



# The Martin News

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(229) 272-4356

March 7, 2022

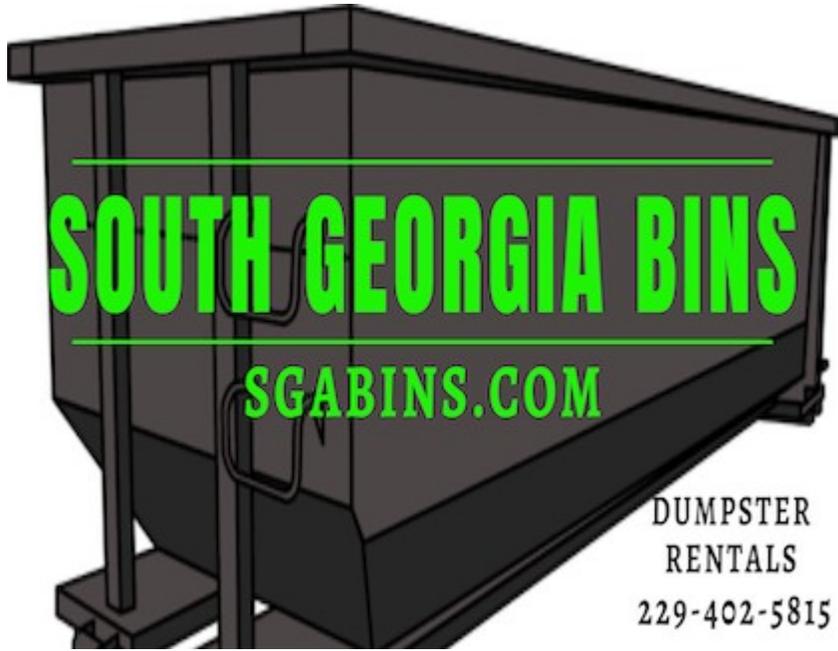
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## Precious Memories... How They Linger



Saying goodbye to family, friends and community people is never easy but what helps us is the precious memories that are made along the way. We often find ourselves sad after losing special people in our lives but then a memory can just pop up and bring us huge smiles and great laughter.

This past week has been a double whammy for Sylvester. Mr. John Porter and Mr. John McPhaul gained their Angel wings and will be missed terribly.

I had the honor of yelling for the Worth County Rams with Mr. and Mrs. Porter as well as sitting behind them at the home games. They both enjoyed the games and I enjoyed talking to them at the games. Mr. Porter was one of the ones at the Sylvester Local that taught me the importance of writing for the community to enjoy. He loved Sylvester! He always told me the stories of him getting out and walking the streets of Downtown Sylvester to sale advertisements for the Sylvester Local weekly. He said he enjoyed seeing everyone as they all became like family to him. He will be greatly missed.

I also had the honor of meeting Mr. John McPhaul through his family that is dear friends to us. Mr. John and Mrs. Shelly always welcomed us to their home. I can't tell you one of my favorite memories of Mr. John as I have so many. He was a die-hard Gator fan and we are as well so that was so much fun to talk football with him. He was one of the BEST Santa Claus I ever had the honor of meeting! Working with him at Bark in the Park was so much fun as well. I have several years of memories from those. He was very dedicated to Best Friends Humane Society. With Mr. John working at the Sylvester Local and me owning The Martin News, never stopped either of us. He and I would work on articles and events together from time to time which was an honor. Our last event together was the Wear Red for Women and walk for Ms. Katie Giddens. I will miss him terribly!

Please be sure to pick up a copy of this week's edition of the Sylvester Local to read and enjoy the articles of Mr. Porter and the article on Mr. John.

Photo Credit: The Sylvester Local

# Roberts & Co.

## JEWELERS



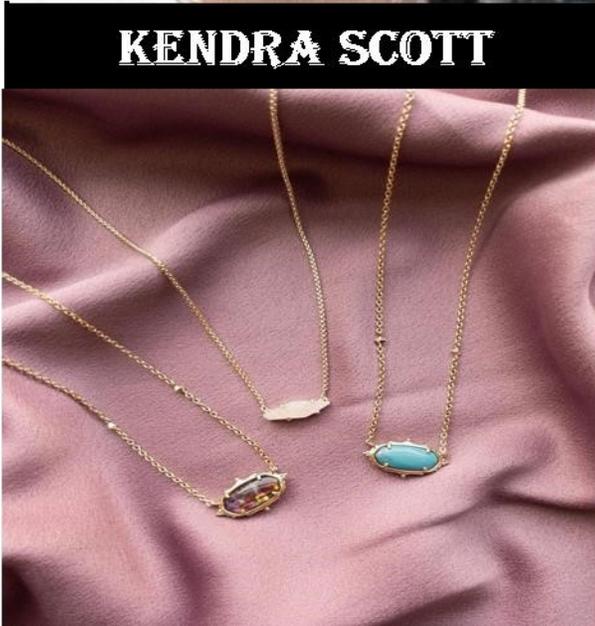
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### Caleb's Christian Academy Coming To Sylvester



God has a way of turning a tragedy into a blessing and he has done just that for the Thompson family. Sam and Jennifer Thompson of Worth County experienced a tragedy no parent wants to ever experience. On September 3, 2020, Sam and Jennifer's son, Caleb, was shot and killed at the young age of 18.

