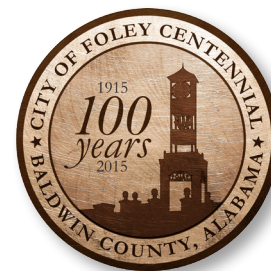


Foley Newsletter



MAYOR

John E. Koniar

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Council President
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Vera J. Quaites
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The summer heat is here, but it's still a great time to enjoy the many things our area has to offer. We are seeing continued expansion of our economy and we hope to be announcing both new retail and manufacturing news in the coming months.

Bids were opened for the new pedestrian bridge across Highway 59 in downtown Foley and we look forward to construction getting underway soon. This will be a great addition to our community and our quality of life.

The flowers downtown are really looking wonderful. I want to extend a big "thank you" to the Beautification Board and to our horticulturist John Graham and his staff for all their hard work. We know that first impressions are very important and our beautiful landscaping really supports that effort.

Foley was recently recognized as one of the best communities with a population under 100,000 to raise a family in Alabama. This reflects a lot of hard work by city employees and the support of your city council to always provide a family-friendly environment. This is something that is ongoing and always on our minds as we strive to provide good jobs and many amenities to make our community an attractive place to work and live.

As most of you have heard, the Poarch Creek Indian economic development group has taken over the project formerly known as Blue Collar. They bring to the table solid financial footing that will enable the project to move forward. The name of the project will probably change. They have assured the city their goal is to create a family-friendly venue that will be a real asset to the city and our whole region.



Mayor's Notes

We continue to move forward with our sports tourism complex and hope to be ready for play in early 2016. Plans for the multi-use event center are close to completion. We will be going to bid on that facility once the two associated hotels are confirmed.

The Graham Creek Preserve Interpretive Center is almost underway. It will provide our community and region another great resource for enjoying this special property. We are offering

Explore and Observe Days for children 10 years and younger at the preserve. The days (10 a.m. to noon) feature arts and crafts, nature-themed stories and various other activities.

Our farmers and fisherman's market is now open two days a week from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays and Saturdays. They offer great locally-grown produce, fresh seafood items, flowers, and arts and crafts. Forland Farms, adjacent to the market, is open all week, offering lots of fresh produce - and you can enjoy some great BBQ at Moe's while you are there. Of course, Wolf Bay Lodge is close also, serving their famous seafood dishes.

We are blessed to live in a great community with good people who work hard and are very community minded.

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

Best regards,

Mayor John Koniar

Foley's historic homes and businesses identified with signs

New signs that identify historic homes and businesses in the city limits of Foley are popping up. Recognizing homes that are 85 years old or older and businesses that have operated for 50 years or more is one of many projects to celebrate Foley's centennial year.

Former Mayor Tim Russell and his wife Sandy chair the history sub-committee that is coordinating all of the events related to the history of Foley occurring throughout 2015.

"This project truly has been a team effort, but special thanks go to Bonnie Donaldson, who chaired the historic businesses project, and Jeanie Irwin, who chaired the historic homes project," Sandy Russell said.

Committee members pored over old documents, including high school yearbooks and community newspapers, to identify the city's oldest businesses. Homeowners applied to have their homes placed on the list of the city's oldest homes. Certificates of recognition for historic homes and businesses were presented to owners in April.

Beautiful signs to identify the homes and businesses were created by Fletcher McKinney, graphic artist for the city. Distribution of the signs was coordinated through the city marketing department. Some signs will be displayed in windows, while others may be posted outside, according to Russell. The committee leaves that choice up to the owner.

A walking map of Foley's historic downtown is available at the Foley Welcome Center, located at 104 N. McKenzie Street. This map includes many historic businesses, although not all are located in the downtown area.

A driving map showing the locations of historic homes is also available at the Welcome Center. The homes are not open for tours, but can be viewed from the street, according to Russell. ■



National lawn mower racing comes to Foley

It's time to head to the races - lawnmower races that is - as the US Lawn Mower Racing Association comes to Foley for the STA-BIL National Lawn Mower Racing Series. "Professional" lawn mower racers will compete for bragging rights, lawn ornaments and coveted trophies on Aug. 22 - 23. The event will be held in the fields behind McDonalds near the corner of the Foley Beach Express and County Road 20.

