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Want to watch movies, listen to music, read books and comic books? All you need to do is download Hoopla with your library card! The Margaret Jones Public Library has shared this great news with us and it is easy to do. You will need an email address to create an account. Select Worth County Library as your library. Enjoy!

Valentine's Day 2021

Ms. Hannah's and Ms. Taylor's Classroom was so excited for Valentine's Day. Look how precious these babies are. They decorated their Valentine bags so they were ready for their Valentine party on Friday. All children love to get Valentine cards and goodies. I have a 17 year old so exchanging Valentine cards isn't a thing anymore however I kept all his Valentine cards from when he was little and have them in a scrap-book. Definitely something you may want to consider so that you can look back at them when years have passed. Hope everyone had a great Valentines.



Sharing Memories: Sponsored by TT's Taxes

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229-778-0225*

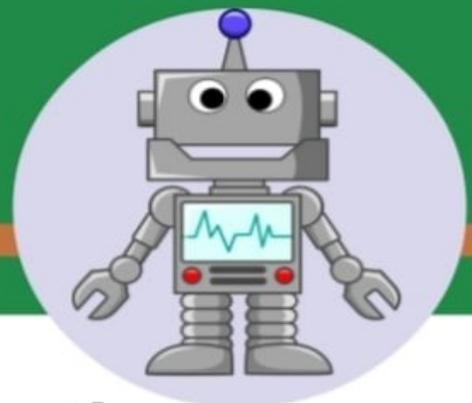
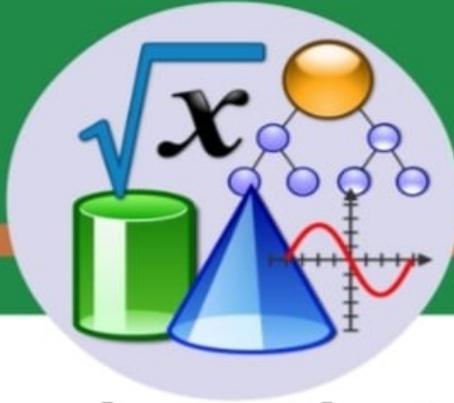
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mismith@worthschools.net

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Terms and conditions must be signed**

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COVID-19 VACCINES

APPOINTMENTS REQUIRED

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(229) 777-2150 or (229) 352-6567**

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- Residents and staff of long-term care facilities
- Adults aged 65+ and their caregivers
- Law enforcement
- Firefighters
- 911 operators and dispatchers



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News From Worth County High School

Prom



Tickets on sale now

| Month Purchased | Cost per ticket |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Early Bird: February | \$30 |
| March | \$35 |
| April | \$40 |
| May | \$45 |
| At the Door | \$50 |

See the Media Center for tickets, dress code, & guest verification forms. Senior Prom tickets include 2 Senior Walk audience tickets. Additional Senior Walk audience tickets are \$3 each.

The WCHS Roarin' 20s Prom will be held on Saturday, May 8th, from 7 PM to 11 PM in WCHS Gymnasium. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased in the WCHS Media Center. Be sure to get the Early Bird Special for only \$30 a ticket. See the flyer for additional information on ticket sales for each month. Also the 2021 Prom Court Requirements as well as

dress code information can be found on the Worth County High School Facebook page. Guest verification forms can be picked up in the Media Center. This form is required for any guest that is not a WCHS student. Due to COVID, the Senior Walk will take place at the football stadium at 4:00 PM the same day. Social distancing and face masks are expected. Sunblock is recommended. Additional Senior Walk information is available on the Worth County High School Facebook.

