



# FAIRHOPERS

December 2025

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## Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

### In This Issue:

- A Message from FSTC President Lee Turner
- News on the Eastern Shore Art Center renovation by Margaret Neely

### News You Can Use:

The FSTC contributed \$2,500 to the Baldwin Pops for the Founders Day Concert.

The FSTC approved \$250,000 to help fund the 1.6-acre Foundation Park development at the site of the former Anna T. Jeanes School Property.

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[www.fairhopesingletax.com](http://www.fairhopesingletax.com)



### From the President: Lee Turner

Although the attitudes of politicians in Washington have bothered me because they do not seem to work together, I am pleased that the FSTC is not a political organization and it works well with the city. There was a time when that relationship was divisive. Because I had friends and mentors in both organizations, one of my early goals as president was to eliminate that divisiveness. We have now learned to do projects together relying on each other's strengths.

For instance, the FSTC does not have to go through the government bid process. On smaller jobs such as sidewalks, the bid process can cost more than the project itself. The city on the other hand can use their staff and equipment during rare down times to handle infrastructure for projects that would be too costly for the FSTC. These are examples of the mutually beneficial work that has been accomplished over the last five years. Go to our website to see a list of all the projects made possible by our lessees.

### ESAC Receives Funds from Fairhope Single Tax Corporation! by Margaret Neely



Karla Dean, Mgr. gift shop

In March 2025, the Eastern Shore Art Center (ESAC) received \$100,000 from Fairhope Single Tax Corporation to match the amount received from the Alabama State Arts Council. These funds

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*Fairhoppers* and the History Lecture Series are brought to you by the **FSTC Education Committee:**

Jim Estes, Debby Hackbarth, Kris Lafferty, Wayne Miller, and Margaret Neely.

Do you have idea for an upcoming newsletter or want to serve on the FSTC Education Committee?

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were utilized/will be utilized to add an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) bathroom on second floor, to replace the lift that could no longer be repaired, and to open the gift shop entrance to the gallery lobby.

During the construction, the second-floor gallery was closed from early June until September 5, First Friday Art Walk, with over 880 visitors! The renovation of the ADA bathrooms provides a total of two much needed bathrooms on the second floor. The lift is scheduled to be installed before the end of the year.

The floor plan was redrawn to accommodate the addition of the ADA bathroom, and to move the entrance of the gift shop to the gallery lobby. New built-in shelving and lighting were also added in the gift shop to highlight the items for purchase. Double glass doors now flank the entrance to the gift shop and make entering much easier and improve the visibility from the front desk volunteer area.

Before the renovation of the gift shop entrance:



After the renovation of the gift shop and bathroom:

