



Volume 2 Issue 2

March 2015

## *Annual Alabama Farm & Poultry Expo Slated*

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alabama Farm & Poultry Expo will be held at the Boaz Outlet Center on Hwy 168 in Boaz on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The Expo will begin daily at 9:00 am and will end at 6:00pm. It will host to farm and poultry equipment and exhibits, arts and crafts, food vendors, folk-life exhibits, children's play area and demonstrations. The event will also feature a BBQ Chicken cook-off and a Chicken Eating Contest. The two

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days will be filled entertainment and will also feature educational farm sessions and demonstrations will be conducted by the county extension service. Last year's Farm and Poultry Expo was a great success and the Chamber wants to continue and "grow" the event. Boaz is the place you want to be on April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The Chamber is also looking for sponsorships and also has applications available for booth rentals for both commercial and arts and craft vendors. If you are interested in attending, interested in an application, need more information or would like to be a part of this exciting event in Boaz, please contact the Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce, (256) 593-8154 email: [chamber@boazchamberofcommerce.com](mailto:chamber@boazchamberofcommerce.com), or at 100 E. Bartlett Street, Boaz, AL.



"The Hook" is provided through the generosity and support of bpi Media Group, Boaz, AL

# March Calendar of Events



## March All Month

◆ Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce will be accepting applications for vendors for the 2nd Annual Alabama Farm & Poultry Expo.

## March 2

Boaz Public Library, 5:00-7:00 pm, the annual Read Across America Celebration. For more information call (256) 593-3000.

## March 7

◆ Hospice of Marshall County's 10th Annual Race to Remember, 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run, Albertville High School. For more information see [www.hospicemc5k.com](http://www.hospicemc5k.com).

## March 8

◆ Daylight Saving Time Begins

## March 12

◆ United Way Campaign Celebration and Annual Meeting, Lunch 11:30 am, Program 12:00 pm

## March 15

◆ BHS Art and Theatre Department presents Boaz Has Talent and the BCSS Visual Art Competition, For more information contact Jeff Davis [jgdavis@boazk12.org](mailto:jgdavis@boazk12.org)

◆ Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Nomination applications are due

## March 17

◆ Saint Patrick's Day

## March 19

◆ Boaz Public Library, Third Thursday Thrills, for students ages 6-12, contact the Boaz Public Library for more information at 256-593-3000

## March 23-27

◆ BCSS Spring Break

## March 29

◆ Palm Sunday

*Spring is a very busy season for Boaz High School sports. The complete schedules for varsity and junior varsity Baseball, Track, Softball, Tennis, Golf and Soccer can be found at the BHS website [www.boazk12.org](http://www.boazk12.org).*

## *Boaz Civic Clubs and Organizations Information*

### ♦ Altrusa International Club of Boaz

meets the third Monday at 5:30 at the Boaz Chamber of Commerce.  
256-593-8154

### ♦ Boaz Band Boosters

meet the first Monday at 6 pm am at the BHS band room.

### ♦ Boaz Arts & Craft Club

meets the second Monday at 6 pm am at the Boaz Public Library

### ♦ The Boaz City Council

meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday night each month at 6:00 pm at the Boaz Senior Center, 112 Church Street. For additional information phone 256-593-8105 or e-mail:

[cityhall@cityofboaz.org](mailto:cityhall@cityofboaz.org)

### ♦ Boaz Civitan Club

meets the second and fourth Tuesday at 12 pm at the Western Sizzlin' Steak House meeting room

### ♦ Boaz Masonic Lodge No. 546

has a stated meeting on Tuesday at 7 pm

### ♦ Boaz Rotary Club

meets on Wednesday at the Snead State Community College Cafeteria

### ♦ Community of Boaz Civitan Club

meets the first and third Tuesday at 7:00 pm at Grumpy's Restaurant, Boaz

### ♦ Friends of the Boaz Public Library

meets the second Tuesday at 6:00 pm at the Boaz Public Library

### ♦ Sand Mountain Twilight Dulcimer Society

meets on Tuesdays from 4:00pm – 6:00 pm at Branch Water Village

### ♦ North Alabama Genealogical Society, Boaz Chapter

meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the Boaz Public Library.

