

Carrabelle Chamber of Commerce

105 St. James Avenue (Hwy 98), PO Box DD Carrabelle, FL 32322
(850) 697-2585
chamber@nettally.com

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www.carrabelle.org



The Pearl of the Panhandle



Friday, February 3, 2017

February

Sat 4th "Sausage Gravy-Biscuits" With Coffee, tea or orange Juice 8-10 am at Chillas Hall in Lanark Village. Great Food, good people! \$ 5 donation at door to benefit the LVA. For more info, call Pat Bott (317) 408-8409 or (850) 697-4021 & leave message.

Sat 4th Yard Sale 8:30 am until??? Lanark Village across from Chillas Hall. Household items, antiques & collectables. A golf club benefit, all proceeds go to the maintenance & restoration of the golf course & landing pad for medivac helicopter. For info, call (850) 697-2798

Sat 4th The Civil War: Through Their Eyes presented by the Carrabelle History Museum at C-Quarters Marina 10 am-1 pm This fascinating FREE program will have two guest speakers that will share stories of life here at the coast during the Civil War from the real life story of a Union soldier & the Orman Family of Apalachicola. (Part of their "Look, Listen & Learn" Program Series) For more info, call (850) 697-2141 or carrabellehistorymuseum@gmail.com.

Sat 4th Opening Reception for the African American Art Collection 3-5 pm at the FC Tourist Development Center, 731 Hwy 98, Eastpoint. Original & limited ed. by artist featuring Haitian, African & American Art. Exhibit will continue until Feb 28th. For more info, call Jean Lane (850) 670-3474 or Oryan Speed (850) 653-8156

Thurs 9th Florida's Springs: How are they doing & what is being done to protect these precious resources? FSU Coastal & Marine Laboratory Lecture Series 7 pm-8 pm Call (850) 697-4120 or go to fsucml@fsu.edu for more information

Fri 10th Jazz Ballads & Torch Songs-Part of the Jazz Concerts presented at Rio Carrabelle. 7:30 pm \$ 15 at the door. All Jazz Concerts have limited seating-email for reservations: inconcertapalachicola@gmail.com

Fri 10th Full Moon Lighthouse Climb 6-8 pm Crooked River Lighthouse. Reservations appreciated but not required. For more information, contact the Museum and Gift Shop at 850-697-2732 or carrabellelighthouse@gmail.com

Fri 10th Despite the Irony will be playing at Harry's Bar on Marine Street. 9 pm-12 am No cover charge.

Sat 11th Jack & Jill Golf Tournament (2-Player Mixed Scramble) at the St. James Bay Golf Resort. To sign-up or for questions, please contact the Golf Shop (850) 697-9606.

Sat 11th Enjoy a special Valentine's Dinner at the Crooked River Grill at the St. James Bay Golf Resort. For Reservations, call (850) 697-5050

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New Member



Harbor Point Realty located at 127 Harbor Circle in Alligator Point, FL. Their experienced real estate professionals will guide you through the sales & purchase processes of unique coastal properties in our beautiful area. Call (850) 349-9599 or email info@harborpointrealty.com for more information.



Left: Gus Holzer, 1st Assistant Director for "Ulee's Gold" & "Coastlines" graciously answered all questions posed by the audience.

The Carrabelle History Museum started off the **Forgotten Coast Film Festival** this month with a wonderful event at the Franklin County Senior Center-Carrabelle. Over 50 people attended the opening night for the film series on Thursday, January 26 with the showing of the classic, "Ulee's Gold" and featured special guest, Gus Holzer, first assistant director for "Ulee's Gold" and "Coastlines" to share insights and behind the scenes tales from the movies.

The goal of the film festival is to bring the best quality Forgotten Coast area films to Carrabelle and introduce people to these wonderful works featuring the beauty of this region. Over the next few months, the series will feature three more outstanding films made on location in Carrabelle and along the Forgotten Coast. The series will continue with "Forgotten Coast: Return to Wild Florida" on Thursday, February 16, 6 pm. Then, Thursday, February 23, 6 pm, come see "Coastlines". The final film, on Thursday, March 16, 6 pm, will be "Apalachicola River: An American Treasure", about the Apalachicola River basin, featuring special guest, Elam Stoltzfus, director and cinematographer for the film. **Location & time:** 6 pm Franklin County Senior Center-Carrabelle, 201 NW Avenue F, Carrabelle, FL 32322

(Chamber note: No admission charged, but donations to the Museum are always welcome! Gift items from the Museum will be available for purchase. Light refreshments & snacks will also be available to purchase in support of the Senior Center)

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Tues 14th "Soup, Sandwich & Dessert" 11 am-1pm at Chillas Hall, Lanark Village. An LVA event with 5 varieties of soup & grilled cheese sandwich, desserts, tea or Coffee. Donation of \$ 6 at Door.

