

# BALDWIN COUNTY

*Stay Connected*

MARCH 2023

## CONGRATULATIONS, AREA 200 ON THE BRAND NEW HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE FACILITY!



The Baldwin County Commissioners, Central Baldwin Chamber of Commerce, and members of the Town of Silverhill Council help the members of the Baldwin County Highway Area 200 Maintenance Facility celebrate the official grand opening with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on February 16, 2023!

*Congratulations and enjoy the new building!*

## RIP CURRENT AWARENESS

We all love the beach - the sun, the sand, and the surf. BUT! Just because you are having fun at the beach does NOT mean you can forget about safety. Rip currents are the #1 weather-related killer at the beaches along the northern Gulf Coast. Before you hit the beach, learn how to recognize a rip current and how to escape if caught in one.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO!](#)



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The Baldwin County EMA is hosting a Severe Weather Preparedness Town Hall at the Baldwin County Coliseum on May 2nd from 4-8 p.m. Be on the lookout for more info!

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## SPRING FESTIVAL & CHILI COOK-OFF 2023

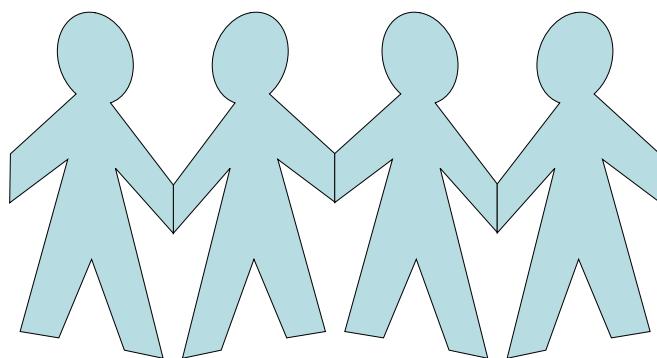
The Family Spring Festival was a great success. Thank y'all for coming out and sharing your family with us! It was so nice to see home and work come together for a day of food, competition, and fun. One family left bigger than they came and took home "Beaver", one of our shelter dogs.

Every year we plan on getting better and better! We are excited to see what next year has in store and are already exploring the possibilities.

Thank you to each one of you that came out and volunteered your time to help make this a success. Whether it was in the form of making chili, watching kiddos, serving food, judging, set-up and clean-up, or music. Please know we thank you, and we couldn't do it without you. Your participation is an investment in the culture of family and togetherness that we are pursuing here at BCC, and it means so much.

See y'all next year!

~ Baldwin County Commission Personnel Department



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## SPRING FESTIVAL & CHILI COOK-OFF 2023



FAMILY FUN DAY 2023  
WAS A **HUGE** SUCCESS!

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## WINNERS OF CHILI COOK-OFF!



**Overall Winner:**  
Highway



**Peoples Choice Winner:**  
BRATS



**Hottest Winner:**  
Building Inspection  
(2nd Year Win!)



**2nd Place Overall Winner:**  
Council on Aging



**3rd Place Overall Winner:**  
EMA



**Photos of Anthony Younce after trying the Hottest Chili!**

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## LETTER FROM PERSONNEL

Hey Baldwin County Team!

We hope that you've been finding the colors assessment, that all new hires are completing, to be beneficial in getting to know your new team member.

We encourage all employees to come to the brief colors assessment overview on orientation days at 2:00 (before the mandatory training) or to attend the full length, more in depth and communicative session that is on the training calendar monthly.

Speaking of colors, we have a new hire in Personnel, Kristy Harris (her color is Orange)!! She is our Recruiting and Retention Coordinator, and she is full of plans and ideas for this place. If you see her around, please be sure to say hello!



Kristy has our Baldwin County Personnel Department Facebook and Instagram page up and going. These social media pages will allow potential job applicants to see what kind of environment, benefits, jobs, and service they can expect at Baldwin County Commission. A big thank you to the staff in other departments who helped get this started.

We are starting another round of our Management Fundamentals training as well. This is an 8-course training program targeted towards current management or employees striving to advance into a management roll. You must attend all 8 to get a certificate, but you can attend just the ones that appeal to your needs in your job roll.

1. Group Dynamics & Team Building - Brittany Swartz (B1)
2. Coaching & Motivation - Brittany Swartz (B1)
3. Conflict Management - Bo Bonner
4. Progressive Discipline - Bo Bonner
5. Performance Evaluations - Brittany Swartz (B1)
6. Understanding Budgets - Deidra Hanak & Wanda Gautney
7. Benefit/Risk Management (FMLA, Medical, Work Comp, and more) - Bo Bonner & Brittany Shealy (B2)
8. Behavioral Based Interviewing - Brittany Swartz (B1) & Kristy Harris

This program is facilitated by several of us in personnel. We strive to give you the best learning experience possible!



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## The Baldwin County Animal Shelter is seeking volunteers!

Do you know someone that would be interested in volunteering? The primary needs at the moment are for volunteers to help with walking the dogs as well as playing with the dogs outside to help them get their daily exercise while also socializing them.

### To Volunteer:

- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Fill out a volunteer packet either at the Baldwin County Animal Shelter or find it online at:  
<https://baldwincountyal.gov/departments/animal-shelter/shelter-publications>
- Visit the Baldwin County Animal Shelter located at 15240 County Road 49, Summerdale, AL 36580, anytime Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.
- Receive a tour of the facility and get started!

Volunteer Packet



- ♻️ Baldwin County generates 1 Million pounds of garbage a day.
- ♻️ If we recycle 10%, we could recycle up to 101,000 pounds a day.
- ♻️ By recycling 10% of our garbage, we could create around 50 recycling jobs in Baldwin County.



