



FOCUS

ABAC Place Apartments Filling Up Fast

A total of 525 of the 835 available rooms have been reserved for the fall term at the brand new ABAC Place apartments.

Vice President for Student and Enrollment Services Tom Call said students who wish to live in the \$32 million complex, which features fully furnished private rooms for all students, should get their housing applications in the pipeline.

"Reservations are moving along really well," Call said. "We receive 10 to 15 new reservations a day. We are encouraging people to register early because we are expecting to be full this fall."

The ABAC Foundation sponsored the mammoth project, which is the largest privatized housing development at a two-year college in the United States. Most of the units are four-bedroom, two-bath with a completely furnished kitchen and living area.

Each bedroom is equipped with a double bed, desk, chair, a chest of drawers, extra storage space underneath the bed, a closet, and a ceiling fan. Students can also access the internet and cable television in their rooms. Each room also has a phone jack.

The kitchen includes a microwave, stove, oven, refrigerator, and garbage disposal. Students who live at ABAC Place are not required to purchase a meal ticket although optional meal plans will be available for on-campus dining.

Call said students will be asked to sign a 12-month lease with a cost ranging from \$345 to \$360 per month. This price covers all utilities.

"The best thing about these apartments is that students are right in the center of the campus," Call said. "Since the apartments are fully fur-



ABAC President Mike Vollmer talks with visitors to ABAC Place. When fall semester begins, 835 students are expected to be living in the complex.

nished, students can move right in with their clothes, kitchen utensils, and their televisions."

Call said all ABAC students must live on campus unless they are 21 years of age or older, they have accumulated 30 or more semester hours, they are married, they have children, or they live less than 50 miles away from the college.

"An extra bonus for these students is that we now have the Town Hall open," Call said. "I think that place is going to be one of the gathering spots on campus."

The Town Hall is a 10,000 square foot facility which includes a game room, exercise room, wide screen television viewing area, a computer room, a meeting room, and coming soon, a

convenience store. Just outside the Town Hall is a white sand volleyball court. Grills and a gazebo will also be added on the Pedestrian Mall which will run through the middle of ABAC Place.

ABAC Place opened in January when 200 students from Chandler Hall moved into the facility. Chandler Hall was demolished to make way for the remainder of the project. Fulwood, Mitchell, and Branch halls will be demolished in the fall. Former residents of those buildings will be living in ABAC Place when classes begin on Aug. 23 for the fall term.

For more information about living in ABAC Place, interested students can contact Place Properties in the Town Hall at (229) 391-2500.

Nursing Becomes Single Largest Major at College

For the first time ever, the nursing program is the single largest major at Abraham Baldwin, with almost 800 students involved in that curriculum.

Many job opportunities are available in the field of nursing due to the current shortage in the nursing occupation. With incentives like sign-on bonuses and offers of paid relocation, the interest in nursing is growing steadily. And the same is true of the nursing population at ABAC.

"As of now, there are currently 297 new students enrolled in nursing for fall semester. By fall there should be over 500 additional students in pre-nursing courses," said Wanda Golden, Chair of ABAC's Division of Nursing and Health Services.

There are also other changes taking place within the Division of Nursing. "There has been an increase in the number of younger students entering into the nursing field," said Golden.

Another trend change is the increase in younger males, and males in general, entering the program. Golden said, "We had seven male graduates this past semester. That is double the amount we have had previously. Usually we have older male applicants."

The third change taking place in the field of nursing is the growing number of people who are getting into nursing as a second career. "Non-traditional students make up 65 percent of our population," said Golden. "We've also had students who were husband and wife, parent and child, or siblings attending the program together."

There are two ABAC programs available for those interested in the nursing field. Those with no medical background or experience can take the two year program. This consists of learning the basics and then building on them through the semesters. Those who



ABAC nursing major Karen Greeson talks with Tift County High School students who visited ABAC's Nursing Division last year

choose to get their R.N. degree this way sometimes opt for getting their core classes out of the way in order to focus solely on their nursing courses later. As a result, the program could take three years to complete.

The average pass rate for the Registered Nurse Licensing Exam at ABAC has consistently been in the 90 percent range, with last year's range at 94.9 percent.

The second ABAC program is geared to those participants who have some form of medical training. It's to provide advanced placement status to people who already have the experience as an LPN, paramedic, respiratory therapist, or surgical technician. Unlike the regular nursing program, this is a once a week endeavor on Wednesdays. Students in this program are ready to take

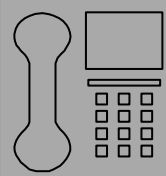
the R.N. licensing exam in 12 months.