### ♦ VFW-Veterans of Foreign Wars

Meets at the VFW Fairgrounds 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month. Hwy. 431, Boaz

*On Monday, March 2nd from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, the Boaz Public Library will have their annual Read Across America Celebration. They will have a lot of great activities planned including games, reading to therapy dogs, family reading areas and a fun, edible craft. Dr. Mark Isley, Superintendent of Boaz City Schools, will be the guest reader.*

## *Boaz Elementary School*

2015 - 2016

### **Pre-K, Kindergarten & New 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Registration**

**WHERE:** Boaz Elementary School

**WHEN:** April 7<sup>th</sup> 9:00-2:00, April 14<sup>th</sup> 3:30-6:00, April 21<sup>st</sup> 9:00-2:00

### **WHAT TO BRING:**

- ◆ Child's Certified Birth Certificate
- ◆ Alabama Immunization Form (Blue Slip)
- ◆ Proof of Residence (copy of major utility bill with **PARENT'S** name/address on bill)

### **Kindergarten:**

\* Child must be 5 years old on or before September 1, 2015

### **4 Year-old Pre-K:**

- \* Limited number of slots available
- \* Classes are determined by random drawing on May 4, 2015 at 10:00 AM
- \* Child must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2015
- \* Children who live in the Boaz City Schools attendance zone will be placed before children living outside attendance zone. Students living outside of attendance zone must pay tuition.
- \*\* **Children who live outside the Boaz City Schools attendance zone will be required to pay tuition of \$250 per student with a \$600 family maximum.**

## *Corley Elementary School*

A lot of exciting changes are happening in the Corley library this year. The library is evolving into a more hands-on, makerspace type of environment. The maker movement is about teaching students to think for themselves, to think creatively, and to look for do-it-yourself solutions to problems. The goal is to see our library as a place of creation and not just consumption.

In the fall several of the 3rd grade students assisted with a reorganization of our non-fiction collection. We said goodbye to the traditional Dewey Decimal system and adopted the METIS library classification system. Metis is a flexible, intuitive and child-friendly system of library categorization. It uses whole language, visual cues, and logic that reflect a child's own experiences. This type of categorization system allows the students to navigate the library efficiently and effectively because it is organized in a way in which they understand. The students have embraced our new system and are able to quickly access books based on which subject areas they are interested in.

The library recently purchased iPads to incorporate more technology into weekly lessons. Students access the iPads to conduct research, practice new skills or to blog about what we are learning in the library. Our

blog, "In the Library with Ms. E.", is a fun way for the students to reflect about what they have learned while incorporating writing into each lesson.

In the spring we will begin our library learning labs where students will investigate different STEM activities. The idea behind the library learning labs is to help students get excited about science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It's all about helping students explore new subject areas in a fun and meaningful way and hopefully sparking a desire to learn more about STEM based topics.

We hope to see our library grow into a learning commons type area where our students discover and develop their interests and talents and find a path from their passions to opportunities in the real world.

## *Boaz Intermediate School*

Boaz Intermediate School is rolling right along into March! The month of February went by like a blur but we are excited about all the wonderful things that took place last month.

Our 4th grade classes participated in their annual musical presentation on February 18th and 19th. We are very proud of students and their hard work and effort in making this a wonderful program. Also, we would like to commend Mrs. Miriam Richey for the outstanding job she does each and every day with all of our students and the enthusiasm she shows for the fine arts.

We were also informed this past month that BIS's own, Jessica Simmons, was selected as the BCSS Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Simmons is a 4th grade English/Language Arts teacher at BIS. Our school is very proud of her and her accomplishments.

March will bring our school system's Spring Break. BCSS schools will observe Spring Break March 23rd-27th. We hope everyone has a great month!

## *Boaz Middle School*

Boaz Middle School had 109 students who were present each day during the first semester of this school year. Of these 109 students, approximately forty had perfect attendance, which means not only were they present each day, but they also were not tardy and did not check out early. We would like to congratulate these students as well as their parents. Attendance is one of the major indicators of a student's success in school. Let's work together in making sure our middle school students are present and prompt each day.

