



The Martin News

PO Box 5003 Sylvester, GA 31791
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(229) 272-4356

October 25, 2021

SGT

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA THERAPY

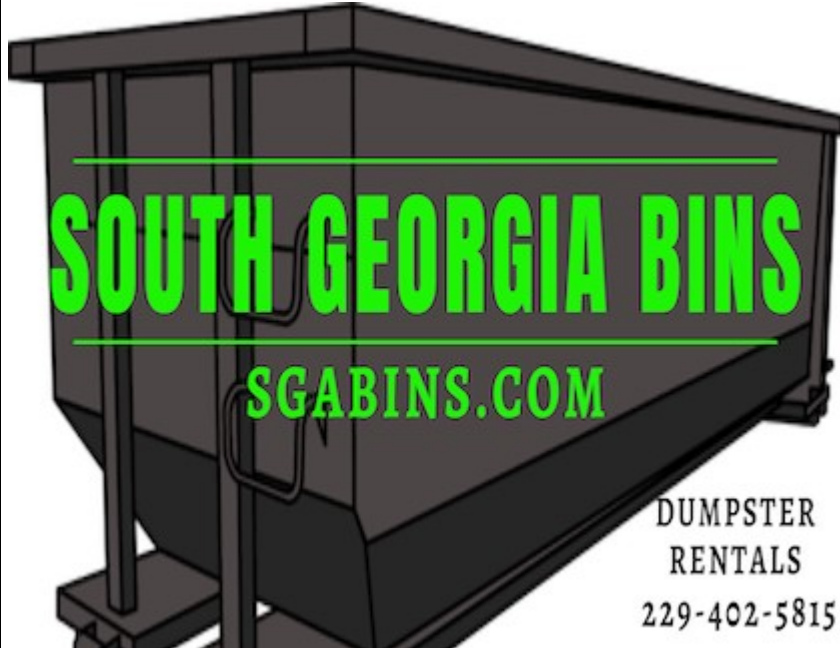
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Enjoying Halloween On Isabella Street in Sylvester



Isabella Street in Sylvester was a busy but exciting place to be on Saturday night, October 30th. Children all dressed up in their costumes lined the streets of Isabella where many houses were decorated and giving out lots of candy. Pictured to the left is the Kimsey Family House located at 604 North Isabella Street. They held Nightmare of Isabella Street. Children and parents could walk through the haunted house and receive a pile of candy. Lacey Kimsey along with her family and close friends decorate the house for people to enjoy on Halloween weekend. People come by often and take pictures and enjoy the set up which is what the Kimsey family wants. Along

with trick or treating and the haunted house happening on October 30th, Mr. Charles McDonald and his staff with Field's Funeral Home set up on Isabella Street and gave out 240 hot dogs with candy bags and 60 pounds of fresh and smoked sausage. This was not the first year Mr. McDonald participated on Isabella Street as he and his staff love this event. Mr. McDonald said giving back to the community is something he and his staff enjoys immensely.

The Red Ribbon Campaign™ And Enrique Kiki Camarena

Since its beginning in 1985, the Red Ribbon has touched the lives of millions of people around the world. In response to the murder of DEA Agent Enrique Camarena, angered parents and youth in communities across the country began wearing Red Ribbons as a symbol of their commitment to raise awareness of the killing and destruction cause by drugs in America. Enrique (Kiki) Camarena was a Drug Enforcement Administration Agent who was tortured and killed in Mexico in 1985. When he decided to join the US Drug Enforcement Administration, his mother tried to talk him out of it. "I'm only one person", he told her, "but I want to make a difference." On Feb. 7, 1985, the 37-year-old Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him in a car. One month later, Camarena's body was found. He had been tortured to death. In honor of Camarena's memory and his battle against illegal drugs, friends and neighbors began to wear red badges of satin. Parents, sick of the destruction of alcohol and other drugs, had begun forming coalitions. Some of these new coalitions took Camarena as their model and embraced his belief that one person can make a difference. These coalitions also adopted the symbol of Camarena's memory, the red ribbon. In 1988, NFP sponsored the first National Red Ribbon Celebration. Today, the Red Ribbon serves as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drug prevention activities. Since that time, the campaign has reached millions of U.S. children and families. The National Family Partnership (NFP) and its network of individuals and organizations continue to deliver his message of hope to millions of people every year, through the National Red Ribbon Campaign™. Worth County Schools participated in Red Ribbon Week this past week. Please be sure to check out Worth County Primary School, Worth County Elementary School and Worth County Middle School Facebook pages for pictures that they may have shared of all of their dress up days. All the students and staff had fun dressing up all while learning about and supporting Red Ribbon Week.

