



The Martin News

Covering Worth County and Surrounding Counties

PO Box 5003 Sylvester, GA 31791

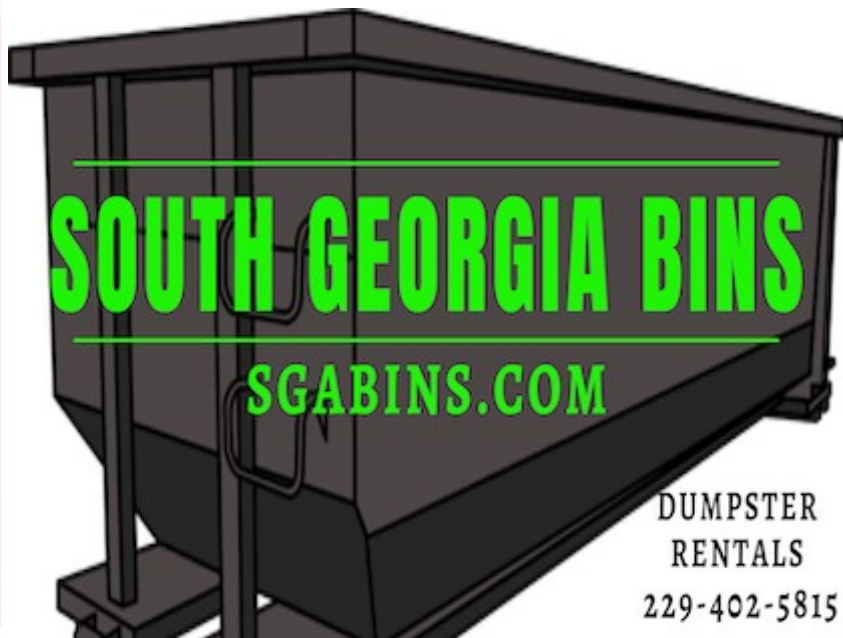
lmanley1210@gmail.com

www.themartinnews.org

December 12, 2022

TATINA'S TAXES

229-778-0225



Wild Adventures Accepts Toy Donations for Half Off Admission South Georgia Theme Park Collects Donations for Toys for Tots



Valdosta, Ga. – Wild Adventures Theme Park in Valdosta, Ga. is offering half off admission for guests who donate a new, unwrapped toy to support local Toys for Tots efforts. “Whenever we ask our guests and the local community to give, they always turn out in big ways, which is why we are excited to partner with Toys for Tots again this year,” said Elke Schultz, marketing manager. “Whenever there is an opportunity to make a child’s Christmas merry and bright, it is an opportunity worth taking.” Guests who bring a new, unwrapped toy valued at least \$10 will receive 50% off up to six regular-priced single-day admission tickets. All donations will benefit Valdosta’s local Toys for Tots organization, which will distribute the toys to children in the community. More details can be found at WildAdventures.com. New to Wild Adventures Christmas is the Candy Cane Express, a peppermint-scented train ride through brilliant light displays set to festive holiday tunes. After riding the Candy Cane Express, guests can take a stroll through twinkling displays along the Glimmering Light Trail that meanders through a real Georgia Swamp decorated with Christmas trees, snowflakes and more. Also new to the event are the woodland creature antics of “A Very Puppet Christmas,” the new “Magic of Christmas Parade” where kids dance

and sing along the way to light up a towering five-story animated Christmas tree, the new S’mores Village where guests can make a tasty treat over an open flame and Georgia’s Largest Snow Foam Party where kids can play in a mountain of foam. “We are also ending each night of Wild Adventures Christmas with free hot chocolate at the new Wanyama Observation Deck,” said Schultz. “Our guests will be able to cap off a magical day with delicious hot chocolate as they enjoy the views at Wanyama which overlooks an open range featuring animals from throughout Asia and Africa.” Complementing the new additions to Wild Adventures Christmas are several returning events and attractions, including visits and photos with Santa, “The Miracle of Christmas: A Living Nativity,” The Drummer Boys percussion show, “Holly Frostington’s Elf Training Academy” interactive show, Mrs. Claus’s Storytime, cookie decorating and ornament decorating. “Wild Adventures Christmas is the biggest holiday celebration in our region, and we can’t wait to welcome families this year for a bright and festive experience they will never forget,” said Schultz. Wild Adventures Christmas continues select days through Dec. 31. Tickets and Season Passes are available for purchase at WildAdventures.com. Wild Adventures Theme Park is located at the halfway point between Atlanta, Ga. and Orlando, Fla. off Interstate 75 and is home to more than 40 family and thrill rides, hundreds of exotic animals, dozens of concerts and special events each year and Splash Island Waterpark, named as one of the “Top 30 Waterparks” in the country by U.S. News and World Report. Wild Adventures is ranked as the Fifth Most Affordable Theme Park in America in the Theme Park Price Index published by HomeToGo and the Top Theme Park Deal in Georgia by Yahoo! Finance.