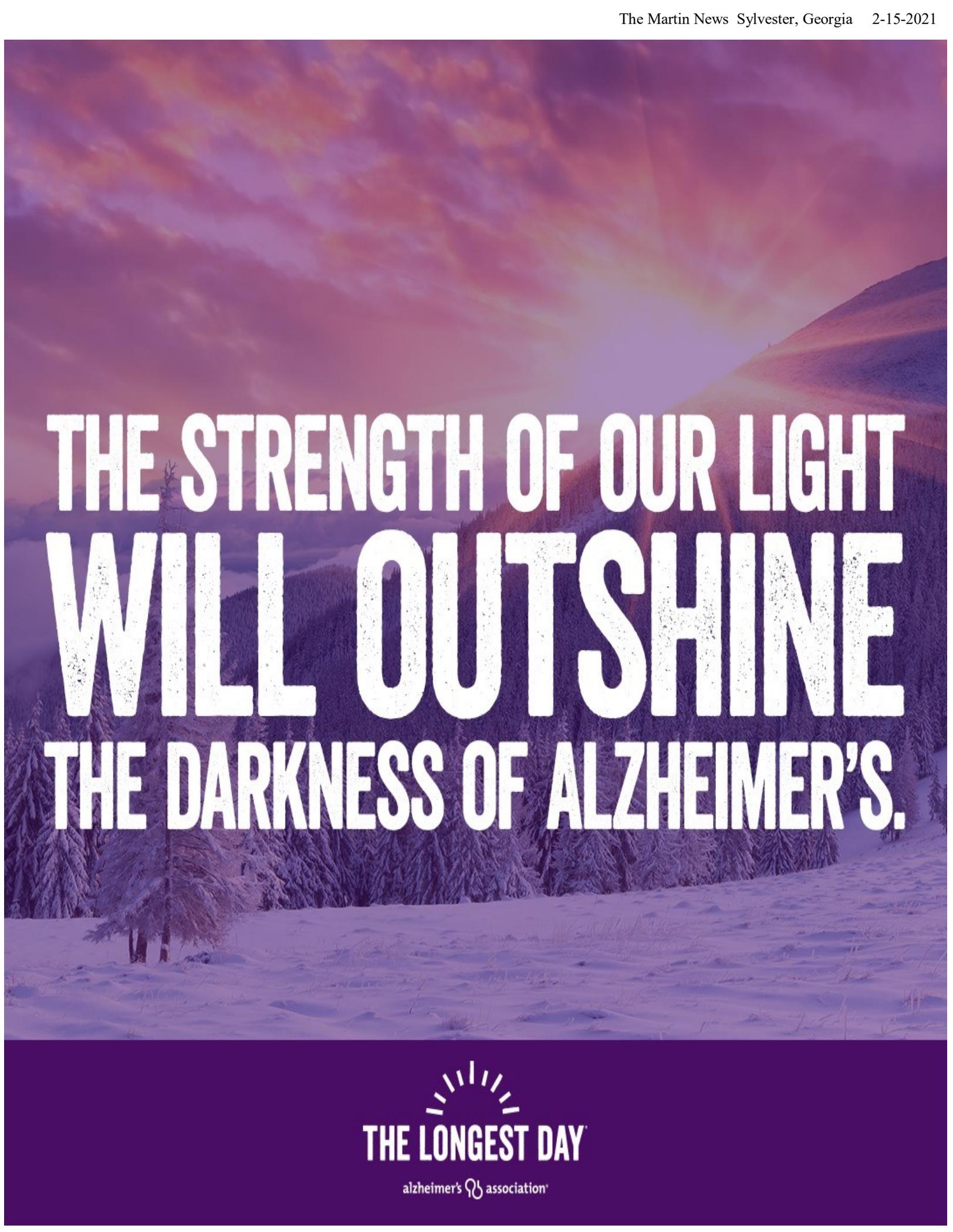
Source: WCSD



And The Winner Is...

Congratulations Stephanie Jackson winner of the ESS Super Bowl Monday Raffle of a \$50 Visa Gift Card! Mina Prophitt, ESS Area Manager/Recruiter entered in the drawing any substitute that signed up and committed to their assignment on Monday, 2/8. Prophitt presented Jackson with the gift card on Tuesday at Worth County Middle School. The Super Bowl was Sunday, February 7th between the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Kansas City Chiefs. The Buccaneers won over the Chiefs with a score of 31 to 9. Congratulations to the Bucs and Congratulations to Stephanie!

Source: WCSD



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



THE LONGEST DAY

alzheimer's  association

8th-grade students in Mrs. Rachels' classes used paper airplanes to investigate force and motion. They made paper airplanes out of different types of paper and tested to see which paper type flew the furthest. Next, they modified the airplanes using paper clips, tape, and other objects and tested the flight distance again. One airplane traveled 40 feet! The plain copy paper airplane traveled the longest distance.

