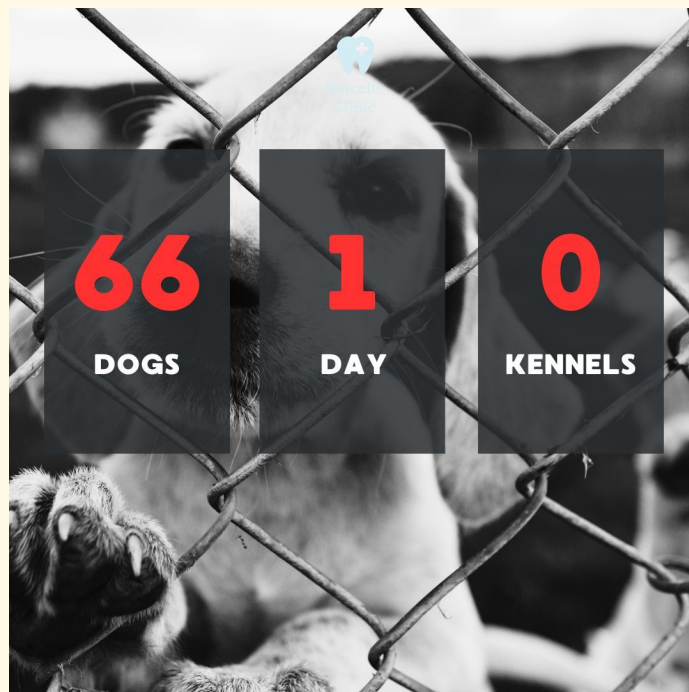




Dear Friend:

As April comes to a close, I want to tell you about the work being done to care for our animal friends. If you are not interested in pets, you can skip the rest of this message and look for other updates and news.

If you follow the Tallahassee Animal Service Center (the Shelter) or the Leon County Humane Society (LCHS), you are well aware of the high number of dogs and cats they have taken in this month. The dedicated staff and volunteers at the Shelter and LCHS are usually overburdened with adoptable pets looking for homes.



In one day this month, the shelter took in 66 dogs, adding to the 120 dogs already in the shelter, which had only five open kennels. The LCHS also took in many dogs that day. Housing and caring for these dogs takes a large village of staff, volunteers, and fosters. Your support, whether through volunteering, fostering, or adopting, can make a significant difference in the lives of these animals.

My wife and I occasionally take in foster dogs from the Shelter or LCHS, and we did so for one of the dogs in April. This time, we had Ben, a two-year-old Boston terrier, for

about a week, and he has since found a wonderful home.



We applied to foster to get started, and our veterinarian confirmed we are caring animal parents. Because our dogs do not get along with bigger dogs, we watch for smaller dogs that need a temporary home. They work with you to find foster pets that will fit your needs. The shelter or LCHS arranges and pays for all vet care and pet supplies.

The dogs permanently bond with the person who picks them up from the shelter! Trust me—no amount of attention or treats will overcome this bond! We adopted my dog Reny after taking him in as a foster. He has been most strongly attached to my wife since she picked him up.

Besides my dog Reny, we have found new homes for all fosters. Seeing them go is bittersweet, but it's always a happy ending when they join a forever home.

If you can foster a dog or cat, contact the Shelter or LCHS. If you can volunteer to walk dogs or offer other help, also reach out! Their information is below this message.

-David

Tallahassee Animal Service Center

- **[Adopt from the Shelter](#)**
- **[Volunteer at the Shelter](#)**
- **[Foster for the Shelter](#)**
- **[Donate to the Shelter](#)**

Leon County Humane Society

- **Adopt from the LCHS**
 - **Volunteer at LCHS**
 - **Foster for the LCHS**
 - **Donate to the LCHS**
-



Shelter Pet of the Month

Meet Nala! She is a spayed female who looks like an American Staffordshire Terrier mix. The shelter staff thinks she's ten years old and weighs about 45 lbs.

Despite being diagnosed with Glaucoma and losing both her eyes, Nala has adapted remarkably. She relies on her nose and ears to navigate her surroundings. Her ideal forever home would be one without children and cats. She's an avid walker and finds joy in playing with her squeaky toys.

You can meet Nala at the shelter's open kennel days every Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday from 1 PM to 5 PM. If those times don't work for you, adoption appointments are available from 10 AM to 6 PM, seven days a week.

[**Find out how to adopt Nala!**](#)

Recent County Commission and CRTPA Votes

Would you like to see how your local elected officials vote on the various issues? We took the following votes at the April 16th Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency (CRTPA) Meeting and at the April 23rd County Commission Meeting Budget Workshop.

