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from the editors

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

In this edition of FYI* South Georgia Guide, you will discover day trips, a taste of Southern cuisine, vacation destinations at the beach or in the mountains, and a variety of other activities for the entire family.

We invited the mayors of each community featured in the guide to submit their favorite recipe, which ranges from family favorites to the simplest for anyone learning to cook. Tips are also provided throughout the guide on topics such as getting settled into a new community, going off to college, and reasons to buy a house. You will also find goods and services, events, and festivals as you read through the guide.

As you view the guide, look for the QR Code to download the FYI* App. If you are new to town or a "local," the app contains a wealth of information at your fingertips. The app also offers great offers for the community and newcomers to utilize around town!

We hope you enjoy all aspects of living in South Georgia! Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about the South Georgia area.

-Patti & Karen

FYI*
South Georgia

2023-2024 Edition

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South Georgia Connections

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Patti Minton & Karen Reissiger

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DeMariah Newsome

Special Thanks

South Georgia Connections
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WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc,

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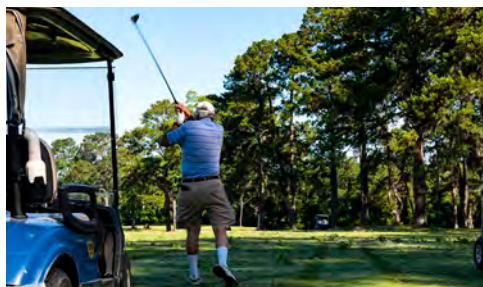
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new to town?

South Georgia Connections has a welcome packet filled with resources to assist you in your move and numerous coupons to enjoy around town. It is our desire to help newcomers get connected in their new community and to call it home. Contact us today to receive your FREE Welcome Packet.



Left to right: Nina Renfroe, Sara McArthur, Patti Minton, Karen Reissiger, Kaye Hunt, Dawn Brown, Ann Pittman, DeMariah Newsome



Nina Renfroe
HAHIRA GREETER



Dawn Brown
THOMASVILLE &
VALDOSTA GREETER



Zellina Shaw
LAKELAND GREETER

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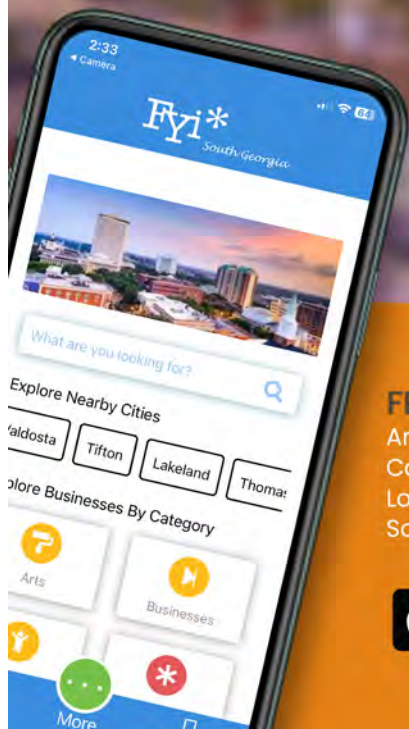
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welcome packet
when you scan
the QR code



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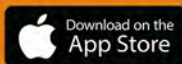


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Area info on the go
Community offers at your fingertips
Local events in your pocket
Southern recipes when you need them



OUR MISSION AT SOUTH GEORGIA CONNECTIONS

Our mission is to assist new families with relocation services and orientation to their new community, to inform newcomers and local residents of benefits and services available in the area, and to promote local businesses and agencies that can provide these resources. We accomplish this mission through the leading of God's Holy Spirit and the help of many other people. We encourage you to become an integral part of your South Georgia community.



ADEL

history

Discover Adel's rich history, taste the flavors of the South, or find the perfect outdoor activity. Whether it's casting a fishing line at Reed Bingham State Park, shopping historic downtown, or enjoying the premier racing facility at South Georgia Motorsports Park, adventure is sure to find you. Easily accessible from I-75, Georgia Grown Trails 37 and 41 intersect at the center of Downtown Adel. Both trails offer a diverse agritourism experience for visitors to South Georgia. "Visit, Taste, Enjoy!" It's "ADEL BABY".

local favs

ADEL DAYLILY FESTIVAL & 5K

May 11, 2024 | 9am - 3pm

5k Run: 8am

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229-896-2281

adelcookchamber.org

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gastateparks.org

fun facts

- Pronounced ā-del.
- Known as the City of Daylilies.
- Gateway to the GA Grown Trails (GA Hwy 37 & 41).
- Surrounded by vineyards, olive groves, u-pick orchards, plantations and farm-to-table dining experiences.
- Formerly known as Puddleville. The town was renamed Adel by the first postmaster.



DURKEE'S BBQ SAUCE

Submitted by Mayor Buddy Duke of Adel

INGREDIENTS

1 - 10 oz Bottle Durkees Sauce
 2 Tbsp. prepared mustard
 2 sticks of butter or oleo
 2 Tbsp. sugar
 6 lemons (juiced)
 Salt & Pepper to taste
 ½ cup white vinegar

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients. Thin with water if needed. Heat to blend. (Do Not Boil)
 Can be refrigerated in an airtight container for up to 6 weeks.
 Yields enough sauce for 5 whole chickens.



Proverbs 16:9 – New Living Translation

**We can make our plans,
 but the LORD determines our steps.**

We're proud to call Georgia home.

BASF and the Sparks area have a lot of shared values: determination and support. We're proud to be a part of the local community, whether it's working with the Adel-Cook County Chamber of Commerce or local farmers right here in Georgia and across the country grow strong and healthy crops, which in turn help feed our world. If you're interested in joining our team, explore the career opportunities at BASF.

See available opportunities at:

<https://jobpostings.basf.us/sparks/georgia/usa/jobs/>

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112 N. Parrish Ave. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-4504 • cityofadel.us

ADEL-COOK COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 S. Hutchinson Ave. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-2281 • adelcookchamber.org

COOK COUNTY TAG AND TAX OFFICE

209 N. Parrish Ave. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-4569 • cookcountygatax.com

DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES

371 Gil Harbin Industrial Blvd.
Valdosta, GA 31601 • dds.ga.gov

**See page 54 for info on a GA Drivers License
and Lowndes County Tag office.**

POST OFFICE

1009 S. Hutchinson Ave. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-7742 • usps.com

ELECTION & VOTER REGISTRATION

1200 S. Hutchinson Ave. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-7925

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CITY OF ADEL

112 N. Parrish Ave. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-4504 • 229-896-3601
cityofadel.us

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HAHIRA

history

In 1888, Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad laid its tracks through Hahira, and in 1891, the city was officially incorporated. By the early 1900's Hahira was known as the "Queen Bee Capital of the World." With the first bank and newspaper opening in 1906, construction of City Hall in 1926, the Courthouse in 1927 and a new hotel in 1936, Hahira was thriving. Into the 20th century, agriculture would continue to be a huge part of the community, including crops like cotton and tobacco. Today, Hahira is home to around 3,000 residents, so come see what the buzz is all about.

For more information about Hahira, visit hahiraga.gov or facebook.com/HahiraHappenings

local favs

HAHIRA HONEY BEE FESTIVAL

Downtown Hahira

October 1st-7th, 2023

7th - Festival: 9am-6pm

Parade: 12 Noon

229-794-3970 or 229-794-1425

hahirahoneybeefest.com

MAINSTREET MARKET

Downtown Hahira at the Depot

Last Saturday of the month,

January-October | 9am-12pm

229-794-2330

hahiraga.gov/events

fun facts

- Pronounced Hey-Hi-Ruh.
- Historically known as 'Home of the Honeybee.'
- Honeybee Festival attracts over 30,000 visitors and features arts, crafts, food, parade and more.
- Tree City USA for 32 years.
- Famous people include MLB players & brothers, J.D., Tim, and Steven Drew. Also American jazz & gospel singer and songwriter, Lizz Wright.



STUFFED PEPPERS

Submitted by Mayor Bruce Cain of Hahira

INGREDIENTS

Tri-Colored Peppers
Mushrooms
Onions
Cooked Rice
Fiesta Corn
Diced Tomatoes

Shredded Cheese
Sour Cream
Salsa
Ground beef
Salt & pepper
Balsamic vinegar
Butter



DIRECTIONS

Wash, cut, and hollow peppers. Sauté mushroom & onions in butter & balsamic vinegar. Add ground beef. Add corn & tomatoes. In water, cook peppers for 5 minutes then remove. Add 1 tbsp of the rice and ground beef mixture until peppers are filled. Bake on 375 for 35 min or until peppers are cooked. Top with cheese the last 5 minutes.

pairs well with

Crispy Air-Fried Zucchini

INGREDIENTS

2 medium zucchini (cubed)
1/3 cup whole wheat bread crumbs
(about 1/2 slice toasted bread)
1 teaspoon garlic powder
1/2 teaspoon paprika (or harissa seasoning)
1/2 teaspoon oregano
1/2 teaspoon salt
2 Tablespoons avocado oil



recipe & picture from jaroflemons.com

INSTRUCTIONS

Preheat the air fryer to 400° F. Slice and cube the zucchini. Mix the bread crumbs, garlic powder, paprika (or harissa seasoning), oregano, and salt together in a small bowl. Coat the cubed zucchini with avocado oil, then mix into the seasoning mixture until evenly coated. Place a single layer of the zucchini in the air fryer basket. Air fry for 8-10 minutes (depending how crispy you want them), flipping halfway. Repeat with a second batch if necessary.



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CITY OF HAHIRA

102 S. Church St. Hahira, GA 31632
229-794-2330 • hahiraga.gov

LOWNDES COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

416 N. Ashley St. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-247-8100 • valdostachamber.com

LOWNDES COUNTY TAG & TAX OFFICE

300 N. Patterson St. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-671-2579 • lowndescountytax.com

DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES

371 Gil Harbin Industrial Blvd.
Valdosta, GA 31601
678-413-8400 • dds.ga.gov

**See page 54 for info on a GA Drivers
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VALDOSTA DAILY TIMES

201 N. Troup St. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-244-1880
valdostadailytimes.com

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PATROL POST 31**
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HAHIRA FIRE DEPT
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LAKELAND

history

Lanier County was formed on November 2, 1920. The county was named for Georgia's poet laureate, Sidney Lanier. Lakeland was first named Alapaha Station after the Alapaha River and then became Milltown after all the local Mills. On August 11, 1295, after the Mills closed, Lakeland changed her name from Milltown to Lakeland to highlight nearby Grand Bay, Banks Lake, and Lake Irma. To honor this historic day a civic organization commissioned over 80 murals depicting the citizens of that era. Lakeland is known as Georgia's "Historic Mural City".

local favs

LAKELAND-LANIER COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE & LIVING WINDOWS

Dec. 7, 2023

Living Windows: 5:30pm

Parade: 6:30PM

8 S. Valdosta Rd. | 229-482-9755

lakelandchamber.org

FLATLANDERS CONCERT

6:30pm-9:30pm | FREE

Lakeland Farmers Market

229-482-9755

For dates, visit lakelandchamber.org

fun facts

- Lanier County is known for Banks Lake, which is a National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and part of a much larger blackwater system. The refuge was established in 1985 for the protection and conservation of this unique environment as well as migratory and resident wildlife.
- In 1972, Burt Reynolds filmed the movie "Gator" at Banks Lake.



BLUEBERRY COBBLER

Submitted by Mayor Bill Darsey of Lakeland

GREAT AMERICAN COBBLER

Follow the instructions printed on the box:

1. Remove frozen cobbler from box and remove plastic film from cobbler. Do not remove cobbler from original pan.
2. Center frozen cobbler on a cookie sheet lined with aluminum foil and place in preheated oven.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 55 to 65 minutes until deep golden brown. Let stand for 15 minutes. Ovens vary; adjust cooking times as needed. Served great with vanilla ice cream.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR:

"I'm not a cook, but I know what's good to eat! Support your local farmers and businesses. If you haven't tried these cobblers yet, you are really missing out! Try one and enjoy!!!"



