

Summer Christmas Fest



Saturday December 11, 2021

3:30 P.M.

706 Walnut Street Sumner GA 31789

Location is at the Old Headstart Cafeteria

COME JOIN US FOR A CHILI DOG SUPPER AND LOTS OF FUN!

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:

GIFT FROM SANTA (CHILDREN)

RAFFLE

GAMES

FACE PAINTING

SWEETS WALK



This Event is Made Possible By Donations , Fund Raisers ,and Volunteers . Any help would be greatly appreciated! For More Information call

Milissa Dobbins at

229-776-7384 or 229-206-2514





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Ribbon Cutting Held For 1K Fitness



Saturday morning was a great morning at 1K Fitness located at 115 West Kelly Street in Sylvester. Davian Green and the Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce held the Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for 1K Fitness. Davian is stoked to have the business now open and is ready to help all those in need. 1K Fitness has so much to offer whether you are just wanting to join the gym for exercise purposes or sign up with a personal trainer.

There is something for everyone! I spoke to Darian about all the personal training options available as I personally have lost weight over the last year and I need to tone up. We discussed things I tried in the past and my fears. He is right ready to help me accomplish my goals. Do you think this is something that can help you? Wait no longer... Give Davian a call at 229-272-0670 and he will get you set up.

Photo Credit: Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce

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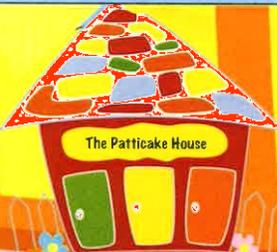


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SPECIAL NEED ALERT!

Adoptions of teenage foster children!



Stop the Hurt!

A trash bag makes a lousy traveling companion!
This project supports Ruth's Cottage and The
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Each suitcase will include, at a minimum, 2
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age of each child. Personalized duffel bags will be
provided by Ruth's Cottage and The Patticake
House. Thank you to our sponsors and donors!

Collection Point: GA State Patrol Post 13

Deadline for Drop Off: **December 1, 2021**
Donation Commitment

- Yes, I'd like to "adopt" a child or family of children @ \$150 each for 7 years and under.
- Yes, I'd like to "adopt" a child or family of children @ \$200 each for 8 years and over.
- Yes, I'd like to be a bike sponsor for a child or family of children.

If you wish to make a donation to this project, you may mail your check to:

Suitcases for Kids
P.O. Box 2727
Tifton, GA 31793

If you'd like to do the shopping yourself, please call us for child's sizes, wish list, or for more info. *

382-4141



***ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW AND UNWRAPPED!**



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Merry Christmas and thank you for supporting our small business!

Helping Those In Need at The Manna Food Drop

With the Holidays approaching, I was thinking recently about what Larry and I would have for Thanksgiving lunch. Have you ever stopped and thought about the fact that there will be many not celebrating Thanksgiving lunch because they do not have the food to provide for a meal? Have you ever stopped and thought about how you could help? I know that times are tough for many and money doesn't always come easy but giving to those in need doesn't always take money but does always take time. Unity Baptist Church works hard to provide to those less fortunate and are need of food. They do this with their Manna Food Drive. It is held quarterly and the next one is December 18th. In 2013, Unity Baptist Church joined a group called Road Less Traveled that was doing a food drive. They met with them in the old Bullard Building to see how they distributed the food. That is when they decided that God was leading Unity to participate in helping the community. Since then, they have been distributing food every three to four months. At each Manna Food Drop, they distribute about 130-150 boxes. The Manna Food Drop is geared for the low income families in order to help assist them. The boxes are given away, there is never a charge. The way the church provides the food is for two Sundays before the Manna Food Drop, they take up a collection of monies and then order that amount in food from Second Harvest of Southwest Georgia. This program is the TEFAP which is "The Emergency Food Assistance Program". There is a form that the person receiving the box of food at the Manna Food Drop is required to complete but Unity Baptist Church does not verify the information that is given to them on this form. Volunteers from the church both young and old and at times even volunteers from other churches come that Saturday morning arriving around 6 am to help unload the truck, pack the boxes, and begin distributing boxes at 9 am. The cars line up, volunteers obtained the forms from the people while they are still in their cars, talk with them about prayer needs and then they drive to the next station where the box is placed in their vehicle. They never have to get out of their cars when picking up the food. Thank you to all who make this happen at Unity Baptist Church and the volunteers. And a special thank you to Mrs. Marsha Hickox for taking the time to explain to The Martin News how this program works. If your group or organization may be interested in helping with this event, please contact the church. The Worth County Rams Football Team assists often and it is such a blessing to see the community come together to help those less fortunate. Thank you again Unity Baptist Church for all you do for our community. May God continue to Bless you all.