## MARCH 18, 2023 ~ GLOBAL RECYCLING DAY

- ♻️ Baldwin County generates 1 Million pounds of garbage a day.
- ♻️ If we recycle 10%, we could recycle up to 101,000 pounds a day.
- ♻️ By recycling 10% of our garbage, we could create around 50 recycling jobs in Baldwin County.

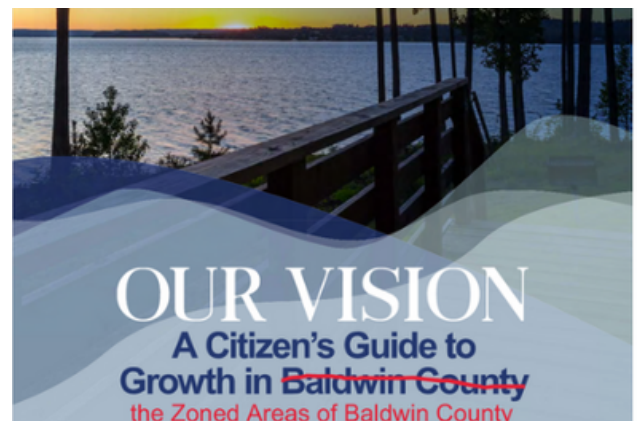
Upcoming Public Hearing regarding the "A Citizen's Guide to Growth in the Zoned Areas of Baldwin County" DRAFT Document will be held on Thursday, March 23 at 4:00 p.m. at the Baldwin County Central Annex located at 22251 Palmer Street, Robertsdale, AL 36576. The DRAFT document can be found online at the below link.

View Resources at: [www.BaldwinOurVision.com](http://www.BaldwinOurVision.com)

View Resources



## UPCOMING PUBLIC HEARING



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## BRATS DRIVERS TAKE HONORS AT STATE TRANSIT ROADEO!



BRATS drivers take top honors at the State Transit Roadeo! Bus drivers from across the State participated in the annual event hosted by ALDOT March 3-4, 2023 in Eufaula. The event consisted of four evaluations including a written exam, timed vehicle inspection where obscure defects must be identified, proper wheelchair passenger loading and securement, and a timed driving skills obstacle course. State winners qualify for the National Roadeo to be held in Oklahoma City in May 2023.

Pictured left to right: Shannon Dumas, 1st Place-Van Division; Kem Hopkins, 2nd Place-Van Division; Richard "Joe" Dishman; 1st Place Bus Division; and Ron Stewart, BRATS Fleet and Driver Manager and 2012 National Driver of the Year.

Each year, March 18th marks Transit Driver Appreciation Day. This date was selected to commemorate the first "Five Penny Coaches" bus line established in Paris in 1662. On this day, we celebrate BRATS transit vehicle operators and recognize the essential service they provide!

Watch the BRATS Driver Appreciation Day video at: <http://ow.ly/ZIOu50lm7EZ>

Click to Watch Video here!



### MARCH 18TH ~ TRANSIT DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY

**BRATS**  
DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY



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## CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER!



Congratulations to Amy Miller on recently graduating from the University of South Alabama with a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education! Amy is the daughter of Susan Allen. Susan works in the Foley Probate office.

Coastal Well Owner Webinar



**Private Well Program** ALABAMA EXTENSION

Well owners in Mobile and Baldwin counties are invited to attend the Coastal Well Owner Webinar. This webinar will discuss an opportunity to enroll in a free well water testing program offered by Dr. Ann Ojeda at Auburn University. This research endeavor is in partnership with the Alabama Extension Based - Alabama Private Well Program (APWP). 3 sessions are available on **March 16, April 18, and April 20.**

[LEARN MORE HERE!](#)



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Download Baldwin Apps  
Apple Store and Google Play

[LEARN MORE HERE!](#)



## STAY CONNECTED WITH THE BALDWIN COUNTY APPS!

Did you know that there is a Baldwin County Commission App, Baldwin County Historic Tours App, BRATS Public Transportation App, and Baldwin County Sheriff's Office App? All of these apps can be downloaded via the Apple Store or Google Play! For more information visit: <https://baldwincountyal.gov/stay-connected>

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## SPRING WALK TO SCHOOL DAY - APRIL 5, 2023

**FOR IMMEDIATE**

**RELEASE**

**March 13, 2023**



**CONTACT:**

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**[charlenelee366@gmail.com](mailto:charlenelee366@gmail.com)**

### Public Schools in Baldwin County to Celebrate Spring Walk to School Day

Public Schools in Baldwin County will celebrate Spring Walk to School Day on April 5, 2023. Students, parents, and teachers will be walking to school along with community leaders and volunteers.

Walk to School Day raises awareness for the need to create safer routes for walking and bicycling and emphasizes the importance of issues such as increasing physical activity among children, pedestrian safety, traffic congestion, and concern for the environment. These events also build connections between families, schools, and the broader community.

The event is being organized by the Baldwin County SRTS Steering Committee in partnership with Baldwin County Trailblazers, the Eastern Shore MPO and all three public school systems: Baldwin County Public Schools, Gulf Shores City Schools, and Orange Beach City Schools. The STRS Steering Committee is dedicated to encouraging all schools in Baldwin to explore ways to reduce barriers to students having a safe route to walk/bike to their local schools. The Baldwin County Trailblazers have a 20+ year history of advocating for SRTS. The Trailblazers also manage the only daily Walking School Bus program in the state at Fairhope West Elementary School.

