



# The Martin News

PO Box 5003 Sylvester, GA 31791  
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December 7, 2020

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## Live Like Logan

Writing on Logan every week has been such a blessing to me. I was so excited the day I was able to speak to him and interview him for the very first time. He is such a sweet boy and so full of life no matter the hand he has been dealt. God really blessed me by allowing our interview with him.

Our weekly update on Logan Lee is a really special update this week! Logan has been wanting the new PlayStation 5 but as you all know they are really hard to find. The task of finding one is very difficult but not too difficult for Eddie Souter. With the help of Eddie's friends, Gail Lee and Betty Dorsey they were able to call their special friend at the Sylvester Wal-Mart whom was able to locate Logan one. And this weekend, Eddie and his wife Melissa along with their son Aiden, delivered the PlayStation 5 to Logan in Virginia. After the visit on Saturday, John Lee, Logan's dad stated "Today was the best day Logan has had since getting out of the hospital." The family could not say thank you enough. Logan enjoyed playing with Aiden and just being a child. Thank you to everyone that is making a difference for Logan.



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## More Folks Opting For Real Christmas Trees This Season



Live Christmas trees are experiencing a resurgence this holiday season, and some folks say it is a result of the pandemic. In a recent survey from the Christmas Tree Promotion Board, 21 percent of people said they were more likely to buy a real Christmas tree this year after having an artificial one last year or previously having no tree at all. Doug Hundley with

the National Christmas Tree Association said the desire to decorate follows a trend seen all year: "The nation's garden centers just had their best year in decades – people gardening, landscaping, and we hope and think that it can lead right into a big decorating year with real trees, garlands, wreaths." According to Georgia Grown, a marketing and economic development program of the Ga. Department of Agriculture, Georgia Christmas trees are a good choice with such native-grown varieties as Fraser fir, Leyland cypress and red cedar. "For every Christmas tree cut in Georgia, five are planted in its place. This way we add more to our planet than we take away. In fact, we are consistently ranked the top forestry state in the nation, the Georgia Grown website notes. The state also offers this tip for buying a fresh Christmas tree: Lightly grasp a branch and gently pull it through your hand. If the tree is fresh, very few needles will come off.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Monday is National Cotton Candy Day! Do you like Cotton Candy? I love it! My favorite color is the blue or the pink and blue mixed. You can even buy buckets of Cotton Candy in the stores now. The Dollar Tree has small buckets of Cotton Candy that would be great for stocking stuffers or just as little gifts to drop off to friends. This week is the Carnival in Sylvester which is a great place to find Cotton Candy too!

## GEMA To Help Georgians Prepare For Upcoming Winter Weather

As nighttime temperatures drop drastically, the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMA) is gearing up for Winter Weather Preparedness Week beginning Dec. 7. The week encourages Georgians to prepare for inclement winter weather by learning about winter weather threats, reviewing or creating a family communications plan and considering what items to put in their "Ready Kits." "Winter weather in Georgia has been always unpredictable so Georgians need to be prepared," said GEMA Director Chris Stallings. "We encourage everyone to use this time to prepare for winter weather and educate themselves on how to respond before, during and after winter weather occurs." The week serves to raise awareness of winter weather hazards and reinforce understanding of winter weather terminology. GEMA will distribute winter weather preparedness information via social media and provide toolkits to local emergency management directors.

Each day of the campaign will address the following topics:

