

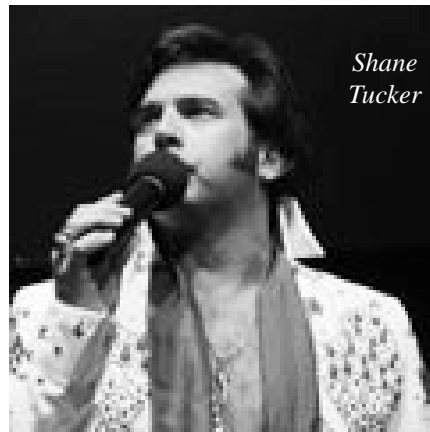
The Messenger

February 2011

EMI Adds Elvis To Popular Chili for Charity Fundraiser

Foley's "own" Shane Tucker to perform tribute

That's right! Elvis may have left the building but he's headed to the Chili for Charity Cook-Off this year set for **Saturday, February 19th** at Oak Hollow Farm, 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. For the first time in its eleven year history, an Elvis tribute and impersonation contest will be added to the usual crowd-pleasers. Shane Tucker, well-known tribute artist in Baldwin County will perform and be available for photos. In addition, Elvis impersonators are invited to participate. Other activities include children's games, mechanical bull rides, hay rides, home baked goods sale, antique tractors and cars, Chick-fil-A and ALL the chili you can eat. It's a half day of family fun and friendly rivalry. Lori DuBose, WABF radio manager and on-air personality, will emcee the popular community event. Last year, Riviera Utilities won rave reviews and took first place in the chili competition. Tom Byrne and the Riviera staff are poised to



Shane Tucker



Thanks, Em and Joe for your generosity to EMI and our community.



Riviera Utilities 2010 First Place

defend their title again this year while EMI is looking for other teams with great chili recipes to join the fun.

Once again we are indebted to Em and Joe Johnson who have generously agreed to be our \$5,000 cook-off event sponsors. EMI welcomes other supporters at a number of levels. The sponsors receive recognition in a wide variety of advertising media and also receive on site advertising the day of the event in the form of thank-you banners, signs and videos. It is great exposure for local businesses as well as an enormous help for individual and families in need. Last year close to 3,000 attended the EMI event.

General admission tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. A \$30 ticket includes admission to the event plus a commemorative Tom Jones chili bowl. For a decade, Jones has donated more than 200 chili bowls to EMI for sale at the

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2010 Christmas Sharing brings joy to many

We send a special thanks to all those in our community who took the time to gather toys and other gifts for EMI clients. In 2010, Christmas Sharing provided gifts for 885 children, 405 families and 120 elderly. Volunteers filled and distributed 282 boxes of food for the holiday. We appreciate the time spent by our volunteers who helped distribute the gifts and a special thanks to the Dwelling Place in Fairhope for the use of their facility on Greeno Road. At the last moment, EMI was forced to make a quick



change in location from the Fort Riel Armory since our troops were about to be deployed. With grace and speed, The Dwelling Place stepped in to offer their building. Also, we've been fortunate to have for many years the Foley United Methodist Church as a Christmas Sharing center. Gifts and food were distributed in Foley on December 17 and in Fairhope on December 18th.



Top picture: Dale Sommerfeld & Dick Erwin (Foley); Picture at left: Jaline Bradley -- board member and volunteer working at distribution; pictured above, Fairhope distribution center

EMI receives generous donation from Dade Paper

In an effort to support areas hit hard by the oil spill and because of its commitment to the community, the family owned and operated Dade Paper has donated a total of \$100,000 to the Bay Area Food Bank, EMI and Prodissee food pantries.

"It has been a challenging year for our local communities," shared Bob Worch, Dade General Manager. "By working together with these three fine organizations,



Left-to-right: Willie McRaney, Sally Deane, and Bob Worch

Dade Paper can help make a difference." Worch and Division President of the Loxley facility, Willie McRaney, made the check presentations

on December 28th.

Founded in 1939, Dade Paper is the largest independent distributor of foodservice disposables, janitorial supplies and equipment in the Eastern United States, Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. It operates eight full-service distribution centers and twelve sales service offices. Dade's Gulf States facility is located in Loxley.

