

Foley Newsletter



MAYOR

John E. Koniar

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Council President
District 1

Vera J. Quaites
District 2

Ralph G. Hellmich
Council Vice President
District 3

C. Rick Blackwell
District 4

Charlie J. Ebert III
District 5

CITY

ADMINISTRATOR
Michael L. Thompson

407 E. Laurel Ave.
P.O. Box 1750
Foley, AL 36536

(251) 943-1545
(251) 952-4014- fax

www.cityoffoley.org

Greetings,

The city finished 2014 on very solid financial footing. City expenses for the year came in \$723,000 under budget, while revenues came in \$823,000 over budget. Your city employees are doing a great job managing costs while continuing to provide great service.

We should maintain positive revenue growth this year because of new businesses locating in Foley. Hobby Lobby, Big Lots and Trax Tires have opened their doors. In the dining sector, Whataburger and Popeyes are open for business. Later this year, Academy Sports and Shoe Station will join our retail market and Moe's BBQ will open in the Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market complex.

Gulf Coast Produce, a wholesale food distributor, is now open. Located in the former Peavey building on Section Street, this business generated 25 new jobs.

HCP Pumps, a company that manufactures industrial pumps, will be opening soon in their new facility located in the Foley Beach Express Industrial Park. This company will create about 15 new jobs.

A big benefit from this growth is the creation of hundreds of jobs for our community. Another benefit is the additional sales tax revenue for the city from the anticipated \$41 million in sales projected by these businesses.

The city continues to work with the National Guard on the Super Armory. We are meeting with a number of education providers to bring additional educational opportunities to our community. This will help us be more competitive in attracting additional industry to this area by offering a more



**Mayor's
Notes**

qualified workforce.

Most of you have seen that the new bell tower is in place, in anticipation of Foley's centennial celebration. We plan to have it completed in time for the Christmas season.

Foley continues to move forward on a number of capital projects.

Construction of the dog park, located south of the post office, is underway. This project will also provide additional parking for downtown.

We hope to bid the new pedestrian bridge across Ala. 59 later this year and have it completed in 2015. The Fern Avenue extension that will connect Ala. 59 to the Foley Beach Express should begin next year and be completed in 2016.

Construction on the new sports complex near Baldwin Co. 20—which will include 13 ball fields, a 104,000-square-foot event center and two hotels—will proceed after the state moves forward on the Pride Drive extension. Together, these projects represent approximately \$75 million in public and private investments, and will bring many additional jobs to Foley.

We continue to have positive momentum in our community. This is a direct result of the progressive thinking and actions of your city council, along with city employees who take great pride in their jobs.

Shop Foley first!

Regards,

Mayor John Koniar

Making Way for Foley's Centennial Year



January 8, 2015 is Foley's official birthday! Many watched as the new clock tower was raised. Plan to be in the park on Jan. 8 for the dedication and official kick-off for a year of Centennial celebrations. ■

C E N T E N N I A L C A L E N D A R

JANUARY

- 8 Bell Tower Dedication – Heritage Park
Foley: Life Stories and Legends presented by the Foley High Drama Dept. - TBA
- 17 Foley Heritage Play Day
Graham Creek Nature Preserve

FEBRUARY

- 20 Rotary Club, Vosloh Awards
Gift Horse Restaurant
- 24 Hometown Heroes, Black History Month
Foley Middle School Cafetorium
- 27-28 Ala. Association of Historians
Foley Public Library
- 28 Arbor Day – Foley Civic Center

MARCH

- 21 – 22 Railroad Weekend – Foley Civic Center

APRIL

- 4, 11, 18 & 25 Historic Downtown Walking Tours
Welcome Center
- 18 Earth Day – Graham Creek Nature Preserve
- TBA Foley Historic Homes Tour

MAY

- 1 – 2 Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival
Foley Sports Complex
- 7 Mayors' Prayer Breakfast
honoring Historic Churches
- 9 - 10 Art in the Park – John B. Foley Park

- 16 Agricultural Heritage Day – Foley Heritage Park

JUNE

- 20 Holmes Baby Reunion – Holmes Medical Museum
- TBA *Foley at 100* – Book Signing, Foley Public Library

AUGUST

- TBA Foley High School Spirit Night – Ivan Jones Stadium
Historic Foley Exhibit – Foley Art Center

SEPTEMBER

- 17 Foley Optimist Taste of South Baldwin
Centennial Edition – Foley Civic Center

OCTOBER

- 3 Gulf Coast Gospel Jubilee – Foley Sportsplex
- 3 Alabama Festival of Flavor – Downtown Foley
- TBA *Foley ABC* – Book Signing, Foley Elementary School

NOVEMBER

- 7 Baldwin Bicycle Festival/Tour de Foley
- 7 – 14 Military Heritage Week – National Guard Armory
- 11 Veteran's Day Parade – Downtown Foley
- 14 Barin Field Reunion
- 14 Rotary's Oyster Run – Downtown Foley

DECEMBER

- 4 Christmas in the Park – Heritage Park
- 5 Foley Christmas Parade

Details at www.VisitFoley.org as they become available.

Foley's comprehensive annual report receives award

The City of Foley's comprehensive annual financial report for the year ended Sept. 30, 2013, was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition for excel-

lence in state and local government financial reporting.

