

Meriwether Messages  
Week Ending May 2, 2014



Big Weekend in Gay May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

Come out and bring the family this weekend to the City of Gay, Highway 85...there will be two festivals underway which are sure to attract a large crowd...so don't be left out.

The *Cotton Pickin' Fair* is ranked as one of the top twenty festivals in the Southeast, offering arts & crafts; entertainment and an array of food vendors. Amidst skilled artisans and antique specialists, the Cotton Pickin' Fair shares remnants of farm life in days gone by, while new talent keeps the festival fresh and interesting. Admission is \$7:00 for adults; and \$3.00 for kids 7-12 with free admission for age six and under. Saturday and Sunday hours are 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.



The *Shady Days in Gay Arts & Crafts Festival* features exhibitors who continue the spirit of craftsmanship, skill, talent and vision that many area farmers, homemakers, craftsmen and students began in Gay. There are always great food vendors to satisfy everyone's taste buds and live entertainment to get your "toes tapping". Bring the kids and enjoy a great play area and admission is FREE. Saturday hours are 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Sunday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

+++++

Welcome New Member: *Malone Office*

*Environments...*

Locally owned since 1934, Malone Office Environments is a full service office products dealer, selling office and janitorial supplies; furniture; commercial flooring and business machines.

The company prides itself on customer service and commitment to the community. They have talented furniture designers to help you with your next office remodel; knowledgeable and friendly customer service in the office supply environment and talented staff in the business machine sales and service department. For more information, contact Daune Judah, account manager at 706-322-2513 or [djudah@maloneoffice.com](mailto:djudah@maloneoffice.com) or check out their web site at <http://www.maloneoffice.com>



Mark Your Calendar: LifeSouth Community Blood Center and the Meriwether County Chamber of Commerce will host a community blood drive on May 15, from noon to 5:00 p.m. Location is 91 Broad Street in Warm Springs and all donors will receive a free umbrella. Remember all blood collected by LifeSouth stays in our community...so come out and do something amazing!



+++++

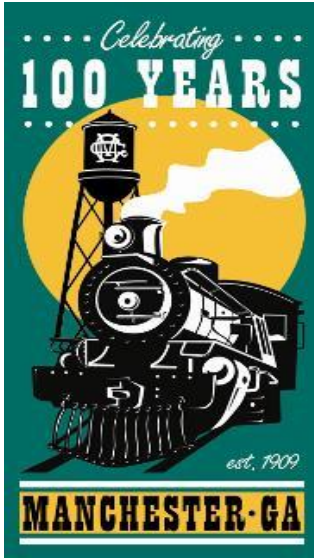
The image shows a black sign with gold and white lettering for "MERIWETHER STEAK CO." with ornate scrollwork. Below the sign is a red ribbon graphic containing the following text:

**Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**  
**Thurs / May 8<sup>th</sup> / 5:30pm**  
 Followed by...  
 Food Tastings, Dinner Specials, Door Prizes, Kids Eat  
 Free Night & Lots of FUN!  
 1651 White House Parkway, Warm Springs  
 (706) 655-2563

+++++

The Community Action for Improvement will host a fundraiser - an 18 Hole 4-Man Golf Event- on June 5, 2014 at The Fields Golf Club in Lagrange, Georgia. Charitable donations are being solicited for Hole Sponsors at the rate of \$200.00 and/or a team for \$500.00 and for prizes. These donations are tax deductible. All sponsors and donors will be listed on their advertisements, webpage and Face Book. Funds from this event will be used to support programs to assist persons in need. Please feel free to call (706)884-2651 if you need additional information or have any questions about this request.





*City of Manchester's Recreation Department will again host the sixth Summer of Champions Sports Camp;* a free camp

provided to elementary aged children. The camp is staffed solely by volunteers from Manchester and the surrounding areas. Organizers also partner with Meriwether County Summer Feeding Program and Family Connection Partnership to provide free breakfast and lunch to our campers.

How can you help? This year we hope to partner with business owners and leaders from our community. Of course for monetary donations are always appreciated, that an even greater contribution would be an investment of time. Business owners, community leaders, professionals, etc. are encouraged to volunteer to "Coach for a Day". This year along with sports/athletics there are plans to talk with the kids about the

importance of staying in school, working hard, and truly thinking about and planning for the future. Various business and community leaders and their successes will be highlighted over the two weeks. Angie Shirah, Summer of Champions Coordinator  
706-741-6459 [angieshirah@gmail.com](mailto:angieshirah@gmail.com)

+++++



Sunset Country Concert THIS Saturday night (May 3<sup>rd</sup>) Frankie Ballard, who has the current #1 CMT Music Video, is headlining. With him will be Georgia Native and Country Musician Ricky Gunn and Bobby Bones of the nationally-syndicated radio morning show, The Bobby Bones Show. His special guest will be up and coming Canadian Country Singer Lindsey Ell. Advance tickets can be purchased online for \$20; advance tickets for Military are \$15. All same-day tickets are \$25. For tickets, visit [www.callawaygardens.com/sunsetconcert](http://www.callawaygardens.com/sunsetconcert) or call 1-800-CALLAWAY (800-225-5292). Gates open at 5 p.m., concert begins at 6 p.m. Bring a blanket or chair. Enter through Robin Lake Beach entrance.