Emmy's is still the "Fun" Place to shop

Thanks to
All Our Volunteers

Emmy's Thrift Shop has had a very busy year. We are continuously grateful for the many donations from the community and for our terrific customers. We honor all volunteers who keep the store running from week to week. They sort, price, clean and do the jobs necessary to keep our store stocked with merchandise and looking good in the process. Many have been working with EMI for years while some are new to our ranks. Emmy's is Emmy's because of those who dedicate their time and talent. One sad note this year was the passing of Sally Ann Dumas. She was a volunteer and part-time employee with Emmy's from the very beginning. We will



This photo was taken at our Christmas luncheon honoring volunteers. Front row, left to right: Bunny Meyrick, Helen Mitchell Jane Wathl, Jeanne Mayfird, Phyllis Wallace, Jennifer Castmore. 2nd Row: Leila Raber, Mona Shaw, Judy Kingston (staff), Billie Jean Garrison, Nelly Dale, Harriet Strayhorn, Vann Smith. Back Row: Ashton Bradley (staff), Richard Bowen (staff), Juanita Smith, Joyce Vath, Kim Green (manager) Randa Simons, Alyce Geyer, Kay Williams, Jerry Barnett (staff). Not pictured, Barbara Wheeler, Don Domico (staff).

miss her lively personality.

Emmy's is always in need of donations of furniture, household items, appliances, clothing, cars

and boats. The sale of all these items funds many EMI programs. Check us out on Facebook or call our pick-up line 367-emmy (3669).

Home Repair Task Force works to help elderly & disabled

One of the many projects embraced by EMI is a home repair task force that addresses the problem of sub-standard housing in Baldwin County. It is a collaborative effort of EMI, Eastern Shore Affordable Houses and Habitat for Humanity of Baldwin. The group works out of the Baldwin County Housing Alliance. These agencies are striving to develop a comprehensive plan to deal with much needed home repairs in our county. Estimates show that almost 4,000 homes in Baldwin County are in need of repair. Most are owned by elderly and disabled individuals. This collaborative project was one of four finalists for the Impact 100 grant. Since the task force did not win the grant monies, a different funding source is being sought.



Alex Cary from Habitat for Humanity giving construction advise, while Bobby Lockett, EMI looks on at Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Summerdale.

Another effort by the three agencies involves setting up seminars in the county in areas that qualify for Rural Development loans and grant programs for home repair. The purpose of these meetings is to advise residents about who may qualify for these loans and assist them with the application paperwork. Two goals of the taskforce are to eventually build a comprehensive data base of all volunteers, organizations and churches that work with home repair in order to streamline the process and to have one point of contact in the county for those seeking home repair assistance.

Annual Report to the Comm

Our Mission

As a faith based organization, we choose to improve the quality of life in Baldwin County by assisting people in meeting their basic and unexpected needs which might include direct services, community improvement or the provision of environmentally sustainable affordable housing.

Our Vision

EMI is Baldwin County's comprehensive human service organization committed to working for others to foster opportunities for all its citizens.

Board of Directors

Dr. Jeanne Maes, President – Daphne
 Melissa Thomas, Vice President – Fairhope
 Carol Stickney, Secretary-- Montrose
 Jaline Bradley – Fairhope
 William Brown – Stockton
 Rev. Henry Crawford – Montrose
 Nancy Fontenot – Fairhope
 Rev. Bob Frankenberg – Spanish Fort
 Dr. Robert Pischek - Silverhill
 Dick Slowey – Fairhope
 Philip Webb – Fairhope
 Dr. Cindy Wilson – Fairhope

EMI Staff

Sally Deane -- Executive Director
 Pam Meredith -- South Baldwin Director
 Dan Hanson -- Community Development Director
 Martha Howard -- Emergency Aid Director
 Carol Rupp -- Meals on Wheels Director
 Naomi Betterton -- Accountant
 Darlene Haas -- Community Liaison
 Michelle Kurtz -- Community Development
 Johnny Chaney-- Community Development
 Tina Orvin -- Emergency Aid Coordinator
 Darlene Sommerfield -- Administrative Assistant
 Kim Green -- Emmy's Manager
 Jerry Barnett -- Emmy's Cashier
 Richard Bowen -- Emmy's Driver
 Don Domico -- Emmy's Donation Coordinator

