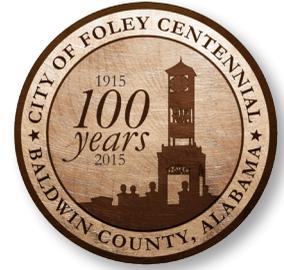


# Foley Newsletter



**MAYOR**

John E. Koniar

**COUNCIL**

J. Wayne Trawick  
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

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Spring weather has arrived, and it's so nice to have it with us again. My hope is that you can get outside and enjoy it to the fullest.

Many of you have noticed that Academy Sports is close to completion. This beautiful facility will be a great addition to our retail environment. Plans are that it will be open in early May.

Shoe Station had a successful opening in March and was well received by our community.

We recently met with the Alabama Highway Director, looking at ways to improve traffic flow on Highway 59. One area of work is to improve the intersection at Tanger Outlet Center. We hope to extend the road to the west connecting to Pine Street, giving our citizens better access to the YMCA and another east/west alternative.

Forland Family Market opened their new facility at our Farmers and Fishermens Market in Foley last month. This storefront provides a place where fresh produce, most locally grown, is available several days a week rather than just on weekends.

Next door to Forland's will be Moe's BBQ that should be opening this month. I'm a big fan of their BBQ and look forward to having it close at hand here in Foley!

The city recently sat down with the Foley High School agriculture department to discuss how we could work with them to enhance their educational program. They have nearly 700 students in the program. By utilizing our Farmers and Fishermens Market, we can help them market some of their produce this summer.



**Mayor's  
Notes**

Another opportunity will present itself when Crane Creek Farms builds their five hydroponic greenhouses adjacent to our market late this summer. One of the greenhouses will be a teaching facility and we could give some of our students "real world" experience in this exciting technology.

We have finalized the plans for our 16 multi-use ball fields and construction has begun as of early April. Hopefully they will start to see play late this year or early in 2016.

The Beautification Committee recently presented their recommendations for our 2015 Christmas decorations. The council approved an ambitious plan to upgrade and increase our holiday décor this year. It will be a beautiful addition to our community. Thanks to the committee for all their hard work.

Please take the time to get out and enjoy our parks with your friends and family. It's a great time of year to be outdoors.

**Don't forget to  
SHOP FOLEY FIRST!**

Best regards,

**Mayor John Koniar**

# FOLEY SPORTS TOURISM COMPLEX



▲ After months of planning, construction is under way on 15 state-of-the-art fields in Foley. The \$16 million sports fields being built near Juniper Street can be used for multiple sports, including soccer, lacrosse and rugby. The complex also includes a 1,000-seat championship field with bleachers, a press box, and special TV-ready lighting for final tournament play. Work is also under way on a new road that will lead into the site from Ala. 59. The new sports fields are expected to be completed in early 2016. “Crews are moving dirt on the new ball fields,” said Don Staley, executive director of Foley Sports. “When all is said and done, this will be one of the top facilities in the country.”

## Pedestrian-friendly improvements under construction

Residents may notice the construction of new sidewalks in various locations around the city. The work is part of a project that will add about 30 miles of bicycle paths and sidewalks throughout the city, funded by a \$4.7 million federal transportation grant. According to Chad Christian, city engineer, the work will be done in three phases, and phase one of the work, which includes sidewalks and bike lanes, is about 30 percent complete.

The second phase will add shared-use trails to existing city streets. These paths will run parallel to the street and, at six and ten feet wide, will give bicyclers enough room to pass walkers, according to Christian. This phase of work has not yet begun.

The third phase is a pedestrian bridge over Ala. 59 that will provide a safe crossing over the busy highway and make downtown more accessible to walkers. Bids for this project are expected to be opened in early April, and the project is expected to be completed within 180 days. The pedestrian bridge will span Ala. 59 from city-owned property located just north of the intersection of Jessamine Ave. and Ala. 59 across to the John B. Foley Park.

