

FORT MORGAN NEWS

June 2019~Issue 148



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all FMCA members!

I don't have much to report on this month, but I would like to ask you, the members of our Association, for some input. Baldwin County has requested a special meeting of the Planning & Zoning committee set for June 19th. It's my understanding that this meeting is being called to address new ordinances for our district. I am asking you to submit your questions and concerns regarding our community. Please submit these to our email address: fortmorgancivic@gmail.com

Also, our Guest Speaker this month is our very own Michael Ludvigsen. Mr. Ludvigsen will be presenting information about the Alabama Coastal Heritage Trust. The ACHT is very active in the support of Alabama Beach Mouse and works closely with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in ABM habitat preservation. I would like to hear from you, our members, on who you would like to hear from at our meetings. Please submit your guest speaker ideas to our email address.



As always, I encourage each member of our association to help spread the word about the Fort Morgan Civic Association. If your neighbors aren't members yet, invite them to a meeting! I hope I will see you at our next meeting on June 10th.

Joe
Joe Emerson

FMCA June Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Monday June 10th

FMCA 2019 MEETINGS:

FMCA Monthly Member Meetings ~ 2nd Monday, 6:30pm, Shell Banks Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
June 10 ~ July 8~ Aug 12~Sep 9~Oct 14~Nov 11~Dec 9

FMCA Membership Report~~~~~ Jennifer Noojin

Please welcome the following New Members:

- Rita Watt
- Mr. & Mrs. Fred Elliott
- Herbert and Mae Willa Mason
- Mr. & Mrs. John Sturdivant
- Arnold & Glenelle Lindsay
- Jack & Karen Williams
- Michael & Lisa Steves
- Angel and Angela DeJesus
- Robert McAnnally (Cram A Lot Inn, LLC)
- Patrick & Rebecca Murphy
- James Foltz
- Kent & Sue Landsberg

These folks joined FMCA "to be kept informed of activity in our community", a "desire to help preserve the unique character of Fort Morgan", and to "protect our slice of paradise"! And one of our renewing members reports that it is his "civic duty". Thank you for joining and renewing your membership. Welcome!

Reminder: Annual Dues Were Due December 31! If you have not yet paid 2019, please send the attached Membership Form [see last page of this newsletter] with your \$15 annual dues to the address on the form as soon as possible to ensure you continue to receive correspondence from FMCA.

Agenda for April FMCA General Meeting~~~~~Carol Kittrell

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance	Joe Emerson, President
May 2019 Minutes	Carol Kittrell, Secretary
Treasurer's Report	Greg Strategier, Treasurer
Membership Report	Jennifer Noojin, Membership
Fort Morgan Fire & Rescue Report	Ernie Church, VP/FMRD
Old Business	
-Upcoming P&Z meeting -Grant Researcher -Plantation Intersection	
New Business -Open Discussion	
Comments/Announcements - Recent dedication of Lands in Fort Morgan	
Guest Speaker - Michael Ludvigsen- Alabama Coastal Heritage Trust	Michael Ludvigsen, ACHT
Adjournment - Next Meeting, July 8	

Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Committee~~~~~Chan West, Chair

Upcoming Fort Morgan Planning and Zoning Meetings (Shell Banks Baptist Church):

June 19 - 9:00 a.m. Special request meeting by Wayne Dyess along with Vince Jackson and Billie Jo Underwood to meet with us to discuss County involvement in long range plans for Fort Morgan, amendment to District 25 regulations regarding rezoning in the Coastal High Hazard Area and Flood Hazard Areas, and development issues/concerns in Fort Morgan. **Attendance by Fort Morgan property owners is strongly encouraged.**

October 19 - 9:00 a.m. Semi-annual meeting.

Fort Morgan Peninsula Neighborhood Safety & Crime Report ~~~~~Sgt Mike Walker, BCSO

A summary of the ongoing investigation into incidents on or around Ponce De Leon Ct is below. Deputy Smith and Sgt. Hill flew over Fort Morgan today looking for possible camp sites. Additionally, we will be performing some directed patrol in the coming weeks.

FT. Morgan Investigation Summary

Below is a summary of events that relate to the recent burglaries and breaking and entering of vehicles that have occurred in the Ft. Morgan area on or around Ponce De Leon Ct. All listed incidents are believed to be connected as they are believed to be perpetrated by the same suspect. This belief is based on matching modus operandi of the perpetrator and/or matching shoe prints found at the scene. * Denotes shoe prints were found at the scene that match the shoes taken during the first burglary.

