



Bellamy Apartments Offering Luxury Living for UWG Students



Photo Courtesy of Bellamy Carrollton

By Paris Scott
Contributing Writer

Coming this fall to West Georgia, there is a new apartment complex named Bellamy Apartments where technology meets home. The apartments will feature smart lock doors, a chef-inspired kitchen, 55" smart TV, Alexa technology for thermostats, stainless steel appliances and will be fully furnished. Students can select from three or four bedroom apartments or a five bedroom townhouse, which are artfully designed. The apartment's amenities will include a TV lounge area, patio lounge seating, property wide surveillance, a resort style pool, a 24 hour computer lab with free printing, 24 hour study rooms and fitness center and a gated entrance. Howard Myers, Property Manager at Bellamy

apartments, is looking forward to being a part of the Carrollton community. "Aside from our technology, the passion we have for serving the community is unmatched. Recently we organized a campaign to engage with the Greek community, where we will be donating \$3,000 to the philanthropy of three organizations," says Myers. "In addition to our service, we prioritize providing a positive and lasting experience for anyone that walks through our doors."

With the spring semester coming to an end, Bellamy Apartments are looking forward to the fall. "Our move-in day is Aug. 8, 2020. Right now students can tour our temporary leasing office. Our mission at Bellamy Apartments is to bring affordable living while giving the best care to our residents. We want our residents to

feel like this is home while at the university," says Myers. "We hold ourselves to a different standard to provide the best living experience in Carrollton." With Bellamy apartments having no setbacks in construction, they are already signing residents to leases.

"The weather has not been ideal, however we've received communication from our development team that we are still on schedule even with all of the rain," says Myers. "Construction should finish by our move-in day in the fall. We are hoping nothing will hinder us from finishing, but rain can be a problem when working on roofs." The Bellamy Apartments are looking to give their residents a different experience with off campus apartments. They are trying to focus on a technology based

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apartment for the newer generation of college students.

"One major goal we are aiming to achieve is to provide UWG students with a safe, comfortable living environment. Students have enough on their mind, and we want them to have a piece of mind when it comes to the place that they call home," says Myers.



Photo Courtesy of Bellamy Carrollton

Losing Pop Smoke



Photo Courtesy of PopSmoke’s Instagram

By Joey Walraven
Contributing Writer

Rap star Pop Smoke was tragically murdered on Feb. 19. at the young age of 20. Following the release of his second album, “Meet the Woo 2” he was poised to become a star in hip-hop and give the New York hip-hop scene the spark it needed. The murder happened in the rental

home of “The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills” star, Teddi Mellencamp lives in Beverly Hills and appeared to be a home invasion. One of the biggest impacts of Pop Smoke’s death was New York City losing its biggest rap star. Being the Mecca of hip-hop, New York ran hip-hop for the first 30 years of the genre’s cultivation. However, after several

personal feuds between New York rappers, the city took a decline and the focus of hip-hop shifted to Atlanta. Ever since then, New York has been looking for one rapper to come by and reclaim its spot as hip-hop’s powerhouse, despite success from rappers such as A\$AP Rocky, Joey Bada\$\$, Dave East, Bobby Shmurda and several others. It seemed as if Pop Smoke would take that crown. His signature sound, known as “New York Drill,” similar to the 2012 Chicago Drill subgenre of hip-hop made popular by Chief Keef, was beginning to take over the New York hip-hop scene. Known for its lyricism and beats with soul samples and drum loops, this sound was much different and was closer to the sound of Atlanta, which features catchy hooks and 808 drums. Another unfortunate aspect of Pop Smoke’s death is the continued trend of young rappers being killed at a very young age before we as hip-hop fans get to see their full potential. In the mid- 1990’s, 2Pac and The Notorious

BIG were the two biggest hip-hop stars in the world, both murdered at very young ages (Pac, 25 and BIG 24). Another rapper in the 1990’s, Big L, was also murdered at the young age of 24. Ever since then, there is a feeling that rappers that experience success at a very young age are subject to be murdered. Unfortunately, murder at a young age is synonymous is hip-hop. According to an article on theconversation.com, over 50 percent of deaths in hip-hop have been a result of murder, which is a notable gap between the rest of the genres. Also, the average age of hip-hop deaths stays right around 28 years old. Pop Smoke’s occurred less than two years after the murder of rapper XXXtentacion, who was also only 20. Hopefully, this trend will cease to exist and rappers, young and old will be able to have a career without the fear of having their lives taken. Pop Smoke will not be forgotten. The city of New York and all of his fans will continue to let him live through his music.