"This is racing like you've never seen. Bring the kids and come watch the professionals get to speeds your mower only dreams about," said Don Staley, executive director of sports for Foley.

The racing action begins on Saturday, Aug. 22, with mandatory warm-up laps (referred to as "hot laps") starting at 4:30 p.m. Preliminary heats start at 5:30 p.m. and the feature race begins at 7 p.m. On Sunday, Aug. 23, catch the hot laps at noon, with the feature races beginning at 1 p.m.

"Lawn mower racing is a true passion sport - both for the racers and their fans. Racers participate for the love of competition, sportsmanship and camaraderie," said Kerry Evans, USLMRA Vice President.

For more details, visit www.foleysportstourism.com/events/us-lawn-mower-racing/. ■

GCNP seeks volunteers

So much is happening out at Graham Creek! We're happy that citizens are enjoying the preserve-whether attending educational programs, playing disc golf, bird watching, paddling the creek, running or riding the trails or geocaching. With so many great things going on, the staff at the Preserve could always use extra help! If you would like to volunteer, please email Leslie Gahagan at lgahagan@cityoffoley.org or Jackie Trimble

at jtrimble@cityoffoley.org. The non-profit group, Friends of the Preserve, is also a great community organization that assists with fundraising for environmental education programs. To find out how to become a part of this group or to donate, please email Donna Turbeville at friendsofgrahamcreek@yahoo.com. ■



Staley honored with national award

Don Staley, Foley's executive director of sports, was recently named Sports Tourism Executive of the Year by the National Association of Sports Commissions, the governing body of the \$8.96 billion sports events industry. The award recognizes leadership and creativity in attracting and marketing sports events.

Staley is responsible for marketing and oversight of Foley's Sports Tourism Complex. When complete, the complex, located near Baldwin County 20 and the Foley Beach Express, will enable Foley to host large indoor and outdoor sporting events.

Since coming to Foley, Staley has been instrumental in securing over 60 sporting events, which will create significant economic impact and enable thousands of sports enthusiasts to experience Foley, Alabama. ■

Flowers in Foley

The city is getting lots of compliments on the colorful hanging baskets in the downtown area. They contain a mix of dragon-wing begonia, variegated ivy, asparagus fern, mandevilla, lantana, sweet potato vine, petunia and purple queen setcreasea. Drop by the Welcome Center for a list of the flowers growing in the bedding areas. ■



Keep up with local events and news from Foley right in your inbox. Every other month, we will send you the local news in our E-Newsletter. All you have to do is go to www.visitfoley.org and sign up. It's that simple!

Public Works Recycling update and holiday schedules

Thank you to everyone who recycles. The amount of residential waste that is recycled has increased 39 percent since Foley began providing 64-gallon rolling carts in 2013, according to Dan Hellmich, public works superintendent for Foley. These carts hold more and are easier for residents to move. They also have lids and can be stored outside.

Since 2013, nearly 2,300 of the new carts have been delivered. Residents can request one by calling 943-8897. The goal is for every customer to have a cart, so that automated trucks can be used to cover the routes.

Residents who recycle are helping the city save money and also reducing the need for additional landfill space. General garbage goes to a landfill and the city pays a fee. Material sorted to be recycled goes to a recycle center, saving the landfill fee and also reducing the volume of garbage going into landfills.

Holiday schedules for sanitation pickup are posted on the city website at www.cityof-foley.org, on Facebook, in the newspaper, on WHEP and on voicemail at the Public Works department at 943-8897. HOA associations are invited to send a representative's name to receive an email with pickup information that they can forward to all HOA members prior to each holiday.

Automated trucks are used on several routes, which means that anything left beside a can cannot be picked up. Please put everything inside the cart.

