



The Islander

August 2018

A Publication of the St. George Island Civic Club
The August meeting will be held on August 16. The speaker
will be Tress Reynolds Dameron - Franklin County
Emergency Management Coordinator;

Political Forums Provide Access to Candidates

The St. George Island Civic Club held political forums on July 18th and 19th at the Jay Abbott Volunteer Fire Station on SGI. The forums were held to allow registered voters an opportunity to hear candidates in advance of the August 28th election.



Candidates for Tax Collector

Both forums were well received with over 50 people in attendance each evening. The

first hour was a formal panel of questions to the candidates, followed by a 30-minute Meet & Greet session with the audience. The panel portion consisted of an opening statement from each candidate, questions from the moderator, and a closing



Jay Gordon Shuler and Barbara Sanders for Franklin County Judge

statement from the candidates. The audience was allowed to submit written questions for the question and answer portion.

Two of the three candidates for Franklin County Judge, Gordon Shuler and Barbara Sanders, appeared on Wednesday, July 18th; the third candidate, Roseanna Bronhard, declined the invitation to appear. The elected county judge serves a six-year term and must be a member of the Florida Bar. The trial jurisdiction of county courts extends to civil disputes involving \$15,000 or less. All five candidates for Franklin County Tax Collector appeared on Thursday, July 19th: Jamie Crum (R), Teresa Ann Martin (D), Connie Polous (NPA), Tami Ray Hutchinson (D), and Rick Watson (R). The elected tax collector serves a four-year term and is responsible for the collection of ad valorem taxes and other taxes set at the local level. Additionally, they act as an agent of several state departments, including the Department of Revenue, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and the Fresh Water Fish Commission. Early voting will be held August 13th to 25th, with the primary election on August 28th.

* In the judge's race, if none of the three candidates receive 50%+1 of the vote, there will be a runoff between the top two vote getters at the general election on November 6th.


* In the tax collector race, Jamie Crum and Rick Watson compete for the Republican nomination, and Teresa Ann Martin and Tami Ray Hutchinson compete for the Democratic nomination; the winners of those two primaries will compete against Connie Polous in the general election on November 6th.

Veterans Reveille Event

Don't forget to join the SGI Veteran's Group at Doc Myer's on Friday, August 3, at 3 PM for the next Veterans Reveille Event hosted by our fellow Vet and friend, Dan "Doc" Myers. **THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO JOIN US!** This month we begin preliminary planning for our next Veterans Day event on the Island this Fall. We also welcome a new member of the SGI Veterans Group, Arnie Miesch. Arnie is a

2-tour, brown water Navy Veteran of Vietnam.
Franklin County Veterans Service Officer, Charles Elliott returns to do a short update on veteran benefits. Charles will bring his lap-top, and work one-on-one with veterans or veterans family who need assistance. We are delighted to hear from some of you who are already being helped by Charles from interviews at prior Veteran's Reveille events. Also, keep Ed Barnell and Fred Stanley in your prayers. Ed is in Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and Fred is in the VA hospital in Gainesville. We will send an update soon.

August Full Moon Climb at the Cape St. George Lighthouse

 . The St. George Lighthouse will host a full moon climb August 26



from 8-9:30 pm. Climb to the top of the Cape St. George Light to watch the sunset and the rise of the full moon. The fishing tribes of North America are given credit for the naming of August's moon, since sturgeon, a large fish of the Great Lakes and other major bodies of water, were most readily caught during this month. A few tribes knew it as the Full Red Moon because, as the moon rises, it appears reddish through any sultry haze. It was also called the Green Corn Moon or Grain Moon.

The Sunset/Full Moon Climb includes light hors d'oeuvres and a sparkling cider toast to the full moon. Cost is \$10 for the general public and \$5 for members of the St. George Lighthouse Association. For reservations or more information, please contact the Lighthouse Gift Shop at 850-927-7745.

Upcoming Events

Summer Sea Turtle Talk

August 1 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

August 8 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

August 15 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

August 22 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

August 29 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve Nature Center, 108 Island Drive Eastpoint

Learn all about sea turtles at the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve

Apalachicola Farmers Market

August 11 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

August 25 @ 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Mill Pond, 479 Market St

Apalachicola

Local seafood, produce, honey, homemade breads, pies, and other regional specialties offered every 2nd and 4th Saturday from 9 AM until 1 PM.