Source: WCSD



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)

“Choc-It-Up For Literacy” Becomes Online Auction This Year



Literacy Volunteers of Tifton-Tift County is re-engineering its annual "Choc-It-Up for Literacy" fundraiser as an online auction just before Easter to celebrate spring. For eight years, the event has celebrated not only the cause of literacy, but also chocolate and love near Valentine's Day. This year, the event is inviting local businesses to put together Easter baskets for bidding on Facebook. The auction will be on Thursday, April 1. Easter baskets may contain such items as restaurant coupons, certificates for manicures and massages, gifts and chocolate treats, etc., which will make a friend or family member's Easter special. Those who win bids will go to the business to pick up the item, supporting local businesses. For information about participating, email tiftlv@gmail.com or call Literacy Volunteers at 229-391-2527. The Howard Center is sponsoring the event, which benefits literacy programs in Tift County. LVTTC provides and trains tutors to work with local residents wanting to improve their reading skills or work toward earning their GEDs.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

Southwell Sets New Visitation Levels At Medical Facilities

Southwell has implemented four new visitation levels to limit the spread of COVID-19. Tift Regional Medical Center, Southwell Medical, Southwell Health and Rehabilitation, and all clinics and departments of the facilities are now using four new visitation levels — yellow, orange, red and purple — to protect, patients and the public. As of this past Monday, Southwell has been at Level Orange, which means that patients who are positive for COVID-19 cannot have visitors, except for labor and delivery patients, who may have one visitor, and pediatric patients, who may have one parent visit. For patients who do not have COVID-19, one visitor per day is allowed, with the exception that two parents may visit pediatric patients. Visitation hours are from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. All visitors must wear a mask, participate in the required screening process and sanitize their hands. The visitation levels are based on data about how COVID-19 is spreading, including state and county public health information.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

Registration Open For “Tour De Tifton” Bike Ride



The Tiftarea YMCA's 11th Annual Tour de Tifton/Ilse Boyette Memorial Bike Ride will be Saturday, March 27. Registration on event day opens at 7 a.m., and the mass start begins at 8 a.m. The ride begins and ends at the YMCA's Hunt Park campus at 1823 Westover Road in Tifton. There will be a beginner's 11-mile course, intermediate level 24- and 45-mile loops, and 62- and 100-mile century routes for advanced riders (everyone

must finish within seven hours). The routes pass through gently rolling countryside in Tift and surrounding counties. Helmets are required, and children under age 16 must be accompanied by a parent or legal-guardian rider. The entry fee is \$35 through March 17; \$45 through March 26; and \$50 on the day of the event. Pre-registered participants will receive a T-shirt; event day registrants will be eligible for T-shirts while supplies last. All participants will get snacks/drinks at authorized stops along the course and will receive a post-ride meal. Participants completing either of the century courses will receive a special gift. Proceeds benefit Tiftarea YMCA missions and outreach programs and the Ilse Boyette nurses' book fund at Tift Regional Medical Center. For information, visit www.tiftareaymca.org or call 229-391-9622.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

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to 10 PM

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Food & Drinks • Music All Day

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Can we have too many bags? The answer is simple...No! Bless Boutique is getting new things in weekly and you won't want to miss stopping by and seeing what all is coming in! I love ALL of these prints! What is your favorite?



Do you like shopping online? Do you like watching Facebook lives and having fun while you shop? Look NO further! I absolutely LOVE shopping with the staff at Rosa Lee. They are located in Anniston Alabama and on Facebook. Be sure to like their page so that you can keep up with the live shows and all the sales the post daily. I recently bought this shirt and this past Thursday night, I broke the bank. I can't wait for my stuff to arrive. I will share it on Facebook when it arrives.

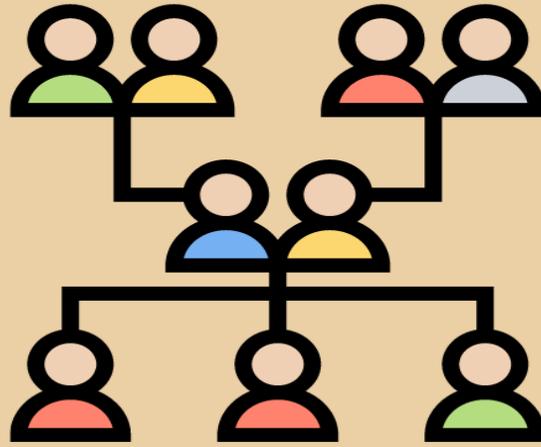


Who likes subscription boxes? Whether it is monthly or quarterly, they are so much fun to receive. This was my January quarterly box that I received from Glittering Grace. Check them out on Facebook and get signed up today.



