



The Martin News

PO Box 5003 Sylvester, GA 31791
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www.themartinnews.org
(229) 272-4356

February 1, 2021

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Friday, February 5th is Wear Red For Women Day, Will You Join Us?



American
Heart
Association.

National Wear Red Day®

February 5, 2021

Live Fierce. Wear Red. **GIVE.**



American Heart Association.



Celebrate National Wear Red Day® on Friday, February 5, 2021. According to the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (N.I.H.) in the U.S, Coronary Heart Disease is the “#1 killer of women in the United States”. National Wear Red Day®, which was first observed in 2002, is a day when men and women are encouraged to wear red as a symbol of their support for women’s heart health. Thank you to the following that plans to participate with us on Friday!

**Liberty Tax Service of Sylvester
Sylvester Main Street
Fields Funeral Home
D&M Party Tees and Accessories
Sugar Hills Charms
Tatina's Taxes
Ms. Hannah & Ms. Taylor's Class at Backyard Buddies
Worth County E911
The Learning Tree
Worth County Middle School
Accel Cycling
State Farm - Stuart Pate
The Martin News**

The Martin News Is Going Red For Women

Every February, The American Heart Association holds fundraising and educational events to raise awareness for heart disease in women.

Due to COVID-19, many events will not be occurring this year however fundraising can still continue and is very much needed.

Will You Help The American Heart Association?

How? Wear Red

When? Friday, February 5, 2021

Do you have to fundraise to participate on Wear Red Day? The answer is simple, no. However if your business or organization would like to help fundraise, please visit <https://www.goredforwomen.org/en> and get signed up today. There are so many ways to fundraise to help the American Heart Association so let's get started today!

On behalf of The Martin News, thank you all for participating in this event. Please let us know if your business, organization or family plans to wear red on February 5th. You can email us at Imanley1210@gmail.com. We will be sharing all of your pictures and fundraising efforts if you plan to fundraise.

**On February 5th, when you wear red for
Go Red For Women,
please use the hashtag #GoRedForWomen.**





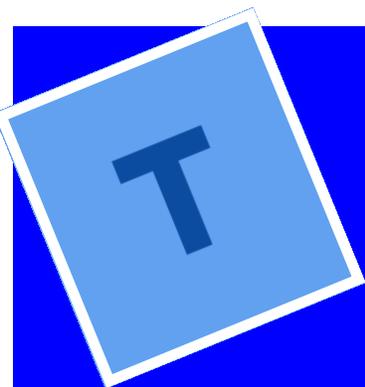
WCHS Hosted Region 2A One Act Play Competition

The Rams walked away with a best-supporting actress medal winner (Stephanie Bass) and two All-Region Cast selections: Destin Wilkerson and Caleb Miller. We also presented the first ever Dr Alan Grimsley Memorial Champion award to the Region 2A



winners, Thomasville High School. This will become an annual tradition and presented the One Act region champion. This is in recognition of the years of dedication and hard work that Dr. Grimsley poured into One Act play during his tenure in Worth County. Thank you to Tim Helms of SWGA RESA and Frank King for putting this together. We are so proud that the late Dr. Grimsley's wife, Dr Linda Grimsley and their eldest son Cecil Grimsley, were able to attend the presentation. Also thank State Board of Education member, Dr Butch Mosley and GHSA Associate Director, Tom Whittle for attending today's performances!

Source: WCSO



Sharing Memories: Sponsored by TT's Taxes

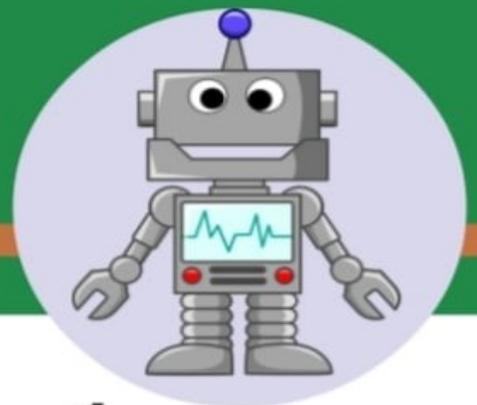
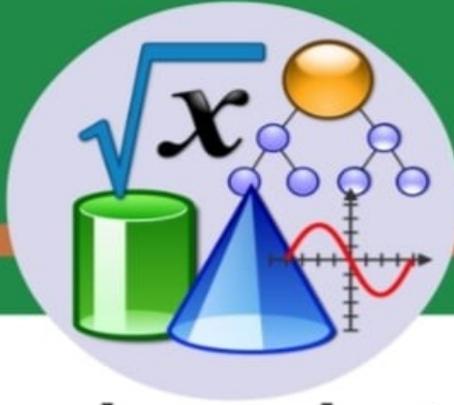
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mismith@worthschools.net

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Student Survives Severe COVID-19 Case To Receive Nursing Degree



Chelsie Turrubiardez, 23, does not remember the ambulance ride, but she will never forget the day she walked across the stage at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College to receive her nursing degree. Turrubiardez, an Adel resident, was on track to receive her associate degree in nursing at the end of the 2020 spring semester. Then on March 31, her life turned upside down. “I had a cough, a fever, and a headache,” Turrubiardez said. “I went to the hospital, and they admitted me to the ICU. I had tested negative for the virus the week before, but I felt dehydrated and my oxygen was really low. “When I got to the hospital, I got a positive COVID test, and they put me on a ventilator. I wasn’t improving; I was