Still Listening, Still Loving

By Kennae Hunter
Contributing Writer

Rapper NBA Youngboy released his first project of 2020, “Still Flexin’, Still Steppin’”, Feb. 21st. The 14 track mixtape has no features outside of Youngboy’s label signee, Quando Rondo. This came four months after his first number-one album of his career AI Youngboy 2 released, so fans were expecting the hottest tracks. The mixtape includes pre-released singles such as “Fine By Time, Bad Bad, and Knocked Off.” This gave fans the chance to see what sound the artists were planning to project onto the tape. There are multiple references to mur-

der, jewelry, drugs, and women which are the usual topics discussed. He takes the time to show more emotion on songs like Red Eye where he expresses, “I want my Ne back, but I’m caught up with these hoes and I’m thuggin.” Ne is a reference to his son Kacey’s mom, Jania. The two were in a relationship until a lot of different drama occurred causing the two to split. Although he is singing to life partners on Red Eye, he reminds them why he is the way he is saying, “who you judging, I come up straight from the gutta/Real struggle, me and my brothers had no one but each other.” Just like Red Eye, the track How You Want It is full of emotion where

it sounds as if Youngboy is crying out to really want to understand what his partner wants from him. He sings lyrics like, “I hope I’m who you want cause I want you on side of me,” and “I been depressed with all this money by my lonely baby I just need someone to keep it real.” Here we see Youngboy basically expressing his need for a genuine woman and hope the one he wants, likes him back. This is interesting to hear from the artist when he often expressed that he “doesn’t care” what others think and who is in his life. Youngboy boldly states “I just tried to kill another n**** the other day,” on Knocked Off. It’s bold for an artist that

has interfered with their own rise to stardom by periods of jail time, probation and house arrest, as well as attempted murder charges. The 20 year old has been expressing the life he’s lived since he was 16, when his first project ever was released. The artists hardcore lyrics alongside his mixed emotions for the women in his life is just him expressing his real self in his songs and fans should appreciate that. Some may criticize and say that it is not the way to be, and although that may be true at least when playing Still Flexin, Still Steppin one can expect the traditional authenticity the artist always displays.

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‘The Photograph’ Movie Review



Image Courtesy of IMDb

By Cynthia Harris
Contributing Writer

The Photograph is the story of how Mae Morton (Rae) meets and eventually falls for Michael Block (Stanfield). One of the most

pleasing things about the movie was its managing to stay away from stereotypes and give a refreshing look into black love. With every romance film, there is always a theme that is followed, especially when

it comes to who or what the movie is trying to cater to. In the case of African American romance movies, the latest niche has been the “struggle love” genre. “Struggle love” is the idea that a movie with black leads could not get together if they were not involved in terrible situations. The Photograph takes another approach and gives its characters normal, relatable life situations to handle and work through all the while creating a charming, beautiful film that can stand tall on its own.

The Photograph stars Issa Rae as the estranged daughter of a famous photographer and LaKeith Stanfield as an up and coming journalist who is writing about her mother. Their performances are wonderful separately, but the way they work and react to each other is one of the standouts of the film in my opinion. It never feels that the chemistry between Rae and Stanfield is forced, every time they share a scene together they give off great, high spirited vibes. They make it seem like they’re longtime friends and that is what matters most when it comes to being love interests in a movie. Rae and Stanfield are rounded out by a cast that is both funny and heartwarming and includes Lil Rel Howery, Chante Moore and Chelsea Peretti.