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WCES FOOD DRIVE

WCES is having a "Food Drive" to collect food for those in need. This will benefit local children right here in Worth County. If you would like to participate, please have your child bring their donation to school from now until

November 15th. Please remember that all donations have to be nonperishable foods that are easy for small hands to open without assistance.

Thanks so much for helping us help others!

SUGGESTED FOOD ITEMS

- Canned meats with pop tops only! (ex. Vienna sausage, tuna, Beanie Weenies, Ravioli, Spaghetti, etc.)
- Milk Boxes
- Juice Boxes/Capri Suns
- Small Boxed Cereal
- Fruit Cups
- Chips or Pretzels
- Small boxes of Raisins
- Cheese or Peanut Butter Crackers
- Applesauce cups
- Cereal Bars or Granola Bars
- Pop-Tarts
- Fruit Gummy Snacks

To make it fun, we will line up all items down the hall. The first grade level who reaches the end of the hall first wins an ice cream for the entire grade level.

Atlanta's Most Heartwarming Christmas Celebration

Have a Holly Jolly Christmas at Stone Mountain Park, where the true magic of the season is in the air. Enjoy the glow from more than two million colorful lights, festive music, and visits from some your favorite holiday characters! Start a new family tradition this year and create memories that will last a lifetime for your kids...and for you. Experience the New! Tree Lighting Ceremony. You are invited to join as we help the Snow Angel light up the town with holiday cheer! Bring your Christmas wishes and visit with Santa Claus — Named by USA Today as one of the ten best places in the country to catch Santa Claus. New Music! More Lights! Feast your eyes on thousands of lights, projections, special effects and photo opportunities in this immersive walk-through experience! Join Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer®, Clarice, and Bumble™ the Abominable Snow Monster at Rudolph's Merry Little Meet and Greet. Kids of all ages can meet these heartwarming characters or catch them in the nightly Christmas parade! Enjoy several live performances that are sure to get you in the Christmas spirit! All aboard the Singalong Christmas Train to hear your favorite Christmas tunes as well as the heartwarming story of the first Christmas in The Gift. Wander through the Wonderland Walkway, a dazzling tunnel of lights guiding you to the Snow Angel® Palace, where YOU are a part of the experience as we tell the story of Angelina the Snow Angel in A Wish For Snow. Take in the sights and sounds of the season with a nightly Christmas Parade including whimsical floats and the arrival of Santa Claus. Be sure to stay for the magical Snow Angel® Snowfall Finale to wrap up the evening. Enjoy great holiday shopping that includes hand-blown glass ornaments, homemade fudge, unique toys and seasonal apparel. Additionally, enjoy Stone Mountain Park's daytime attractions included in your Christmas Adventure Pass ticket: Summit Skyride, Discovering Stone Mountain Museum, Historic Square & Farmyard, and more! The Christmas Celebration will start November 13th and will run thru January 2, 2022.



Congratulations to the Worth County Middle School Competition Cheer Team on a fantastic routine and scoring their highest score of the season. They placed 2nd in the Region. Way to go girls!

Source: WCSD



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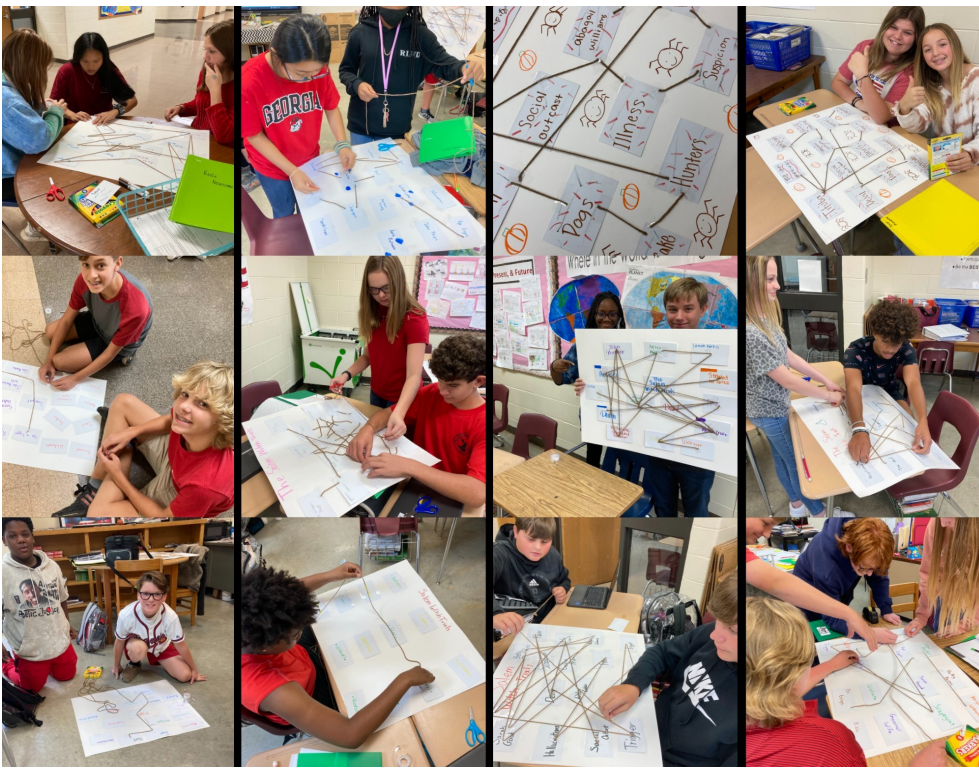
402 N Park Ave., Tifton,
GA 31794

