



The Martin News

Covering Worth County and Surrounding Counties

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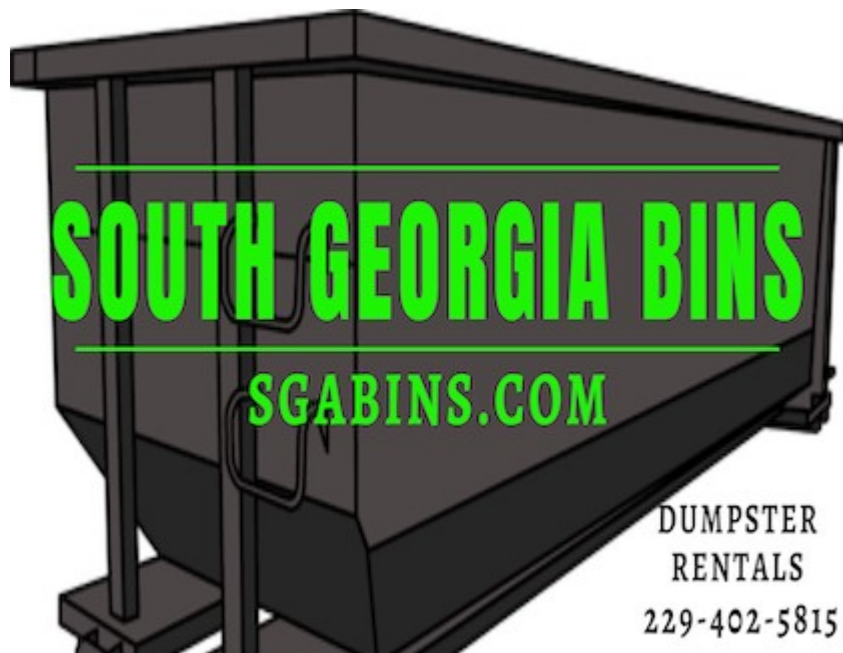
March 14, 2022

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Rain Moved Out Just In Time For The Rattlesnake & Wildlife Festival In Claxton

The second weekend of March is known as World Rattlesnake Round Up and what a better way to celebrate that than to cover the Rattlesnake and Wildlife Festival held in Claxton this past weekend. The Evans County Wildlife Club was formerly organized and staged its first Rattlesnake Roundup in 1968. The Evans County Wildlife Club continued to sponsor this event, adding a beauty pageant, arts and crafts, a parade, and live entertainment to the schedule of events. In 2012, the event name was changed to Claxton Rattlesnake and Wildlife Festival in an effort to put more emphasis on wildlife conservation. The Evans County Wildlife Club generously gives back to Evans County and surrounding communities through annual donations to local charities, non-profit groups, schools, churches, and numerous events. Each year, the Wildlife Club presents Scholarships to high school Seniors. The Club sponsors wildlife conservation programs at local schools and supports activities designed to promote high standards of sportsmanship. The Evans County Wildlife Club is a member of the Claxton-Evans County Chamber of Commerce as well as the Georgia Sportsman Federation. The Rattlesnake and Wildlife Festival is the greatest accomplishment of the Evans County Wildlife Club. The Southeast Tourism Society voted the Festival one of the "Top Twenty Events in the Southeast." The annual Festival brings over 15,000 tourists and an economic boost to the community. The weekend kicked off on Friday evening with the Rattlesnake and Wildlife Festival Pageant. And then on Saturday morning, the rain was gone and the coldest weather of the season arrived just in time for the Rattlesnake and Wildlife Festival Parade. After the parade, the festival and vintage car show kicked off for the day and then continued on Sunday. If you were not able to make it this year, please make plans to attend next year's festival. A great time was had by all.



Source: Rattlesnake & Wildlife Festival



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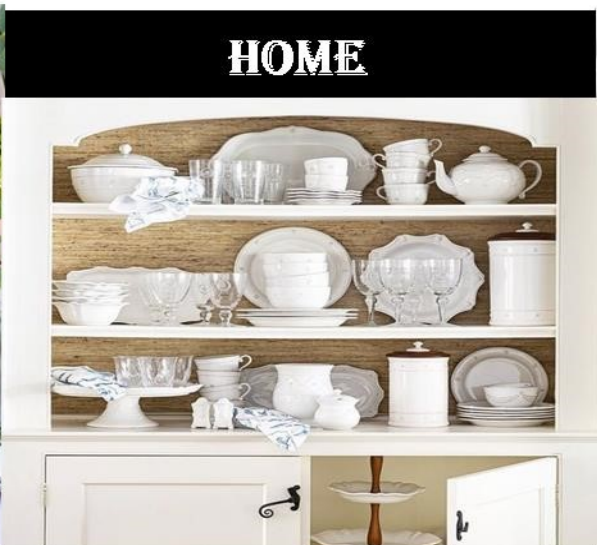
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Disclaimer: Jonathan McCColumn is a retired member of the Army. Use of his military rank, job titles, and photographs in uniform does not imply endorsement by the Department of the Army or Department of Defense.