Caleb had recently graduated with the Class of 2020 from Tift County High School where he was loved by many. Even though Caleb and his family were from Worth County, his mother Jennifer taught in the Tift County School District for 15 years. After graduating he wanted to become an electrician. Caleb was very excited when he was hired as an electrician's apprentice at MetroPower in Albany. He had been on the job for exactly one month when his life was tragically taken from him by someone with a gun. He was waiting on his coworkers to arrive at the work site when someone came up to his car and shot him. "Caleb was such a blessing in our lives" stated his mother, Jennifer. Jennifer described Caleb as outgoing, friendly, hard-working, loyal to his friends and family, and extremely loving. "He had such a giving heart" exclaimed Jennifer "he was ready to give a helping hand to anyone in need". Caleb loved sports whether he was playing or watching. He especially loved football and basketball. He is missed so very much by everyone, especially his family, but Jennifer stated that they take comfort in the fact they will see him again in Heaven one day!

After losing a loved one, adjusting is very difficult. Many times we look for ways to honor their life and legacy. That is just what Sam and Jennifer have decided to do in Caleb's memory. Caleb's Christian Academy is set to open in August of this year. They are currently planning for the first day of school to

be on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The school will be located at 606 Ashburn Highway in Sylvester.

Caleb's Christian Academy will service children from Pre-k through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. They do plan to extend to high school aged children in the near future with the plan being within the next three years. They do plan on staying as close to the Worth County School schedule as much as possible in order to assist in accommodating parents. For the 2022-2023 school year, they will not be offering any sports programs however as the school grows their plans are to implement athletic programs for their students. As far as extracurricular activities such as 4H and other groups, they will not offer them to begin with but do plan to implement them in the future. They will however offer classes within the school day such as art, music and chapel. The current tuition will be \$4,500 per year, per student and there will be a discount for siblings.

The Thompson family plans to make their number one focus for the academy to be providing students with a Bible-based education that will prepare them for their future. All academics will be taught with the Word of God weaved throughout the curriculum. "Within the first year, our plan is to present ourselves to the community of Worth County as a dependable and effective way to provide their child with a quality education, focusing on the whole child – academically and spiritually" explained Jennifer "Our goal is to partner with the parent in providing their child with the foundation they need to become productive adults, growing spiritually, socially, academically, and physically".

Please like Caleb's Christian Academy on Facebook for updates.



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# 2022 Worth County Cattle Show

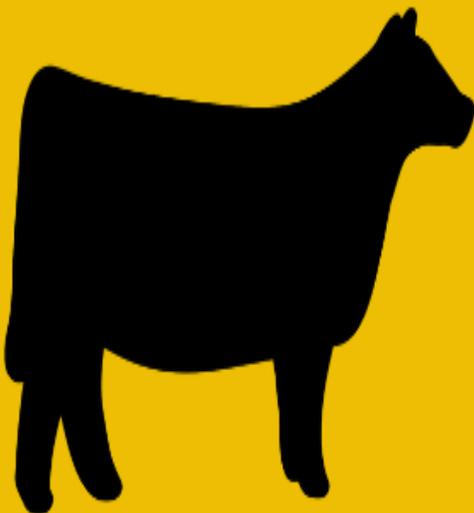


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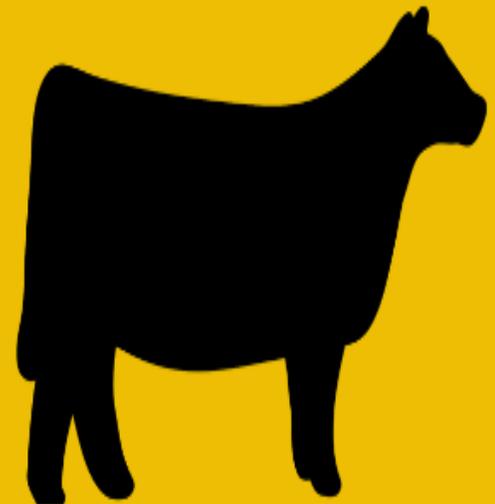
**March 12, 2022**

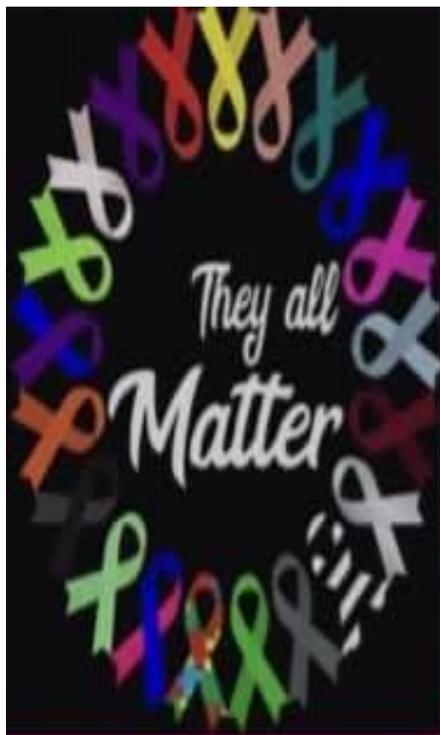
**Show: 10 am**

**Worth County Ag Pavilion  
(102 Rebecca Dr. Sylvester)**



**Showmanship Class  
Grand Champion  
Reserve Champion**





# “Covered & Cured” Blanket Drive

Cancer Patients Covered And kept Warm  
while Receiving Their Treatment To Be Cured

Drop Off Location  
February 24th-March 17th 2022

Front entrance-anytime during Regular hours

Margaret Jones Library

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Sharon & Ray will be on site 2-6pm March 1st to greet  
you during your drop off @ rear entrance (Blood Drive)

Local Pick up available.