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Yummy Kisses for the Holidays


Whether fall or winter, these will be yummy to the tummy! You will definitely want to add these to your goody table during the holidays. Who doesn't like Hershey Kisses? So be sure to enjoy these this Christmas! Your guests will grab these by the handfuls. We hope each and every one of you have a very Merry Christmas.





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A Trip to the Zoo



December 27th, 2022 is “Visit a Zoo” day. If you are looking to make your zoo trip an overnight adventure for your family, consider visiting Zoo Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia. Zoo Atlanta dates back to 1889 when it was a traveling carnival operated by George W. Hall. It is home to some of the most exotic animals in the world. A number of rare and endangered species are featured in the park, including Komodo dragons, Arakan forest turtles and clouded leopards. In 1999, Zoo Atlanta introduced an exhibit of giant pandas, becoming the fourth zoo in the US to house the rare animals. The grounds of Zoo Atlanta cover 40 acres. It is open every day of the year except Thanksgiving and Christmas. An indoor playground, an outdoor playground, a petting zoo and an interactive naked mole rat tunnel play area are available for children to enjoy. A zoo gift shop sells mementos, toys and collectible items. Always remember for a day trip, Chehaw in Albany is a great zoo to enjoy for the day with the family. There is a park to play in and enjoy a picnic, animals to visit, feed and interact with, train ride, gift shop to browse around in and much more. Be sure to plan your zoo trip and have a great time with the family.

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Dates to Remember

December

12th ~ Food Drive at WCPS

12th ~ Town of Sumner Council Meeting 7pm

12th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

13th ~ Food Drive at WCPS

13th ~ BFHS Bingo Night 6pm

13th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

14th ~ Food Drive at WCPS

14th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon

14th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

15th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

16th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

17th ~ Fancy's Exhibit Presents: Christmas Pop Up Shop 11am - 5pm

17th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

18th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

19th ~ City of Sylvester Council Meeting 6pm

19th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

20th ~ City of Warwick Council Meeting 7pm

20th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

21st ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon

21st ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

22nd ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

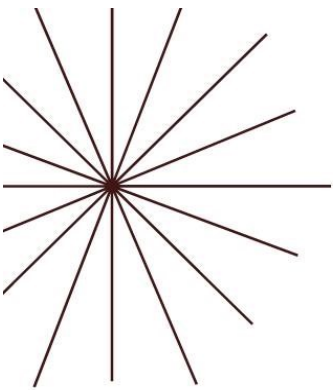
23rd ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

24th ~ Johnson Family Christmas - Make A Visit to See The Beautiful Christmas Lights Display

25th ~ Merry Christmas from The Martin News

27th ~ City of Poulan Council Meeting 6:30pm

28th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon

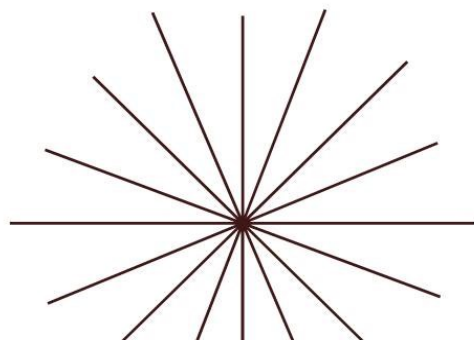


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November 21 – December 21





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ABAC Golfers Named Academic National Champions