BAKE YOUR OWN COBBLER

If you love baking, this recipe is a favorite in Lakeland

**CUPA
CUPA
CUPA**

A Quick & Easy Cobbler

Melt 1 stick of butter in baking dish.
Add 2 cups blueberries (peaches)
Stir together & pour over fruit:

- 1 cup self-rising flour
- 1 cup Milk
- 1 cup sugar

Bake 30 minutes at 350 or until done!

Best served warm with vanilla ice cream!

**CITY OF
LAKELAND**

**MAYOR
BILL DARSEY**

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Vallentio Brockington
Jason Walden
Gregory Sealey Jr.
Otis Calhoun
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Johnny Reynolds

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NEED-TO-KNOW NUMBERS

CITY OF LAKELAND

64 S. Valdosta Rd. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-3100

CITY OF RAY CITY

8151 Main Street Ray City, GA 31645
229-455-2501

LAKELAND-LANIER COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

8 S. Valdosta Road Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-9755 • lakelandchamber.org

LANIER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

56 W. Main Street Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-2088

LANIER COUNTY COURTHOUSE

56 W. Main St. Lakeland, GA 31635
laniercountybec.com

LANIER COUNTY TAG & TAX OFFICE

56 W. Main St. Suite 1
Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-3795

DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES

371 Gil Harbin Industrial Blvd.
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*See page 54 for info on a GA Drivers
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Worship - 11:00 AM

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Unity Church

Highway 122 East Lakeland, GA
4 Miles from Lakeland

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Worship Service: 11 am

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LAKE PARK

history

In 1825, Georgia's General Assembly divided Irwin County to create a new county. It would be named Lowndes in tribute to William J. Lowndes, a popular South Carolina statesman. The 490-acre parcels were distributed by "luck of the draw" from two barrels. One barrel held the settler's names and the other contained the land lots. Names of lots were drawn and matched, and the new land owners were given nine years to pay their \$8 deed fees. By 1890, the small town known as Twin Lakes changed its name to Lake Park. For more information about Lake Park, visit cityoflakeparkga.com.

local favs

GRASSY POND PARK AND RECREATION

This 500-acre recreational area contains cabins, RV sites, tent sites, group shelters, nature trails, grills and other amenities. The major fishing area offers a variety of activities for guests such as a boat launch for personal boats.

moodyfss.com

fun facts

- Known as Georgia's Southern Gateway City, 5 miles from the Florida line.
- More than 20 lakes allow easy fishing, boating, and sailing.
- Year-round temperate climate.
- Grassy Pond Park & Recreation operated by Moody AFB is over 500 acres. Open to the public.
- Spanish moss that is seen locally in the trees is an air plant, derived from air and rain.
- Spanish Moss was used for stuffing upholstered furniture in the early 1900s.



BEST LOVED PASTA SALAD

Submitted by Mayor Jena Sandlin of Lake Park, GA

INGREDIENTS

1 box of multicolored twisted pasta noodles
 1 bell pepper chopped in small pieces
 1 sweet onion chopped in small pieces
 1 clove of garlic chopped in small pieces
 1 container of cherry tomatoes
 1 jar of green olives (drained)
 1 bag of cubed cheese
 1 bottle of Italian Dressing
 Salt and pepper to taste

*"This recipe has always been loved with family, friends and at gatherings."
 - Jena Sandlin*



DIRECTIONS

Boil noodles as directed on the box. Drain noodles and set aside to cool down. Once noodles have cooled down, combine all ingredients in a bowl and mix together. Cover and put in fridge for at least 1 hr before serving.

NEED-TO-KNOW NUMBERS

CITY OF LAKE PARK

120 N. Essa St. Lake Park, GA 31636
 229-559-7470
cityoflakeparkga.com

POST OFFICE

687 Lakes Blvd. Lake Park, GA 31636
 229-559-7843 • 800-275-8777
usps.com

NATURAL GAS

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877-850-6200 • gng.com

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RECYCLING CENTER

LAKES COLLECTION CENTER

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 Lake Park, GA 31636
 Fri, Sat, Mon: 7am – 6pm
 Sunday: 1pm – 6pm
AdvancedDisposal.com

WATER COMPANY

CITY OF LAKE PARK

120 N. Essa St.
 Lake Park, GA 31636
 229-559-7470
cityoflakeparkga.com

TRASH COLLECTION

WASTE MANAGEMENT

1101 Hawkins St. Valdosta, GA 31601
 866-319-5397 • wm.com

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

CLYATTVILLE

FIRE DEPARTMENT

NON-EMERGENCY LINE

229-245-5270

LAKE PARK

FIRE DEPARTMENT

229-245-5270

LAKE PARK POLICE

229-559-7470 • 229-245-5270

For more Valdosta & Lowndes key numbers, see page 52 & 53



MOODY AIR FORCE BASE

home of the 23d flying tigers

Moody Air Force Base, located 10 miles northeast of Valdosta, was founded as a result of concerned Valdosta and Lowndes County citizens seeking to assist the expanding defense program in the early stages of World War II. Research suggested developing an air corps training base, and in 1941 the War Department was granted exclusive use of more than 9,000 acres of land by the Agricultural Department. The base is named in memory of Maj. George Putnam Moody, an Air Force pioneer who was on the inspection board for the AT-10 transitional trainers that were eventually sent to the base.

Home to the 23d Wing, the mission of the more than 4,500 military personnel and close to 1,000 civilians is to organize, train, and employ combat-ready pararescuemen, A-10C, HH-60W, HC-130J and support forces to execute worldwide close air support, force protection and combat search and rescue operations, national security and the global war on terrorism. The base is also home to the Air Force's 93d Air Ground Operations Wing, which is the primary organization the U.S. Air Force utilizes to broker air power operations in the joint warfare environment. The 93d AGOW serves as the enduring link between the Air Force and the Army.

The men and women of Moody have historically enjoyed respect and support from area citizens, perhaps evidenced most strongly by the intense lobbying to save the base when it appeared on a closure list. Airmen know that when they get stationed at Moody, the South Georgia community is going to welcome them with open arms.

Personnel at Moody return the hospitality to the metropolitan Valdosta area. Generally, every other year, Moody hosts an open house and air show which provides the base an opportunity to give back to the local community and showcase the great mission on the base.

The public and Moody personnel enjoy access to nearby Grassy Pond, which has approximately 500 acres that is used for recreational activities such as boating, picnicking, camping, fishing, and hiking in a pristine wilderness setting. More info at www.moody.af.mil or their official Facebook @moodyairforcebase.

NEED-TO-KNOW NUMBERS

INFORMATION LINE

23 Flying Tiger Way
Operator: 229-257-1110
moody.af.mil

AIRMAN AND FAMILY READINESS CENTER

4851 Burrell Street, Bldg 404
(Inside the fitness center)
229-257-3333

AQUATICS

229-257-3244

ARMY AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE (AAFES)

4343 George St.
229-257-3431

AUTO SHOP

229-257-3056

CHAPEL

229-257-3211

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

229-257-9220
militarychildcare.com

COMMAND POST

229-257-3501

COMMISSARY

4333 George St. Bldg 902
229-257-3338

EQUIPMENT RENTAL

229-257-2989

FAMILY CHILD CARE

229-257-9587
militarychildcare.com

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency:
229-257-3102

FITNESS CENTER

229-257-1621

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229-257-2033
moodyfss.com

GRASSY POND

5360 Grassy Pond Rd.
Lake Park, GA 31636
229-559-5840

LIBRARY

229-257-3539

MEDICAL CLINIC

229-257-2778
1-800-889-3041

MOODY FIELD CLUB

4251 George St. Bldg 901
229-257-3792

MOODY INN

3213 Mitchell Blvd
229-257-3893

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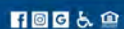
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OPERATION WARM-HEART



Operation Warm-Heart is an in-house organization that is used for helping Airmen and families in times of crisis or hardship. Since it is also a non-profit organization, it has fewer regulations than an official government budget. This allows the First Sergeants the ability to provide immediate assistance when the Airmen or their family needs help.

Every Warm-Heart dollar spent is decided upon through a vote amongst the First Sergeants. Rest assured that your donations go directly to helping Airmen and their families.

Last summer a tree fell on an Airman's house and rendered the structure unlivable. Operation Warm-Heart was able to cover hotel and food expenses for several days, bridging the gap between paychecks and insurance claims.

Many events such as "Random Acts of Kindness" take place throughout the year. Some of these include such things as cooking meals for Airmen, upgrading dorm recreation spaces, providing gift

cards and sometimes free gas. An annual "Home for the Holidays" essay allows multiple airmen to travel home at little or no cost to them. The airmen do not have to pay this money back.

Every year Operation Warm-Heart donations allow the First Sergeants the ability to assist dozens of Airmen with hardships faced with military service, loss of life, limb and property as well as conducting events to boost morale.

You can help too. A small donation can go a long way. Scan the QR code to donate.



Operation Warmheart

Scan to pay \$MAFBWarmheart



FLYING TIGER GUMBO

Submitted by Col. Russel "Bones" Cook and family, 23d Wing Commander

INGREDIENTS

½ cup oil	1 whole chicken, shredded
½ cup all-purpose flour	Salt
1 ½ large onions, chopped	Pepper
1 green pepper, chopped;	Cayenne seasoning
1 celery stalk, chopped	Tabasco
2 garlic cloves, chopped	Chicken broth, 2 qts
1 ½ lbs. sausage, sliced	Cooked rice
	Gumbo File

DIRECTIONS

Combine oil and flour in a large pot and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly until a dark brown. This is the roux – careful not to burn it! Add onions, green pepper, celery (the cajun cooking trinity), and garlic over medium heat for 5 minutes. Add sausage and chicken with the broth and simmer for an hour. You can add almost anything here in addition to the sausage and chicken—crab legs, shrimp, crawfish, duck, oysters, gator tails, etc. Season the gumbo to taste with cayenne, pepper, salt, and Tabasco. Serve over rice adding Gumbo File at serving to thicken the gumbo. Normally serves 8 people – but only 4-5 Cajuns.

FUN FACT!

Claire Chennault started the Flying Tigers during World War II. Raised in Louisiana, he definitely enjoyed this Cajun favorite and even had it cooked in China during the war. If you get the roux right, you can't do wrong with this dish. It is meant to flavor any proteins you have available and feed a multitude.





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history

Berrien County is a community rich in history. Named after John Macpherson Berrien, a Savannah lawyer who later served as United States Attorney General under President Andrew Jackson. Berrien County was incorporated in 1856 as Georgia's 116th county.

The county seat of Berrien County is Nashville, which was incorporated in 1892 and serves as the business center of the county. Nashville, known as the "City of Dogwoods," was named for General Francis Nash of North Carolina, a distinguished soldier of the Revolutionary War. Other incorporated towns in the County are Alapaha, Enigma, and Ray City.

local favs

FIRST THURSDAYS

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nashvillemainstreet@gmail.com

BERRIEN COUNTY

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March 15-16, 2024

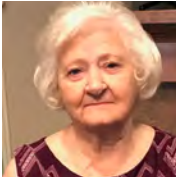
Berrien Co. Saddle Club

229-686-5123

berrienchamber.com

fun facts

- Also known as the City of Dogwoods.
- Nashville was named in honor of General Francis Nash, a distinguished Revolutionary War soldier.
- Home to the "Best Little Museum in Georgia" which is located inside the courthouse on the square.
- Downtown streets named after revolutionary War Generals and US Presidents.
- The courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



GRANNY BETTY JEAN SUMMERLIN'S HAM DRESSING

Submitted by Mayor Travis Brown of Nashville



INGREDIENTS

For the Cornbread

2 cups White Lily cornmeal
2 Tbsp. flour
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1/3 cup of milk
1 egg
Stir all ingredients and pour into greased cake pan. Cook until cornbread is done but not dark.

Bake ham. You will need some of the ham chipped into small bits and at least 2 1/2 cups of the ham broth.