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**Cancer Awareness 365**

*Sharon Lyles*

**CLC Construction**

*Mark Ames*

**The Martin News**

*Lynn Meeks-Manley*

**American Legion Post 335**

*Ray Humphrey*



**Giving Back To The NICU At Phoebe**

Summer Cromer and her son Maddox kicked off their week with a trip to the NICU at Phoebe but for a different reason than months ago. At 28 weeks, Summer delivered Maddox after going through one of the worst tragedies in her life. Losing her soul mate and the daddy to Maddox has been one of the hardest journey's for Summer to navigate through. With many friends, family and complete strangers praying for Summer and Maddox, they are doing pretty good.

One of the things keeping her busy over the last few months other than sweet Maddox himself has been her blanket project. Summer decided to host a blanket drive in order to give back to the NICU at Phoebe for all they did for her and her family. Summer received blankets from family, friends and complete strangers collecting 778 blankets. 778!!! "When you have a baby in the NICU it is hard to make it feel "normal" so we made sure that Maddox's bed was decorated and always matched" explained Summer "I know the nurses would get excited when they had new or matching blankets to fix the babies bed". Summer explained that this is just something very small to show their appreciation to Phoebe and the whole NICU team.

Source: Summer Cromer



**National Pancake Day** Phoebe

Thank you to the many people that gave back to Children's Miracle Network on National Pancake Day at IHOP. Starting early that morning until 4pm, everyone was able to receive a free stack of pancakes for a donation of any size to Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. All funds raised at IHOP in Albany will help kids right here in southwest Georgia.

Source: Phoebe



**Celebrating National Peanut Month**

March 1st was National Peanut Butter Lovers Day and the first day of National Peanut Month. Georgia Peanuts located at 445 Fulwood Blvd in Tifton celebrated at the Georgia State Capitol with their annual PB& J Day. They give a special thank you to Smucker's for donating uncrustables for the event!

Source: Georgia Peanuts

**After 45 Years, Worth Hardware in Sylvester Closes**



As sad as it is to admit at times, all good things must come to an end. And it is even more sad to announce that one of those good things coming to an end is Worth Hardware located in Downtown Sylvester. Ms. Grace Hatcher announced on Friday via Facebook that after 45 years in her Hardware Store, she had decided

to close effective immediately. Ms. Grace said she thanked everyone for their support in trading with her and her late Husband. Pictured above is Mr. and Mrs. Hatcher outside of Worth Hardware. Thank you Worth Hardware for 45 wonderful years. We wish you the very best!

Source: Facebook

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### **U.S. Peanut Federation Testifies at U.S. House Ag Committee Hearing Ag Committee Reviews 2018 Farm Bill**

Washington, D.C. (March 2, 2022) - The U.S. House Committee on Agriculture held a hearing March 1, 2022, on “A 2022 Review of the Farm Bill: Commodity Group Perspectives on Title I.” Chairman David Scott, D-Georgia, opened the hearing stating, “As we look ahead to the 2023 Farm Bill, I am committed to making sure that the full breadth of voices from our farmers, ranchers, foresters, and consumers is represented in our efforts. Today’s panel is an integral piece in that process, and I look forward to the months ahead as we discuss the other farm bill titles and issue areas.” Nine commodity groups testified at the hearing including the U.S. Peanut Federation’s witness, Meredith McNair Rogers, a Camilla, Georgia, peanut grower. Ms. Rogers discussed the rising costs of inputs in peanut production and related analyses from representative farming operations. “When I met with the General Farm Commodities and Risk Management Subcommittee early last fall, I spoke of increased input costs such as fertilizer and equipment. In addition, I shared with you the delays in equipment parts and repair. Since the Subcommittee’s Roundtable last year, the Center for Rural Prosperity and Innovation at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia, has completed its review of U.S. Representative Peanut Farm data covering all the peanut production regions. These 22 peanut farms, from Virginia to New Mexico, have been reviewed for 21 years (2001-2022). What we have learned from this most recent, comprehensive data is that peanut growers have struggled to cover their cost of production.” Rogers provided the Committee specific data from representative peanut farms that demonstrated the increases in cost of production: “... The 2021 representative farm update revealed the average expected peanut yield to be 4760 lbs. per acre. In a cash flow analysis, the 2021 total cash flow was \$545.97 per ton. The projected 2022 peanut total cash flow cost to produce a ton of peanuts is estimated to be \$666.94. This is approximately a 22% increase over the 2021 cost of production.” The House Agriculture Committee is expected to continue its hearing process in preparation for the 2023 Farm Bill. Fifteen members of the Committee are from peanut producing states. The U.S. Senate Agriculture Committee will announce its 2023 Farm Bill hearings in the near future. The United States Peanut Federation (USPF) is comprised of the Southern Peanut Farmers Federation, the American Peanut Sheller's Association, and the National Peanut Buying Points Association. USPF serves as a unified voice in Washington, D.C. for all sectors of the peanut industry and advocates actively for strong agricultural policy. For additional information, please contact the USPF at (202) 543-7464.

