Visitors can enjoy a celebration of the rich, rural heritage of South Georgia during the annual Folklife Festival on Sat. at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC. Showcasing South Georgia’s history, art and culture, the event runs from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. with activities for both children and adults.

One of the can’t miss moments of the Folklife Festival will be the ceremonial firing of the Turpentine Still at 11 a.m. for the Historic Village’s annual turpentine distillation. Museum guests will see up close and personal this age old process that is central to South Georgia’s history and culture.

A fiber exhibit, “Second Life: The Fiber Art of Susan Lenz,” will also open on Sat. as part of the festival in the Museum Gallery. Lenz will be available for a question and answer session in the Gallery from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Museum Curator and Assistant Director Polly Huff said that Lenz uses a needle and thread for self-expression to create art that reflects her interest in the concept of time. Memory, universal mortality, and personal legacy are central themes. She combines vintage and recycled materials into her meticulous handwork.

The Folklife Festival is all about hands-on activities including tree debarking and hewing, sheep shearing, wool spinning, weaving and washing, butter-making and candle-making demonstrations. Guests can also visit the antique and model tractors that will be on display during the event. The Blacksmith Shop will be giving demonstrations throughout the day, and glass blowers will be located on the porch outside of the Gallery.

Saw blades will be humming as the steam powered Sawmill makes short work of sawing pine and cypress logs throughout the day. Special guest Steve Cross from Cross Sawmill in Iron City will demonstrate the hands-on art and skill of sawing lumber on an 1892, 25 horse power steam powered mill. Cross, a well-known artist and craftsmen, operates one of the largest thin kerf band saws in the world. He is the fifth generation of the Cross family that has been in the powered sawmill business for more than 100 years.

Everyone at the Museum site can hitch a ride on the 1917 Vulcan steam train, and children will love the face painting booth. Visitors will also be treated to entertainment from the Poultry Palace and its talented show chickens. A special treat will be the quilting and flower shows going on during the Folklife event.

Guests can visit with the Little River Wood Turners as they ply their trade at the Variety Works building. Joining the Fiddlers Jamboree for a little pickin’ and grinnin’ on the Opry Shelter Stage is always a fun part of the day.

To satisfy every hearty appetite, the Historic Village’s Drug Store will offer delicious lunch options from barbeque and hot dogs to hand-dipped ice cream. Food vendors will also be selling sweet treats and selections to tempt your taste buds at the Opry Shelter. Guests can pop into the Country Store and pick up food items including jams, jellies, grits, or corn meal.

The Festival coincides with the seasonal opening of the Wiregrass Farmers Market. Local growers and producers will be offering fresh picked produce from 9 a.m. until noon as well as hand-made goods for sale at the Market located under the pole barn behind the Country Store.

Admission to the Folklife Festival is $10 for adults, $8 for senior citizens, $5 for children 5 – 16 years of age, and free for children under five. For more information, interested persons can contact the Country Store at (229) 391-5205.

Honors Day and Service Awards Ceremonies to Take Place Wednesday
The Honor’s Day ceremony will take place on Wednesday in Gressette Gymnasium at 3 p.m. Immediately following the ceremony the Faculty Staff Service Awards will be given out underneath the tents next to the Gym. Classes and labs will be dismissed at 2:30 p.m. and resume at 5 p.m. Please make this announcement to your classes. Honors Day rehearsal for the students will be held on Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Gym.
The voices of the 60 members of the Concert Choir at ABAC will blend in perfect harmony at 7 p.m. on Thurs. in the annual Spring Choral Concert in Howard Auditorium. The concert is open to the public at no charge.

Dr. Susan Roe, Fine Arts Department Head and Director of Choral Music at ABAC, said the performance will begin with “The Star Spangled Banner” followed by the ABAC Alma Mater. Soloists Lauren Lever, Taylor Walker, and Matt Fuller will then perform “Great Day.” Lever is a vocal major from Tifton; Walker is a vocal major from Omega; and Fuller is a voice major from Fitzgerald.

The Concert Choir will then sing “Cantique de Jean Racine, Op. 11” followed by “Sonnet of the Moon.”

The ABAC Jazz Choir and the ABAC Jazz Combo and Instrumental Ensemble will perform “Come Rain or Come Shine,” “Sway,” and “They Can’t Take That Away from Me.”

The ABAC Chamber Singers will sing “I Carry your Heart with Me” and “Didn’t My Lord Deliver Daniel.” The evening will conclude with the ABAC Concert Choir performing “True Light.” Soloists Terrence Gibson, Jr., a vocal major from Baxley, and Landon Rowe, a rural studies—writing and communication major from Ocilla, will be featured.

For more information, interested persons can contact Roe at (229) 391-4943.

ABAC Concert Choir Presents Spring Concert Thursday

‘A Night of Broadway Music’ at ABAC Tuesday

“A Night of Broadway Music” will be the feature of the First Tuesday Concert Series on Tues. at ABAC. Always one of the most popular First Tuesday events, the evening marks the end of the 2015-16 First Tuesday season.

The 7 p.m. performance in the Chapel of All Faiths will include past and present ABAC music majors as well as Blane Jacobs, Scott and Susan Spivey, and Brian Marchant, who are friends of the First Tuesday series and of the ABAC music program. Dr. Susan Roe, Head of the ABAC Department of Fine Arts and Director of the First Tuesday Series, will also be featured. This concert is open to the public at no charge.

Now in its 14th year, the First Tuesday series features regional professional artists on the first Tuesdays of five months during the year.

