

**Invoice for Annual Dues
Due by December 31!**

YOU CANNOT VOTE IN JANUARY IF DUES ARE NOT PAID.

We do not send out invoices. Please send the attached Membership Form [see last page] with your \$15 annual dues to the address on the form.

Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Committee.....Ernie Church, Vice President

The Fort Morgan Planning and Zoning Advisory Committee met at 9 am, December 19th to consider Case Z-190001. Applicant wants to rezone a portion of their property from RSF-1 to B-4 to permit commercial use such as a seafood restaurant/hospitality business. The committee recommended denial of the request and recommended resubmission to rezone to B-3. With B-3 the applicant still can develop a small local business compatible with area zoning.

The Baldwin County Commission met on December 18th, 2018. Commissioners agreed with our Fort Morgan Advisory Committee and overruled the County Planning and Zoning Commission on two cases. Those applicants will have to revise and resubmit for reconsideration.

Schedule of County Commission meetings can be found on the county website www.baldwincountyal.gov.

Attention property owners in the Gulf Shores police jurisdiction:

If you have been paying lodging taxes to the city of Gulf Shores because you are in their police jurisdiction please advise Ernie Church at ecaces4@gmail.com

**Fort Morgan History
Alabama Gulf Coast 1933-1939
by Chan West**

We will continue to explore the history of the CCC, WPA, and paving of the Fort Morgan Road [“Dixie Graves Parkway”] through newspaper articles which Heather Tassin, Fort Morgan director, and Jeanette Bornhold, Foley Library, have so graciously provided.

From 1933 until 1939, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) occupied what is now Gulf State Park. The CCC program was designed to build national and state parks all over the US and gave many young men jobs to help them and their families to make it through the depression. They made \$1.00 a day, 5 days a week. At the end of the month, when they were paid, \$25 was sent to their families. A CCC camp was constructed and consisted of a barracks, a sawmill, resident houses for the management to live in, and a maid’s quarters. Until the permanent structures were complete, the CCC boys lived in large tents. They built the park, roads facilities, trails, telephone lines, firebreaks.

Did you know that there is a small CCC museum at the state park? You probably have driven by it many times. It is in the small old brick building on the south side of the road as you enter the park. Park on the grass. No one is stationed there and you will have to turn on the lights. A useful bit of information: there is a rest room inside.

For more information about the work of the CCC here and in the rest of Alabama, I recommend a book available through our county libraries, *The Civilian Conservation Corps in Alabama, 1933-1942*, by Robert Pasquill, Jr. He interviewed many former members of the corps, including a resident of Gulf Shores, whom some of you may have known, Damon Fuqua, 1915 – 2012. In his later years Damon and his partner Dwight Steele installed and maintained wells and pumps for south Baldwin County, especially our Fort Morgan area, before the city water lines were extended.

Next month we will publish his interview. His history is typical of many of the CCC boys, but not of all. From Mr. Pasquill’s book: A January 5, 1935 Inspection Report:

- Of 159 men from New York, New Jersey, and Alabama
- 63 dishonorably discharged for refusal to work
- 1 for theft
- 1 for eloping

Morale was “a little below average’ with a food riot in Aug. 1934

Our Fort Morgan Road was constructed by the WPA and the CCC. For these two agencies to work on the road it had to be state or federal land; therefore, local property owners deeded parcels to the state to create a strip 330' in width, the minimum width for a parkway. That is why our Fort Morgan Road today has a right-of-way which is 165' from the centerline. In 1937 at the formal opening, it was christened Dixie Graves Parkway in honor of the wife of the Governor Bibb Graves and today still has that name on many maps. At that time there was no idea of using that right-of-way for utilities but the benefit today is that there is no need to acquire private property for such.

Fort Morgan History ~ Indian Canal.....Harry King

Dr. Waselkov and I gave a presentation to the South East Archaeology Conference in Augusta, Georgia, attended by 800 skeptic Archaeologists. The presentation went very well and we had the only Prehistoric Canal subject on record. The Indian Canal and associated mounds will be visited by many archaeology students and professors in years to come.