The main characters have different situations they are dealing with, that all manage to somehow revolve around the main character’s deceased mother. Mae is constantly trying to figure out exactly who she is and what she is in her life. All she knows is that she doesn’t want to be like her mother. However since she is in a lot of ways, she wants to move past it and be better than her mother. Meanwhile Michael has problems settling in one place, always wanting new adventure but, unlike Mae, he knows that sometimes you have to take risks to obtain something you really wanted. Love is a risk all on its own and if you are that willing to fall into it then sometimes you have to be willing to do all that you can to make it work.

It is a completely normal relatable situation faced by real people every single day and to see that incorporated into a story about black love made it all the more beautiful and special to watch for me. Overall, of course there are some moments of The Photograph that have their shortcomings but that is with every movie. The film has more good parts than bad, and is very reminiscent of old 90s gems with its direction, its themes and performances.

‘To All the Boys’ Movie Review

By Haleigh Stone
Contributing Writer

“To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You” is sweeping the screens of girls and youths nationwide after its release in February. The movie is the sequel to “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before” which was released in 2018. After two years of waiting and binge-watching fans are excited to receive the coveted sequel. “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before” introduced viewers to the main characters: Peter, who is played by teenage heartthrob Noah Centineo, and Lara Jean, played by Lana Condor. Lara Jean’s little sister Kitty sends out five love letters written by Lara Jean as a child, one being to Lara’s childhood friend Peter. After some explanation, Lara tells Peter and many of the other boys how she does not have these feelings anymore. When Peter and his current girlfriend Gen have an explosive argument, Lara Jean and Peter begin to fake date to make Gen jealous. After months of role-playing, the couple ends up falling in love and begins explor-

ing the real relationship.

“To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before” was a hit amongst young teens to college students. “To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You” has high expectations to live up to considering “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before” was deemed Netflix’s top chick flick of 2018.

The second movie explores the connection that Peter and Lara Jean share and how they are navigating a real relationship. Just when it seems that Peter and Lara Jean’s relationship could not be any more perfect, she receives a letter from one of the five boys she used to be in love with. John Ambrose, played by Jordan Fisher, writes to Lara Jean expressing his gratitude for the letter and her feelings. Out of all the letters, John Ambrose’s letter was the deepest and most love-drunken letter of them all.

After a few coincidences, Lara Jean and John Ambrose are choosing the same volunteer program without knowing they would be the only two volunteers. With tons of alone time with both John Ambrose and



Image Courtesy of Netflix

Peter, Lara Jean is more confused now than ever about what true love feels like. “To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You” receives a 7/10 compared to the 9/10 for “To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before”. “To All the Boys: P.S. I Still Love You” remains a warm feel-good romcom but lacks the joyfulness of the first film. The major contribution to this is the amount of

drama the sequel has in it. Although the movie still has stellar performances and chemistry between the actors, the love triangle can become a little much at times for viewers. Overall, the movie did not let down its predecessor, but it failed to convey the same overall themes and evoke the natural joy of the first film.

Baseball Sweeps Series Against Shorter Univ.



Photo Courtesy of UWG Athletics

By Amber Bell

Contributing Writer

Three games and three wins last weekend for the Wolves, marking their fifth consecutive series win and improving their season record to 12-4. The team traveled to Rome, GA, to face the Shorter University Hawks on February 28th and 29th.

Taylor Boisclair got the start for game one. The senior pitcher was dominant from the beginning, working six strong innings and not allowing any hits until the bottom of the fourth. Boisclair's work allowed the Wolves to build an early lead, starting in the third inning. Brody Wortham started the third with a double to right field. Dylan Johnson then reached first on an error, moving Wortham into scoring position. John Michael McRae pushed Wortham over with a ground out RBI.

