Former President Carter To Cut Ribbon at Exhibit Opening Saturday

Former President Jimmy Carter will assist in the ribbon cutting at the brand new exhibit opening on Saturday at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, operated by ABAC.

“Jimmy Carter: Georgia’s Native Son” will open at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday along with another rare exhibit, “Mules & Presidents: The Folk Pottery of Huey and Anne Wheeler”. Dr. Jay Hakes, director of the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, will attend the exhibit opening.

The exhibit chronicles President Carter’s remarkable life, from his roots in Plains to his White House years and humanitarian career through The Carter Center. The display is packed with rare photos and artifacts, giving viewers a snapshot of President Carter’s life as a peanut farmer, politician, president, humanitarian, and Nobel Peace Prize winner. It was assembled last year and displayed at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport until September, 2011.

ABAC President David Bridges said Carter was instrumental in the creation of the Agrirama when he was the governor of Georgia.

“It is fitting that a display honoring America’s former President be displayed at Georgia’s Museum of Agriculture,” said Bridges. “We are excited to have President Carter attending the opening and to work with the Carter Center to bring this display to south Georgia.”

This event is sponsored by The Peanut Institute Foundation, a non-profit organization that supports nutrition research and develops educational programs to encourage healthful lifestyles; and by Frank and Janet McGill. Frank McGill is an ABAC alumnus (Class of ’49) who was the first recipient of the Georgia Peanut Commission Hall of Fame Award.

The “Mules & Presidents” exhibit will feature a sample of Huey and Anne Wheeler’s work on loan from collectors from across the country and several never before displayed pieces, including a life-size face jug of President Jimmy Carter bearing his signature, documented to be the only piece of pottery in existence bearing the signature of a President of the United States.

Both exhibits will run simultaneously at the museum. The pottery exhibit will remain open until Jan. 7, 2012, and the Jimmy Carter exhibit will be at the Museum until April, 2012. Exhibit hours are from 9-4:30 p.m., Tuesday-Saturday.

Fillies Home Soccer Schedule

Oct. 4—Middle Georgia—4 p.m.
Oct. 7—Georgia Perimeter—5 p.m.
Oct. 12—Darton—5 p.m.
Oct. 17—South Georgia—4 p.m.

Baldwin Players Announce Cast for ‘Rabbit Hole’

Five cast members have been selected for “Rabbit Hole”, the Baldwin Players’ upcoming fall production at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. The cast will include Laura Cerone, Kaitlin Croft, Mauricio Soto, Michelle North, and Cory Rogers. Noelle Stuart will serve as assistant director of the production.

Cerone is a pre-nursing major from Bainbridge; North is an early childhood education major from Tifton; Rogers is an engineering major from Enigma; Soto is a medicine major from Wray; and Stuart is an agribusiness and agricultural communication major from Coolidge. Croft is a student at Tift County High School.

“Rabbit Hole” is a play that deals with the variety of ways family members cope with loss, grief, and healing. Written by David Lindsay-Abaire, “Rabbit Hole” was the recipient of the 2007 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and was nominated for four Tony Awards in 2006, garnering Cynthia Nixon the Tony in the Best Actress – Play category. It received its first full production in New York in 2006, and it has also been produced by regional theatres in cities such as Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

The production dates for “Rabbit Hole” are Nov. 10 – 12 at 7:30 p.m. on the third floor of Conger Hall, Room 319. Tickets are free to faculty, staff, and students with ABAC ID. The general public can purchase tickets at the door for $5.

For more information on “Rabbit Hole”, interested persons can contact Dr. John Galyean, Director of the Baldwin Players, at (229) 391-4960 or via email at jgalyean@abac.edu.

Please join President Bridges for the fall semester Town Hall meeting on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. in Bowen Hall, Room 100. The ABAC Ambassadors will serve refreshments for everyone at 3 p.m.

ABAC Stallion Day

Mark your calendar: November 12
Dr. Zsuzsanna Boegre, Fulbright Scholar, presented a lecture on the Healthcare System in Hungary, to the Rotary Club in Moultrie on Sept. 20. Dr. Gail Dillard joined her at Rotary.

Forges and Fiddles at Museum of Agriculture on Saturday

From the mighty hammer of the village blacksmith to the time-honored tunes of a back porch fiddler, the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village will resonate with a variety of sounds on Saturday at the “Forges and Fiddles” event during the month-long Fall Frolics festivities.

Now operated by ABAC, the Museum sponsors Fall Frolics every Saturday in October which focus on arts and culture in the 19th century.

Guest blacksmiths Ken and Laura Averyt, along with the Museum’s own blacksmith, Brian Butler, will offer demonstrations from 9 a.m. – noon, and visitors can come to the Forge from noon – 3 p.m. to make their own simple piece to take home.

“Forges and Fiddles” will also include the official opening for exhibits of “Jimmy Carter: Georgia’s Native Son” and “Mules and Presidents: The Folk Art of Huey and Ann Wheeler”, a peanut-themed reception hosted by the Tifton Farmers’ Market and the Hilton Garden Inn. Homemade soap-making will also be one of the highlights of the day.

A variety of food will be on sale, including the traditional fare of boiled peanuts, chicken salad sandwiches, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, barbecue chicken sandwiches, and pimento cheese sandwiches.

Other events in the Fall Frolics lineup include the Harvest Celebration on Oct. 15, Critter Saturday on Oct. 22, and Trick or Treat in the Village on Oct. 29. The village becomes haunted on Oct. 28-29 with spooky tours, haunted train rides, costume contests, and broom-making. Each Fall Frolics Saturday will feature a Family Farm Ball Activity.

The pumpkin patch and corn maze will also be open to the general public every Saturday in October from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. For $5, children and adults can pick their own pumpkins, navigate their way through the Georgia-shaped corn maze, explore the fall play-scape and ride the steam train. To tour the village, regular admission is required.

During the week, field trips will be available through the Museum to the pumpkin patch and corn maze. Interested persons can contact Tonia Carpenter to schedule a class visit at (229) 391-5205 or at tcarpenter@abac.edu.

For more information on these and other upcoming events, interested persons can contact the Museum at (229) 391-5200 or visit the Museum’s website at www.abac.edu/museum.

ABAC Family Weekend Starts Friday

Visit the family weekend website at www.abac.edu/familyweekend for a complete schedule of events. Contact Rebecca Coffer at 4918 for more info.

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

Please submit any information by Thursday at noon to Ashley Williamson at awilliamson@abac.edu for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

ABAC Family

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ABAC Birthdays

4 Mary Ellen Hicks
5 Etta Lee
7 Vonda Fenn
7 Teresa Williams
8 Gabby Ramirez
9 Becca Arnold
9 Cindy Barber

TCHS Near Peer Participants Visit Campus

Tift County High School Near Peer participants visited the ABAC campus Sept. 22. The ABAC College Coaches (pictured in blue shirts) gave the students a tour of campus. The Near Peer Program is funded through the USG with the goal of helping academically prepared first-generation college students apply and be admitted to college.