15th Annual Kingfish Shootout

August 3 - 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. Over \$915,000 raised in the past 14 years. The Shootout will be for kingfish and spanish mackerel.

The guaranteed payout will be \$16,500 with 10 places. The prize of \$5,000 will be given for the biggest kingfish. Prizes will be given for Youth Angler (16 years or younger) and Lady Angler for the biggest fish in addition to prize money, if qualified. Youth and Lady Angler must catch their fish unassisted. The guaranteed payout for Spanish Mackerel will be \$3,500. 1st place is \$2,000, 2nd place is \$1,000, 3rd place is \$500. Teams can enter both categories but only win in one category. Highest place wins. Make sure to weigh in the biggest fish. Boat Registration Fee is \$400 per boat.

With continuing thoughts of Lisa Crowder Jackson, we are excited about the potential positive impact this event is going to have not only for the charity, the Leukemia Research Foundation,

but the City of Carrabelle and Franklin County as a whole. Thank you to all the previous sponsors and fishermen. The first weekend in August begins with the catch of a lifetime, winning the \$5,000 for the 1st place kingfish or \$2,000 for the 1st place spanish mackerel.

Sizzler 5K Race and One Mile Fun Run

August 4

The 2018 St George Island Sizzler 5K Race and One Mile Fun Run is on for August 4. The Sizzler has been an annual event sponsored by a number of organizations including Aplalachicola Bay Animal Clinic, Tate's Hell Track Club and The Franklin County Humane Society. This year, all proceeds benefit The Elder Care Community Council of Franklin County, Inc. (ECCC). It is the first year to organize this event and all proceeds will benefit seniors throughout all of Franklin County, Florida. ECCC is carrying on the tradition of the SGI Sizzler as well as adding some new features this year:

- a new USTAF certified course
- more water stops
- a post-race party featuring Chicken Wraps, Chips and Watermelon.
- awards for the oldest male and female finishers
- \$1.00 off all alcoholic beverages purchased at Doc Myer's
- 4:00 pm – On-site Registration at Doc Myer's Island Pub and Sports Bar
- 6:30 pm – One Mile Fun Run
- 7:00 pm – 5K Race
- 7:30 pm – Post Race Party and Awards
- The traditional 3 deep age group awards will be passed out as well as the Masters, Grand Masters, and Senior Grand Masters. Awards will be given to celebrate the elders of Franklin County to the oldest male and female finishers.
- This year's party and awards presentations will be held at Doc Myer's Island Pub and Sports Bar. Enjoy Chicken Wraps, Chips and Watermelon.

Additionally, full bar and food menu is available for purchase at Doc Myer's and your ticket includes \$1.00 off all alcoholic beverages. There will be live music from 4pm-close

Seagrass Exploration

August 16 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00

pm

Cool off this summer and learn about the important role seagrass plays in our environment and the creatures that thrive in this dynamic habitat. The exploration will start at the St Joseph Buffer Preserve for a quick overview, then head out to Cape San Blas.



Here you can immerse yourself in the vibrant seagrass ecosystem

with a guided snorkeling tour of the crystal-clear seagrass beds in St. Joseph Bay. Find out what you can do at home and on vacation to help further seagrass conservation. This adult-level class covers the basics of life in a seagrass bed, as well as the intricate ties between organisms, and important conservation and protection efforts in our area. Registration is required and is \$25 per person. Register at <https://anerrseagrassclass.eventbrite.com> Participants are responsible for bringing their own snorkeling gear, water bottle, towel and change of clothes. For more information contact Anita Grove at (850) 670-7708 or by email Anita.Grove@dep.state.fl.us.

Apalachicola Riverkeeper

Field Trips

August 25

Explore your river and basin with the Apalachicola Riverkeeper Field trip. The volunteer-led eco-outings are fun and memorable. We hike and kayak in the spring and fall. The weather here enables one to kayak year-round. Group size is limited and

registration is required. Trips are donation based.

Paddle trips and hikes are free to members. Donations are always appreciated, as this is a volunteer-based program. Our skilled trip leaders truly enjoy introducing people to the river system. Loaner kayaks are also available.

Paddlers and hikers need to bring: water; snacks/lunch; sunscreen; and hat. Paddlers, please wear clothing that won't weigh you down if it gets wet. Synthetics like nylon blends are best. No jeans or boots.

For more information, please contact:

outreach@apalachicolariverkeeper.org

to register or call 850-653-8936

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

Email us at

sgicivicclub@gmail.com

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

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