



FOCUS

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

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200th Anniversary of National Anthem Celebrated at ABAC

The ABAC Choir, led by Dr. Susan Roe, celebrated the 200th Anniversary of the National Anthem Friday by singing the "The Star-Spangled Banner" on the front steps of Tift Hall.



Families Enjoy Founder's Day at Museum

Many members of the Tifton community enjoyed a beautiful Founder's Appreciation Day at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture Saturday. Admission was free of charge and families were able to come enjoy a multitude of events at the Museum including the opening of the Georgia State Art Collection "Inspired Georgia".

ABAC Namesake One of Two Georgians to Sign Constitution 227 Years Ago

The namesake for Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College penned his name on one of the most famous documents in the world 227 years ago. Abraham Baldwin was one of only two Georgia signers of the United States Constitution, which was signed by 39 men on Sept. 17, 1787.

Dr. Joe Njoroge thinks we should have fireworks.

"It's really incredible that we don't have fireworks," Njoroge, head of the Department of History and Political Science at ABAC, said. "The signing of the Constitution is something we ought to

celebrate, commemorate, and remember."

Born in Kenya but now a United States citizen, Njoroge doesn't take lightly the words of the Constitution.

"These principles and truths that have helped to create possible the richest and most advanced society that human beings have ever known cannot be taken for granted," Njoroge said.

"When you come from another country, you get to really appreciate the freedoms and opportunities that are available in the United States."

Constitution Day celebrates the

event, which took place in Independence Hall in Philadelphia. Fifty-five men attended the four-month long Constitutional Convention which resulted in the 4,543-word document, the oldest and shortest national constitution. Nine of the 13 states were required to ratify the Constitution.

The ABAC School of Liberal Arts and the Department of History and Political Science will feature a lecture titled "Civil Rights and the Constitution" on Wednesday at 6 p.m. in Room 108 of the Health Sciences Building. W. Frank Wilson, Executive Director of the Albany Civil Rights Institute, will be the speaker. The public is invited to attend.

Continued on page 3

It's almost here!
FAMILY WEEKEND 2014!
October 3-5

The cost is \$15 for ABAC Students and \$25.00 per person for family and friends.

(This price covers two meals on Saturday, admission to Georgia Museum of Agriculture, t-shirt, insulated mug and light refreshments. WOW what a deal!)

Follow this link to register www.Purplepass.com/abacfamilyweekend2014



Blood Drive Wednesday in Nickelodeon

The ABAC Baseball team has joined together with the Men's and Women's Tennis teams to sponsor an American Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday from 11 a.m.—4:30 pm in the Nickelodeon in the Student Center. The teams hope to get 85 donations and so far only 40 donors have signed up. If you wish to make an appointment contact Robert Morgan by emailing rmorgan@abac.edu or call 229.391.4933.

State Court Judge Mims Speaks To Environment of Business Class



Tift County State Court Judge Larry Mims spoke to Franzelle Pertilla's Environment of Business class Wednesday. His speech covered the importance of business ethics from the legal perspective. Mims stressed the importance of "doing the right thing", shared types of business cases that come before the court and outcomes, and stressed the importance of knowing the types of regulations/laws that impact your business to avoid penalties.

ABAC Music Department Brings Tunes to the Library
ABAC's Brass Quintet will be performing in the Baldwin Library on Sept. 23 from 8:20 —8:50 a.m. This event is free to the public. Email Marie Davis at mdavis@abac.edu for more information.



Continued from page 1

ABAC President David Bridges said Baldwin was a key figure on the national level as well as in the history of Georgia.

"We are proud that our college is named for an individual who set the stage for higher education in Georgia and then helped to shape a document on the national level that has now lasted 227 years," Bridges said. "One of our historical exhibits in Tift Hall honors Abraham Baldwin and his many accomplishments."