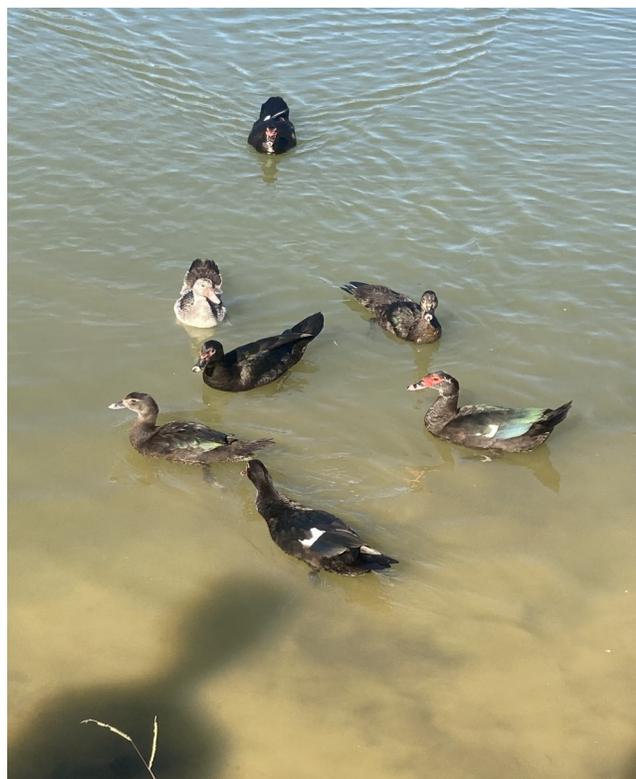
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Espresso made its debut in Italy in the early 20th century although coffee was already very much a part of Italian life for centuries. Espresso lovers owe their thanks for the tasty brew to Italy's Luigi Bezzera, the owner of a manufacturing plant who wanted to speed up the time it took to make coffee. It's unclear whether he was

motivated to hasten the process by frustration over how long his morning coffee took or whether he wanted to speed up the time his employees took for their coffee breaks. Regardless, Bezzera discovered that adding steam pressure to the process produced a stronger, more robust cup of coffee. This machine used in this new quick-brew process was named the Fast Coffee Machine. The beverage produced by the machine would eventually become known as espresso, which means fast in Italian. Regrettably, Bezzera wasn't as talented at marketing and sales as he was at engineering. A few years later in 1905, Desidero Pavoni purchased the rights to the machine from Bezzera and had it patented. It is due to Pavoni's marketing genius that espresso grew in popularity. In the early 1940s, Achille Gaggia created a piston-based espresso machine that improved the taste by eliminating the burnt flavor and giving espresso a thicker consistency. Initially for professional use in coffee bars, the espresso machine gradually became available for use at home. Now go have yourself a cup of Espresso.



A Visit To The Duck Pond

This past Saturday was a beautiful day to get out and enjoy the gorgeous sunshine. That is just what me and mother did. We love to visit the Duck Pond in Sylvester. We rode over there and was able to see plenty of Ducks. They are all so beautiful and friendly. They came over to visit with us. We had a little bread to share with them and they all enjoyed it very much. They love to have visitors so be sure to go by and see them. You will surely enjoy it!

November 17th

HOMEMADE BREAD DAY

National Peanut Butter Fudge Day

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November 20

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Enjoying Time at The Margaret Jones Public Library

The Library recognizes the connection between reading to young children early, library use and educational success. The National Commission on Reading concluded that, "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children." We are committed to instilling a love for reading in the very young child. We provide a variety of children's books in several different age appropriate formats. For babies and toddlers we have durable little board books. For preschoolers through third grade we have picture books. Easy readers allow beginning readers to begin the formal process of reading and word recognition. We have Juvenile nonfiction and chapter books for grades 2 through 8. Kids have their very own card catalog at <http://gapines.org/kpac>. Only those 350,000-plus books, DVDs, CDs and other items that have been cataloged in PINES as children's materials will show up in search results. Books & Bubbles is our story time for children ages zero to three and it is presented on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am. We sing songs, use flannel stories and rhymes, and read books of course in this 20 minute story time. Then we have a time of play. Pre-School Storytime is for children ages three to five and it is presented on Thursday mornings at 10 am. In this 60 minute story time we read books, sing songs, and create crafts all related to a theme. Third Thursday Lego Club is for kids of all ages. We provide the Legos. All you have to bring is your imagination. All creations will be on display for everyone to see. This club meets on the third Thursday of each month from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. During the summer months when school is out, the library offers the Summer Reading Program. Research has shown that reading over the summer break helps prevent students from losing ground and helps prepare them for the next school year. Participating in the library's Summer Reading Program is a great way to stop the "summer slide". Each year there is a new theme. Check the library's event calendar for more details. Whether you need help locating a good book to read or information to complete a school project, they are there to help. Be sure to make plans during the upcoming holiday season to visit the library.