In order to be awarded a Certificate of Achievement, a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized comprehensive annual report. This report must satisfy both generally accepted accounting principles and applicable legal requirements.

An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement was awarded to Sue Steigerwald, Foley's finance director/treasurer, who was primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning document.

Only 16 Alabama municipalities received awards during the last program year. ■

Seeking Historic Homes

A push to recognize homes in Foley that are 85 years old or older is one of the projects the Foley Centennial History sub-committee is working to complete. Applications to have a home included on the list are available at the Foley Public Library, the Railroad Museum and the Foley Welcome Center, from Nov. 1 to early January 2015. The committee asks for community participation so that as many historic homes as possible will be included on the list.

The committee plans to create a brochure with a description of Foley's oldest homes, with a map to show their location. ■

Historic jail preserved



A small building that once served as the jail in Foley was recently restored thanks to the Foley Community Development and Engineering departments. State archiving and historical guidelines were followed in the restoration. The building will now be used for storage. The exact age of the building is unknown, but a long-time Foley resident remembered it from the 1930's. The building is located at 200 N. Alston St., north of what is now the Community Development building. The actual police station was formerly located on Alston St. in front of this building. ■

Library Statue



Foley Public Library visitors will enjoy the new bronze statue that is located near the front entrance. The addition, featuring children reading a book, was funded by a partnership between the Friends of the Foley Library and the city. The statue is one of several planned to be located throughout the city. ■

Efficiently collecting garbage and recyclables

Foley will receive a second automated garbage truck in mid-December. The city Sanitation department is in the process of changing out garbage cans in neighborhoods where the new truck will be used. Some cans currently in use, manufactured by Toter or Otto, are compatible with the new truck and will not be replaced. Residents can find this information on the lid of their garbage can. Automated and rear-load garbage trucks are designed to lift specially fitted garbage cans, so city-issued cans are required.

Foley residents are doing a good job with recycling. Approximately 1,800 residents have received the new 64-gallon recycle carts. Those who recycle essentially get a second day of pickup, for accepted recyclables: cardboard and boxes (broken down to 2' x 2'), newspapers, magazines, junk mail, tin cans (rinsed), aluminum cans and plastic containers.

The holiday schedule for garbage and recycling is posted on the city website at www.cityoffoley.org, the Foley, Alabama Facebook page, and printed in the Onlooker and the Baldwin Register. Residents may also contact the Public Works department at 251-943-8897 or by email at foleypws@cityoffoley.org. ■

Check us out online:

CITY OF FOLEY

www.CityofFoley.org
www.VisitFoley.org
www.CoastalAlabamaMarket.com
www.FoleyLibrary.org
www.FoleyRecreation.com
www.FoleySportsTourism.com
www.GrahamCreekPreserve.org



407 E. Laurel Ave.
P.O. Box 1750
Foley, AL 36536

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PERMIT NO. 274

Foley Public Library

A full calendar of events can be found online at www.foleylibrary.org

Foley Senior Center

A full calendar of events can be found online at www.cityoffoley.org

WEEKLY – Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market

Local produce, fresh seafood, homemade dishes, honey, eggs, jams, jellies and plants. Winter schedule: Each Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Co. Road 20 between Ala. 59 and Foley Beach Express.

Nov. 28 – Dec. 21 – 47th Annual Trim-a-Tree Holiday Marketplace

A dazzling display of unique Christmas ornaments, decorations and gifts, all created by local artists and members. Presented by the Foley Art Center. 251-943-4381. Mon.-Sat. 10 a.m. – 7 p.m., Sundays 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Tanger Outlets, Suite 106.

Dec. 5 – Christmas in the Park

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. 5 – Mobile Youth Symphony Holiday Concert

Holiday favorites performed by a full symphony of young musicians from this area. Foley Civic Center. 7:30 p.m. Seating is limited. A suggested donation of \$5 is appreciated. www.VisitFoley.org

Dec. 6 – Foley Christmas Parade

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! Organized by the Foley Kiwanis Club. Parade route maps at www.VisitFoley.org or at the Foley Welcome Center. 251-943-1300.

Dec. 6 – Let It Snow

Enjoy snow in Heritage Park at 11 a.m. following the Foley Christmas Parade. Food, music, activities and snow! Free. 251-943-1300. www.VisitFoley.org

Dec. 6-7 – Coastal Chorale Christmas Show

Enjoy the annual choral presentation of Christmas favorites. Foley Civic Center. Dec. 6 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Dec. 7 at 3 p.m. Tickets available at the door or online at www.payitsquare.com/collect-page/44951.

Dec. 8 – Baldwin Pops Christmas Concert

The Baldwin Pops present an evening of holiday classics. Free admission. Bring a new unwrapped toy for Toys for Tots. Foley Civic Center. 7 p.m. www.VisitFoley.org

Jan. 13 – Visit Foley Snowbird Coffee

Annual welcome back coffee for winter visitors. Join us for coffee and doughnuts and learn about things to see and do in Foley and the surrounding area. Foley Civic Center. 9 a.m. – 12 noon.

For a complete listing of area events VisitFoley.org