Preparing the dressing

Crumble cornbread
1 cup Ham pieces chipped
2 1/2 cups ham broth
4 diced boiled eggs
1 small diced onion

DIRECTIONS

Combine all ingredients in a large bowl adding water to make the mixture a little soupy. Spray baking pan with non stick spray. Pour mixture into the pan and sprinkle a light dusting of pepper over the top. Bake on 350° for 30-40 minutes until the dressing is done but not too dry. Lightly cover with aluminum foil. Serve with Love !!!



NOTE

"I am blessed to have had a wonderful Mother-in-law for 30 years before her passing in 2020. Learning of my poultry allergies in 1990 she surprised me with my first dressing that I could eat. She taught me to make this myself after that. We still have Granny Betty's dressing as a family favorite on most Thanksgivings and Christmases. She was an Amazing Woman Of Many Talents And Full Of Love!!! Truly missed!!"

Travis Brown, Mayor



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229-686-5527
cityofnashvillega.net

BERRIEN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

201 N. Davis St, Rm 133 Nashville, GA 31639
229-686-5123 • berrienchamber.com

BERRIEN COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

201 N. Davis St, Rm 146 Nashville, GA 31639
229-686-6160

BERRIEN COUNTY CITY ROAD DEPT

520 County Farm Rd. Nashville, GA 31639
229-686-3230

BERRIEN COUNTY TAG & TAX OFFICE

201 N. Davis St, Rm 105 Nashville, GA 31639
229-686-7461

DEPARTMENT OF DRIVER SERVICES

3057 US Hwy 41 S Tifton, GA 31794
678-413-8400 • dds.ga.gov

371 Gil Harbin
Industrial Blvd. Valdosta, GA 31601
678-413-8400 • dds.ga.gov

*See page 54 for info on a GA Drivers
License and Lowndes County Tag office.*

DIRECTOR OF NASHVILLE MAIN STREET

229-686-5527
facebook.com/nashvillemainstreet
nashvillemainstreet@gmail.com

POST OFFICE

310 S. Bartow St. Nashville, GA 31639
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TRASH COLLECTION WASTE MANAGEMENT

866-319-5397
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Nashville, GA 31639
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**GEORGIA STATE
PATROL POST 13**
229-386-3333

NASHVILLE FIRE DEPT.
229-686-2091

NASHVILLE POLICE
229-686-6558

ANIMAL CONTROL
229-237-0318

**BERRIEN COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPT.**
229-686-7071

**RAY CITY POLICE
EMERGENCY LINE**
911

NON-EMERGENCY LINE
229-455-2501

POISON CONTROL
1-800-222-1222

EMERGENCY CONTACTS



BANANA BLUEBERRY MUFFINS

Submitted by Mary Sumner, Berrien County resident

To learn more about Mary Sumner, visit sgaconnections.com/blog

INGREDIENTS

1 ½ cups plain flour
¾ cup light brown sugar,
packed
1 ½ tsp. baking soda
¼ tsp. salt
½ tsp. cinnamon
½ cup canola oil

½ tsp. vanilla flavoring
1 large egg
¾ cup pecans, coarsely
chopped
2 ripe bananas, mashed
3 Tbsps. buttermilk
1 cup fresh or frozen blueberries

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Grease standard 12-muffin cup baking tin, or line with paper muffin cups. In bowl, stir together flour, sugar, baking soda, salt, cinnamon & pecans. In another bowl, whisk together the oil, egg, vanilla & buttermilk until blended. Add to dry ingredients, along with banana and stir until evenly combined. Gently fold in blueberries. Be careful to not over mix. Spoon batter evenly into muffin cups. Bake until golden, springy to touch, 20–25 minutes. A toothpick inserted into the center of a muffin should come out clean. Let cool 5 minutes, unmold muffins onto a wire rack. Serve warm or at room temperature.

NOTE: SUBSTITUTION FOR BUTTERMILK:

Mix 4 Tbsps. milk & ¼ tsp. white vinegar. Allow to stand 10 minutes. Measure amount needed for above.



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A photograph of the Ada Faye Fashions storefront and interior. The storefront is a brick building with a large arched window. The interior shows a clothing store with various garments hanging and displayed on racks.

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Two photographs of gift items. The left photo shows a collection of small, decorative items, possibly candles or figurines, arranged on a table. The right photo shows a set of white dishes, including plates and bowls, arranged on a table.

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A photograph of two large, square, grilled items, possibly steaks or fish, cooking on a grill. The grill has a distinctive diamond-shaped pattern.



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THOMASVILLE

history

In 1826, Thomasville was established as the county seat of Thomas County, both believed to be named for Major General Jett Thomas. Thomasville was the terminus for the railroad and was as far south as could be traveled by rail. In The Victorian era, wealthy Northerners traveled to Thomasville for their health. Breathing the pine-scented air was thought to be a cure for pulmonary ailments. They enjoyed the climate, indulging in hunting, horse racing, golf and social activities. Thomasville became known as the “Winter Resort of the South,” representing Southern hospitality and a lavish resort lifestyle.

local favs

FIRST FRIDAY SIP & SHOP

First Friday of every month
March-Dec. (excluding July)
6pm-10pm | 229-228-7977

thomasvillega.com

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Downtown Thomasville
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229-228-7977

thomasvillega.com

ROSE SHOW & FESTIVAL

Downtown Thomasville
April 26-27, 2024
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

fun facts

- Nicknamed “City of Roses”
- President Dwight D. Eisenhower visited Thomas County in 1956 to rest after an illness and to decide whether or not to run for a second term. The local Glen Arven Golf Course, one of America’s oldest, was a favorite of the President.
- Thomasville native Lt. Henry O. Flipper was the first black graduate of West Point in 1877.

DANIEL BOONE'S GOURMET VENISON

Submitted by Mayor Jay Flowers of Thomasville



INGREDIENTS

½ cup Virgin Olive Oil
 All-purpose flour
 One strip of venison backstrap (tenderloin)
 1 ½ cups Marsala wine
 (Merlot, Cabernet, Red Zin will work but the sweetness of Marsala is best)
 14 oz beef broth
 Three medium red shallots (I often substitute fresh green onions)
 1 lb. fresh, sliced mushrooms
 One fresh minced garlic clove (we like garlic and use about 3 cloves)



DIRECTIONS

Slice venison into ¼ inch medallions, slice across the grain.
 Pound each medallion with the palm of your hand until thin.
 Pour oil into a large skillet and heat to medium, test with a pinch of flour.
 Lightly bread venison on both sides with the flour, salt and pepper to your taste.
 Cook venison about 1 minute on each side, set aside to drain.
 Drain excess oil from the pan, do not wipe pan.
 Place shallots (onions), mushrooms in pan. Lightly brown for about 1 minute.
 Add wine, let simmer until wine cooks down to about half its original volume
 Add beef broth and simmer for 5-10 minutes
 Stir in garlic, add venison
 Simmer on low heat until the sauce thickens.
 Serve over wild rice. We like to add fresh cranberries. The sweet/tart flavor balances well against the rich sauce.



#thomasvillega



NEED-TO-KNOW NUMBERS

CITY OF THOMASVILLE

111 Victoria Pl. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-227-7001 • thomasville.org

CITY OF THOMASVILLE MAIN STREET OFFICE

144 E. Jackson St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-227-7020 • thomasvillega.com

**THOMASVILLE-THOMAS COUNTY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

401 S Broad St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-226-9600 • imaginethomasville.com

THOMASVILLE VISITOR'S CENTER

144 E. Jackson St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-228-7977 • thomasvillega.com

**THOMAS COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

116 W. Jefferson St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4100 • thomascountyboc.org

THOMAS COUNTY JUDICIAL BUILDING

325 N. Madison St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4108

THOMAS COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

325 N. Madison St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4108 • thomasclerkofcourt.org

CITY OF THOMASVILLE TAX INFORMATION

229-227-3250

THOMAS COUNTY TAX OFFICE

225 N. Broad St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4133

DRIVER'S LICENSE

4700 US 84 Bypass Thomasville, GA 31792
678-413-8400 • dds.ga.gov

THOMAS COUNTY

TAG OFFICE/VEHICLE REGISTRATION

225 North Broad St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4136

See page 54 for info on a GA Drivers License.

THOMAS COUNTY VOTER REGISTRATION

1402 E. Jackson St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4101 • thomascountyvoter.org

POST OFFICE

404 N. Broad St, Ste 101
Thomasville, GA 31792
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THOMASVILLE NATURAL GAS DEPARTMENT

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NEWSPAPER

THOMASVILLE TIMES-ENTERPRISE

106 South St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-226-2400 • timesenterprise.com

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**GEORGIA BUREAU OF
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229-225-4090

**GEORGIA STATE
PATROL POST 12**
229-227-2490

**THOMASVILLE FIRE
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County: 229-225-4191
City: 229-227-7015

**THOMASVILLE
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229-227-3249

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TIFTON

history

Captain Henry Harding Tift, a steamship engineer from Connecticut, founded Tifton in 1872, with plans to harvest timber for the family shipbuilding business. He purchased 4,900 acres for \$10,000 from his uncle. Tift County was created in 1905 and composed of 90 square miles from Berrien Co., 95 square miles from Irwin Co., and 68 square miles from Worth Co. Named to honor Tift, the town became “Tift’s Town” and was known that way until 1890 when the name was then shortened and designated as Tifton.

local favs

WIREGRASS FARMER’S MARKET

Every Saturday from April–October

9am–12pm

Located at the pole barn behind
the GA Museum of Agriculture
Country Store
229–382–8700
tiftontourism.com

RHYTHM & RIBS BBQ FESTIVAL

March 1–2, 2024

10am–10pm

Fulwood Park | Tifton
229–382–8700
tiftonribsfest.com

fun facts

- Known as The Friendly City.
- The U.S. Interstate System was started in Tifton in 1957.
- Home to the Georgia Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village, a living museum depicting 19th century lifestyles.
- Turfgrass from Tifton can be found on major sports fields around the world.
- Singer/Songwriter, Kip Moore is the most famous person to have come out of the city of Tifton, Georgia.

MARINATED ROASTED PORK TENDERLOIN

Submitted by Mayor Julie Smith of Tifton and her husband, Doug Smith



INGREDIENTS

One Pork Tenderloin
(about 2-3 pounds)

FOR MARINADE:

(mix in a large zip lock bag)
1/2 cup soy sauce
1/4 cup red wine
2 tablespoons honey

2 tablespoons brown sugar
4 cloves minced garlic
4 tablespoons ground fresh ginger
1 tablespoon Siracha sauce
1/4 cup balsamic vinegar
2-3 scallions chopped- white and green parts

DIRECTIONS

Mix marinade ingredients well. Remove approx 1/3 cup of marinade and reserve. Add tenderloin to bag and marinate overnight.

Grill tenderloin over hot charcoal turning frequently for about 30 minutes. Remove from grill and wrap in foil. Allow to rest for about 20 minutes. While meat is resting, add 1 teaspoon of cornstarch to the marinade in a microwave-safe bowl or cup and mix well. Microwave for approx. 25 seconds. After meat has been sliced, drizzle the reserved marinade over the sliced meat. Enjoy.



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CITY OF TYTY

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229-382-9476

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TAG & TAX OFFICE

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229-386-7820 • tiftcounty.org

TIFTON-TIFT COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

100 S. Central Ave. Tifton, GA 31794
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TIFTON-TIFT CO. TOURISM ASSOCIATION

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history

The City of Valdosta was incorporated on December 7, 1860, by the State Legislature. Col. Leonoren Delyon, editor of the "South Georgia Watchman," which was the only newspaper in this section of the state, was given the honor of suggesting that it be named in honor of one of Governor George M. Troup's plantations, Val d'Osta, in Laurens County. The source of the name was a town, valley, and district in northwestern Italy. The spelling of the name was modified to Valdosta, and the citizens chose Reuben Thomason Roberts as the first Mayor.

local favs

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fun facts

- Also known as The Azalea City.
- Valdosta is the 14th largest city in Georgia and has a population of 56,500+.
- The Valdosta High Wildcat football team, which has won more games than any other high school in the nation, has given rise to the City's nickname - "Winnersville."
- Country Music Star Thomas Rhett was born in Valdosta. His Father Rhett Akins grew up in Valdosta before becoming a singer/songwriter in Nashville.