The Golden Stallions golfers of Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College recently received the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Academic National Champions plaque from the Golf Coaches of America. To qualify as an Academic All-America selection, athletes must have at least a 3.25 grade point average (GPA) on a 4.0 scale. The Golden Stallions compiled a 3.68 GPA, elevating them to first place in the nation. The Golden Stallions listed on the plaque

are Hagen Marion from Zebulon; Ben Sanders from Thomasville; Brady Kotkiewicz from Dacula; Brock Barber from St. Cloud, Fla.; Kole Williams from Hazlehurst; Gabriel Lewis from Thomasville; Steven Wood from McDonough; and Ian Arnold from Blackshear. Barber received special recognition as a Srixon/Cleveland All-America Scholar in addition to being an All-Academic selection. To qualify for the recognition, golfers must participate in at least 50% of their team's rounds, have a stroke average under 77.0, and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.2 or higher. Larry Byrnes took over coaching duties for the Golden Stallions in 2014. "I decided I would recruit kids with character and work ethic, so then golf and school would take care of themselves -- and that has happened," Byrnes said. "They have an unbelievable character that I couldn't speak more highly of." The athletes demonstrated excellent work ethic both on and off the field, Byrnes said, adding that he was impressed by how the golfers could play for three or four hours and then complete additional hours of study toward their academic pursuits. "It's a great reward to be able to be around kids like this for me," Byrnes said. "I'm honored to be able to do it." In the spring golf season, the Golden Stallions won the region tournament, finished second in the district tournament, and wound up in 16th place in the national tournament. Golfstat ranks the current ABAC team 10th in NJCAA District II. Golfers for the Golden Stallions include, from left, Kole Williams, Gabriel Lewis, Ben Sanders, Coach Larry Byrnes, Brady Kotkiewicz, Brock Barber, and Hagen Marion.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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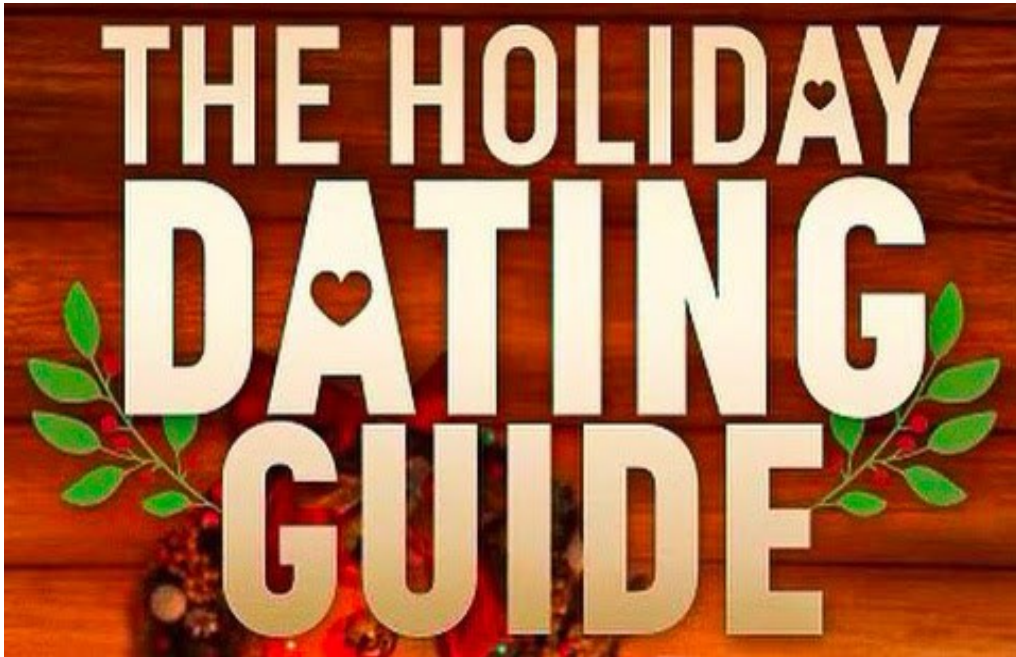


