

# We take your health to heart.

9 out of 10 women are at risk for heart disease.

LEARN MORE



HOME

SUBSCRIBE

ADVERTISE

CONTACT

ARCHIVES

LEGALS

Search this Site...



# Morgan Citizen

COUNTY

THE MADISONIAN | Serving Morgan County since 1846.



**BEST WEEKLY**  
GEORGIA PRESS ASSOCIATION  
Better Newspaper Contest

FRONT PAGE

NEWS

OBITUARIES

FEATURED

DIGITAL EDITIONS

CLASSIFIEDS

CALENDAR

SPORTS

BROWSE ADS

LAW ENFORCEMENT

## The Madison-Morgan Conservancy Celebrates 15 Years

Editor | April 1, 2015 | Featured, News | No comments

## Our Advertisers:

Apparel & Accessories  
172 S. Main St. Madison  
706-342-2986

BEAT THE CLOCK  
4TH OF JULY SALE

SHOP FROM 7:00 - 8:00 AM  
TAKE 60% off

SHOP FROM 8:00 - 9:00 AM  
TAKE 50% off

SHOP FROM 9:00 - 10:00 AM  
TAKE 40% off

allen allen

adventure CLOTHING

FDJ

hobo

Silver

CAITE

LULLABY

RENUAR

TRIBAL


Find us on Facebook







Morgan County Citizen

 Liked

3.5K likes



Morgan County Citizen

2 minutes ago



verizon

POSSIBLE SERVICE OUTAGE

Morgan County Citizen

Newspaper · 3,594 Likes · 28 mins ·

July 31 - Can you hear me now? Verizon Wireless is experiencing a service interruption in the Morgan County area. They are working to solve the problem. Please Share!

Like

Comment

Share

verizon



Local leaders and conservancy members gathered at Dan Rather’s barn to celebrate the 15th birthday of the Madison-Morgan Conservancy. Christine McCauley, executive director of the conservancy stands with Dan Rather.





Zeke Lambert and Wes Holt kept the crowd happy as bartenders for the event.



Father Dan Brown of Madison's Church of the Advent addressed the crowd.

By Tia Lynn Lecorchick Managing Editor

The Madison-Morgan Conservancy celebrated its 15th anniversary with its annual membership supper last Friday at Dan Rather's barn in Madison. The conservancy has been celebrating each year in that location for the past 10 years. "We drink beer and eat chili. It's a great time," said Christine McCauley, director of the conservancy. "The membership supper is our annual update



on our progress, a look ahead to our plans for the next year, and a thank you to our members.

This will be our 10th year in Dan Rather’s barn at Malcom’s Crossroads, and we thank him for his constant support.”

The conservancy, with Bob Beauchamp as the current president, plays a pivotal role in the overall wellbeing of Morgan County. “We are protecting the quality of life, natural resources, agricultural resources and historical resources that we all depend upon for our tourism industry and way of life,” said McCauley.

“Our unique and holistic approach to land conservation includes six programs/services: promoting the use of conservation easements, hosting educational forums, reviewing development plans proposed to the county and municipalities, inventorying the natural, agricultural, and historic resources in Morgan County, promoting a Farm to Market Alliance designed to support local farmers marketing and transporting their fresh local food from farm to table, and historic preservation assistance,” McCauley said.

According to McCauley, the mission of the Madison-Morgan Conservancy is to provide public education on conservation matters and to protect and enhance the heritage and quality of life of the residents of Morgan County by preserving historic sites, greenspace, farmland, and timberland.

“The result of the Conservancy’s work is the protection of Morgan County’s natural, agricultural, and historic resources which helps us retain our environmental quality, supports our agricultural industry, supports our tourism and agritourism industries, stabilizes property values, and promotes Morgan County as a distinctive and unique place. Residents, as a result, experience better quality of life, stable property values, realization of economic value of land through conservation, opportunities for recreation, access to fresh local food, and presumably better health,’ explained McCauley.

The conservancy was first established in 2000 as the first countywide conservancy ever to exist in Georgia.

“The conservancy now serves both locally and statewide as a resource for protecting natural, agricultural, and historic resources,” said McCauley. “To date the Conservancy has helped permanently protect over 2,550 acres in Morgan County through the donation of conservation easements by private landowners. To compliment that local, permanent land conservation effort, the Conservancy facilitates temporary land conservation by supporting the region’s agricultural industry: the organization is responsible for inspiring private and public investment in a regional food hub, creating and publishing FARMeander (the state’s first farm trail), and creating a pilot Farm to School Program in Morgan County. Accessible education for the public has always been top priority, evidenced by 50 educational forums on conservation and development topics, Georgia’s first county-wide Greenprint, and the co-founding of Land Talks (a regional educational partnership).”

The conservancy is looking forward to embarking on future projects to further protect the county.

“The Conservancy’s Development Review Committee has reviewed nine proposed developments, supporting balanced growth projects like the Prior Farm and playing a major role in securing three unanimous ‘no’ votes on the 2010 regional landfill application,” said McCauley.

McCauley is proud of the conservancy’s accomplishments in recent years. According to McCauley, back in 2012, the conservancy also assisted Wallace Grove Baptist Church in restoring the Wallace Grove School, the last in situ African American school from the turn of the century.

“To support statewide land conservation efforts, the Conservancy has led an informal coalition of the state’s land trusts in advocating for a robust GA Conservation Tax Credit program. The Conservancy has received a number of awards from the Madison Historic Preservation Commission, the Madison Greenspace Commission, and most impressively from the GA Trust for

Historic Preservation,” said McCauley.

“Statewide we are best known for FARMeander and our Annual Conservation Easement Workshop, but locally, we are best known for our Greenprint Rambles and Derby Day fundraisers.”

For more information about the conservancy or to get involved, call the Madison-Morgan Conservancy office at 706-342-9252.

## About Author



# Editor

The Morgan County Citizen is Madison and Morgan County, Ga.'s weekly newspaper, and sole source for accurate, hyperlocal information.

## Related Posts



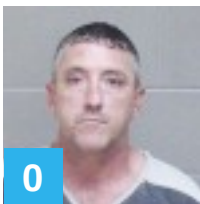
## Foster Park project takes another hit



## New Facility Opens



## High-speed chase in Madison



## Child molestation charge in Madison

## Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (will not be published) (required)

Website



I'm not a robot



reCAPTCHA  
[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)

Submit Comment