BRUSSEL SPROUTS & BACON

Submitted by Mayor Scott James Matheson & First Lady Rebekah Matheson of Valdosta

INGREDIENTS

2 to 3 cups of Brussel sprouts cut into quarters (peeled and cleaned)
 1 lb. Thick cut Bacon "Crispy" cut into strips
 Salt and Pepper to taste
 2 tbsp. of Raw Honey
 2 tbsp. of Grand Marnier
 The grease from the bacon

DIRECTIONS

Turn oven on to 350 degrees.

Place Brussel sprouts into a baking dish. Add salt, pepper, honey, Grand Marnier, and then pour over the hot bacon grease. Sprinkle the bacon over the sprouts. Stir well to make sure everything is happy.

Taste the bacon. This is required.

Okay, taste a Brussel sprout. This is when you can decide to add more of something.

Bake covered for 45 minutes at 350 degrees.



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- You must surrender any out-of-state driver's license, permit, or ID Card.
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 - You must provide a copy of your driving record or motor vehicle report (MVR) from the state that issued the card.
 - The MVR must be dated within the last 60 days.
 - Note: A copy can be faxed to DDS directly from the other state agency.
 - All documents must be in English.



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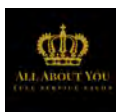
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by Missy Sherwood, Georgia Florida Real Estate Broker

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Despite rising interest rates and low inventory, today is still a good time to buy a house for several reasons.

First, interest rates are still historically low. While they have risen slightly, they are still much lower than they have been in the past. This means that buyers can still take advantage of relatively low mortgage rates, which can translate into lower monthly payments and significant savings over the life of the loan. You can also refinance when interest rates drop again so that you don't miss out on homeownership now.

Second, the real estate market is constantly evolving. While low inventory may be a challenge right now, it's important to remember that this can change rapidly. As more homes become available, prices may stabilize, creating more opportunities for buyers.

Third, owning a home can be a great investment. Even if prices do not appreciate

as quickly as they have in recent years, owning a home can provide long-term stability and financial security. In addition, many buyers may find that their monthly mortgage payments are lower than what they would be paying in rent. There are also tax benefits to owning a home including depreciation deductions, property tax deductions, and mortgage interest deductions.

Finally, buying a home can provide a sense of pride and accomplishment. Owning a home allows you to customize and personalize your living space, create a sense of community, and put down roots in a neighborhood you love. In conclusion, while market conditions may present some challenges, there are still many potential benefits to investing in real estate. As always, it is important to conduct thorough research and seek advice from a Realtor, like myself before making any investment decisions.

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Reach out to your neighbors! Try going over and introducing yourself. Maybe invite them for coffee sometime.



Find volunteer opportunities. Volunteering your time is a great way to meet new people & get involved in the community.



Join local Facebook groups that share your interests. Facebook is a goldmine of opportunities for newcomers to get involved in their communities. There are countless Facebook groups for everyone from parents to young professionals to foodies.



Socialize with co-workers. See what you can get involved with socially at work and if there's nothing there already, why not try to organize something yourself?



Shop local! Spending time in the local boutiques and restaurants ensures that you can build relationships with the hardworking people who own the shops.



Attend community events. Events bring people together with others who share similar interests, and they are a great way to celebrate the community you live in.

Be confident, be yourself, and be open to new social connections. Before you know it, you'll feel settled in and establish genuine friendships with like-minded individuals.



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The Gallery at the Georgia Museum of Agriculture

I-75 at Exit 63B Tifton, GA 31793
229-391-5205 • gma.abac.edu



Thomasville Center for the Arts

600 E. Washington St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-226-0588 • thomasvillearts.org

MUSEUMS & HISTORICAL LANDMARKS



GA Museum of Agriculture and Historic Village

Also on site: National Peanut Museum
Tifton, I-75 at Exit 63B • gma.abac.edu

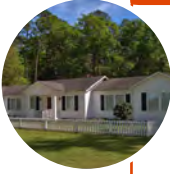


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229-482-9755



Lowndes County Historical Society & Museum
305 W. Central Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-247-4780 • valdostamuseum.org

Tifton Museum of Arts and Heritage
255 Love Ave. Tifton, GA 31793
229-382-3600 • tiftonmuseum.org

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Show schedule and info available at:
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Visit Facebook for performance times. [f @valdostachoralguild](https://www.facebook.com/valdostachoralguild)
Northside Baptist Church • 231-633-3574



Valdosta Symphony Orchestra

VSU Fine Arts Bldg
Corner of Oak St. and Brookwood Dr.
Valdosta, GA 31698
229-333-2150 • valdostasymphony.org



Valdosta State University Music Department

VSU Fine Arts Bldg
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229-333-5804 • valdosta.edu/music

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2.17.24 @ 7:30pm
3.30.24 @ 7:30pm
4.27.24 @ 7:30pm



valdostasymphony.org | 229-333-2150

THEATRE

**Gingerbread Players (Kids Theatre)**

229-247-8243 • theatreguildvaldosta.com

**Peach State Summer Theatre (June-July)**

VSU Fine Arts Bldg
 Corner of Oak St. and Brookwood Dr.
 Valdosta, GA 31698
 229-259-7770 • valdosta.edu/psst

**Theatre Guild The 'Dosta Playhouse**

122 N. Ashley St. Valdosta, GA 31601
 229-247-8243 • theatreguildvaldosta.com

Tift Theatre for Performing Arts

320 Main St. South Tifton, GA 31794
 229-326-9182 • tifttheatre.org

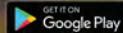
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229-929-2330 • fairway-tavern.com



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229-253-8858 • osakahibachisushivaldosta.com

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3992 N. Oak St. Ext Valdosta, GA 31605

229-244-6694 • openbiblechristianschool.org

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229-382-0436 • tiftareaacademy.com

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229-896-2294 • cook.k12.ga.us

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Cook County Elementary (Grades 3 - 5): 229-549-6250
Cook County Middle (Grades 6-8): 229-549-5999
Cook County High (Grades 9-12): 229-896-2213



LAKELAND (LANIER COUNTY SCHOOLS)

247 S Hwy 221 Lakeland, GA 31635

229-482-3966 • lanier.k12.ga.us

Lanier County Primary (Grades Pre-K-2): 229-482-3580
Lanier County Elementary (Grades 3-5): 229-482-3870
Lanier County Middle (Grades 6-8): 229-482-8247
Lanier County High (Grades 9-12): 229-482-3868



NASHVILLE (BERRIEN COUNTY SCHOOLS)

810 S. Dogwood Dr. Nashville, GA 31639

229-686-2081 • berrienschools.org

Berrien County Primary (Grades Pre-K - 2): 229-686-7438
Berrien County Elementary (Grades 3 - 5): 229-686-2939
Berrien County Middle (Grades 6 - 8): 229-686-2021
Berrien County High (Grades 9 - 12): 229-686-7428
Berrien Academy Perf. Learning Ctr (Grades 9-12): 229-686-6576



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200 N. Pinetree Blvd. Thomasville, GA 31792

229-225-4380 • thomas.k12.ga.us

Hand-in-Hand Primary School (Grades Pre-K-K): 229-225-3908

Garrison-Pilcher Elementary School (Grades 1-2): 229-225-4387

Cross Creek Elementary School (Grades 3-4): 229-225-3900

Thomas County Middle School (Grades 5-8): 229-225-4394

Thomas County Central High School (Grades 9-12): 229-225-5050

Bishop Hall Charter School (Grades 8-12): 229-227-1397

THOMASVILLE (THOMASVILLE CITY SCHOOLS)

404 N. Broad St, Floor 3 Thomasville, GA 31792

229-225-2600 • tcitys.org

Harper Elementary (Grades Pre-K- 5): 229-225-2622

Jerger Elementary (Grades Pre-K- 5): 229-225-2625

Scott Elementary (Grades Pre-K- 5): 229-225-2631

Macintyre Park Middle (Grades 6-8): 229-225-2628

Thomasville High School (Grades 9-12): 229-225-2634

Scholars Academy (Grades 6-12): 229-228-3397

TIFTON (TIFT COUNTY SCHOOLS)

506 W. 12th Street Tifton, GA 31794

229-387-2400 • tiftschools.com

Annie Belle Clark Primary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2410

G.O. Bailey Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2415

Len Lastinger Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2420

Northside Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2425

Omega Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2418

Charles Spencer Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2430

Matt Wilson Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5): 229-387-2440

J.T. Reddick Elementary School (Grades Pre-K - 5) : 229-387-2435

Eighth Street Middle School (Grades 6 - 8): 229-387-2445

Northeast Middle School (Grades 6-8): 229-387-2450

Tift Co. High School (Grades 9 - 12): 229-387-2475

Sixth Street Academy (Grades 6 - 12): 229-387-2485



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Dewar Elementary School : 229-219-1370
Hahira Elementary School : 229-316-8600
Lake Park Elementary School : 229-316-8603
Moulton Branch Elementary : 229-245-2294
Pine Grove Elementary School : 229-245-2297
West Side Elementary School : 229-245-2289

COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOLS (6-8)

Hahira Middle School : 229-316-8601
Lowndes Middle School : 229-245-2280
Pine Grove Middle School : 229-219-3234

COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL (9-12)

Lowndes High School
229-245-2260



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1204 Williams St.
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229-333-8500
gocats.org

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Pinevale Elementary School : 229-333-8535
Sallas Mahone Elementary : 229-333-8530
S.L. Mason Elementary School : 229-333-8525
W.G. Nunn Elementary School : 229-333-8575

CITY MIDDLE SCHOOLS (6-8)

J.L. Newbern Middle School : 229-333-8566
Valdosta Middle School : 229-333-8555

CITY MIDDLE SCHOOLS (6-12)

Valdosta Early College Academy : 229-671-8455

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Valdosta High School : 229-333-8540



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Lowndes Middle School
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Phone: 229-245-2250 • Fax: 229-245-2255

BERRIEN COUNTY (Nashville)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 18	Clinch Co	7:30	Away
Aug 25	ATCO	7:30	Home
Sept 1	Bacon Co	7:30	Away
Sept 8	Lanier	7:30	Home
Sept 15	OPEN		
Sept 22	Worth	7:30	Home
Sept 29	Jeff Davis	7:30	Away
Oct 6	Sumter	7:30	Home
Oct 13	Cook	7:30	Away
Oct 20	OPEN		
Oct 27	Dodge	7:30	Home
Nov 3	Fitzgerald High	7:30	Away

COOK COUNTY (Adel)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 18	Pelham	7:30	Away
Aug 25	Valdosta	7:30	Home
Sept 1	Brooks	7:30	Away
Sept 8	Clinch	7:30	Away
Sept 15	OPEN		
Sept 22	Jeff Davis	7:30	Home
Sept 29	Sumter	7:30	Away
Oct 6	OPEN		
Oct 13	Berrien	7:30	Home
Oct 20	Dodge	7:30	Away
Oct 27	Fitzgerald	7:30	Home
Nov 3	Worth	7:30	Away

LANIER COUNTY (Lakeland)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 18	Bacon Co	7:30	Away
Aug 25	Telfair Co	7:30	Home
Sept 1	Santa Fe High (FL)	7:30	Home
Sept 8	Berrien Co	7:30	Away
Sept 15	McIntosh Academy	7:30	Home
Sept 22	OPEN		
Sept 29	Pelham	7:30	Away
Oct 6	Clinch Co	7:30	Home
Oct 13	OPEN		
Oct 20	Turner Co	7:30	Away
Oct 27	Atkinson Co	7:30	Home
Nov 3	Charlton Co	7:30	Away

