

# FORT MORGAN NEWS

## July 2020~Issue 161



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all FMCA members!

Our continued effort to educate visitors on beach etiquette has been going very well. In early June, the executive board voted to approve a \$200 payment to increase the social media budget for the online campaign. This increased exposure has led to more social media interactions as well as new memberships to the FMCA. The "Share the Beach" program has gotten very involved on the ground with the program as well. They have been distributing signage to be placed at our beach accesses and magnets for rental property refrigerators. These signs and magnets reinforce the message that we have been pushing to our visitors: pick up beach equipment every day, fill in holes and don't litter. A special thanks goes to Prickett Properties, Reed Real Estate, Relax on the Beach, Sunset Properties, Gulf Shores Rentals, Fort Morgan Rental Properties and all of the other businesses and individuals that have sponsored these signs and magnets! For information on how you can help sponsor these efforts, email: [fmseaturtles@gmail.com](mailto:fmseaturtles@gmail.com)



Or visit:

<https://www.alabamaseaturtles.com/?fbclid=IwAR2NiU4irXbxYiCgGbjL5YmiVmGZIHZTaHQGFHa2lvtKA8To6wN1cN0rZ-l>

We have some great news to report this month! After a long wait and lots of planning, the Fort Morgan Fishing pier is set to begin construction in July. DCNR estimates this project to be completed by the end of the year. Read more here:

<https://www.wkrg.com/baldwin-county/two-million-dollar-fishing-pier-project-set-to-begin-in-fort-morgan/?fbclid=IwAR0Fc1u3hcrvmy8LduQllkebZhNdzrWyh4mBXtbC9h2aM0ZrCmVTytbAXeg>

I would like to remind everyone that we are currently seeking to fill the vacant Secretary position on the executive board. The Secretary's responsibilities include keeping, in permanent form: the minutes of the Association and the Executive Board, a list of committees and their members and a record of attendance at all meetings to be provided by the Membership Committee chair. The Secretary also shall conduct the correspondence and maintain the official administrative records of the Association. If you are interested in a nomination as Secretary, please let us know by email:

[fortmorgancivic@gmail.com](mailto:fortmorgancivic@gmail.com)

Lastly, the Alabama Department of Public Health and Governor Ivey have extended the "Safer At Home" recommendations until July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020 in response to increased COVID-19 cases in the State of Alabama. I regret to say that I cannot in good conscious recommend that we conduct a meeting of the FMCA membership for the month of July. The Executive Board will be discussing our options to meet virtually to continue forward with our important work. I certainly hope that we will all be able to meet again soon.

Thank you for your continued support of the FMCA

*Joe*

Joe Emerson

***FMCA Monthly Meetings  
Cancelled until further notice due to COVID-19***

**FMCA Membership ~~~~~**

**Reminder:** Annual Dues are due by Due December 31 annually. Additionally please contact FMCA Membership Chair at [fmcamemberships@gmail.com](mailto:fmcamemberships@gmail.com) or (205) 249-1025 for any changes to membership status (i.e. address / email update, death of a member)

For membership application by mail or online, access Fort Morgan Civic Association website ( <https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/> ), click on membership tab, and select desired process (online or mail), then follow the prompts.

**Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department~~~~~ Michael Ludvigsen, Acting Fire Chief, FMFRD**

ADEM Burn Band starts May 1 thru Nov. 1. Only cooking fires are allowed thru Nov. 1.

Please pay attention to the Rip Current Warning Signs when activated. We need to strive for a second year without a drowning. Watch for Emergency Vehicles on the beach.

If you have an Emergency call 911. Do not go to the Fire Station, doing so wastes valuable time.

Fort Morgan Fire Rescue ran 58 calls in June.

26 Medical Calls	1 Gas Spill
11 Swimmer in Distress	1 Missing Person
4 Public Assistance	1 Structure Fire
4 Fire Alarms	1 Brush Fire
4 Elevator Entrapment	1 Hazmat Spill
2 Assist Other Agency	

**Fort Morgan Peninsula Neighborhood Safety & Crime Report ~~~~~**

“If you see something, Say something”. It is so important, for the Sheriff’s Office to know what you know.

