



The Martin News

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August 24, 2020

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
**CHARLES G. McDONALD 229-402-7049
KAREN M. RACKLEY 229-349-7703**

Recently Pastor Charles McDonald, Owner of Fields Funeral Home, and I spoke about the upcoming school drive for Worth County Schools. Mr. McDonald stated that this is a collaborative effort between businesses and constituents and that all help is needed. These school supplies will be for both virtual students and students at the schools. School is set to start back on September 8th and everyone is hoping for a good and safe return for all Worth County Students. Items needed include but are not limited to paper, pens, pencils, glue, crayons, notebooks, masks, hand sanitizer, tablets and mats. The drop off point for the supplies is the Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce. You can drop off supplies or a monetary donation which will be used to purchase needed supplies. The deadline to donate is August 28th. More information will be supplied as to how the supplies will be distributed. Mr. McDonald feels that if the community comes together, many students will be able to receive supplies. He stated that "Together we stand, divided we fall" and he feels that the school system is working hard to adjust to the new normal and he encourages us all to be patient and we can all get through

these times together. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Charles McDonald at 229-402-7049, Mr. Justin Lucas at 229-672-1223 or Mrs. Karen Rackley at 229-776-7718. Thank you in advance for your help.

Worth County School Nutrition

Dr. Shannon Norfleet, Superintendent

Cynthia Thomas, SNP Director



103 Eldridge Street • Sylvester, GA 31791

Phone 229-776-8600 • Fax: 229-776-8603

Worth County School Nutrition Program will provide a weekly meal box for WCSD students to pick up during the month of August. The box will contain breakfast and lunch for 1 week. Parents are allowed to pick up a box for each student in their household.

Meal Pick Up Box dates are:

Wednesday, 08/12/20

Wednesday, 08/19/20

Wednesday, 08/26/20

WCSD will have 12 pickup sites throughout the county. The refrigerated truck will remain at each site for 30 minutes. The two delivery routes and their schedule is listed below:

ROUTE 1

Henry Hall Woolard Center	709 W. Wallace Street, Sylvester, GA	10:50 – 11:20
Boulder Trail Trailer Park	Moen Drive & Calvin Street Sylvester, GA	11:30 – 12:00
Pope Park	Pope Park Sylvester, GA	12:10 – 12:40
Hamilton & Jackson Circle	Seabrook Drive @ Entrance	12:50 – 1:20
Poulan Post Office	120 Broad Street, Poulan, GA	1:30 – 2:00
Sumner Post Office	501 Main Street, Sumner, GA	2:15 – 2:45

ROUTE 2

Football Stadium	Parking lot by Home Side	10:50 – 11:20
GA 112/GA 133 Intersection	GA 112/GA133 Behind Store	11:40 – 12:10
First Baptist Acree	County Line Road US 82	12:25 – 12:55
Worthy Manor	Hass & Worthy Street	1:05 – 1:35
Oakfield	408 Whitehall St, Oakfield, GA	1:55 – 2:25
Warwick Post Office	121 Dogwood St. SW, Warwick, GA	2:35 – 3:05

Cynthia Thomas
 SNP Director
 Worth County BOE
cthomas@worthschools.net



November 3, 2020

VOTE



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1 Programs- I will develop programs centered around: depression, suicide, bullying, and water safety for our youth

2 Response Time- All calls involving the coroners office will be addressed in a timely manner.

3 Proper handling of paperwork- Any death certificates handled through the coroner's office will be returned to the prospective funeral home promptly.

4 Care Packet of unused toiletries from hotel stays to give to families that have lost homes to fire or storm damage and stuffed animal drive for kids who lose parents tragically or naturally

**ELECT
CHARLES**

**G.
MCDONALD**

**WORTH COUNTY
CORONER**



Healthy, Cute Snacks for the Fall



How incredibly adorable is this little fella? I absolutely love it! On top of it being so cute, it is healthy! Studies show that if you fix fruits and veggies into characters that our children will eat more of the healthy foods. While I know it is more work, it seems pretty worth it to me. I would eat everything on this tray but the celery sticks and ranch dressing. I absolutely love raw vegetables. There are times that I go to the grocery store, buy some veggies, come home and wash them, put them in a bowl and eat them. They are so good and delicious! Which of these veggies would you not eat and which ones could you just eat by the bowl full? Happy almost Fall y'all!

**SHAPE
YOUR
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// TAKE THE 2020 CENSUS



Have You Been Counted?