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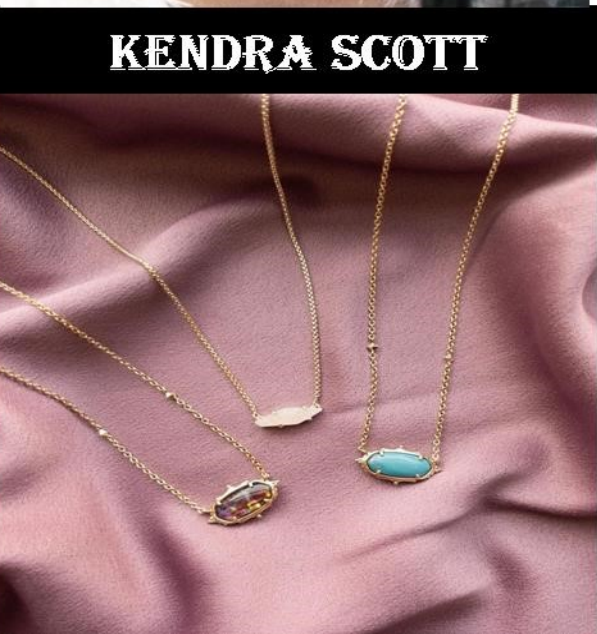
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KENDRA SCOTT



WCMS Soccer Girls Defeat Fitzgerald WCMS Soccer Boys Fall Short

Worth County Middle School Soccer, both girls and boys team, played hard on Monday, March 7th against Fitzgerald. The WCMS Girls Soccer won 2-1 over Fitzgerald. Kimijah Gowdy and Isabelle Hancock each scored one goal. Isabelle Hancock had one assist. WCMS Girls Soccer is 12-2 overall and 6-0 in conference play. WCMS Boys Soccer played hard but were defeated by Fitzgerald. Both WCMS Soccer girls and boys team will play again on Wednesday, March 16th starting at 4:30pm at home. Please come out and support them. Go Rams!

Source: WCSD

WCMS Baseball A-Team Scores Huge Victory Over Fitzgerald



Worth County Baseball A-Team played on March 8th against Fitzgerald, winning 13-0. Avery Kilcrease pitched a complete game shutout.

His pitching was very impressive. Luke Rogers started the bats with a homerun in the bottom for the first inning, and after that the Rams didn't let up. WCMS Baseball both A and B team will play on Monday, March 14th in Fitzgerald. Go Rams!

Source: WCSD



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Understanding Alzheimer's And Dementia

Augusta University Health is presenting the first of four Lunch & Learn discussions on Alzheimer's and related dementias, Thursday, March 17. AU Health's own Dana Daniel, LMSW, and Neurologist Dr. John Morgan will have information and will answer Q&A from attendees. To register, go to: <https://bit.ly/3BIgF2C>. Dementia is a general term for a decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life. Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia. Alzheimer's is a specific disease. Dementia is not. Learning about the two terms and the difference between them is important and can empower individuals living with Alzheimer's or another dementia, their families and their caregivers with necessary knowledge. Dementia describes a group of symptoms associated with a decline in memory, reasoning or other thinking skills. Many different types of dementia exist, and many conditions cause it. Mixed dementia is a condition in which brain changes of more than one type of dementia occur simultaneously. Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia, accounting for 60-80% of dementia cases. Dementia is not a normal part of aging. It is caused by damage to brain cells that affects their ability to communicate, which can affect thinking, behavior and feelings. Alzheimer's is a degenerative brain disease that is caused by complex brain changes following cell damage. It leads to dementia symptoms that gradually worsen over time. The most common early symptom of Alzheimer's is trouble remembering new information because the disease typically impacts the part of the brain associated with learning first. As Alzheimer's advances, symptoms get more severe and include disorientation, confusion and behavior changes. Eventually, speaking, swallowing and walking become difficult. Though the greatest known risk factor for Alzheimer's is increasing age, the disease is not a normal part of aging. And though most people with Alzheimer's are 65 and older, approximately 200,000 Americans under 65 are living with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease.

Source: Alzheimer's Association



Early Childhood Education Class at WCHS Donates To Alpha Pregnancy Center

The students in Mrs. Burrell's first level Early Childhood Education Class at Worth County High School finished up a Prenatal and Preparing for a Newborn Unit with a baby shower. All gifted items will be donated to Alpha Pregnancy Center. Alpha Pregnancy Center was established in 1991 with four centers in southwest Georgia. Just in the last five years over 2,400 patients have been served. Each location has the oversight of a nurse manager and licensed physician. Alpha Pregnancy Center provides medical services for pregnancy diagnosis and medical confirmation. They offer evidenced based education on pregnancy and sexual health related topics. Their services are confidential as allowable by the state of Georgia. Alpha Pregnancy Center does not provide extended OB/GYN or pre-natal care, birth control prescriptions or devices, fertility testing, abortion services, referrals for abortion or STI/STD testing.