Thurs 16th "Forgotten Coast: Return to Wild Florida" part of the **Forgotten Coast Film Festival** presented by the Carrabelle History Museum. 6 pm FREE Admission. Donations to the museum appreciated. Film will be shown at the FC Senior Center in Carrabelle, 201 NW Ave F. For more info, call (850) 697-2141 or go to www.carrabellehistorymuseum.org (This is the second film in a series of four made in or about the area...make them your Thursday night date nights!)

Fri 17th Jazz from Blues (Kind of Blue)-Part of the Jazz Concerts presented at Rio Carrabelle. 7:30 pm \$ 15 at the door. All Jazz Concerts have limited seating-email for reservations: inconcertapalachicola@gmail.com

Sat 18th Tallahassee 8U Golf Tournament (4-Player Scramble Charity) at the St. James Bay Golf Resort. To sign-up or for questions, please contact the Golf Shop (850) 697-9606.

Sat 18th Explore the Black Backwater of Tate's Swamp. 10 am-2 pm Cost \$ 22 Four mile intermediate canoe/kayak trip Led by instructor, Serge LaTour, LaLutra LLC. For more info & to register; www.tinyurl.com/zewud17 or call (850) 661-2461

Wed 22nd Blood Drive & Health Fair 10 am-3 pm St. James Health & Rehab Center in St. James. For more info or to make an appointment, call Kristine in Admission's (850) 697-2020 or (850) 661-2967

Thurs 23rd "Coastlines" part of the **Forgotten Coast Film Festival** presented by the Carrabelle History Museum. 6 pm FREE Admission. Donations to the museum appreciated. Film will be shown at the FC Senior Center in Carrabelle, 201 NW Ave F. For more info, call (850) 697-2141 or go to www.carrabellehistorymuseum.org (This is the third film in a series of four made in or about the area...make them your Thursday night date nights!)

Fri 24th Jazz from Swing to Fusion-Part of the Jazz Concerts presented at Rio Carrabelle. 7:30 pm \$ 15 at the door. All Jazz Concerts have limited seating-email for reservations: inconcertapalachicola@gmail.com

Sat 25th Bark Side of the Moon! 6th Annual Mardi Gras Barkus Parade in Apalachicola. All proceeds go to benefit animals of Franklin County including the Franklin Humane Society. For more info, call (850) 670-5064 or go to mystickreweofsaltybarkers.com

Sun 26th "Flea Bitten Dawgs" Ukulele Americana Jazz at Rio Carrabelle 4 pm Guest Hot Dog Stand "Mr. V's Finest All Beef Dogs" \$ 15 door For more info, call (850) 307-0098

For More info on any area events

See our website www.carrabelle.org under "Things to Do" Events Calendar or the Community Calendar under "The Area"

Events Further afield:

Listen to **WOYS 100.5 FM Oyster Radio**

Or go to

www.oysterradio.com or www.forgottencoastline.com or www.saltyflorida.com

Events on Multiple Dates:

Feb 2nd-April 13th AARP Foundation Tax-Aide at the Franklin County Public Libraries Carrabelle Branch Thurs 10 am-3 pm 2/9, 2/23, 3/9, 3/23, & 4/6 Call (850) 697-2366 for appointment; Eastpoint Branch Thurs 10 am-3 pm 2/2, 2/16, 3/2, 3/16, 4/13 Call (850) 670-8151 for appointment. Walk-ins welcome.

For more in-depth assistance in preparing your tax returns, Call for an appointment with one of our Chamber Members:

Friedman Financial Advisors, Eastpoint—(850) 670-1253

Roberson & Associates, PA, Carrabelle—(850) 697-2542

Sat 2/4, 2/11, 2/18, 2/25 St. George Island State Park-Coffee in the Campground. Interpretive programs on many topics Free with regular park admission For more info, call (850) 927-2111 or email melody.brennan@dep.state.fl.us.

The PanCare Medical Bus will be at the PanCare Dental Facility in Carrabelle, 106 NE 5th St. 10 am-4 pm. 2/21, 3/21, 4/18, 5/16 Offers Physicals, Exams, Primary Care, Urgent Care & Flu Shots. For an appointment, call (850) 247-9834

Executive Board

President-**Cher Novaria**/At Your Service Concierge

Vice President- **Lewis Christie**/Christie's Cottage Living

Secretary-**Dr. Lois Mendez Catlin**-Phoenix Family Health Care Ctr.

