



Photo Courtesy of Associated Press

# Economic Recovery Progresses Since Start of COVID-19, But Problems Still Remain

By Amanda Clay  
Health Correspondent

Economic growth since the COVID-19 pandemic has exceeded previous expectations predicted at the start of the pandemic, according to a recent report released by the Brookings institution entitled, “11 Facts on The Economic Recovery From the COVID-19 Pandemic.”

The report cites increased wages in certain sectors, increased disposable personal income (DPI), decreased poverty numbers measured by the Official Poverty Measure, a surge in durable good spending by consumers due to social distancing and the second quarter gross domestic product (GDP) released in August of this year, which outperformed pre-pandemic GDP levels.

Dr. David M. Cutler, Otto Eckstein Professor of Applied Economics at Harvard University, said that the early efforts of the government and federal reserve bank helped to prevent an economic disaster. In 2020, Cutler and former Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, authored a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association which estimated the projected cost of COVID-19. Summers and Cutler valued the economic cost to the United States at \$16 trillion dollars.

Despite these massive financial losses incurred, Cutler says the country is on the mend.

“The economy didn’t crater because of what we did as a coun-

try,” said Cutler. “I think now it’s really a question of how to get people back to work, the thing that is holding the economy back at the moment is that there are still people who are not vaccinated, and that’s putting a drag on everything.”

Despite the strides towards improvement, many economic effects of the pandemic remain. The decline in service sector unemployment has only partially improved, retail inventory remains low and the number of workers quitting their jobs is higher now than in the past 20 years, among other problems.

Although job openings are at an all time high, the number of people resigning from their jobs each month has increased. This combined with depressed labor participation and slow job matching has produced wage pressure, particularly for service industry workers.

The labor participation rate, or the rate of a proportion of a population working or actively seeking work, fell from 63% to 60% in 2020 between February and April, according to the report. Working mothers with children made up a significant portion of this demographic, precipitated by virtual school and the child-care closures that took place during the worst waves of the pandemic.

Despite the concerns over resignations and low labor participation rates, Cutler says he has only seen evidence of anecdotal or cluster resignations that are not wide scale.

## WHAT’S INSIDE

### NEWS

PAGES 1-3

**Economic Recovery Progresses Since Start of COVID-19, But Problems Still Remain**

By Amanda Clay

**Chalk & Window Paint Contest: A Community Hangout**

By Kinadi Dill

**The Newnan Center: A Brief History of West Georgia’s Satellite Campus**

By Jannette Emmerick

**UWG Peer Education Holds Alcohol Awareness Week**

By Kayla Henderson

### ENTERTAINMENT

PAGES 5

**“After We Fell” Is Worth the Wait**

By Victoria Mitchell

### SPORTS

PAGE 6

**Wolves Move from 12th Ranked to 4th in their Conference**

By Victoria Mitchell

“I don’t think there are mass resignations, at least not that I’ve seen,” said Cutler. “I haven’t seen any data. The anecdotes where employers have said they have mass resignations, turned out that they only had a very small number.”

The cause of these cluster resignations according to Cutler, are frustrations with current minimum wage jobs, particularly in service industries.

“Some of what’s happening is that people don’t necessarily want to go back to some of these jobs,” Cutler continued. “Particularly in restaurants and other service industries because the wages have not gone up and the hours weren’t that great. Of course, if employers want to hire people all they have to do is raise wages. But they are so far not willing to do that.”

Another cause of people resigning are due to the recent vaccine mandates. Vaccine mandate-related resignations and walkouts have been highly publicized but Cutler says are not happening consistently.

“I think it’s been overblown,” Cutler continued. “Lots of employers are imposing requirements that you be vaccinated. And some people are leaving but again I have not seen anything that suggests it’s a big number. People argued that everyone is going to resign if you had to [mandate vaccines], and then it turns out most people have their shots and want to keep their job.”