Atlanta Office
(404) 523-3611

303 Peachtree St., NE Suite
4100 Atlanta, GA 30308

Why Give Blood

Blood donation is a community responsibility. While you're reading this, a local patient needs blood. Blood is needed every two seconds. About one in seven people entering a hospital needs blood. Blood is always needed for treatment of accident victims, cancer patients, hemophiliacs and surgery patients. Blood cannot be manufactured. Only 37 percent of our country's population is eligible to give blood and less than 10 percent of those who can donate actually do donate annually. What if everyone eligible to donate became complacent and decided they didn't need to donate because someone else would? What if there wasn't enough donated blood available when you, a loved one - anyone - needed it? Our blood supply comes from caring donors like you. It takes about one hour of your time. When you give blood, it gives someone another smile, another hug, another chance. It is the gift of life. Be a Hero. Give Blood. The blood drive set up Tuesday, November 2nd is sponsored by American Legion Sylvester Post 335. Make plans now to go by and see them and donate the gift of life. American Red Cross believes in giving something that means something. Thank you in advance to everyone that helps others by giving blood. It is for sure needed.



Worth County Middle School 8th graders in Mrs. Ford's ELA class became student detectives investigating America's oldest cold case: The Salem Witch Trials. They explored events, analyzed evidence, and made connections to understand the happenings and why.

Source: WCSD

Let's Celebrate Candy Day

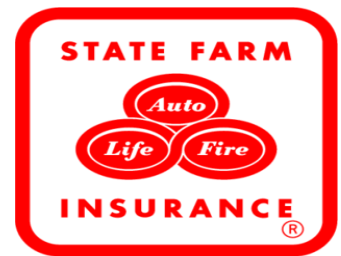
November 4th is National Candy Day! What is your favorite candy? I am never really thought about my favorite because I like different types of candy. I keep a candy jar for everyone to enjoy at my house and right now it has miniature kit kats, miniature snickers, smarties, bubble gum and peppermint patties. I don't eat it much but I love seeing everyone else enjoy it. Now treat someone with some candy today!



**It's Your Right...
Be Sure To Vote on
Tuesday, November 2nd.
Thank you!**

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Ten Tips for Building a Healthy Meal

1. Make half your plate veggies and fruits. Vegetables and fruits are full of nutrients and may help to promote good health. Choose red, orange and dark green vegetables such as tomatoes, sweet potatoes and broccoli.
2. Add lean protein. Choose protein foods such as lean beef and pork, or chicken, turkey, beans or tofu. Twice a week, make seafood the protein on your plate.
3. Include whole grains. Aim to make at least half your grains whole grains. Look for the words "100% whole grain" or "100% whole wheat" on the food label. Whole grains provide more nutrients, like fiber, than refined grains.
4. Don't forget the dairy. Pair your meal with a cup of fat-free or low-fat milk. They provide the same amount of calcium and other essential nutrients as whole milk, but less fat and calories. Don't drink milk? Try soy milk (soy beverage) as your beverage or include fat-free or low-fat yogurt in your meal.
5. Avoid extra fat. Using heavy gravies or sauces will add fat and calories to otherwise healthy choices. For example, steamed broccoli is great, but avoid topping it with cheese sauce. Try other options, like a sprinkling of low fat parmesan cheese or a squeeze of lemon.
6. Take your time. Savor your food. Eat slowly, enjoy the taste and textures, and pay attention to how you feel. Be mindful. Eating very quickly may cause you to eat too much.
7. Use a smaller plate. Using a smaller plate at meals will help with portion control. That way you can finish your entire plate and feel satisfied without overeating.
8. Take control of your food. Eat at home more often so you know exactly what you are eating. If you eat out, check and compare the nutrition information. Choose healthier options such as baked instead of fried.
9. Try new foods. Keep it interesting by picking out new foods you've never tried before, like mango, lentils or kale. You may find a new favorite. Trade fun and tasty recipes with friends or find them online.
10. Satisfy your sweet tooth in a healthy way. Indulge in a naturally sweet dessert dish...Fruit! Serve a fresh fruit cocktail or a fruit parfait made with yogurt. For a hot dessert, bake apples and top with cinnamon.