# 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](mailto:paige@rutlandfarms.com) for a PDF copy of the registration form.



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## Visiting Still Pond Vineyard, Winery & Distillery



I love day trips more than overnight trips for sure. And one place that I love to go is Still Pond Vineyard. Driving 30 miles south of Albany, past fields of peanuts, corn, and cotton, you turn on to a road of red Georgia clay. Drive a couple of miles down this road and all of the scenes are those that you would expect to find in rural Southwest Georgia. Then you round a bend in the road and see what some have called Shangri-La... acres and acres of Muscadine vines (also known as Scuppernongs and Swamp Grapes) and the unexpected discovery of Still Pond Vineyard and Winery. Over 130 years ago, during the height of the Civil War, the discovery was just as exciting. Sitting on the banks of an isolated pond was a still, turning out peach brandy to provide comfort, relaxation, and escape for exhausted Confederate soldiers...thus the name Still

Pond. Through the years, the legend of Still Pond was enhanced by other proprietors of the still. Still Pond Vineyard owner Charles Cowart remembers, "When I was growing up the Hunt brothers lived here and were known for the spirits they delivered around. Dad used to pick them up and bring them home. He told about finding one of them under a pine tree one morning with frost on his beard. Evidently the croaker sack of liquor had been sampled too liberally during deliveries and he did not make it home." The Legend Continues... Today, the Legend of Still Pond continues, but with a much more legitimate (and legal!) direction. Charlie Cowart Sr. started over 45 years ago by planting a few muscadines, a grape variety native to the South... Still Pond Vineyard was born. The vineyard did well and Charlie Sr., along with his wife Peggy, continued to expand the vineyard with additional plantings each year. After the deaths of the elder Cowarts, son Charles and his wife Susan took over the operation Still Pond. What started out as a location for weary Confederate troops to gain a little comfort with a bottle of peach brandy has now become one of the largest commercial vineyards in Georgia. Charlie Cowart Sr.'s small planting of muscadines has grown to become a commercial operation that is a reliable supplier of fresh Muscadine juice for a growing list of wineries across the Southeastern United States. Whether you call them Muscadines, Scuppernongs, or Swamp Grapes, this grape, native to the South, is a wonderful source of great taste.

Source: Still Pond Vineyard, Winery & Distillery



**Ms. ABAC To Be Chosen On March 10**

Twenty-one contestants will compete in the 52nd annual Ms. ABAC contest March 10 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. Sponsored by the ABAC Agripreneurs, the theme of this year’s pageant is “Golden Moments.” The winner will receive a \$500 academic scholarship. The event begins at 7 p.m. in ABAC’s Howard Auditorium. Admission is \$10. Because of limited seating, advance ticket purchase is advised. Tickets may be purchased by calling 229-391-4807. Contestants will compete in casual and evening wear, and will also be judged on a written essay and an interview with the judges. Kenny and Kristen Smith, both ABAC alumni, will provide a second academic scholarship worth \$500 to the winner of the interview portion of the event. Students competing in this year's pageant are: Madison Adams from Norwood; Jazzmyn Armstrong from Reidsville; Lauren Brenneman from Tifton; Annie Bradley from LaGrange; Jennifer Brinton from Newnan; Carsen Jane Carter from Willacoochee; Cierra Cleveland from Griffin; Emily Edwards from Griffin; Delaney Garcia from Albany. Also, Danielle Griffin from Moultrie; Emily Groat from Ruskin, Fla.; Charleigh Harper from Nashville; Emma Jagus from McDonough; Molly McKetrick from Arcadia Fla.; Molly Parris from Hampton; Noel Plunkett from Jefferson; Emily Staton from Tifton. Also, Taylor Thom from Newnan; Brianna Turchiano from Windermere, Fla.; Maggie Yates from Myakka City, Fla.; and Abigail Zerwig from Metter.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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## “Landscape Of Guitar” Fuses Music With Visual Art



Music will come alive through an animated-painting concert experience – “The Landscape of Guitar” – at 7 p.m. March 15 at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College’s Howard Auditorium. Master guitarist Bruce Hecksel and singer-songwriter Julie Patchouli will combine visual art and sound as part of the ABAC Presents! Performing Arts Series. One reviewer said the duo delivers “the guitars of the Gipsy Kings, the harmony of Simon and Garfunkel, and the colors of Van Gogh.” Each song in the performance includes vivid art with high-definition animation seamlessly synced to the melodies. This animation features paintings that personify the music in whimsical scenes, creating an experience for the senses. Tickets may be purchased at [arts.abac.edu](http://arts.abac.edu) or by calling 229-391-4895. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Source: Tifton Grapevine



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## Blood Drive and Blanket Drive Was A Success

Tuesday, March 1<sup>st</sup> was a great day for a double drive! Mr. Ray Humphrey with the American Legion Sylvester Post 335 and Ms. Sharon Lyles was CancerAwareness365 partnered together to host the Guns and Hoses Sylvester Community Blood Drive and the Covered & Cured Blanket Drive.



