

Foley Newsletter

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Greetings,

We are happy to announce that the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen's Market is open on County Road 20, near Wolf Bay Lodge, providing a great place to purchase locally grown fruits and vegetables, as well as seafood, meats and many other items. When you shop at this market, you'll find fresh, local fare in one convenient location and also support our local farmers and fishermen. We are in the planning stages for adding complementary businesses in buildings adjacent to the market.

The Blue Collar development continues to move forward, as their property was recently annexed into the city. They have received approval for a Planned Development District from the Foley Planning Commission. They continue to work with various agencies in preparation for ground work and construction. We also expect a new What-A-Burger soon, located on Highway 59 near Lowes.

We continue to receive positive economic indicators for this area. Sales tax revenues increased 4.9 percent and lodging tax revenues were up 6.1 percent for the city's 2012-2013 fiscal year that ended in September. The number of single-family housing starts for the year, at 150, reflects an 83 percent increase from the previous fiscal year. And the rising amount of new construction starts, at 1,428, reflects a 41 percent increase overall. These numbers show that businesses are also feeling more optimistic about the future.

Next year promises to be busy, with confirmation that several commercial projects will break ground soon. The city is also receiving calls about reactivating subdivisions that have been in limbo. Overall, we are ending 2013 with positive indicators that the economy is trending upward for our area.



Mayor's Notes

Since the beginning of this academic year, each of the four Foley schools have a Foley policeman, called a School Resource Officer, stationed on campus throughout the day. Students, teachers and parents are pleased with the program, saying they feel more secure knowing that officers are nearby. The officers report that they are taking time to meet teachers, students and staff at each

school, and that it is a rewarding assignment.

As we move into the holidays, there are many opportunities for enjoying the season. The Performing Arts Association will host their annual Trim-a-Tree in November and December. Christmas in the Park and the annual Let It Snow events are scheduled for the first weekend in December. The Foley Christmas Parade, organized by the Foley Kiwanis, will also be that weekend.

We have outstanding local presentations of holiday music with the Coastal Chorale, Baldwin Pops and Mobile Symphony Youth Orchestra all providing concerts in Foley. Get details for these and other local events at www.VisitFoley.org.

May you and your families have a joyous holiday season and a healthy and prosperous New Year. As always, I encourage you to support our hometown businesses. Please shop Foley first! ■

John Koniar

Best regards,

Mayor John Koniar



Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market now open

Visit the new market in town where you can buy fruits and vegetables picked fresh this morning right here in Baldwin County. At the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermen Market, you will find fresh seafood, including shrimp, crabmeat, oysters and fish fillets. Other vendors offer organic steaks, ground beef and pork products. Complete your meal plans by picking up a loaf of freshly baked bread and a dessert. Other selections available include beautiful bouquets of fresh flowers, eggs, bedding plants, herbs, jewelry and other interesting items.

“The people who are shopping here love the fact that everything is so fresh. They also enjoy getting to know the vendors,” said Heather Pritchard, manager for the new market, located just west of Wolf Bay Lodge on County Road 20 in Foley. “The variety of produce that is grown right here is amazing.”

Pritchard said the current hours, Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturdays, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m., will continue until Thanksgiving. During the months of December, January and February, the market will open on Saturdays only, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The market hours may change as ideal times are identified by the public and by the vendors. Hours are always posted at CoastalAlabamaMarket.com. The website for the market also includes information about the vendors and recipes.



The CAFFM was built with grant funding provided by BP, located on property owned by the city. Future plans for the complex include a greenhouse, commercial kitchen and other businesses that will complement the market. ■



New and desirable vendors are being added each week as the market becomes more diverse. As a community market we are always utilizing, planning, developing and implementing ways to meet the desires of vendors and the public for success as we learn what local products are available. We are learning how to eat local. I've never had so much enjoyment buying and cooking food in my life. You can too! Buy your groceries here folks.

-Heather Pritchard

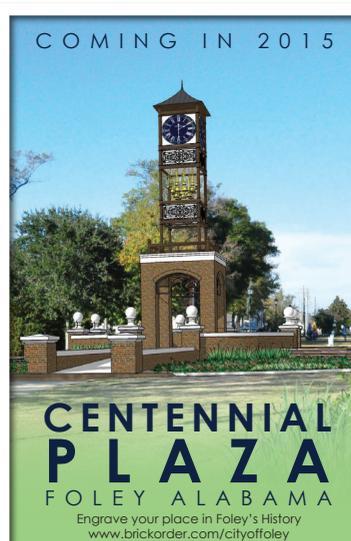
Residents can buy engraved bricks for Centennial Plaza



This is your opportunity to participate in the building of a landmark celebrating Foley's first 100 years. Engrave your place in Foley's history!