Incidents: (in chronological order)

- *April 3 – Non reported – 3150 Ponce de Leon Ct – B&E – gift cards taken
- *April 3 – 19-1364 – 3178 Ponce de Leon Ct. – Burglary of Occupied Dwelling – Nike shoes taken
- *April 3 – 19-1396 – 3200 Ponce de Leon Ct. – Trespassing – Found boots and clothing next door to burglary
- *April 3 – 19-1363 – 4950 Hwy 180 – Burglary – Caught inside by contractors – left gift cards from B&E

- April 22 – 19-1595 – 555 Our Rd. – B&E – cash taken
- April 22 – 19-1596 – 5478 Beach Blvd – Cash & Fishing Poles

- *April 26 – 19-1661 – 2542 Ponce de Leon Ct. – attempted B&E – scared off – security photos taken

- *April 28 – 19-1994 – 4254 Hwy 180 – B&E – Cash and pain pills taken
- *April 28 – 19-1996 – 501 Privateer Ct. – B&E – Cash Taken
- *April 28 – Non Reported – Unknown Address – theft – bicycle taken

- *May 5 – Non-Reported – 4592 Hwy 180 – no crime – caught on security camera

- *May 7 – 19-1839 – 3788 W. Ponce de Leon Ct. – Burglary of Occupied Dwelling – Money taken
- *May 7 – 19-1840 – 3788 E. Ponce de Leon Ct. – Burglary of Occupied Dwelling – Money taken

- *May 26 – 19-2223 – 4878 Hwy 180 – B&E x 3 – gift cards taken
- May 26 – 19-2221 – 5432 Beach Blvd – B&E – Unknown at this time (report has not been done)

Actions Taken:

- Three soda cans have been collected and submitted for processing for latent fingerprints and DNA
- A cigarette butt has been collected and submitted for processing for DNA
- Latent Fingerprints have been collected and submitted for identification
- Gift cards have been submitted for latent fingerprints
- A Field interview request for Darius Pearson has been submitted based on a photo lineup identification
- Patrol Division has increased close patrols and officer presence in the Ft. Morgan area.
- All incidents have been plotted by location, date, and day of the week to gain trend data.
- A community meeting with the Ft. Morgan Homeowners Assn. to gather intel and disseminate known information.

- Security camera and video images have been obtained and disseminated to other agencies and the Ft. Morgan Homeowners Assn.
- Photos of the stolen shoes that are believed to be responsible for the shoeprints have been disseminated to other agencies and the Ft. Morgan Homeowners Assn.
- An Intel Bulletin has been sent out to EOS outlining the MO and including all photos
- Game Cameras have been placed in the area.
- An overnight surveillance detail has been completed using possible time/place of next occurrence using gathered trend data.

EMERGENCY: 911

Report all potentially life-threatening and suspicious activities

Sheriff's Department—Administrative Office.....972-6802

Sheriff's Office Website: www.sheriffofbaldwin.com

Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies):

<http://sheriffofbaldwin.com/contactRC.asp>

Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department~~~~~ Chief Glenn Stevens

Our summer season is under way and we have already experienced an increase in our call volume with 40 runs in May:

- 20 medical
- 5 false alarms
- 4 public assists
- 3 missing persons (all found)
- 3 distressed swimmers (all false alarms)
- 2 helicopter transports
- 1 elevator entrapment
- 1 vehicle accident
- 1 public assist
- 1 electrical fire news

Please pay attention to our rip current signs on Highway 180. When the signs are flashing, there is a high risk of rip currents and everyone should stay out of the Gulf. Also, with the extreme heat that we are experiencing, be sure to stay hydrated if you must be outside.

Remember, we are under an ADEM burn ban; no burning from May 1 – October 31.

Everyone is welcome to join us at our training meetings, which are held at Station 1 at 6:30 p.m. every 1st and 3rd Monday. Hope to see you there!

Fort Morgan Master Plan- Request for Assistance~~~~~Ernie Church

Community input is a large part of the master planning process. The overview below is included in the newsletter to provide background to FMCA member on what a Master Plan entails and to encourage anyone with experience to come forward to partner in our efforts to develop a Master Plan for Fort Morgan.