LOWNDES COUNTY SCHOOLS (Valdosta)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug. 25	Gadsden Co, FL	8:00	Home
Sept. 1	West Broward, FL	8:00	Home
Sept. 8	OPEN		
Sept. 15	East Coweta	8:00	Home
Sept. 22	Grayson	7:30	Away
Sept. 29	OPEN		
Oct. 6	Valdosta	8:00	Away
Oct. 13	Dunbar-Ft Meyers, FL	8:00	Home
Oct. 20	Colquitt	8:00	Home
Oct. 27	Richmond Hill	7:30	Away
Nov. 3	Camden	8:00	Home

THOMASVILLE CITY SCHOOLS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 11	Valdosta	8:00	Home
Aug 18	Brooks Co	8:00	Home
Aug 25	TCC	7:30	Away
Sept 1	Cairo	8:00	Home
Sept 8	Bainbridge	8:00	Home
Sept 15	Tift Co	7:30	Away
Sept 22	OPEN		
Sept 29	Monroe	8:00	Home
Oct 6	Carver, Columbus	7:00	Away
Oct 13	Columbus	7:00	Away
Oct 20	Dougherty	8:00	Home
Oct 27	Crisp Co	7:30	Away
Nov 3	OPEN		

THOMAS COUNTY CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL (Thomasville)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 18	Cairo	7:30	Away
Aug 25	Thomasville	7:30	Home
Sept 1	Bainbridge	7:30	Away
Sept 8	OPEN		
Sept 15	Brooks	7:30	Away
Sept 22	Godby	7:30	Home
Sept 29	Veterans	7:30	Away
Oct 6	Tift	7:30	Home
Oct 13	OPEN		
Oct 20	Houston Co	7:30	Away
Oct 27	Lee	7:30	Home
Nov 3	Northside	7:30	Home

TIFT COUNTY (Tifton)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 18	Coffee Co	7:30	Away
Aug 25	Dutchtown	7:30	Home
Sept 1	Colquitt Co	7:30	Home
Sept 8	OPEN		
Sept 15	Thomasville	8:00	Home
Sept 22	Gadsden HS (FL)	7:30	Home
Sept 29	Northside WR	7:30	Home
Oct 6	TCC (Homecoming)	7:30	Away
Oct 13	OPEN		
Oct 20	Veterans	7:30	Away
Oct 27	Houston Co	7:30	Home
Nov 3	Lee Co	7:30	Away

TIFTAREA ACADEMY (Tifton)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug 18	Bulloch	7:00	Home
Aug 25	Frederica	7:30	Away
Sept 1	Central Fellowship	7:30	Home
Sept 8	Westfield	7:30	Home
Sept 15	Wilcox	7:30	Away
Sept 22	OPEN		
Sept 29	Valwood	7:30	Away
Oct 6	OPEN		
Oct 13	Deerfield	7:30	Away
Oct 20	Brookwood	7:30	Home
Oct 27	Southland	7:30	Away
Nov 3	Terrell	7:30	Home

VALDOSTA CITY SCHOOLS

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug. 18	Massillon Washington, OH	7:00	Away
Aug. 25	Cook Co	7:30	Away
Sept. 1	Banneker	8:00	Home
Sept. 8	Warner Robins	8:00	Home
Sept. 15	Coral Glades, FL	8:00	Home
Sept. 22	McEachern	7:30	Away
Sept. 29	OPEN		
Oct. 6	Lowndes Co.	8:00	Home
Oct. 13	Richmond Hill	7:30	Away
Oct. 20	Camden Co	8:00	Home
Oct. 27	Colquitt Co	7:30	Away
Nov 4	OPEN		

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Sept. 2	Point	7:00	Home
Sept. 9	Albany State	7:00	Away
Sept. 16	Keiser	7:00	Home
Sept. 23	North Greenville	7:00	Home
Sept. 30	Chowan	TBA	Away
Oct. 7	Delta State	2:00	Away
Oct. 14	Mississippi College	3:00 EST	Away
Oct. 21	Shorter	3:00	Home
Oct. 28	West Florida	5:00	Away
Nov. 4	West Alabama	12:00 EST	Away
Nov. 11	West Georgia	7:00	Home

VALWOOD SCHOOL (Valdosta)

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
Aug. 25	St. Andrews	7:30	Away
Sept. 1	Frederica	7:30	Home
Sept. 8	Georgia Christian	7:30	Away
Sept. 15	Robert Toombs	7:30	Home
Sept. 22	North Florida Christian	7:00	Away
Sept. 29	Tiftarea	7:30	Home
Oct. 6	OPEN		
Oct. 13	Terrell	7:30	Away
Oct. 20	Southland Academy	7:30	Home
Oct. 27	Deerfield Windsor	7:30	Home
Nov. 3	Brookwood	7:30	Away

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 Sports Medicine



4340 KING'S WAY • VALDOSTA, GA 31602
 (229) 333-9736 • GA.HUGHSTON.COM

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 Kevin J. Collins, MD
 Matthew Heaton, MD
 Douglas W. Pahl, MD

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Garrison-Pilcher Elementary
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Thomas County Middle
5th - 8th

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9th - 12th

Bishop Hall Charter
8th - 12th

**Counselors, Nurses, Mental
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Available at Each School**

5,760 Students

890 Employees

98.5%

Graduation Rate in 2022

\$85 million

Annual Budget

1:1

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at Every School**



THOMAS COUNTY SCHOOLS

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- Comprehensive K-12 computer coding and programming curriculum accessible to all students
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- The area's most comprehensive Advanced Placement Program, offering 20 courses
- The county's largest food service, transportation program, and walk-in health clinic operation including the School-Based Health Center housed on the TCMS campus in partnership with Primary Care of Southwest Georgia

200 N. Pinetree Boulevard
Thomasville, GA 31792
229-225-4380



www.tcjackets.net



**Abraham Baldwin
Agricultural College**

2802 Moore Highway
Tifton, GA 31793
229-391-5000 • abac.edu

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College serves nearly 4,000 students from 18 states, 26 countries, 155 of Georgia's 159 counties, and 58 of Florida's 67 counties at its campuses in Tifton and Bainbridge. ABAC students select from 14 bachelor's degree programs ranging from Agriculture to Nursing. Over 1,300 students live on the Tifton campus in apartment-style housing. Plan your visit today at abac.edu/visit.



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Georgia Military College in Valdosta is a four-year college offering an associate degree and select Bachelor of Applied Science degree programs. GMC does not require a military obligation to attend and is open to all area residents. Multiple degree concentrations of study are offered such as Business Administration, Computer Science, Criminal Justice, Education, Mathematics, Political Science, Paralegal Studies, Pre-Nursing, Psychology, Sociology, Supply Chain/Logistics, and General Studies. GMC offers In-Seat, Remote learning, and Online classes. GMC provides free tutoring and advising assessments to help students achieve academic success. The faculty and staff are friendly and always willing to help. Dual enrollment is available to qualified high school students on-campus and online. In addition to our online and Valdosta Campus offerings, GMC operates on Moody AFB to provide convenient access for military members and their families. Successful student learning begins here.



Georgia Military College

4201 N. Forrest St.
Valdosta, GA 31605
229-375-5650 • gmc.edu



Valdosta State University

1500 N. Patterson St.
Valdosta, GA 31698
229-333-5791
valdosta.edu



At Valdosta State University we know there is no one-size-fits-all approach to personal and professional growth. As a comprehensive institution of the University System of Georgia, we pride ourselves on being a welcoming, aware, vibrant, and diverse community of 12,000 students. We believe learning is best done actively and in collaboration with others. It's the reason we place so much emphasis on student-faculty research, giving our students the chance to participate in cutting-edge, life-changing projects as early as freshman year. With a 21:1 student to faculty ratio, our students receive the individual attention they need to step outside their comfort zone, make an impact, create new knowledge, and promote an innovation-oriented culture. We offer nearly 200 online and on-campus academic programs leading to associate, bachelor, master, specialist, and doctoral degrees as well as to certifications, minors, endorsements, and certificates — and we provide students with real-world experiential learning opportunities along the way. Our unique model of education — one centered on individualized mentorship and support — empowers our students to find genuine happiness and fulfillment after graduation and throughout their life.



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GEORGIA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Wiregrass Georgia Technical College

*Campuses in
Douglas, Fitzgerald,
Sparks & Valdosta*
229-333-2100
wiregrass.edu

Wiregrass Georgia Technical College is part of the Technical College System of Georgia. With a combined student population of over 9,000 annually, the college serves 11 counties including Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Brooks, Coffe, Cook, Echols, Irwin, Lanier, Lowndes, and Wilcox. The college provides over 100 academic programs to sustain and encourage workforce development in the service area. Wiregrass was the 2010 Georgia Technical College of the Year, a top Military Friendly College ten years in a row and a Purple Heart College in 2016. Wiregrass was named in the top 20 career and technical college for veterans in the nation.



Tips for College Success

1. **Take care of yourself.** Get plenty of rest, eat well, and exercise regularly.
2. **Attend class.** This allows you to not miss any important material and help you gain a better understanding of the content.
3. **Practice time management.** Schedule times to study and complete assignments early.
4. **Set goals for yourself.** Achieving them will increase motivation.
5. **Determine your strengths and weaknesses.** Find ways to maximize your strengths and develop strategies to overcome your weaknesses.

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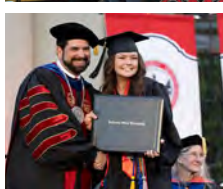
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and easy credit transfer

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

South Georgia is home to many different festivals and celebrations throughout the year! Stay up to date with what's happening in your area by following us on social media! Call ahead or visit the event website to confirm details.

JUNE 2023

Summer Reading Program

All Together Now
June – July 2023
*All SGRL Locations
229-333-0086
sgrl.org

Wild Adventures LIVE!

feat. REO Speedwagon
10th | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

Dad's Day Out

17th | 10am-2pm | Valdosta
Downtown Valdosta
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com

Wild Adventures LIVE!

feat. Larry the Cable Guy
17th | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

Sean Driscoll's The Circus King

28th | 11am-12pm
Valdosta
@ Willis L. Miller Library
229-333-0086
sgrl.org

JULY 2023

Flags of Freedom Flag Display

Free of Charge
Through July 4th
Valdosta | @ Freedom Park
229-259-3507 • vlpra.com

Independence Day Celebration

1st | 3pm-10pm | Hahira
Pie Bake-Off: 4pm-5pm
Golf Cart Parade: 6:30pm
Fireworks: 9pm
@ The Depot
229-794-2330
hahiraga.gov/events

Wiregrass

Freedom Festival

1st | 9am-4pm | Tifton
GA Museum of Agriculture
gma.abac.edu
229-391-5205

Independence Day Fireworks

3rd | 5pm | Nashville
Fireworks at 9pm
@ Memorial Park
Sponsored by
Nashville Fire Dept.
229-686-2154

Independence Day and Fireworks

4th | 9pm | Thomasville
@ Remington Park
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Celebrate America Festival Fireworks

4th | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

VLPR Fireworks

4th | Valdosta
Free of Charge
Nightfall ~ 9:15 pm
Exit 18 Mall side of I-75
229-259-3507 | vlpra.com

Wild Adventures LIVE!

*feat. Barenaked Ladies, Five
for Fighting, Del Amitri*
15th | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

Withlacoochee Springs and Slough

15th | 9am | Sullivan Launch
Paddle on the
Withlacoochee River
Registration required.
wwals.net

For more events, visit sgaconnections.com or download the FYi* App on your mobile device.