ABAC Director of Public Relations Ashley Mock said the Baldwin exhibit is one of several historic panels on the lower floor of Tift Hall. Other panels focus on Tifton founder Henry Harding Tift, ABAC alumnus George T. Smith, and the history of the college from 1908 to present day. All the exhibits are open to the public. Tours can be arranged by calling (229) 391-5055.

Baldwin was born on Nov. 22, 1754 as the son of a Connecticut blacksmith. He enrolled at Yale University at the age of 14 and completed his degree four years

later. He then studied theology at Yale and became a minister. He served on George Washington's staff as a chaplain during the Revolutionary War before beginning a study of law. After being admitted to the bar, he moved to Georgia in 1783 to set up a law practice near Augusta.

"He was a highly educated man," Njoroge said. "He came to Georgia with an interest in education but he was also interested in politics."

One year later, Baldwin was elected to the Georgia House of Assembly. In 1787 he represented Georgia as a member of the Constitutional Convention where he was one of the signers of the United States Constitution. Of the Georgia delegates, only Baldwin and William Few signed the document.

Baldwin was also the architect for an educational plan for both secondary and higher education in Georgia. Because of his leadership in this area, the state approved a charter for the University of Georgia in 1785. Baldwin served as the first president of the University of

Georgia from 1785 until 1801, prior to the time students actually attended the institution.

Baldwin never had a wife or children but had strong convictions about the importance of a quality education for the youth of Georgia. He believed Georgia should "place the youth under the forming hand of Society, that by instruction they may be moulded to the love of Virtue and good Order."

Beginning in 1789, Baldwin served Georgia for five consecutive terms as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He was then elected for two terms in the U.S. Senate, one of those as president pro-tem. Baldwin passed away on March 4, 1807 while serving in the Senate. Baldwin County is named for him.

On July 1, 1933, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia opened the institution known as Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in his honor.

ABAC Ag Classic Golf Tournament Oct. 6

The 14th Annual Ag Classic Golf Tournament at ABAC will be held on Oct. 6 at ABAC's Forest Lakes Golf Course. There will be an 8 a.m. flight and a 1 p.m. flight. A complimentary lunch will be served between flights.

The tournament is hosted by the ABAC Ag Alumni Council and the School of Agriculture and Natural Resources to provide scholarship funds for students in that area of study.

Open to the first 100 golfers who register, the event will be a four-man scramble with a shotgun start. There is



an entry fee of \$125 per person or a \$500 entry fee for each four-person team that includes lunch, cart, greens fees, and an embroidered golf shirt with tournament logo.

A new addition to this year's Ag Classic will be the ball drop event. Individuals can purchase numbered golf balls for a small fee. Participants can purchase one golf ball for \$5, three golf balls for \$10, or seven golf balls for \$20. A back hoe will drop the balls purchased onto a target area and the ball that comes closest to the target will be the grand prize winner.

Golf balls can be purchased by contacting tournament coordinator Vonda Fenn at (229) 391.5067 or at vfenn@abac.edu, through any Ag Alumni Council member, or by going online at abac.edu/academics/schools/ag-natural-resources/outreach/ag-classic. Participants can also purchase golf balls until 12:45 p.m. on the day of the event.

Prizes will be awarded to the first and second place teams in each flight. Prizes will also be awarded for the longest drive, hole-in-one, and closest shot to the pin on designated holes.

For more information, contact Fenn at vfenn@abac.edu.

ABAC Birthdays

15 Pooja Patel 16 Nathan Mumm 17 Margo Ransom
18 Dale White 19 Tom Grant 20 Susan Roe 21 Tom Bruce



BUSINESS OFFICE TRAINING SCHEDULE

The business office will be holding their annual training on Sept. 24 in the Herring Hall meeting room on the first floor. The schedule is as follows: Travel Training at 9 a.m., Accounting 101 and Budget Basics at 10 a.m., and Transfer/Correction Form and Petty Cash Training at 10:30 a.m. There will also be workshop from 2-4:30 p.m. on Sept. 23. This will be a drop in workshop with some light snacks. We realize that not everyone can be there for the entire time but please come when you can.

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.