Eastern Shore Office

564 Fairhope Avenue
 Fairhope, AL 36532
 Phone: 251-928-3430 Fax: 251-928-3902

Serving the communities of

Spanish Fort, Daphne, Belforest,
 Malbis, Fairhope, Barnwell,
 Point Clear



*Joyce Commo
 (standing) and
 Debbie Stuart --
 two Foley
 Emergency Aid
 volunteers*

Ecumenical Ministries, Inc. 2009-2010 Service to Community

Emergency Aid – families assisted	1,816
Food Pantry – meals distributed	65,645
Meals on Wheels – hot lunches served	8,584
Community Development county wide impact	
Direct	2,500
Indirect	125,000
Total Home Repair – projects completed	18
BC Hope – clients served	85
Vouchers through Emmy's	\$5,097
Christmas Sharing 2009	
Families	403
Children	955
Elderly	75
Food Boxes Distributed	266

Program Expenses

Emergency Aid	\$284,180
Meals on Wheels	83,392
Community Development	99,008
Home Repair/BC Hope	<u>43,262</u>
Program Costs	\$509,842
Administration	<u>\$109,110</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$618,952

13,090 Volunteer Hours- Monetary Value \$89,986

Community: 2009/10 Fiscal Year

South Baldwin Office

102 West Spruce Street
Foley, AL 36526

Phone: 251-943-3445 Fax: 251-943-3452

Serving the communities of

Foley, Elberta, Magnolia Springs,
Lillian, Bon Secour

EMI Programs

Emergency Aid

Our Eastern Shore and South Baldwin Emergency Aid centers extend kindness and care to our neighbors in crisis. Volunteers help with utility and rent assistance, medical needs, food, transportation, clothing and household items from Emmy's Thrift Store.

Food Pantry

Our food pantries in South Baldwin and the Eastern Shore are well-stocked by generous churches, businesses, schools, hospitals and individuals.

Gleaning

In season, fresh fruits and vegetables as well as fresh baked items are distributed through our Gleaning program. These items are given by local grocers, farms and restaurants.

Meals on Wheels

Elderly and disabled neighbors who have difficulty preparing a hot, nutritious meal each day are recipients of this program.



Marilynn at Homestead Village preparing meals to go



Baptist Handymen working with EMI

Home Repair

This EMI program provides help for low income elderly and handicapped clients who require assistance with basic home repairs and, when needed, long-term hurricane recovery. Repairs are often done by church and community volunteers and include wheelchair ramps, plumbing, flooring, roofing or other improvements.

BC Hope

Baldwin County Home Ownership and Property Enhancement is a Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved housing counseling agency that provides financial counseling and education for first time home buyers as well as those facing foreclosure.

Prescription Assistance

This vital program helps the elderly, uninsured and under-insured secure life-saving medications at no cost. Dedicated volunteers help clients complete the necessary paperwork.

Community Development

When invited, the staff trains leaders in church-based organizations to help their communities tackle and solve tough problems such as escalating homeowners insurance, drugs in schools, paving dirt roads, sidewalks and many other troubling issues

Emmy's Thrift Shop

With the help of community donations and hard working volunteers, Emmy's is a resource for clients needing clothing, household items, furniture and appliances. The general public is welcome to shop Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Proceeds support EMI social service programs.

Christmas Sharing

An annual community effort run by EMI to reach out to those families, children and elderly in need during Christmas, this program provides requested gifts and food baskets. Donations are made by loving individuals, churches, businesses and other agencies.

Jesse's Story

Looking out for one another

Jesse is a "giver."

He volunteers out of the Foley office and does a bit of everything. . . bread pick-ups at grocery stores, pastry and soup pick-ups at Sweetie Pies and Starbucks, pizza pick-ups at Pizza Hut, food pick-ups at Jesse's Restaurant in Magnolia Springs plus he works in our food pantry. In short, he's willing to help in any way possible.

It wasn't long ago that he needed our help.

Jesse was referred to EMI in April 2006 by South Baldwin Regional Medical Center . He had complications from heart surgery, visual problems related to his untreated diabetes, no insurance and needed life saving medication. Because of his vision difficulties, his job situation was unstable. EMI discovered that even though Jesse had filed for SSI, he had not received approval. In addition,

he was without a place to live and was forced to move in with a friend.

Needless to say, he faced many challenges.

