



THE ISLANDER



The ECCC's biggest event and fundraiser is August 3. Get all the info in this issue of The Islander.

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Ida Long leads the effort

Upcoming ISLAND EVENTS

Veterans Reveille Event

8/2 at 3 pm, Doc Myers Sports Bar & Pub
Updates on the Civil Air Patrol, Scouting, Vet Food bank, and Hope Park mentoring initiatives
Open to the Public
jdonal278@gmail.com

Sizzler 5K & 1-Mile Fun Run

To benefit Elder Care Community Council (ECCC)
8/3, SGI - www.ecccfranklin.org
Register online or on the day of the event
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eccc-sgi-sizzler-5k-race-one-mile-fun-run-tickets-62319078040>

Franklin County

Board of County Commissioners

Regular Meeting - 8/6, 8/20, 9/3, 9/17 at 9:00 am Commission Meeting Room, Apalachicola Planning & Zoning - 8/13, 9/10 at 6:30 pm Annex Building

Turtle Talk

8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27 from 2 - 3 pm
Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve Nature Center
www.ApalachicolaReserve.com
(850) 670-7708

Franklin County Coastal Cleanup

9/21 9:30-11:30 am - Various Locations
Contact Ada Long at 850-927-3776 or email adalong@uab.edu

Forgotten Coast Parrot Head Club

8/7 5 - 6:30 pm - Doc Myers Sports Bar & Pub
www.facebook.com/ForgottenCoastParrotHeadClub

SGI Lighthouse Full Moon Climb

8/14 at 8 - 9:30 pm, 9/13 at 7:30 - 9 pm
www.stgeorgelight.org
850-927-7745 for information

SGI Civic Club Meeting (3rd Thursday)

6:30 pm @ SGI Firehouse
8/15: Speaker:TBD
9/19 Speaker: TBD and there will be a vote on Charitable Giving Recommendations

**There will be no August issue of The Islander.*

FOR A COMPLETE LISTING OF FRANKLIN COUNTY AREA EVENTS
CLICK www.ApalachicolaBay.org

THE ISLAND'S Little Success Stories

Modest improvements to the island represent a cooperative effort between our citizens and our county staff.

Thanks for giving credit where it's due and alerting us to the good works of your neighbors and county staff.

Stop Sign Updates

The top stop sign is not just a bad picture.

The STOP sign is faded so badly, it can hardly be read. A replacement sign has taken its place. Thanks to county staff.



A Call for Volunteers from Bill Nichols

Civic Club member Bill Nichols is an early-morning volunteer with power tools who is looking for like-minded individuals to fulfill the SGI Civic Club duty of helping maintain Franklin Blvd. The four corners surrounding the retention ponds (Bayshore Drive and Wet Gulf Beach) have small beds that need occasional trimming of palms, etc. There are also three beds on West Chili Blvd at the side of the Lighthouse Parking lot. If you are available for one hour of early morning landscaping on weekends and Fridays, please let Bill know at billnichols52@comcast.net.

No experience is necessary to be a trasher. Litter for pick up on any part of Franklin is available most any day. Next time you go for a walk, include Franklin Blvd. Get exercise, support the Civic Club, and show the love for the island—all in one.



Bonus point if you remember when the Civic Club adopted this highway.

FDOT Beautification Grant Application in the Works

Landscape Architect Falon Mihalic is busy incorporating comments and suggestions from members of the SGI Civic Club for the proposed FDOT beautification grant for the entrance to the island. Not sure how we missed that *Paspalum quadrifarium* (Crown Grass) is an invasive, but we appreciate Civic Club member Nancy Devine for spotting our error.

We are receiving those required Letters of Support from community organizations and individuals. Our first draft packet of information is due to Florida Department of Transportation is due August 1, so we pulling everything together at this time.