The Guns and Hoses Sylvester Community Drive was a successful blood drive as they collected 33 pints of blood. The American Legion Sylvester Post 335 partnered with the police departments and fire departments to reach out to officers and their families for giving blood to those in need. The blood drive

was held from 2pm-7pm in the Sunner Room at the Margaret Jones Public Library. Pictured in top picture giving blood is Mr. Maurice Hobby. The next drive is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>.



Pictured in the bottom pictured is Ms. Sharon Lyles with CancerAwareness365 with blankets and items donated for the Covered & Cured Blanket Drive. Items will be used for

Cancer patients while they are receiving treatment. Items will continue to be collected through March 17th. If you would like to donate, please let Ms. Sharon or Lynn Meeks Manley know and they will be glad to pick up the items.



## What A Beauty To See At Rutland Farms

Just another part of the beauty to be seen at Rutland Farms. They are located at 5641 Union Road in Tifton. Be sure to go and visit them with the family. You will enjoy yourself immensely! They have a few events coming up soon so be sure to check out the information located in this edition of The Martin News and on their Facebook page. Many great things coming up this Spring and Summer at Rutland Farms!

Source: Rutland Farms



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## Sylvester Dairy Queen Gives Back To BFHS

Sylvester Dairy Queen recently spent the month of February raising monies for our fur babies at Best Friends Humane Society. Mark Casteel and his employees enjoyed seeing the fur babies as they came through with their owners to purchase a puppy cup of soft serve ice cream. Dairy Queen donated 100% of the sales to BFHS totaling \$443. Best Friends Humane Society (BFHS) is a private, non-profit organization. Their goals include providing shelter for unwanted and homeless companion animals until forever homes are found and to take the lessons of humane treatment of animals into our schools. BFHS is located at 787 Ephesus Church Road in Worth County and can be reached at 229-777-7774.

Source: Facebook

**After studying a unit on electricity, students in Ms. William's 5th grade class at Worth County Elementary School created circuits. This activity allowed students to use what they learned to complete this task. Great job, students!**

**Source: WCSD**



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## Rhythm & Ribs Festival Was A Huge Success



What a beautiful weekend it was in Tifton for the Annual Rhythm & Ribs Festival

this past Friday and Saturday! The gorgeous azaleas were blooming and brought extra beauty to the park on Friday for the kick-off party which started at 6pm. Friday night, the Kick-Off Party was from 6pm-10pm and featured the County Line Band and the Tyler Neal Band. On Saturday, there were so many things happening! From 10am-10pm, there was live music on the Coca-Cola Main Stage. Live music included Derrick Dove & The Peacekeepers, Pine Box Dwellers, Scott Warren & Booze Mountaineers, Lizz Faith, Hannah Dasher and The Legendary JC's. Coca-Cola was the Main Stage Sponsor for the 2022 Rhythm & Ribs Festival. The Festival Committee stated that Coca-Cola has been an asset to the festival and they truly appreciate them helping so much. There were over 100 arts and crafts vendors as well as food vendors that were enjoyed by thousands. One of the main events was the BBQ Cook-Off where the awards were given out at 4pm. Food Network was filming on Friday and Saturday and the show is set to premiere in July. Several additions were added this year such as Chehaw Park, a Magician and a Chainsaw Carver. With this marking the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tifton, visitors were able to stop by the Tift150 Tent and was able to share their memories of Tifton. They received a koozie from the festival while celebrating 150 years of Tifton. It takes many volunteers and endless hours to put on such an event however the volunteers would not change it for anything as thousands of people come through the event and enjoy themselves immensely. We will include more from the festival in next week's edition.