The pitchers-dual continued until the top of the sixth inning, when the Wolves used Shorter's struggles in the field to run up the score. McRae and Jason Fointno reached on errors, then Collin Moore scored both with a double to center. Dan Oberst kept the inning going with a base hit, with two more Shorter errors pushing him to third. Justin Hill was hit by a pitch and Jermond Williams was intentionally walked, loading the bases. Hill and Oberst both scored on yet another error on first base, giving the Wolves a 6-0 lead going to the bottom of the sixth inning. The Hawks narrowed the gap with a ground out advancing a base runner to scoring position.

Another single pushed the runner over, making the score 6-1. Boisclair continued to work throughout the inning only allowing one more hit before Corey Bartholomew took over in the seventh. The senior out of Macon, GA, was able to hold the Hawks scoreless for the next two innings, only allowing runs to be put on the board in a late ninth inning rally.

UWG got the ninth inning going with Johnson reaching base after getting hit by a pitch and advancing into scoring position on a wild pitch. McRae walked, and Brady Barnes singled to right field, advancing all runners. Moore then walked with the bases loaded, scoring Johnson. Oberst took to the box and reached on a fielder's choice RBI scoring McRae with two outs. Shorter began their late game rally with a single, capitalizing on a wild pitch to get into scoring position. After a homerun, another foul-out ended the inning, leaving the Wolves with an 8-3 victory.

Game two was under way on February 29th. Robert Coleman took the mound for the Wolves, holding the Hawks while the Wolves put up a solid four run first inning. McRae and Moore were both hit by pitches and Oberst walked, loading the bases. Jermond Williams, February's Gulf South Conference Player of the Month, blasted a grand slam after the Hawks changed pitchers. The Hawks rallied in the bottom of the third, taking advantage of fielding errors by the Wolves, and hitting a grand slam of their own. The game was now sitting tied at 4-4

with Tyler Garner coming in to pitch for Coleman.

The fifth inning was explosive for both teams. The Wolves broke the short-lived tie in the top of the inning, scoring six runs. Oberst got it started with a double to center field. Joseph Hill reached on an error, Williams and Lane Griffith both walked, scoring Oberst. Johnson loaded the bases again with a walk, followed by McRae belting another grand slam to give the Wolves a 10-4 lead.

Shorter fired back at the bottom of the inning, with two home runs to make it 10-8, after the Wolves sent CJ Fehribach in to take over for Garner. The Hawks left the inning with a tied score yet again, and even took the lead with an RBI single up the middle in the sixth inning.

The Wolves offense would respond quickly. After a couple hits and some fielding miscues by the Shorter defense to begin the inning, Fointno laced a single up the middle, scoring both Wortham and Griffith. The Wolves would tack on three more runs in the top of the 8th inning. Oberst started it off with a single and would reach second base on a throwing error committed by the third baseman. Williams drove in Oberst making the score 13-11. Followed up by a few more hits, the Wolves would finish the inning by putting up three runs. Sawyer Steele was in charge of closing out the final innings for the Wolves with a four run lead heading into the 9th inning. Steele would allow one run in the bottom half of the inning, resulting in a 15-12 victory for the Wolves.

Ryan Parker, a senior from Acworth, GA, would take the mound for the Wolves for game three of the series. After a relatively quick first two innings, the Wolves offense exploded for five runs in the third. Barnes would start the rally with a leadoff single and the following the two batters reaching base. A wild pitch and another single by Oberst would allow the Wolves to take a 3-0 lead. The Hawks pitchers struggled with command, walking two batters and having a couple wild pitches. The Wolves concluded the inning with a comfortable 5-0 lead.

This was all the cushion Parker needed on the mound as he continued to silence the Hawks each inning. Of the 18 batters Parker faced, only four would reach base. Parker threw a complete game allowing only two hits, two walks and struck out seven batters. The Wolves broke out for two more runs in the top half of the 5th inning. After loading the bases with no outs, a fielder's choice and sacrifice fly would give the Wolves an 8-0 lead leading into the final inning. Parker would strike out the side in the final inning, while stranding one base runner at first. Parker now possesses a 3-1 record on the season with a 2.96 earned run average, the lowest amongst starters on the Wolves team.

