



# FOCUS

## ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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### Cordele Coed Wins 45th Ms. ABAC Crown

Kristen Card, a junior biology major from Cordele, took home the title in the 45th annual Ms. ABAC contest on Tuesday night.

Sponsored by Circle C Industries of Cordele, Card also won the interview portion of the event, which was produced by the ABAC Ag Business Club. Card is the daughter of Chris and Cheryl Card of Cordele.

Other finalists included Sarah O'Neal, a Rural Studies Writing and Communication major from Tifton, first runner-up; Victoria Powell, a biology major from Metter, second runner-up; Cassidy Reeh, a Rural Studies Writing and Communication major from Lexington, S.C., third runner-up; and Caraline Gordon, a Dental Hygiene major from Moultrie, fourth runner-up.

Reeh won the essay competition, and Powell received both the Peoples' Choice award and the Ms. Congeniality award.

Former Ms. ABAC winners recognized at the event included Missy Ball from 1989, Beth Lee Garner from 1992, Valerie Nettles Touchstone from 1985, Tracy Fulp Cornelius from 1984, Allison Day Poole from 2003, Savannah Brown from 2010, and Laurel Higginbotham from 2011.

Kristen Ray, Ms. ABAC 2013,



Kristen Card (center), Finalist in the top five include (pictured left to right): Caraline Gordon, fourth runner-up; Victoria Powell, second runner-up; Card, Ms. ABAC 2014; Sarah O'Neal, first runner-up; and Cassidy Reeh, third runner-up.

crowned Card as the finale of the evening before a standing room only crowd in Howard Auditorium.



### ABAC Qualifies for Business Plan Finals

Stafford School of Business participated in the TiE-Atlanta Young Entrepreneurs University Business Plan Competition this past Saturday. The ABAC team placed in the top eight while competing among schools such as Emory, UGA, Georgia Tech, and Kennesaw State. The ABAC team will compete in the finals in April. Pictured from left to right: JT Ramsey, Lindsay Partridge, Rick Sigma, Elisabeth O'Quinn and Gabby Hernandez. Sigma is a business consultant for the Small Business Development Center at the University of West Georgia and served as a coach during the completion. Dill Driscoll, Dean of the Stafford School of Business made the trip to Atlanta with the team.



### Students Serve Appreciation Breakfast to Faculty and Staff

Members of BCM, ABAC Honors Program, Equestrian Club and Sigma Alpha took time out to cook and serve breakfast to faculty and staff. This breakfast was hosted to show that students appreciate each and every faculty and staff member at ABAC.

Don't forget  
**Stallion Day April 5**  
More info to come

## Marshall Honored at Young Farmers Convention

Dr. Tim Marshall was awarded honorary membership into the organization during the Georgia State Young Farmers Convention held in Augusta. Marshall was selected for this honor for his many years of service to agriculture and agricultural education. During the presentation, the speaker emphasized that Marshall has been a valuable asset to Georgia Agricultural Education and the Georgia Young Farmers program. He has served on the state agricultural education curriculum committee, supported many Young Farmer and FFA activities throughout the state, and serves as a liaison between our students and post-secondary education. Marshall has always strived to ensure that ABAC and Georgia Ag Education are strong partners.

Pictured: Derrick Wooten, Georgia Young Farmers Treasurer, presenting Marshall with his red jacket and plaque.



## Spring Break Dining Hall Hours

*The Aggie C-store* will close March 14 at 2 p.m. and will reopen from March 17-20 from 11 a.m. -3 p.m. and will reopen on March 23 for normal business hours.

*The Lakeside C-store* will close March 14 at 11 p.m. and reopen March 23 for normal business hours.

*The Pizza Hut & Subconnection* will be open for normal business hours on March 14-15. On March 16 they will be open from 11 a.m. -7 p.m. and will close from March 17-20. It will reopen for normal business hours starting March 22.

*The Dining Hall* will close after lunch on March 14 and reopen for normal business hours on March 24.