# Dates to Remember

## March

- 7th ~ WCMS Book Fair
- 7th ~ WCMS Baseball Home 4pm
- 7th ~ WCMS Tennis Away 4pm
- 7th ~ WCMS Soccer Boys/Girls Home 4:30pm
- 7th ~ Bunny Paint Night at Margaret Jones Public Library 6pm
- 7th ~ City of Sylvester Council Meeting 6pm-7pm
- 8th ~ WCMS Book Fair
- 8th ~ WCMS Baseball Home 4pm
- 8th ~ WCHS Tennis Away 4pm
- 8th ~ Worth the Red Book Club March Meeting at Margaret Jones Public Library 5pm
- 8th ~ WCHS Soccer Away 5:30pm
- 8th ~ BFHS Bingo at Ed's Truck Stop 6pm-8pm
- 8th ~ City of Poulan Council Meeting 6:30pm-7:30pm
- 9th ~ WCMS Book Fair
- 9th ~ Kiwanis Club Meeting at Noon
- 9th ~ WCMS Track Home
- 9th ~ WCMS Baseball Away 4pm
- 9th ~ WCMS Soccer Boys/Girls Away 4:30pm
- 9th ~ WCMS Tennis Home 4:30pm
- 9th ~ WCHS Varsity Baseball Away 5:30pm
- 10th ~ WCMS Book Fair
- 10th ~ WCMS Baseball Home 4pm
- 10th ~ WCHS Tennis Away 4pm
- 10th ~ WCHS Soccer Home 5:30pm
- 10th ~ Building Leaders Campaign Dinner to Benefit the Boy Scouts of America South GA Council 6pm-8pm
- 10th ~ BFHS Monthly Meeting 6:30pm-7:30pm
- 10th ~ Worth County Board of Education Meeting 7pm-8pm
- 11th ~ Winter Break for Worth County Schools
- 12th ~ WCHS Track Away 9:30am
- 12th ~ A Passport to Adventure—A French Excursion - Albany Municipal Auditorium 6:30pm-7:30pm
- 14th ~ Winter Break for Worth County Schools
- 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 ~ City of Warwick Council Meeting 7pm-8pm
- 16th ~ Kiwanis Club Meeting at Noon
- 17th ~ Happy St. Patrick's Day
- 17th ~ Books & Barks at the Margaret Jones Public Library at 4pm
- 18th ~ Transferred at WCHS 6:30pm-8:30pm
- 21st ~ City of Sylvester Council Meeting 6pm-7pm
- 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
- 30th ~ Kiwanis Club Meeting at Noon
- 30th ~ Worth County Schools Family Engagement Stakeholders Input Meeting 9am

## 22nd Annual Valdosta - Lowndes Azalea Festival This Weekend



Valdosta/Lowndes County, February 14, 2022 - The azaleas are beginning to bloom, and soon the 22nd annual Valdosta-Lowndes Azalea Festival will too! On Saturday and Sunday, March 12 and 13, vendors and patrons will once again fill Drexel Park as our region's premier arts-and-crafts festival resumes. The Azalea Festival is a major regional multi-day festival, providing a boost to the local economy and a way for local businesses to show their support for this beloved community event. "We're very excited to present another wonderful festival for our region. The Azalea Festival Board works year-round to plan and put on the best festival possible. Each year, we try hard to make each one a little bigger and better than the year before. The Azalea Festival is a major draw for visitors near and far," said H. Aaron Strickland, Executive Director. "2021 was all about putting the train back on the tracks. 2022 is all about kicking it into high gear." Local vendors, non-profits, and sponsors are still being accepted. "We are aiming to make the 22nd Annual Azalea Festival the biggest and best yet," said Strickland. The festival attracts vendors from all over the country with unique arts & craft items. More than 200 vendors from as far away as Michigan, Maryland, and the Dakotas participate in the festival. Vendors range from arts and crafts to homemade candies, cakes, soaps, and jams, and the Azalea Festival is looking to add a few more vendors and variety for the 2022 event. Vendor space is extremely limited, as booth spaces have been filling up fast. "The vision of the Azalea Festival is to work to showcase the best of South Georgia and more," said Strickland. In addition to a variety of unique arts & craft vendors, the Azalea Festival also offers six stage areas of live entertainment, a KidZone area for children, a classic car show, VLPRA Azalea 5k run, and more during the two-day event which sees more than 25,000 people. The Azalea Festival is able to offset a majority of the costs of its attractions and special events through sponsorships and donations from local businesses, families, and organizations. Vendors and sponsors interested in participating in the festival are encouraged to visit [www.azaleafestival.com](http://www.azaleafestival.com), email [info@azaleafestival.com](mailto:info@azaleafestival.com), or call (229) 269-9381 for more information. Several sponsorship levels and options are still available.

**Chiquita Wilburn**

**229-881-0451**



**CRW Tax Services LLC**

**Tax Preparation Services**

*3rd Annual "Snow Better Time to  
Read" Adult / Teen Reading  
Challenge*

**Read 10 books between Dec. 20th  
and March 11th to be entered into a  
drawing for a prize. More than 1  
bookmark can be submitted.**

**Fore more information, please  
contact us at 776-2096 or at  
[worthlib.org](http://worthlib.org)**



# ROBERTS & CO BRIDAL REGISTRY



*Rachel Parker & Don Leebern  
March 5, 2022*

*Mary Alice Dotson & Monty Copeland  
March 12, 2022*

*Karley Bryant & Hayden Bledsoe  
March 26, 2022*

*Taylor Pearson & Jeffrey Wessel  
April 2, 2022*

*Devyn Muhlhauser & Clint Brownlee  
April 2, 2022*

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

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

*Meg Marshall Moore & Blake Moore  
Already Married*

Roberts & Co.