I LOVE to decorate my house. I enjoy having all kinds of things through out the house to look at. It brings such great laughter and joy! These items shown to the left can be found at the Gift Barn in Sylvester right on 82. Go by and see them. You can find things for your house and many items to add to your wardrobe! You will love all the things the Barn has to offer!



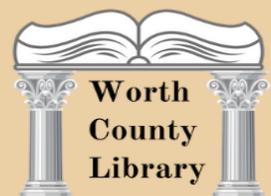


FAMILY TREE HELP AT MJPL

Members of the Barnard Trail Chapter of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) will be at the library to answer genealogy or DAR related questions.

When: Wednesday, February
17th 1-5pm

Where: Margaret Jones
Public Library



Bruce Willis Films Again In Southwest Georgia



Actor Bruce Willis is becoming somewhat of a regular in Southwest Georgia; he just completed another film in the area. Willis has been here three times in the past 18 months. During the past week or so, he has been filming his latest movie, "Reactor," in Fitzgerald and Cordele. Willis plays a leader of a gang of mercenaries who holds a nuclear power plant hostage. The "Die Hard" actor was also in Fitzgerald filming in November. In fall 2019, Willis filmed the science-fiction movie "Breach," in Fitzgerald and was spotted in Tifton dining at a local restaurant. His local movies are filmed in part with TMG Studio One based in Fitzgerald. Tifton photographer Daniel Shippey has been called upon to take action shots and photographs of the cast and crew for promotional purposes. "Very thankful for the opportunity to photograph Bruce Willis for the third time," Shippey wrote on social media. "Being a part of the crew for another movie has been a blessing." Tifton photographer Daniel Shippey takes photos of actor Bruce Willis, right, during filming of the actor's latest movie in Southwest Georgia.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

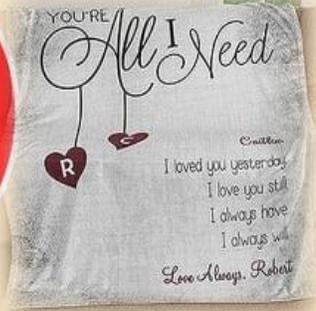
Whether near or far, here or departed, it is never to late to shower one another with tokens of love and gratitude!

So, Here is our token of love to you.

The Entire Month of February!!

\$125.00 Blankets

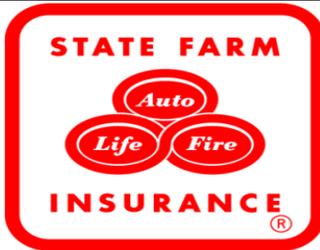
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ABAC Sets Record For Students In Bachelor Degree Programs

More students are seeking bachelor's degrees than ever before at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, officials say. Of the 3,990 students enrolled at ABAC during the fall semester, 2,353 are pursuing bachelor's degrees, says Dr. Amy Willis, assistant vice president for academic affairs. That tops the mark of 2,194 students who enrolled in four-year degree programs the previous academic year. "Bachelor's degree programs will be the lifeblood and the future of this college," President David Bridges predicted when he came to ABAC in 2006. A total of 40 students enrolled in junior and senior level classes for the first time on Jan. 7, 2008. ABAC offered classes leading to associate degrees for 75 years before it became a state college of the University System of Georgia in 2006. ABAC now offers 12 bachelor's degrees and continues to offer associate degrees.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

A Meal to Remember

Most children these days have no clue what it was like when their parents were growing up. There were no cell phones until I was about 16 or 17. We had an Atari for most of my childhood and eating out did not exist! When I was growing up, if we went out to eat it was a special occasion for sure. Mother and daddy cooked at home. We had beans and potatoes often. Those were the days! I grew up on pinto beans and great northern beans, with fried potatoes and corn bread from the oven. My child looks at me like I am crazy when I talk about the good ole days especially when it comes to food. Today's society is so accustomed to going out for meals. We are guilty for that as well. One night in the near future, plan a meal at home and prepare what you ate when you were growing up. Let them help you. Teach them about your childhood and tell many stories. You will get some awful strange looks but boy will it be worth it! The stories I tell bring so many laughs to me because my parents and grandparents were full of stories and knowledge. You will enjoy the food and the stories. A meal to remember for sure!