We plan to excavate again in late January on Little Lagoon, across from Peninsula Golf Course, 15300 Fort Morgan Road (just west of Laguna Court) on Sundays from 9:00 am to 3 :00 pm. Bring a round bladed shovel and lunch or snacks.

I will be giving an updated presentation to the Gulf Shores-Orange Beach tourist center on Highway 59 on 13 February 2019. All are invited. Call for time. [HarryKing1525@gmail.com ~ 251.610.1565]

Monarch Visitors.....Sonja Sanders, NEWS Editor



The milkweeds have lived up to their reputation as host plant for the Monarchs. On December 12th Monarch caterpillars were spotted on the milkweed leaves. The bright yellow-gold flowers are still thriving, too. This is the only known host plant for the Monarchs. The threat to Monarchs is partly due to the toxic spray used to kill weeds on our roadsides and highways. Some sources quote a 90% decline in the past half-century. Milkweeds are perennials, self-propagating, and will spread fast.

The Monarchs arrived October 28th, spending hours every day feeding on the milkweed blooms. The heaviest visitation continued until November 28th and slowed only after the two-night light freeze. Adults have not appeared in the past ten days.

PLANT MILKWEED!

Fort Morgan Peninsula Neighborhood Safety & Crime Report..... Donnie Payne, BCSO

It was a very slow month (that's a good thing).

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| ~ 5700 block of Hwy 180 | Theft |
| ~ 400 block of Plantation Dr. | B&E-Vehicle |
| ~ 500 block of Gulfview Dr. | Domestic - Verbal |

The Sheriff's Office recommends that homeowners keep a record of all those who have access to their property (cleaners, maintenance, repair personnel, etc.) and make frequent checks on their personal belongings on the property. Also, KEEP YOUR VEHICLES AND HOMES LOCKED AT ALL TIMES & ADVISE GUESTS!

EMERGENCY: 911

Report all potentially life-threatening and suspicious activities

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

Sheriff's Office Website: www.sheriffobaldwin.com

Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies): <http://sheriffobaldwin.com/contactRC.asp>

**ATTENTION FORT MORGAN STORYTELLERS !
DO YOU KNOW ANY FORT MORGAN STORIES?**

Do you have an interesting story or a fond memory of earlier days in the Fort Morgan community? Once again we're requesting articles from our members—or other folks who have history in this area—describing earlier times in our Fort Morgan community. We would welcome stories about the people and events recalled from growing up or living here—stories which make this area unique and unforgettable. Photos would be especially appreciated (with or without a story)! If you know a good tale or have a valued memory but are unable to write it out and would like to tell it, please let the Editor know. A story-telling session can be arranged and your story rescued for posterity. Call Sonja at 251-233-6208 or email <39sunnisands@gmail.com> .

LET'S CAPTURE FORT MORGAN COMMUNITY HISTORY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

FMCA Executive Board Contacts

Officers

President	Paul Barefield	540-7727	csbarefield@gmail.com
Vice President	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	ecaces4@gmail.com
Treasurer	Greg Strategier	337-849-6506	samsplace41805@gmail.com
Secretary	Carol Kittrell	605-4134	ckittrell@southalabama.edu

Standing Committee Chairs

District 25 Planning & Zoning	Chan West	979-4932	chan@goefish.com
Editor Fort Morgan NEWS	Sonja Sanders	233-6208	39sunnisands@gmail.com
Future Fort Morgan Options	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	ecaces4@gmail.com
Land Use & Conservation	Chan West	979-4932	chan@goefish.com
Legal	Judy Newcomb	955-1572	judynewcomb@aol.com
Legislative/Government	Bonnie Lowry	540-9327	
Sunshine	Vickie Matranga	543-1555	vpowers110@gmail.com

FMCA 2019 MEETINGS

FMCA Monthly Member Meetings ~ 2nd Monday, 6:30pm, Shell Banks Church
January 14 ~ February 11 ~ March 11 ~ April 8 ~ May 13 ~ June 10

Fort Morgan Civic Association
P. O. Box 5313 ~ Gulf Shores, AL 36547

www.fortmorgancivic.org

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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 _____

NOTICE: 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 Legal 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.