JEWELERS



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!**

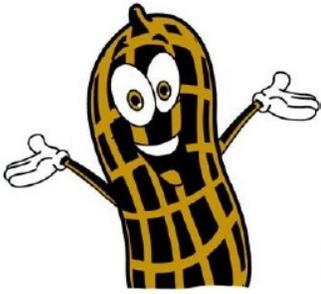
For more info call: 229-234-2317



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*TT's Taxes  
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229-778-0225*

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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](mailto: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 19<sup>TH</sup> 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](mailto:mismith@worthschools.net)

Leigh Wiley

(229) 776-2096

[leigh@worthlib.org](mailto:leigh@worthlib.org)





**STRAWBERRY  
JUBILEE**  
© **RUTLAND FARMS**  
**APRIL 2nd, 9th, 16th,  
23rd & 30th**

Strawberry Picking  
Wagon Rides Live Music  
Bouncy House Games  
Petting Zoo & More

# 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  
Department of Neurology  
Augusta University

**Upcoming lunch & learn topics will include:**

**June - Healthy Living for Brain & Body**

**September - Legal & Financial**

**December - Communication & Behaviors**



# Read Across America Week



## Read Across America Week Celebrated At WCPS

Fun was had by all last week as Worth County Primary School celebrated Read Across America Week! Be sure to follow Worth County Primary School on Facebook for many more pictures of Read Across America Week.

Source: WCSO

# NEWS FROM WORTH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Art Contest for Jump Rope for Heart

The theme for the second annual art contest held at Worth County Primary School was "Rolling on to a Healthy Heart." There were over 80 pieces of artwork between all grade levels submitted.

- Top Second grader is Kensley Douthit in Bludworth
- Top First grader is Layla Accord in Odom
- Top Kindergarten is Avery Mae Mitchell in Griffis

Source: WCSO

## WCPS Raised \$9,000 for Jump Rope For Heart



Worth County Primary School raised close to \$9,000 this year for Kid's Heart Challenge/Jump Rope for Heart. This year's total was second best in the 20 year history of doing Jump Rope for Heart. Despite the challenges that this year has presented, WCPS showed up and showed out!

WCPS is a perfect example and testament of what working together, they can accomplish. The PE department wants to thank you for making a difference in the lives of so many. They could not do what they do without the amazing administrators, teachers, students and families at your WCPS. Congratulations to the top winners.

- Top Second grader and top overall is Asher Shipp in Bludworth
- Top First grader is Wyatt Braswell in Plair
- Top Kindergarten is Tyler Williamson in Jackson
- Top Pre-K is Sadie Creamer in Goodwin

Source: WCSO

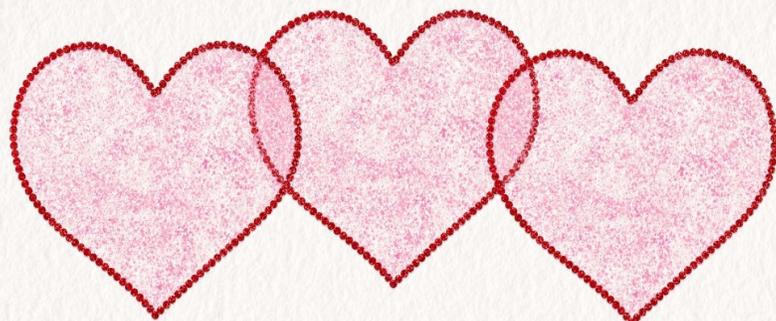
## Top Jumpers for Jump Rope for Heart

Worth County Primary School Best Group of Jumpers are listed from top to bottom. It was very difficult for the judges to declare a winner because of the high level of skill shown during the jump off.

- Top Kindergarten girl is Sydney Tomlinson in Gaddy
- Top Kindergarten boy is DaJuan Williams in Griffis
- Top First grade girl is Giavanna Ditusa in Langley
- Top First grade boy is Keaton Wilkerson in Odom
- Top Second grade girl is Emily Sowell in Cochran
- Top Second grade boy is Asher Shipp in Bludworth

Source: WCSO

*Jump Rope for Heart Participants  
2022*



*Jump Rope for Heart Winners  
2022*



**Top Row L to R:**  
*Coach Hughes, Coach McConnell, and Coach Fred*

**Bottom Row - L to R:**

*Draven Smith - 4th Grade Winner, Castin Cooper - 3rd Grade Winner,  
Wyatt Jennings - Top Fundraiser, and Keegan Abney - 5th Grade Winner*

**WCES Students Participate  
In Jump Rope For Heart**

Congratulations to the following students for participating in the Jump Rope for Heart Jump Off at Worth County Elementary School. Students had to raise at least \$5 to be in the Jump Off. Each student who won his/her grade level as well as the top overall fundraiser won a trophy.

Grade level winners were:  
3rd grade - Castin Cooper  
4th grade - Drake Smith  
5th grade - Keegan Abney.

The top fundraiser for the school was 3rd grade student Wyatt Jennings.

Another congratulations goes to Keegan Abney for winning the jump off between the winners. She won 100 Ram Bucks!

Jump Rope For Heart is a fundraising and event program that has become one of the premier annual events for elementary and middle schools, with thousands of schools and millions of kids participating across the USA every year. The program has raised more than \$1.2 billion since its start in 1978.

Worth County Elementary School thanks all their students and families who contributed in any way for this worthy cause!

## Plan To Order Your WCMS Yearbook Day

Deadline to order a Worth County Middle School yearbook and submit 8th grade highlight page is April 1st. Order online at [tinyurl.com/MSyearbook2022](https://tinyurl.com/MSyearbook2022) or cash/check payable to WCMS.