The UWG Wolves improved their record to 12-4 on the season and 7-2 in conference play, tied for the most wins in the Gulf South Conference so far. They will face the Wingate Bulldogs at Cole field in Carrollton for a two game series.

Soccer in the South: A New Wave

By **Kyle Soto**
Editor-in-Chief

The moment that the city of Nashville had been waiting for finally came, and it was glorious. To the unknowing locals and visitors, something was brewing. Signs and billboards previewing the momentous occasions popped up all over the city, and a coalition of Atlantans began making their presence known in Tennessee’s capital. This season’s MLS opening weekend presented many —if not the majority of— Atlanta United fans with the opportunity to watch the Five Stripes play an away match for the first time. A four-hour drive littered with beautiful scenery is all that separates Atlanta and Nashville. The next closest MLS opponent Atlanta will face this season is Orlando City, and that’s at least a six-hour drive.

A few hours before the match, Broadway filled with Atlanta United fans. If one couldn’t see the Atlanta crowd on Nashville’s busiest street/ tourist attraction because of the blinding sun hanging overhead, they could definitely hear the

“VAMOS ATL” chants and exclamations to the effect of “WOO, let’s go baby!”

Atlanta fans soon began migrating across the Cumberland River for the main event. Approaching the stadium across the bridge from downtown, a plume of red and black smoke floating up from the northern parking lot from Nissan Stadium’s northern corner provided a reference point to locate Atlanta’s most diehard fans. At that moment they represented the Atlanta United fandom perfectly by tailgating, marching and chanting just as they do for home matches. Not to discredit Nashville of course, who were just making their league debut. Nashville was determined to mark the occasion by drawing ideas from the city’s famous musical history. Tennessee’s own Judah and the Lion collaborated with Nashville SC to produce the club’s new anthem titled “Never Give Up On You,” and Lzzy Hale performed a guitar riff prior to kickoff. When it was time for the match, Atlanta fans and Nashville fans connected through the beautiful game, and came together to witness one of MLS’

newest additions to the league take on one of the league’s top teams that has set the standard for new expansion sides. United fans can recall memories of partaking in their team’s MLS debut better than most. Atlanta entered the league as a brand-new franchise in 2017, and shades reminiscent of Atlanta’s MLS debut against the New York Red Bulls began to become more apparent as the match wore on.

Atlanta would win the game 2-1. A unified feeling of excitement and anticipation, and euphoria’s descent upon the debutant’s temporary home, are all emotions and experiences that Atlanta United fans will fondly remember. Goals from Ezequiel Barco and Emerson Hyndman spoiled Nashville’s debut and secured the three points for Atlanta. Walker Zimmerman bagged Nashville’s first MLS goal in the club’s history and wrote his name down in Nashville SC’s lore.

From Atlanta’s point of view, the match and the ensuing result were marred after news of Josef Martinez’s injury broke out the follow-

ing day. The striker went down injured, left the field, and returned to play. Unfortunately, Josef had to be removed from the field on a stretcher and was later diagnosed with a torn ACL.

Depending on how long it takes for Josef to recover and return to the field, Atlanta may need to sign a replacement. Finding someone to replace his production is going to be a difficult task, but Atlanta United is going to find a solution to the issue. Nashville and Atlanta will probably, and hopefully grow to become great rivals barring an Orlando City-esque state of existence. It’s very likely that fans from both fanbases will make the drive to the other city on a regular basis. For now, Atlanta fans won’t be visiting Nashville to see Atlanta United play in a MLS match until at least 2022. Nashville currently competes in the Western Conference, but expansion elsewhere in the league over the next two years would logically see Nashville make the switch to the Eastern Conference. When that happens, a new, authentic rivalry could be born.