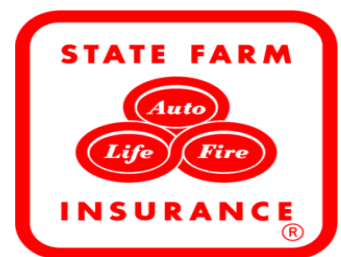
Source: WCSD & Alpha Pregnancy Center

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A Production By Worth County High School Drama Club



Worth County High School Auditorium

Opening Night: Tea Party Edition; April 22

Tickets: Adult - \$10

Students & Teachers - \$5

3 & Younger - Free

Closing Night: Dinner Theatre Edition; April 23

Tickets: Adult - \$20

Students & Teachers - \$15

Senior Citizen - \$10

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Georgia's Unemployment Rate Continued to Fall in January

March 10, 2022 Atlanta, GA - Georgia Labor Commissioner Mark Butler announced today that Georgia's unemployment rate fell again for the twenty-first consecutive month, dropping one-tenth of a point to 3.2 percent from December's revised rate of 3.3 percent. Every year, the data used to calculate each state's unemployment rate is reviewed and re-estimated to ensure more accurate estimates nationwide. Georgia's unemployment rate was eight-tenths of a percent lower than the national January 2022 unemployment rate of 4 percent. "I am not surprised that our unemployment rate dropped again in January after a record number of Georgians were employed and participating in the labor force," said Labor Commissioner Mark Butler. "However, with the number of jobs at an all-time high, we must be careful to not lose focus on supporting our workforce and getting qualified workers into the right careers." Georgia's number of jobs was an all-time high of 4,694,100, up 19,400 from December to January and up 216,000 over the year. The sectors with the most over-the-month job gains included Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, 4,700, Accommodation and Food Services, 2,800, Health Care and Social Assistance, 2,500, Finance and Insurance, 2,200, and Administrative and Support Services, 1,700. Job numbers were at an all-time high in Trade and Transportation, 989,600, including the Transportation and Warehousing sector, 264,800, in Financial Activities, 266,400, in Professional and Business Services, 756,700, including the Professional, Scientific, and Technical sector, 312,600, and the Administrative and Support Services sector, 354,600, and in Education and Health Services, 622,900, including the Health Care and Social Assistance sector, 526,700. When considering sectors hit hardest by the pandemic, Transportation and Warehousing, Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, Retail Trade, and Finance and Insurance all have job growth of 10,000 or more from two-years ago, just prior to the pandemic. At the same time, Accommodation and Food Services, State Government, and Local Government all have job loss of 10,000 or more from pre-pandemic levels. Commissioner Butler also announced today a new all-time high number of employed Georgians of 5,047,364, up 22,140 in January. The labor force was at an all-time high of 5,215,701, up 16,905 over the month, and the number of unemployed was down 5,235 to 168,337, the lowest figure since July 2001. There are over 240,000 jobs listed online at EmployGeorgia.com, resulting in a minimum of over 325,000 unfilled positions. Employers with over 1,000 job postings included United Health Group, 2,700, WellStar Health System, 2,100, Home Depot, 2,000, Amazon 1,900, Marriott International, 1,600, Piedmont Health Care, 1,300, Walmart, 1,200, and Anthem Blue Cross 1,100. Industries with over 10,000 job postings included Health Care, 41,000, Retail Trade, 23,000, Manufacturing, 20,000, Accommodation and Food Services, 19,000, Finance and Insurance, 17,000, Professional, Scientific and Technical Services, 15,000, and Transportation and Warehousing, 13,000. Market salaries for the jobs listed on Employ Georgia range from \$23,000 to \$104,000, showing a median salary of \$44,000. Initial claims were up 11,335 (67%) from December to 28,257 in January. Over the year initial claims were down 102,169 (78%). For personalized assistance, employers can reach Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL) staff at <https://dol.georgia.gov/employer-email-us-form>. Additionally, by visiting Employ Georgia, employers can manage job openings and access the state's talent pool. GDOL's Career Centers are providing in-person employment services by appointment. Job seekers can reach out to their local career centers at <https://dol.georgia.gov/locations/career-center> for assistance. For more information on jobs and current labor force data, visit Georgia LaborMarket Explorer to view a comprehensive report.

RUTLAND FARMS FISHING TOURNAMENT 2022

Saturday, March 19th
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.



ENTRY FEE:

\$15 for Adult Anglers

\$10 for Children Anglers (ages 12 & Under)

** Children must be accompanied by an adult*

AGE GROUPS:

- Adults

- Children (12 of age & under)

** Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 winners in each age group*

HOW TO REGISTER:

You can register on Eventbrite at:

<https://rutlandbasstournament.eventbrite.com>

Or pick up a registration sheet in person at The Market at Rutland Farms or email paige@rutlandfarms.com for a PDF copy of the registration form.

Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia

Part One of a Virtual Lunch & Learn Series

Thursday, March 17th | 12:00pm-1:00pm



Join us to learn about the impact of Alzheimer's, the difference between Alzheimer's and dementia, stages and risk factors, and current research and treatments available. You will also hear from Dr. Morgan and have an opportunity to get answers to your questions.



John Morgan, MD, PhD
Neurologist and Director

Memory Assessment Clinic/Georgia Memory Net
Movement and Memory Disorder Programs
Department of Neurology
Augusta University



Dana M. Daniel, LMSW
Community Services Educator

Memory Assessment Clinic/Georgia Memory Net
Movement and Memory Disorder Programs
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Upcoming lunch & learn topics will include:

June - Healthy Living for Brain & Body

September - Legal & Financial

December - Communication & Behaviors





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Historical Figure Research Project

Students in Ms. Cuffie's class at Worth County Primary School completed their Historical Figure Research Project recently with a Wax Museum presentation. Students chose a historical figure, completed a research paper, and prepared a background and speech. Historical Figures presented at the museum included Alexander Graham Bell, Eli Whitney, Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, Marie Van Brittan Brown, The Wright Brothers, Mary Anderson, Ruth Handler, and Lonnie Johnson.