These are great ideas and can be beneficial to us all. This information was brought to you by www.choosemyplate.gov.



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Knowing the Signs of Pneumonia

Pneumonia Awareness Month is in November. Pneumonia is an infection that inflames the air sacs in one or both lungs. The air sacs may fill with fluid or pus (purulent material), causing cough with phlegm or pus, fever, chills, and difficulty breathing. A variety of organisms, including bacteria, viruses and fungi, can cause pneumonia. Pneumonia can range in seriousness from mild to life-threatening. It is most serious for infants and young children, people older than age 65, and people with health problems or weakened immune systems. The signs and symptoms of pneumonia vary from mild to severe, depending on factors such as the type of germ causing the infection, and your age and overall health. Mild signs and symptoms often are similar to those of a cold or flu, but they last longer. Signs and symptoms of pneumonia may include:

- Fever, sweating and shaking chills
- Cough, which may produce phlegm
- Chest pain when you breathe or cough
 - Shortness of breath
 - Fatigue
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

Newborns and infants may not show any sign of the infection. Or they may vomit, have a fever and cough, appear restless or tired and without energy, or have difficulty breathing and eating. People older than age 65 and people in poor health or with a weakened immune system may have a lower than normal body temperature. Older people who have pneumonia sometimes have sudden changes in mental awareness. Many germs can cause pneumonia. The most common are bacteria and viruses in the air we breathe. Your body usually prevents these germs from infecting your lungs. But sometimes these germs can overpower your immune system, even if your health is generally good. Pneumonia is classified according to the types of germs that cause it and where you got the infection. If you have any of these symptoms, be sure to contact your physician.



Sylvester-Worth County Business Expo



**November 4th, 2021
5pm to 7pm**

**102 S. Main Street
(Train Depot - Pedestrian Mall)**

Join Us!



Network

Get to know the businesses that help support the Sylvester-Worth County economy.



Job Opportunities

Looking for a job?
Potential on the spot interviews for job seekers.



Community

New to the community?
This is the perfect opportunity to get to know more about the businesses.

Support Local Economy

To ensure that we contribute to maintaining a stable economy, we must support the businesses that contribute to it. Please help us by eating & shopping local. Living the local life is how we keep our community and economy stable.

Promo Local Businesses

In an effort to better serve our community, we must support the business we already have in Sylvester-Worth County. We highly encourage that everyone come out and support the local community and its businesses.

Are you a business interested in participating?

Contact us!



229-776-7718



info@swcountychamber.com

Plant the Seed. Watch it Grow. Reap the Benefits.



Tiftarea Academy Names Athletic Complex For Irvin & Joy Branch

Tiftarea Academy on Friday dedicated its Athletic Complex to Irvin and Joy Branch. Irvin Branch is in his 25th year as president of the Tiftarea Academy Board of Trustees. His wife Joy has taught classes at the Chula school. "Both of them have dedicated countless hours to TA over many years," school officials said on social media. "We are so grateful for their commitment to and love of Tiftarea Academy. We were honored to present them with this." During a short ceremony, the couple also received a framed picture of the arch designating the "Branch Athletic Complex." Pictured above is Irvin and Joy Branch as they gather with family on Friday at the entrance to the newly dedicated Branch Athletic Complex at Tiftarea Academy in Chula.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Think Tifton



ThinkTiftonGA



Coca-Cola United's Tifton Facility Now "Fully Operational"

Coca-Cola Bottling Co. United's sales and distribution center in Tifton, which has been up and running for a few months, is "now fully operational," the company announced Monday on social media. The \$65 million state-of-the-art sales/distribution center and warehouse is 330,000 square feet and uses the latest technology in beverage distribution. The facility serves 21 counties in South Georgia and three in the Florida Panhandle – which translates to more than 600,000 consumers, Coca-Cola United said. The Tifton operation is located off Interstate 75 at Exit 59 and is difficult to miss when traveling along the highway.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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The Worth Country Cross Country Team is STATE BOUND

On October 27th, the Worth County Cross Country team ran in the GA Region 1-AA Cross Country Championship at Pebble Hill Plantation in Thomasville, Georgia. The varsity girls team placed 1st overall with 31 points and an average time of 25:25—four of the five runners placed in the top 10. Alexia Sokolowski placed 3rd overall with a time of 23:36.45, followed closely by teammate India Williamson with a time of 24:42.46. Ana Resendez placed 6th, Stevie Lewis placed 9th, and Bralyn Griffis placed 14th.