scared.” Because of her weak condition, Southwell transferred Turrubiardez to the University of Florida Health Shand’s Hospital in Gainesville, Fla. “The ventilator was on max setting,” Turrubiardez said. “They put me in the ambulance, and I had to be on my stomach the entire way. I don’t remember the ride at all. I was out of it.” At Shand’s, Turrubiardez said she was placed on extracorporeal membrane oxygenation, where blood is pumped outside of your body to a heart-lung machine that removes carbon dioxide and sends oxygen-filled blood back to tissues in the body. Blood flows from the right side of the heart to the membrane oxygenator in the heart-lung machine, where it is rewarmed and sent back to the body. “I could hear and see people, but I don’t remember much about Shand’s,” Turrubiardez said. “I knew there was a chance I would not come off the ventilator.” Turrubiardez finally responded to the treatment and made another ambulance ride back to Southwell in Tifton in late April. She was released May 4. She had not seen her mother, Debbie Bullard, or her three brothers since March 31. “I was in a state of disbelief that I went through all that,” Turrubiardez said. “I didn’t see my family that entire time. I had a lot of anxiety.” After graduating from Cook High School in 2015, Turrubiardez started classes at ABAC in a slow journey toward her nursing degree. She was all set to participate in the virtual commencement ceremony in May 2020 and receive her associate degree. It didn’t happen because her five weeks of terror from the coronavirus wiped out her chances. “ABAC worked with me and allowed me to repeat my spring semester during the fall semester,” Turrubiardez said. “I was really happy when I graduated. I didn’t think I would get a chance to do that.” There was a smile on her face Dec. 3 at her commencement ceremony, and the story does not end there. Turrubiardez received the Lisa Purvis Allison Spirit of Nursing Award at the ABAC nursing pinning ceremony immediately after commencement. The award included a \$500 scholarship check. And there is more good news. Turrubiardez recently passed the National Council Licensure Examination-Registered Nurse and accepted an offer from Southwell to begin working as an RN on the Medical West floor. “I had been working as a nurse extender at Southwell since I graduated from high school,” Turrubiardez said. “It’s like a nurse’s aide. I have always wanted to be a nurse, and now it feels really good to be able to do that.” In the space of nine months, Turrubiardez has gone from a patient at Southwell in the Intensive Care Unit to a full-fledged Registered Nurse on the general medicine surgical floor. “I definitely have a soft spot for COVID patients,” Turrubiardez said. “I know from personal experience how anxious they can be. I want to be there and help them any way that I can.” Turrubiardez plans to take a semester away and then enroll in ABAC classes for her bachelor of science in nursing degree, one of 12 bachelor degrees offered at ABAC.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



You're Invited

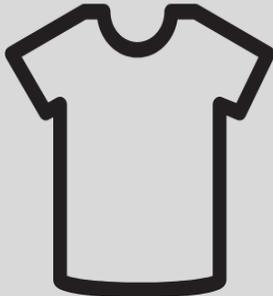


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Open House: All Day

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: 11:30am

Lunch: 11:00am to 1:00pm

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PRIZES & GIVE-A-WAYS THROUGHOUT THE DAY!

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Worth County COVID Vaccine Information

Who is eligible to receive a vaccine at this time?

The following individuals are eligible for the vaccine at this time:

- Medical Personnel
- First Responders including Fire Fighters and Post Certified Law Officers
- Individuals who are 65 years of age or older
- Caregivers to those 65 years of age and older

Where can I get a COVID-19 vaccination in Worth County?

COVID-19 vaccines are now available **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** in Worth County at the following locations:

- Worth County Health Department
- Phoebe Worth Medical Center

How do I make an appointment to get a COVID-19 vaccine?

- Worth County Health Department
 - Contact the Southwest Health District Call Center at 229-352-6567
 - Contact the local Health Department by calling 229-777-2150 and selecting option 3. Then press 0 to speak to the operator. (Do not select option 1 to make an appointment because that sends you to the Southwest Health District Call Center)
- Phoebe Worth Medical Center
 - Individuals who are 65 and older may call 229-312-1919 to schedule an appointment.
 - First Responders and Health Care Workers should visit rapidvac.phoebehealth.com to schedule an appointment

Please Remember

- Vaccines are given by appointment **ONLY**
- There is **NO CHARGE** for the vaccine
- If you have insurance an administration fee will be filed



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College Football Schedules Have Been Set

I know we still have a ways to go before College Football starts again but if you are like me, you already miss it! We are Gator Fans over here at The Martin News so here is the Gator Schedule however I did include the Georgia Bulldogs for all of our Dawg friends.

Florida 2021

September 4 - Gators vs. Florida Atlantic (Home)
September 11 - Gators vs. South Florida (Away)
September 18 - Gators vs. Alabama (Home)
September 25 - Gators vs. Tennessee (Home)
October 2 - Gators vs. Kentucky (Away)
October 9 - Gators vs. Vanderbilt (Home)
October 16 - Gators vs. LSU (Away)
October 23 - Open Date
October 30 - Gators vs. Georgia (Jacksonville)
November 6 - Gators vs. South Carolina (Away)
November 13 - Gators vs. Samford (Home)
November 20 - Gators vs. Missouri (Away)
November 27 - Gators vs. Florida State (Home)

Georgia 2021

Sept. 4: Clemson, Charlotte
Sept. 11: UAB, Athens, Ga.,
Sept 18: South Carolina, Athens, Ga.,
Sept. 25: at Vanderbilt, Nashville
Oct. 2: Arkansas, Athens, Ga.,
Oct. 9: at Auburn, Auburn, Ala.
Oct. 16: Kentucky, Athens, Ga.,
Oct. 23: Off
Oct. 30: Florida, Jacksonville, Fla.,
Nov. 6: Missouri, Athens, Ga.,
Nov. 13: At Tennessee, Knoxville, Tenn.,
Nov. 20: Charleston Southern, Athens, Ga.,
Nov. 27: at Georgia Tech, Atlanta, Ga.,

Georgia Peanut Commissions Announces School Nutrition Winners In “Not All Superheroes Wear Capes!” Contest

TIFTON, Ga. (Jan. 29, 2021) - Georgia’s peanut farmers recognize the critical effort school nutrition partners made to feed the state’s most food-vulnerable students when COVID-19 caused a necessary closure of schools. Georgia Peanut Commission worked with the Georgia School Nutrition Association to seek entries from school districts highlighting their efforts in the areas of innovation, volume and community engagement. The winning districts are Coffee County School System, Glynn County School District, Houston County School System and Tift County Public Schools.