School begins at 7:30 each morning. We encourage parents of students who are car riders to have students there by 7:25. Try and schedule all medical appointments on Wednesday or Thursday, when school lets out at 2:10.

# *Boaz High School*

(by Emma Clark, BHS 9<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Spring sports at Boaz High School have finally arrived. The baseball team will be led by second year coach Adam Keenum and softball will be coached by Megan Keenum. Justin Smith is coaching the Boaz golf team. This year the tennis team has a new coach, Mrs. Harolyn Roberts. The track team is coached by Matt Pendergrass. The first BHS soccer team will be coached by Jason Johnston. These players, coaches, and staff have been working very hard to produce excellence. They have put in hours of practice through the cold and the heat to become the outstanding teams that they are. We are very proud of our teams and hope to see you there supporting these student athletes. So, everyone come out and show your Boaz pride by supporting ours spring sports teams. Grab a blanket and a lawn chair and wear your crimson and gray.



GO PIRATES!

\*A complete schedule of all BHS spring sports games can be found at the BHS website. [www.boazk12.org](http://www.boazk12.org).

## *A Message from the BCS Superintendent*

Finish Strong

In a world where great leadership is difficult to find, many companies, churches, and school systems are failing to retain leaders who are willing to 'stay the course' long enough to 'finish the race' or as my mom states to me often, 'Finish Strong.' Let's take a closer look at four leaders of organizations that have been successful over time to determine common themes or patterns about their leadership attributes that work.

First up, Southwest Airlines is led by Gary C. Kelly. Kelly believes that customer service is critical to their success but inspiring and motivating his employees as paramount, "We have built our airline company around our people and solid business principles for the past 30 years where we genuinely care for our employees and our customers and it has reaped the rewards by being the top airline corporation in the World.

Next up, Toyota is led by Akio Toyoda. Toyoda believes the highest priority must be placed on improving quality over quantity. But, Toyoda believes that Toyota must give back to the community as demonstrated earlier this year by sharing its manufacturing expertise with the Food Bank of New York City to improve the non-profit organizations ability to serve food to the needy. According to The New York Times, Toyota's plans helped slash dinner waiting time by 80% to just 18 minutes from 90 minutes. Akio Toyoda has shown that you don't have to open your pocketbook to make a big difference in people's lives - especially to those that are thousands of miles away! You just have to care about people.

Next up, Cosco is led by Jim Sinegal. His nametag plainly reads 'Jim' and he answers his own phone from his plain office cubicle at the company headquarters. While other CEO's are spending tens of thousands of dollars just decorating their offices, Sinegal's pays himself a yearly salary of \$350,00. Most CEOs of large company are paid in the millions. His employee turnover rate is the lowest in the retail industry, over five times less than rival Wal-Mart. In an age where CEOs are rarely seen in the "trenches," Jim is an anomaly in that he 'works with the people' by weekly visits to stores where he actually changes tires, takes shopping carts from the parking lot to the store, greets people, and does whatever it takes to help his employees and they love and respect him for that kind of leadership.

Lastly, Starbucks is led by Howard Schultz. Schultz demonstrated his leadership attributes by flying straight to D.C. and spending the entire week with his employees and their families after three of his employees were killed during a robbery of a Starbucks establishment. Schultz's compassion and incredible leadership helped the process of healing for those closest to the tragedy.

I believe that it is this kind of leadership in how we respond to tragedy or difficulty that shows what kind of leader that we truly are for any organization.

Southwest Airlines, Toyota, Cosco, and Starbucks are all outstanding companies that simply put the customer first in everything that they do. But, they do something else that may go unnoticed without a closer examination.....They put their employees first. When researching these companies for this article, I learned that the employees at all four companies had the lowest turnover rate of any similar sized company in America by a 3 to 1 margin. And, they paid them much better than their competitors by a 2 to 1 margin. So, can we conclude that if you can attract the very best people, treat them right, and pay them well that you will be automatically successful as an organization? No, but it helps.