The grant requires a city match of 25 percent, for a project total of more than \$6 million. The grant specifies a completion date of 2019; however, the city plans to have the work completed by 2016. ■

## The City of Foley Observes Building Safety Month

May is Building Safety Month, celebrated worldwide for over thirty years as a reminder that building codes help ensure safe and sustainable structures. Founded by the International Code Council (ICC), the Building Safety Month campaign helps to improve public safety by increasing awareness about how building codes and code officials improve and protect the

places where we live, learn, work, worship and play.

The city of Foley is a participating member of the ICC and supports Building Safety Month. This year's theme is Resilient Communities Start with Building Codes.

For more information, contact the City of Foley Community Development Department at 952-4011. ■

*Keep up with local events and news from Foley right in your inbox. Every other month, we will send you the local news you can use in our E-Newsletter. All you have to do is go to [www.visitfoley.com](http://www.visitfoley.com) and sign up. It's that simple!*

# Music and a Movie Line-up Announced

Music and a Movie will take place Fridays in May and June (May 22, & 29; June 5, 12 & 19). Each night will feature entertainment from 6 to 8 p.m. followed by a movie on an enormous inflatable screen. The entertainment and movies are as follows:

May 22 - FAME/Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo followed by **Big Hero 6**

May 29 - Baldwin POPS followed by **Paddington**

June 5 - Christina Christian followed by **Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day**

June 12 - Kyle and Karl Band followed by **UP**

June 19 - FAME/TBA followed by **We Are Marshall**

## Sports tournaments create positive economic impact in Foley



The Foley Sports Complex is packed with ball teams from all around the south during the summer. For the past five years, Foley has partnered with the Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Sports Commission to host the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) Baseball and Softball Global World Series. During June and July, over 230 teams will visit Foley to play in the USSSA Global World Series. Last year, the Foley Sports Complex hosted over 30 tournaments bringing in an estimated economic impact of \$2.8 million.

For more information or if you are interested in partnering with the Foley Sports Complex, please contact Kelsey O'Connor, Sports and Events Sales Manager, at (251) 943-9150 or email [foleysports@cityoffoley.org](mailto:foleysports@cityoffoley.org) ■

# Foley Public Library Summer Reading Program

The 2015 theme for Foley Public Library's Summer Reading Program is "Every Hero Has a Story, Read!"

*June 4* – Gulf Coast Exploreum Road Show - Science of Super Heroes  
Members of the Squad will perform an array of experiments covering vast topicalities of science.

*June 11* – Russell Davis Roving Close-Up Magic

Amazing magic, hilarious audience involvement and good clean fun for everyone.

*June 18* – Charlie Williams

Enjoy Charlie Williams, a vocal sound impressionist who can imitate the sound of planes, trains, automobiles and much, much more!

*June 24* – Jukebox Superhero

Jukebox Superhero is a costumed 80's tribute act featuring your favorite characters.

All programs begin at 10 a.m. and are held at the Foley Civic Center at 407 E. Laurel Ave. For more information, contact Kelley Wansley at 251-943-7665. ■

*Check us out online:*

**CITY OF FOLEY**

[www.CityofFoley.org](http://www.CityofFoley.org)    [www.VisitFoley.org](http://www.VisitFoley.org)  
[www.CoastalAlabamaMarket.com](http://www.CoastalAlabamaMarket.com)  
[www.FoleyLibrary.org](http://www.FoleyLibrary.org)    [www.FoleyRecreation.com](http://www.FoleyRecreation.com)  
[www.GrahamCreekPreserve.org](http://www.GrahamCreekPreserve.org)



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### Celebrating Foley's Centennial 1915 - 2015

Foley's official 100th birthday celebration was Jan. 8, 2015. Check out our Facebook page at Visit Foley Alabama to see photos of the big day. The celebration will continue throughout the year with special events planned to mark the occasion. Check for special events below, or online at [www.VisitFoley.org](http://www.VisitFoley.org).