Coffee County School System • School/Community Engagement Award 2020 Pandemic Feeding Program

Coffee County’s school nutrition team formed a partnership with their full school system including teachers, para pros, custodians, administrative staff, maintenance and bus drivers to prepare and deliver nearly 570,000 meals to students homes along with educational work packets and even Chromebooks where needed. Smucker’s Uncrustables® Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches were a favorite in these meals. The Sheriff’s Department even got involved having deputies escort buses on their routes and making special deliveries when a student missed a bus delivery. The entry noted students were so excited to see their teachers, lunch room staff and bus drivers – even if it was just to wave and shout hello out the windows – that it definitely brought a much-needed level of normalcy to a stressful time in everyone’s life.

Glynn County School District • Most Creative Award 2020 Pandemic Feeding Program

Glynn County’s school nutrition team pivoted quickly to continue serving meals using a drive-through model at various schools throughout the district. As hard as they were working to meet the physical needs of their students, they immediately recognized there were emotional needs as well and began to focus on creating a fun and positive environment at the drive-throughs. Nutrition staff made encouraging signs and began dressing in costumes like fruits, vegetables and even superheroes as they served more than 830,000 meals. While the school serves several peanut products, Smucker’s Uncrustables® Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches are a favorite and account for most of their peanut butter usage.

Houston County School System • Peanut Butter Usage Award 2020 Pandemic Feeding Program

Houston County’s school nutrition team left on a Friday not knowing that it was the end of the in-person school year. They immediately activated their Seamless Summer program, which provides seven days of meals per week to any child under the age of 18 at four drive-through locations. With changing requirements, the Houston County team has pivoted several times to continue serving nearly 1.5 million meals including thousands of cases of Smucker’s Uncrustables® Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches.

Tift County Public Schools • Peanut Butter Usage Award 2020 Pandemic Feeding Program

Tift County’s school nutrition team knew students would go hungry without access to school meals because of the percentage of students who participate in free and reduced-priced meal program. This was unacceptable to them, so they activated nine drive-through feeding sites as well as eight buses to deliver meals on the first day of the school closure. Directors and administrators spent time every day helping to load and deliver meals on the buses. Nearly 250,000 Smucker’s Uncrustables® Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches were served during that time.

Each winning district will receive a trophy, 123 cases of peanut butter to utilize in their feeding program and a Georgia Peanuts dish towel and spatula for each team member. Prize delivery is scheduled for the week of Feb. 8-12.



Words from Worth County Primary School

The Kids Heart Challenge will be here soon and we want to get things started with a Happy Heart bundle raffle. The FIRST 10 students at our school that are registered online with at least a \$5 donation will be entered to win the bundle pictured here. How cool is that??? In addition to the chance to win the bundle, you will also get a FREE red Kids Heart Challenge wristband AND Dash; one of our newest Heart Heroes! Register online TODAY at <http://www2.heart.org/goto/worthprimary> for your chance to WIN the Happy Heart bundle. Let’s help others and learn about keeping our bodies and hearts healthy and strong. It’s the Kids Heart Challenge 2021 at Worth Co. Primary School!!! (Bundle will be awarded on 2/5/2021)