Treasurer- **Paul Marxsen**/Roberson & Associates, P.A.

Directors

Tonia Chisholm/FC Public Library-Carrabelle

Skip Frink/Old Carrabelle Hotel

Bo May/Rio Carrabelle

Pamela McCreery/The Beachtrader

Sheri Wesson/Forgotten Coast Photography

Executive Director-Lisa Munson

Representatives-**Chester Reese**-FC Tourist Development Council

Lisa Keith-Lucas-Chamber Special Events Committee

	Visitors at our Visitor's Center				Carrabelle Brochures Sent			
	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Jan	51	106	131	215	30	75	56	64
Feb	111	167	233		27	63	56	
Mar	163	171	248		25	74	73	
Apr	118	178	226		41	47	77	
May	66	137	160		26	79	69	
Jun	64	153	171		66	90	74	
Jul	80	133	188		36	66	46	
Aug	52	125	93		36	70	92	
Sept	56	109	111		21	37	47	
Oct	76	152	147		22	25	36	
Nov	79	113	203		19	31	20	
Dec	<u>62</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>189</u>		<u>32</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>30</u>	
Totals	978	1,686	2,100		381	683	676	

Total www.carrabelle.org Website Visitors: Jan 1-Jan 29: 55,431



January 2017 TDC News

Dear Friends of the Franklin County TDC,

It appears more visitors are discovering our Forgotten Coast as numbers continue to increase across the board. Our 2016-17 Fiscal Year is off to a good start with October Collections at \$95,107; an increase of 26.7% from last year!

The main event for this month was the Apalachicola Volunteer Fire Department's Oyster Cook Off, which appeared to have many more visitors this year. A good sampling may be that twice as many t-shirts were ordered than last year. With the exception of some small shirts, the rest sold out in the first hour! The FCTDC is proud to help support this event with a \$2,000 Non Profit Event Promotion Grant the organization can use towards their advertising. Promotional efforts were supported by the FCTDC through TV in the Tallahassee/South Georgia markets, newsletter distribution to over 40,000 subscribers, and social media activity.

At the January meeting the board approved three new organizations to receive the \$2,000 grant for promotions. Funds will go to the Carrabelle Artist Association, the City of Carrabelle Riverfront Festival and the Mystic Krewe of the Salty Barkers Pet Parade for a total of 28 organizations supported in part by the FCTDC. A special request for funds was made by the City of Apalachicola and approved by the FCTDC to provide funds to refurbish existing and add new informative interpretative displays along the riverfront and bay front.

The FCTDC distributed \$35,000 in sustaining grant funds for the first quarter with \$5,000 each to the Center for History, Culture and Arts, the Crooked River Lighthouse, Camp Gordon Johnston, Raney House Museum, Dixie Theatre, St. George Island Lighthouse and the Carrabelle History Museum. These funds are primarily used to enable facilities to provide services to visitors year round.

Marketing efforts continue to produce a positive ROI. The FCTDC website database added 260 new sign-ups with a third of these generated from the Culinary Getaway currently being promoted. Each month these folks are sent our e-newsletter with updates on all events in Franklin County. This is a great way to ensure visitors are aware of what we have to offer and can better plan their trips.

The FCTDC is putting more emphasis on television advertising. WXTL's live morning show will host local representatives from the Apalachicola Chamber, Carrabelle Cares and other organizations to also promote their upcoming events. In partnership with Riverways South we will be working to showcase the Apalachicola River. The popular series, Kayak Bassin' hosted by Chad Hoover will be filming in our area at the end of January.

We had 12,807 visitors to our website; almost 4,000 more visitors than the same time last year with half the visitors originating from Florida. Our four county Visitors Centers spoke to over 1600 guests in December.

A new art exhibit will be held in the Eastpoint Visitor Center (where the FCTDC office is located) from January 23 to February 28 featuring Haitian, African and American Art from the collection of Oryan Speed. Be sure to stop by and enjoy the artwork celebrating Black History Month. The center is open Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm and Saturday 9am-2pm; closed on Sundays. The Center will host an opening reception on February 4 from 3pm-5pm. to which the public is invited. For more information call Jean Lane at 670-3474.

Finally, the next Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th at 2 pm at the Eastpoint Visitors Center. All meetings are posted on saltyflorida.com and open to the public.

We are pleased to be off to a good start so far this year and look forward to continued progress as we see what next month will bring. That's the news for January. We'll talk tourism again next month.

Kind regards,

Laura Graham, Assistant Administrator, FCTDC