

# WEST THE GEORGIA STAR

NEWS | LIFE | GROWTH



## *F*ITNESS & *S*PIRITUAL *E*NERGY *C*LASSES

## GANGS In LaGrange

2015 was a Great year for LaGrange Housing Authority! LHA began further removing the stigma of public housing for our area. Many plans and partnerships were established to make 2016 the best year in LHA history!!!

## *NEW* RULES on *EDUCATION* for LHA



Scan QR code to go to West Georgia Star's Facebook Page. Like and Share.

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,  
Or walk with kings – nor lose the common touch,  
If neither foes nor friends can hurt you.

RUDYARD KIPLING





## FITNESS TRAINING SERVICES

She went from 300-170!!! And you can too! With the proper diet and exercise, you will begin to look and feel your best. We offer classes twice a day 3 times a week at Ben Hill and Lucy Morgan. Plus two free days boot camp sessions at the Clockwork Performance Training facility.

GET IN SHAPE NOW



## PICK UP YOUR TRASH!!!!!!

Trash around your area can get you fined! Keeping trash from around your home just looks BETTER. So if you see some paper on the grounds just PICK IT UP!! TRASH FINES 1ST \$50.00 2nd \$100.00



**Path2College**  
529 Plan

Save for the future. Today.®  
Offered by the State of Georgia

## SAVE FOR COLLEGE NOW!!

As tuition costs climb, saving early for education is one of the most important decisions parents can make. Tax-advantaged 529 savings plans, offered by states for more than a decade, are now one of the most popular options for making sure school expenses will be covered when your child reaches college age.

# HAPPY

Albritten, Cherish A	Anderson, Quintin
Bailey Jr., Kengsley	Bell, Crystal
Bonner, Devin	Bray, Kya
Brooks, Jaden	Bryant, Madison Rose

Cameron, Wyketrina	Childs, Louis
Clark, Lois	Crawls, Janiyah
Daivs, Deshyra	Dozier, Antwain Delerence Jr
Dunlap, Masiyah Q	Duvall, Valerie D.
Earl, Karenzo Z.	Fields, Darryl
Gilger, Holly	Harrison, Ebony
Jordan, Stephanie	Knight, Tyerell L
Leflore, Kaleb	Lindsey, Jacob Antonio
Lipscomb, Brunella	Manning, Isaiah M.
Moore, Janeshia	Moreland, Quantavious M
Newsome, Denisia A.	Reeves, Shamariona
Stinson, Shanteira	Thomas, Kristie
Tolbert, Na'rihya	Tucker, Regjae
Walker, Tenell S	Ware, Tristen S
White, Shamanda	Williams Jr, Derek
Williams, Brysten	Williams, Chepal
Williams, Roy	Wyatt, Jaylin G



# BIRTHDAY

Baker, Shelby	Carwell, Candance
Culpepper, Natarais	Dawson, Laniya
Dowell, Makenzie	Dunlap, Teresa
Filds, Keman	Green, Jasmine
Grier, Travis L	Hargrove, Zaniya
Harrison, Jordan	Higgins, Brittany S
Johnson, Alicia T	Johnson, LaShae
Johnson, Mon'derek	Jones, Christianna
Jones, Zevaeh	Lee, Tia A
Lewis, A'miya S.	Massengale, Jasmine
Mcfarland, Eugenia	Mcfarland, Sandra
Moss, Tiera	Patterson, Emanuel
Reid, Belencia	Scott, Paul
Taylor JR, Joshua	Terrell, Krystal
Tolmarie, Phoneicia	Truitt, Nytoya K.
Vines, Elijah Dominique	Ware, Arainia M.
Wells, India	Williams, Aubree
Williams, Rosie M.	Workman, Alecia I.





# EDUCATION MATTERS!!!



## NEW RULES AND STANDARDS

Here at the LaGrange Housing Authority and West Georgia Star, education is very important. LHA/WGS has partnered with the Troup County School System to make sure that our youth are receiving the best quality education, and any needed assistance that they may need. Beginning Monday, February 1, 2016, all residents will be required to sign a consent form giving LHA/WGS permission to view the grades, behavior reports, test scores, etc. of all school age children (Pre-K through 12th grade). This rule has been implemented so that we may track the progress of all of our students to ensure that they are not falling behind academically. Consent forms can be signed in each leasing office, as well as the Samuel F. Tucker Educational Building. They must be completed in house (you cannot take them home and return them). Starting February 10 – 12, 2016, West Georgia Star staff will be coming door to door to have consent forms signed. The last day to sign consent forms will be Friday, February 12, 2016. We value the education of our youth, and it is our job as a community to ensure that they are being provided the necessary opportunities to excel.



# Our children must be protected and not fall prey so easily to those gangs looking to recruit and widen their organization.

Detective Ham, of the LaGrange Police Department, gave the LaGrange Housing Authority and staff an informative training class on gang activity. He covered a broad area of topics on local, state, and nationwide gang activity, and the effects it has on our community. With over 2 million people incarcerated in the United States, 650,000 of those individuals are active gang members.

In our communities, local and abroad, gangs commit 60 to 90% of thefts, murders, armed robberies, home invasions, and drug transactions. Many of these crimes are committed by the newest members as a way to prove loyalty to the gangs. Det. Ham shared many stories of young men, as young as 15 years old, murdering other young men, but not fully understanding the gravity of their actions, as their minds have not yet reached full maturity. By then, it is too late for them. Under the influence of gangs, these kids are throwing their lives away before it has even begun. Some young men/women give their entire life to the gangs, even putting their set gang before and above their own blood family. With this type of dedication given to individuals whose main activity is crime and drug dealing, the damage done to the community has put it in a state of crisis.