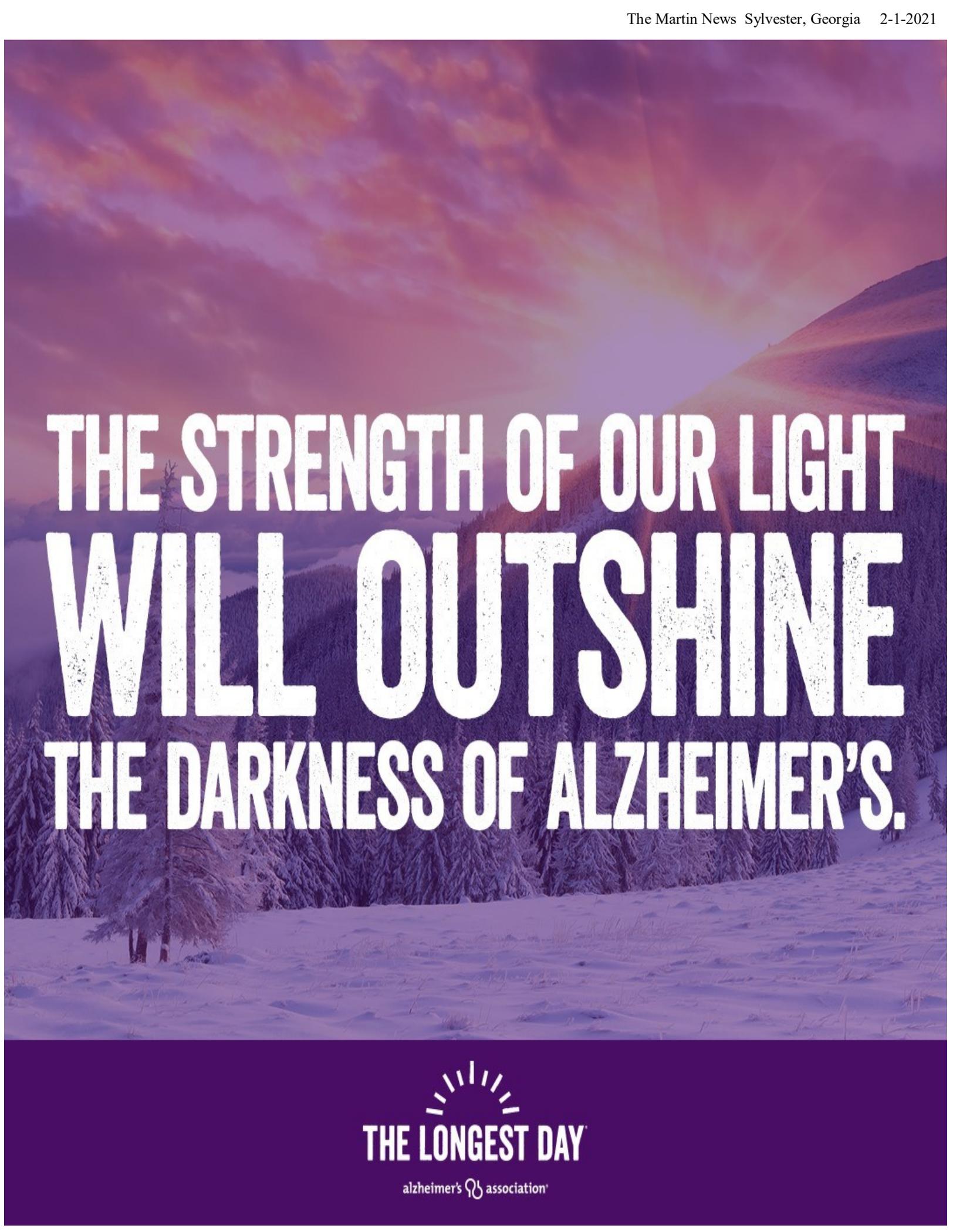
Source: WCSD

Cap and Gown Picture Day is coming

Worth County Elementary 5th Grade

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

REMEMBER TO WEAR YOUR SMILE.
 You do not need to send any money at this time. You will receive a proof of your portrait in approximately 2 weeks.



**THE STRENGTH OF OUR LIGHT
WILL OUTSHINE
THE DARKNESS OF ALZHEIMER'S.**



THE LONGEST DAY

alzheimer's  association

Snow much fun was had at Books and Bubbles at the Margaret Jones Public Library. They made a snowman and had fun painting with shaving cream snow. Join them weekly and have loads of fun!

Source: MJPL



**Proud Sponsor
of This Weeks'
SCHOOL
SNAPSHOTS!**



the Exchange
at
WCHS

Hello! My name is Nancy Burrell and I'm excited to announce an amazing community service opportunity for you and your organization. We are setting up "the Exchange" at Worth County High School. The Exchange will be a clothing and personal hygiene item closet open to all students of WCHS. We are asking for the entire Worth County community to get involved in this exciting venture. We will be accepting new and gently used clothing as well as new personal hygiene products. We would love for you and your organization to get involved. Below is a list of items we hope to be able to stock in the Exchange.

If you would like to donate or have any further questions please contact me at nburrell@worthschools.net or 229-344-1389.

Personal Hygiene Items

Soap
Deodorant
Shampoo
Conditioner
Toothbrush
Toothpaste
Brush
Comb
Pick
Tampons
Maxi Pads

Suggested Clothing Items

Blue Jeans (male & female)
t-shirts (male & female)
sweaters
polo style shirts
button up shirts
skirts
underwear (new)
socks (new)

**RHYTHM
& RIBS
BBQ FESTIVAL
TIFTON, GA**



POSTPONED

SATURDAY
MARCH 6
10 AM
TIFTON, GA

Fulwood Park • Tifton

BBQ Competition • Shopping • KidZone
Food & Drinks • Music All Day



Congratulations to the FBLA competitors who placed at the recent FBLA Region 1 Competition. All students advanced to the state competition.



Shelby Greer

1st place in Intro to Public Speaking
3rd place in Intro to Business Communication



Nakya Daniels

8th place in Business Communication



Zakkery Parton

5th place in Business Calculations



Fatima Resendez

6th place in Public Speaking
10th place in Business Communication



Tifton Museum of

ARTS & HERITAGE

FEBRUARY CLASSES



Chocolate & a Canvas

Tuesday, February 9
6:30pm
Registration: \$30
Supply Kit: \$3-8



Kids at Art

Saturday, February 6
11:00am
Registration: \$30
Supply Kit: \$3-8



Intro to Drawing

Ages: 12 - 112
Thursday, February 18
Ages 5-11
Thursday, February 25
6:30pm
Registration: \$30

Register at www.tiftonmuseum.org

Whether near or far, here or departed, it is never to late to shower one another with tokens of love and gratitude!

So, Here is our token of love to you.

The Entire Month of February!!

\$125.00 Blankets

\$400.00 Concrete Headstones & Slabs



WCHS Haley Bird Selected as DAR Good Citizen

Worth County High School's faculty and staff recently elected Senior Haley Bird to receive the prestigious Daughters of the American Revolution's (DAR) Good Citizen Award. This award is presented to a senior boy or girl who possesses the qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism to an outstanding degree.

The DAR Good Citizens Program is sponsored by our local Barnard Trail Chapter. Mrs. Dianne Register is the DAR Chapter Good Citizenship Committee Chairman. Congratulations Haley! We are very proud of you and this outstanding accomplishment.

Source: WCSD

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**Thank you for your loyalty.
We appreciate you.**

#WearRedDay



National Wear Red Day

February 5

Heart disease is a leading cause of death in the U.S. Know your risk and protect your heart.

hearttruth.gov



Blind Date with a Book

Take a chance on a book without knowing what it is! You might be surprised!



