



FOCUS

SODEXHO Takes On Duties Today

The physical plant operation, custodial services, and grounds maintenance at ABAC are now under the direction of an internationally known company called SODEXHO as of today.

SODEXHO representative Larry Williams said the company has the biggest market share of foods and facilities management in the United States. The company operates on every continent including oil platforms in the middle of the ocean.

"We want our employees to be a part of the college," Williams, whose most recent assignment was Eckerd College, said. "SODEXHO is a very people oriented company. Three things are very important to us: the spirit of service, the spirit of innovation, and the spirit of diversity."

Williams said the company will have 43 people on duty. He said the biggest immediate change will be an improvement in the appearance of the grounds because ABAC has been understaffed in the grounds maintenance area for many years.



ABAC in the Park Becomes Reality!

President Mike Vollmer and Worth County Commissioner Joe Gaines cut the ribbon on the new ABAC in the Park location in Sylvester. English 1101 will be offered there when classes begin for the fall term on Aug. 23. Seven continuing ed classes will also be held in the new location.

Info Session Scheduled at ABAC in the Park on Tuesday

An information session on an Abraham Baldwin class in Sylvester will be held Tuesday from 6 - 7 p.m. in Sylvester at the Worth County Governmental Building, where the new ABAC in the Park is housed.

ABAC in the Park is a new set of classrooms for students to attend both credit and continuing education classes from ABAC. The college will offer English 1101 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5-6:15 p.m. in that location this fall term.

The info session will be led by Dr. Gail Dillard, Director of Evening and Off-Campus Programs. "It's an oppor-

tunity for those people who are interested in attending ABAC; especially adult students," Dillard said.

The session will cover general information, application for admission, application for financial aid, and a question and answer session. "There will still be time for students to submit their application forms for ABAC before fall semester," Dillard said.

Fall semester begins on Aug. 23. "It's not too late to apply for admissions or financial aid. Those interested parties should do so," Dillard said.

Seven continuing education classes will also be offered in Sylvester at

ABAC in the Park this fall. They include Doing Business on the Internet, Starting a Successful Business, SAT Exam-Math Preparation, SAT Exam-Verbal Preparation, Spanish for Educators, Spanish for Healthcare Workers, and Defensive Driving.

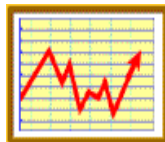
For more information on credit classes, contact the Evening Program office at (229) 386-7154 or email Dillard at gdillard@abac.edu. For more information on continuing education classes, contact the Public Service & Business Outreach Center at (229) 386-3267 or email Director Diane Kilgore at dkilgore@abac.edu.



Senkbeil High Five Winner for the Month of July

President Mike Vollmer presents Margie Senkbeil a \$50 gift certificate for winning the High Five Award drawing for the month of July. She is the Senior Secretary in the Office of Financial Aid. Senkbeil's nomination stated, "She is always willing to stay after hours and help to make sure that all of our ABAC students' financial aid files are kept up-to-date."

Numbers Still Strong For Fall



Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services Tom Call said 3,026 students are registered for the fall term as compared to 2,700 at this time last year. The fee payment deadline is Aug. 11. Students who have registered but not paid their fees must pay by that date or they will lose their schedules.

The admissions office has received 1,729 applications as compared to 1,468 at this time last year. In 2003, the admissions office received only 1,734 total applications.

Next FOCUS Aug. 16

The next edition of this prized publication will appear on your e-mail on Aug. 16. If you have info for that edition, please e-mail it to Pam Leonard by noon on Aug. 12. The FOCUS will return to its weekly schedule with that edition.

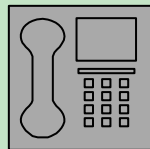
Faculty Drive to Close

In coming days, Faculty Drive behind the Carlton Center and Dining Hall will no longer be a through street. The stretch of the road from where the Pedestrian Mall crosses to the Town Hall down to the dining hall parking lot will be closed.



The reason for the closing is because with 835 students living in ABAC Place, that crossing will become quite busy with walking traffic.