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Rhythm & Ribs BBQ Fest "One For The Books"



There was plenty of music, barbecue, entertainment, shopping, and fun this past weekend as a crowd estimated at more than 15,000 filled Fulwood Park for Tifton's Rhythm & Ribs BBQ Festival. The Friday night kickoff party and all-day Saturday festival was widely acknowledged as the event's largest crowd ever. "The 2022 Rhythm & Ribs BBQ Festival was definitely one for the books. We saw a bigger crowd than we ever had, more vendors than ever, and more activities," said one of the organizers, Angela M. Elder of the Tifton-Tift County Tourism Association. "The entertainment was incredible from Friday night and all throughout the day on Saturday. Our vendors have raved about the awesome day they had, with many food vendors selling out," Elder said. "The weather could not have been any better. Everything from setup and check-in to competitions and sales truly was the best ever. And, of course, having The Food Network here was a blast. They were great to work with, and we are looking forward to seeing Tifton shine on screen this summer." The Food Network visited the festival to follow some of the professional barbecue teams in the Georgia Barbecue Association-sanctioned competition, as well as some of the amateur barbecue-cooking teams in the "backyard" competition. Mayor Julie B. Smith said The Food Network's show about Tifton and Rhythm & Ribs is expected to air during July. "They could not say enough nice things about Tifton," Smith said of The Food Network crew. "They kept saying that Tifton is the nicest city." In the professional barbecue competition during the festival, the Grand Champion was Flyin Pig BBQ, led by Bryan Griffis. Capturing the Reserve Champion award was Off the Chain BBQ, led by Chuck and Carrie East. In the backyard competition, Wish & Walk BBQ, led by Eric Wisham of Tifton, won Grand Champion. The Reserve Champion was Deez Butts BBQ, led by Clint Holley and Casey Denney of Tifton.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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ABAC Museum Curator Receives Awards For Local Projects



Polly Huff, curator at ABAC's Georgia Museum of Agriculture, recently received two peer-reviewed Georgia Association of Museums (GAM) awards for three of her 2021 museum gallery projects. Presented at the annual GAM conference in Thomasville, the Special Project Award – Budget Category 1 went to a research project Huff completed on an 1899 harp mandolin owned by the late Donna Hatcher, an art professor at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Huff followed a long trail to find that the instrument was one of five Style 18, Ebony guard harp mandolins sold on Oct. 21, 1899, by C.F. Martin of Nazareth, Pa., the only one of the five that survived. Founded in 1833 and still in full operation today, the Martin Guitar Co. made 22 of the instruments between 1895 and 1899. Huff collaborated on the project with a long list of museums across the country. Two other gallery endeavors prompted by the pandemic won the Special Project –Budget Category 2 Award. In summer 2020, Huff enlisted the help of restoration specialist David King to design and build a capsule from a centuries-old longleaf pine cut down in Tifton during the pandemic. Selecting the lumber gave the project a sense of time, place, and meaning. The capsule was then filled with local historic artifacts representing life during the pandemic. Huff collaborated with ABAC's School of Arts and Sciences, the ABAC Foundation, and the ABAC Alumni Association to curate and exhibit the second project entitled "Beauty Amidst Trials: Capturing a Pandemic Year." The exhibit had 98 photographs by locals depicting moments during the pandemic. Pictured above is Melissa Swindell, executive director of the Georgia Writers Museum and GAM Awards Chair, from left, ABAC's Polly Huff, and Ephraim Rotter, president of the GAM Board of Directors, at the awards presentation.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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March 12, 2022*

*Karley Bryant & Hayden Bledsoe
March 26, 2022*

*Devyn Muhlhauser &
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*Taylor Pearson & Jeffrey Wessel
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*Kelsey Jones & Tripp Morris
April 16, 2022*

*Kristen James &
John Paul Reinhardt
May 14, 2022*

*Jane Anne Veazey &
Michael Bowen
May 28, 2022*



*Meg Marshall Moore &
Blake Moore
Already Married*

Penny Houston Seeks Re-election



State Rep. Penny Houston, R-Nashville, has qualified to run for re-election in House District 170, comprised of Berrien County, and portions of Tift and Cook counties. Before last year's redistricting, Houston represented Berrien and Cook counties and portions of Tift. "Serving the people of House District 170 has been the privilege of my lifetime, and today I'm proud to announce my re-election campaign," Houston said Monday. "For decades, I've been known as the Voice of South Georgia at the Capitol. I've worked hard to advance the needs and best interests of South Georgians. I will continue to ensure investment in our communities, including healthcare, education, and broadband." First elected to the Ga. House of Representa-

tives in 1997, Houston has led advancements for deaf and hard-of-hearing Georgians, including the first mobile audiology units in the state and public coverage of children's hearing aids. She also created the Firefighter Property Program, providing public property to local fire departments for training and emergency services. Houston serves as chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Economic Development, which oversees state funds for the Department of Agriculture, Department of Community Affairs, Department of Economic Development, Georgia Ports Authority, World Congress Center, Georgia Forestry Commission, Public Service Commission, and the Georgia Soil & Water Conservation Commission. Committees on which she serves include Ways & Means, Banks & Banking, Economic Development & Tourism, Budget and Fiscal Affairs Oversight, Appropriations, as well as the House Rural Development Council, the Joint House and Senate Fiscal Affairs Subcommittee, and is chairman of the Joint House and Senate Georgia Farmers' Market and Produce Terminal Oversight. Houston is a graduate of Stephens College in Columbia, Mo., and the University of Georgia.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

It's Time to Organize!