Christmas Cards No More

Have you ever thought about sending a Christmas card to your family and friends or do you just send a Christmas text? I know a few just laughed when they read that but I am being very serious. When I was a teenager, being the youngest grandchild and a granddaughter at that, I took up much time with my grandmother. After Thanksgiving lunch every year that I can remember after becoming a teenager, I would help my Granny Louise fix her Christmas cards. She had them ready to mail out on December 1st or around there. She had her address book that we went through looking at who she needed to send a card to and she looked through the address labels of those that sent to her the year before, yes she kept them ALL! She enjoyed sending as much as she enjoyed receiving Christmas cards. She put a special message in each card. I think back on those times and it brings such great joy to me knowing that time with her was so precious to us both. I sure miss fixing those cards for her. She kept EVERY one of her cards from year to year to glance back over. Technology has advanced so much that many people do not send out Christmas cards any longer however last year I did for the first time in many year send them out and I am definitely sending them out again this year. I absolutely LOVE getting cards in the mail especially Christmas cards. Have you started getting your cards together yet?



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Congratulations To WCPS On A Successful Fall Fundraiser

Recently the Worth County Primary School held their Fall Fundraiser. The WCPS Staff and PTO would like to thank everyone for their support with the Fundraiser.

Their top sellers had a pizza party with Mr. Worthy on Friday. The top 3 sellers were:

- 1st Place: Adelaide Hayes
- 2nd Place: Emery Willis
- 3rd Place: Georgia Walls

The additional top sellers were Justin Watson, Jonathan Griffin-Powell, Mason Bivens, Melody Jones, Ryver Booth, Madden Jones, Rilynn Barfield, Marcus Poole, Payne Stewart, John Carter West and Asher Shipp.

The WCPS PTO appreciates everyone that bought from the fundraiser and for the parents and students that sold. PTO's at any school are very beneficial. Many parents don't even know where to begin on being a part of the school's PTO. Though many parents are short on time, they still have a strong desire to become engaged not only in their student's education, but also in their environment at school. Perhaps the single best way to make this happen is to join the PTO, which has traditionally stood for Parent Teacher Organization. As its name implies, the PTO is concerned primarily with connecting teachers and parents so that they can better discuss the nature of their child's education, the benefits and challenges facing the school district, and how volunteer efforts or any level of involvement might benefit all stakeholders in a dramatic, dynamic way. Being involved in PTO can be by attending meetings, participating in fundraisers, donating requested items when needed and so much more. Please contact WCPS if you are interested in helping the PTO with any of their projects. Thank you all for your support to all of the Worth County Schools.

Source: WCSD & The Martin News



Think Tifton

Tifton UNG Student Nick Sayles Exhibits Digital Art In Dahlonega



Nick Sayles of Tifton, a digital art student at the University of North Georgia (UNG), was among artists chosen to participate in the Hispanic Heritage Month art exhibit at UNG's Dahlonega campus. Hosted by UNG's Office of Multicultural Student Affairs and the Department of Visual Arts, the recent exhibition showcased 17 artworks involving ceramics, paintings, photographs, prints, textiles, and digital art. The exhibition included works from community artists as well as students. "We wanted UNG students to be involved so we could show the diversity of Hispanic culture," said Wade Manora Jr., director of Multicultural Student Affairs. Some of the student artists had a Hispanic background, while others simply shared how they have experienced the culture.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Think Tifton



ThinkTiftonGA

Tifton Garden Cub Member Gets District Member Of Year Award



Gail Gibson, co-president of Tifton’s Camellia Garden Club, received the Camellia District Member of the Year Award at the recent Camellia District meeting in Valdosta. Gibson has been a member of Camellia Garden Club for six years and has made an impact on her club and community, said Genie McCook, the club’s first vice president, in her nomination. Gibson is an avid gardener and was soon “volunteered” to work on the grounds of Fulwood Garden Center, McCook said. The property has several acres, so it required a lot of work keeping the landscape trimmed, fertilized, mowed, weeded, and planted. In 2017, Gibson became chairman of the Fulwood Garden Center committee and held that position until the property

was donated to the ABAC Foundation in 2019. Gibson contacted Tift County High School and ABAC to recruit students to work with garden club members on the upkeep. She scheduled a work day every two months, and club members guided students on how to prune plants, trim trees and which plants were weeds. “It was a great collaboration, and the students helped members enjoy the hard work,” McCook said. One of Gibson’s biggest projects was serving as chairman of the Gold Star Memorial Marker in Tifton in 2020. During the pandemic, she fundraised, purchased and installed the marker, and procured event permits for the dedication of the Gold Star Marker in January. In addition, Gibson made plans to relocate a Blue Star Marker from I-75’s Exit 64 to Tifton’s Veterans Memorial Park, where the marker is more visible. Genie McCook, left, first vice president of the Tifton Camellia Garden Club, with Gail Gibson, current club co-president and newly named district Member of the Year.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Think Tifton