Monday, Dec. 7: Winter Weather in Georgia Hazards

Tuesday, Dec. 8: Winter Weather Terminology

Wednesday, Dec. 9: Winter Weather Preparation Tips

Thursday, Dec. 10: Winter Weather Driving Safety

Friday, Dec. 11: Winter Weather Outlook for the 2020-21 season



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# Dates to Remember

## December

7th ~ WCMS Basketball Game Boys and Girls vs Fitzgerald Home

9th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon

9th ~ WCMS Basketball Game Boys and Girls vs Cook Away

10th ~ WCHS JV Basketball Game vs Lee Away

11th ~ BFHS Gift Wrapping 4pm-7pm

11th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

11th ~ WCHS JV Boys Basketball vs Deerfield Windsor Away

11th ~ WCHS Boys and Girls Basketball vs Deerfield Windsor Away

12th ~ WCHS JV Boys Basketball vs Turner Home

12th ~ WCHS Boys and Girls Basketball vs Turner Home

12th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

12th ~ BFHS Gift Wrapping Noon-4pm

12th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

13th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

13th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

14th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

15th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

16th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

16th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon

17th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

18th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

18th ~ BFHS Gift Wrapping 4pm-7pm

18th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

19th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

19th ~ BFHS Gift Wrapping Noon-4pm

19th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

20th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

20th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

21st ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

21st ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

21st ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

22nd ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

22nd ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

22nd ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

23rd ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

23rd ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

23rd ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon

23rd ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

24th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

24th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

24th ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

25th ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

25th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

25th ~ Merry Christmas from The Martin News

26th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

26th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

27th ~ Festival of Lights at Chehaw in Albany

27th ~ Wild Adventures Christmas

28th ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

29th ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays

30th ~ WC Schools Closed for the Holidays





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### Yummy Healthy Holiday Snacks

Yummy snacks are good anytime and especially at Christmas time. Most children love bananas so why not make these cute snacks for them and even their friends at Christmas time. Simply get a skewer and put on a banana slice, a round piece of marshmallow, a slice of strawberry and then a small marshmallow at the top. Simply get some sprinkles for the eyes and M&M's for the nose. These are the cutest snacks and children will love them. When Larry was little I use to love to do cute snacks like these and they were healthy too so it was a win win for everyone. Be sure to share some of your great snack ideas for the holidays with us at The Martin News. We would love to share them with all of our viewers. The Martin News hopes everyone has a very Merry Christmas.



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### Worth County School District Will Begin To Implement New COVID Guidelines

Worth County School District received word that they can begin to implement the new CDC/DPH Back-to-School Covid Guidelines!

1. Students can return to school after 10 days of Quarantine IF, they are symptom free!

OR

2. Students can return after 7 days of Quarantine, IF:  
They are symptom free AND  
Have had a NEGATIVE Test (PCR or antigen--yes it can be a rapid test as long as it is PCR or antigen)...the test must be administered on day 5 of quarantine or after.

Source: WCSD

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## Good Ole Gingerbread Houses

Gingerbread House Day is a day that can be celebrated in a wide variety of fun ways and will be a day that children in particular will really enjoy and always remember. Celebrating National Gingerbread House Day involves creating a gingerbread house. But, the best part is that once the house has been created it can be devoured! And it will be yummy! Gingerbread House Day should be a social event and be used as something that engages children and adults alike. Children and parents can make a gingerbread house together and then, later, the gingerbread houses can be eaten at a party especially laid on for the occasion. Alternatively, a giant gingerbread house can be created by several people, with guests invited to decorate it with icing, sugar or sweets. Did you know that charities also benefit via Gingerbread House Day. Portions of a gingerbread house or mini gingerbread houses can be sold to raise funds for the charity which is used as a great fundraiser. Larry and I love to build gingerbread houses because you don't have to be perfect in building it and you can be as creative as you want or not creative at all. We love to build the houses but then we love to eat some of it too! Have fun building your gingerbread house today and be sure to post them on Facebook for everyone to see.



### Doughnuts Anyone?

Look how adorable these are? This is a great idea whether you are giving out goodies from your business or giving them out at school to your children's friends. Simply bag the powdered doughnuts in a small cellophane bag and close the end. Cut out a snowman hat and add it to the top of the bag of doughnuts. Add a red ribbon for his scarf and draw on the snowman's face and his buttons. It will be so cute and who doesn't like doughnuts? Most children do and even most adults do too so this would even be a great idea for your girlfriends! What great ideas for simple goodies to give away this Christmas. Merry Christmas from The Martin News.