Let The Librarians At MJPL Play Cupid And Set You Up With A Good Book

Throughout the month of February, Margaret Jones Public Library will have a "Blind Date with a Book" display by the front desk. Would you take a chance on a book that you don't know much about? These books will be available in both regular and large print in various genres. Who knows, you might just find your next great read!

Source: MJPL

Make A Trip To The Bake Shop



Looking for a treat? Piggly Wiggly has them all lined up for you. Any kind you can think of they have them stocked up for you. Which one is your favorite? My favorite is Swiss Rolls. I love them! I do like the brownies, especially the ones they do for the holidays. Stop by Piggly Wiggly today and stock up!

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COVID-19 Testing in Dougherty County

PRE-REGISTRATION IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED

Exchange Club Fairgrounds

810 S. Westover Blvd.
Albany, GA 31707

Monday-Friday: 9am-4pm
Saturday: 9am-1pm

Pre-register online:

<https://make.exchange/splash/GAmakotesting/>

or scan the QR code:



Looking for COVID-19 testing outside of Dougherty County?

Visit: covid19.dph.ga.gov

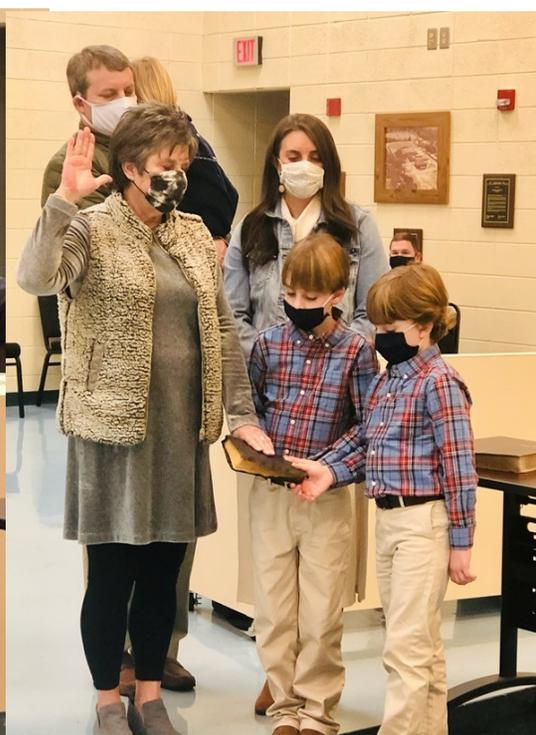
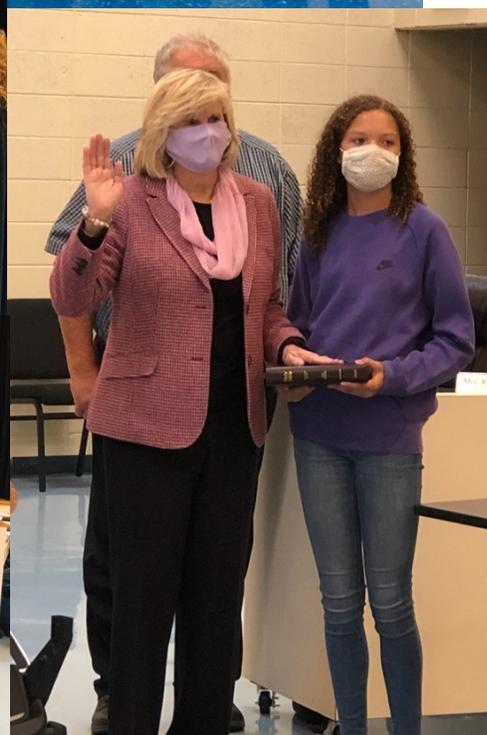
Call: (229) 352-6567



Newly Elected Board Members Sworn In

At the Worth County School Board January meeting, two newly elected board members were sworn in. As their families looked on, Judge Virginia Acord swore in Ms. Marilyn Herring of District 2 and Mrs. Sue Youngblood of District 3. The Worth County School System would like to welcome these new members and looks forward to working with them in the future.

Source: WCSD



Dates to Remember

February

- 2nd ~ Happy Ground Hog Day from The Martin News
- 2nd ~ WCMS Baseball VS Lee Co West at Home
- 2nd ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 3rd ~ WCMS Baseball VS Lee Co East Away
- 3rd ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 3rd ~ Brews & Bingo at Pretoria Fields 6pm-8pm
- 4th ~ WCHS Boys JV Basketball Away
- 4th ~ WCHS Girls Varsity Basketball Away
- 4th ~ WCHS Boys Varsity Basketball Away
- 5th ~ Wear Red for Women Against Heart Disease
- 5th ~ Chehaw Cubs Program 10am at Chehaw Park & Zoo
- 6th ~ Kids at Art 11am Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage
- 6th ~ WCMS Baseball 50 Inning Game
- 6th ~ WCHS Boys JV Basketball Away
- 8th ~ WCHS Girls Varsity Basketball Away
- 8th ~ Valentine Paint Party at Margaret Jones Public Library 6pm
- 9th ~ Chocolate & A Canvas 6:30pm Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage
- 9th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Lee Co East at Home
- 9th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 9th ~ Worth The Read Book Club February Meeting
- 10th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Berrien Away
- 10th ~ Brews & Bingo at Pretoria Fields 6pm-8pm
- 10th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 11th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Lee Co West Away
- 14th ~ Happy Valentine's Day from The Martin News
- 16th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 17th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Berrien at Home
- 17th ~ WCMS Soccer Girls/Boys VS Early Away
- 17th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 17th ~ Presidents' Day
- 17th ~ Brews & Bingo at Pretoria Fields 6pm-8pm
- 18th ~ Intro to Drawing 6:30pm Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage
- 22nd ~ WCMS Baseball VS Thomasville at Home
- 22nd ~ WCMS Soccer Girls/Boys VS Tift Co at Home
- 23rd ~ WCMS Soccer Girls/Boys VS Irwin Co Away
- 23rd ~ Sylvester - Worth County Family Connections Meeting Noon
- 23rd ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 24th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Fitzgerald Away
- 24th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 24th ~ Brews & Bingo at Pretoria Fields 6pm-8pm
- 25th ~ Intro to Drawing 6:30pm Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage

2nd Annual "Snow Better Time to Read" Adult Reading Challenge

**Read 10 books between January 11
and March 16 to be entered into a
drawing for a prize .**

**Bookmarks/reading lists can be
picked up at the library's front desk.**

**All bookmarks must be returned to
the Margaret Jones Public Library by
March 16th.**





Pesticide Clean Day Collection Event

Mitchell County Stadium Camilla, Ga. February 10, 2021
45 Industrial Blvd. 9:00am to 3:00pm

Georgia Clean Day is a program that gives everyone an opportunity to discard old, unusable, or cancelled pesticides to a hazardous waste contractor for disposal. Pesticides in leaking containers or disposed of improperly may cause environmental damage by contaminating water supplies or harming people and wildlife. Some pesticides that have been used in the past are now in need of proper disposal. Participation in the Clean Day Program remains free of charge to all private and commercial applicators with the understanding that the event is designed / intended for farmers, lawn care, golf courses, and pest control companies. The Georgia Department of Agriculture will be requiring **pre-registration** for the event. For more information about the event please contact your local extension agent, visit our website <http://agr.georgia.gov/georgia-clean-day.aspx> or contact Rick Hayes, coordinator for the event. ricky.hayes@agr.georgia.gov (Office: 404-656-4958) (Cell: 404-535-1614)

This is an excellent opportunity to dispose of pesticides you have been holding because you had neither an economical or legal means to dispose of them. Canceled and suspended pesticides by definition cannot be used and must be disposed of, often as hazardous waste. Benefits to participate in this program are:

1. No disposal fees for those who participate in the program.
2. The disposal contractor secures all permits and approvals.
3. Disposal contractor takes possession of the waste and thereby becomes the generator.
4. All materials eligible for destructive incineration will be destroyed.
5. Minimization of ongoing liabilities from continued storage of these wastes on your property.



All canceled, suspended, unusable and unlabeled materials classified as pesticides may be turned in for collection. Please refer to the brief list below to determine what types of materials will or will not be accepted at the event. Please list all pesticides to be turned in on the pre-registration form in order to estimate types and volumes to be collected. Any pesticides without a brand name, trade name, or active ingredient on the label may require analysis to determine the contents.

ACCEPTABLE MATERIALS

Insecticides
Growth Regulators
Fungicides
Harvest Aid Chemicals
Nematicides
Bactericides
Herbicides
Miscellaneous pesticides

EXCLUDED MATERIALS

Compressed Gases
Solvents
Paints
Antifreeze
Motor Oil
Explosive Materials
Fertilizers or Nutrients that are neither hazardous or do not contain pesticide

- **PRE-REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY FOR PROGRAM PARTICIPATION.**
- ALL PESTICIDES BROUGHT TO THE COLLECTION SITE MUST BE LISTED ON THE PRE-REGISTRATION FORM.
- ITEMS NOT REGISTERED WILL BE REFUSED AT THE COLLECTION SITE.
- EMPTY CONTAINERS OR RINSATES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Ag Dealers special arrangements can be made to accommodate you. Your pesticide waste disposal will be weighed and billed on site at \$1.15 per pound.

Please Contact Rick Hayes for special instructions! ricky.hayes@agr.georgia.gov

Think Tifton

Tift Names New Football Coach Noel Dean, A Michigan Hall Of Fame Coach



One of Michigan's top high school football coaches has been named head coach of the Tift County High Blue Devils. Noel Dean most recently coached the Lowell (Mich.) High Red Arrows for 22 years, winning three state championships, making six state finals appearances, taking nine trips to the state semifinals, and winning 13 district and nine regional crowns during his tenure. Dean was inducted into the Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2016. The Tift County Board of Education named him Tift's head football coach during a special called meeting Tuesday night. "We are happy to welcome Coach Dean to the Blue Devil Nation," said Superintendent Adam Hathaway. "Our process led us to one of the most successful high school football coaches in the country. Coach Dean has a long history of success as a head coach, leader, and member of his local community. We couldn't be more excited to add a coach of his caliber to our athletic program and the faculty at Tift County High School." TCHS Principal Chad Stone added that "Coach Dean understands hard work, success, and what it means to be a Blue Devil. I am eager to see him work with our student athletes and develop a football program that makes us better today than yesterday." Dean is confident that