Participants interested in either program must apply to both ABAC and the Division of Nursing. The deadline for admission to the two-year degree program for spring is Sept. 15. For those persons already in the medical field, the admission deadline for the transition program is Feb. 15 for the term starting in June, 2005.

Financial assistance is available for both programs. For more information on that assistance, contact the Financial Aid office at (229) 386-3235. For more information on the nursing programs available, go to www.abac.edu for online applications or contact the Nursing Division at (229) 386-3262.

Plans are now underway for the groundbreaking of the new nursing building later this year.

New Phone System Training This Week



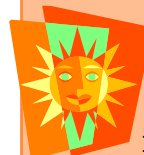
Dr. Chrystle Ross reports that the new phone system at ABAC is still on hold. She said technical setup has gone well, and training on the

new system is set to begin Wednesday.

Ross said the delay in the system's implementation is because of ongoing

dialogue between the University System of Georgia and BellSouth. Once an agreement is worked out, the new phones will be in use almost immediately.

Yes, ABAC will have some new phone numbers. Once a time to begin the system is set, you'll be hearing much, much more about that. Stay tuned for more information on the new system.



Summer Term Begins Today

Summer term classes begin today at Abraham Baldwin and continue through July 26. Final exams are scheduled July 27-28. There is one holiday during the summer term on July 5. All offices at the college will be closed on that date. Last year's summer term enrollment of 1,567 was an alltime high.

Perry and Biggs High Five Winners



Keith Perry, an instructor in the Division of Humanities, was the winner of the weekly High Five Award drawing for the last week of May. He was also the winner of the monthly drawing as well. As the weekly winner, Perry wins the High Five T-shirt, donated by the ABAC Bookstore. As the monthly winner for May he wins the \$50 gift certificate.

Perry was one of 12 faculty and staff members who served at the Midnight Breakfast for students. All 12 servers were nominated for the High Five Award with the comment: "If serving breakfast to our students at midnight to the wee hours of the morning isn't going above and beyond, I don't know what is."

Cheryl Biggs, Academic Career Specialist with Student Support Services, was the High Five winner for the week ending June 4. Biggs was nominated for going the extra mile in helping clear up an obstacle for a graduating student. Her nomination said, "Everyone won in this case, the student, his family, and ABAC."

Submit your nominations for the faculty and staff members 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.



President Mike Vollmer presented Keith Perry a gift certificate and T-shirt for winning the High Five Award for May.

New to Admissions

Shelley Dominy has joined the ABAC staff as a parttime admissions counselor. She is an ABAC alumna who graduated in 2001 with high honors. She also graduated summa cum laude from Georgia Southwestern in 2003 with a B.S. in history and is currently pursuing a M.A. in history at Valdosta State. She lives in Tifton.

While at ABAC, Dominy was a member of the tennis team, Honors Program, and Phi Theta Kappa. Welcome her back to ABAC!

Master Planners on Campus June 22

Personnel from Sasaki Associates, Inc., will be on campus June 22-23 for an on-site visit concerning the new Master Plan for ABAC. President Mike Vollmer said the planners will look at Abraham Baldwin's existing facilities and make recommendations on the best use of those facilities for the future.

The firm will also suggest new and innovative ways to use our 421-acre campus. The planners will explore every nook and cranny of ABAC and have already asked lots of questions. Don't be surprised if they visit your area of expertise.

Chambliss Visits ABAC

Julianne Chambliss, wife of Senator Saxby Chambliss, was the guest speaker at the fourth annual women's seminar sponsored by the ABAC Foundation, ABAC's Public Service and Business Outreach Center, Tift Regional Medical Center, and First Community Bank. Assistant Director of Development Betty McCorvey said the event held in the Donaldson Dining Hall was well attended.

Gay Joins Moultrie Location



Keisha Gay is the new administrative assistant at ABAC on the Square in Moultrie. She replaces Debbie Cagle, who accepted a position with an assisted living facility in Moultrie.

An honor graduate of Colquitt County High School and ABAC, Gay recently received her B.A. degree in history from Valdosta State University.

Join the Evening and Off-Campus Programs staff in welcoming Gay back to ABAC.



ABAC Public Relations

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



Flag Course June 14

Celebrate Flag Day on June 14 by enrolling in a 2-hour class on the United States flag. The cost is only \$19, and you'll learn some neat facts on folding, caring for, and displaying the flag. Call Public Service at 3267 to sign up.