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With the shorter days, cooler nights, and bright, sunny days of autumn we put on an extra jacket – especially in the mornings. Deciduous trees and shrubs do the opposite. In preparation for winter, chlorophyll pro-

duction slows down and leaves eventually drop off. The colorful pigments we're beginning to see may have been in the leaves all along but were masked by the green from chlorophyll. Technically the yellows, golds and oranges are due to carotenoid which is in the leaves fairly constantly. Red colors are a different story. Sunny days allow the leaves to produce sugar, but the cool night temperatures prevent the sugar sap from flowing into the branches and trunk. To help the plant recover nutrients in the leaves before they fall off some trees produce anthocyanins. It is these anthocyanins that produce the brilliant shades of red and maroon. Lots of cloudy days can mean fewer red leaves. Lack of rain also affects leaf coloration and many leaves may simply turn brown and fall off rather than show brilliant fall color. As the larger trees turn color and drop their leaves, the smaller trees and shrubs will show their fall colors. In the Gardens at Callaway, the vistas around the lakes are always good places to see leaf color. Later in the fall foliage season, be sure to drive through Overlook and Meadowlark to see the Japanese maple colors.



WCES Staff Enjoys Their Thanksgiving Meal

As a small token of appreciation for their hard work and dedication to the students of Worth County, the Worth County Elementary School faculty and staff were treated to a traditional Thanksgiving meal today. Also, random acts of kindness were a plenty across the halls of WCES today as teams went above and beyond to show appreciation for one another. Another great day at WCES!

Source: WCSD

Banana Pudding Anyone?

Did you know that November is for Banana Pudding Lovers Month? Do you like banana pudding? I love banana pudding but without the bananas. Yes I know that sounds crazy but I am not much of a banana fan in the pudding but I do love bananas. If you want some really good banana pudding be sure to visit Ed's on Wednesday. Each Wednesday they have banana pudding and for those that love bananas in their pudding, loves Ed's Banana Pudding. When daddy was living, he was sure to visit there on Wednesday's for their great banana pudding. Go get yours today!



Our mission is to make this a perfect day for you.

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Jan. 19-20, 2022

Wednesday - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

UGA Tifton Campus Conference Center
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T-Rex Hangs Out At Books and Bubbles

The kids at Books and Bubbles think T-Rex is dino-mite. T-Rex has short arms so that everything he holds is close to his heart. Books and Bubbles, story time for children ages zero to five, is presented on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am. They sing songs, use flannel stories and rhymes, and read books of course in this 30 minute story time. Then they have a time of play. Reading, Sharing and Learning is what it is all about. Hope to see you soon!

The Library recognizes the connection between reading to young children early, library use and educational success. The National Commission on Reading concluded that, "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."

The Margaret Jones Public Library is committed to fostering a love for reading in every child by encouraging parents to begin reading to their children as early as possible. Their 1,000 Books B4K program promotes reading one thousand books to children before they enter kindergarten. Children need to hear words spoken for language development and the easiest way to hear words is to read aloud to kids.

Source: MJPL



Read-a-saurus and Miss. Leigh Wiley from the Margaret Jones Public Library read to their pre-k friends at Worth County Primary School recently. They read “That’s What Dinosaurs Do” and sang Old McDino Had A Farm. They all had a roaarring good time.

Source: MJPL



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Random Acts of Kindness Month... What Will You Do?

Random Acts Of Kindness Day was first created in Denver, Colorado in 1995, and nine years later it spread to New Zealand in 2004. Random Acts of Kindness can include just about anything, including something as simple as taking a tray of muffins to work. The idea behind this holiday is to make the world a better place by spreading a little light around. Lift someone up with your words, compliment them on their appearance, all these things can help to really turn around someone who's having a bad day. Additionally, research has shown that the very act of doing something for someone else gives us a chemical high, a higher one, in fact, than if something had been done for us. There was a wise man who once shared a concept "Do not think of those who are in need, such as panhandlers, as seeking charity. They are, instead, providing a service. A service that allows you to get your fix of feel good while simultaneously paying someone for providing it." It may be a bit more open-minded than some people are ready for, but it certainly helps bring things into light! Random Acts of Kindness come in all forms, large and small, and how you choose to perform yours is entirely up to you. It can start with dropping a bit of change in the cup of the homeless person along the street, or considering the time of year, providing a warm blanket to see them through. You could take a friend out to lunch, for no other reason than that they're your friend. See someone looking down? Drop a hot coffee or tea on their desk with a smile, and tell them to have a great day. Even just smiling at someone and telling them to have a good day could have a profound impact. On Random Acts of Kindness Day, help yourself by helping others, the smile on their face and yours will prove it's all worth it.



Students in 4th grade at Worth County Elementary School recently finished a unit on the solar system. Afterwards, students extended their learning by creating 3-D and poster projects. Way to go students!