Photo: Kyle Soto, *The West Georgian*

Behind the Scenes with a NASCAR Engineer

By **Amber Bell**

Contributing Writer

In professional motorsports, while the camera might only focus on the driver, there is an army of specialists behind him providing the tools to win. Phillip Bell is a lead engineer for J.R. Motorsports, a NASCAR Xfinity Series team. A seasoned engineer with six years of experience in the position, and countless years under the hood of a racecar, Bell has been a part of two championship teams with many wins under his belt. As an engineer, Bells' job is to analyze data that helps build a racecar. He goes between the Crew Chief and the mechanics and relays information to prep the car for a race. He focuses on things such as vehicle dynamics and driver feedback, tracking the drivers' car and also the competitor's car.

NASCAR is known for having the longest season of any professional sport, with 38 races spanning 10 months. With each track being different, the cars need to change almost entirely for each race. The team must waste no time between races in order to perfect the setup. "The more data you have, the better your car's going to run. The more data I can give the driver, it helps

him do his job better," said Bell. "Same with the Crew Chief. The more data I give him, the better decisions he can make regarding the cars. The more data I give the mechanics, the faster they get the job done." On Feb. 15th, Bell's team, with driver Noah Gragson, won the Xfinity season opener at Daytona International Speed. After the celebration, the team loaded up the car, and hopped on their plane back to Charlotte, North Carolina. Bell took his seat, grabbed his laptop and got right back to work on the next weekend's car. Racing is in Bell's blood. His grandfather Hence Pollard built Senoia Raceway in 1969, and the family never got away from it. Before he could even walk, Bell was tagging along to watch his dad and uncle race, and eventually his older cousin. At eight years old, he finally got to join the fun and race a car as well.

Bell graduated from UNC-Charlotte with a degree in mechanical engineering, after growing up in a family deeply intertwined with motorsports. Growing up in the sport, working on racecars always came naturally to him. He raced for most of his childhood but found true enjoyment in what was under the hood

and wanted to make the cars that he worked on the most advanced and powerful vehicles on the track.

"Starting at an early age gave me a better foundation. It gave me a big base for the big picture in terms of racing," said Bell. "I learned the basics and had the fundamentals down, then when I got my engineering degree I learned why it happened like it did. I already knew what happened with changes, but I learned how with my engineering degree." As he got older, Bell knew his calling would be under the hood and not in the seat. He found his true enjoyment in working on his cars, rather than just racing. He got his first professional experience working on ARCA driver Frank Kimmel's car at the age of 15. At that point he was still too young to travel alone, so his dad, Jon, would tag along and worked as Kimmels' spotter. After graduating high school Bell moved to Indiana to continue working for Kimmel, but three weeks later decided to move to Charlotte and work towards his engineering degree instead. He got a job working under NASCAR legend Ken Schrader on one of his KSR teams. Here, Bell moved

from a mechanical position to an engineering position. The transition was not necessarily expected and took time to adapt from the very hands on work, but it helped him find his niche.

"There's always small curves, but it was generally the same path. I mean you always get off to a certain extent, you adapt and overcome with changes," Bell said. "But mainly it was pretty straight. We knew what we were going to do young and just made it happen." In 2016, JR Motorsports hired Bell. The team has evolved greatly in the last four years, with all four cars being top contenders on the track every weekend. Although the four JRM teams share a workshop and information, they are still competitors. Communication between the teams can serve as a challenge.

"You have a bunch of different personalities in racing. People from all walks of life," said Bell. "It's the biggest challenge. It's like that in any business really. It's about getting the most out of myself and the others." After a strong start to the season, Bell and the number 9 team look forward to another great year. Now that they've secured their spot in The Chase, NASCARs' version of playoffs, looks to continue to perfect craft and to chase the ultimate goal of a championship.

LIVING WEST

James Webb Space Telescope Set to Launch in 2021

By **Damani Smith**

Contributing Writer

George Sonneborn, the NASA Project Scientist for Operations for the James Webb Space Telescope, visited UWG on Wednesday, Feb. 26 to present information on the James Webb Space telescope. Sonneborn received his Doctorate in 1980 from Ohio State University, studying stars. He got his first job at the NASA Goddard Space Center in Maryland in 1982 and started as a staff astronomer. Sonneborn wrote 30 papers for the first naked-eye supernova in 400 years and continues his research now. From 2005 until his retirement in 2018, he had been the project scientist for the telescope. In addition to his studies, he has writ-

ten over 100 research papers in his career.

