

# FORT MORGAN NEWS

## June 2021~Issue 172



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all and a warm welcome to our new FMCA members!

The FMCA executive board has an opening in the position of Secretary. Responsibilities include, taking notes at meetings of the Board and General Assembly, transcription of meeting minutes as well as coordination with other Executive Board members to create monthly agendas and communications. If you are interested in getting more involved in the FMCA and serving the community, please send a notice of interest to: [fortmorgancivic@gmail.com](mailto:fortmorgancivic@gmail.com)



As you know, our organization works on many different projects throughout the year. From coordinating with the County government and their departments regarding local issues to monitoring USACE/ Planning & Zoning permitting requests and new developments in our community, as well as planning and hosting community outreach and engagement events. Staying on top of all of this is a tall order and as our organization and community grows, so does the depth of responsibility. It is for this reason that I am requesting that all standing committee chairs be present (in person) for the June meeting of the FMCA. Also, if you would like to be more involved in taking on a role in the association, whether it be as a chair or you just want to help with special projects, come out on June 14th!

I am excited to announce that this month, we will be hosting a guest speaker. Sara Johnson, Director of "Share the Beach" will be joining us to brief members on the ongoing efforts to protect and facilitate sea turtle nesting and to talk a bit more about the "Fort Morgan Beach Initiative". This is sure to be great meeting and I hope to see you there!

Remember, we are always seeking new membership! If your neighbor is not a member of our organization, tell them about us and invite them to come to our next meeting! See you all on June 14th at 6:30pm. Thank you for your continued support of the FMCA and our combined efforts to preserve and protect the Fort Morgan community.

Thank you for your continued support of the FMCA and our work to preserve and protect the Fort Morgan community.

**Joe**  
Joe Emerson  
#fortmorganstrong

### **Agenda for this month's FMCA General Meeting:**

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance	Joe Emerson, President
Previous FMCA General Meeting Minutes	Vacant, Secretary
Treasurer's Report	Greg Strategier, Treasurer
Government Affairs Report	Michael Ludvigsen, FMCA Government Liaison
Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Advisory Cte.	Ernie Church, Chair
Old Business -Executive Board Opening -SB 107 -Fort Morgan Bike Trail Update -Legal Review of Fort Morgan Jurisdiction Update	

New Business -Committee Chairs -Litter Rodeo -Open Floor	
Guest Speaker:	Sara Johnson, Share the Beach, Alabama Coastal Foundation
Adjournment: Next Meeting, 12 July	

**FMCA Membership ~~~~~**

**Reminder:** Annual Dues are due by Due December 31 annually. Additionally, please contact FMCA Membership Chair at [fortmorgancivic@gmail.com](mailto:fortmorgancivic@gmail.com) 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.

**FMCA Executive Board Opening: Secretary ~~~~~**

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)

**Fort Morgan Planning & Zoning Committee ~~~~~Ernie Church, FM P&Z Advisory Cte Chair**

Dollar General is doing a build on 180 at about the 9-mile marker. There was a wetlands issue a year or so ago that resulted in the local P&Z and the county Board of Adjustment denying a wetlands variance request. They subsequently went to the Corps of Engineers and sought approval for a wetlands fill to negate the need for a variance. They received approval to fill the wetlands and they got an FWS permit to build and are now beginning construction.

During the May Ft Morgan P&Z advisory committee meeting V210014 was reviewed. The committee recommended the County Board of Adjustment approve a 10-foot front and rear yard setback variance for resumption of a project on Jackson Ct to rebuild a screened porch and construct a laundry room.

Future Fort Morgan Planning and Zoning Committee meetings will be noted on <https://www.fortmorgancivic.org/> as well as associated case files.

**Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department ~~~~~**

The Fort Morgan Volunteer Fire Department is seeking volunteers. No experience necessary. Must be full time resident of Fort Morgan. Training is provided. We meet the first and third Monday at 6:30 p. m. at Fire Station one. Come and visit our sessions.

Stay Safe,  
FMVFD

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

“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.sheriffalbaldwin.com](http://www.sheriffalbaldwin.com)  
 Anonymous Tip Email Address (NOT for Emergencies):  
<http://sheriffalbaldwin.com/contactRC.asp>

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

**Litter Rodeo 26 June ~~~~~**

Join OLIVER for  
 Gulf Shores’s First Ever

**LITTER RODEO**

**SATURDAY June 26 from 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM.**  
 (check in at 8:30 A.M.)

Fort Morgan State Historic Site  
 110 AL-180, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

**PRIZES AWARDED TO TOP LITTER GRABBER’S**

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



Oliver is on a mission to inspire younger generations and their families to get involved in environmental actions!

PRIZES OFFERED BY:



**Trash Bags Provided  
 Please Bring Water, Gloves, and Closed Toe Shoes**

COVID AWARE EVENT

**Keep Fort Morgan Beautiful~~~~~Chan West**

This is our adopt-a-mile type program whose faithful volunteers pick up trash along our highway. At this time, we have some who would like to retire. We need replacements. The idea is that you pick up roadside trash whenever you think it is needed – no organized campaigns.

We are in need of volunteers to cover the following section: Mile 6 to 7

**If you are willing to be responsible for this section, call or email Chan.** (Information under Executive Board Contacts). A grabber and a yellow vest will be furnished. All of us can assist in this program. When you go for a walk or run, on a road or the beach, stuff a couple of plastic grocery bags in your pocket.

**Share the Beach/ Alabama Coastal Foundation~~~~~**

Sea turtle nesting season began on 1 May. 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 prior to the 2021 turtle nesting season. Contact Alabama Coastal Foundation or US Fish and Wildlife for details. Make sure to continue to fill in holes and take up beach equipment daily to ensure safe beaches for residents, visitors and turtles throughout the year.

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

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~~~~~**

Check for current updates on refuge operations by <https://www.facebook.com/BonSecourNWR/>, calling the office at 251-540-7720 or emailing [bonsecour@fws.gov](mailto:bonsecour@fws.gov), messages will be returned as soon as possible.

**Fort Morgan History:**

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

**FMCA Executive Board Contacts**

**Officers**

President	Joe Emerson	251-550-9021	<a href="mailto:captjoesells@gmail.com">captjoesells@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Ernie Church	334-220-0851	<a href="mailto:ecaces4@gmail.com">ecaces4@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer	Greg Strategier	337-849-6506	<a href="mailto:samsplace41805@gmail.com">samsplace41805@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Vacant		

**Non-Officers**

FMCA / Local / State / Federal Government Liaison	Michael Ludvigsen	217-473-9728	<a href="mailto:mtludvigsenjr@gmail.com">mtludvigsenjr@gmail.com</a>
Editor Fort Morgan Newsletter	Karrie Lovins	580-917-4593	<a href="mailto:klovins68@icloud.com">klovins68@icloud.com</a>
<b>Standing Committee Chairs</b>			
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>
Sunshine	Vickie Matranga	251-543-1555	<a href="mailto:vpowers110@gmail.com">vpowers110@gmail.com</a>