroad, Page Nine)*



*(Railroad, From Page Eight)*

presentation about the railroad industry on Saturday, September 30, from 10 am to noon at the upstairs meeting room of the C-Quarters Marina. The program will focus on the time when trains brought in hundreds of visitors to our coast and shipped out seafood, lumber and naval stores throughout the country. Nelson Martin from the Sopchoppy Railroad Depot Museum has much to tell about the booming industries brought here by the railroads during the turn of the century. A special feature of this program will be musician and folklorist Frank Lindamood, who knows many songs that reflect the lives of the working class people of those times. For more information, call 850-697-2141, or go to: [www.c-quartersmarina.com/](http://www.c-quartersmarina.com/)

### **Photographer Workshops**

The Waterfront Gallery at 117 Market Street, Apalachicola will hold two photographer workshops on Saturday, September 30. They will be hosted by Charlie Sawyer who is a retired leadership development facilitator, instructional designer, and educator. He is an award-winning fine art photographer and an amateur singer-songwriter. You can find Charlie on Facebook and LinkedIn. And visit Charlie's European travel blog, [1700Somewhere.com](http://1700Somewhere.com). Charlie lives with his wife in Apalachicola.

Visit Charlie's website at: <https://charliesawyer.com/>

#### **Workshop 1**

**A Photographer's Eye: How To See And Capture Photographs In The World Around Us.**

Join photographer Charlie Sawyer for a walk around downtown Apalachicola and the waterfront. He'll share his techniques for seeing potential photographs in the environment, and then share the technical knowledge necessary to capture the images in ways that show them in their best light. Charlie will demonstrate how to select the best angle, compose the shot, and which camera settings you should use to get the most out of any digital camera. Bring any digital camera, with fully-charged batteries and plenty of available memory. From 9:30-11:30 a.m.

#### **Workshop 2**

**Reproducing Paintings: How To Produce High-Quality Digital Photographs of Your Paintings.**

Photographer Charlie Sawyer will demonstrate how to position artwork, lighting, and the camera to get high-quality reproductions of paintings. Charlie will show you which of your camera's settings you should use to get the most faithful reproduction of your artwork. Indoor and outdoor techniques will be demonstrated. Charlie will also demonstrate how to *(See Workshops, Page Ten)*

(Workshops, From Page Nine)  
resize the images for various purposes, such as Giclee prints, contest submissions, and posting on the web. Bring any digital camera, with fully-charged batteries and plenty of available memory. From 1:30-3:30 p.m. For more information, call 850-653-9699, or go to:

[onthewaterfrontgallery.com/charlie-sawyer-photographer-workshop-show-sep30-oct1/](http://onthewaterfrontgallery.com/charlie-sawyer-photographer-workshop-show-sep30-oct1/)

Cost: \$35 each workshop. Maximum 15 participants per workshop

*Thanks to the Franklin County Tourist Development Council for Upcoming Events. Go to:*

<http://www.saltyflorida.com/events>

Please visit our website:

[www.stgeorgeislandcivicclub.org](http://www.stgeorgeislandcivicclub.org)

Email us at [sgcivicclub@gmail.com](mailto:sgcivicclub@gmail.com)

Also, check out our Face Book page. Search for SGI Civic Club, select “Like” and then Check “Follow” for additional information.

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