## Georgia State Superintendent Richard Woods Visits WCES

Mr. Richard Woods, Georgia State Superintendent of Schools, recently visited WCES. While here, Mr. Woods visited with several fourth grade classrooms and presented them with the book, "The Words That Built America". This book contains the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Amendments to the Constitution, the Pledge of Allegiance, and Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech. Students in fourth grade are presently studying the Constitution, so the timing was perfect! Also joining Mr. Woods on this visit were Georgia State Representative, Mr. Bill Yearta, and WCSD Superintendent, Mr. Nehemiah Cummings.

Source: WCSD



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## Tifton's Grist Pallets One Of "Fastest-Growing Businesses" Owned By UGA Alumni



Grist Pallets of Tifton, owned by brothers Kyle and Derek Grist, has been named among the 2021 "Bulldog 100," a list of the 100 fastest-growing businesses owned or operated by University of Georgia alumni. Kyle Grist graduated from the UGA College of Agriculture in 2005, with a degree in ag engineering. He previously attended ABAC and played basketball at Oxford College of Emory University. He graduated from Tiftarea Academy in 2000. "It is an honor to leave home, go off to college, get a degree and be able to come back to make a difference here in business," Grist told the Tifton Grapevine. He is a former board member of the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce. Grist Pallets specializes in re-using and recycling pallets into usable pallets. Grist said their pallets are made of 100 percent recycled wood. The pallets are sold to local distribution centers and produce packing sheds. The business is located at 40 Expressway Lane in Tifton. Grist and his brother are the adult children of Bobby and Sharon Grist, who operate a trucking business. "Growing up in the trucking business," Grist said, "we always used pallets. Everyone in trucking needs pallets." He attributes having one of the fastest-growing businesses among UGA grads to the thriving economy and to filling a local void. "There was a pallet business here that went out of business awhile back. We saw a void here, plus we have a great location, and

with Tifton being a hub for South Georgia," it all has spelled success for Grist Pallets. They employ 15. Grist said he stays busy handling the buying and selling of pallets and dispatching the driver. UGA received 429 nominations for its 2021 list and narrowed it down to 100. The 2021 Bulldog 100 celebrates organizations from more than two dozen industries, including agriculture, construction, health care, non-profits and software. The UGA Alumni Association will host the annual Bulldog 100 Celebration virtually Feb. 11, to celebrate the alumni business leaders and count down the ranked list to ultimately reveal the No. 1 fastest-growing business.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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## Farm Bureau Honors Rep. Scott



The Georgia Farm Bureau on Wednesday recognized Congressman Austin Scott, R-Tifton, for receiving the Friend of Farm Bureau Award for his work on behalf of farmers during the 116th Congress. The Friend of Farm Bureau Award is given to federal legislators who support legislative and regulatory efforts in Congress that benefit farmers and rural communities. "Congressman Scott has long been one of agriculture's strongest allies in Washington, and Georgia farmers are better off thanks to his work on issues like securing federal disasters assistance, improving farm programs, and strengthening trade agreements, to name a few. He has more than earned the Friend of Farm Bureau Award again this legislative cycle," said Georgia Farm Bureau President Gerald Long. Additionally, Scott recently announced his desire to serve as ranking member on the U.S. House Agriculture

Committee during the 117th Congress. "Congressman Scott would do an excellent job in that role, and U.S. agriculture and rural communities everywhere would be well served by his leadership on such an important committee. He has our organization's full support," Long said.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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## Staying Warm on a Cold Winter Day