If you have comments or suggestions, please don't hesitate to go online at <http://sgicivicclub.com/contacts---links.html>



Download preliminary landscape plans at www.sgiCivicClub.com/images/SunsetPark_18July2019.pdf

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In their own words —

Below is language from the county's application for the RESTORE funds to study SGI's stormwater problems. The Treasury Department makes awards from the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Funds:

Need: The commercial district on St. George Island, which runs from 3rd St. East to 3rd St. West, from Gorrie Drive to Bayshore Drive, has an existing storm water pond that provides treatment to approximately 25% of the area, however the facility is quickly approaching capacity. None of the streets in the commercial district have any Swales; therefore, this plan will require a feasibility study considering all the businesses use the County right of way for parking, or if another means of treating storm water is necessary. All storm water ultimately flows to the bay; however, the area is near sea-level presenting the challenge of where to develop the treatment capacity. The appeal of the quaint commercial area has led to the increased desirability of the commercial area of St. George Island, and there are several proposed developments underway that will increase the population, increase demand for commercial development, and, therefore, potentially increase storm water runoff as spaces that have previously been undeveloped become developed.

Purpose: The purpose of this project is to identify the needs, research, survey, and suggest solutions with estimated costs for the construction of additional storm water treatment facilities or treatment methods to be developed in the commercial district of St. George Island. This proposed project will create greater capacity for storm water treatment as current facilities are near capacity.

Milestones: 1. Prepare scope of services. 2. Prepare bid package meeting U.S. Treasury specifications and solicit bids. 3. Select contractor and award Contract Agreement. 4. Performance of St George Island Stormwater project construction costs 5. File periodic project status reports to Grantor. 6. Complete project closeout and file report with Treasury.

Location: The commercial district on St. George Island, which runs from 3rd St. East to 3rd St. West, from Gorrie Drive to Bayshore Drive, and covers approximately 70 acres.

Project success will be measured by:

1. Procurement of a qualified consultant (an environmental engineering firm) to prepare the feasibility study and plan with preliminary cost estimates.
2. Deliverable of a plan which will study the area, feasibility of the project, and provide a high-level overview of solutions.
3. Completion of the study and production of the plan with preliminary cost estimates within twelve (12) months.



2019-2020 FDOT Beautification Grant for the SGI Causeway

Who is providing the Grant?

Florida Department of Transportation 2019-2020 Beautification Grant Program, District 3

What is the grant for?

Beautification of the entrance to SGI, state-owned land between bridge and West Bayshore Drive (Little Pig corner)

What are uses for grant?

Plantings, irrigation, mulch, installation

What are "ineligible" uses?

Hardscapes, parking lots, benches, signage

What is the amount?

Up to \$100,000 per grant, potentially up to 3 grants

Is there a match by the county?

No. Letters of support and in-kind services are recommended

What is the cost to the county?

On-going maintenance costs of the landscaping beds.

Who is developing the grant?

St George Island Civic Club on behalf of the county, led by landscape architect Falon Land Studio, Tallahassee, FL

Who is the responsible party?

Franklin County

What is deadline for First Draft of the Application:

August 1, 2019

What is deadline for Final Version?

September 26-October 1

When is the award notification?

November 2019

When does installation begin?

February 2020

How can Civic Club members give input?

www.sgiCivicClub.com/contacts---links.html

to comment by August 15, 2019.

Download landscape plan draft: at

www.sgiCivicClub.com/latest-happenings.html

Representative Jason Shoaf Opens for Business



Even though he doesn't have a space in the state House Office Building or committee assignments yet, Representative Shoaf has put his staff together so that his constituents can reach out to him more easily. With the 2020 Session beginning in January, two months earlier than the typical March opening, Shoaf says it's important to get prepared.

Each House member is allocated a certain budget for staffers. A rambling, multi-county district like #7, where Shoaf was recently elected, makes the logistics of being accessible for face-to-face meetings with constituents even more challenging. So picking great local staff is a critical first step when a new office operation is being established. For now, you can reach our new House member by contacting his staff:

Legislative Assistant: Preston Wilson
Preston.Wilson@myfloridahouse.gov
The Capitol
402 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300
Office Phone: (850) 717-5007

West District Secretary: Chris Kingry
Chris.Kingry@myfloridahouse.gov
(no office space chosen yet)

East District Secretary: Rachel Higgs
Rachel.Higgs@myfloridahouse.gov
103 East Ellis Street
Perry, FL 32347

Charitable Donations Committee Makes 2019 Recommendations

This year's Donations Committee, led by VP Jim Morris, took a thoughtful approach to creating a list of recommendations for consideration by the general membership. There is never enough cash to cover all the valuable services that our local non-profits provide, so making selections is never an easy task. The committee membership this year included Mason Bean, Bunnie Ison, Helene Antel, Buena Brown and Carol McCormick. Typically, the Club has tried to focus on programs that have a relationship to the island, either through services delivered or events taking place on the island or programs supported by the leadership of islanders. Rather than giving a small amount to every non-profit, the committee this year chose to spread the approximately \$7,000 on projects that would have an impact on the most vulnerable individuals. While those entities are not necessarily located on the island, the human needs are great. Fortunately, many of our favorite programs, such as the SGI Volunteer Fire Department/First Responders and Franklin County Humane Society, have had successful fundraising years on their own and did not have the same requests as in the past.