TiftonTok

TiftonTourism.com



Tifton Lifetime TV Movie Will Be Available Online



Everyone has been asking – When is the Tifton Christmas movie playing on Lifetime TV? The movie is “The Holiday Dating Guide,” and the premiere is airing at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, on Lifetime TV. Here’s the good news is – it will be available beginning the next day on www.myLifetime.com for streaming. Brent Bailey, who stars in it, wrote the script, and Brian Herzlinger directed it. Filmed in Tifton, it’s also written to take place here. Actress Maria Menouno’s opening lines in a voiceover are: “This is my home, Tifton.” Herzlinger said, “I

had an amazing time making this film in Tifton with a wonderful local crew and local supporting cast, all of whom stepped up in major ways to help bring this heartwarming and funny holiday story to the screen.” The movie was produced by ZMA Films (Ann Morrell Koch and Doug Johnson) and Workhorse Cinema’s Alexander Kane of Fitzgerald and Mike Donovan, who lives part-time in Tifton. Many local residents served as background actors at ABAC, the Peach Barn, the Tift Theatre, and other Tift County locations, so the excitement of seeing our hometown locations on the screen is enhanced by the opportunity to catch glimpses of our friends and neighbors. The story is about Abigale Slater (Menounos), a dating coach who is also an aspiring writer whose dream is starting to come to fruition. She has just written her first book on dating in the modern world and is striving to get it published. Her potential publisher wants to know if her methods actually work. So Abigale vows that she will prove it by making a man fall in love with her by Christmas Eve. Other actors include Steve Vinovich, Kelly Lynn Reiter, Ava Paloma, Mason McCulley, Andrea Susan Bush, Jequey Slaton, Kerry Malloy, Sarah Allyn, Evan Bergman, Victoria Scala, Thomas Wilson Pace, Amadeo Fusca, Michael ‘Big Smooth’ Frazier, Braeden Michael Baldwin, and Buddy Watkins.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Christmas
Decorations



Hooray! Everyone passed Elf's Nice List Test!

Everyone had a great time at Books and Bubbles at the Margaret Jones Public Library on Tuesday. They enjoyed reading fun Christmas stories and even made their own elf to take home! Join Books and Bubbles at Margaret Jones public Library next week for more fun stories.

Source: MJPL



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SRTC Graduates More Than 400 In Fall Ceremony



Southern Regional Technical College's (SRTC) fall commencement ceremony Wednesday recognized the accomplishments of more than 400 graduates. The ceremony, held at SRTC-Bainbridge, included students from all SRTC sites and campuses, including Tifton, Ashburn, and Worth County. SRTC's graduation was a morning of awarding degrees, diplomas, and certificates to students who have completed their respective credit programs or high school equivalency credentials. Many graduates received multiple honors as several programs include embedded certificates that students earn in the course of completing a program. In total, the college conferred 161 degrees, 91 diplomas, 133 technical certificates of credit, and 26 high school equivalency credentials over the course of the fall semester. Jacquelyn Santoro was the commencement speaker. She is vice president and legal affairs director for Check-Mate Industries, a founding partner of Tri Crown Trucking, and owner of multiple real estate holding and development companies. In 2020, Santoro and her family moved to Thomasville from Long Island, N.Y., to oversee the expansion of Check-Mate Industries and development of Check-Mate Manufacturing in Thomasville. She congratulated graduates and encouraged them to continue their paths. "You are sitting here today in spite of every excuse or reason to not succeed. You prioritized yourself, your future, your family, and your career. Keep going. Keep pushing. Don't lose sight of where you are trying to go, who you are trying to be, and what you are trying to accomplish," Santoro said. "Today is just the beginning of a new journey."

Source: Tifton Grapevine

FANCY'S EXHIBIT CHRISTMAS POP UP SHOP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH, 2022

TIME: 11AM-5PM

LOCATION: THE LIONS CLUB/THE OLD SCHOOL

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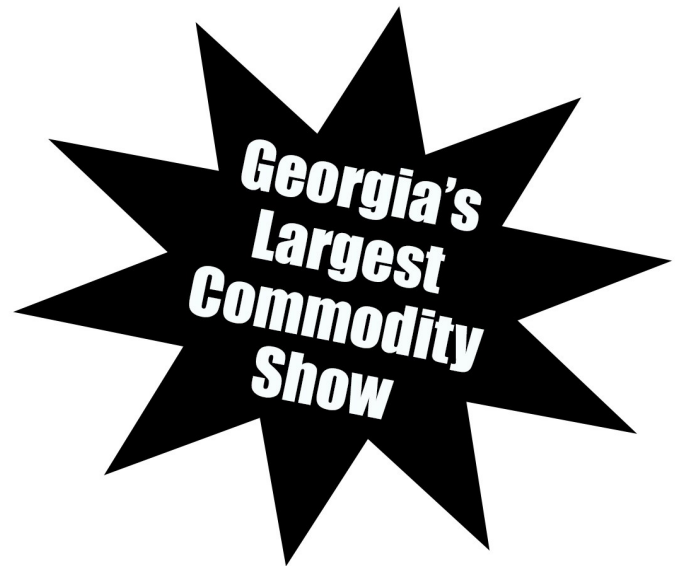
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Staying Safe in the Bath