Note of Sympathy

The ABAC Family expresses sympathy to Howard and Debra McCrary upon the death of Howard's mother, Virginia McCrary. She passed away on May 30. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

Positions Open

ABAC:

- Registered Nurse, Health Center (deadline 6/14)
Salary \$32,000-\$34,000

Darton:

- Director of Admissions
Salary \$45,000-65,000

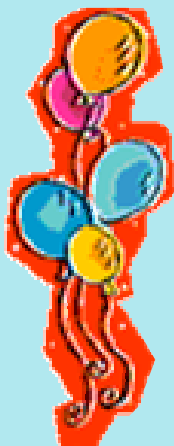
Southern Poly:

- Architectural Designer I
Salary \$30,982
- Head Baseball Coach
Salary \$34,500-\$37,000
- Assistant Women's Basketball Coach
Salary \$23,119

Contact Human Resources for details.

Celebrating Birthdays June

- 8 Howard McCrary
- 8 Cathy Newton
- 8 Chrystle Ross
- 13 Larry McGruder
- 13 Vickie Walker
- 15 Albert Kress
- 15 James May
- 16 Frederick Godin
- 16 Danny Hayes
- 17 Van McGriff
- 19 John Lindsey
- 20 Gaye Elder
- 21 Tom Call
- 21 Charles Harvey



Summer Hours for Dining Hall Announced

The Donaldson Dining Hall will re-open its Monday through Friday food service operation on June 14. It is closed this week. Breakfast will be available from 7-8:30 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., and dinner from 4:30-6 p.m. There will be no evening meal on Fridays, and no weekend service.

The regular faculty-staff lunch will be

on Wednesdays in the Magnolia Room from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. The cost for all meals is \$5.25 per person. The snack bar in the Student Center is now closed.

Summer term students will not have a regular meal plan but can eat in the dining hall at the \$5.25 per person cost. A number of summer campers will also be using the dining hall.

Pool Passes Available

Summertime is here, and pool passes to the ABAC Olympic size pool are now available at no charge to ABAC faculty and staff and their immediate families who are living with them.

The pool is now open from 3-7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 1-6 p.m. Friday through Sunday.



Next FOCUS June 21

The next edition of this prized publication will appear on your e-mail on June 21. If you have items for the FOCUS please e-mail them by noon on June 17 to pleonard@abac.edu.

Calendar of Events

Monday, June 7

Today—Summer term classes begin

Tuesday, June 8

6 p.m.—Eating Etiquette (Magnolia Rm)

Friday, June 11

6 p.m.—Pitts/Athos Wedding Rehearsal (Chapel)

6:30 p.m.—Pitts/Athos Rehearsal Dinner (Magnolia Room)

Saturday, June 12

8 a.m.—National ACT

1 p.m.—Pitts/Athos Wedding (Chapel)

2 p.m.—Pitts/Athos Wedding Reception (Dining Hall)

Sunday, June 13

Noon—Lee Saye Class (Magnolia Room)

Monday, June 14

9 a.m.—Upward Bound (Chapel)

6 p.m.—Tifton/Tift Co. Arts Council Board (Cordell Conf. Room A)

Wednesday, June 16

11 a.m.—Faculty/Staff Luncheon (Magnolia Room)

Thursday, June 17

2:30 p.m.—Upward Bound (Chapel)

Friday, June 18

3 p.m.—Police Academy Graduation (Cordell Conf. Room)

7 p.m.—Miss Forestry Pageant Dinner (Dining Hall)

Saturday, June 19

5 p.m.—EMS Class Graduation Banquet (Magnolia Room)

7 p.m.—Kelley/Thaba Wedding Reception (Dining Hall)

Sunday, June 20

Today—Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

1 p.m.—Pittman Family Reunion (Dining Hall)

Monday, June 21

Today—Natural Resources Conservation Workshop

Care and Concern

Diane Jackson had emergency surgery while on vacation in Mexico earlier in May. She is now back home and doing fine.

Note of Thanks

Dear ABAC Family,
Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during our hour of sorrow. I am happy to be a part of the ABAC Family.

Sharry Sackor & Family

ABAC Family

Michael Chason spoke on ABAC at the Sylvester Kiwanis Club on June 2. He also called the names at the Tift County High School graduation ceremony on May 22.

Kip Hall attended the workshop "New Guidelines for Oak Regeneration" at State College, Pennsylvania on May 20.

In recruiting efforts during the last two weeks in May, **Carlos Howard** visited Frederica Academy, Windsor Forest, Beach, McIntosh, Randolph-Clay, Social Circle, Tri-County, and Seminole high schools. **Angie Palmer** visited Worth County High School, and **Robin Poor** visited Luella High School.