## Upcoming Events

### **WEEKLY – Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market**

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

### **Foley Public Library**

See inside article on Foley Public Library's Summer Reading Program. Calendar online at <http://www.foleylibrary.org>

### **Foley Senior Center**

A full calendar of events can be found online at <http://www.cityof-foley.org>

### **May - August – Youth Baseball & Softball Tournaments**

Many USSSA and NSA-sanctioned regional youth baseball and softball tournaments are held at the Foley Sports Complex or the Melvin Roberts Cedar Street Park throughout the year. Visit [www.Foleysports.com](http://www.Foleysports.com) for the complete schedule.

### **May 1-2 – 11th Annual Gulf Coast Hot Air Balloon Festival**

Balloon glows, balloon flight competitions and live music. Visit [www.gulfcoastballoonfestival.com](http://www.gulfcoastballoonfestival.com). Foley Sports Complex, 18507 U.S. Highway 98. Friday 2 – 10 p.m.; Saturday 6 – 10 p.m.

### **May 2 – Relay for Life of South Baldwin**

For more information, visit [www.relay.acsevents.org](http://www.relay.acsevents.org) Heritage Park 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

### **May 7 – Mayor's Prayer Breakfast**

Foley's eight historic churches will be recognized at this breakfast sponsored by Ecumenical Ministries. The speaker is Rep. Bradley Byrne. Call 943-3445 for reservations. Foley United Methodist Church Spirit Center. 7:30 a.m.

### **May 9-10 – Art in the Park**

Presented by the Performing Arts Association in Foley each spring on Mother's Day weekend. The show features fine arts, pottery, stained glass, wood carvings and artfully creative objects from jewelry to bird houses. Visit [www.foleyartcenter.com](http://www.foleyartcenter.com) for more information. John B. Foley Park. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. each day.

### **May 16 – Agricultural Heritage Day**

This one-day centennial event will feature numerous pieces of antique farming and forestry equipment as well as farming and cooking demonstrations. For more information, visit [www.VisitFoley.org](http://www.VisitFoley.org) or call the Foley Welcome Center at 251-943-1300. Heritage Park 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

### **May 22 – Heritage Park Marketplace/Music and a Movie in the Park**

Marketplace 4- 6 p.m. FAME/Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo at 6 p.m. "Big Hero 6" at dusk.

### **May 29 – Heritage Park Marketplace/Music and a Movie in the Park**

Marketplace 4- 6 p.m. Baldwin Pops Band at 6 p.m. "Paddington" at dusk.

### **June 5 – Heritage Park Marketplace/Music and a Movie in the Park**

Marketplace 4- 6 p.m. Christina Christian at 6 p.m. "Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good Very Bad, Day" at dusk.

### **June 12 – Heritage Park Marketplace/Music and a Movie in the Park**

Marketplace 4- 6 p.m. Kyle and Karl Band at 6 p.m. "UP" at dusk.

### **June 19 – Heritage Park Marketplace/Music and a Movie in the Park**

Marketplace 4- 6 p.m. FAME/TBA at 6 p.m. "We are Marshall" at dusk.

### **June 20 – Holmes Babies' Reunion Birthday Party**

If you were born at the Sibley Holmes Memorial Museum or delivered by Dr. W.C. Holmes, come join us for a birthday party as part of Foley's centennial celebration. Holmes Medical Museum, 111 W. Laurel Ave. 2 – 5 p.m.

### **Aug. 6-8 – 8th Annual Jennifer Claire Moore Foundation Rodeo**

Barrel racing, calf roping and bull riding. For more information, visit [www.jennifermoorefoundation.com](http://www.jennifermoorefoundation.com) Foley Horse Arena, 113 E. Rosetta Ave. 7 – 10 p.m. nightly.

For more details and a complete listing of area events [VisitFoley.org](http://VisitFoley.org)