January will be here before we know it. That is a month recognized as National Bath Safety Month. Water and smooth surfaces can together convert the bath into a risky place. The most frequented room of the house, bathroom, is believed to be the most dangerous too. Bath safety is an integral part of general home safety. A study points that one-third of falls occurring at homes occur in the bath. All family members, despite their age or health are at risk. Bath safety products play a vital role in ensuring the safety of a person while in the bath. People with limited mobility need to be extra cautious when it comes to bath safety; in the bathtub; shower and toilet. These areas of the bath should be tailored to suit individual requirements. To ensure bath safety, it is always good to identify areas that are very slippery. Identifying these ahead of time will possibly prevent falls. Look out for areas that are difficult to move about and identify areas that pose a threat. You always want to check if you have any fixtures in the bath that are difficult to reach, use or clean. An important thing to remember is bath safety can be split into two parts: Bath safety procedures and bath safety equipment/products and facilities like modified bathtubs, showers and toilets. Remembering some of these safety tips will help to prevent accidents in your bath. Always use anti skid flooring material in the bath if possible. Keep the floor clean and dry. Install grab bars inside the bathtub and shower. These are good for any age person, not just an elderly or disabled person. Use non-slip strips in your tub or shower. Select impact-resistant shower and bathtub attachments. Put a bath mat with non-skid base next to the bathtub and shower. Install scald-prevention devices. These devices will keep a check on the water temperature which will prevent shower/bath burns. Electrical switches and plugs should always be kept away from water sources. Make sure all electrical outlets have ground fault circuit interrupters. Use door locks that can be unlocked from both sides. This allows someone to get to you if you are ever in need of help. There are concerns though for the safety of seniors while bathing. Bath safety is of vital importance for older persons. Over 75% of slip-fall deaths happen to people who are 65 years and above. The bath area of the house can prove to be extremely hazardous for elderly people if it is not modified to suit their requirements. Bath safety for people who are elderly or have disabilities is further complicated by issues such as medication side-effects, reduced physical ability and diminished vision. These are great bath safety tips for seniors. A transfer bench with adjustable legs is useful for elderly people. They have to sit on the portion of the transfer bench that extends outward and slide into the tub. Latex coated or non-skid bath mat can be placed alongside the tub, this will provide firm footing. Non-slip suction mats or rubber silicone treads fit to the tub will prevent falls. A portable, hand-held shower head is convenient for use. An angle bar fixed to two walls offers support while standing to shower and for sitting and getting up in the bathtub. For elderly people grab bars should be mounted on walls around the tub. Grab bars around the bathtub are required for the safety of older persons. A vertically placed U bar, fixed to the side wall at the base of the tub, ensures safe entry and exit. Horizontally placed support bars are appropriate for lowering or raising the body in the tub. Diagonally placed grab bars are not suggested as the hand may slip thus increasing the chances of a fall. Numerous types of portable seats, chairs, and benches are available for people who find it difficult to sit on the bathtub floor. Inside-the-tub chairs with back support offer great comfort. Chairs with backs that can be placed inside the tub are available in the market; these chairs give the bather a comfortable feel while in the shower. Be sure to check for non-slip rubber tips on the legs of the chair or bench as they provide ample safety. Mechanical bath lifts can help in lowering the person into the bathtub. Some elderly people might have reduced feeling in their hands, and thus they may misjudge the water temperature. A bathing thermometer or plastic water monitor will help them to check the right water temperature before they step into the bathtub. Keeping everyone safe in the bath is very important. Thanks to "A Medical Company" for the great tips on bath safety!