As superintendent of the Boaz City School System, I firmly believe in the same leadership attributes that each of these leaders hold firm to on a daily basis. And, as we continue to grow as a school system with our Boaz 2020 plan, our five-year strategic plan, a move to project-based learning academies, blue-ribbon school considerations, and a shift towards a comprehensive reading focus in our K-8 schools may we never lose sight that the most important factor for success will always be how we treat one another, our students, our parents, our community, our state, and our world as clearly communicated in the Bible in Ephesians 4:29-32: "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." I am committed to staying the course, finishing the race, and finishing strong TOGETHER with YOU. WE ARE BOAZ! GO PIRATES!

*Dr. Mark Isley*

## *Snead State Community College*



Snead State Community College continues to build on its university partnerships with a recent articulation agreement with Athens State University.

Snead State's articulation agreement with Athens State expands the transferability of SSCC's new Applied Business program. The degree program was added in 2013, the first to be added to Snead State's curriculum since 2006.

The program is designed to be flexible for students. Some of the classes needed for the degree are on-campus classes, but the degree can also be obtained entirely online. At the completion of the program, students will be prepared to enter the

workforce or transfer to another institution to pursue a four-year degree.

"Although the Applied Business program is not a transfer degree, it was designed so that a majority of the coursework would transfer to any public four-year university in Alabama. The arrangement with Athens State University makes several more courses transferable for students who attend Athens State," said Snead State Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jason Watts.

Students pursuing the AAS in Applied Business can choose among multiple areas of specialization including Marketing, Finance, Management and Logistics. Each concentration available in the degree program is a field with high employment and high demand. The Applied Business degree has proven popular, attracting more than 20 students in its first year.

"Students who complete the program may not plan to transfer to a four-year university right away, but as circumstances change, they may decide to pursue a four-year business degree a few years after graduation. The Applied Business program is designed so most of their credits would go with them to the four-year university," said Dr. Watts.

For more information about the Applied Business program at Snead State, contact Business Division Director Vann Scott at [vscott@snead.edu](mailto:vscott@snead.edu) or (256) 840-4188.



# **Boaz** has Talent

The Boaz High School Art & Theatre Department will once again, by popular demand, present *Boaz Has Talent*. This will be the 5<sup>th</sup> annual show. The event will showcase the best and most talented in the Boaz area. The following area of talent will be

**featured: Singing, Instrument Playing, Gymnastics, Comedy, Dance, Monologues, Impersonations, Unusual Talents, Just about anything!**

Tryouts have concluded and this is your opportunity to see the best.

**Participants will perform on March 15th in the BHS auditorium!**

## **-----BCSS Visual Art Competition-----**

There will also be a visual art competition that night. Artwork may include any medium, 2-dimensional or 3-dimensional. Artwork must be turned in by Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>. The artwork will be prejudged and the winners announced the night of the show. No entry fee is required for the visual art competition.

*For more info contact Jeff Davis [jgdavis@boazk12.org](mailto:jgdavis@boazk12.org)  
BHS Art & Theatre Department*

## **Boaz Citizen of the Year 2015**

Nomination Forms are available at the  
Boaz Area chamber of Commerce  
100 E. Bartlett St. Boaz & on page 8 of this edition of *The Hook*.  
Nominations are due by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015

Citizen of the Year is awarded to an outstanding community member each April by the Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce, to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to our community. Please contact the Chamber for more information.

256-593-8154 or Email: [chamber@boazchamberofcommerce.com](mailto:chamber@boazchamberofcommerce.com)

**2015 BOAZ AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**

***Nomination Form***

*Citizen of the Year is awarded to an outstanding community member each April by the Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce, to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the community.*

*Nominations are required to include a written statement about the nominee's accomplishments and why they should be considered for the award. The nominee should be dedicated to community service, have accomplished outstanding goals or tasks in a community service role, have achieved an outstanding status in the community and be a resident of the City of Boaz.*

**Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Business (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contributions to the community:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Club & Organization involvement:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please attach additional information as desired including but not limited to:**

*Awards and Recognitions Received, Letters of Support (no more than 3),  
Letters of Thanks, Newspaper/Magazine Clippings, Photographs*

**Mail to:**  
Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce  
c/o Citizenship Award  
PO Box 563  
Boaz, AL 35957

(or)

**Email to:**  
chamber@boazchamberofcommerce.com

**Nominated by:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominations Must Be Received No Later Than April 1, 2015*