That's when Foley's EMI volunteer patient advocate, Debra Stuart, stepped in. Together they organized his medications, contacted Ozanam Charitable Pharmacy and other prescription assistant programs for help. In addition, the Foley Lions Club was contacted and helped set up the surgery to correct his vision problems. Another victory...in 2007 Jesse received SSI disability.

EMI has continued to assist with his medical issues, help him apply for food stamps and find proper housing. Even

though Jesse has dialysis three times a week, he takes the time to give back. It is a satisfying and reciprocal situation. Furthermore, with Jesse's story, we're reminded that we best serve our clients when we work together in love and kindness.



Chili for Charity



Ride the bull at the next Chili for Charity

Continued from front event. All proceeds help support the many social service programs of EMI. Winners of the cook-off, along with winners of

the apron and booth decorating contests, will be presented coveted Tom Jones pottery prizes.

For information concerning teams, sponsorships, tickets or the Elvis impersonation contest, call 251-928-3430 (Fairhope office) or 251-943-3445 (Foley office) or check our website at baldwinemi.org

Foley's Home Repair Program works with local church



Members of the Church on the Eastern Shore take on the task of building a wheelchair ramp for an EMI client. We send our sincere thanks to these hardworking volunteers for a job well done.



Leaders of EMI's low-income, church-based community improvement association meet with Baldwin County Commissioner Bob James. He is seated at the far end of the table, facing the camera. Moving to the right are Larry Williams, Mike and Robin Hutchison, Johnny Chaney (against the wall), Sarah Harris, Charles Hall, Valarie Chaney (against the wall), Pastor Bennie Richardson, Minister Richadean Crawford, Elder Henry Crawford (not related to the other two Crawfords), and Pastor Henry Crawford. They met in the conference room at Good Samaritan Sanctuary and Wee Care Child Care center on Twin Beach Road in Fairhope.

EMI program studies parks, drainage, natural gas

Newly-elected Baldwin County Commissioner Bob James met with two of EMI's church-based community improvement organizations serving low-income communities in Foley and Fairhope.

His insights lead to future discussions about comprehensive drainage planning and work in the two communities, and a possible five-acre park in one. He's asked for a guided tour in both communities, and plans to study a potentially fatal intersection in the curves of west Twin Beach Road in Fairhope.

Additional meetings have been arranged with James to discuss problems in low-income communities in north Baldwin. Getting-to-know-you meetings have been arranged with Baldwin's

other newly-elected county commissioner, Tucker Dorsey.

In addition to drainage, the

Hurricane insurance crisis progress

Alabama's state fire marshal recently said there are more fires in north Alabama than the south. However an Alabama Department of Insurance supervisor recently said companies charge south Alabama customers more than north Alabama customers for *fire insurance*. They do so for *non-actuarial reasons*. The DOI permits this. Both facts were elicited by HHII leaders, and captured – after some effort – in minutes of public meetings.

On another positive note, Community Development received \$5,000 from Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors. Participants will help organizations in three states learn more about solutions that can fix the crisis.

Fairhope low-income community group is studying pros and cons of the proposed Fairhope School District. They're arranging smaller research meetings with proponents and opponents and plan a public meeting that presents all sides later in the year.

North Baldwin will study the issues of natural gas, deepened relationships with newly-elected officials, and necessary support of the Baldwin Housing Alliance. The aggressive work of the Alliance is much-needed in their area.

The countywide Road Paving organization explores the concerns of rural Baldwin County. As the county morphs into semi-urban status, the unincorporated parts of the county lose the attention and clout they once held.


EMI Snapshots of 2010

*Year-in-Pictures:
from displays at
Arts and Crafts
shows to
co-sponsoring a
Christian
concert, to volun-
teer banquets and
scholarship award
presentations,
EMI is a vital part
of the community.*



Visit our website: www.baldwinemi.org

We are now able to take donations directly through our website. Just click on the "ways to help" tab on our home page, and look for the PayPal donation button. If you like, you can also sign up to receive our newsletter via email and help us save on printing and mailing costs.

 Find us on Facebook, become a fan of Ecumenical Ministries of Baldwin County and Emmy's Thrift Shop. You will get updates about the ministry and all the happenings at Emmy's, including new items for sale and announcements of those spur-of-the-moment sales.

EMI is proud to be members of both The Eastern Shore and South Baldwin Chambers of Commerce.



**Ecumenical Ministries, Inc
of Baldwin County**

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