Summer Family Movie Night

Showing *Moana*
22nd | 7:30pm | Thomasville
@ The Ritz Amphitheater
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Wild Adventures LIVE!

featuring *For King + Country*
22nd | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

AUGUST 2023

First Friday Sip and Shop

feat. *Trae Pierce*
and *the T-Stones*
2nd | 6pm-10pm
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Wild Adventures LIVE!

feat. *Skillet*
5th | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

Business and Beyond “Sip & See”

10th | 5pm-7 pm
229-896-2281
adelcookchamber.org

Songwriter's Showcase

19th | 6pm-10pm | Valdosta
@ Unity Park Amphitheater
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com

SEPTEMBER 2023

First Friday Sip and Shop

feat. *Michael Miller Band*
1st | 6pm-10pm
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Omega Pepper Festival

8th-9th | Omega
@ Ponder Park
8th | 6pm-10pm
9th | 10:30am-10pm
omegapopperfestival@
gmail.com
229-256-6275

Taste of Downtown

14th | 5pm-9pm
Downtown Valdosta
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com

Flatlander Concert

Free Admission
16th | 6:30pm | Lakeland
LCHS Marching Band/
Khemistry Music Group 229
Lakeland Farmer's Market
229-482-9755
lakelandchamber.org

South Georgia Buddy Walk

16th | 10am-12pm | Valdosta
@ Unity Park Amphitheater
<https://charity.pledgeit.org/southgabuddywalk>
buddywalk@dsasouthga.org
251- 442-1128

WWALS River Revue including Songwriting Finals

22nd | 7pm | Valdosta
@ Turner Center for the Arts
wwals.net

Great Pumpkin LumiNights and The Pumpkin Spice Festival

22nd-Oct. 29th (select days)
Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

La Fiesta Del Pueblo

23rd | Tifton
@ Fulwood Park
lafiestadelpueblo.org

OCTOBER 2023

HoneyBee Festival

Oct. 1st-Oct. 7th
7th: Festival | 9am-6pm
Parade: Noon
Downtown Hahira
229-794-3970/229-794-1425
hahirahoneybeefest.com

Field of Screams (Trick or Treat)

3rd | Nashville
Berrien County Rec. Dept.
229-686-5123
berrienchamber.com

www.fyisouthgeorgia.com

ABAC Truck and Tractor Pull

5th – 7th | 6pm | Tifton
Truck Pull Arena
ABAC Campus
229-391-4799 • [f @AETpull](https://www.facebook.com/AETpull)

First Friday Sip and Shop

feat. *Mac Arnold and Plate*
Full O'Blues
6th | 6pm-10pm
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

“Battle of the Borders” Golf Tournament

12th | Adel
@ Circlestone Country Club
229-896-2281
adelcookchamber.org

Witches Night Out

13th | 5:30PM-8:30PM
Hahira Downtown
229-794-2330
hahiraga.gov/events
[f @HahiraHappenings](https://www.facebook.com/HahiraHappenings)

Fall Family Movie Night Showing *Casper*

14th | 7:30pm | Thomasville
@ The Ritz Amphitheater
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Mooooody Haunted House

14th | 15th | 21st | 22nd
28th | 29th
6pm-7pm (kids)
7pm-10:30pm
Bemiss Rd, North of Quiet
Pines Golf Course
540-827-7992
[f @mooooodyhauntedhouse](https://www.facebook.com/mooooodyhauntedhouse)

Puptober

20th | 5pm-8pm | Valdosta
@ Unity Park Amphitheater
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com



EVENTS & ATTRACTIONS

Cook County Cook Off Classic BBQ Competition

21st | Adel
@ Reed Bingham State Park
229-896-2281
adelcookchamber.org
*Kid's Activities, Food Trucks,
Live Entertainment & BBQ*

Flatlander Concert

Free Admission
21st | 6:30pm | Lakeland
Hard Times Band
@ Lakeland Farmer's Market
229-482-9755
lakelandchamber.org

Grassy Pond Haunted Trail

26th-28th | 7:30pm-11:30pm
@ Grassy Pond
229-559-5840
f@moodyaufbgrassypond

Alapahoochee Farm Days Fall Show Cane Grinding / Syrup Cooking/Tractor Pull

27th &-28th | Lake Park
202 Bethel Church Rd 31636
(Echols County)
229-356-4257
antiquedays@yahoo.com
f@Alapahoochee

Witches Night Out

27th | Downtown Valdosta
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com

Trunk or Treat with Just Jeeps Jeepin'

28th | 9am-12pm
Hahira Square
229-794-2330
hahiraga.gov/events
f@HahiraHappenings

Harvest Festival

28th | 9am-2pm
Downtown Nashville
229-686-5123
berrienchamber.com

Trick or Treat in the Village ABAC's Georgia Museum of Agriculture

28th | 9am-4pm | Tifton
229-391-5205
gma.abac.edu
f@ABACGMA

Street of Sweets

31st | 5pm-7pm
Downtown Adel
229-223-6904
cityofadel.us

NOVEMBER 2023

First Friday Sip and Shop

feat. The Steve Walden Band
3rd | 6pm-10pm
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Alapaha Station Celebration

11th | 9am-6pm | Alapaha
Parade: 10:30am
f@alapahastationcelebration
Live entertainment all day!

Lean-Ox Festival

17th-18th | 8am-4pm
Downtown Lenox
Parade: 11am
229-507-4445

Flatlander Concert

Free Admission
18th | 6:30pm | Lakeland
Robert Griner Band
@ Lakeland Farmer's Market
229-482-9755
lakelandchamber.org

Heritage Days (Cane Grinding/Syrup Cooking)

18th | 9am-4pm | Tifton
GA Museum of Agriculture
229-391-5205
gma.abac.edu
f@ABACGMA

Merry Marketplace

18th | 10am-5pm
(early bird 8am -10am)
19th | 12pm - 5pm | Valdosta
Rainwater Conference
Center • vjsl.org

DECEMBER 2023

Christmas in Cook

Nov 30th: Parade | 6pm
Dec 2nd: 10am-3pm
Downtown Adel
229-896-2281
adelcookchamber.org

First Friday Sip and Shop

feat. Radio Incorporate
1st | 6pm-10pm
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Downtown Christmas Celebration

1st & 2nd | Nashville
229-686-5123
berrienchamber.com

Tinsel in Tifton

2nd | 5pm-10pm
Downtown Tifton
229-391-3966
downtowntifton.com

City of Valdosta Christmas Tree Lighting

2nd | 5:30pm
Christmas Parade: 6pm
Downtown Valdosta
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com

Christmas Parade

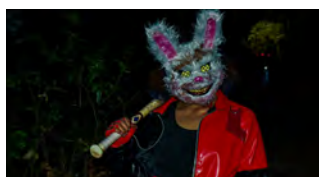
4th | 7pm | Nashville
229-686-5123
berrienchamber.com

Lakeland-Lanier County Christmas Parade & Living Windows

7th | 5:30pm Living Windows
Parade: 6:30pm
8 S. Valdosta Rd,
Lakeland, GA
229-482-9755
lakelandchamber.org

North Pole Express

Reservations required.
7th-9th | 14th - 16th | Tifton
ABAC's GA Museum of
Agriculture
229-391-5205
gma.abac.edu
f@ABACGMA



Christmas Tree Lighting

7th | Hahira Depot
229-794-2330
hahiraga.gov/events
f @HahiraHappenings

Victorian Christmas

14th & 15th | 6pm-9pm
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Christmas Festival

TBA | 9am-5pm
Hahira Square
Christmas Parade: 6pm
229-794-2330
hahiraga.gov/events
f @HahiraHappenings

Family First Night & New Year's Eve Fireworks Spectacular

31st | Valdosta
Wild Adventures
wildadventures.com

**JANUARY 2024****YMCA Team Lean 8-Week Community Wide Weight Loss Competition**

Kickoff: 6th | Valdosta
229-244-4646
valdostaymca.org

GA Peanut Farm Show

18th | 8am-2pm | Tifton
@ UGA Tifton Conference Center
229-386-3470
gapeanuts.com

February 2024**Chili Cook-Off**

24th | 11am-2pm
Downtown Nashville
229-686-5527
nashvillemainstreet@gmail.com

MARCH 2024**Rhythm & Ribs BBQ Festival**

1st & 2nd | 10am-10pm
Tifton | @ Fulwood Park
229-382-8700
tiftonribsfest.com

Mayor and Chairman's Paddle

3rd | 8am | Valdosta
Langdale Park to Troupville
Boat Ramp
Registration required.
wwals.net

Azalea Festival

9th & 10th | Valdosta
@ Drexel Park
229-269-9381
azaleafestival.com

Berrien County Roundup PRC A Rodeo

15th & 16th | Nashville
Berrien Co. Saddle Club
229-686-5123
berrienchamber.com

The Carpenter of Nazareth

23rd -26th | Valdosta
23rd: 2pm
24th-26th: 7pm
@ Park Avenue Church
229-242-3562
parkave.church

Grassy Pond Annual Easter Egg Hunt

30th | 10am-2pm
Grassy Pond
229-559-5840
f @moodyafbgrassypond

APRIL 2024**Folklife Festival**

6th | Tifton | 9am-4pm
@ GA Museum of Agriculture
229-391-5205
gma.abac.edu
f @ABACGMA

**Alapahoochee Farm Days - Fall Show Cane Grinding / Syrup Cooking/Tractor Pull**

12h & -13th | Lake Park
202 Bethel Church Rd 31636
(Echols County)
229-356-4257
antiquedays@yahoo.com
f @Alapahoochee

Valdosta Bluesberry Festival (Blueberries, Brews & Blues)

18th & 19th | 6pm-10pm
20th | Noon-10pm
Downtown Valdosta
@ Unity Park Amphitheater
229-259-3577
valdostamainstreet.com

Rose Show and Festival

26th & 27th
Downtown Thomasville
229-228-7977
thomasvillega.com

Annual Big Little River Paddle Event

27th | 8am
Red Roberts Landing
Reed Bingham State Park
wwals.net

MAY 2024**Arts in Black**

4th | Tifton
@ Fulwood Park
tiftonartsinblack.com

Adel Daylily Festival & Daylily 5K

11th | 9am-3pm
Downtown Adel
Daylily 5K Run: 8am
229-896-2281
adelcookchamber.org

JUNE 2024**Flatlanders Pond Youth Fishing Derby**

1st | Lakeland | Free
9am - 12pm
Flatlanders Pond
6 Park Drive, Lakeland, GA
229-482-9755
lakelandchamber.org



FAITH & FELLOWSHIP

BAPTIST



First Baptist Church of Tifton

404 Love Ave. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-6063 • fbctifton.org



First Baptist Church of Valdosta

200 W. Central Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-242-0484 • fbcvaldosta.org



Lakeland First Baptist Church

15 E. Main St. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-3401 • lakelandfirstbaptist.org



Morningside Baptist Church

425 Connell Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-242-1426 • morningside.ws



Open Bible Baptist Church

3992 N. Oak St. Ext. Valdosta, GA 31605
229-244-6683 • openbiblebaptistministries.com



THOMASVILLE
FIRST BAPTIST

Thomasville First Baptist Church

210 N. Broad St. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-228-6800 • fbcthomasville.com

CHURCH OF CHRIST



Forrest Park Church of Christ

4263 Inner Perimeter Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-242-2174 • forrestpark.org

METHODIST



FIRST METHODIST
CHURCH of VALDOSTA

First Methodist Church of Valdosta

220 N. Patterson St. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-242-4050 • valdostafmc.org



Lakeland Methodist Church

80 W. Main St. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-3574 • lakelandmethodist.com
info@lakelandmethodist.com



park avenue
church

Park Avenue Church

100 E. Park Ave. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-242-3562 • parkave.church



Unity Church

228 Unity Church Rd. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-3103

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Jay Phillips, DMD; Chris Hasty, DMD;
Lee Boney, DMD; Heath Miller, DMD
209 E. 24th St. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-8711 • tiftregionaldentalgroup.com

HOSPITALS



Archbold Memorial Hospital

915 Gordon Ave. Thomasville, GA 31792
229-228-2000 • archbold.org



Brooks County Hospital

903 North Court St. Quitman, GA 31643
229-263-4171 • archbold.org/brooks



South Georgia Medical Center

2501 N. Patterson St. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-433-1000 • sgmc.org



SGMC Berrien Campus

1221 E. McPherson Ave. Nashville, GA 31639
229-433-8600 • sgmc.org/berrien



SGMC Lanier Campus

116 W. Thigpen Ave. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-433-8440 • sgmc.org/lanier



SGMC Smith Northview Campus

4280 N. Valdosta Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-433-8000 • sgmc.org



Southwell Medical

260 MJ Taylor Road, Adel, GA 31620
229-896-8000 • mysouthwell.com



HOSPITALS (CONT'D)