Phones Still On Hold



Information Technology and Services Director Chrystle Ross said there has been little change in the implementation of the new phone system at ABAC. Most of the phones have been delivered to individual offices but will work only intra-campus. She said negotiations continue in Atlanta on a daily basis.

Kester, Ascani High Five Winners



The winner of the High Five Award drawing for the week ending July 23 was Phyllis Kester, and the winner for the week ending July 30 was Kim Ascani.

Kester is Senior Secretary in the Learning Support Office. Her nomination says, in part, "She works many extra hours administering tests...She never hesitates to work evenings or weekends when necessary and can always be counted on to go the extra mile any time she is needed. Phyllis also does a great job helping students understand their requirements and, most importantly, feel good about themselves at the same time."

Ascani is the Coordinator of the Academic Assistance Center. Her nomination says, "Kim is always upbeat and optimistic and displays an enthusiasm for ABAC and the AAC. She has done an outstanding job of identifying qualified tutors to work with students in need of tutoring assistance. Recently, she has been instrumental in expanding the tutoring and assistance services available to students at ABAC on the Square in Moultrie as well as developing additional Student Success Workshops. These are only a few examples of Kim's commitment to helping ABAC students be successful."

Each received a certificate of appreciation and a T-shirt from the ABAC Bookstore. Their names will also go into the drawing from the July weekly winners. The monthly winner will receive a gift certificate for \$50, which can be used at a number of local merchants.

Submit your nominations for fellow employees who have gone above and beyond the call of duty for this week's High Five winner. Nomination forms are available on the Human Resources page of the ABAC website.

Chamber Exposition In Gressette Aug. 12

The Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor its annual Business Expo from 3:30-7:30 p.m. on Aug. 12 in Gressette Gym. There will be many interesting exhibits from 87 businesses all over the Tifton area. Special gifts will be available for the first 100 people through the door.

Steps to College Project Accomplishes Goals on Campus

The University System of Georgia's Hispanic Pilot Project and Abraham Baldwin recently hosted the first Steps to College Summer Program.

The two week residential program was held July 11-23. The project exposed 15 Hispanic/Latino high school students to campus life at ABAC through activities and classes with ABAC faculty and staff, as well as Tift County Schools faculty, in an effort to convey the importance of a high school diploma.

The program was also designed to help students improve their academic skills in preparation for the Georgia High School Graduation Test.

Dr. Doris Roundtree, Program Director, said, "I believe that the goals of the program were accomplished based upon student participation, results of test data and anecdotal comments by participants."

Javier Gonzalez, Program Administrator, and Vonda Fenn, Workshop Coordinator, agreed that the program was a success and thank the ABAC faculty and staff for their support.



The Steps to College program recently exposed Hispanic/Latino high school students to campus life at ABAC.

Experience the Biltmore Estate at Christmas

For those who have yet to experience the grandeur of the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C., Abraham Baldwin offers a holiday getaway to see the estate in all of its Christmas finery on Dec. 3-5.

The trip is open to anyone who would like to attend. A \$100 non-refundable deposit is due Sept. 1.

For more information about the trip or to request an application, contact Diane Kilgore, Director of ABAC's Public Service and Business Outreach Center and coordinator of the trip, at (229) 386-3267, or e-mail her at dkilgore@abac.edu.

This three-day trip is a tour package designed by Kelly Tours Group Travel Specialists. The total cost of the trip is \$450. The fee is based on double occupancy for adult travelers.

The price package includes motor coach transportation, two nights lodging, all admissions, four meals, a tour director, snacks and drinks on the bus, all taxes, and luggage handling.



This holiday escape features the perfect combination of shopping, leisure time, entertainment, and sightseeing. Participants will dine at the Deerpark Restaurant, located on the grounds of the estate. After that, travelers can enjoy a candlelit tour of the estate decked out in all its holiday finery. The trip also includes a stop at the winery and shopping time at the Biltmore Village for that last minute Christmas present. The trip wraps up with a visit to the Mall of Georgia on the way back to Tifton.