## Greeks Represent ABAC in Memphis, Tenn.

Members of Sigma Alpha and Alpha Gamma Rho were privileged to travel to Memphis, TN for their annual Leadership Conference. While attending the conference they were able to network with many agricultural companies such as Monsanto and Zoetis. The young men and women attended various workshops in which they learned things such as ways to handle conflict in a professional manner and ways to improve and maintain your credit score. The trip was a educational opportunity for all that attended. Picture (Left to Right): Alex Christidis, Nathan Dupree, Brandon Douberly, Kevin Vantrees, Paul Willis, Shari Willis, Becky Shirley, Jesse Still, Haley Webb, Whitney Sandiford

Don't miss out on all the fun of  
*Homecoming Weekend,*  
April 4-6, register now!  
[www.abac.edu/alumni](http://www.abac.edu/alumni)

## Rural Studies Students Visit Juvenile Court

Dee Patterson, Director of Coastal Plain CASA, speaks to students in the RLST 3050 Practical Applications in Community Organizations class taught by Lisa Lacy. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) volunteers work to help foster care children find safe, permanent homes where they can thrive. Each volunteer advocate is specially trained to be a powerful voice for these children's best interests. Class member Jessie VanDeVelde, a Rural Studies - Social and Community Development major from Omega, GA, serves as a trained CASA Volunteer.



# Museum Will Reunite Family Photographed in Tifton 105 Years Ago

A family reunion of unbelievable magnitude, a stirring presentation by Massachusetts historian Joe Manning, and a workshop centering on oral history will be the highlights of the Lewis Hine exhibit scheduled to open at 1:30 p.m. on March 15 at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village (GMA) at ABAC.

The Georgia Humanities Council recently awarded the Museum a grant which will allow GMA Curator Polly Huff and a group of English professors from ABAC the opportunity to bring to life the story of a series of photographs taken in Tifton in 1909.

Huff said the photographs were taken by Lewis Hine, a social reformer of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, who was hired in 1908 by the National Child Labor Committee to take photographs of children near or inside workplaces in an effort to expose their plight and eradicate child labor. He used his camera to document the conditions of the working class in the factories and mills of the urban and rural parts of the United States.

Though his research focused mainly on children working in the textile mills of the northeastern states, one of the most moving and remarkable stories revolves around a set of photographs he took at the H.H. Tift Cotton Mill in Tifton on Jan. 22, 1909. The photographs depict a family who worked at the mill.

One of those photos caught the attention of Manning. Through years of research beginning with an ad Manning placed in the Tifton Gazette in 2006, he identified the woman in the photos as Catherine Young, the widow of a sharecropper who came to Tifton to live



Children working at H.H. Tift Cotton Mill in 1909.

in the mill village and work in the mill with nine of her 11 children.

The Young family photographs, along with the story of the family, have been transformed into a mobile exhibit, the Museum's first portable educational outreach tool that will be available to other institutions and schools. The display has already toured Tift County schools. Students at ABAC have worked with the GMA staff to create accompanying curriculum materials and an extensive publicity packet to go with the mobile exhibit.

With the help of community partner South Georgia Banking Company, the GMA will bring Manning to Tifton for the presentation on March 15.

"This is not just a history lesson, but a deeply moving personal story," Huff said of the presentation.

"The plight and the outcome of Catherine Young and her children are compelling," Manning said. "The descendants, mostly because of seven of the children going to the orphanage, had very little knowledge of what happened to the family until I took an interest in the Hine photos, which they had never seen. "

These descendants will gather together in Tifton where Young and her children were photographed 105 years ago, and many of those descendants will be seeing, for the first time, relatives they had never heard of until the story of the family was written by Manning. It will be a family reunion, and a touching meeting between the family and the man who uncovered their story and connected them to each other.

"This event is really a celebration to honor each and every member of this family who are all important characters in an epic story of struggle and courage," Manning said.