The varsity boys placed 3rd overall with 71 points and an average time of 20:53. Eyan Zupko placed 1st overall with a time of 18:17.49. Conner Mullen placed 2nd overall with a time of 19:05.82. The other runners for the Rams included Leavon Legree - 20th, Luke Paramore - 23rd, Clarence Griffin - 25th, Kason Mullen - 28th, and Tanner Rooks - 30th.

Both teams head to state to run Friday, November 5, 2021. The boys will run at 9:00 am, and the girls will run at 9:45 am. The state meet will take place at Carrollton High School in Carrollton, Georgia. The admission is \$5 per spectator. Awesome job, Rams! We are so proud of each of you!

Source: WCSD



Monopoly Anyone?

November 19th is Play Monopoly Day! Who all likes or loves rather to play Monopoly? I use to like to play it as a child but playing it as an adult with my almost 18 year old is way more fun! He beats me every time but his reactions during the game are priceless. I know it's a long game well in my case not so much 'cause I spend all my money buying land and then have to cash it all in to pay him but I do know that it can be a long game. Whether the game is long or not, it is so worth it spending time with our children.



Our mission is to make this a perfect day for you. Gin Creek will be the most unique and beautiful experience you have ever been a part of in your entire life.

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TRICK OR TREATING FUN AT THE MARGARET JONES PUBLIC LIBRARY

Source: MJPL



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The Annual Christmas Clearing House Is Under Way At The Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce

The Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring the annual Christmas Clearing House again this year and would love your help. All around us we see signs of the holidays approaching fast! There are Christmas decorations, Christmas toys, Christmas candy and even Christmas clothing in stores. Before the rush begins and your time is limited, the Chamber would like to ask for your help. Years ago, the Chamber was approached to act as a Clearing House to provide churches and other organizations a means of locating families in need of help for Christmas. The Chamber helps prevent duplication of services and verifies the need for assistance. This is where you come in. There are several ways that you can join in. One way you can help is by making a monetary donation to the Chamber and send it to P.O. Box 768 Sylvester, GA 31791 or drop your donation off at the Chamber. A second way you can help is by dropping off items to the chamber for children and seniors. Those items can include but not limit to, non-perishable foods, toys for ages 0-10, socks, learning toys, scarves, clothing for ages 0-10, blankets and space heaters. One more way that you can help is by adopting a senior or a family. If any of these ways sounds like something that you can do, please give the Chamber a call at 229-776-7718 and they will help you. Without your participation, there will be a child or a family in Worth County who will not experience a Merry Christmas. Since this program is designed to help families in need in Sylvester-Worth County, the Chamber is currently accepting applications from families & senior citizens that may need some assistance this Christmas. They will be accepting applications Monday thru Friday 8:00am to 5:00pm until December 3rd, 2021. If you are unable to make it in during office hours and are in need of assistance, be sure to give the Chamber a call to set up an appointment. Thank you to everyone for your help in making sure that everyone has a very Merry Christmas.

Red Ribbon Week Art Contest Winners



Pre-K
Jonathan Charleton



Kdg
1st- Fiona Jiang
2nd- Eternity Blanton
3rd- Campbell White



1st Grade
1st- Bella Watson
2nd- Chloe Childers
3rd- Jerry Jiang



2nd Grade
1st- Amy Outlaw
2nd- Hayden Merritt
3rd- Alyssa Simpson

Congratulations!!