Materials eligible for recycle are: newspaper, magazines, paper, aluminum and tin cans, plastic and cardboard. Please do not place hypodermic needles in recyclables. ■

**Check us out online:
CITY OF FOLEY**

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



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Upcoming Events

WEEKLY – Coastal Alabama Farmers and Fishermens Market

Tuesdays and Saturdays 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Local produce and fresh seafood from local farmers and fishermen. 20733 Mifflin Road, Foley.

Graham Creek Nature Preserve Explore and Observe Days

1st Wednesday and 3rd Saturday each month. 10 a.m. to noon. Activities, stories, arts and crafts for children 10 and under and their families. Free. 23460 Wolf Bay Drive, Foley.

Sporting Events in Foley

Tournaments, including national championships, are often played in Foley, including baseball, soccer and bowling, which are open to the public. Get the schedules at www.FoleySportsTourism.com or www.FoleySports.com

Foley Senior Center

Event calendars at Welcome Center or online at www.cityoffoley.org.

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

7-10 p.m. Barrel racing, calf roping and bull riding. Foley Horse Arena, 113 E. Rosetta Ave www.jennifermoorefoundation.com

Aug. 11 Snapshot Day Alabama

9 a.m. Photos with patrons to capture a typical day at the Foley Public Library. 251-943-7665

Aug. 14 Foley High School Spirit Night*

5 p.m. Foley Lions scrimmage game. 7 p.m. A celebration honoring everyone who wore a uniform in high school - from sports to band members. Come and be recognized! Foley Football Stadium W. Rose Ave.

Aug. 15, 22, 29 Hitchcock Film Series

1 p.m. Foley Public Library shows Alfred Hitchcock movies. Upstairs meeting room.

Aug. 22-23 STA-BIL Series Lawn Mower Racing

Professional lawn-mower racing. Blue Collar Facility, 10113 Foley Beach Expressway. www.FoleySportsTourism.com

Sept. 17 30th Annual Taste of South Baldwin*

6-8 p.m. South Baldwin's original tasting and sampling event sponsored by the Foley Optimus Club.

Sept. 25 Railroad Heritage Day*

10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Foley Depot Museum

Oct. 1 Chicago Street Supper Club

6-8 p.m. A multi-course farm-to-table dinner with beer and wine pairings. Wolf Bay Lodge, 20801 Mifflin Rd, Foley www.alabamafestivalofflavor.com

Oct. 3 Alabama Festival of Flavor

10 a.m.-7 p.m. Showcasing local and regional foods, wine and craft beer in historic downtown Foley. www.alabamafestivalofflavor.com

Oct. 3 2nd Annual Gulf Coast Gospel Jubilee*

Food, vendors and live music by area churches. Foley Sports Complex, 18507 US Highway 98 West 251-504-6210.

Oct. 17 Pumpkin Play Day

10 a.m. - noon. Story time, pumpkin decorating and treats. Graham Creek Nature Preserve 23460 Wolf Bay Drive, Foley.

Oct. 17 Corpse Crawl

4 p.m. A zombie filled obstacle-course race benefiting Foley High's cross country team. Graham Creek Nature Preserve 23460 Wolf Bay Drive.

Oct. 23, 24, 30, 31 Graham Creek Nature Preserve's Haunted Hay Ride

6-10 p.m. A frightfully-fun adventure. \$15. Proceeds benefiting environmental education programs held at the preserve.

Oct. 24 2nd Annual Library Halloween Extravaganza

6-9 p.m. Costume contest, maze, stuffed animal walk, spooky stories and more for all ages. Foley Public Library 251-943-7665

Oct. 29 Uptown Foley Halloween Party

5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Games, treats, hay ride, face painting, jump houses and a costume contest. Orange Ave., Alston St. and U.S. 98.

Nov. 7 Baldwin Bicycle Fest/Tour de Foley*

7-9 a.m. Foley Kiwanis and Lions Clubs sponsored bike ride through southeastern Baldwin County. www.baldwinbikefest.com

For more details and a complete listing
of area events Visit Foley.org

*designates a Foley Centennial Event