Announcements From Worth County High School

The PSAT will be given to all 10th graders on Feb. 23 for last names (A-J) and Feb 25 for last names (K-Z). The PSAT measures the skills and knowledge that current research shows are essential to college and career readiness and success. The testing period will be from 8:00 am-12pm. Virtual students can enter the Gymnasium for testing.

Source: WCSD

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

Pre-register online:

<https://mako.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



Red Cross Sets Tifton Blood Drives

The American Red Cross has two blood drives scheduled in Tifton this month. Blood donations are set for noon-6 p.m. Feb. 16, at the Tifton First United Methodist Church, and from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Feb. 17 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Each Red Cross blood drive follows safety and infection control standards, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff. Donors are asked to schedule an appointment before arriving at the drive-thru and are required to wear a face mask. Appointments may be made by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor app, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device. The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies, regardless of whether an individual developed COVID-19 symptoms. Red Cross antibody tests will be helpful to identify individuals who have antibodies and may help current coronavirus patients in need of convalescent plasma transfusions.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

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MARCH 1-5, 2021

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Dates to Remember

February

- 15th ~ Presidents' Day
- 15th ~ 4H Club Meeting 5th Grade - During Science Class
- 15th ~ Chehaw Park Authority Monthly Meeting 6:30pm
- 15th ~ WCHS Varsity Baseball Away
- 16th ~ WCHS JV Baseball Home
- 16th ~ WCHS Varsity Baseball Home
- 16th ~ WCHS Soccer Away
- 16th ~ 4H Club Meeting 5th Grade - During Science Class
- 16th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 16th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Tifton Methodist Church 12noon-6pm
- 16th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Dougherty County Community 1pm-6pm
- 17th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at ABAC 11am-4pm
- 17th ~ Wonderful Wednesday's at Fun Park in Albany 1pm-9pm
- 17th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Berrien at Home
- 17th ~ WCMS Soccer Girls/Boys VS Early Away
- 17th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 17th ~ Georgia Junior National Livestock Shows
- 17th ~ Brews & Bingo at Pretoria Fields 6pm-8pm
- 17th ~ 4H Club Meeting 5th Grade - During Science Class
- 18th ~ 4H Club Meeting 5th Grade - During Science Class
- 18th ~ American Red Cross Blood Drive at Albany Mall 10am-6pm
- 18th ~ Intro to Drawing 6:30pm Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage
- 19th ~ 4H Club Meeting 5th Grade - During Science Class
- 19th ~ Armband Special at Fun Park in Albany 6pm-10pm
- 19th ~ WCHS Soccer Home
- 19th ~ WCHS Varsity Baseball Away
- 20th ~ Armband Special at Fun Park in Albany 11am-10pm
- 21st ~ Armband Special at Fun Park in Albany 1pm-8pm
- 22nd ~ WCMS Baseball VS Thomasville at Home
- 22nd ~ WCMS Soccer Girls/Boys VS Tift Co at Home
- 22nd ~ Valentine Paint Party at the Margaret Jones Public Library 6pm
- 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
- 23rd ~ 4H Meeting for High School Students at the 4H Office 3:30pm-5pm
- 24th ~ WCMS Baseball VS Fitzgerald Away
- 24th ~ Kiwanis Meeting at Noon
- 24th ~ Wonderful Wednesday's at Fun Park in Albany 1pm-9pm
- 24th ~ Brews & Bingo at Pretoria Fields 6pm-8pm
- 24th ~ 4H Meeting for 4th-8th Grade at the 4H Office 3:30pm-5pm
- 25th ~ Intro to Drawing 6:30pm Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage
- 26th ~ Armband Special at Fun Park in Albany 6pm-10pm
- 27th ~ Armband Special at Fun Park in Albany 11am-10pm
- 28th ~ Armband Special at Fun Park in Albany 1pm-8pm