# NEWS

## Chalk & Window Paint Contest: A Community Hangout

By **Kinadi Dill**  
*Contributing Writer*

This year to kick off Homecoming at the University of West Georgia, many exciting, community-oriented events took place right on campus in celebration of school pride. Students, faculty members and alumni teamed up to organize various activities and enjoy homecoming traditions leading up to the big football game that wraps up the week. Some of these traditional activities include tailgating, Greek grind and Howlapalooza just to list a few. There were also several contests that were held across campus, such as the Chalk and Window Painting contest.

The Chalk and Window Painting contest was created for all student organizations to join during Homecoming

week and each contest was held in two different locations on campus. The chalk contest was held in front of the UCC building and inside of residence halls across campus. Different organizations were seen showcasing their artistic abilities.

“The sidewalk chalk competition is a Homecoming tradition at UWG that combines creativity with campus pride,” said April Wood, the Executive Director for the Center of Student Involvement and Inclusion. “All student organizations and departments can participate in the event.”

The event was held on Tuesday, Oct. 19, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. where students and department members had tables set up and colored chalk options spread across the pavement. Beautiful art-

work was displayed along the large square titles in front of the UCC building. The participants were seen having a ball designing their artwork.

The same excitement was present for the students and department members who participated in the window painting contests.. Vibrant artwork and creative paintings can be found all across campus windows and residence halls. Winners of each competition will be announced at the University stadium following the event at the end of Homecoming week.

“This homecoming tradition showcases artists of all skill levels,” said Wood. “It also helps to spread the Homecoming Spirit to all that pass by the showcase of squares for days to come.”



Photo: Kinadi Dill, *The West Georgian*

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# NEWS

## The Newnan Center: A Brief History of West Georgia's Satellite Campus

By Jannette Emmerick

Contributing Writer

Ominous, five-eyed light fixtures stare down from the ceiling while roaming through the halls of the University of West Georgia's Newnan Campus. The bulbous surgery lamps now remain as fossils of the location's former function less than 10 years ago.

While a majority of in-person students attend classes in Carrollton's main campus, many students, staff and faculty commute to UWG's satellite campus to attend classes. Many of them are nursing students who greatly benefit the campus' previous incarnation as Newnan Hospital.

"First of all, it was just gonna be a nursing school," says Helen Moore Camp, the Recording and Corresponding Secretary of Newnan's Genealogical Society. "They started [the nursing program] at the other [campus], but they weren't really as equipped."

Built in 1925, the Newnan Hospital began as an "eleemosynary institution," another way of saying supported through charity, according to the Centennial Magazine archived by the Genealogical Society and published by the Newnan Times-Herald in 1965. By 1924, the people and businesses of Coweta County pooled almost \$1,000,000 to fund Newnan Hospital's construction, equaling about \$20 million dollars in today's economy.

In 1939, during a time

of segregation and the infancy of the Civil Rights movement, the hospital opened the Rocky Hill section for black patients, becoming one of only 10 hospitals in all of Georgia serving black Americans in "greater facilities."

Meanwhile, West Georgia initially began their Newnan Center in 1988 within borrowed high school classrooms, according to UWG's website records. In 1989, they moved into Georgia Power Company's Environment & Education Center located in Shenandoah Industrial Park. Georgia Power eventually vacated and the Coweta County Commission bought the property and allowed the University to continue operating under a lease until finally donating the property in 2009. Within those 20 plus years, Newnan Center Nursing graduates received top scores and heightened Coweta County's general growth as a healthcare epicenter.

In 2012, the Old Newnan Hospital was vacated in favor of newer locations and offered to West Georgia specifically for their Nursing program. The hospital reopened for the University in 2015 and over the years, the campus offered more classes in other disciplines while still remaining largely focused on nursing.

With 89 years of operation, the Hospital served

hundreds of patients and like every hospital, circled around human life and death. Now the building serves dozens of future nurses and medical workers among other students. Acquiring the hospital gave UWG a wealth of resources for their Nursing program.