Organization doesn't just happen—it's a result of conscious actions. Practice this method until it becomes second nature reports All You magazine. Start by tackling a particular room armed with a trash bag, a giveaway box, a box for items you want to sell and a box for things that belong in another room of your home. Make quick, unemotional decisions: If it's broken, obsolete or redundant, get rid of it. Sort through all the items that will stay in the room, matching like with like. Cluster books together with other books, DVDs with DVDs and outerwear with outerwear. Don't comingle dissimilar things—it makes it hard to find what you need and creates visual chaos. Make inventory of what you're holding on to, then determine how the items should be stored and what types of furniture and containers you'll need. For example, "To keep these stacks of sweaters and T-shirts separate, I can use shelf dividers. Now that I've counted my CDs, I know I need a CD organizer with eight shelves." Find solutions that work with your personal habits. For example, if you're a no-fuss type, just grouping things together might be enough, so store pictures in photo boxes marked by year. If you are more detail focused, use photo albums. Don't stop until every object or type of object has a place where it lives all the time—be it a tray on your desk for your cell phone or a hook for your keys. Then, commit to returning each item to its home after every use. Soon, putting items away will become a habit. Getting organized is a great March task! It is always great to clean up and out after each season. Keep things packed and organize which will make it easy to find when you need it and it makes it easy to store. And always remember when packing things up that you label all the boxes and containers!



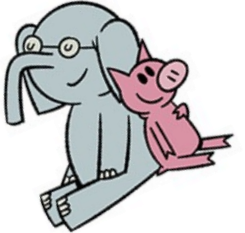
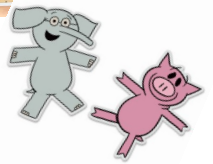
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Piggie and Elephant stopped by Worth County Primary School Pre-K last week and read some fun stories! They even brought their friends, Mr. Frog and Mr. Alphagator. The most important thing you can do is read to and with your child everyday!

Source: MJPL



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**3rd Annual Heroes Against Hunger
Food Drive Is Underway at Alchemy
Game Shoppe, Coffee Bar & Eatery**

Alchemy Game Shoppe, Coffee Bar & Eatery in Downtown Sylvester is participating in the 3rd Annual Heroes Against Hunger Food Drive! Drop off your non-perishable food donations and get a ticket to be entered into the drawing for the sweet swag they have in their gift basket they are giving away! The Westworld figures were donated to their gift basket by The Zone Collectibles & More! Alchemy Game Shoppe, Coffee Bar & Eatery is proud to be a part of this endeavor to help those in need! Donations are being taken now through May 7th! They will stream the giveaway live! Let's help our community and be Heroes in our own way! Local sponsors and partners are welcome to help them with this endeavor! The Martin News will be glad to pick up any donations that you may have and drop them off at Alchemy Game Shoppe, Coffee Bar & Eatery. Let's help them make this the BEST Food Drive they have had.



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Jeffery Hammond Hired As The Worth County Rams Head Football Coach

Worth County High School has hired Jeffery Hammond as their new Head Football Coach. Hammond is coming from 5A Coffee County as an Offensive Coordinator where he has helped lead the Trojans to 16 wins in the past two seasons, including a semi-final playoff appearance in 2020. Hammond is known throughout the state for his high-powered offense. "We are excited to get a guy in here who has a proven track record that aligns with our current offensive strengths," said Superintendent Nehemiah Cummings. Hammond has been coaching high school football for 21 years, 18 of those have been as a coordinator. He has coordinated the offense in 6 semi-final games and 3 championship games. He also led the 2010 Colquitt County offense to a state record for most yards in a championship game. Coach Hammond began working with the Rams football team immediately. Welcome to the Ram Family Coach!