Yearbooks are \$30 each. You can get them personalized with the student's name for \$35. WCMS Yearbooks are on sale now. Click the link below to view/print the flyer sent home with each student >>> <https://tinyurl.com/WCMS-Yearbook-Flyer-FY22>. Please note that the online order link has been updated. If you have questions about the yearbook, please email Mrs. Haskins at [chaskins@worthschools.net](mailto:chaskins@worthschools.net) or call the school at 229.776.8620.

If you are a business and want to have an ad in the yearbook or if you are an eighth-grade\* student/parent and want to have a highlight page, the prices are listed below:

\$15 for 1/4 page  
\$30 for 1/2 page  
\$60 for a full-page

The deadline to order/purchase highlight or business page is April 1, 2022. (Pictures for 8th grade\* highlight page can be sent digitally via email to [chaskins@worthschools.net](mailto:chaskins@worthschools.net) AND [shjackson@worthschools.net](mailto:shjackson@worthschools.net))



**WCMS Jr. Beta Club Reads To WCPS Students**

Worth County Middle School Junior Beta Club enjoyed reading to the students at Worth County Primary School during Read Across America Week. WCPS is so thankful for the collaboration between their schools and the excellent reading role models that the WCPS students got to listen to.

Source: WCSD

Source: WCSD



**The Book Fair Has Arrived At Worth County Middle School**

WCMS Spring Book Fair started on March 7th and will run through March 10th. You can shop in-person from 7:30am-3:00pm or online all day at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/WCMSBookFairSpringFY22>.

Source: WCSD



This month's  
**WOOT WOOT WAGON**  
sponsored by...  
**SYLVESTER  
COMPUTER GUY**



**Sylvester Computer Guy Sponsors  
Woot Woot Wagon At WCHS**

Shout-out to the Sylvester Computer Guy for sponsoring the Woot Woot Wagon for the month of January at Worth County High School! The Woot Woot Wagon provides a special surprise to their faculty and staff once a month. Thank you for your sponsorship!

Source: WCSD

**WCHS Cheerleading Tryouts Are Upcoming**

Worth County High School Spirit & Competition tryouts will be held Monday, March 28th through Thursday, March 31st in the WCHS Gymnasium from 3:30-5:30. There will be a mandatory Parent Meeting on Monday, March 21st in the WCHS Cafeteria at 6 PM. Students

must have an updated physical to participate. Contact Coach Haley Watson at [hwatson@worthschools.net](mailto:hwatson@worthschools.net) with questions.

Source: WCSD



This month's  
**WOOT WOOT WAGON**  
sponsored by...  
**KIWANIS CLUB  
OF SYLVESTER**



**Kiwanis Club Sponsors  
Woot Woot Wagon At WCHS**

Shout-out to the Kiwanis Club of Sylvester for sponsoring the Woot Woot Wagon for the month of February! The Woot Woot Wagon provides a special surprise to their faculty and staff once a month. Thank you for your sponsorship!

Source: WCSD



**Youth Leadership Council - Kindness Initiative  
Donates To Sylvester Pruitt Health**

The Youth Leadership Council - Kindness Initiative at Worth County High School collected hundreds of items from students, teachers and the community to donate to Sylvester Pruitt Health for use in their monthly activities. Thank you to all that donated.

Source: WCSD

**CONTACT**

B.J. Lowenthal  
 Donaldson Enterprises, Inc.  
 912.667.4438  
 Blowenthal@donaldsonenterprises.com

**MEDIA ALERT**

**Anything but Square:  
 NEW MODERN STYLE Wendy's® TO OPEN IN SYLVESTER**

Donaldson Enterprises Inc., an area Wendy's Franchise from Valdosta Georgia announces the planned construction of a Wendy's in Sylvester Georgia. The new restaurant will be located On US HWY 82 Franklin Street N. East. As part of a multi-year re-branding strategy sweeping the nation, Wendy's is introducing a new modern design referred to as the Smart 2.0. Julie and BJ Lowenthal, native Georgians are the franchisee and owners of the local Wendy's. Mr. Lowenthal is a hands-on operator and says, "this is a state-of-the-art Wendy's unit." "In addition to our modern dining room, we have a new relaxing porch and high-tech self-ordering kiosk stations that provide plenty of space & distance. This Wendy's design is one of the first 100 units of its kind in the US to be built. "We are very proud to bring this concept to the Sylvester community." This redesigned Wendy's will have bold curb appeal and feature a contemporary design with large windows on the exterior. The interior will showcase bright, open dining areas with multiple seating options and a new customer ordering process. Wendy's expects to employ approximately 35 new employees at both management and crew levels.

Gerry Russo, the Wendy's Vice President of Operations for the franchise along with Corbin Parker, Vice President of Support will both be leading the construction and start-up efforts with an expected opening sometime late summer of 2022. The company is currently looking for management applicants. You can find information for how to apply at the local site, or you can email Donaldson Enterprises your interest at HR@Donaldsonenterprises.com.

**About Wendy's:**

Wendy's is one of the world's most successful restaurant operating and franchising companies with more than 6,900 restaurants worldwide. You can find out more information about The Wendy's Company at [www.aboutwendys.com](http://www.aboutwendys.com) or [www.wendys.com](http://www.wendys.com).

**TATINA'S  
 TAXES**

229-778-0225