Even today, the campus utilizes the morgue to house dummy cadavers in the basement and on the second floor they stage simulated tests within a mock living room environment featuring a dressed up manikin.

"Even in the way [the building] is now, there aren't any living bodies in there, but there are 'bodies' in there," says Camp.

In this current season, the spirit of Halloween surfaces on every street and a former hospital location seems to fit the haunted vibes among the downtown neighbors. The Centennial Magazine describes the Old Newnan Hospital's outside as an "ante-bellum hotel," but now, inside the red bricked walls the past echoes through the surgery light fixtures, the motherboard art pinned on the walls and the notably cold stairwells. Whether the Old Newnan Hospital is haunted remains a mystery to hopefuls and an impossibility to skeptics, but regardless of the spooky fall atmosphere, the Old Newnan Hospital revives as a historical monument and into a new husk for education.



Photo Courtesy of Special Collections



# NEWS

## UWG Peer Education Holds Alcohol Awareness Week

By Kayla Henderson

Editor-in-Chief

The week of October 22- 28 is recognized as National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week. The University of West Georgia recognized this week and partnered with Health Services' Peer Education program to spread awareness on the dangers of alcohol, binge drinking and consequences of drinking under the influence.

"Alcohol Awareness Week is really important in educating students on alcohol and the effects it can have if used incorrectly," said Carlie Hill, who serves as a Peer Educator for Peer Education. Peer Educators serve UWG by helping to promote education on various topics such as alcohol, sexual assault prevention, nutrition and wellness. Peer Educators hold informational tables, events around campus and regularly use social media to post informative content.

Peer Education held a week-long series of events to help students to better understand what having a healthy relationship to alcohol looks like.

"Monday there was an Alcohol Awareness table in front of the UCC. At the table, Peer Educators provided students on information that revolved around alcohol including pamphlets and other educational material," said Hill. "The pamphlets show how long alcohol will be in your system according to your weight as well as cups that

show one serving of a shot, beer or wine."

On Tuesday, an inflatable obstacle course was set up in the Grassy Triangle for students to complete the obstacle course while wearing Drunk Goggles.

"Drunk Goggles stimulate how it feels when you are impaired and under the influence of alcohol," said Hill. "The goggles show the alterations that being under the influence creates including blurred vision, double vision and delayed reaction times."

Wednesday, Peer Education held "Stay Sober Carrollton", an interactive talk and tabling event where students wrote alternatives they practice instead of drinking. The event focused on the initiative of #UWGChoosesTo, to help students find safe ways to drink responsibly. Students wrote down responses such as choosing to be the designated driver, choosing to stay home and choosing activities without alcohol.

The final event of the week ended on Thursday with Think Fast Trivia. The event was sponsored by ThinkFast, a organization which uses high tech production equipment to aid in different trivia games for students. The company gave away over \$140 in Amazon gift cards to those who won various trivia contests.

"So many students don't know the potential dangers that alcohol can have. I'm glad we can help share information and keep students safe."

Image Courtesy of Peer Education

## Alcohol Awareness Week

Monday 10/18: Alcohol Awareness Table (11am-2pm UCC)

Tuesday 10/19: Inflatable Obstacle Course (10am-2pm Grassy Triangle)

Wednesday 10/20: Stay Sober Carrollton Talk (11am-2pm UCC)

Thursday 10/21: Think Fast Trivia (6pm Center Pointe Suites Multipurpose Room)



#HOWL4HEALTH



# ENTERTAINMENT



Image Courtesy of Netflix

## “After We Fell” Is Worth the Wait

By **Victoria Mitchell**  
Contributing Writer

“After We Fell” is the third film installment of the “After” series, based on Anna Todd’s five book series. Audiences were first amazed with the first movie “After” and were left on a cliffhanger with the second movie “After We Collided”. Fans were left waiting for a little over a year for this third movie to be released.