Worth County Primary School

Dates to Remember

November

- 1st ~ Book Fair at WCMS
- 1st ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 1st ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 1st ~ Picture Retake at WCES
- 2nd ~ Book Fair at WCMS
- 2nd ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 2nd ~ General/Special Election
- 2nd ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 2nd ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 2nd ~ WCMS Boys Basketball Home at 5pm
- 3rd ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 3rd ~ Book Fair at WCMS
- 3rd ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 3rd ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 4th ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 4th ~ Book Fair at WCMS
- 4th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 4th ~ Sylvester - Worth County Business Expo
- 5th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 5th ~ Book Fair at WCMS
- 5th ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 5th ~ Turkeys, Books & Brushes at Margaret Jones Public Library 6pm
- 6th ~ WCMS Competition Cheer All Day Home
- 6th ~ WCHS Competition Cheer All Day Home
- 6th ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 6th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 9am Turner
- 6th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball BTeam at 10am Turner
- 6th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball ATeam at 11am Turner
- 7th ~ Chamber 50/50 Raffle Tickets Sale
- 8th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 8th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 4:30pm Cook
- 8th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball 5:30pm Cook
- 8th ~ Christmas Paint Party at Margaret Jones Public Library 6pm
- 9th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 9th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 9th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 4:30pm Tift
- 9th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball 5:30pm Tift
- 9th ~ Worth the Read Book Club November Meeting 5:30pm
- 10th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 10th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 11th ~ Happy Veteran's Day from The Martin News
- 11th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 11th ~ Veteran's Day Celebrations at Worth County School
- 11th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 4:30pm Worth
- 11th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball BTeam 5:30pm Worth
- 11th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball ATeam 6:30pm Worth
- 12th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 13th ~ WCHS Competition Cheer Regions Away
- 13th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 9am Worth
- 13th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball BTeam 10am Worth
- 13th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball ATeam 11am Worth
- 15th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 16th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 16th ~ WCMS Basketball Girl 4:30pm Thomasville
- 16th ~ WCMS Basketball Boys 5:30pm Thomasville
- 17th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 18th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 4:30pm Worth
- 18th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball BTeam at 5:30pm Worth
- 18th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball ATeam at 6:30pm Worth
- 18th ~ Board of Education Meeting 7pm

Proud Sponsors of the Worth County Ram Touchdown Club Football

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*Pictures provided by:
Football Mom, Jennifer Cooper*





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Sylvester Community Blood Drive

**Sponsored by
American Legion Post 335
Margaret Jones Library**

Sumner Room
205 East Pope Street
Sylvester Georgia 31791

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

3:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Please visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter SYLVESTER
to schedule an appointment

Second Annual Drive - Thru Trunk or Treat was Great Success

The Second Annual Drive - Thru Trunk or Treat was held Thursday at the Worth County Board of Education from 6 to 7:30pm. Just over 500 children came through the event, most of them all dressed up for Halloween. And even a few with their pets after attending the Pets and Pals Parade in Downtown Sylvester. The event served several purposes. One being that many parents liked the idea of the drive-thru Trunk or Treat due to COVID-19. The parents felt like they still were able to enjoy Trick or Treating all while staying safe. Another purpose served at the event was helping those in need. Kona Ice of Albany gave sno-cone treats in exchange of a monetary donation or an unwrapped gift to help the Summer Christmas Fest which is an event held on December 11th. This event is free for everyone. Children are able to see Santa and receive a gift all while the families get to enjoy free hot dogs, chips and more. There are so many things to enjoy at this event all free of charge. There is a raffle held each year and they are \$1 each. Great items to win. Make plans now to attend.

A special thank you to the businesses and organizations that participated: American Legion Sylvester Post 335, Mrs. Brenda Hicks, City of Sylvester, Worth County High School Competition Cheerleaders, Worth County Fire Department, Stuart Pate - State Farm, Vinyl Trunk with Tiffany Bennett, Worth County Middle School, City Barber, The Martin News, Aaron STRONG! (In Memory of Aaron Entrekim), Fields Funeral Home, Worth County Sheriff's Office, WCHS SGA Club, WCHS Key Club, Kona Ice of Albany, Sylvester Code Enforcement, Kiwanis Club, Men United, Sylvester - Worth County Family Connections, WCMS Spirit Cheerleaders, Tatina's Taxes, WCHS HOSA, Bennett's Finish Carpentry, Worth County Elementary School, Summer Christmas Fest, Lumbre Cocina Mexicana, WCHS SkillsUSA, Children's Medical Services SWGA Public Health District 8-2, WCHS Spirit Cheerleaders, Southern Smoke Wagon, Woodmen Life, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Chehaw RC, Worth County Primary School, Worth County EMS, Worth County Board of Education and Worth County 911.



Second Annual Trunk or Treat 2021

SMOKED TURKEYS for Thanksgiving!

Fully cooked, just in
time for the Holiday!



Fundraiser for Literacy Volunteers of Tifton-Tift County.
Proceeds benefit adults in our community who are
learning to read and preparing to take their GEDs.

Turkeys may be picked up at Peace Lutheran Church,
217 Tennessee Dr., Tifton, between **9-11 a.m. Sat.,
Nov. 20**, during the church's annual Cookie Walk!