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December 17, 2022*

*Molly Jones & Layton Gatwood
December 31, 2022*

*Christian Brown & Blan Bryant
January 1, 2023*

*Karlee Dixon & Joseph Spinks
January 21, 2023*

*Tonya Webb & Ryan Marchant
March 4, 2023*

*Halleigh Lane & Tripp Lovein
March 11, 2023*

I-AA FOOTBALL ALL-REGION RAMS 1ST TEAM



Hunter Barber (11th)
Outside Linebacker



Kaden Chester (9th)
Running Back



Jaylen Fluellen (12th)
Linebacker



Dontae Fulton (10th)
Wide Receiver



Quantavious Frier (12th)
Defensive Back



Parker Weaver (12th)
Wide Receiver

I-AA FOOTBALL ALL-REGION

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Chip Cooper (12th)
Quarterback



I-AA FOOTBALL ALL-REGION RAMS 2ND TEAM



Quentin Cole (12th)
Inside Linebacker



Andrew Dixon (11th)
Defensive End



TJ Smith (10th)
Offensive Tackle



Kevin Tukes (12th)
Defensive End

Ram Players Chosen For All-Region 1-AA Teams

Congratulations to these Rams Varsity football players! These guys were picked out of all Region 1-AA players based on their performance this season to be a part of the All-Region 1-AA teams. In addition, Chip Cooper was selected as the Region 1-AA Offensive Player of the year. Congratulations to all! We are proud of your dedication and hard work this season!

I-AA FOOTBALL ALL-REGION RAMS HONORABLE MENTION



Tristan Carter (10th)
Offensive Guard



Ken Hamilton (12th)
Offensive Guard



KeyUnta Jackson (12th)
Outside Linebacker



Grant Juster (10th)
Tight End



Shermon Smith (10th)
Inside Linebacker



Danny Wilkerson (11th)
Defensive End

Source: WCSD

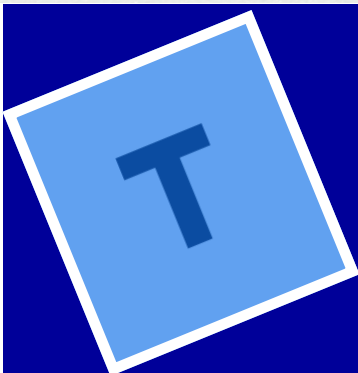
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What's Your New Year's Resolution?

A new year is upon us. I can't believe it is almost 2021. New Year's Day has traditionally been seen as the ideal time to make your all important New Year's resolution. Unfortunately, while our heart and minds are in the right place, New Year's resolutions can cause a lot of unneeded stress. Don't set yourself up for failure in 2021 by vowing to make changes that will be hard to keep. Instead use these steps to help make your resolutions for the New Year a success.

1. Pick one thing to change. If you want to change your life or your lifestyle don't try to change the whole thing at once. It won't work. Instead pick one area of your life to change to begin with. Make it something concrete so you know exactly what change you're planning to make. If you're successful with the first change you can go ahead and make another change after a few weeks. Changing one thing at time will make you more likely to stick with the changes.
2. Realize ahead of time that it won't be easy, but it will be worth it. Anticipate the problems you might face with the changes you want to make. Once you've identified these problems, they will be easier to cope with when they arise.
3. Pick a start date. You don't have to make these changes on New Year's Day. Pick a day when you know you will be enthusiastic and surrounded by positive people.
4. Accept failure. If you do fail, don't hate yourself for it. Make a note of what caused your set back and learn from it. Trying is the key. Keep trying and you will succeed.
5. Reward yourself. Rewarding yourself will help keep you going during the hard days. Remember, the harder you work at obtaining your goals, the more you will deserve and feel you have earned those rewards. I am looking forward to 2021 with great new visions and plans for the new year! A new me is a better me, so start making plans for your new you. Good Luck at being the best you that you can be in 2021!

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Worth County Elementary School Presents

Christmas Chorus Performance

Thursday, December 15th
6 p.m.
WCES Cafeteria

We hope to see you there!



Mr. Melvin Jefferson and Mr. Randy Bacon



Thank you for 32 years of service and dedication to
Worth County Schools!



Board Members Recognized For Their Service

Thursday night, a reception was held to recognize Mr. Randy Bacon and Mr. Melvin Jefferson for 32 years of service to the Worth County School District as members of the Worth County Board of Education. The Worth County School District truly appreciates their dedication, professional guidance, and invested support throughout their decades of service to our students, faculty, and staff. We wish them the best as they now transition from board-room chair to rocking chair. Once a Ram, Always a Ram.



Source: WCSD

**WILD
ADVENTURES**
Christmas

**SELECT DAYS
NOV. 25 - DEC. 31**



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