Roe will perform the Broadway epic, “Summertime,” from “Porgy and Bess” composed by George Gershwin with music and lyrics by DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin.

Three students graduating from ABAC in May with Associate of Fine Arts degrees in music will perform during the event. Lauren Lever of Tifton will sing a selection from “Nunsense,” the featured musical performed by Dr. Brian Ray’s Baldwin Players last week. Matt Fuller of Fitzgerald will perform “This Nearly Was Mine” from the Rodgers and Hammerstein classic “South Pacific,” and Terrence Gibson of Baxley will sing “Ol’ Man River” from “Showboat.”

Former ABAC music students will also lend their voices to this performance. Daniel Gibson of Tifton and Katelyn Payne of Moultrie will sing the duet “Fine” from “Ordinary Day” by Adam Gwon, and Patrick Ireland of Tifton and Gibson will perform the duet “Agony” from “Into the Woods.”

Marchant, a Tifton music teacher, will sing “Look Down” from the classic Broadway musical, “Les Miserables,” along with “You’ll Never Walk Alone” from another Rodgers and Hammerstein production, “Carousel.” Jacobs, a former ABAC student who is the First Baptist Church Minister of Music, and Scott Spivey of Fitzgerald will perform “Lily’s Eyes” from “Secret Garden.” Spivey will also sing another “Les Miserables” staple, “Stars.”

For more information on the First Tuesday Concert Series, interested persons can contact Roe at sroe@abac.edu.

Nominations Due April 11 for Pacesetter Awards

The Stallion presents Pacesetter Awards to students, faculty, staff and administrators each year. Nominations are accepted until April 11. These awards are presented to people that are leading the way at ABAC. Please send your nominations to Stallion Editor Shelby Evans at sevans19@stallions.abac.edu. The nomination should include the name of the nominee, and what he or she has done to lead the way at ABAC. The awards will be presented at the ICC end of the year Awards Reception on Wednesday, April 20, at 4:15 pm in Bowen 100.
Thanks to all of you who play a part the 2016 Homecoming Week. It was no small feat to collectively host over 2,000 people at these events without the work of the multitudes. Alumni Director Lynda Fisher says “as I was bragging on how everyone was so great at working together, Alumni Board member Niki Vanderslice said, ‘This is ABAC. What do you expect?’ And she is right.” ABAC has great people who work here, who have attended here, and who currently are taking classes here. Thanks again to everyone that made the Week such a success. Pictures (l-r) Homecoming King and Queen, club members who participated in Club Olympics, Agronomy Club’s winning pallet design, Stallion Cup winners of the Agronomy Club, Rodeo participant, design painted by Grounds Dept. for Luncheon on Saturday, Alumni Awards and Athletics Hall of Fame recipients, and the Rowdies for tailgating. Check out the ABAC Alumni Association and Friends Facebook page for many more pictures!
STEM Slimes Professors
The STEM Affiliates Club hosted the 3rd Annual ‘Slime Your Professor’ fundraiser last week. Nearly $350 was raised for the club. Many people gave money to see (pictured l-r) Amanda Urquhart, Dr. Kennon Deal, and Dr. Justin Ng doused with five gallons of slimy green goo in the Meadows.

ABAC Birthdays
6 Adam Brumfield 8 Erin Daly 10 Bernice Hughes

Raise Money for the American Cancer Society at Annual Yard Sale Saturday
The annual yard sale to benefit the American Cancer Society Relay for Life will be held on Saturday from 7 a.m.–noon in the Nickelodeon at ABAC.
Tables can be rented for $10 each or three for $25. All proceeds from the table rentals will go to the American Cancer Society. This event is open to any individual or business that would like to participate.
Set-up for the sale will be from 3-7 p.m. on Friday. Sellers keep their profits, and anything that does not sell will be donated to charity.
For more information on the Relay for Life Yard Sale, interested persons can contact ABAC Dean of Students Bernice Hughes at (229) 391-5130 or by e-mail at bhughes@abac.edu.

Cofer Presents at Southwest Baptist University in Missouri
On Thursday, March 31, Dr. Jordan Cofer presented as part of the Barnett-Padgett Literary Artist Series at Southwest Baptist University (SBU) in Bolivar, Missouri. His presentation was called “The Gospel According to Flannery O’Connor.” The Barnett-Padgett Literary Artist Series, was established in 1999 in honor of alumni Gene A. Barnett and Tom E. Padgett by a gift from Marjorie Barnett, sister of Gene A. Barnett. The series brings notable authors and speakers to SBU.

AT&T Brings “It Can Wait” Campaign to ABAC
AT&T and ABAC recently partnered to bring the “It Can Wait” campaign to the ABAC campus. “It Can Wait” addresses the dangerous practice of smartphone driving distractions.
Research shows that seven in 10 people engage in smartphone activities while driving, and they are not just texting. To relay this message, AT&T brought a virtual reality simulator to the campus of ABAC so that students, faculty, and staff could get the 3D experience of just how dangerous it can be when you take your eyes of the road to answer a phone call or text.
ABAC President David Bridges said, “While smartphones are becoming more essential to our daily lives, we want our students and staff to be safe while they are behind the wheel. We welcome AT&T to campus and look forward to many new pledges from the ABAC community not to text and drive.”
The “It Can Wait” campaign began in 2010. It is a national movement that urges drivers to visit www.ItCanWait.com, where they can pledge to keep their eyes on the road, not on their phones, and share their pledge with others via social media. That campaign initially focused on not texting and driving but has now expanded to the broader dangers of smartphone use behind the wheel.