MASTER PLAN OVERVIEW

What is a Master Plan? – A future vision and policy guide for the Town – Plan for a community's physical evolution – Comprehensive analysis of all aspects of community development – Long range (typically varies from five to 15 years) – NOT a zoning bylaw or regulation – Public policy document

A Master Plan helps communities: – Manage growth and change – Provide for orderly and predictable development – Protect environmental resources – Set priorities for developing and maintaining infrastructure and public facilities – Strengthen local identity – Create a framework for future policy decisions – Promote open, democratic planning – Provide guidance to land owners, developers, and permitting authorities

What's in a Master Plan? – Community Vision Statement – Data Analysis – Existing Conditions – Trends, Estimates, and Future Projections – Goals, Policies, and Actions – Maps
Emerging Issues – Demographic changes – Social media – Aging infrastructure – More urban lifestyle – Development near transit – Climate change – Antiquated zoning – Shrinking tax base for local governments – Public health – Energy – Building codes and materials

How does the process work? – Where do we want to go? Visioning and goal-setting, Interviews with stakeholders and “topic experts”, Public meetings, Focus groups, Surveys, Internet tools such as: Survey Monkey, Twitter, Facebook, Data Collection, Bureau of the Census, Regional planning agency, State agencies, Watershed associations, Assessor's office, Other local sources, e.g., library needs analysis, Council on Aging annual reports, school department statistics, Community organizations

Data analysis, Trends, estimates – Where are we going, given existing policies and trends?
Trends, estimates, predictions – What do we need to change? Opportunities and challenges,
Analysis of options, Strategy consensus – How do we get there?
Implementation plan/Implementation committee, “Early success” actions
Outcome: – An adopted comprehensive plan with consistency among all elements

Please contact Ernie Church, 334-220-0851, ecaces4@gmail.com if you are interested in assisting in the development of the Fort Morgan Master Plan.

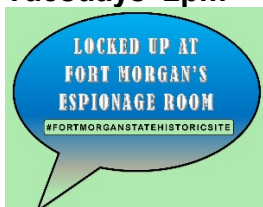
Upcoming Events in Fort Morgan:

Share the Beach 2019~~~~~Debbie Harbin

Turtle nesting season started May 1st. Please be aware that outside lights hinder the nesting process of female turtles. If you own directly on the beach please consider checking into turtle friendly lights. Contact Alabama Coastal Foundation or US Fish and Wildlife for details. Also fill in holes and take up beach equipment at night.

Fort Morgan State Historic Site~~~~~Wendy Hyatt

**June and July
Tuesdays 2pm**



Escape room “Espionage at Mobile Point” It is the summer of 1864 and you are Federal Spies captured by the Confederate soldiers. The Battle of Mobile Bay was one of the most decisive battles of the war. Can you help the union forces understand the defenses of mobile bay? Wise captives have been known to escape. Step back in time to discover your fate. First come first serve basis minimum 4 max 10 participants. Minimum of 4 people \$25 each.

June and July Tuesday Evenings 6pm



Eventide Living History Demonstrations: Spend the evening at Fort Morgan State Historic Site visiting with Living History interpreters. Learn about the military history of Mobile Point, watch small weapons demos, learn about the life of a laundress, see the cannon crew demonstrate the civil war cannon fire drills, and then watch the sunset over the Gulf of Mexico. \$10 per person. No discounts available for this event.

July 2, 2019 9am –

3pm



WWI and WWII Event. Fort Morgan was occupied by the Coast Artillery Corp in WWI and WWII. Stroll through the photo gallery of actual photos taken here during those eras, bring a lawn chair to enjoy the 151st Army Detachment Band, and talk with the living history interpreters stationed inside the fort. Regular Admission Charged

**Bon Secour
National Wildlife
Refuge**

For upcoming events please visit our online sites at <http://www.fws.gov/bonsecour>; <http://facebook.com/BonSecourNWR>, or contact the Refuge Office by phone (251) 540-7720 or in person Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Fort Morgan History:

Request for contributions – please contact FMCA newsletter editor if you are interested in researching Fort Morgan history or providing personal memories to share of Fort Morgan

W.P.A. and CCC Memories – Fort Morgan area..... Dave Rich



“These pictures show my mother’s youngest brother. He was in the CCC camp which was located just north of the State Park. He died of pneumonia while in the camp, Robert Edward Osborne 1917-1938. He is buried in Pine Rest Cemetary in Foley. I was 3 years old at the time. Robert came to Foley along with his father William C. Osborne and his brothers Frank, William A., James and Arnold. His brothers were in the W.P.A camp at Fort Morgan. They brought a huge rattlesnake in a cage on the back of a flatbed truck one Friday night. They proceeded to parade it around town for everyone to see. The streets at that time were all dirt.”