CRTRA
CAPITAL REGION

4/16/2024 Votes

Provided \$2.9 million in funding received by the federal government to build a sidewalk along Paul Russell Rd. from Monday Rd. to Apalachee Parkway.

PASS

YES Riley-Goldwire, Hosford, Matlow, Minor, NeSmith, O'Keefe, Richardson, Williams-Cox	NO
--	-----------

Not Present: Maddox, Messersmith
Abstained:

CRTRA
CAPITAL REGION

4/16/2024 Votes

Adopted the Transportation Alternatives Project Priority List for FY 2026-2030, including two (2) sidewalk projects in Leon County - Waverly Road Sidewalk Project and Highland Drive Sidewalk Project.

PASS

YES Riley-Goldwire, Hosford, Matlow, Minor, NeSmith, O'Keefe, Richardson, Williams-Cox	NO
--	-----------

Not Present: Maddox, Messersmith
Abstained:

CRTRA
CAPITAL REGION

4/16/2024 Votes

Provided \$1.5 million in funding received by the federal government to realign the intersection at Velda Dairy Rd. and Ox Bottom Rd.

PASS

YES Riley-Goldwire, Hosford, Matlow, Minor, NeSmith, O'Keefe, Richardson, Williams-Cox	NO
--	-----------

Not Present: Maddox, Messersmith
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Revised the County's Parental Leave Policy to provide eight (8) weeks of paid leave at 100% of the employee's rate of pay following the birth or adoption of a child.

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Approved the current blended Employee/Employer Health Insurance cost share split.

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Approved \$150,000 to construct a ground-level water tank at Volunteer Fire Department station on Smith Creek Road in western Leon County.

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Accepted a report on Preliminary Budget Overview including a 5% across the board salary increase for all Leon County employees.

FAILED

YES Cummings, Maddox, Proctor	NO Welch, O'Keefe, Minor, Caban
---	---

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Accepted a report on Preliminary Budget Overview including performance increases of 0 - 5% (with an average of 3%), for all Leon County employees

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Directed staff to bring back an agenda item at the June Budget Workshop examining a 5% across the board salary increase for all Leon County employees.

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Accepted a status update on the County's goal to convert 30% of its light-duty fleet to fully electric vehicles by 2030 and the ongoing investments of charging infrastructure at County facilities.

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

LEON
LEON COUNTY

4/23/2024 Votes

Approved increases to both dental and mental health reimbursement rates for the County's Health Care Program (CareNet), aligning them with current Medicaid rates.

PASS

YES Cummings, Welch, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox	NO
---	-----------

Not Present:
Abstained:

Upcoming Public Meetings

☐ **May 2 at 4:30 p.m.:** Blueprint Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting, Leon County Main Library, Program Room B, 200 W. Park Avenue.

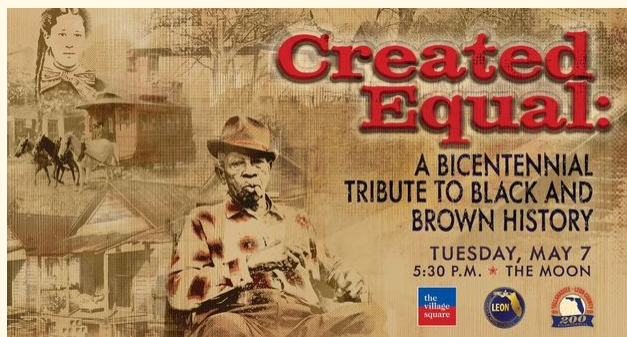
☐ **May 14 at 3 p.m.:** County Commission Meeting & Public Hearing at 6 p.m., County Commission Chamber, 5th Floor of the Leon County Courthouse. Watch the meeting live on Comcast Channel 16, the County's Facebook page, YouTube Channel, Twitter, and the [County website](#).

☐ **May 16 at 1 p.m.:** Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Budget Workshop, City Commission Chamber in Tallahassee City Hall. Watch the BP meeting live on WCOT (Comcast Channel 13).

☐ **May 16 at 3 p.m.:** Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency Board Meeting, City Commission Chamber in Tallahassee City Hall. Watch the BP meeting live on WCOT (Comcast Channel 13).

☐ **May 21 at 1:30 p.m.:** Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency, City Commission Chamber in Tallahassee City Hall. Watch the CRTPA meeting live on WCOT (Comcast Channel 13).

Upcoming Featured Events





Leon County Commission, District 5 | 301 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

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