Source: WCSD

Veterans Day Ceremony Held At The Worth County Court House



Veterans Day occurs on November 11th every year in the United States in honor of the "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918 that signaled the end of World War I, known as Armistice Day. Veterans Day commemorates veterans of all wars. Tabettha DuPriest and the Worth County Tax Commissioner's Office was proud to hold a Veteran's Day Ceremony on Thursday at the Worth County Court House. They wanted to thank all the Veteran's for their service to our Country. The ceremony consisted of Mr. Brent Saunders opening in song, Presentation of Flags, a wonderful message given by Brother Joe Gaines and Brother Dudley Cook and closing with the playing of the TAPS by Josh Reynolds with the American Legions Sylvester Post 335. The ladies with DAR helped serve coffee and donuts. A very special thank you to Paul Pro Pressure Washing for cleaning up the Veteran's Monument.

Source: Tabettha DuPriest - Worth County Tax Commissioner

Dates to Remember

November

- 15th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 15th ~ Food Drive at WCES
- 15th ~ Picture Day at WCMS
- 15th ~ City of Sylvester Council Meeting 7pm
- 16th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 16th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 16th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at 12:30pm - 5:30pm
- 16th ~ Cloverleaf/Junior Club 4H Meeting at the 4H Office 3:30pm-5pm
- 16th ~ WCMS Basketball Girl 4:30pm Thomasville
- 16th ~ WCMS Basketball Boys 5:30pm Thomasville
- 16th ~ Bingo Night at Ed's Truck Stop 6pm
- 16th ~ City of Warwick Council Meeting 7pm
- 17th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 17th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Health Science Building in Tifton 11am-4pm
- 17th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 18th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 18th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Byne Memorial Baptist Church in Albany 2pm-7pm
- 18th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Turner County Civic Center 2pm - 7pm
- 18th ~ Senior Club 4H Meeting 3:30pm-5:15pm
- 18th ~ WCMS Girls Basketball 4:30pm Worth
- 18th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball BTeam at 5:30pm Worth
- 18th ~ Farmer's Appreciation Dinner 6pm
- 18th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball ATeam at 6:30pm Worth
- 18th ~ Board of Education Meeting 7pm
- 19th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 19th ~ WCHS Competition Cheer State
- 19th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Dougherty County Community 12noon - 5pm
- 19th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Recovery & Restoration House 12noon - 5pm
- 19th ~ Sip & Stroll Downtown Sylvester
- 19th ~ Christmas Open House Downtown Sylvester
- 19th ~ Ensemble Concert Downtown Sylvester
- 20th ~ WCMS Boys Basketball Brookwood
- 20th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 20th ~ Worth County Shrine Club Cornhole Tournament 1:30pm
- 20th ~ Worth County Shrine Club Presents An Evening With Dean and the Poachers 6pm
- 21st ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 22nd ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 22nd ~ Worth County Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays
- 23rd ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 23rd ~ Worth County Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays
- 23rd ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Albany Area YMCA 10am-3pm
- 23rd ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 23rd ~ Sylvester - Worth County Family Connections Meeting at Noon
- 24th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 24th ~ Worth County Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays
- 24th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 25th ~ Happy Thanksgiving from The Martin News
- 25th ~ Worth County Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays
- 25th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 26th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 26th ~ Worth County Schools Closed for Thanksgiving Holidays
- 27th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 27th ~ Christmas on the Farm at A&M Farms
- 28th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 29th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 30th ~ Chamber Raffle Tickets For Sale
- 30th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am

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®

Mechanical Claw Hydraulic Machine Competition

After completing the 4-H NYSE STEM activities last week, the 6th grade students participated in a competition to see which teams' mechanical claw hydraulic machine they built could pick up the most complicated items. Two teams tied and received lunch sponsored by Mr. Ransom, WCMS Tech Specialist. The winning teams were from Team Anguilla with Science teacher Mrs. Cooper. Team 1: Aiden McDonald and Owen Johnson and Team 2: Samorie Davis and Karlee Mathews.

Source: WCSD



Gov Kemp: Georgia's Path2College 529 Plan Upgraded Two Tiers to "Silver" by Morningstar

Angels Among Us

November 12, 2021 Atlanta, GA – Morningstar, Inc., a leading investment research firm, upgraded its rating of Georgia's Path2College 529 Plan from Neutral to Silver, leapfrogging eighteen other state 529 college savings plans. Georgia is the only state to receive a two-tier upgrade. Morningstar's report stated that the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan Board, chaired by Governor Brian Kemp, "displayed characteristics of strong stewardship" as the plan "underwent a major revamp." "Our Path2College 529 Plan has been recognized as one of the leading college savings plans in the nation," said Governor Kemp. "Ensuring Georgia's children have the resources they need to pay for continued education is vital. Our Path2College 529 Plan is now the lowest-cost college savings plan in the nation, and I hope more families will utilize it to help their children achieve their dreams." Of the 62 plans rated by Morningstar, the Path2College 529 Plan is one of only eleven plans in the nation to receive the Silver rating. Morningstar noted that Georgia "boasts a simple, well-diversified enrollment-date glide path overseen by the state's diligent stewards." The analysis continues saying that Georgia's plan "further sets itself apart by having the lowest price tag for an age-based series of any 529 plan across the nation." "We appreciate Governor Kemp, the Georgia Higher Education Savings Plan Board and staff of the Office of the State Treasurer for taking steps to improve Path2College by negotiating cost reductions and refining investment options to provide more value to account holders," said administrator of the Path2 College 529 Plan and State Treasurer Steve McCoy. "The Path2College 529 Plan is now the lowest cost college savings plan in the nation and utilizes best in class mutual funds managed by TIAA, DFA, and Vanguard." The Path2College 529 Plan has achieved record growth in recent years, and 2021 is no exception. Year-to-date through September, the Path2 College 529 Plan experienced a 36 percent increase in contributions and a 21 percent increase in new accounts opened, significantly higher growth than most other college savings plans. Morningstar analysts' also observed, "Residents of Georgia would be hard-pressed to find a more attractive plan because Georgians filing jointly can deduct up to \$8,000 in contributions annually per beneficiary from their state taxable income." As of September 30, 2021, participants have more than \$4.4 billion saved in the Path2College 529 Plan even after taking into consideration that \$1.4 billion has been withdrawn to pay for education-related expenses since the plan's inception in 2002. For more information about the Path2College 529 Plan or to open a college savings account, please visit www.Path2College529.com or call (877) 424-4377.