**EMERGENCY: 911 -Report all potentially life-threatening and suspicious activities**

**Sheriff’s Department—Administrative Office.....972-6802**

**Sheriff’s Office Website: [www.sheriffofbaldwin.com](http://www.sheriffofbaldwin.com)**

**Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies):**

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

**Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Committee~~~~~Ernie Church**

If local cases are presented to the Baldwin County Planning and Zoning Department, our local planning and zoning advisory committee will also resume its schedule to review those cases upon their receipt. Notice of such meetings will be posted on the civic association website (<https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/>) and will include links to each case file.

**Hurricane Season Started 1 June~~~~~**

A reminder that the 2020 Atlantic Hurricane season runs from 1 June through November 30. The following National Weather Service link, <https://www.weather.gov/safety/hurricane-plan> , has useful preparedness information and links to help you prepare your family and property in advance of Tropical Storm / Hurricanes. Another good resource is The Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency Disaster Guide which is located at <http://www.mirabelsmagazinecentral.com/digitaledition/index.html?id=54d983ab-e579-4484-b408-3e1cfcbb7a34> . Preparedness is the key to limit loss of life and property.

## **Upcoming Events/ Community Support Opportunities in Fort Morgan:**

### **Going Green – Recycle!** ~~~~~

FMCA encourages property owners and property managers to recycle. Please post the information below in your homes / rental properties.

#### **GOING GREEN: RECYCLE**

There are several locations to recycle in or near Fort Morgan:

The City of Gulf operates a drop-off recycling facility located at 160 W. 36th Avenue. All items must be sorted into the proper bins. For additional information, contact the Public Works Department at 251-968-1156.

**Recyclable Items:**

Glass	Metal
Aluminum	Cardboard
Plastic No. 1, 2, 3	Electronics (televisions, microwaves, printers)
Office Paper, Newspapers, Magazines	Tin cans (must be rinsed)
Fluorescent Light Bulbs	Packing Styrofoam

**Unacceptable Items:**

Aerosol Cans	Paint
Medical Waste	Tires

In Fort Morgan, Baldwin County Solid Waste operates a drop off location at Fire Station #2, on the south side of Ft. Morgan road near mile marker 4. (miles are numbered from the fort). For additional information, contact Baldwin County Solid Waste Department at (251) 972-6878.

**Recyclable Items:**

Newspaper & Inserts	Plastics No. 1 through 7
Magazines & Catalogs	Plastic Milk Jugs; 2-Liters; bottles and containers
Junk Mail & Envelopes	Aluminum Cans & Lids
Cardboard	Pet Food Cans and Dry Pet Food Bags
Phone Books	Aluminum Foil Baking Pans
Office and School Papers (colored paper)	Balls of Tin Foil; Foil Pie Tins
Brown Paper Bags (grocery)	Tin and Steel Cans & Lids
Boxboard (cereal, cake & cracker boxes, etc.)	Metal Pots, Pans & Cookie Sheets

**Unacceptable Items:**

Glass; Any Color	Garden Hoses
Plastic Bags (take to local grocery stores to recycle)	Window Blinds
Plastic Trash Bags	Tarps
Ice Cream Carton	Bedding or Linens
Waxy/ Paper Milk Cartons	Carpets or Rugs
Aerosol Cans	Construction Material
Juice Boxes / Bags	Styrofoam
Household Garbage or Yard Waste	

## **Share the Beach**~~~~~

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. Make sure to fill in holes and take up beach equipment at night to prevent disruption or harm to nesting sea turtles.

## **Fort Morgan State Historic Site**~~~~~

Please check for current updates on daily operations / park entry procedures at Facebook (Fort Morgan State Historic Site) and website <http://www.fort-morgan.org> .