Dates to Remember

March

- 14th ~ Winter Break for Worth County Schools
- 14th ~ Covered & Cured Blanket Drive for Cancer Patients
- 14th ~ WCMS Baseball 4pm Away
- 14th ~ Worth County Rams Touchdown Club Meeting to Vote in Officers 6:30PM
- 14th ~ Town of Sumner Council Meeting 7pm-8pm
- 15th ~ Planning Day for Worth County Schools
- 15th ~ Covered & Cured Blanket Drive for Cancer Patients
- 15th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 15th ~ WCMS Golf 330pm Away
- 15th ~ WCHS Tennis 4pm Home
- 15th ~ WCHS Varsity Baseball 5:30pm Home
- 15th ~ WCHS Soccer 5:30pm Away
- 15th ~ City of Warwick Council Meeting 7pm-8pm
- 16th ~ Covered & Cured Blanket Drive for Cancer Patients
- 16th ~ Kiwanis Club Meeting at Noon
- 16th ~ WCMS Baseball 4pm Home
- 16th ~ WCMS Tennis 4pm Away
- 16th ~ WCMS Soccer 4:30pm Home
- 17th ~ Happy St. Patrick's Day
- 17th ~ Last Day of the Covered & Cured Blanket Drive for Cancer Patients
- 17th ~ WCHS Track Home
- 17th ~ WCMS Golf 3:30pm Home
- 17th ~ WCHS Tennis 4pm Away
- 17th ~ WCMS Baseball 4:30pm Away
- 17th ~ Books & Barks at the Margaret Jones Public Library at 4pm
- 18th ~ WCMS Tennis 4pm Away
- 18th ~ WCHS Varsity Baseball 4:30pm
- 18th ~ WCHS Soccer 5:30pm Home
- 18th ~ Transferred at WCHS 6:30pm-8:30pm
- 19th ~ WCHS Senior Walk 4pm
- 19th ~ Worth County High School Prom 7pm
- 21st ~ City of Sylvester Council Meeting 6pm-7pm
- 22nd ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 22nd ~ City of Poulan Council Meeting 6:30pm-7:30pm
- 23rd ~ Kiwanis Club Meeting at Noon
- 28th ~ Lunch & Learn - Get your business online with Google Search & Maps Noon-1:30pm
- 29th ~ Books & Bubbles at Margaret Jones Public Library 10:30am
- 29th ~ Cloverleaf/Junior Club Meeting - Worth County 4H 3:30pm-5pm
- 30th ~ Kiwanis Club Meeting at Noon
- 30th ~ Worth County Schools Family Engagement Stakeholders Input Meeting 9am
- 30th ~ Senior Club Meeting - Worth County 4H 3:30pm-5pm



The Mobile Dairy Classroom Visits WCPS

On Thursday, March 10th the Mobile Dairy Classroom came to visit the first and second grade students at Worth County Primary School. The Mobile Dairy classroom features a fully operational milking parlor containing a live cow. The goal of the program is to provide children and adults with a better understanding of where milk comes from, how it is processed, the healthy benefits of consuming dairy products, and dairy farmers' management of natural resources. WCPS students and staff really enjoyed their morning with Jazzy the cow!

Source: WCSD



WCMS Rams Baseball B-Team Wins Over Cook County Hornets

Worth County Middle School Rams Baseball B-Team hosted the Cook County Hornets on Monday, March 7th winning 8-2. WCMS Rams had a great pitching performance from DJ Eason & Eli Juster. Kaden Ware led the hitting with 2 hits. Great game, Go Rams!

Source: WCSD



Chiquita Wilburn

229-881-0451



CRW Tax Services LLC

Tax Preparation Services



Sylvester Computer Guy

10th Anniversary Celebration

**Join us Thursday, March 17th, 2022
at 5:00pm at 203 W Franklin St. in
Sylvester for the Sylvester Computer
Guy 10th Anniversary Celebration!**

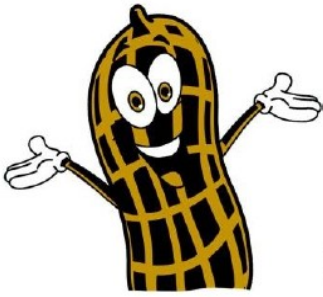
For more info call: 229-234-2317



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CALLING ALL STUDENTS!

Designer needed for 58th Annual Peanut Festival T-shirt Theme!

The Peanut Festival Committee would like to invite any student to enter the contest to be the designer of this year's Peanut Festival theme! The winning theme will appear on all promotional and marketing materials including the 2022 t-shirt! So, grab your pen and paper... or crayons, markers, paints, whatever medium you prefer... and enter for your chance to be this year's artist! Winning designer will win a **cash prize of \$100.**

See full contest rules below:

2022 Peanut Festival Design Theme Contest Rules:

1. Contest is open to any student (Grades Pre-k through 12) who is a resident of Worth County.
2. Contest is open to individual students or classes.
3. You may enter as many designs as you wish.
4. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: Originality of Theme, Use of Peanut Festival Mascot, and Ease of marketing production.
5. Entries must be submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. on April 30, 2022
6. Entry must be your own original concept.
7. Designs must be submitted with artist name and contact information.
8. All entries must be submitted by uploading design to the Peanut Festival Design Contest email address info@swcountycommerce.com or submitted in person to the Sylvester-Worth County Chamber of Commerce.
9. Winning entry will receive a cash prize of \$100, be in the Georgia Peanut Festival Parade, be featured in this year's Peanut Festival Magazine and artists name will be on the T Shirt.
10. All entries may be subject to display, either in digital or original format.
11. Most importantly, have fun! It's WORTH it!

Updated 2/15/22



SENIOR WALK



INFORMATION



SENIOR WALK WILL BE HELD AT THE FOOTBALL STADIUM ON
SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH AT 4:00 PM.

GATES OPEN AT 3:30 PM.

SENIORS AND THEIR ESCORTS SHOULD BEGIN LINING UP AT 3:45 PM.

