



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Fireworks and Clovers & Co. Performance at Museum July 3

Spectacular fireworks will explode in the skies over Tifton, and the voices of a national acclaimed singing group will fill the air at the annual Independence Day Celebration on July 3 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC.



Clovers & Co., includes 48 talented singers, dancers, and instrumentalists from across the state. Established in 1981, Clovers & Co., celebrates its 32nd anniversary this year. Performing arts is one of the

most popular projects in the Georgia 4-H program, and the group was created to provide 4-H members with an opportunity to share their talents with others. Over 160 members of 4-H audition during the annual statewide tryouts for positions in the show cast.

from Ben Hill County, Coke Blackwell from Thomas County, Rachel Grimsley from Seminole County, and Cody Swint, Hannah French, and Destan Musgrove from Crisp County. The show features 45 minutes of singing and dancing backed by a live band. Additionally, several members of the cast will be featured as soloists. Songs of the past and present are combined in a fast-paced family show designed for all ages. The theme for the show this year is "Higher".

Clovers & Co., the famous Georgia 4-H performing arts group, will begin the evening with a 7:15 p.m. concert. Gates to the Museum will open at 6 p.m. Free slices of watermelon and activities for children will also be a part of the celebration. Food vendors will offer delicious foods or visitors can pack their own coolers. There will be a \$10 charge per vehicle (up to 8 passengers) at the gate.

This year's very talented group includes two Tiftonites. Bowen Thornton, son of Vann and Marlene Thornton, and Caelan Berry, son of John and Robin Berry, will perform alongside others from the area including Tifara Brown

For additional information about this event, interested persons can contact GMA Gallery Coordinator Polly Huff at [phuff@abac.edu](mailto:phuff@abac.edu).



### Scott Represented ABAC during Congressional Baseball Game

United States Congressman Austin Scott sported an ABAC baseball jersey during the annual Congressional baseball game between the Republicans and Democrats last week in Washington, D.C. The event raised more than \$300,000 for area charities including The Washington Literacy Center, The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington and The Washington Nationals Dream Foundation.

*Next  
Orientation:  
Friday  
Check-in begins @  
8 a.m. in Gressette*

### Georgia Power Donates \$3000 to ABAC Foundation

Lynn Lovett (right), Area Manager of the Georgia Power Company and incoming Vice-Chair of the ABAC Foundation, presented the ABAC Foundation a check for \$3,000 from the Georgia Power Foundation to benefit the ABAC General Scholarship Fund. The Georgia Power Foundation has been supporting ABAC through monetary gifts for over two decades. Jodie Snow, Chief Operating Officer of the ABAC Foundation received the check.





## ABAC Campers Learn Fine Points of Archery

A total of 160 high school students from 75 Georgia counties spent this week at the Natural Resources Conservation Workshop at ABAC. The campers enjoyed classes which covered everything from archery to animals. Faculty and staff members from the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources at ABAC helped to coordinate the camp.



## Eagle Scout Project Enhances Wildlife Habitat at the Museum

Daniel Fisher (left), from Boy Scout Troop 62 in Tifton, enhanced the wildlife habitat and educational opportunities at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture through his Eagle Scout Project of constructing and placing Wood Duck boxes at the museum. Matthew Fisher (center) and Daniel Smith (right) assisted Fisher with installing the boxes on Lake Agrirama.



## FFA/FCCLA Recruitment

ABAC representatives have attended weekly appreciation dinners each Wednesday at the FFA/FCCLA Camp in Covington to talk with advisors/teachers (many are ABAC alums) and to the campers. Many of the camp counselors are ABAC students or graduates. In total, the college will reach 3,000 students and 250 teachers/advisors through this activity.



## Smith Retires After 11 Years at ABAC

Otis Smith retired after 11 years at ABAC. He worked for the college before making the transition to Sodexo when they took over facilities management in 2004. Members of the Sodexo team surprised Smith with celebration in his honor last week.

## Catanazarita Named Grounds Crew Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Bill Catanazarita for being named Employee of the Month of the ABAC Grounds crew. He was voted on by his colleagues and was awarded a gas card for his hard work!



## ABAC Birthdays

18 David Bridges      20 Jessica Willcox      21 Amy Warren  
 23 Janet Haughton      26 Sandra Giles      27 Deborah McComas      29 Renata Elad

The FOCUS is an electronic publication produced by the ABAC Public Relations Office.

Please submit information by **Thursday at noon** to Ashley Mock at [amock@abac.edu](mailto:amock@abac.edu) for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

## ABAC Hosts Active Shooter Training

The ABAC Police Department in conjunction with the Tift County Sheriff's Office and Tifton Police Department conducted Active Shooter Training in Weltner Hall last week. The training is held annually at a different school in the county. Officers are put in a scenario to create an active shooter situation. Real guns are used with simulation paint bullets to make the situation as real as possible. Officers were also taken on a tour of the ABAC residence halls, so they would be familiar with the building in case of an emergency.