I couldn't let the week go by without a huge shout out to my friends and The Martin News viewers for showing up and showing out when a need arose. On Friday, a friend called and explained a situation to me where an elderly couple was being removed from their apartment due to damage not handled by their landlord and they were not able to take any of their belongings with them. Social Media may not always be the best place to post your business but in this case it was the GREAT place to post the needs. I simply posted what we needed and you all came together and made it happen. Donations started coming in Friday and are still coming in. I appreciate everyone that has reached out to help and for those that prayed over this couple, your prayers were heard. Thank you all so much for helping this precious couple. You truly are "Angels Among Us".



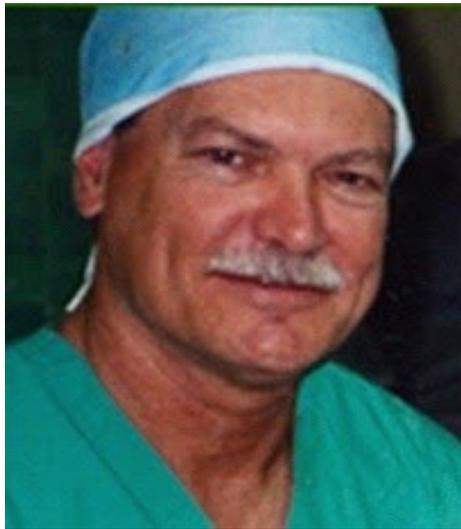
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Dr. Jim Scott, Internationally Known Orthopedic Surgeon, Retired



Dr. Jim Scott of Tifton, renowned orthopedic surgeon and founder of Georgia Sports Medicine, recently announced his retirement. Scott earned his medical degree from the Medical College of Georgia and received a graduate degree from Tulane University School of Medicine. He completed his residency training at UCLA and the Hughston Orthopedic Clinic and went on to found Georgia Sports Medicine in Tifton in 1983. The practice and surgery center was acquired by Tift Regional Health System in 2015. “Dr. Scott is a true healthcare pioneer—not just here in our region, but for the entire state and country. For more than 40 years, he has been instrumental in making Tifton an orthopedic center of excellence,” said Christopher Dorman, Southwell president and CEO. Tift Regional is part of Southwell. During a more than four-decade career, Scott championed the latest in surgical techniques and medical technology, performing hundreds of joint replacements and arthroscopies each year. He was instru-

mental in sponsoring and coordinating the annual Sports Medicine Seminar in Tifton for area coaches, trainers, athletes, and medical professionals. He joined the board of Tift Regional Health System in 2019 and plans to continue to serve as a board member. Scott has served as president and board member of the Georgia Society of Ambulatory Surgery Centers and was appointed by former Gov. Nathan Deal to serve on the Georgia Board of Athletic Trainers. He has been profiled in Orthopedic Technology Review as a leading practitioner of state-of-the-art orthopedics and has been invited to be a lecturer and instructor all around the globe. He has served as president of the Georgia Orthopedic Society and president of the Society for Arthritic Joint Surgery. In 2015, he was recognized by the Georgia Orthopedic Society to receive the Distinguished Service Award. Throughout his career, Scott traveled to Guatemala and El Salvador to donate his services to underserved patients. In the 1980s, Scott went to Guatemala to perform surgery with Central American doctors and that effort lasted more than 30 years. Scott and Dr. Guillermo Claverie founded Fundaorto and American Surgeons for Central America, which has performed more than 4,000 hip and knee replacements for indigent patients. Surgeons from Central America have also spent up to a year in Tifton to study, then return to Central America. Also, surgeons from Russia, Japan, Salvador, Venezuela, and other countries have visited Tift Regional Medical Center to observe surgeries done with new instruments and techniques that Scott developed.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