Tickets for each are \$35

Call **(229) 391-2527**, or message Literacy
Volunteers on Facebook, or email tiftlv@gmail.com

November is

National
Family Literacy
Month®



Ashburn, Fitzgerald To Get GA Communities Arts Grants

The Fitzgerald-Ben Hill County Arts Council and the Ashburn Downtown Development Authority are being awarded Vibrant Communities Grants by the Georgia Council for the Arts, a division of the Ga. Department of Economic Development. The Vibrant Communities Grant supports a variety of arts programming opportunities. Fitzgerald's and Ashburn's grants are among 67 entities in the state that will receive a total of \$600,000 in funding as part of the Vibrant Communities and Cultural Facilities grant awards for fiscal year 2022. "The arts are the soul of who we are as Georgians and play a significant role in the strength of our economy and vitality of our communities. They contribute to our rich culture and our thriving economy, providing opportunities and experiences along with thousands of jobs," said Commissioner Pat Wilson of the Department of Economic Development. The Georgia Council for the Arts had received 96 applications from schools, libraries, cities, historical societies, community theatres, Boys & Girls Clubs, and arts and other related organizations from across the state. "Arts events supported by Vibrant Communities grants will help jump-start tourism and bring communities together in all parts of the state," said Georgia Council for the Arts Director Tina Lilly.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

Tifton Will Get "Merry On Main Street" Celebration Christmas Parade December 4

Tifton's Hometown Holiday Christmas Celebration, a popular downtown festival for more than two decades that fell victim to the pandemic last year, is morphing this year into a somewhat different event. Downtown Tifton's "Merry on Main Street" celebration on Saturday, Dec. 4, will take the place of the holiday festival this year. "Opting for a new seasonal celebration that will be held in Downtown Tifton, we are excited to bring 'Merry on Main Street' this year. This has not been a normal year for many reasons, and once again, our organization and committee were faced with adapting and somehow figuring out how to march on," said Abbey McLaren, Downtown Development Authority director. "This year's Christmas event will offer free arts and craft activities for kids, a vendor pop-up market, and food trucks. On this day, the merchants will also be hosting their Christmas open house." The children's craft activities are scheduled from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Tifton Gardens. The all-day "Merry on Main Street" event is punctuated by the annual Tifton Christmas Parade at 5 p.m. This year's parade theme is "Candyland Christmas." The parade route will begin on the corner of Second Street and Magnolia Drive. The parade will travel east toward downtown, take a left on Main Street and travel north, disbanding at the corner of Eighth Street and Love Avenue. "We are also in search of market vendors with specialty handmade items and art that would be perfect for Christmas gifts or stocking stuffers," McLaren said. "To register as a vendor, please call the Downtown Tifton office at 229-391-3966." The lighting of the Tifton Christmas tree will occur during the "First Friday" downtown event on Dec. 3.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

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Saturday, October 30th was a big day in and around Sylvester. Lots of things you could do with your family and fun was had by all. The day kicked off with the Festival of Faith at Northside Baptist Church in Sylvester. They had a mini-car show with cars of all eras. People enjoyed walking around and looking at each car and all the details they had to offer. Families were able to enjoy BBQ, sno cones and popcorn. The food was delicious and everyone enjoyed themselves. Children dressed up for all of the Halloween fun and enjoyed getting candy, playing games and had so much fun with all of the bounce houses. Who doesn't like to go to an event with a chance to win something? Everyone had an opportunity to register for a \$100 Walmart Gift Card and they all received gifts from the church while at the event. How awesome is that?

And to top it off, Northside Baptist Church gave out door prizes and folks were winning left and right. So much fun! And we can't have an event without music. Bands played great music and many were singing along. What a great day to praise the Lord at the Festival of Faith.

Folks gathered over at the Duck Pond for the annual Community Block Party hosted by Unity Baptist Church. Many children were dressed in their Halloween Costumes ready to have a grand ole time. Children were able to play many games, jump in bounce houses and best of all – get some candy. All children love candy! Families could grab some good ole food and snacks, all for just fifty cents each. Everyone enjoyed all the yummy snacks. And one thing you didn't have to worry about during the event was missing the annual Florida/Georgia game as updates could be found from different folks often. Most of the members are Georgia fans but Mr. Charlie Brown is a huge Florida Gator fan so he is always going to make sure the updates are given. However it didn't turn out so great for us Gator fans. A great feature of this event that I always loved was being able to sit around and listening to all the great entertainment. The music is always so amazing! Praising God with your community is simply wonderful.



And to continue the excitement for the evening was Trick or Treating at Poulan Park in Poulan. Gail Lee along with

her family and friends make this an event the whole family can enjoy. Children enjoyed dressing up and getting candy from all those that sat up their businesses and organizations at the Park. Everyone was able to enjoy some popcorn as well. Fall has definitely arrived with some pretty chilly winds but that didn't stop families from enjoying the evening.