ABAC Offers Alhambra Theater Trip November 6

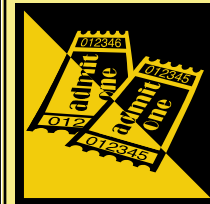
For anyone who loves musical theater, ABAC is offering a trip to see "Showboat" at the Alhambra Theater in Jacksonville, Fla., on Nov. 6.

The trip is open to anyone who would like to attend. This is a \$79 per person trip. Full payment is due with reservation.

For more information about the trip or to request an application, contact Diane Kilgore, Director of ABAC's Public Service & Business Outreach Center and coordinator of the trip, at 386-3267, or e-mail her at dkilgore@abac.edu.

During their stay, members of the travel group will receive roundtrip transportation, a lunch buffet and a live performance of "Showboat."

Reservations are on a first-come first-serve basis. Space is limited to the first 45 passengers.





ABAC Place Move In Begins on August 18

Residence Life Director Bernice Hughes said ABAC Place third floor residents will move in Aug. 18. Second floor residents will move in Aug. 19, and first floor residents will move in Aug. 20. All rooms at ABAC Place have been filled, and the waiting list has been capped at 84. A portion of that waiting list will be assigned to Comer Hall. Local apartment owners who have rooms to rent should contact Hughes at 386-3233 or bhughes@abac.edu. She will share their information with students who do not get a room at ABAC Place.

Brogdon Back to Valdosta Tech

Director of Procurement Margaret Brogdon will be leaving her position at the end of August to return to Valdosta Tech where she will serve as Director of Development.

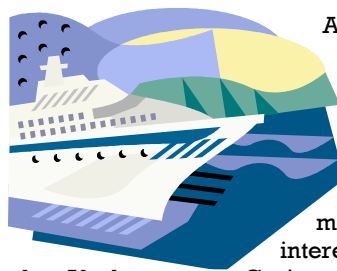
Brogdon has been an energetic part of the ABAC Family since she joined the staff in 1999. We wish her well in her new job. She will be missed.



Claxton Portrait in Lab

Former accounting professor Betty Claxton has donated a picture to hang in the Betty C. Claxton Accounting Laboratory in Conger Hall. Claxton was a faculty member at ABAC from Sept. 1, 1963 until Jan. 1, 1997.

Cruise Alaska With ABAC in 2005



Anyone planning a vacation during the summer of 2005 may be interested in

the Alaska Cruise trip offered by Abraham Baldwin's Public Service & Business Outreach Center.

The trip is open to anyone who would like to attend. For more information about the trip or to request an application, contact Diane Kilgore, Director of ABAC's Public Service & Business Outreach Center and coordinator of the trip, at (229) 386-3267, or e-mail her at dkilgore@abac.edu.

The eight-day trip is a tour package designed by Kelly Tours Group Travel

Specialists. The dates of the trip are June 18 - 25, 2005. Travel goers can choose their room accommodations. An inside cabin is \$2,149 per person; an outside cabin is \$2,479 per person; and a cabin with an outside balcony is \$2,729 per person. The fee is based on double occupancy for adult travelers.

The seven night cruise features the inside passage, a pristine waterway linking Vancouver with Alaska. Ports of call include Juneau, Ketchikan, Skagway, and Hubbard Glacier. Participants will travel via Royal Caribbean Cruise Line's "Radiance of the Sea" with plenty of nightly entertainment and first class service on board.

The price for the trip covers airport transfer from Tifton to Atlanta, round-trip airfare from Atlanta, seven night cruise, all taxes, and luggage handling.

Sewing Lab for Nurses

The former sewing lab in Bowen 126 is now a classroom to be used primarily for nursing students. The nursing faculty will vacate the Moore Building and Creswell Hall in coming days to make way for the new Health Sciences Building. Moore and Creswell will be torn down this fall along with Chandler, Mitchell, and Branch

The tentative start date for construction on the Health Sciences Building is March 1 with a projected opening date of January, 2007.



Campus Closed

8-10 a.m. on August 18

The entire ABAC campus will be closed from 8-10 a.m. on Aug. 18 as all faculty and staff members attend the opening session of the one-day fall preview and planning conference in Howard Auditorium.