# Gang Crisis in Troup County



LaGrange Police Department investigators say children as young as 8 years old are being recruited and used by gangs, many coming from single parent or troubled homes (where in some situations that one parent spends much time working). These young people are looking for acceptance and a place to belong. Violent gangs take advantage of young people that are vulnerable. With gang recruitment at an all-time high, the police need the help of the community, and ask parents and residents to please assist them in stopping gang recruitment, activity, and violence in our community.

Our children must be protected and not fall prey so easily to those gangs looking to recruit and widen their organization. Det. Ham and the local police offer many services and help to current gang members that wish to leave a gang and change his/her life around. He has worked diligently and put his reputation on the line to obtain jobs, housing, and counseling services for anyone needing help to leave that life behind.

We as a community can change so much by getting involved with the children in and around our neighborhoods, calling your local police department, and reporting criminal activity or any information on known gang affiliates/activities. Let's take charge and change this community for the better of our children's future.

-Tosha Gilbert-





## Resident Spotlight



# TRAINED TO SUCCEED

## VITO & A'KILLIAS EVANS

**V**ito started training at age 13 competing at 14. Boxing motivates him a lot. He lost his first match, and that drove him to train even harder. He learned to be disciplined in and out of the ring. Now, at age 16, Vito has achieved a lot in boxing. He has won numerous medals and trophies across the nation. As of now, Vito is training for an important tournament, Golden Gloves, in March 2016. He hopes to qualify for the 2020 Olympic team. Below is a list of Vito's credentials:

- Ranked #3 in the world
- Title Belt Champion
- Georgia Game Champion
- His greatest achievement is being Ring Side World Champion

**A'**Killias been training for 3 years. He started competing in May 2015. Within the past 8 months of boxing, A'Killias has gone undefeated (13-0). As an amateur boxer, he is very disciplined, and shows good sportsmanship. Recently, A'Killias was entered in a Silver Gloves State Tournament, and he will be advancing to the Regionals in Washington, DC to compete for a spot to represent Region 3. Please help me wish him luck!!! Below is a list of A'Killias' credentials:

- Title Belt Champion
- Macon-Bibb Belt Champion
- Silver Gloves State Champion
- Silver Gloves Regional Champion
- Best Fighter of the Night





## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Each day, West Georgia Star Shuttle Services supports residents by efficiently transporting residents to needed appointment, wellness services and job locations services are provided Monday thru Friday 5:15am-6pm. Shuttle services asks all tenants to 3 days ahead of scheduled services.

**3 DAYS IN ADVANCE**



## FOOD BANK

Feb 10th 9:30am-12pm at Ben Hill & 12pm-2:30pm at Lucy Morgan

Applications will be available in either leasing office

THE FOOD BANK is normally the second Wednesday of each month, and applications are due the week before.

**FEB 10TH**



## Healer Auset Maryam Ali Workshop Lecture Series

**Divine Femininity Workshop**

February 13th 2016 2:5pm \$20

**Divine Love Lecture**

February 14th 2016 2:4pm \$15

Available Books

Re-Arrangement

Divine Love

[www.healerausetmaryamali.com](http://www.healerausetmaryamali.com)

Contact:

Timeless Multimedia Company

720.722.1342

[timelessmultimedia@gmail.com](mailto:timelessmultimedia@gmail.com)

[www.timelessmultimedia.com](http://www.timelessmultimedia.com)

Proceeds to benefit Redemption House in Atlanta, GA.

Community Building, 201 Chatham St. LaGrange, Georgia 30240



## DIVINE FEMININITY WORKSHOPS

Spiritual and Energy work is the most important work of your health and wellness. By the time your physical and mental health manifest anything, it is a direct result of what your spirit and energy fields are subjected to. Free to all residents of LHA

**FEB 13TH & 14TH**

# TAKE ADVANTAGE AND NOT FOR GRANTED

**The services that LHA & WGS offer are to help motivate and empower.  
LIFE BEGINS HERE, IT DOES NOT END HERE**

**05**

**LAST DAY TO PAY RENT**

Girl Scouts Meet

3:30pm Samuel F. Tucker Educational Building

**19**

**GIRL SCOUTS MEET**

**3:30PM SAMUEL F.**

**TUCKER EDUCATIONAL**

**BUILDING**

**13**

**WGS ASP FIELD TRIP**

**TO LITTLE WHITE HOUSE**

**26**

**ESTHER PROJECT MINISTRY**

**FELLOWSHIP**

**BEN HILL COMMUNITY**

**BUILDING 6PM**





BELIEVE

SUCCESS DETERMINATION

ILLUMINATE

FAITH

CHANGE

VINTAGE

NEW LIFE FOR 2016

GROWTH

JOBS

EMPOWER

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Ben Hill Apartments

Lucy Morgan Apartments

Chatham Street 706-882-6416

Borton Street

706-884-9856

Fax 706-882-0781

Fax

706-407-2261

Multipurpose 706-884-5032

Non-Emergency Police 706-884-5032

Other Numbers

Crime Stoppers

706-812-1000

Street Light 706-883-2130

Animal Control 706-289-3606

TENANTS SHOULD TEXT THE WORD "LAGRANGE" FOLLOWED BY THE CRIME

REPORT TIP TO 274637 TO ANONYMOUSLY REPORT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.

706-884-5032 | [vwest@westgeorgiastar.org](mailto:vwest@westgeorgiastar.org) | [www.westgeorgiastar.org](http://www.westgeorgiastar.org)