



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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Area Foundation Commits \$1 Million to Ag Literacy Initiative at ABAC

The Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation has committed \$1 million over the next four years to continue the Destination Ag program at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture at ABAC.

Destination Ag, in operation since September 2016, connects students and teachers to the importance of agriculture and natural resources in their daily lives.

In August 2016, the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation announced a \$250,000 gift to the ABAC Foundation to launch a major agriculture and natural resources literacy program at the Museum. Since that time, Destination Ag has touched the lives of 5,000 elementary students in Tift, Colquitt, and Cook counties.

“ABAC and the staff at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture

exceeded our expectations during the inaugural year of Destination Ag’s operation,” said Donnie Warren, Foundation Executive

Director. “They are raising the bar for agriculture and natural resource education in our area.”

Museum Director Garrett Boone said the additional funding further enhances the educational mission of the Museum, which became a part of the ABAC campus in 2010.

“For the past nine months, the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation has allowed us to provide a



ABAC sophomore Sarah Procosch assists a Destination Ag student with an up close encounter with a sheep at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture at ABAC. Procosch is a student instructor with the Destination Ag program.

dynamic, living laboratory through Destination Ag that showcases agriculture and natural resources by offering transformational experiences to children and teachers across South Georgia,” Boone said.

Key components of Destination Ag include hands-on field trip experiences for the young learners at the Museum which focus on the value of agriculture and natural resources with an emphasis on careers in these

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Carry The Load National Relay Team Arrives in Dallas

Through the month of May nine ABAC students walked, biked, and canoed 2,100 miles from West Point, NY to Dallas, TX with the Carry The Load National Relay.

Their mission was to honor the sacrifices of our Nation’s heroes and restore the true meaning of Memorial Day. They arrived in Dallas on May 28. To see more from their journey, visit the ABAC Facebook page.



Orientations Underway: Fall Early Bird: (invitation only) June 9, Fall: June 23, July 14, 21, 28, August 11 - Contact Luke Ellis for more information at lellis@abac.edu.

The ABAC Tech Support Office has moved. Tech Support can now be found in Carlton Center Room 221. For more information, contact techsupport@abac.edu

Second Annual Newton County Commitment Night

On May 18, ten students from Eastside High School, Newton High School, and Alcovy High School gathered with their agriculture teachers, family, and friends at Newton College and Career Academy in Covington, Georgia for the 2nd Annual



Newton County Commitment Night. ABAC was represented by Director of Enrollment Management Donna Webb, and Regional Enrollment Counselor, Kristen McHugh. Marcus Pollard, ABAC alumnus and Agricultural Education teacher in Newton County, gave opening remarks during the ceremony. Students then signed their commitment certificates, and Webb gave closing remarks, encouraging students as they prepare to attend ABAC this fall. Afterwards, a dinner was held in celebration which gave students and families the opportunity to socialize and plan ahead for their ABAC adventure. McHugh hopes to continue this event annually and would like to add more counties.

Summer Tennis Camp at ABAC July 10-13

Middle school and high school tennis players who want to improve all phases of their games should sign up for the summer tennis camp on July 10-13 at ABAC. Space is limited, and pre-registration is required.

The camp runs from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. each day at a total cost of \$199 per camper. The cost includes lunch each day and a t-shirt. Directed by ABAC Tennis Coach Dale White, the camp will focus on technical, tactical and mental components of tennis to help players in competitive play. Former ABAC tennis players will serve as instructors for the camp.

A waiver form must be received prior to the camp or completed on the first morning of the camp. The waiver form can be faxed to 229-391-4931. All checks should be made payable to ABAC Foundation/Tennis Camp. To pre-register for this camp, call 229-391-4937 or visit www.abac.edu/athletics/tennis-camp.

'Bottles and Brushes' at Museum of Agriculture on June 16

The Georgia Museum of Agriculture at ABAC will host the "Bottles and Brushes" art class on June 16 from 6-8 p.m. The featured work is "Summer Night" by local artist and "Bottles and Brushes" instructor Brenda Rose.

Rose will guide participants through the process, while students create their own interpretation before their eyes. Participants can bring their favorite beverage while enjoying an evening of creativity and fun. The Gallery at the Museum will provide the paint, canvas and brushes.

Space is limited so early registration is important. Participants must register ahead of time by contacting Polly Huff at phuff@abac.edu. The class fee is \$25 per person or \$40 for couples. It is non-refundable and non-transferable. The fee includes all supplies and instruction.



ABAC Birthdays

5 Trey Davis 8 Howard McCrary
9 Ryan Kelly 12 Carmen Counts
12 Brian Ray 15 David Edens
16 Rachel Nance 18 Tia Morris
18 David Bridges

Bookstore Summer Hours

Mon. - Thurs.: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
and Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (except Orientation days when it will remain open until 3 p.m.). Bookstore Staff will still be available by phone and email during normal business hours.

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fields.

"Through this additional support from the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation, ABAC will continue to plant seeds that will ensure the growth of Georgia's number one industry, agriculture, for the next generation and beyond," ABAC President David Bridges said. "This support has made it possible for us to invest in the lives of these

students who will one day be the agricultural leaders in this state."

"By taking part in Destination Ag, these kids know where their lettuce and tomatoes and beef come from," Wesley Langdale, Chairman of the Harley Langdale, Jr. Foundation, said. "Everyone in this country wants safe food. Our kids need to know that we grow our own."

Boone said that as the program

continues to develop, students in second through fifth grades will be added in the counties of Berrien, Irwin, Turner, Ben Hill, and Worth.

"We have a responsibility to teach our children about their connection to the land for their food and shelter," said Warren. "Destination Ag will play a vital role in living up to that responsibility for years to come as the program grows and attracts additional support."