

## Phoenix Affair Juneteenth Jubilee planned for the first time

A local Black History Month grassroots social organization known widely as the Phoenix Affair Group is making plans to stage what's believed to be Bainbridge's first-ever effort to observe Juneteenth celebrated nationwide - on June 19th - as the true Freedom Day in history for formerly enslaved African-Americans.

The group's founder and Executive Producer, Rahn d. Fudge, a 1979 graduate of Bainbridge High School who lives in San Francisco, Calif., and who's returned each year to his hometown for the past nearly 20 years during Black History Month to spearhead local events, adds that the group's inaugural Juneteenth celebration will also cen-

ter on encouraging local residents - especially African-Americans - to get tested and vaccinated. "This is a perfect opportunity for local residents to do their part to both learn about forgotten black history and to help lead the way out of a worldwide pandemic that has devastated the local community at-large and, in particular, the black community which has been disproportionately affected by COVID-19", says Fudge. "Let us also free ourselves from this deadly disease that continues to shackle our communities", he reiterates.

The local event is called the Phoenix Affair "Juneteenth Jubilee!" and it will happen in sync with other Juneteenth observances

and celebrations nationwide. It will take place from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. on the private grounds and property at 209 Whigham Dairy Road in Bainbridge.

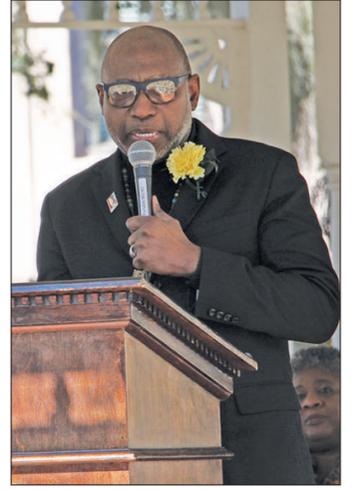
Nearly all 50 states in America now recognize and celebrate Juneteenth on (June 19th) which is when the last enslaved African-Americans in Texas were finally told they were free in 1865 - more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation freeing all slaves in the Deep South became law in 1863.

It's predicted that more American workers than perhaps ever in history will take the day off the Friday before Juneteenth (which falls on a Saturday this year) in ob-

servance. And, in nearby Thomasville, Georgia residents there will mark the special day with a parade and festival as the so-called "Rose City" has now declared Juneteenth an official city holiday.

For more information and details or to volunteer and support the Phoenix Affair's first-ever Juneteenth event in Bainbridge, please call Ms. Betty Fudge-Biggles at 229-205--0218

Pictured here is Phoenix Affair Executive Producer Rahn d. Fudge speaking at last year's annual Black History Month event inside Willis Park in Bainbridge put on by the local Helping Hands of Decatur County non-profit organization spearheaded by community advocate Billy Ward.



## Senator Burke calls for local artists to submit artwork for potential display at the Capitol and the Governor's Mansion

Sen. Dean Burke announced this week that the Office of the Governor, in partnership with Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA), is calling on local artists to submit artwork for "The Art of Georgia IV: Imaging Home; Landscapes" exhibition.

"This exhibition is a great way for local artists in participating counties to have their work represented around the Capitol," said Sen. Burke. "This year's exhibition seeks to capture the uniqueness and beauty of Georgia's landscapes and our communities. I look forward to seeing the talent of our community displayed for all to appreciate."

In collaboration with the Office of the Governor, GCA facilitates this rotating exhibit that seeks to capture the unique-

### THE ART OF GEORGIA IV: *Imaging home; Landscapes*



ness of Georgia landscapes and communities as seen, explored and depicted by Georgia's artists. The two-dimensional images cover a wide range of media that includes, but is not limited to, photography, paintings, works on paper and mixed media.

Since 2012, Art of Georgia exhibits have displayed 354 works of art by 261 Georgia artists in the Office of the Governor at the state Capitol. The program has been expanded to include The Governor's Mansion. To view submission guidelines and detailed information regarding the exhibition, please visit: <https://gaarts.org/what-we-do/programs/art-of-georgia/>.

The submission deadline is July 9, 2021.

## Chipola to host dual enrollment orientation

Chipola College will host two Dual-enrollment Orientation sessions this Summer on Thursday, July 1 and Wednesday July 28, 10-11:30 a.m., in Room Z116.

Summer Dual-enrollment Orientation provides important information

and training for parents and students to ensure student success in the dual-enrollment program at Chipola College. Students have the opportunity to become familiar with the campus and with the participation requirements of the program.

All new and current dual-enrollment students and their parents are invited and encouraged to attend. Refreshments will be provided.

To learn more about Dual Enrollment, contact Karen Hall at (850) 718-2424 or [halkk@chipola.edu](mailto:halkk@chipola.edu).

## Local students listed on Valdosta State University's Spring 2021 Dean's List

More than 1,700 students were named to Valdosta State University's Spring 2021 Dean's List. The list included Lacey Harrell, Rebecca Bell, Zackary Price, Leslie Miller, and Tanya Cox, all of Donelsonville.

Dean's List honors are reserved for the highest achieving students at VSU. To qualify students must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher on nine or more semester hours with an institutional grade point average of 3.00 or higher.

Established in 1906, Valdosta State University is a premier comprehensive university that offers both the extensive academic, cultural, and social opportunities of a major university and the small classes and close, personal attention of smaller institutions. VSU is committed to creating a campus culture focused on individual student success, providing students with expanded transformational and experiential learning opportunities, and increasing regional impact by serving as a resource and innovative leader for South Georgia.