Tift Regional Medical Center

901 E. 18th St. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-7120 • tiftregional.com



OBSTETRICS/GYNECOLOGY

Southern OB-GYN Associates

220 Northside Dr. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-241-2800 • southernobgyn.net

1610 John Orr Drive, Ste E, Tifton, GA 31794
229-388-1213 • southernobgyn.net



PHARMACIES

Archbold Pinetree Pharmacy

2705 E. Pinetree Blvd. F Thomasville, GA 31792
229-551-2377

**Hogan's Pharmacy**

2704 N. Oak St. B-1 Valdosta, GA 31602
229-244-5353 • hoganspharmacy.net

**Lakeland Drug Co.**

42 W. Main St. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-3677 • lakelanddrug.com

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Ron L. Shiver, D.M.D., FAGD

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HEALTHCARE

PHARMACIES (CONT'D)



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229-226-8700 • trumarxdrugs.com

PHYSICIANS



ARCHBOLD

Archbold Primary Care

Archbold Primary Care

2621 E. Pinetree Blvd. Thomasville, GA 31792

229-548-4100 • archbold.org/apc



ARCHBOLD

Urgent Care Center

Archbold Urgent Care

2705 E. Pinetree Blvd A. Thomasville, GA 31792

229-228-4136 • archbold.org/services/urgent-care

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209 E. 4th St. Tifton, GA 31794

229-848-6778 • firstchoicetift.com

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SGMC Urgent Care

4256 North Valdosta Rd. Valdosta, GA 31605

229-433-8200 • sgmc.org



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New 2nd location: 3362 Greystone Way • Valdosta • 229-242-0063 • adcteam.com

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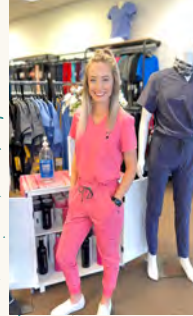
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During our 2023 Calendar Baby Photo Shoot, Sully was truly a blessing and joy to be around!

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Options Now is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization funded by our generous donors.

Welcome to our community!

Choose Life

So God created man in His own image,
in the image of God He created him;
male and female He created them.
Genesis 1:27 RSV



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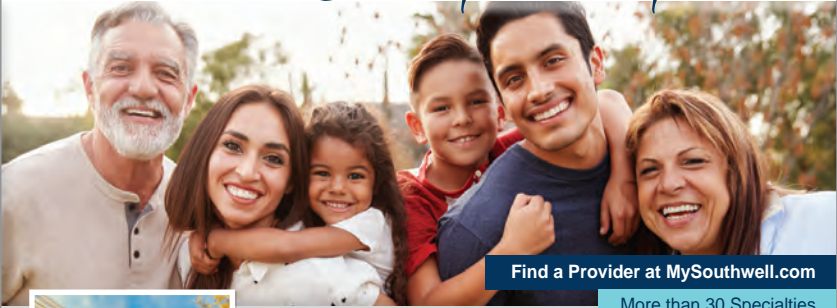
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our recommendations

Listed in this guide are local professionals that we have known and used over the years and have grown to trust and appreciate. We recommend them to our friends and family and now would like to share them with you.

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bluesummitwater.com

CARPET CLEANING



Bishop Clean Care

3115 N. Oak Street Ext, Valdosta, GA 31602

229-244-2470 • bishopclean.com

CUSTOM ART & PICTURE FRAMING



Johnson's Frames & More

103 N Lowndes St. Hahira, GA 31632

229-794-4090 • facebook.com/johnsonsfames

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229-244-2470 • bishopclean.com

FURNITURE

**Turner's Furniture**

2151 U.S. Hwy 319 South, Thomasville, GA 31792
229-377-1030 • turnerfurniture.com

707 W. 2nd St. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-3266 • turnerfurniture.com

3385 N. Valdosta Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-247-2455 • turnerfurniture.com

GARBAGE COLLECTION

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866-319-5397 • wm.com

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229-244-0200 • avsinc.us

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229-241-9450

dhotch2634@yahoo.com



LANDSCAPING

Sunrise Irrigation & Landscaping

229-241-9450

dhotch2634@yahoo.com

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229-560-0058 • gtfomovingco.com

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229-244-6862 • astroexterminating.com

4027 GA-125, Tifton, GA 31794

229-382-9535 • astroexterminating.com

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229-382-6089 • acom.us



Audio, Video, & Security, Inc

1619 Baytree Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-244-0200 • avsinc.us

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KID STUFF



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229-253-2985 • valdosta.edu/steamcenter

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Summer camps for kids in grades K-12

2424 Gornto Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602

229-244-4646 • valdostaymca.org



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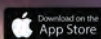
Art Classes & Workshops

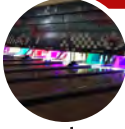
Digital Art - Pottery - Glass Arts - Guitar & Ukulele

229-247-2787 (ARTS) • turnercenter.org

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PARTIES

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229-242-2695 • facebook.com/jacsbowlinglanes


Recoil Trampoline Park

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recoiltrampolinepark.com


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229-588-0003 • valdostastudioimagination.com

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(229) 794-3063
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(229) 333-0086



Valdosta Hotels



Candlewood Suites

I-75, Exit 18 & Hwy 94
1003 N. St. Augustine Rd. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-249-2000 • 800-465-4329
williamshotelgroup.com



Comfort Inn and Suites

I-75, Exit 16 & Hwy 84
1785 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-249-1000 • 800-221-2222
williamshotelgroup.com



Comfort Suites

I-75, Exit 18 & Hwy 94
1332 N. St. Augustine Rd. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-249-8880 • 800-221-2222
williamshotelgroup.com



Country Inn & Suites

I-75, Exit 18 & Hwy 94
1308 N. St. Augustine Rd. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-245-1700 • 800-456-4000
williamshotelgroup.com



Days Inn by Wyndham at Conference Center

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229-249-8800 • 800-325-2525
williamshotelgroup.com



Holiday Inn Express & Suites

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1330 N. St. Augustine Rd. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-249-8900 • 800-465-4329
williamshotelgroup.com



Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center

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1805 West Hill Ave. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-244-1111 • 800-465-4329
williamshotelgroup.com



La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham

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4610 North Valdosta Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-244-4460 • 800-753-3757
williamshotelgroup.com

Adel Hotels



Days Inn by Wyndham

I-75, Exit 39 & Hwy 37
1204 W. Fourth St. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-4574 • 800-325-2525
williamshotelgroup.com



Super 8 by Wyndham

I-75, Exit 39 & Hwy 37
1103 W. Fourth St. Adel, GA 31620
229-896-2244 • 800-800-8000
williamshotelgroup.com

Tifton Hotels



Comfort Inn & Suites

I-75, Exit 62 & Hwy 82
320 S. Virginia Ave. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-8250 • 800-221-2222
williamshotelgroup.com



Country Inn & Suites

I-75, Exit 62 & Hwy 82
310 S. Virginia Ave. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-8100 • 800-456-4000
williamshotelgroup.com



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I-75, Exit 62 & Hwy 82
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I-75, Exit 62 & Hwy 82
814 W. 7th St. Tifton, GA 31794
229-382-3300 • 800-465-4329
williamshotelgroup.com



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I-75, Exit 62 & Hwy 82
1215 Highway 82 W. Tifton, GA 31793
229-382-8500 • 800-753-3757
williamshotelgroup.com



DAY TRIPS

Looking to get away for a day or two? Check out these 11 exciting, one-day outings that will have you exploring Georgia & Florida.



Banks Lake National Wildlife Rescue

1 mile west of Lakeland
229-569-0147

1,500-acre marsh and cypress swamp, boating and fishing

(Photo by WG Bailey)



Cade Museum for Creativity and Invention

811 S Main St.
Gainesville, FL 32601
352-371-8001
cademuseum.org

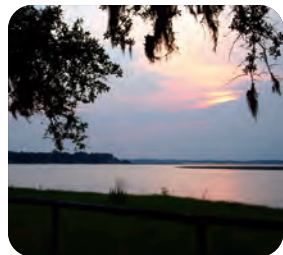
Educational programs, exhibits, creativity labs



Chehaw Park & Zoo

105 Chehaw Park Rd.
Albany, GA 31701
229-430-5275
chehaw.org

Zoo, play park, splash park, camping, trails, fishing, and more!



Crooked River State Park St. Mary's, GA

912-882-5256
gastateparks.org

Fishing, boating, kayaking,
day trip to Cumberland Island National Seashore



Cumberland Island

113 St. Marys St W
St. Marys, GA 31558
912-882-4336 • nps.gov

Hiking, camping,
swimming, hunting,
bird watching, fishing,
biking

(Photo by Ian Wilson)



FD Roosevelt State Park Pine Mountain, GA

706-663-4858 (Park)
706-628-7463 (Stables)

Horseback riding,
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and camping



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386-497-4690
floridastateparks.org

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cave diving



Providence Canyon State Park

Lumpkin, GA
229-838-6870
gastateparks.org

"Georgia's Little
Grand Canyon"



Seminole State Park

Donalsonville, GA
229-861-3137
gastateparks.org

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Recoil Trampoline Park

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recoiltrampolinepark.com





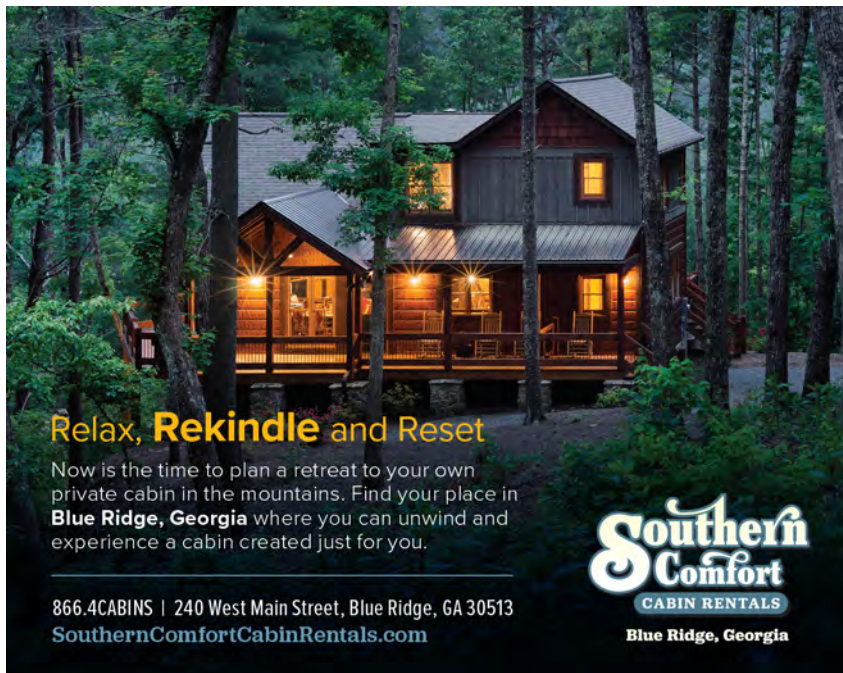
3 BENEFITS OF TAKING A FAMILY VACATION

Vacationing with family is a great way to bond and create lasting memories. It can also be an opportunity to teach children about the world and help them grow into well-rounded adults. Here are three benefits of vacationing with family that make it an ideal activity for families of all sizes.

1. Quality Time: Vacationing with family allows everyone to spend quality time together without the distractions of everyday life. This can be especially beneficial for families who may not get a chance to spend much time together due to busy schedules.

2. Learning Opportunities: Vacations provide unique learning opportunities for children that they may not get in their day-to-day lives, such as experiencing different cultures and trying new activities. This can help broaden their horizons and give them a greater appreciation for the world around them.