Last year “After We Collided” was released in theaters. “After We Collided” ended when Tessa and Hardin ran into her father outside the tattoo shop. At the beginning of “After We Fell”, the movie picks up where the second movie leaves off and begins with Tessa and Hardin talking to her father at their apartment.

In the second movie we were able to see that Tessa’s life was getting a little out of control. At the beginning of “After We Collided”, we can tell that she is losing the people that are close to her such as her family and friends. At this point she

feels as if the only person she can really turn to is Hardin. Hardin, Tessa’s one true love, is willing to be there for her and help her but something just seems to be holding him back.

In “After We Fell”, Tessa had been keeping multiple secrets from Hardin, which is frustrating for fans because how could she keep secrets from someone she claims to love and need the most in her life. Once Hardin finds out he gets upset and it leaves him feeling confused. This confusion leads him to try and attempt to sabotage Tessa.

Tessa’s father is very similar to his father in the aspect that they both struggle with addiction. Her struggles with her father creates more tension with her friends and family. She is debating on whether or not she should move to Seattle but she does not want to leave Hardin. Tessa and Hardin must decide if fighting for their love is worth it or not.

Meanwhile, when Har-

din hears about Tessa’s move to Seattle he sabotages her new apartment and uses other girls in an attempt to make Tessa jealous. Tessa’s friends drug her and film her being sexually assaulted as a part of this revenge plan. Fans find out that Hardin’s dad is not really his dad; he actually turns out to be Christian Vance, his father’s best friend from college and one of Tessa’s colleagues. Hardin then finds his mom kissing Vance on the day she was set to marry someone else. As we know with Hardin’s past and short temper, fans can only imagine that he will not take this well in the next movie to come.

“After We Fell” was full of intensity and left the audience ready for the next movie. Critics and fans have seemed to enjoy the movie and have been recommending it to others. Fans are eagerly waiting for the fourth installment to see what will happen to Tessa and Hardin next.



## SPORTS



Photo Courtesy of Jared Boggus

## Wolves Move from 12th Ranked to 4th in their Conference

By Victoria Mitchell  
Contributing Writer

The Wolves traveled to Pensacola, Florida this past weekend where they brought home a big conference win against the University of West Florida Argos. This makes the Wolves record 6-1 for their overall season and 4-1 in the Gulf South Conference.

The Wolves who were ranked 12th, their win over Pensacola moved them to 4th in the AFCA Division II, after beating the Argos who were ranked number 1.

“We were nervous about going into this game because we knew that West Florida was ranked number one in our conference,” said Cameron Cobb, a wide receiver for UWG.

Going into halftime the Wolves led 17-9.

“Going into the locker room we were pumped, but knew we had to con-

tinue to play strong and smart,” said Austin Donaldson, who plays right guard. Going into the third quarter the Argos were determined to make a comeback. The Wolves struggled in the second half to make plays offensively.

Meanwhile, the Argos were making plays and getting the ball down the field. The Argos were able to score a 34 yard touchdown on the first drive making the score 16-17 and again on a 21 yard pass making the score 23-17 with the Argos in the lead.

Towards the end of the third quarter, the Argos threw an attempted touchdown pass where their player fumbled the ball and senior Mike Miller was able to grab the ball and make his way down the field. Miller scored thus making the Wolves take the lead 24-23.

The Argos regained the lead at the beginning

of the fourth quarter. With roughly 14 minutes the Wolves knew they had to come together in order to make the plays that needed to be made. Once the ball was turned back over to the Wolves, they were able to run the ball down the field and score. The Wolves took home the win of 30-26. The Wolves will be back home this weekend for the homecoming game against North Greenville.

The football team is hoping to bring home another win and show off their skills for everyone who attends. “If we go into the game with good attitudes and motivation after beating West Florida hopefully we will be able to show up and show out,” said Donaldson.

The Wolves will be back home October 23 for the Homecoming game against North Greenville.