## Compassionate Friends meets the second Thursday

Compassionate Friends of Southwest Georgia, an organization made up of members who have lost children, offers friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved families that have experienced the death of a child. The group meets monthly on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m., at 224 South West Street in Bainbridge.



For additional information contact June Faircloth at 229-416-6134.

A spokesperson for the group commented, "If one mother or father is helped by what we do, it's all worth it. We have all been through the struggles and are just a group of individuals trying to help others in the community. Come join us!"

## Ag Commissioner Gary Black running for U.S. Senate

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a challenge to Warnock include U.S. Reps. Buddy Carter of Savannah and Drew Ferguson of West Point. Trump has urged University of Georgia football great Herschel Walker to give it a go.

Former Sen. Kelly Loeffler, and former Rep. Doug Collins, who clashed in a Senate race last year eventually won by Warnock, have decided not to run in 2022.

### Biography of Gary Black

Gary W. Black has championed innovation, solutions, support, and growth in Georgia's largest industry for over 40 years.

Gary grew up on his family's beef

cattle farm in Commerce, Georgia where he and his wife Lydia also raised their children, Ward and Caroline. He is a University of Georgia graduate, and a past president of the college's alumni society.

Under Gary's leadership, the Georgia Department of Agriculture's divisions for information technology, animal health, homeland security and food safety have garnered national acclaim. Commissioner Black has led innovation in domestic and international promotion through the renowned Georgia Grown branding program, helping Georgians start businesses and expand markets. Since taking office in 2011,

Gary has also improved the department's fiscal responsibility and performance, as well as strengthened career paths for employees.

Gary Black is a Leadership Georgia Pattillo Award recipient and the 2017 Georgia Trend Magazine Georgian of the Year. He currently serves on advisory committees for the United States Department of Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency and the Export Import Bank of the United States.

Gary and Lydia continue to raise commercial beef cattle at Harmony Grove Farms, and serve together in various ministries at Maysville Baptist Church.

## Georgia redistricting kickoff set for next week

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the U.S. Census. The process is legally necessary only to accommodate population shifts that have occurred within each state since the last census, so that districts remain as nearly equal in population as possible.

But in reality, redistricting is "the most political activity" in America, said Charles Bullock, a political science professor at the University of Georgia who has written extensively on the subject.

"The majority party invariably comes up with maps to try to maintain its majority status for the next decade," Bullock said.

In Georgia's case, it's the Republicans who will be looking to retain con-

trol of the state House and Senate. It promises to be a challenging task, with demographic changes in the Atlanta suburbs having led to gains by Democrats during the last decade.

The GOP also will have to figure out a way to minimize population losses in rural counties where Republicans dominate.

Democrats also have made progress in Georgia's congressional delegation since the last census, capturing the 6th Congressional District seat north of Atlanta in 2018 and winning the 7th District seat in Atlanta's northeastern suburbs last year.

For the first time since the 1980s, Georgia will not be allocated an additional congressional seat. Although

the state experienced population growth during the last decade, it wasn't enough to warrant a 15th U.S. House district.

Republicans currently hold eight of Georgia's 14 congressional seats to six for the Democrats.

Speakers at next week's meeting will be limited to two to five minutes each. Time limits within that range will be subject to how many people sign up to speak.

Following the public hearings, lawmakers will design and vote on new maps during a special session of the General Assembly later this year. With final census data not expected before September, the session isn't expected to begin until October at the earliest.

## BIDS BEING ACCEPTED FOR INMATE FOOD SERVICES

The Seminole County Sheriff's Office is accepting bids for inmate food services. Bids may be delivered to Tanna Harrison during normal business hours Monday through Friday until 4 pm on June 18, 2021.

The successful bidder must agree to the following requirements:

Three (3) meals per day, along with beverage, must be delivered to the jail, 7 days per week including holidays.

Meals must be served in single use disposable trays along with disposable plastic utensils.

Certain inmates require specialized diets such as diabetics, religious beliefs, etc. Successful bidder must be willing to meet these needs.

Meals must be prepared in an establishment that is inspected by the Seminole County Health Department and said establishment must maintain a history of passing inspections and attach a copy of their most recent inspection report with their bid.

Bid should be per meal per inmate such as: XXX per breakfast, XXX per lunch and XXX per dinner for a total daily cost of XXX.

**Any questions may be directed to Sheriff Heath Elliott or Dale Swanner at the Seminole Co. Sheriff's Office (229) 524-5115**

Betrice Cross Widner



## Fly's in the Buttermilk; Shoo, Fly, Shoo

Two recipes are better than one, when they are Chicken Bites and Pineapple Salad. With just three ingredients in the chicken bites, they are easy to make for a busy family. The pineapple salad goes so good with the chicken bites, and you can fix it the night before. Or if you prefer, serve a green salad to your family; either will be great with the bites.

### Chicken Bites

4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts, cubed  
1/2 cup mayo  
1 sleeve round, buttery crackers, crushed

Preheat oven to 350°. Toss the chicken cubes in the mayo, then roll in the crushed crackers. Place on a baking sheet that has been lined with parchment paper or foil. Bake on 350 °for 10 minutes. Turn and bake another 10 minutes or until juices run clear. Drain and serve warm.

### Pineapple Salad

1 cup sour cream  
1 cup canned pineapple chunks  
1 cup mandarin oranges  
1 cup mini marshmallows  
1 cup flaked coconut

Drain the oranges, save the juice. Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl. Fix this salad the night before and keep in fridge until ready to serve. If you think that the salad needs more juice, add some of the juice from the oranges. Enjoy!