the Blue Devils football team will see success in future seasons. "Tift County is on a collision course to win a state championship. It's going to happen," Dean said. Dean, who has been coaching since college, retired from Lowell High in June 2018 in order to watch his son play junior varsity football and to ponder his future. Dean began his coaching career in 1991 at Bendle (Mich.) High School. During his time there, he led the school to its first-ever playoff appearance and was named Regional Coach of the Year in 1995 when his team made it to the semi-finals. Dean left Bendle in 1996 and became head coach at Lowell High. Dean's record boasts more than 245 wins, and his teams have been recognized 14 times for being Academic All-State and four times for being the top Community Service program. Dean's 2004 Lowell Red Arrows team was named No. 14 in the top 25 teams of the last 25 years by State Champs Sports Network in their coverage areas of Michigan and Indiana. The 2004 Lowell football team won the Division 3 State Championship, allowing only three regular season teams to score, totaling 36 points given up during the season. The 2004 Lowell team outscored their opponents by 575 points, an average of 41 points a game. They won their five postseason games by 35 points a game. Dean was awarded the American Football Coaches Association 2011 Power of Influence Award, has been honored 16 times as Michigan High School Football Coaches Association Regional Coach of the Year, and was named State Coach of the Year three times. In 2000, he was named AP Coach of the Year. He was granted AP Honorable Mention four times and Detroit News Coach of the Year three times. In 2004, he was named Detroit Lions Coach of the Year and Grand Rapids Press Coach of the Year in 2009, 2012, and 2016. Dean is also a believer in building a complete community experience for student athletes. In 2008, He started the Pink Arrow Pride game at Lowell High School. The game turned into a movement that saw multiple sports rally to raise money for cancer survivors and families in the Lowell area just outside Grand Rapids. To date, the Pink Arrow Pride program has raised more than \$2 million for the community. Dean and his wife have four children. His youngest, Doak Dean, is a senior at Lowell High and has committed to wrestle at Harvard, where his brothers Cannon and Zeth have studied and competed. His sister, Darby, plays soccer at Ferris State University in Michigan.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Southwell Opening 2nd COVID-19 Vaccination Site



Southwell will open a second drive-thru COVID-19 vaccination site in Tifton on Feb. 1 at the Tift Regional Community Events Center on Carpenter Road. Shots will be given Monday-Friday, and an appointment will be required. COVID-19 testing, which was previously being performed at the Tift Regional Community Events Center, will be moved to ExpressCare in Tifton. In addition, COVID-19 testing can be performed at any of Southwell's primary care clinics, including those in Adel, Sylvester, Ashburn, and Nashville. "We are focused on increasing output," said Alex Le, Southwell chief operating officer. "We recognize the demand for vaccines within our community, and we need to expand to meet that need. At the same time, we have seen a decrease in the number of people utilizing our drive-thru COVID-19 testing clinic at the events center.

"We will continue to have enough testing to meet the needs of all the communities we serve through our convenient care, primary care, and pediatric clinics, and will increase the number of vaccinations for members of our community so we can help prevent hospitalizations in the future." The vaccinations will be open to those over age 65; first responders, such as police officers, firefighters and EMS personnel; and healthcare workers not employed with Southwell. Individuals who receive vaccines through the drive-thru clinic at the Tift Regional Community Events Center, next to the Tiftarea YMCA, will receive the first dose of the two-part Pfizer vaccine. This will be Southwell's second vaccination site for Tifton, and its third site overall. Southwell's other vaccination drive-thru sites are Southwell Medical in Adel on Wednesdays and the Southwell Medical Clinic location (formerly Affinity) in Tifton, open Monday through Friday. The vaccinations at all sites are by appointment only. Those who meet the eligibility criteria for the vaccination may call the drive-thru clinic's request line at 229-353-2200 to leave a message for scheduling. A representative will return the call and schedule an appointment. The Tift Regional Community Events Center is located at 1657 S. Carpenter Road in Tifton. Southwell Medical can be found in Adel at 260 MJ Taylor Road. Southwell Medical Clinic is located at 2225 Highway 41 North in Tifton. The Tift County Health Department is also offering free COVID-19 vaccinations. To register, call the department's Vaccine Line at 229-386-8373. Some private clinics and pharmacies are also authorized to give COVID-19 vaccinations.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Co-Hosted by American Legion Post 335 and The Sons of the American Legion Squadron 335

YOU ARE NOT ALONE



Sylvester's 1st Annual Veteran Suicide Awareness Event

Where:

Worth County Ag Pavillion
102 Rebecca Dr, Sylvester, GA 31791

When: June 5, 2021

Event will begin at 10am with presentation of colors, live national anthem, dual taps, and a prayer.



Big Ticket Raffle Items \$1 per ticket

Several Food Vendors Will be Present as well as Veteran owned Valdosta Kettle Works LLC



Classic Car/Truck show

- Oldest Around
- Overall Favorite
- Farthest Traveled
- Abi's Choice

Pre-Registration \$15
Late Registration \$20



There will also be live music from local artist and bands



Patriotic Art Silent Auction
Any local or South Georgia artist are invited to donate a patriotic piece to be silent auctioned at the event!
Any ages are welcome!

Surprise Guest Speakers and special guest on Veteran Suicide Awareness



SAVE 22

AWARENESS IS THE ANSWER



All profit from this event will go directly to a well researched veteran focused local charity

If you would like to sign up for any of these events or sponsor it please contact:

Cody Humphrey (229)376-4426

Emma Lynn (229)603-8859

Adam Ivey (229)206-1427



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Georgia Peanut Commission Research Report Day set for Feb. 10

TIFTON, Ga. (Jan. 29, 2021) - The Georgia Peanut Commission will hold the annual Research Report Day, Feb. 10, 2021, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at their headquarters in Tifton, Georgia, and available virtually. The event provides growers and industry representatives an opportunity to hear the latest reports and newest information available on peanut research projects funded by GPC in 2020. "The commission works to wisely invest peanut farmers' dollars into research projects across Georgia in an effort to reduce production input costs and improve agronomic techniques," says Donald Chase, GPC Research Committee chairman. "Although some of the findings are preliminary, the projects are exciting, and many times new recommendations or observations are announced." GPC awarded \$739,693 to peanut research facilities in the state during 2020. This effort funds 40 research projects from the University of Georgia, the USDA Agricultural Research Service and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. The research programs primarily focus on peanut breeding, conservation methods, irrigation and water management, as well as pests, weed and disease management. Individuals interested in participating in the virtual report presentations should contact GPC at 229-386-3470 or email Hannah Jones at hannah@gapeanuts.com. The agenda for the GPC Research Report Day is available online at www.gapeanuts.com. All research reports will be available online following the GPC Research Report Day.