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.**



Think Tifton

Tourism Generates \$109 Million In Tift



Tourism generated \$109 million in Tift County during 2019 – \$4 million more than the previous year, the Tifton-Tift County Tourism Association announced Tuesday. A study by the U.S. Travel Association showed that Tift County saw \$109.16 million in direct, domestic traveler expenditures in 2019, the latest year that information is available. The study, made available through Explore Georgia – the tourism division within the Ga. Department of Economic Development – reported that travel and tourism created \$4.71 million in state tax revenues and generated \$3.09

million in local tax revenues for Tifton and Tift County in 2019. Each household in the county would need to be taxed an additional \$515 per year to replace taxes generated by tourism activity, the local Tourism Association said. The industry also directly supported more than 931 jobs and created \$22.02 million in payroll for Tift County. In 2019, the unemployment rate in Tift County was 3.4 percent. Without the jobs supported by the tourism industry, it would have been 8.1 percent, officials said. "It is always exciting to see the incredible impact that tourism has in Tifton and Tift County. The economic impact of tourism in our community has grown year over year for the last 10 years. That is encouraging that we have been doing something right." said Angela Elder, Tift County assistant tourism coordinator. "These numbers also give us something to strive for as we begin the recovery of the tourism industry. The 'Think Tifton' staff is working hard to keep Tifton on the minds of travelers and visitors. We are ready to welcome them back to our wonderful little town, whether they are here for work or play." Mark Jaronski, the state deputy tourism director, said that the "record-breaking figures from 2019, when Georgia's tourism generated \$68.96 billion in economic impact and supported more than 484,000 jobs, demonstrate the enormous impact the tourism industry has on our economy." He said that the state is rebuilding its tourism industry, which has been hit hard by the pandemic. The Georgia Museum of Agriculture, operated by Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, is among tourism sites in Tifton. Tourism generated more than \$109 million during 2019 in Tift County, according to a new report.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY

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Think Tifton



ThinkTiftonGA

BOE Looking At Future Of School Facilities



The need for a new strategic operational plan for the Tift County School System, including a “facilities needs list,” dominated much of the discussion Tuesday at the Tift County Board of Education's (BOE) work session. Superintendent Adam Hathaway told board members that he “needs direction” about the board's vision for the future of school facilities. He said that some of the school buildings, many of which were built in the 1950s and 1960s, will need renovation and upgrading in the coming years. “Are we maintaining the current facilities we have or are we building modernized, upgraded facilities?” Hathaway asked. He said deciding the answer will allow the school system to determine its plans going forward. “I think we need to stop putting lipstick on a pig,” said board member Rusty Harrelson. The BOE plans further discussion as it develops its strategic plan. Hathaway also asked the board to allow staff to bid the cost of placing artificial turf on the lower practice field located below the mini-stadium at Tift County High School. “Almost everywhere our soccer team goes, everywhere our football team goes, they’re playing on artificial turf,” Hathaway said. He stressed that he isn’t suggesting changing the turf at the mini-stadium or at Brodie Field – “We’re Tifton, and I think we need to be playing on grass.” Having a practice field with artificial turf will allow the football and soccer teams to prepare for away games when they face such fields, he explained. Hathaway said the lower field often floods and “becomes a bog hole when it starts raining.” Placing artificial turf on it will not only aid the athletic teams but the field could also be used by the marching band and ROTC students, he said. “Even if we put something out for bid doesn’t mean we’re doing it,” the superintendent said; bidding the project merely gives the school system an accurate estimate of the costs involved.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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Think Tifton



ThinkTiftonGA

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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How to spot a roof leak and know what to do

What are the signs of a roof leak, and what steps should you take to stop the damage? Here's what to do when you're faced with a leaking roof. Most homeowners or renters might be able to tell you the age of their roof, but beyond that, there's uncertainty. Take a roof leak, for example: The first sign of a leaking roof for many is a stain on a ceiling or wall. Fortunately, there are some clear steps you can take to learn how to find a roof leak and help stop damage before it gets worse. For example, a simple visual inspection of roof shingles — while standing safely on the ground — can help you identify spots where the roof might be wearing unevenly or where shingles are missing or damaged. Gutters and downspouts should be in good condition and kept free of debris that may prevent water from draining off the roof. What are the early warning signs that you have a roof leak, and what should you do if you discover a leaking roof? Many roof leaks make an appearance during a heavy rainstorm, but other signs may indicate that you have a hidden roof leak that's causing damage.