1. Each Senior participating in the walk must have purchased a prom ticket.
2. Seniors will receive 2 free Senior Walk tickets with their Prom ticket purchase.
3. Additional Senior Walk tickets are \$3.
4. Only one escort per Senior is allowed.
5. The escort must be a high school student or older.
6. The escort gets in free of charge (no ticket needed).

WCHS iRambots STEAM Club

FEB-APRIL VIRTUAL PICKUP DATES
\$10 PER KIT

Programming: Building Websites
and Coding Bracelets

Feb. 22 5-6 PM

Weather: Snow, Tornadoes, and
Storms

Mar. 22 5-6 PM

Plants: Bean Sprouts and Tree
Identification

Apr. 14 5-6 PM

**Margaret Jones Public
Library**

For More information:

Michelle Smith

(229) 344-6869

mismith@worthschools.net

Leigh Wiley

(229) 776-2096

leigh@worthlib.org





FRC IRAMBOTS 7470 PRESENTS

STEAM MOVIE NIGHT

Join us for an evening of STEAM-Powered adventure!

APRIL 30, 2022

WCHS GYMNASIUM

WALL-E: 3-5 PM

HIDDEN FIGURES: 6-8 PM

We will be honoring our sponsors during intermission!

Free admission

Concessions will be sold inside!

All proceeds go to the iRambots 7470 Robotics team!

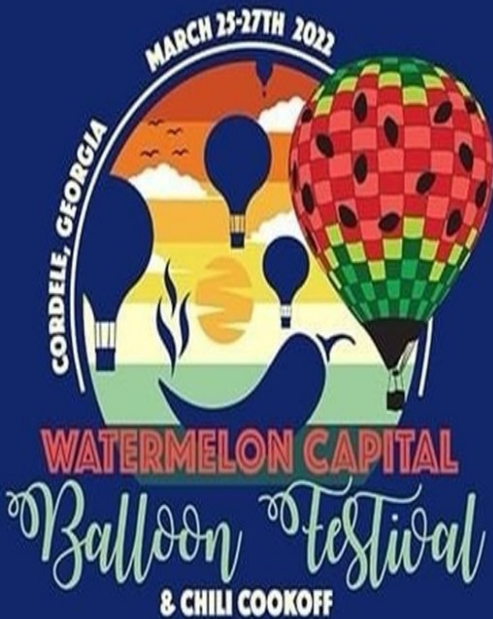


Worth County 4+H/FFA Cattle Show Was A Success

Saturday, March 12th, brought in very cold weather but that did not stop the participants at the Worth County 4-H/FFA Cattle Show. The event was held at the Worth County Ag Pavilion and all the participants had a great time. Intermediate Showmanship champion was McKenzie Wright, Junior Showmanship champion was Charlie Pate, and Senior Showmanship champion was Peyton Gwines. Grand Champion Heifer and Reserve Champion Heifer went to Peyton Gwines.

Source: Worth County 4H





WATERMELON CAPITAL HOT AIR BALLOON FESTIVAL & CHILI COOKOFF

ARTS & CRAFTS CHILI COOKOFF ENTERTAINMENT
FOOD TRUCKS HOT AIR BALLOONS

MARCH 25th & 26th
4:00PM-8:00PM

Lake Blackshear Resort @ GA Veterans State Park
2459 US 280 W Cordele, GA 31015

BALLOON SCHEDULE

Friday, March 25th

4:00PM-8:00PM

Tether Rides (weather permitting)
5:00PM

Launch from Georgia Vets State
Park

8:00PM

Glow at Georgia Vets State Park

Saturday, March 26th

7:30AM

Launch from Georgia Vets State Park
4:00PM-8:00PM

Tether Rides (weather permitting)
5:00PM

Launch from Georgia Vets State Park
8:00PM

Glow at Georgia Vets State Park

Sunday, March 27

7:30AM

Launch from Georgia Vets
State Park



For more information contact:
Cordele-Crisp Chamber of Commerce
229-273-1668
visitcordele.com

USDA Announces Plans For \$250 Million Investment To Support Innovative American-Made Fertilizer To Give US Farmers More Choices In The Marketplace

Seeks Public Input to Identify Competition Challenges in Seed, Fertilizer, Other Agricultural Inputs, and Retail Markets

WASHINGTON, March 11, 2022 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is announcing it will support additional fertilizer production for American farmers to address rising costs, including the impact of Putin’s price hike on farmers, and spur competition. USDA will make available \$250 million through a new grant program this summer to support independent, innovative and sustainable American fertilizer production to supply American farmers. Additionally, to address growing competition concerns in the agricultural supply chain, USDA will launch a public inquiry seeking information regarding seeds and agricultural inputs, fertilizer, and retail markets. “Recent supply chain disruptions from the global pandemic to Putin’s unprovoked war against Ukraine have shown just how important it is to invest in this crucial link in the agricultural supply chain here at home,” said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, “The planned investment is one example of many Biden-Harris Administration initiatives to bring production and jobs back to the United States, promote competition, and support American goods and services. As the President said [at the State of the Union], we are working to rebuild the economy towards resilience, security, and sustainability, and this support to provide domestic, sustainable and independent choices for fertilizer supplies is part of that effort. In addition to the jobs, lower costs and more reliable supply, increased investment in the domestic fertilizer industry will help address climate change by reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with transportation, while also fostering more sustainable production methods and more precise application.” Fertilizer prices have more than doubled since last year due to many factors including Putin’s price hike, a limited supply of the relevant minerals and high energy costs, high global demand and agricultural commodity prices, reliance on fertilizer imports, and lack of competition in the fertilizer industry. The United States is a major importer and dependent on foreign fertilizer and is the second or third top importer for each of the three major components of fertilizer. The top producers of the major components of fertilizer include China, Russia, Canada and Morocco, with Belarus also providing a significant share of potash. USDA will use funds from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) set aside in September for market disruptions to develop a grant program that provides ‘gap’ financing to bring new, independent domestic production capacity on-line—similar to the recently announced meat and poultry grants that are designed to promote competition and resilience in that sector.