Katherine Johnson was a mathematician and rocket scientist for NASA. She designed the James Webb Space Telescope prior to her passing on Feb. 23. Johnson was responsible for calculating the orbits before sending rockets and probes into space, which is what made her job crucial while working on machinery such as the telescope. The telescope is expected to launch in 2021 and help scientists find information that telescopes and other probes launched into space over the years weren't able to obtain.

James Webb, whom the telescope was named after, was NASA's second administrator. He supervised the first manned spaceflight program, known as Mer-

cury, and supervised the second manned spaceflight program, known as Gemini. Webb was also responsible for supervising the Mariner and Pioneer Planetary Exploration Programs and the Apollo Program. Before his death in 1992, he established science as a central part of NASA's mission.

The observatory of the telescope unfolds in space after it's launch, meaning it will not activate until it leaves Earth. The Sunshield of the telescope protects it from the Sun's and Earth's heat, allowing it to cool to -380 fahrenheit. This international project is expected to study the universe in infrared light, discover the first stars that formed shortly after the big bang, and search for water on extrasolar planets sim-

ilar to Earth. This telescope is also expected to be 100 times more powerful than the Hubble and potentially make unimaginable discoveries. The overall project is international, with European and Canadian Space Agencies partnering with NASA in order to make the project successful.

With the launch expected to take place next year, the launch vehicle is an Ariane 5 Rocket. The rocket is being supplied by the European Space Agency and the site will be Arianespace's launch complex near Kourou, French Guiana. Webb's state of the art capabilities will address scientific questions that other observatories are unable to answer.

ELECTION 2020

Image Courtesy of Echo Press

UWG Students Can Now Register to Vote at the School's Registrar's Office

By Ashley Moore
Contributing Writer

We hold these truths to be self-evident blah, blah, blah and the pursuit of happiness. Talking about politics can be a daunting task, especially for college students. Their world within the four walls of a classroom is stressful enough, then they're expected to start adulting too? It is not always easy or fun, but being involved socially and politically in the community is necessary and rewarding.

College-aged voters are a key demographic. College students doubled their voting turnout in the 2018 midterm from the previous 2014 midterm election. According to the National Study of Learning, Voting and Engagement, the voter turnout went from 19% to 40%. College student voter turnout also rose in the 2016 presidential elec-

tion from 45.1% in 2012 to 48.3%. These numbers are a clear indication that many college students understand their importance in this process. College students play a major role in determining the fate of the country's future. Not only are they the future leaders, but they are the current coalition.

The deadline to register to vote in the Georgia Presidential Primary and Special Election has passed, but there is still time to get registered before the general election. Many students may be surprised to find out they are already registered as Georgia leads the U.S. in automatic voter registrations. Starting in 2016, any person who receives or renews their driver's license after the age of 17 ½ is automatically registered to vote unless they choose to opt-out of the process. If a person is unsure of their registration status, they can

check using Georgia.gov.

There are many ways to register to vote in the state of Georgia. Voter registration applications can be done online, printed and completed through mail, picked up at a local county board of registrar's office or picked up at other government offices. "College students can obtain Georgia voter registration forms, or the necessary forms to register, from their school's registrar's office or from the office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs," according to the Secretary of State and Georgia.gov.

However, when this information was brought to the UWG registrar's office, there had been no awareness of this. Clint Backstrom, the Director of Enrollment Services Center, made it clear that he would pass along this information to other school officials, and the proper paperwork

would be added if needed. "Starting today, we will have voter registration forms going forward," said Backstrom.

A further look into the availability of physical voter registration applications led to the Ingram Library. "We have a small stack," said Sarah Cooper, Circulation Manager at the Ingram Library. "They're very old. It's not something that we get regularly. We would advise students to register online. We have about 60 computers for students in the library that they can use to register online." Now, students have no excuses. Whether they go to the Ingram Library, the school's registrar's office, or simply use their internet in the comfort of their homes, they can register to vote. If enough students make their voices heard, they could decide the next election.