These are the recommended recipients:

Bring Me a Book, Franklin. \$500. This local organization is led by island homeowners Michaelin and David Watts along with other islanders and has a presence in other communities. According to its website, the program supplies quality books and open-faced bookcases to settings that serve children and also teaches parents, siblings, teens and community members the critical importance of **READING ALOUD TO CHILDREN FROM BIRTH**. Partnering with the Dinner Divas, a group of women, also led by islanders, who host fundraising cocktail parties and dinners for a variety of local needs, the Bring Me a Book, Franklin provides a free book to every child who attends one of the local Christmas parades.

Friends of the Franklin County Library, Eastpoint Location. \$500. The Franklin County Public Library promotes reading and lifelong learning for persons of all ages and serves as a focus point for community activities. While we all can appreciate a good library, we cannot estimate the value to a rural community with limited resources. Because of its connections to the larger library network, almost any book or tape is available here. Many island visitors and residents regularly contribute their new books so that readers can own a copy of popular releases.

Food Pantries: Total of \$3000. These entities provide supplemental food on certain days of the month to the most vulnerable citizens, including families and children in the county. Many islanders volunteer regularly at the food pantries and often comment on the startling need that they observe. The successful operation of a food pantry depends upon a regular supply of donated food

products and donations from entities such as the Civic Club. America's Second Harvest of the Big Bend is the largest provider for the pantries of Franklin's Promise Coalition and Eastpoint Baptist Church. The Forgotten Coast Church Food Bank is the newest addition to the list of pantries, serving between 50 and 60 a week.

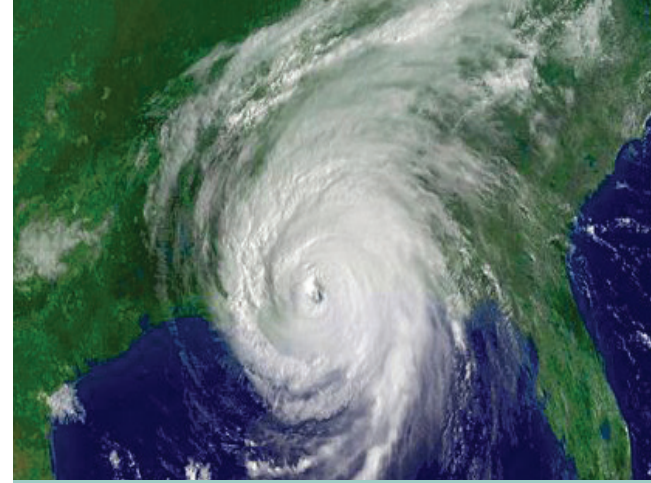
Elder Care Community Council. \$1000. E Triple C activities are Franklin County wide and include: a) delivery of food from the Franklin County Food Pantry to over 50 homebound seniors twice a month; b) outreach to better link seniors to existing services; c) providing fans and household items to those in need; d) limited respite for caregivers, "handy person" chores, and "friendly visitors"; e) and linkage to local transportation services and rides to those in need for appointments and other commitments. Many activities and educational programs happen at the Holy Family Senior Center in Apalachicola including: Daily lunch, Monday through Friday; social activities for all holidays and special lunches; speakers and information on health, wellness, gardening, nature, art, music, dance and games. All of these services are provided by volunteers with one part-time paid activities coordinator. Many of these volunteers are islanders.

Fresh Start. \$1500. This anti-recidivism, faith-based, character-building program is the best hope for many of the county jail inmates who struggle to find a fresh start after a life of drug use, broken homes, and prison. Ten people at SGI United Methodist Church and others volunteer in the church's prison ministry which includes life skills, such as anger management and GED preparation. There is also Bible Study and character development. The program, which is supported by Sheriff A J Smith as one approach to helping inmates, requires discipline and commitment from inmates, who must agree to live for a period of time in a residential facility until their successful graduation.