Signs of a roof leak

Inside

- Mold: Any signs of mold or mildew may indicate moisture is entering the home.
- Dampness or stains: Check ceilings and walls for bubbles in the paint or water stains.

Outside (use binoculars to inspect the roof from the ground)

Roof shingles: Look for missing, torn, cracked, curling or damaged shingles.

Roof flashing: Cracks in the caulk or missing pieces may allow water to seep in.

Gutters: Are sections of the gutters drooping? Does the gutter overflow when it rains?

The risks of a leaking roof

Damage to the interior of your home and your personal property.

Falling hazards from wet, slippery surfaces.

Find the leak. Whether or not you know where the leak is entering your home, contact a roofing specialist to help you find the specific source of the leak and make temporary repairs. Prevent future leaks. It's important to have your roof routinely inspected and maintained by a professional roofing contractor. Keep tree limbs cut back to prevent them from touching the roofing surface. When leaks occur, get them fixed as quickly as you can — newer roofs may simply require repair; older roofs may require replacement. Check out these simple insights for more tips on maintaining your home.

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1st All-Region 1-AA Team



Chris Manuel
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Tayshaun Shipp
1st Team All-State
and
Region 1-AA Athlete of the Year



Chip Cooper
1st All-Region 1-AA Team



Ma'Kyjhia Jordan
2nd All-Region 1-AA Team



Reilly Mason
2nd All-Region 1-AA Team



WCBS Football All-Region Rams

Congratulations to the following 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 team. In addition, Tayshaun Shipp was selected for 1st Team All-State and was chosen as the Athlete of the Year for Region 1-AA. Congratulations to all! We are proud of your dedication and hard work this season!

1st All-Region 1-AA Team:

Hayden Booth
Chip Cooper
Jordan Curry

2nd All-Region 1AA Team:

Ma'Kyjhia Jordan
Chris Manuel
Reilly Mason



LOCAL ALZHEIMER'S ADVOCATES PLAN TO URGE STATE LAWMAKERS TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES IMPACTING THE STATE'S MOST VULNERABLE

Alzheimer's advocates from South Georgia to meet with their state legislators for "Alzheimer's Awareness Week" – March 1 – 5.

TIFTON, GA – February 15, 2021 - More than 150,000 Georgia residents are living with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias with the total predicted to increase to 190,000 by 2025. This is why, starting on March 1, the Alzheimer's Association, Georgia Chapter will have more than 75 advocates from across the state, including advocates from the South Georgia area, meeting with legislators virtually and taking action on social media to encourage support of several critical issues for those living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers for 2021 including:

Investing in Home & Community-Based Services (HCBS)

Addressing shortages among our healthcare workforce

Protecting our state's most vulnerable during emergencies

Considering a Memory Care Medicaid Waiver program

In 2020, the Alzheimer's Association advocates successfully worked with state legislators to encourage them to pass HB987, a bill, signed by Governor Kemp, which was a major step forward in addressing the standards of care in senior care facilities throughout the state. The landmark legislation included provisions to establish a memory care certification process, dementia-specific training requirements for all staff, and increased oversight to protect the residents.

"The commitment and tenacity we've seen from advocates this past year despite the very serious challenges many of them are facing has been nothing short of remarkable", added Cai Yoke, Advocacy Manager for the Georgia Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. "It's because of their work that we've made progress to make Georgia a more dementia-capable state, and I know that our advocates will bring that same power and passion to educating their lawmakers during Alzheimer's Awareness Week."

Alzheimer's is the only leading cause of death in America without a way to prevent, cure, or even slow its progression. Consequently, in 2020 alone, Alzheimer's and other dementias are expected to cost Georgia \$1.265 billion. More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease – the sixth-leading cause of death in the United States. Additionally, more than 16 million family members and friends provide care to people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

Alzheimer's Association®

The Alzheimer's Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's. Visit alz.org® or call 800-272-3900.