Manning's hour-long presentation will explain how he first got interested in the Hine photos of the Young family, how he was able to track down their identities, and finally, their living descendants. An oral history workshop sponsored by ABAC's School of Liberal Arts with emphasis on tracking down family history will be presented by Professor Dianne Wilcox, Chair of the Humanities Division at Georgia Military College. The workshop will take place immediately after Manning's presentation.

Descendants of the Young family will travel from as far north as Maryland and as far west as California to meet each other and to meet Manning. There will be a time for questions from the audience. A total of 40 descendants from 11 states have been asked to be present for the opening of the exhibit.

Huff said there is no charge for the presentation, exhibit preview, and history workshop. However, anyone planning to attend must register prior to March 15 by calling (229) 391-5222.

## First Tuesday Concert at 7 p.m. in Chapel

A "Night of Classical Guitar" featuring Dr. Francois Fowler will be the First Tuesday Concert on Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Chapel of All Faiths at ABAC. The First Tuesday series spotlights regional professional artists on the first Tuesdays of five months during the year. All First Tuesday performances are open to the public at no charge. For more information on the concert, interested persons can contact Roe at [sroe@abac.edu](mailto:sroe@abac.edu).



## Rural Studies Professional Career Panel

The School of Human Sciences and the School of Nursing & Health Sciences recently hosted a Career Panel. During the panel students were introduced to practicing professionals in career fields of public service. The panel was comprised of a nurse, hospice social worker, counselor, public health educator, and probation officer. The event was very informative and attracted both current and prospective students.



## Wildlife Society Hosts Beast Feast Saturday at Museum

On Saturday the ABAC Wildlife Society will host their 2nd annual Beast Feast at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture in the conference room. This wildlife supper will allow patrons to sample a variety of dishes prepared from venison, wild hog, alligator, bobcat, various fish species, and more. Raffles will be held at the supper, items including artwork from wildlife artist and former Atlanta Falcon Jose Portilla, limited edition framed prints, and more. All attendees will be eligible to win a wide variety of free door prizes during the evening as well, including duck and turkey calls, Bone Collector merchandise signed by Michael Waddell, and much more.

Doors will open at 6 p.m., with the dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$13 at the door. Please contact Dr. William Moore (4805; wmoore@abac.edu), Dr. Doug Waid (4811; dwaid@abac.edu), or Dr. Jason Scott (4806; jscott@abac.edu) to purchase tickets or if you need more information.



## ABAC Faculty and Students Travel to Capital

Students from the American Government Classes and the Political Science club traveled with Dr. Joseph Njoroge, Dr. Hans Schmeisser and Ms. Catherine Funk to our state capital last week. They conferenced with Representatives and Senators, viewed the House and Senate floor action, lunched with lobbyists and received a tour of the capitol. While there they were presented with Senate Resolution 990 in recognition of the history and current activities at ABAC. Those in attendance are pictured above with Representative Jay Roberts (front left) on the capital stairs.

## ABAC Students Help Celebrate Read Across America

Members of the ABAC Ambassadors and Sigma Alpha went to G.O Bailey Elementary School on Friday to read in classes. Guest readers visit many schools in the area in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. Pictured are Ambassadors Raylee Clack and Ja'Quez West with a kindergarten class.



## Hand Washing

ABAC nursing students spent Friday afternoon educating children at G.O. Bailey Elementary School on the proper way to wash your hands. They played games with them and demonstrated how and when to wash their hands. This one of many community service activities that the School of Nursing and Health Sciences hosts.

## ABAC Home Games This Week

ABAC Athletics brought home many wins last week. Keep up the good work teams! Below are the home games for the weeks. For a full schedule and results visit [www.abac.edu/athletics](http://www.abac.edu/athletics).

**Softball:** Sat. vs. Gordon @ 1/3 p.m.

**Baseball:** Thurs. vs. Middle GA @ 6 p.m.

Sat. vs. Middle GA @ 1/3 p.m.



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.