Earlier in the year, the Civic Club continued a **\$500 donation to Kid's Tag Art**, which is a state-wide program sponsored by county tax collectors to promote creative arts in school while increasing awareness of the value of Florida automobile license tags for promoting our state.

The committee will present this list to the attendees at the September 19th meeting for a vote. The list can be edited at that meeting. If you have suggestions or questions, please contact Jim Morris at jim.morr98@yahoo.com or 813-759-3107 in advance of that vote.

Thank you all for making the First Annual Golf Tournament so successful, supporting Winter Bingo, and generally supporting the Civic Club through your dues and charitable giving. We hope we are listening and representing your interests.



Hurricane Preparation Time

The Florida Hurricane season lasts through Nov. 30 with mid-August through October being the high season. It is important to have a plan if you stay or if you leave and important information is available on the Franklin County Emergency Management website. If you evacuate, you'll need a Re-Entry tag. If you already have a valid entry tag and your address has not changed, you can simply write "NA" over the expiration date - no need to update it annually.

Go to www.franklinemergencymanagement.com then click on the "programs" tab to access the Re-Entry Tag form. Fill out the form and mail, fax or email it to:

Jennifer Daniels, SPN Coordinator
Franklin County Emergency Management
28 Airport Rd, Apalachicola FL 32320
Email: em1frank@fairpoint.net
Fax: 850-653-364Z

Acceptable forms of Residency Verification

(need only one of form of residency with form)

- Water/Power/Cable Bill
- Tax Form for property
- Property Appraiser property information
- Voter Registration
- Driver's License

The Re-Entry Tag will only be issued to the address



Back To School Bonus For all Franklin County Students

Children attending the Franklin County won't have to buy school supplies this year thanks to a generous donation from Cone Distributors of Tallahassee, and many of the supplies for the ABC school will also be provided.

A generous \$20,000 donation from Cone Distributors of Tallahassee combined with other contributions will enable the Franklin County School to provide school supplies for all PreK-12th grade Seahawk students.

With the help of local businesses and community partnerships, the Franklin County School orientation on August 8th will also offer FREE haircuts, FREE sports & health physicals as well as a sample of school food, bounce houses and much more. Students will return to school on Monday, August 12th..

ECCC Sizzler Is Putting the Fun in Fundraising

All year long Elder Care Community Council (ECCC) works tirelessly to be an advocate for the seniors of Franklin County, but on this Saturday, August 3rd we will put the FUN back in Fundraiser at the SGI Sizzler 2019.