Image Courtesy of Echo Press

Natural Born Tillers



Photo Courtesy of Natural Born Tillers

By Brittany Shivers

Contributing Writer

Humans have been tied to food since the beginning of mankind. Through food, humans developed agriculture, which eventually led to advanced society. From an evolutionary perspective, we are tied into the rhythms of food seasonality through generations and generations of ancestry. Today, humans have developed the mass production of food through agriculture, and we even have the technology to change food on a molecular level. However, these advancements in technology and agriculture have caused detrimental effects on the environment, and people are more removed from the environments where their food comes from than ever before. Kids today are more likely to think carrots grow on trees, whereas at the start of the century, kids knew carrots grew in the ground.

To change this, we must create sustainable and educational solutions, which is exactly what UWG alumnus Cory Mosser did with his company Natural Born Tillers (NBT). The company is introducing an innovative farming approach to landscaping in Atlanta by taking spaces that are underutilized and transforming them into edible, sustainable gardens. "We go into corporate locations and look at what's around, and we try to squeeze in fun food experiences," said Mosser. "We use the gardens as little outdoor classrooms, and we provide the service of maintenance because the last thing you want to do when you're at work is to go outside and do more work." Mosser was a farmer for 10 years before he started

the business, which gave him the necessary insight to start NBT. The company only hires experienced farmers that can bring a knowledgeable perspective to edible landscaping. With experienced farmers strategically planning out the food gardens, people are more likely to understand their food sources.

"If you are walking into a garden and see something you understand, you are much more likely to engage with it," said Mosser. "The more we are separated from what feeds us, the less autonomy we have and the less ability we have to control our food sources." NBT works with multiple corporate locations including Delta, Adult Swim Studios and EpiCity Real Estate Services, with Delta being their largest site. The Delta location has raised vegetable beds, peaches, figs, a blueberry patch, a muscadine orchard and even a large pollinator garden. There are multiple volunteer events and harvests that keep the employees engaged with their food sources and the seasons of food production. The Adult Swim Studios garden is right on Williams Street and even has sculptures of characters from the popular Adult Swim show "Rick and Morty." The gar-

den also has muscadines growing up a brick wall, plus sunflowers and herbs.

All the sustainable landscaping sights give employees a nice place to enjoy nature, which is proven to boost mental health. According to a 2015 study by Stanford University, individuals who walked in a natural setting for 90 minutes as opposed to an urban setting showed decreased brain activity in a region of the brain associated with depression. Also, in a previous study by the same university, time in nature had a positive effect on mood and cognitive function, including working memory and a dampening effect on anxiety.

"The more you are in nature, the better your mental health is," said Mosser. In addition to the positive psychological impact of edible landscaping, there is also a positive environmental impact. "All of the spaces that we curate we manage organically," said Mosser. "So there is the added benefit of increasing biodiversity." Essentially, through NBT's projects, the team creates new biological niches in areas that were once lifeless, both aesthetically and literally. This is a refreshing new approach to farming as traditional

agriculture methods contribute to a lot of environmental destruction.

"For people that are interested in agriculture, the real challenge is thinking outside the box," said Mosser. "We need to think about how to maintain the emotional and psychological importance of food because agriculture can be a huge solution but can also be a huge problem." Oftentimes, modern agriculture involves destroying a natural ecosystem and growing mass amounts of food in its place. Livestock agriculture is even more inefficient because it takes a lot of resources to feed animals and only a fraction of those resources are gained back. This is not sustainable living and initiates loss of biodiversity, land and water degradation and deforestation. With food knowledge, we are armed with the resources to improve the situation of our planet. "We're helping bees, beneficial insects, predatory insects and butterflies, all of which help our gardens," said Mosser. "It wasn't until we started creating a surplus through organizational agriculture that advanced civil societies began to develop. Food is the foundation of our society."



Photo Courtesy of Georgia Organics