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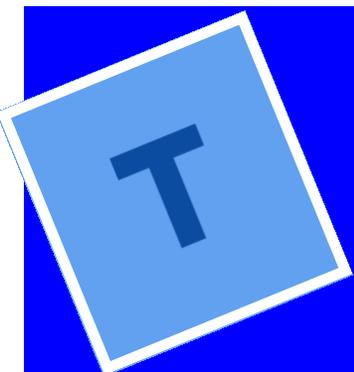
Tax Preparation Services

Where To Spend Christmas Vacation With Kids

Christmas is a time for giving, so give yourself a break. “But, what about the kids?”, you may find yourself asking with some frustration. Fear not! Callaway Resort & Gardens is the perfect Christmas vacation getaway for you and the kids! Nestled in Pine Mountain, Georgia just a short drive from Atlanta you’ll find one of America’s best Christmas vacation spots. Book a suite in the Lodge and Spa, and you’ll be treated to a beautiful view overlooking the lake, woodlands, and the garden. The gorgeous room interior will give you the same comfort as your own home. With quick access to the garden, swimming pool, spa and fitness center, and cabana-style bar, the Lodge and Spa suites are the perfect setup for a fantastic vacation. But, what about the kids? Well, the resort offers some of the best activities for families near Atlanta. Families can explore the amazing Callaway Gardens together. The Callaway Brothers Azalea Bowl, Overlook Azalea Garden, Ida Cason Callaway Memorial Chapel, Pioneer Log Cabin, Meadowlark Garden, and Thornhill Hydrangea Garden are just a few of the outdoor attractions offered at the resort. There are plenty of nature trails to walk as well. If you’re looking for a unique nature experience, the Day Butterfly Center houses over 1,000 butterflies for your viewing pleasure—it’s one of North America’s largest tropical butterfly conservatories! You’ll have the chance to learn all about the wonderful butterflies that inhabit the Center and watch them in their natural habitat. At the Callaway Discovery Center, you can enjoy a show so spectacular, it that requires the approval of both U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Callaway Gardens’ Birds of Prey program is designed to educate visitors about their impact on wildlife, but it also gives visitors an up close and personal demonstration of predatory birds’ strength, speed, and natural instincts. It’s definitely a must-see! If your kids are looking for a little more adventure, they’ll love the Callaway Resort & Gardens’ Treetop Adventure – Zip Lines & Obstacle Courses. The self-guided, in-air obstacle course will entertain any thrill seeker. The 10 zip lines and 34 challenges will take the average zip liner two to three hours to complete. The challenges and thrilling heights are sure to bring any family closer together and give a sense of accomplishment when completed. You can also sign up the kids for the zip lines and take those two to three hours to unwind. The resort offers two world-class 18-hole golf courses that take you through some of the most breathtaking scenery in America. You can also work up a sweat at the Mountain Creek Tennis Center, where you’ll find both hard-surface and soft-surface courts. If you prefer the calmness of the waters, you can opt to rent a canoe, kayak, or jon boat and venture onto Mountain Creek Lake. Let’s face it, though—if you’re going to unwind, you’ll do it best at the Spa at Callaway Resort & Gardens. Sign up for massage therapy, facials, manicures, pedicures, salon services, or botanical body treatments. While the kids climb sky high, you’ll be floating along on cloud nine. “That sounds great,” you might say, “but what about Christmas?” Well, if you’re at Callaway Resort & Gardens during Christmas, you’ll be treated to one of the world’s Top 10 Places to See Holiday Lights, according to National Geographic Traveler. At Callaway Resort & Gardens’ Fantasy In Lights, there are eight million lights, 15 scenes and shows, and awesome Christmas characters that will bring the holiday spirit to your amazing Christmas vacation. You can even sign up to have breakfast with the Christmas characters! If you’re wondering where to spend Christmas vacation with kids, you’ll find all the makings of a perfect vacation at Callaway Resort & Gardens. Call today to book your stay!

Source: Callaway Gardens

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Literacy Volunteers To Hold Carnival Of Knowledge Trivia Competition

Literacy Volunteers of Tifton-Tift County will hold the 21st annual Howard Center Carnival of Knowledge trivia competition at 6 p.m., Nov. 30, at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture's conference room. Teams this year will consist of four to six players, and all teams will compete against each other simultaneously the entire event. David Holmes, an experienced trivia master, will conduct the competition, with a first-place prize of \$1,000. The team sponsorship fee is a donation of \$200, to benefit Literacy Volunteers. As in the past, the public may sign up to serve on sponsored teams by contacting Literacy Volunteers at tiftlv@gmail.com, said Bonnie Sayles, the organization's president. "Businesses, civic groups, organizations, or individuals may sponsor teams," she said. "Second and third place teams will also receive exceptional prizes. After taking a year off last year due to the pandemic, we're glad to come back with a socially distanced event." Sayles said the trivia competition is "one of Literacy Volunteers' most popular events, and we greatly appreciate The Howard Center as platinum event sponsor, Georgia Power as a bronze sponsor, and all the team sponsors of the past." Support of the event allows Literacy Volunteers to recruit and train tutors to work with individuals needing to improve their reading, writing, math, and English-speaking abilities. Also, this year, Literacy Volunteers is providing transportation to some students attending GED classes at Southern Regional Technical College. Those wanting to play, sponsor a team, donate a prize, or volunteer to help may call Literacy Volunteers at 229-391-2527.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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S.C. Communications Firm Acquires Planttel