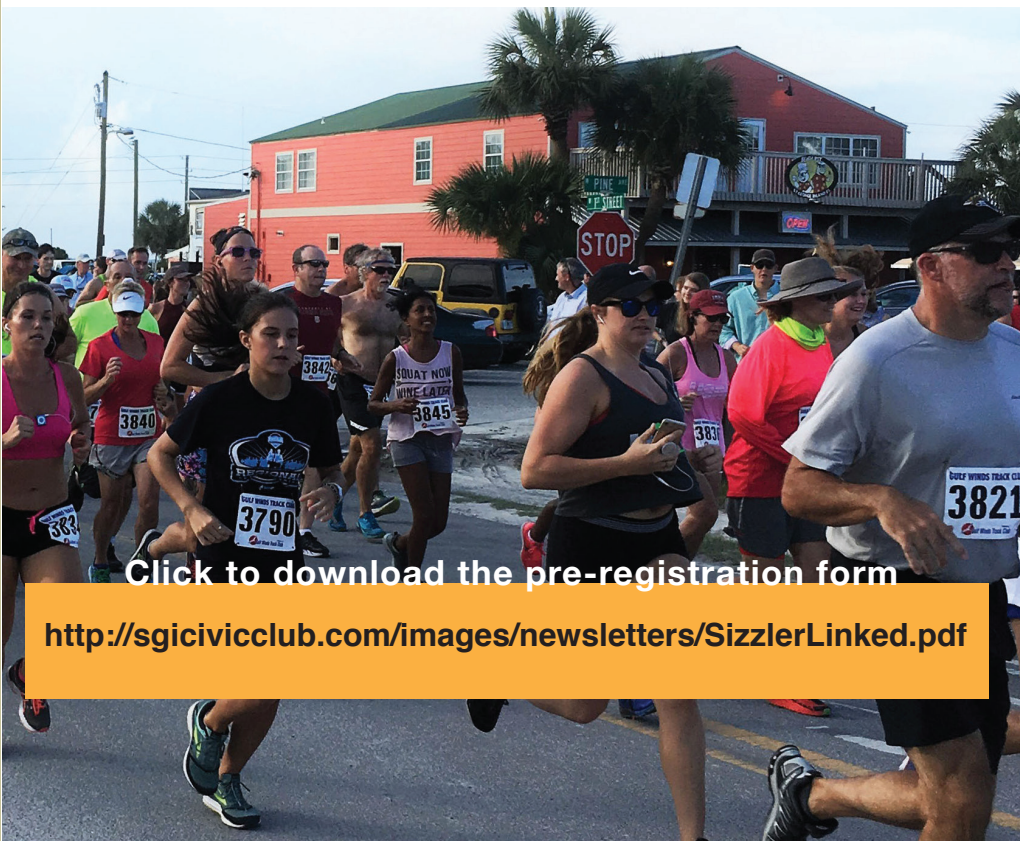
For the second year ECCC will be hosting this 22 year old tradition on St. George Island. The race attracts the competitive, the recreational, right down to the occasional walkers and skippers. We will have the same USTAF certified course as 2018 with two water stops and icy cold washcloths and watermelon at the end of the race. We encourage racers and walkers of all ages to support ECCC! You can walk, run, skip or crawl.

We will have the traditional 3-deep age group awards as well as the Masters, Grand Masters and Senior Grandmaster categories. We are also presenting awards to celebrate our elders to the oldest male and female finishers.

Take home race swag, awards and a day filled with memories while impacting your community. All proceeds will benefit ECCC as we continue to bridge the gap for seniors in our county.

After the race join us at Doc Myer's Island Pub and Sports Bar for a Low Country Boil and \$1 off all drinks with your meal ticket. Meal tickets are included in race and walk registration or can be purchased in advance for \$10 per person at the Eventbrite link below. There will be live music starting at 4pm, so bring your family and friends to enjoy the party!

Please register online on Eventbrite.com <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/eccc-sgi-sizzler-5k-race-one-mile-fun-run-tickets-62319078040> Or sign up at the event. It's not too late.



Click to download the pre-registration form

<http://sgicivicclub.com/images/newsletters/SizzlerLinked.pdf>

Franklin County Coastal Cleanup

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2019 — 8:30-11:30am

Cleanup Locations

Apalachicola: 10' Hole
 Apalachicola: Abercrombie Landing
 Bald Point State Park
 Carrabelle: City Pavilion
 Carrabelle: Carrabelle Beach
 Eastpoint: Downtown
 Eastpoint: Millender Park
 Lanark Beach
 St. George Island: Downtown
 St. George Island: State Park

Where to Meet

Battery Park – under the bridge
 12th Street out about 12 miles
 146 Box Cut Rd, Alligator Point
 City Pavilion on Marine St.
 Across from RV park
 Pavilion Area on HWY 98
 Marion Millender Park – off Patton St.
 Public Access Pt. – Arizona St. south of Hwy 98
 Lighthouse Park – in front of lighthouse
 Check-in at Park Gate (appropriate for adults)

Sponsored by:



Franklin County Departments
 of
 Parks & Recreation
 And
 Solid Waste & Recycling



Volunteers should wear or bring:

Sunscreen ☀️ Bugspray ☀️ Protective clothing
 (hats, long pants, long-sleeved shirts) ☀️
 Work or close-toed water shoes

Volunteers will be provided:

Trash bags ☀️ Gloves ☀️ Data cards ☀️ Snacks
 ☀️ Drinking Water ☀️ T-shirts

For more information call Ada Long at 850-927-3776 / email adalong@uab.edu



This little beagle mix and her
 three siblings are 7 weeks old,
 very sweet and social, and ready
 for adoption. 850-670-8417

BE A
 Puppy
 Hero

SGI CIVIC CLUB BOARD MEMBERS

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