Conducted every ten years, the Census provides valuable information that dictates how our state is represented in Congress and how much federal funding our schools, public safety services, and public infrastructure receive. That's why it is important that each Georgian be counted in the 2020 Census. Your responses to the 2020 Census are safe, secure, and protected by federal law. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics, and by law, all responses to U.S. Census Bureau household and business surveys are kept completely confidential. Census results shape the future of our state for years to come, and I'd encourage each Georgian to take a few moments to complete the Census today.

~ Austin Congress, Member of Congress



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Tift Schools Move to Green Status

Tift County public schools will move to a "Green" status effective Monday, Aug. 24, which means all schools will be open for in-person instruction Mondays through Fridays and will operate in a "traditional manner" with safety protocols. Superintendent Adam Hathaway said the decision was made after conversations with local health officials and the state Department of Public Health. He said the county's COVID-19 situation has "moved in a positive direction. ... the number of positive COVID cases in Tift County continues to remain under 200 during the latest 14-day period. Our positivity rate is currently below 10, and we are also seeing fewer hospitalizations across our health district." Hathaway said the Green designation "means all students that have selected face-to-face instruction will be attending school in person Monday through Friday starting next week. All students who selected the full-time online option will not be affected by this change." Tift County's school year began Aug. 7 under a "Yellow" status, rotating physical classes with some students on a Monday and Wednesday schedule, and others on a Tuesday and Thursday schedule. Days when those students aren't physically in the classroom, they attend classes online, as they are doing this week. "Let me be very clear: Our ability to prevent direct exposures will be the key to staying 'Green.' We have worked very hard to create classroom environments that allow for physical distancing even in a Green status. Direct exposure is defined by the Department of Public Health as being six feet or closer to someone for 15 minutes or more with or without a mask," Hathaway said. "As a community, it is important we continue to take measures that slow the spread of Covid-19. Physical distancing is one of the most important steps we can take in combating the spread. Please continue to encourage your children to wash their hands and wear a mask whenever physical distancing is a challenge." In its most recent coronavirus weekly update released Friday, the Tift school system reported seven students with a positive COVID-19 status out of 7,751 students. A total of 13 students were quarantined for possible exposure; two employees had tested positive, and two employees were quarantined for possible exposure.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

WARNING: Microsoft will stop supporting Windows 7 after Jan 14th.

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Regents Put \$11.8 Million For ABAC Renovations In Budget Request

A total of \$11.8 million for renovations and new construction at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College is part of the University System of Georgia's capital budget approved at the Board of Regents' August meeting. The request now goes to the General Assembly. ABAC President David Bridges said the agricultural facilities enhancement project includes funds for renovation to existing facilities, primarily the Chambliss Building, and new construction to support ABAC's fast-growing agriculture and natural resource programs.

"We have just announced a record enrollment in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources," Bridges said. "We're supporting a portion of these students with aging buildings that were not designed for the scope or scale of programs today. Some of our students go to classes in facilities designed for the ABAC enrollment in 1971 when the Chambliss Building was constructed." Nearly 4,000 students are enrolled at ABAC this semester as compared to the 1971 fall quarter enrollment figure of 2,153 students. A record 1,371 of this year's students chose programs in the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources. "The facilities involved in this enhancement project are woefully undersized and unable to accommodate modern equipment," Bridges said. "Agriculture is a complex, high-technology business that requires leaders with general knowledge and keen problem-solving skills. Mastering these abilities requires hands-on learning. ... This upgrade will probably prolong the life of these facilities another 30 years."

Source: Tifton Grapevine

think TIFTON

This Page Brought To You By:

A stylized logo for Tifton. It features a large, colorful sun with rays in shades of blue, green, and yellow, positioned behind a road that curves from the bottom left towards the center. The sun and road are set against a white background.

TIFTON - TIFT CO. TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Prep Football Faces “New Normal” - Blue Devils, Panthers Ready for “Different” Season