Source: Amy Johnston, Sr. Director of Marketing and Communications

The History Of Presidents' Day



Presidents' Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, it is still officially called "Washington's Birthday" by the federal government according to history.com. Traditionally celebrated on February 22—Washington's actual day of birth—the holiday became popularly known as Presidents' Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents' Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents past and present. The story of Presidents' Day date begins in 1800. Following President George Washington's death in 1799, his February 22 birthday became a perennial day of remembrance. At the time, Washington was venerated as the most important figure in American history, and events like the

1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration. Presidents' Day: The Uniform Monday Holiday Act. The shift from Washington's Birthday to Presidents' Day began in the late 1960s when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act. Championed by Senator Robert McClory of Illinois, this law sought to shift the celebration of several federal holidays from specific dates to a series of predetermined Mondays. The proposed change was seen by many as a novel way to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers, and it was believed that ensuring holidays always fell on the same weekday would reduce employee absenteeism. While some argued that shifting holidays from their original dates would cheapen their meaning, the bill also had widespread support from both the private sector and labor unions and was seen as a surefire way to bolster retail sales. The Uniform Monday Holiday Act also included a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's Birthday with Abraham Lincoln's, which fell on the proximate date of February 12. Lincoln's Birthday had long been a state holiday in places like Illinois, and many supported joining the two days as a way of giving equal recognition to two of America's most famous statesmen. McClory was among the measure's major proponents, and he even floated the idea of renaming the holiday "President's Day." This proved to be a point of contention for lawmakers from George Washington's home state of Virginia, and the proposal was eventually dropped. Nevertheless, the main piece of the Uniform Monday Holiday Act passed in 1968 and officially took effect in 1971 following an executive order from President Richard Nixon. Washington's Birthday was then shifted from the fixed date of February 22 to the third Monday of February. Columbus Day, Memorial Day and Veterans Day were also moved from their traditionally designated dates. (As a result of widespread criticism, in 1980 Veterans' Day was returned to its original November 11 date.) Presidents' Day: Transformation. While Nixon's order plainly called the newly placed holiday Washington's Birthday, it was not long before the shift to Presidents' Day began. The move away from February 22 led many to believe that the new date was intended to honor both Washington and Abraham Lincoln, as it now fell between their two birthdays. Marketers soon jumped at the opportunity to play up the three-day weekend with sales, and "Presidents' Day" bargains were advertised at stores around the country. By the mid-1980s Washington's Birthday was known to many Americans as Presidents' Day. This shift had solidified in the early 2000s, by which time as many as half the 50 states had changed the holiday's name to Presidents' Day on their calendars. Some states have even chosen to customize the holiday by adding new figures to the celebration. Arkansas, for instance, celebrates Washington as well as civil rights activist Daisy Gatson Bates. Alabama, meanwhile, uses Presidents' Day to commemorate Washington and Thomas Jefferson (who was born in April). Washington and Lincoln still remain the two most recognized leaders, but Presidents' Day is now popularly seen as a day to recognize the lives and achievements of all of America's chief executives. Some lawmakers have objected to this view, arguing that grouping George Washington and Abraham Lincoln together with less successful presidents minimizes their legacies. Congressional measures to restore Washington and Lincoln's individual birthdays were proposed during the early 2000s, but all failed to gain much attention. For its part, the federal government has held fast to the original incarnation of the holiday as a celebration of the country's first president. The third Monday in February is still listed on official calendars as Washington's Birthday. Presidents' Day: Celebrations and Traditions. Like Independence Day, Presidents' Day is traditionally viewed as a time of patriotic celebration and remembrance. In its original incarnation as Washington's Birthday, the holiday gained special meaning during the difficulties of the Great Depression, when portraits of George Washington often graced the front pages of newspapers and magazines every February 22. In 1932 the date was used to reinstate the Purple Heart, a military decoration originally created by George Washington to honor soldiers killed or wounded while serving in the armed forces. Patriotic groups and the Boy Scouts of America also held celebrations on the day, and in 1938 some 5,000 people attended mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral in New York City in honor of Washington. In its modern form, Presidents' Day is used by many patriotic and historical groups as a date for staging celebrations, reenactments and other events. A number of states also require that their public schools spend the days leading up to Presidents' Day teaching students about the accomplishments of the presidents, often with a focus on the lives of Washington and Lincoln.



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