The new program will support fertilizer production that is:

- Independent – outside the dominant fertilizer suppliers, increasing competition in a concentrated market;
- Made in America – produced in the United States by domestic companies, creating good-paying jobs at home and reducing the reliance on potentially unstable or inconsistent foreign supplies;
 - Innovative –improve upon fertilizer production methods to jump start the next generation of fertilizers;
- Sustainable – reduces the greenhouse gas impact of transportation, production, and use through renewable energy sources, feedstocks, formulations, and incentivizing greater precision in fertilizer use;
- Farmer-focused – like other Commodity Credit Corporation investments, a driving factor will be providing support and opportunities for U.S. agriculture commodity producers.

Details on the application process will be announced in the summer of 2022, with the first awards expected before the end of 2022. Under the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is engaged in a whole-of-government effort to combat the climate crisis and conserve and protect our nation’s lands, biodiversity and natural resources including our soil, air and water. Successfully meeting these challenges will require coordination and partnerships with stakeholders throughout the supply chain such as the planned investment in innovative domestic fertilizer production. This effort is also part of the Biden-Harris Administration’s whole-of-government effort to promote competition, including in agricultural markets. As part of its efforts to enhance fair and competitive markets, USDA is requesting comments and information from the public about the impacts of concentration and market power in fertilizer, seeds and other agricultural inputs, and retail. With these RFIs, USDA is also seeking information on competition and market access for farmers and ranchers, new and growing market competitors, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, and more about the context for these markets for farmers. The inquiry stems from the July 9, 2021, Executive Order on “Promoting Competition in the American Economy,” which created a White House Competition Council and directed federal agency actions to enhance fairness and competition across America’s economy. “Concentrated market structures and potentially anticompetitive practices leave America’s farmers, businesses, and consumers facing higher costs, fewer choices and less control about where to buy and sell, and reduced innovation—ultimately making it harder for those who grow our food to survive,” said Secretary Vilsack. “As I talk to farmers, ranchers and agriculture and food companies about the recent market challenges, I hear significant concerns about whether large companies along the supply chain are taking advantage of the situation by increasing profits—not just responding to supply and demand or passing along the costs.”

USDA will seek information specifically on:

- Fertilizer.
 - Seed and agricultural inputs, in particular as they relate to the intellectual property system.
 - Retail, including access to retail through wholesale and distribution markets.

The comment period will be open for 60 days once the requests for information are published in the Federal Register, and upon which time comments can be submitted to www.regulations.gov. In the interim, the requests for information will be made available at www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/fair-competitive/rfi. USDA will use the comments received to develop reports mandated under the Competition E.O., and to develop policies relating to fair and competitive markets, supply chain resiliency, pandemic response, local and regional food systems, and other areas. Subsequent actions may range from new grant and loan programs to additional rules and regulations under the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 and other relevant laws to increase fairness and competition in American agricultural markets. More information about this request for information is available at www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/fair-competitive. USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. In the Biden-Harris Administration, USDA is transforming America’s food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit www.usda.gov.



The Worth County Rams hosted the first meet of the season on Saturday, March 4th. Below are the student-athletes that placed in the medal standings at the Rams Invitational Track Meet:

- Zoe Burrell - 1st Place in Discus**
- Sha'Coryia Andrews - 2nd Place in Shot Put**
- Tucker Parrish - 2nd Place in Pole Vault**
- Hunner Folsom - 3rd Place in the Pole Vault**
- Megan Daniel - 2nd Place in the pole vault**
- D'ontae Fulton - 2nd Place in High Jump**
- Chad Woodham - 3rd Place in High Jump**
- Alexia Sokolowski - 2nd Place in the 1600 and 3200**
- India Williamson - 3rd Place in the 400 meters**
- Ana Resendez - 3rd Place in both the 800 and 1600**
- Eyan Zupko - 3rd Place in both the 1600 and 3200**
- Trinity Hope, Lakeydra McGuire, Tyanah Solomon, and India Williamson - 3rd Place Girls 4x200 team**
- Trinity Hope, Adrianna Downs, Destiny Simon, and India Williamson - 3rd Place Girls 4x400 team**
- Adrianna Downs, Stevie Lewis, Alexia Sokolowski, and Ana Resendez - 1st Place Girls 4x800 team**

Both boys and girls teams took 3rd place overall behind Houston and Valdosta. Congratulations, Rams! We are so very proud of each of you!

Source: WCSD