Anders



Soliday

The head football coaches at Tift County High and Tiftarea Academy both said Thursday they are excited about the upcoming season and are proceeding as normal as possible during the pandemic. “It’s a new season for everybody; there are a lot of unknowns out there, but we’re taking it as normal,” said Tift County Coach Ashley Anders. “It’s different. The kids are learning. They’re used to me hollering ‘Run, run, run;’ now I’m hollering ‘Spread out, spread out, spread out.’” Tiftarea Coach Eric Soliday said, “we’re a lot like Lewis and Clark this year; we’re exploring new ways of doing things. ... As we go, the kids and everybody will get used to it.” Soliday added that he is telling his players to be “really diligent away from football” regarding their health and safety. “We’re telling them to be cautious.” Anders and Soliday both spoke to the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce during a virtual membership meeting online Thursday. They gave reports about how their teams are shaping up for this season. The Tift Blue Devils have 21 seniors this year, and “these same kids have been together since middle school,” Anders said. “Their leadership is already showing.” There are three players at the quarterback position, “and each one will be able to contribute.” He said the offensive line is young with one returning starter, and there will also be several sophomore receivers. But there is experience among the running backs. “We will be young offensively, but we’re super excited about our young positions,” the coach said. There are six Blue Devils returning to the defense including two returning starters in the secondary, Anders said. Special teams are strong with the kicker, punter and long snapper all returning. Anders is beginning his sixth year as TCHS coach and is the third-winningest coach in the school’s history. The Blue Devils open Sept. 4 at Crisp County. The first home game at Brodie Field will be Sept. 11 vs. Valdosta High. Soliday, who has been coaching for 34 years and is starting his third season at Tiftarea Academy, said the Panthers have “seven starters on both sides; the young kids will have to step up.” He said there is some depth on the offensive line but the running back position “has really been depleted the last three or four years.” Tiftarea also lost a three-year starter at quarterback, but Soliday said he has two kids at that position and, “I feel pretty good at that spot.”

The Panthers have receivers and linebackers returning this season as well as a kicker, who helped win some games last year. Soliday said Tiftarea faces a

“very tough schedule; we got stuck playing just about everybody that was in the playoffs” last year. The Panthers’ season opens Sept. 11 away at Community Christian in Stockbridge. The first home game at the Panther Pit in Chula will be on Sept. 25 against Frederica Academy.

Source: Tifton Grapevine

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TIFTON - TIFT CO. TOURISM ASSOCIATION



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What's Poppin' at Monroe Comprehensive High School

Audrianna Williams and Callie Evans explained it all by putting it in a video. Both ladies are teachers at Monroe Comprehensive High School in Albany. They wanted to welcome the students back for the new school year and wanted to do it in a fashion like no other. This school year for Dougherty County Schools, they have started out all online due to COVID-19. This rap video that the teachers have done has captured everyone's attention on the web. The two were great with their rapping and dancing skills! They enjoyed having the cheer squad for the high school join them as back up dancers in the video. "What's Poppin" is a song by Jack Harlow and he was very pleased with how the two teachers performed his song. The teachers simply did it to get the students excited for the new school year.



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**Worth County Lady Rams Softball and Worth County Rams Competition Cheerleaders worked to help pack the weekly meal boxes for Worth County School District students over the last few weeks. Thank you all for your help.
Source: WCSD**



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South Georgia Leads Graduation 2019 - 2021

Due to COVID-19 the Graduation was postponed for the South Georgia Leads program from March of 2020. The Kick-Off for the 2020 - 2021 Class was held this past Thursday and Friday. They were able to include the postponed Graduation on Wednesday at Southern Woods. Help to congratulate two of Worth County's very own that graduated, Lisa Dylinski and Karen Singletary. Also in attendance were Guest Speaker: Representative Bill Yearta, President/CEO Sylvester Worth County Economic Development and Chamber: Karen Rackley, Chair of the Worth County EDA and Chamber Jay Crowe, Worth County Commissioner Chair Fred Dent and John McPhaul with the Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Worth County now has 6 Graduates of the Leads Class. The class has graduated over 130 regional leaders in the past 4 years. To find out more about the South Georgia Leads Class visit <https://locatesouthgeorgia.com/leadership-development/>.

Worth County Graduates of South Ga Leads:

2016.2017
Kim Gilman
Karen Rackley
Karen Willis

2018.2019
Rob Martin

2019.2020
Lisa Dylinski
Karen Singletary

Source: Sylvester - Worth County Chamber of Commerce



Top picture L-R: Representative Bill Yearta, Karen Rackley, Jay Crowe and Fred Dent.

Bottom picture L-R: Lisa Dylinski, Karen Rackley and Karen Singletary.



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Georgia Peanut Festival Canceled for 2020

For over 50 years, the Georgia Peanut Festival has been a premier event in Southwest Georgia. This year, due to growing concerns for the safety of the visitors, volunteers, and vendors, the committee has made the difficult decision to cancel all activities planned for the remainder of the year. The decision to cancel was not made lightly or spur of the moment. The committee has closely monitored information from the Governor, the local health department and other entities for several months. Please know that while their hearts are saddened for 2020, they are also excited to begin work on next year's festival. Please plan on joining us in October 2021.

Source: Georgia Peanut Festival Committee



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