3. Stress Relief: Taking a break from work and other responsibilities can help reduce stress levels in both adults and children, allowing everyone to relax and enjoy themselves



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EXPLORE THE OUTDOORS

FISHING & LAKES

Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge, one mile west of Lakeland, along GA Hwy 122, has 1,500 acres of marsh, 1,549 acres of cypress swamp, and 1,000 acres of open water. Bass, bream, and catfish are popular catches. Boat and Kayak rentals. Hwy 37 Georgia Grown Trail stop. Open til 4pm.

229-569-0147 • facebook.com/bankslakeoutdoors

The Okefenokee Swamp Park & Adventures in Waycross, GA and Folkston, GA offers guided boat tours through cypress forests, historic canals and open prairies, train tours, extended excursions and more! Fishing at the East Gate is available from sunrise to sunset.

Waycross: 912-283-0583 • Folkston: 912-496-7156 • okeswamp.org

Reed Bingham State Park, just west of Adel, has a 375-acre lake that is popular with boaters and skiers; and fishing for bass, crappie, catfish and bream is excellent. Other things to do include biking, birding, hiking, and swimming.

229-896-3551 • gastateparks.org/reedbingham

At **Stephen C. Foster State Park**, you can enjoy fishing, archery, kayaking and canoeing. It is located at the West Gate of Okefenokee National Wildlife Center. Fargo, GA. Guided boat tours with limited capacity.

912-637-5274 • gastateparks.org/stephencfoster

HORSEBACK RIDING

Six GA State Parks allow you to bring your horse and ride the trails. GA State Parks have 109 miles of trails, 62 stalls, 43 equestrian campsites, an equestrian bunkhouse and a riding ring. Horse rentals are available at F. D. Roosevelt State Park near Pine Mountain, GA. More info at **georgiastateparks.org/equestrian**.

KAYAKING & CANOEING

Alapaha River Canoe & Kayak Trail

A concrete boat ramp located east of Lakeland on GA 37 gives boaters access to the river. The entrance is on the south side of the highway.

gastateparks.org & floridastateparks.org

Madison Outpost Adventures

Located approximately 3 blocks from Madison, Blue Springs State Park, Madison Outpost Adventures offers a variety of kayaks and canoes to rent. Rentals are available by the hour or all day. A shuttle also runs to the Withlacoochee River for a fun day of exploring the beautiful springs that are located all along the river. Campsites are available. There are also beautiful trails to hike as well as State Parks that are very close. **By appointment only. 850-673-2350**
Visit <http://paddle.today/>

Wacissa River Canoe & Kayak Rentals

Open 7 days a week, this is absolutely a beautiful river to canoe and spend the day on. Enjoy nature at its best, a relaxing paddle, fishing, bird watching, a picnic and a swim. 290 Wacissa Springs Rd. Monticello, Florida 32344
(850) 997-5023 or (850) 545-2895

Water Trails on Withlacoochee, Willacoochee, Alapaha, Little, and Suwannee Rivers. Some concrete boat ramps, many boat launches, some picnic areas and many hours of family fun.

For all launch locations and more details, visit wwals.net/water-trails.

850-290-2350. Check wwals.net for monthly group outings.

WWALS Watershed Coalition advocates for clean fishable, swimmable, boatable water in the Suwannee Basin.

SWIMMING

Madison Blue Spring State Park

This 82' wide and 25' deep crystal clear spring bubbles up into a limestone basin along the west bank of the Withlacoochee River in Madison, FL. A small canoe launch area is provided for access to the river, but there are no canoe rentals on site. **850-971-5003 • floridastateparks.org**

WALKING & BIKE TRAILS

Come Aside Community Walking Trail

Open to the public! Come Aside consists of a public walking trail. It's a one mile loop, open sunrise to sunset. Located at 215 WAFT Lane in Valdosta (behind WAFT Radio station) on Hwy 133.

- Walk, Run, or Bike with no motorized vehicles to avoid.
- Enjoy a rest on the park benches throughout the trail.
- Bird Alley for your bird-watching enjoyment.
- Trail cams are located throughout the trail for your safety.
- 1-acre pond has some interesting wildlife for your viewing.

229-244-5180 • waft.org

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www.facebook.com/moodyalbgrassypond/

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(229) 559-5840

Grassy Pond

Moody AFB



EXPLORE MORE

Grand Bay Wildlife Management Area

With a total of 1,350 acres and part of a 18,000-acre wetlands complex, visitors can enjoy viewing wildlife, fishing, canoeing, and hiking, as well as deer and small game hunting. The area also features nature trails, canoe access, picnic shelters, and an education center to learn about the wildlife in the area. There is no entry fee charged. 4661 Knights Academy Rd. in Valdosta, GA • **912-262-3173**

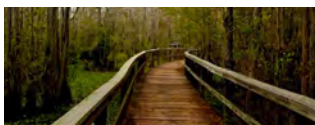
Langdale Park

350+ acres of rustic beauty on the lazy Withlacoochee River. Miles of bike trails zig zag through the South Georgia woods and wind around the lazy, picturesque river. Langdale Park offers fantastic nature viewing opportunities, such as deer, birds, and other wildlife as well as an array of indigenous plant life. The park features a boat ramp with river access as well as picnic tables and a picnic shelter that is available for rent through our main office.

229-259-3507 • vpra.com/217/Langdale-Park

Laura S. Walker State Park

9 miles SE of Waycross, this park is home to nearly 4 miles of nature trails & a wildlife observation platform. It also offers opportunities for fishing, boating, canoeing, golf and biking. **912-287-4900 • gastateparks.org/lauraswalker**



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LANIER COUNTY DEPT OF RECREATION

229-412-7882

facebook.com/laniercountyredept

THOMASVILLE YMCA

229-226-0133

ymca-thomasville.org

TIFT COUNTY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

401 Victory Dr. N Tifton, GA 31794

229-382-3262 • tiftcounty.org

Youth sports ages 3 and up

VALDOSTA-LOWNDES COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION AUTHORITY

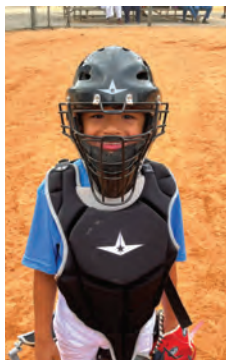
229-259-3507

vlpra.com

YMCA VALDOSTA SWIMMING AND GYMNASTICS

229-244-4646

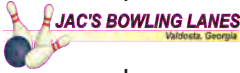
valdostaymca.org



ATHLETICS & FITNESS

**Anytime Fitness**

189 Virginia Ave. S Tifton, GA 31794
229-387-3486 • anytimefitness.com

**Jac's Lanes**

406 Connell Rd. Valdosta, GA 31602
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USBC Certified Bowling Center

**Valdosta-Lowndes County
Parks & Recreation Authority**

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Pedros Tacos & Tequila

2905 N. Ashley St. Valdosta, GA 31602
229-244-1328

VENUES



Annette Howell Turner Center for the Arts

527 N Patterson St. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-247-2787 • turnercenter.org



Fairway Tavern

3350 Country Club Rd, Ste 111. Valdosta, GA 31605
229-929-2330 • fairway-tavern.com



Rainwater Conference Center

1 Meeting Pl. Valdosta, GA 31601
229-245-0513 • visitvaldosta.org



Threatte Center

99 E. Burnt Church Rd. Lakeland, GA 31635
229-482-9755 • facebook.com/threattecenter

TIPS FOR PLANNING A FAMILY EVENT

from *protectivity.com*

Organizing a family friendly event can seem like quite a task to undertake but the key to success is in the planning, so follow our top tips to ensure that your event is a big hit with the whole family!

Select your venue wisely. There are lots of things to consider when picking a venue for a family friendly event. For example, consider the following:

Easy to find and good access – The middle of a forest might be a lovely space, but parents won't thank you when they have a trek to get to the event itself!

Plenty of parking. Make sure that there is adequate and convenient parking available. You don't want to have families stressed out because they have had a battle to find anywhere to park before they have even reached the event.

Accessible. When catering for families it is essential that your venue is buggy and wheelchair friendly. Make sure that there are no steps for families to have to negotiate when moving around the event.

Signposting. Whether you are planning an indoor or outdoor event, it is important to make sure that your visitors can navigate their way around. Make sure that rooms, stalls and activities are clearly labelled and that there are signposts to direct people to them if necessary. Some larger events might require a map which can be printed if you choose to distribute one.

Food. Make sure that you provide a range of options for food at your event, considering all ages

Flexibility. Ensure that there is plenty to do at your event with flexible opportunities for downtime, whether to sit and get something to eat or watch the entertainment that you have provided.

Enjoy being with everyone at your event!

Receptions and Gatherings
Create Memories in the Perfect Setting

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(229) 242-5544

Park Place
Gatherings & Events by Jik Lane







why volunteer?

While you do not get paid for community service, donating your time, energy and resources can be extremely rewarding. There are many organizations in South Georgia that rely on volunteers to provide support and services to those in need. Volunteering is important in helping to meet new people and build a sense of community as well as gaining knowledge and understanding of other ways people live and operate in your area. It can also help give you a sense of purpose and boost your self-esteem. As we turn our attention to the needs of others, we take our attention off our own problems and concerns. Using your skills and passions to help others while becoming part of a team can make a difference in South Georgia. We appreciate your willingness to help!

WHERE TO VOLUNTEER?

American Red Cross
redcross.org/ga/valdosta

Greater Valdosta United Way
unitedwayvaldosta.org

Habitat for Humanity
valdostahabitat.org

Hands On Thomas County
handsonthomascounty.org

**Hospice of South Georgia,
Langdale Hospice House**
hospiceofsouthgeorgia.org

Humane Society
humanesocietyofvaldosta.org

**Jacob's Ladder
Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc**
jacobsladderriding.com

Literacy Volunteers
literacyvolunteerprogram.org

**Literacy Volunteers
of Tift County**
tiftlv.org

Living Bridges Ministry
livingbridgesministry.org

Miracle League of Valdosta
miracleleagueofvaldosta.com

Options Now
optionsnow.org

Relay for Life
relayforlife/lowndescountygga

Second Harvest Food Bank
valdostafoodbank.org

Salvation Army
salvationarmygeorgia.org

**Thomasville-Thomas County
Humane Society**
thomasvillehumane.org

**Thomasville Center
for the Arts**
thomasvillearts.org

WWALS
wwals.net

BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING

1.

Meet new people and build a sense of community where you work together to reach common goals. This will nurture your sense of belonging and purpose while expanding your support system. The social contact aspect of helping and working with others can have a profound effect on your psychological well-being.

2.

Gain experience and understanding of the different ways other people live and operate in your community

3.

Using your social and professional skills for a wider communal impact can be very fulfilling. Volunteering has been shown to give you a sense of accomplishment and increase feelings of happiness.

4.

Stepping out of your comfort zone and building new skills is the best way to develop your self-esteem. Volunteering can help counteract the effects of stress, anger and anxiety.

5.

Being a volunteer will offer you the skills and knowledge you may need for future career development. It has also been shown to reduce stress, increase your ability to problem solve and may require you to challenge yourself! Do not wait, get started today!



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Southside Community Garden • and more!**

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are always welcome!**

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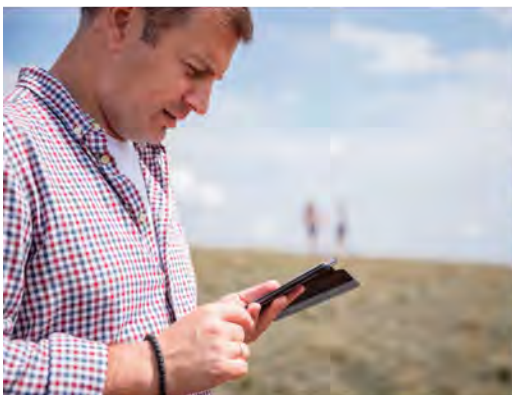
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