Foley will celebrate its upcoming Centennial on Jan. 8, 2015, by building a new clock tower and plaza in Heritage Park. The project will consist of a 52-foot clock tower that will include 32 brass bells, two stage areas, seating, chimes, pathways and graceful landscaping. The community has an opportunity to be a part of the project by purchasing engraved bricks that will become part of the pathways around the plaza. The engraved bricks make great personalized birthday or Christmas gifts that will provide a permanent legacy for your family or your business.

For years to come, families will be able to see their message on the brick they purchased when they visit the park. The deadline to purchase personalized bricks for the initial installation of the project is Dec. 31, 2013. For information, call (251) 943-1545. ■



Foley's New Automated Garbage Truck



Foley's first automated garbage truck is here. The new 2013 Mack cab and chassis has an automated side loader and is operated by one person. The public works department asks that residents please assist by placing the new cans properly according to the directions printed on the can, in an open area next to the curb or the street.

Holiday Garbage and Recycling Schedule Veteran's Day 11/11/13

GARBAGE: No change

RECYCLING: Mon. and Tues. schedules picked up on Tues.

Thanksgiving 11/28-29/2013

GARBAGE: Tues. schedule picked up on Mon.

Wed. schedule picked up on Tues.

Thurs. and Fri. schedules picked up on Wed.

RECYCLING: Mon. and Tues. are regular schedule

Wed. and Thurs. schedules picked up on Wed.

Fri. and Mon. schedules picked up on Mon.

Christmas 12/23-25/2013

GARBAGE: Thurs. all residents south of Highway 98

Fri. all residents north of Highway 98

RECYCLING: Mon. and Tues. schedules picked up on Thurs.

Wed. and Thurs. schedules picked up on Fri.

Fri. and Mon. schedules picked up on Mon.

New Year's Day 1/1/14

GARBAGE: Tues. schedule picked up on Mon.

Wed. schedule picked up on Thurs.

RECYCLING: Wed. and Thurs. schedules picked up on Thurs. ■

Police Department offers house checks for Foley residents

Foley residents can request that the police keep a watchful eye on their home while they are out of town. This service includes a police officer driving past your house every day while you are away. To sign up for this free service, bring your photo id to the police station located at 200 E. Section St. and fill out a brief form. ■



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Upcoming Events

Nov. 8 – Dec. 24 *Trim-a-Tree*

The Performing Arts Association presents a dazzling display of unique Christmas ornaments, decorations and gifts, all created by local artists and members. 251-943-4381.

10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mon. – Sat.

Dec. 6 - 8 *Coastal Chorale Christmas Show*

Enjoy the annual choral presentation of Christmas favorites, presented by talented vocalists from across Baldwin County. Three performances are scheduled at the Foley United Methodist Church Spirit Center. Tickets are available online at www.payitsquare.com/collect-page/16801.

Dec. 6 - *Christmas in the Park*

The community comes together to enjoy music, refreshments and the official lighting of holiday lights at 6 p.m. in Foley's Heritage Park. Children can visit with Santa. Free admission. 251-943-1300. www.VisitFoley.org



Dec. 6 - *Mobile Symphony Youth Orchestra*

Enjoy a festive concert of holiday favorites performed by a full, symphony orchestra comprised of 65 young musicians. These perform-

ers come from Baldwin and Mobile counties, as well as other parts of Alabama, Florida and Mississippi. 7:30 p.m. Seating is limited.

www.VisitFoley.org

Dec. 7 - *Foley Christmas Parade*

Celebrate the season with the Foley Christmas Parade, organized by the Foley Kiwanis Club. The parade begins at 10 a.m. and winds through downtown Foley. The parade includes music, floats, tractors and even a glimpse of Old St. Nick! Get a map of the parade route at www.VisitFoley.org or at either Foley Visitor Center. 251-970-4149

Dec 7 - *Let it Snow*

We are predicting snow in Heritage Park at 11 a.m. following the Foley Christmas Parade. Food, music, activities and SNOW! Something fun for all ages. Free admission. 251-943-1300. www.visitfoley.org



Dec 9 - *Baldwin Pops Concert*

The Baldwin Pops present an evening of holiday classics. Free admission. Attendees are encouraged to bring a new unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. www.VisitFoley.org