+++++

Announcing Region 4 Employer Summit scheduled for Thursday, May 8th from 8:30 am - 1 pm at the Griffin Welcome Center. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Unemployment Insurance, Affordable Healthcare from an employer's point of view and to get DOL updates, AND receive HRCI credits. For more information please feel free to call April Pruitt at 404-859-8845 or Sherry Maddock at 404-273-6339. [april.pruitt@gdol.ga.gov](mailto:april.pruitt@gdol.ga.gov)

+++++



*Don't forget Tourism Update on May 6<sup>th</sup> - 6:30*

*p.m. Courthouse in Greenville - 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.* The presentation from a group from the Georgia Department of Economic Development - Tourism Product Development

will mark an exciting and historic day for our county. The report will provide a roadmap for our future, relative to our tourism industry. Come out and hear the recommendations; get excited about our future and celebrate with your fellow tourism supporters.

+++++



The *Meriwether County Animal Shelter* will participate in the *Adopt-a-Thon* at the Newnan Petsmart (1072 Bullsboro Drive, Newnan) this weekend on May 2 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, May 3 from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday May 4 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.. We are hoping to place as many dogs as possible. There will be other rescue groups present as well. “Zippy” says “come and see why your Meriwether Animal Shelter is becoming

known as the “Little Shelter that Can”!

+++++



See Taylor Foster Spring catalog at:

<http://www.activemerchandiser.com/JQCatalogView.aspx?CatalogOID=191233&SupplierID=405652&OpenPage=1&Format=0&SearchCriteria=&Ticket=&IsLink=true&rand=576312647>

+++++

**TOURISM - THE YEAR OF INSTAGRAM**

It’s time for your city to strike a pose. Whether you are in need of a new cover for your visitor’s guide or a timely cover photo for your city Facebook page, a high quality shot of your city at work or at play can go a long way. Why is that? Because the old saying, “a picture is worth a thousand words” really is true!

Visual content, both print and digital, is on the rise. In fact, 2014 was dubbed [“The Year of Instagram and the Visual Social Web”](#) by [BusinessInsider](#). Research has proven that memory is predominately visual, so when you are looking to build credibility or give the impression of reality, a photo is the way to go. How can you apply the concept of visual engagement to your destination marketing efforts? Go to the R&R Design blog for more.... [www.rhymeandreasondesign.com/blog/destination-marketing/destination-marketing-photos-bloom](http://www.rhymeandreasondesign.com/blog/destination-marketing/destination-marketing-photos-bloom)

++++  
**U-Save-It Pharmacy in Greenville is offering “Snaps” at \$6.99 each, plus accessories.**

Ginger Snaps™ is a spirited new collection of interchangeable jewelry featuring "fashion snaps," button-like charms you snap in and out of our specially made jewelry and accessories. Ginger Snaps is all about heart and soul, sweetness and sass, and brazen individuality. At



++++  
**Stephen G. Daniel Appointed President of West Georgia Technical College**



*Atlanta* – Commissioner Ron Jackson informed the State Board of the Technical College System of Georgia today that he selected Stephen G. “Steve” Daniel to become the next president of West Georgia Technical College (WGTC). Daniel is currently the provost of Southern Crescent Technical College, which serves Butts, Fayette, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Pike, Spalding, Taylor and Upson counties. Daniel will officially become the president of WGTC on June 1. The position has been vacant since December 31, 2013, when Dr. Skip Sullivan resigned to become the president of Alfred State College in Alfred, New York.

“I strongly believe that Steve Daniel is an outstanding administrator and excellent choice to be the next president of West Georgia Technical College. He’s devoted his entire career to workforce training, and he fully understands the education needs of our students and skill requirements of today’s technology-driven jobs. I know that his passion for technical education and dedication to economic development will serve the college, its students, and the region that it serves quite well,” said Jackson.

+++++

# THE HILL News from The Hill

## **Jobless rate lowest in five years**

Employers added 288,000 jobs in April, the most since January 2012, while the unemployment rate fell to a five-year low in data released Friday by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The jobless rate fell from 6.7 percent in March to 6.3 percent, the lowest level since September 2008.

*Have News to Share?*

*Events to Publicize?*

*Job Opportunities to Advertise?*

*Changes in your Business?*

*This is the place to share all your news and it's always free!!*

*[Meriwetherchamber@windstream.net](mailto:Meriwetherchamber@windstream.net)*