Special thanks to Dave Rich for this month's Fort Morgan history story. He is a long time Fort Morgan resident.

FMCA Executive Board Contacts

Officers

President	Joe Emerson	550-9021	captjoesells@gmail.com
Vice President	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	ecaces4@gmail.com
Treasurer	Greg Strategier	337-849-6506	samsplace41805@gmail.com
Secretary	Carol Kittrell	251-605-4134	ckittrell@southalabama.edu

Standing Committee Chairs

District 25 Planning & Zoning	Chan West	979-4932	chan@goefish.com
Editor Fort Morgan Newsletter	Karrie Lovins	580-917-4593	klovins68@icloud.com
Future Fort Morgan Options	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	ecaces4@gmail.com
Hospitality	Thelma Strong	251-407-7383	twstrong@gulftel.com
Land Use & Conservation	Chan West	979-4932	chan@goefish.com
Legal	Judy Newcomb	955-1572	judynewcomb@aol.com
Local Government	Bonnie Lowry	540-9327	
Membership	Jennifer Ishler Noojin	(205) 249-1025	jnoojin1@gmail.com
State Government	Michael Ludvigsen		
Sunshine	Vickie Matranga	543-1555	vpowers110@gmail.com

Fort Morgan Civic Association
P.O. Box 5313 • Gulf Shores, AL 36547
www.fortmorgancivic.org

2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM – ANNUAL DUES \$15.00

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____ Phone _____

City, State, Zip _____

Fort Morgan Address _____ Phone _____

This property is west of mile 14.7: yes no -- See Article III, Section 1 below Associate Member? yes

Email (please provide for special alerts) _____
[Save trees, stamps, time, get your news sooner by e-mail.] Send newsletter by email by U.S. Postal Service

Your employment _____ Spouse's employment _____

Reason for joining the Association _____

We need volunteers to help the Association in the following areas. Which can you assist in? (circle)

Program Planning: Speakers Phone/Survey Members for Interests

Zoning: Attend Meetings of Baldwin County/Gulf Shores Write Brief Reports

Membership: Recruitment Phone Tree Hospitality at Meetings Help with Pot-Lucks

Communications: Postal Mailings E-mail Writing for Newspaper, Publicity Releases, etc.

Newsletter: Desktop Graphics/Layout Gather/Submit News Items Write Brief Articles Photography

Computer: Set Up/Maintain Data Base Spreadsheets Excel Access Word PowerPoint

What other skills, experience or talents could you volunteer? _____

From the By-laws Adopted April 11, 2005

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1 Regular (voting) Membership in this association shall be open only to property owners and/or residents in the unincorporated area west of mile 14.7 of the Fort Morgan peninsula.
- Section 2 Associate (non-voting) Membership shall be open to residents of areas outside the Fort Morgan Peninsula whose interests coincide with those of the Association including the preservation of the environment and quality of life of the Fort Morgan peninsula.
- Section 3 Membership application shall be made by completion of a form provided by the Association and payment of the required dues. Dues for the following year shall be determined at the October general meeting and shall be for the following calendar year January 1st through December 31st.
- Section 4 Payment of Regular (voting) Membership dues entitles a member household to one (1) vote. A member household is comprised of Association members living at one physical address. Past year member households paying dues after January 31st and new members joining the Association will have no voting rights until thirty (30) days after payment of dues.
- Section 5 Payment of Associate (non-voting) Membership dues entitles the member to attend all member meetings and receive the monthly newsletter.

Make checks payable to: **Fort Morgan Civic Association or FMCA**

I would like to make a donation to the Operating Fund in the amount of \$ _____

2019 dues @ \$15/household \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Your donation to the Fort Morgan Civic Association is not tax deductible as we do not qualify because of our political activity in attempting to prevent proliferation of large-scale high-rise development on Fort Morgan Peninsula.