

The White Renaissance SGR Scholarship Fundraiser Set for June

By Carol A. Gasser Moore

LOWNDES COUNTY, Georgia – Lanier County as well as surrounding counties will benefit from The White Renaissance Party. The event has been set for Saturday, June 15th. The Kappa Psi Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. is sponsoring its signature scholarship fundraiser, which will be held at the Rainwater Conference Center, 1 Meeting Place, Valdosta. The Kappa Psi Sigma Philo Affiliates are assisting the chapter with this fundraising event.

At the White Renaissance Party, participants will indulge in a variety of delicious food and refreshing drinks, specially crafted for this event. A talented DJ

will keep the energy high with an incredible selection of music ensuring everyone will have a fantastic time on the dance floor. Also, there will be a 360 photo booth at several locations around the hall in which guests can take Hollywood Glam Photos.

“Join us for a night of fun, music, and celebration. Get ready to dance the night away in your renaissance style of white and silver attire, while creating unforgettable memories with friends, old and new,” said Tina Woods, event organizer and a sorority member.

Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Cook, Grady, Lanier, Lowndes, Thomas, and Tift

Area students in Atkinson, Ben Hill, Berrien, Cook, Grady, Lanier, Lowndes, Thomas and Tift counties will be helped by the proceeds from this event. The Kappa Psi Sigma Chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority provides annual scholarships to graduating seniors in each of the 9 South Georgia counties served by the Kappa Psi Sigma Chapter.

Tickets are \$40.00 each and can be purchased at Eventbrite.com. More information about the White Renaissance Party can be obtained through email: kps_sgrho@yahoo.com or by contacting sorority member Tina Woods at 229-326-0153.

ABAC students awarded Southeast Produce Council scholarships

TIFTON—

Two Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College students recently received the 2023-2024 Southeast Tip Ag Recruits Scholarship (STARS), created by the Southeast Produce Council.

Statenville’s Connie Lynn Rogers and Fort Meade, Fla.’s Katherine Stokes, both senior agricultural communications majors, were awarded the scholarships.

The STARS program is the Southeast Produce Council’s scholarship program available to outstanding students majoring in agriculture. The mission of the STARS program is to identify the top agricultural majors at participating colleges and to recruit and introduce them to career opportunities in the produce industry.

Rogers is a member of the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow Club, a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority, and a former member of Collegiate FFA. She completed an internship with the Georgia Peanut Commission and has been working with the University of Georgia Tifton Campus Entomology Department. During this time, she worked on research with corn, squash, cabbage, and cotton.

After growing up working solely with swine, she was able to expand her knowledge through these experiences, reinforcing her love of the agriculture industry and are leading her to the scholarship. Upon graduation, she plans to transition to a full-time agricultural communications role.

Stokes serves as the Chair of Merchandise and Fundraising of the Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow Club and is the social media manager for Shoot and Reel, a hunting and fishing apparel company. This summer, she will intern with Florida Classic Growers, an organization she was introduced to while attending the Southeast Produce Council’s Southern Exposure Conference.

Growing up, Stokes showed livestock and was heavily involved with FFA and 4-H. Her grandparents owned a citrus nursery that was devastated by greening (when produce gets diseased and crops are decimated) so she is looking forward to the opportunity to advocate for Florida citrus growers this summer. Following graduation later this year, she also plans to transition to a full-time agricultural communications role.

Each recipient received a \$2,500 scholarship to provide financial support for the completion of an agricultural-based degree. The program also provided travel and lodging expenses for the Southeast Produce Council’s Southern Exposure Conference in Tampa, Fla.

Ideal candidates for the scholarship are rising seniors in undergraduate majors related to the growing and marketing of produce and related products who also hold a minimum 3.2 GPA. Additionally, it is preferred that students have demonstrated an interest in growing and/or marketing of produce.



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Is a public official working for the citizens when...?

- official doesn’t update government’s website and keep current
- official commonly uses derogatory ‘pet’ names for anyone who does not hold identical views or anyone perceived as questioning or challenging
- official limits information available on a government’s website
- official offers solution which isn’t a full solution, just to appear ‘helpful’
- official tells staff to ignore Open Records requests instead of responding to them, hoping that the person will not pursue the request
- official doesn’t look for ways to be transparent, particularly with online information, limiting citizens right to know
- official calls citizen by name and labels a liar during public meeting?
- official tells citizens to take care of matters themselves, instead of enforcing ordinances?
- official creates community budget and minimizes board/council or citizens their right to know in advance and give input?
- official changes meetings to accommodate employee creating attendance problems for board/council and citizens.
- official constructs narrative for citizen by saying official held public meetings about which board/council never were informed.
- official pits people against each other to make one feel right and the other one wrong.
- official controls all the decision-making about everything including the responsibilities of a board/council.
- official claims truth is what’s being said at the moment, instead of information in accordance with fact or reality
- official tells citizens to follow the law, but privately doesn’t do it him/herself.