The social for faculty and staff and their families will be held on the evening of Aug. 17 in the dining hall. New faculty orientation will be Aug. 16-17.

ABAC Public Relations

ABAC 30, 2802 Moore Highway
Tifton, GA 31793-2601
(229) 386-3264

New to Health Center

Tammy Allen in the new Registered Nurse in the Health Center. She began her ABAC duties on July 12.

Allen was previously the Registered Nurse for Cook High School. She is the wife of Ag Division Chair Larry Allen. Welcome, Tammy, to the ABAC Family!



Care & Concern

Janet Weaver's father, Charles Mallard, is recuperating after undergoing a heart catheterization and the placement of three stints. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Note of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to Sarah Flanagan Eggbert, former HPER Division Secretary, whose husband, Howdy Eggbert, passed away on July 18. Please remember this family in your thoughts and prayers.

Celebrating Birthdays



August

- 2 Mary Brown
- 3 Bobbie Robinson
- 3 Lyn Smith
- 6 Beth Thornton
- 8 Shirene Daniell
- 9 Jewrell Rivers
- 10 Geoff Clement
- 10 Sandra Grimsley
- 10 Gene Sawyer
- 10 Jared Vickers
- 10 Kay Weeks
- 10 Eugene Wyles
- 11 Jimmy Felton
- 11 Barbara Wood
- 12 Sharry Sackor
- 12 Duane Weeks

SGA Water Garden Freshens Student Center

The Student Government Association funded a new water garden just outside the lower level of the J. Lamar Branch Student Center. Stop by and take a look.



Note of Thanks

The Regents' Test was administered on July 12 in Moultrie and July 13 in Tifton to a total of 136 students. Thank you to the following who helped with the administrations: Ellen Bullington, Annie Sims, Dr. Jonathan Harrington, Phyllis Kester, Phyllis Bennett, Dr. Gail Dillard, Kay Powell, Dr. Bobbie Robinson, Cathy Rogers, Dr. Luke Vassiliou, Anita Williams, and Jack Larry.
Dr. Maggie Martin

ABAC Family

Annie Sims and Sherin Nixon administered the Institutional SAT to 38 students on July 20.

Bam Pirkle successfully passed the Certified Administrative Professional Exam, which she took at Jacksonville Community College on May 7. The CAP designation will be added to her CPS (Certified Professional Secretary) designation which she earned in 1996. Both of these designations require recertification every five years.

Dr. Ed Seagle has visited and assessed 43 interns this summer located in the outlined area from Hobe Sound, Fla., to Charleston, S.C., to Huntsville, Ala., to Panama City, Fla.

Dr. Maggie Martin was certified as a University of Michigan English Language Institute MELAB Oral Examiner on July 20.

Calendar of Events

Thursday, August 5

8 a.m.-Georgia Dept. of Education Testing Division Meeting (Cordell Conf. Room/ Conger Hall)

Friday, August 6

8 a.m.-Georgia Dept. of Education Testing Division Meeting (Cordell Conf. Room/ Conger Hall)

6 p.m.-Pate/Creech Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

Sunday, August 7

3 p.m.-Pate/Creech Wedding (Chapel)

Monday, August 9

Tifton-Tift Co. Arts Council Meeting (Cordell Conf. Room A)

Wednesday, August 11

9 a.m.-Georgia First Lady's Summit (Cordell Conf. Room)

10 a.m.-Business Expo Set Up (Gressette Gym)

Thursday, August 12

3:30 p.m.-Tifton/Tift County Chamber of Commerce Business Expo (Gressette Gym)

Sunday, August 14

8 a.m.-Hunter Safety Course (Cordell Conf. Room)

6 p.m.-Run For Love (ABAC Campus)

Sunday, August 15

2 p.m.-Hunter Safety Course (Cordell Conf. Room A)

Monday, August 16

8:30 a.m.-New Faculty Orientation
Noon-New Faculty Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

4 p.m.-Evening Orientation (Ag Sciences Building)