## **Bon Secour NWR**~~~~~

The trails at Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge are currently open to the public. Although Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge's Visitor Center is closed to the public, the office can be reached by calling 251-540-7720 or emailing [bonsecour@fws.gov](mailto:bonsecour@fws.gov), messages will be returned as soon as possible. For a new way to explore the trails at Bon Secour National Wildlife Refuge print out the Discovery Journal booklet at the Refuge's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/BonSecourNWR/>) . Please tag us with your journal discoveries, we would love to see what you are uncovering!

### **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*

### **A Look Back – July Hurricanes Impacting Fort Morgan**

Unnamed Storm July 5<sup>th</sup> 1916: A hurricane estimated to be a Category 3 hurricane with 120 mph winds came ashore in Pascagoula, Mississippi. Its greatest impacts were in Mobile where storm surge of over 11 feet was recorded. In the Fort Morgan area, damage from the 6.3-foot storm surge and high winds caused significant damage to Fort Morgan and all along the Alabama gulf coast.

Hurricane Danny July 19<sup>th</sup> 1997: Hurricane Danny made landfall as a Category 1 storm near Mullet Point, Alabama after its eye passed the mouth of Mobile Bay near Fort Morgan. Its impacts on Mobile Bay and the Fort Morgan area included extreme rainfall amounts, as it stalled over Mobile Bay for 9 hours, as well as storm surge. Dauphin Island Sea Lab recorded over 36 inches of rain, of which 26 inches fell in just 7 hours. The storm drifted over Alabama for 3 days causing significant flooding. In Baldwin County, a number of roads south of US Highway 98 were inundated and impassable for days. 60% of the Alabama public oyster reefs in Baldwin County were destroyed. The storm surge on Highway 182 along the Fort Morgan Peninsula was 6.5 feet. Six feet of salt water from storm surge filled the main fort structure at Fort Morgan Historic Site. Hurricane Danny was notable not only from damage from the flooding rains and storm surge but also because it was the only hurricane to make landfall during the 1997 Atlantic hurricane season.

*Please visit the following links for more information on the excerpted material above:*

[https://www.al.com/living/2016/07/vintage\\_1916\\_photos\\_show\\_when.html](https://www.al.com/living/2016/07/vintage_1916_photos_show_when.html) ,

<https://www.weather.gov/mob/danny> , <https://www.weather.gov/mob/1916Hurricane> and

[https://www.al.com/news/erry-2018/05/7d04b4b1aa6891/alabamas\\_hurricane\\_hall\\_of\\_fam.html](https://www.al.com/news/erry-2018/05/7d04b4b1aa6891/alabamas_hurricane_hall_of_fam.html)

## FMCA Executive Board Contacts

### Officers

President	Joe Emerson	251-550-9021	<a href="mailto:captjoesells@gmail.com">captjoesells@gmail.com</a>
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Treasurer	Greg Strategier	337-849-6506	<a href="mailto:samsplace41805@gmail.com">samsplace41805@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Vacant		

### Standing Committee Chairs

Editor Fort Morgan Newsletter	Karrie Lovins	580-917-4593	<a href="mailto:klovins68@icloud.com">klovins68@icloud.com</a>
Future Fort Morgan Options	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	<a href="mailto:ecaces4@gmail.com">ecaces4@gmail.com</a>
Hospitality	Thelma Strong	251-540-7383	<a href="mailto:twstrong@gulftel.com">twstrong@gulftel.com</a>
Land Use & Conservation	Chan West	251-979-4932	<a href="mailto:chan@goefish.com">chan@goefish.com</a>
Legal	Judy Newcomb	251-955-1572	<a href="mailto:judynewcomb@aol.com">judynewcomb@aol.com</a>
Legislative/Government	Bonnie Lowry	251-540-9327	
Membership	Jennifer Ishler Noojin	(205) 249-1025	<a href="mailto:jnoojin1@gmail.com">jnoojin1@gmail.com</a>
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