



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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'Chicken Scratch' Exhibit Features the Wild Chickens of Fitzgerald

The Gallery at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC will showcase Fitzgerald's wild chicken population with its new photography exhibit, "Chicken Scratch", from Atlanta photographer Nicole Walker until Sept. 6.

Walker is an award-winning photographer who specializes in children, animals, and challenging subjects. The Fitzgerald chickens added a whole new dimension to her definition of



Photographer Nicole Walker's "Chicken Scratch" exhibit featuring the wild chickens of Fitzgerald opened at the GMA Gallery on Friday and will remain until Sept. 6.

challenge, and captured her heart from the very start of the project. All the photos in this exhibit were taken in the moment, with no staging or props. The "Chicken Scratch" exhibit is dedicated to the beauty, legacy, and companionship of these magnificent plumed gifts of Mother Nature. This exhibit is presented by Fitzgerald resident Sue Rochfort who is a TV host, teacher, author, cook, and antiques appraiser.

In 1896, the town of Fitzgerald was founded by Philander Fitzgerald, a veterans' pension attorney and publisher of The American Tribune, a paper created to help war veterans. In the mid-1900's, The Department of Natural Resources brought in a flock of Burmese Chickens to Fitzgerald with the initial intent to turn them into a gaming bird. However, the beauty of the chickens and their preference for living in the city rather than the woods caused them to become more of a protected guest than a hunter's prey.

The GMA will host "Chicken Scratch" until Sept. 6 in the Museum Gallery. For more information on Chicken Scratch, please contact GMA curator Polly Huff at phuff@abac.edu.

Watermelon Crawl 5k, Fun Run & Festival to Raise Money for Scholarship

ABAC will host the First Watermelon Crawl 5k, Fun Run, and Festival on July 12! The event is a fundraiser to establish the Jerry Moore Memorial ABAC scholarship, which will be awarded each year to a student majoring in Diversified Agriculture. Jerry Moore was an ABAC alumnus who passed away tragically in December at the age of 46.

Everyone is invited and encouraged to be a part of this event. The cost of registration is \$23 and includes a t-shirt and a runner's bag. If you aren't an avid runner don't fret, there will be many people who will walk the 5k path and there is also a 1-mile fun run. The festival is open to everyone so be sure not to miss out - there will be lots of watermelon-themed activities for kids and adults alike.

Visit www.thewatermeloncrawl.weebly.com - for more details and to register. Contact Ray Smith at rsmith@abac.edu or his daughter Josie at thewatermeloncrawl5k@gmail.com with any questions concerning the event.



Ray, ABAC Alumnus, Named Newest Enrollment Counselor

Kristen Ray continues her journey here at ABAC as she transitions from being a student to the newest Enrollment Counselor. Ray recently graduated from ABAC in May with her Bachelor of Science in Rural Studies Social and Community Development. While attending ABAC, Ray served the campus in various leadership capacities. She was named Ms. ABAC in 2013 and also served as the President of the Rural Studies Club her senior year. Ray is excited about this new chapter in life and wants to continue to share her enthusiasm and passion for ABAC with new students. Her goal is to make the transition of high school to college as smooth as possible for new students. Ray can be contacted at kray@abac.edu or 229.391.5015. Stop by Herring Hall and say hello!

Georgia Museum of Agriculture & Historic Village
presents ...

Independence

JULY 3, 2014

GATES OPEN AT 6:00 PM

featuring **CLOVERS & COMPANY** at **7:30 PM**

BRING YOUR BLANKETS, CHAIRS AND COOLERS (NO ALCOHOL PLEASE)

Enjoy a spectacular fireworks show in a family-oriented atmosphere!



PRICE

\$10 PER CAR

FREE WITH MILITARY ID



**ABRAHAM BALDWIN
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE**

"How little do my countrymen know what precious blessings they are in possession of, and which no other people on earth enjoy!" ~Thomas Jefferson

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Orientation Begins Friday at 8 a.m. Other dates include:

June 20 July 11 July 18 August 8

For more info visit: www.abac.edu/future-students/orientation

Save The Date — More Information to Come

Freshman Move-in
Aug. 9

Welcome Week
Aug. 10-14

Convocation
Aug. 14

ABAC Birthdays

12 Earl Denham
12 Brian Ray
13 Vickie Walker
18 David Bridges

20 Jessica Willcox
21 Amy Warren
23 Janet Haughton

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 for inclusion in the next FOCUS.

GMA Camp Wiregrass Filling Up Fast!

Campers at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village are having a great time exploring the village, playing Underground Railroad, and experiencing the mid-1800 wiregrass community life through hands on activities and crafts. And we can't forget the ice cream on Fridays!

The next two sessions, Victorian Adventures and EcoDetectives are already full. However we still have space available in our week long camp for 9-11 year olds, Nature's Artist, from June 23-27. Throughout the week, campers will explore nature by catching macroinvertebrates in the pond, hiking through the forest, and birding.

They will then use these experiences to inspire various forms of artwork. Campers will then showcase some pieces at the Museum Gallery. Camp runs from 8:30-3:30 and campers need to provide a sack lunch. Snack, t-shirt, and all supplies are provided at the cost of \$100/camper. Space is limited so register online today!

If your youngin' missed out on our week long sessions, don't worry! We still have our workshop series in July.



Porter Johnson, age 4, learns the art of flour sifting during the Munchkin Camp at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village at ABAC (GMA). GMA interpreter Barbara Cody then helped the children cook the flour into tea cakes in a wood stove at the Gibbs House.

Workshops run from 8:30-11:30, will include snack and supplies, and cost \$25 per camper (except Creative Jewelry 2-day workshop at \$40). "The Revolution is Coming" on July 2 is geared for 8-10 year-olds in celebration of Independence Day. Campers will actually join the Museum's militia. "Creative Jewelry" on July 8-9 allows campers ages 8-10 years old an opportunity to

create their own jewelry with a Native American flare. Primitive Hunting Skills on July 11 will show campers ages 6-8 years old how Native American children used games to enhance their hunting skills. Campers will test their skills through spear throwing and archery.

"Orienteering...Hugh?" on July 15 is a workshop which focuses on the traditional means of navigating with a compass. The target audience is 9-11 year olds. The final workshop, "Nature Art," is geared to 6-8 year olds on July 18. This workshop will allow campers to create artwork inspired by their outdoor experiences.

To register for any session of Camp Wiregrass, interested

persons can e-mail Scott at museumcamp@abac.edu or register online at www.abac.edu/museum/kids-camp. Siblings, ABAC employee, or Friend of the Museum discounts are available. For more information on the upcoming summer camps and workshops, interested persons can contact Scott at (229) 391-5224.