While families were out Trick or Treating, one of the house they stopped by was 102 Thomas Court. This is the home of Mr. Danny and Mrs. Christy Filiault.

They love giving out lots of candy to all the children that come by for trick or treating but they absolutely love decorating! Mrs. Christy said they decorate with many lights and decorations and have for years but was not able to do so last year. This year they came back bigger and better than ever!



Saturday Night at Alchemy Games in Downtown Sylvester was a Screaming Good Time. They held I-Scream Social part 2 with \$1 I-SCREAMs available till they ran out! They also had other spooky treats and eats available too! Alchemy's Halloween Party started 6 pm and the costume contest was at 8pm. Pictured above are some of those that came out dressed up and entered the costume contest. There was prizes given for adults (18+), teens (13 to 17), and kids (up to 12) for winners! It was a great Halloween Weekend at Alchemy.

Chiquita Wilburn

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Miracle Treat Day At Dairy Queen Was A HUGE Success

October 28th was Miracle Treat Day at Dairy Queen and Worth County Primary School staff was treated by their PTO to some yummy blizzards. The WCPS PTO joined with our local Dairy Queen, operated by Mr. Mark Casteel, in support for Children’s Miracle Network. The WCPS PTO purchased 135 blizzards for all staff and employees to enjoy! All proceeds were donated to a great cause!! What a sweet treat to make a difference! Pictured left to right: Casey Knight (PTO), Jared Worthy (Principal) and Brittany Young (PTO). Along with WCPS purchasing blizzards for Miracle Treat Day, the hospital campuses of Phoebe enjoyed celebrating Dairy Queen's annual Miracle Treat Day benefitting Children's Miracle Network Hospitals as well. Phoebe pre-sold almost 500 blizzards to their employees and proceeds are funding life-saving equipment, programs, and services to help their smallest patients survive and thrive. Phoebe sends a huge thank you to Mark for making this big delivery and donating full proceeds from every blizzard sold. Mark reports that on Miracle Treat Day, the Sylvester Dairy Queen sold 727 blizzards of which 100% of that money was donated. Customers could donate cash as well of which \$117.27 was collected. The total donated to Children’s Miracle Network was \$3,112.54. Mark thanks everyone that bought a blizzard on Miracle Treat Day.

Source: WCSD, Phoebe and Sylvester Dairy Queen



WCHS Woot Woot Wagon Arrived Friday

Mrs. Amy Cummings at Worth County High School recently had the idea of recognizing staff monthly for the great things they do. Many go over and beyond their normal job duties and Mrs. Cummings felt that showing them appreciation was much needed. “A Person Who Feels Appreciated Will Always Do More Than What Is Expected” is Mrs. Cummings inspiration behind the Woot Woot Wagon for WCHS. The new Woot Woot Wagon made its debut on Friday, October 29th. Mrs. Cummings sends a big thank you to the Sunshine Club and to Lynn Meeks-Manley of The Martin News for sponsoring the first month of the Woot Woot Wagon allowing ALL Employees Of WCHS to be treated to a Caramel Apple Kit. Mrs. Cummings could not have made this happen without the help from others. She sends a huge thank you to Mandi Smith, Kim Perrin, Katie Hill and all who played along with the idea and helped make it all happen. Mrs. Cummings would also like to thank Mr. John McPhaul and Mrs. Karen Rackely whom helped her secure sponsors for the Woot Woot Wagon treat for each month of the remainder of the school year.

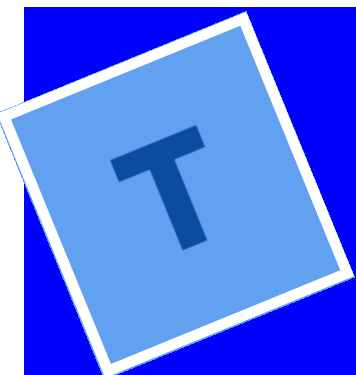
Source: WCSD & The Martin News



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First Annual Spooky Sweet Potato Dig Was A Huge Success

The 4-H Village Community Garden located at 201 Paulk Street in Sylvester held its First Annual Spooky Sweet Potato Dig on Saturday, October 30th. They dug sweet potatoes and gave away squash and zucchini. The event was originally planned from 9am until 1pm but was over by 11:30am thanks to the amazing and dedicated volunteers. “The opportunity to help others empowers me to be a better human being” expressed Sam X White “I want to thank all of the volunteers who helped us distribute the vegetables throughout the community.” The Village Community Garden provides food for its residence and is designed to meet the needs of community youth and families. Stay tuned to The Village Community Garden, Sylvester GA Facebook page for more updates on when they will be giving away vegetables again.

Source:

4-H Village Community Garden



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