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MARCH 1-5, 2021

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**HEARTS OF WORTH VALENTINES GIVEAWAY!
DEADLINE TO ENTER FEBRUARY 11TH BY 11:00PM**

The Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce has been working on something for the last week or so. Who is ready to find out what they have been working so hard on? They have been working with their Chamber members and are excited to share with you the great news! This is so exciting and what a way to bring in February! They are giving away this Valentine's gift basket on February 12th. The estimated value at this time is over \$600 and businesses are still contributing so at the time of give-a-way, they will update.

Thank you to the following Chamber members for donating to this awesome give-a-way!
Accel Cycling Studio, Alchemy Games & Coffee Shoppe, Barnyard Creations, Bee B and Co. Boutique, Bless Boutique, Bloomers Floral Design, Called To Care Of Worth County, Coca-Cola United Sylvester, GA, Coastal Plain CASA, Inc., Combined Insurance, Dairy Queen, Daughtry's "Empire" Market, Debs Curbside Cupcakes, Defining Figures Body Contouring Studio, LLC, Destiny Fitness of Sylvester, Doug Hughes Pest Control, Ed's Truckstop, Factory Connection, Fat Boy's Backyard BBQ & More, Fletcher Yeararta Jewelers, Jackson Soul Food, Kona Ice of Albany, Lisa Jones Photography, M&M Sales, Signs & Graphics, Margaret Jones Public Library, McDonald's, Medders Associates Surveying, LLC, Nether's Soul & Seafood Cafe, Renasant Bank, Rugged Shoal Outfitters, LLC, Shipp Shape Lawn Service, Short & Paulk Supply Company, Snipes Piggly Wiggly, Southwest Georgia Bank, A Division of the First, Sunbelt Ford in Sylvester, Sylvester Local News, Sylvester-Worth County Chamber of Commerce, The Gift Barn, The Looking Glass Salon, The Martin News, Tractor Supply Company, Wal-Mart and Worth County High School - CTAE.

- Here are the rules to enter:
1. Like the Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce Facebook page
 2. Follow them on Instagram @swcountycommerce
 3. Tag 3 people in the comments of the give-a-way post, and give your favorite business in Sylvester-Worth County a shout-out!

Georgia Communities Receive Infrastructure Loans Totaling \$121 Million

January 25, 2021 Seventeen Georgia communities and The Conservation Fund were awarded financing totaling \$121,106,100 for water, sewer, wastewater, and land conservation projects by the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) board of directors.

Approved loans:

- Braselton awarded a \$1,900,000 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) loan
 - Cairo awarded a \$800,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan
- Camilla awarded a \$1,900,000 CWSRF conservation loan, a \$200,000 CWSRF loan, and a \$1,400,000 DWSRF loan
 - Columbus Water Works awarded a \$13,300,000 CWSRF loan
 - Conservation Fund awarded a \$5,000,000 CWSRF conservation loan
 - Cuthbert awarded a \$1,147,000 DWSRF loan
 - Dallas awarded a \$1,834,000 CWSRF loan
 - DeKalb County awarded a \$3,000,000 Georgia Fund loan
 - Flowery Branch awarded a \$23,300,000 CWSRF conservation loan
 - Gainesville awarded a \$28,000,000 CWSRF loan
 - Hawkinsville awarded a \$1,377,500 CWSRF loan
- Liberty County Industrial Authority awarded a \$3,000,000 Georgia Fund conservation loan
 - Newton County awarded a \$12,000,000 DWSRF loan
 - Social Circle awarded a \$3,320,000 CWSRF conservation loan
 - Sylvester awarded a \$1,925,000 CWSRF loan
 - Thomson awarded a \$8,361,000 CWSRF conservation loan
- Walker County Water and Sewerage Authority awarded a \$9,000,000 CWSRF conservation loan
 - Warwick awarded a \$341,600 DWSRF loan

City of Camilla

The \$1,900,000 CWSRF conservation loan will finance the rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment plant and lift stations. This project will improve efficiency and enhance the treatment processes. The city will pay 0.82% interest on the 20-year loan. The loan qualifies for a reduced interest rate because of a portion of the project is a conservation activity. The city is eligible for principal forgiveness up to \$950,000. The \$200,000 CWSRF loan will finance the installation of emergency bypass pumps and generators. This project will protect public health by preventing the interruption of the collection system during extreme weather. The city will pay no interest on the 20-year loan. The city is eligible for principal forgiveness up to \$40,000. The \$1,400,000 DWSRF loan will finance upgrading the water distribution system. This project will install redundant distribution system components and equipment to prevent the interruption of the system during extreme weather. The city will pay no interest on the 20-year loan. The city is eligible for principal forgiveness up to \$700,000.

City of Sylvester:

The \$1,925,000 CWSRF loan will finance wastewater treatment improvements. During Hurricane Michael, storm water flooded the wastewater treatment facility and caused inflow and infiltration in the sewer system. This project will improve resiliency, increase treatment capacity, and maintain effective wastewater treatment. The city will pay no interest on the 20-year loan. The city is eligible for principal forgiveness up to \$275,000.

City of Warwick

The \$341,600 DWSRF loan will finance installing two generators and a supervisory control and data acquisition system. This project will increase the system's reliability in the event of water system disruption. The city will pay no interest on the 20-year loan. The city is eligible for principal forgiveness up to \$187,880.

Source: Georgia Environmental Finance Authority



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