I know there are days that it is cold outside in the morning and feels like winter, however winter does not officially begin until December 21st. I keep hearing from several sources that this will be a hard winter on every state, not just the northern states. So what does winter have in store for Georgia? Winter will be warmer and rainier than normal, with below-normal snowfall. The coldest periods will be in early January and early February. The best chances for snow will be in early January and early February. April and May will be drier than normal. Temperatures will be near normal in the south and below in the north. Summer will be slightly hotter than normal, on average, with above-normal rainfall. The hottest periods will be in early to mid-June, early August, and mid- to late August. Overall, September and October will be warmer and drier than normal. Watch for a tropical storm threat in early to mid-September. Let's see how close they will be on any of this. With it mentioning snow, they surely cannot be talking about Sylvester. HA! So many times during the winter we try to figure out things to do inside so that we don't have to go out in the freezing cold weather. You may be like me though, I often sit and wonder what can we do? While I was looking around on the internet at the almanac I found a few good ideas. I wanted to share them with you. These are only a few but some you may really enjoy. How about make a great big breakfast. Time to step it up from the on-the-run breakfast you usually have and make some French toast, bacon, or eggs to enjoy. Or try something different, but easy, like skillet apple pancakes. Everyone usually likes breakfast. Me and my family love to eat breakfast for supper. Another task for the winter is Redecorate! How fun is that? I love to rearrange things and make what I have to look new again. Moving things around in your home can be fun and refreshing if you are into decorating. Try hanging your pictures in different places, rearranging your furniture, or dreaming up new ideas online. Sometimes even looking online will show you how to take things you have and put a different twist on them. If you have children, they would love to rearrange and decorate their rooms too. It gives you a great time to clean out things too! I have started watching videos of ideas how to turn your dollar tree finds into great unique items. I have even learned a few ideas using the videos for decorating at Christmas. How does Pajama Day sound?... Sounds like a wonderful idea to me! Just plan to stay in your PJ's all day and enjoy the whole day. There is no need to schedule appointments, go buy groceries, etc. Just stay put and stay comfy should be the plan. Another idea is great if you have children or grandchildren. Turn your living room into a fort by using chairs and blankets to make a cozy hideout for the day. Children love making forts and playing. Here's a good idea too... Movie and Popcorn Day. That sounds like tons of fun. There are great new movies to check out and popcorn is always a hit! So these are just a few things to do when it is too cold to go outside. You can always add so many new ideas as well. Stay warm this winter and have a blast!



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The Worth County Elementary School Toy Drive is underway. Each year WCES partners with the Sylvester-Worth County Chamber by donating toys to their Christmas Clearing House. All toys pictured above were purchased/donated by the WCES faculty and staff. If you would like to donate, your child may simply place a new, unwrapped toy by the Christmas tree located in the Commons Area of the school. All toys will be given to children right here in Worth County! Thank you for your support.



# Sylvester Christmas Parade 2020

Beautiful Pictures Provided By Karen Rackley, Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce



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### **Yum Yum Sauce Boss Moving Company To Tifton**



Superior Sauce Co., which makes Terry Ho's Yum Yum Sauce, is relocating to Tifton. Owner Terry Ho said he is relocating from Leesburg to a 100,000-square-foot manufacturing facility with 5,000 square feet of additional office space. His company is investing approximately \$12 million in the Tifton facility and expects to ultimately employ at least 60 people. "Our community continues to move forward, even in these challenging times. Superior Sauce is a quality company, and we are fortunate to have them choose Tifton for the food-processing operation," said Brian Marlowe, president & CEO of the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce and the Tift County Development Authority. Ho started the company in 2018 to manufacture his line of Yum Yum sauces. "I have the Yum Yum Sauce, and I used another packer before," he said. "To control my own destiny, I need to make my own product to keep the quality to my liking." Ho said his new facility will not only be manufacturing his sauces, including new products, but will be able to formulate and manufacture other products, and will be a business development and brokerage center to represent and promote other products. "I see the need," he said. "When I started, I literally had to go around looking for a company to do it for me." Superior Sauce has begun representing regional concoctions such as Captain

Anderson's seasoning and Cat 5 Salsa, both out of Panama City, Fla., and Ho said he hopes to include other products and help them get into regional stores. "The atmosphere is there," he said. "Millennials like to experience different things. Ketchup, mustard and mayonnaise just aren't enough." Ho said the new facility, which has been under construction for several months, is slated to be up and running around by Feb. 1. "We're hoping to grow with Tifton," he said.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



## Christmas Book Countdown



Jessa May's Mom started a new holiday tradition last year. She wrapped 25 books to countdown to Christmas. Each day she will unwrap and read a book to Jessa May. This is a great way to help your children read a thousand books before kindergarten. At The Margaret Jones Public Library, they are there to help you reach this goal with your little ones. 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 non-

fiction 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 Story time 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, we're here to help. Come by the Library to pick out some holiday books to share with your little ones.



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