TruVista Communications of Chester, S.C., has acquired PlantTel of Tifton, which encompasses Plant Telephone Co. and Plant Telecommunications Sales & Services. TruVista, part of iCON Infrastructure Partners, is a 125-year-old leading provider of broadband services and associated applications to residential and business customers in the Midlands region of South Carolina and in North Georgia. PlantTel provides high-speed data, video, voice, and other communications services to the greater Tifton area. The company's network includes more than 1,500 fiber route miles, as well as a hybrid-fiber coaxial cable and legacy copper network. PlantTel has been working to expand its fiber-to-the-premise ("FTTP") network in rural markets, which will continue under TruVista's ownership, according to a press release. "The sale of PlantTel to TruVista and iCON represents the logical next step in the transformation of PlantTel into a regional fiber-based broadband solutions provider. With TruVista's resources, PlantTel will be well-positioned to continue to serve its existing markets while expanding the availability of its high-quality communications services to new communities," said Danny Sterling, PlantTel president and CEO. "Our family has owned PlantTel for 126 years, and we are confident that TruVista and iCON will be the ideal stewards of PlantTel's legacy of providing industry-leading communications services to the customers and communities of South Georgia," Sterling said. Brian Singleton, CEO of TruVista, said his company is "pleased to welcome the PlantTel team to the TruVista organization. PlantTel has a long history of providing high-quality and affordable services to customers in Southern Georgia, and their focus on local communities fits perfectly with the culture we have built throughout team TruVista. This combination is a great outcome for the customers, employees, and stakeholders as we expand high-speed fiber broadband networks throughout our markets."

Source: Tifton Grapevine



Merry Christmas



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Mr. Billy Gilman Enjoys Cutting Hair Just One More Time



Mrs. Stacy Cherry, Owner of the City Barber, was excited to share on Facebook with us all that Mr. Billy Gilman came out of retirement if only for just a few minutes. Mr. Gilman wanted to be the one to cut his great grandson's hair and enjoyed every minute of it. Stacy said that it was amazing to have Mr. Billy in her shop again. Mr. Gilman cut many a heads of hair during his time open in Sylvester and Stacy is working hard to continue the same thing. It is so wonderful to have the business continue that Mr. Gilman built. Be sure to stop by or make an appointment with Stacy and she will take good care of you.





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Regents Name Search Committees For Next ABAC President

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has named the two committees to conduct a national search for the next president of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC), where President David Bridges has announced his retirement. "ABAC has benefited from 17 years of strong leadership under President Bridges and is the heart of Georgia's rural community as the state's leading agriculture college," said Acting Chancellor Teresa MacCartney. "Its next leader must continue to focus on supporting students for success in the 21st century through its innovative industry partnerships, community involvement and unique mission." The search and screening of candidates is the responsibility of the campus-based Presidential Search and Screen Committee and will guide the first stage of the search. Members are:



- Dr. Ray Smith, committee chairman, professor of crop science and head of the ABAC Department of Agriculture
 - Elijah Alford, student and ABAC Ambassador
- Dr. Tamara "Tami" Dennis, nursing professor and RN to BSN program director
- Dr. Diantha V. Ellis, faculty senate president and associate professor of business administration
 - Jessica Gandy, staff council chair and financial aid counselor
 - Bernice Hughes, dean of students
 - Jaci Martin, student government president
 - Dr. Franzelle Mathis-Pertilla, associate professor of business
 - Richard "Tony" Matthews, assistant professor of biology
 - Dr. James N. McCrimmon, professor of turfgrass management
 - Joyce Mims, community liaison, Southern Regional Technical College
 - Dr. Marcus Pollard, president, ABAC Alumni Association
 - Dr. Erin Porter, associate professor of agricultural engineering
 - Dr. Darby Sewell, professor, family and consumer sciences and education
 - Dr. Abul Sheikh, professor of business and information technology
 - Dr. Yvonne Smith, assistant professor, School of Nursing and Health Sciences
 - Niki Vanderslice, chair, ABAC Foundation

The duties of the Presidential Search and Screen Committee include developing a position description, recruiting candidates and conducting interviews. The search firm of ZRG Partners has been engaged to assist the search committee. At the conclusion of its work, the campus committee will forward the credentials of three to five unranked candidates to the Regents Special Committee, chaired by Regent Barbara Holmes, with members including Board Chairman Sachin Shailendra, Regent W. Allen Gudenrath, Regent Cade Joiner, Regent Lowery Houston May, and Regent Harold Reynolds.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

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