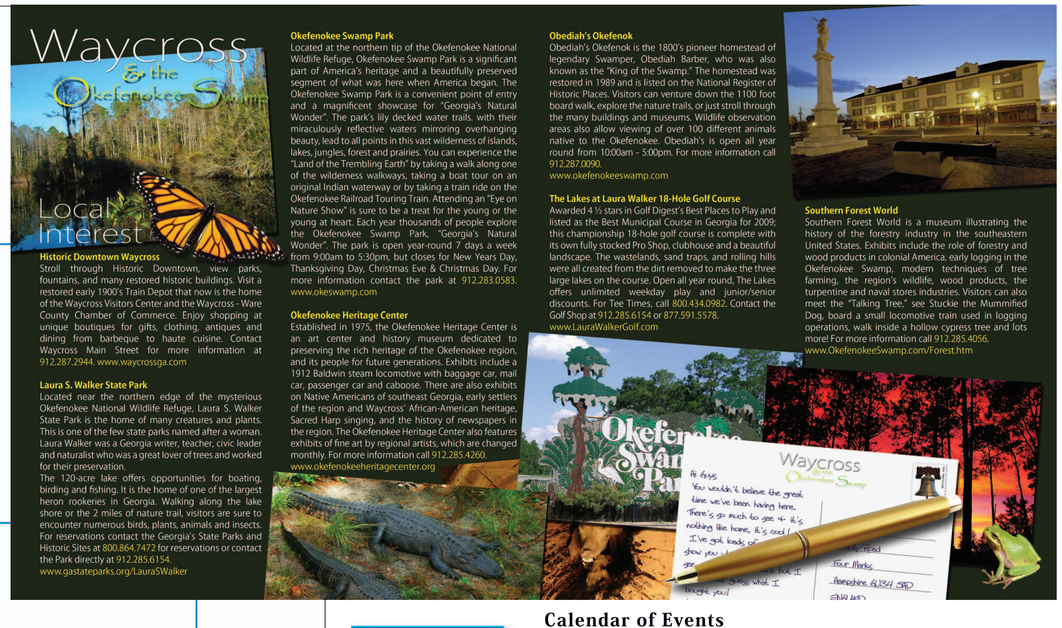

Historic Downtown Waycross
Stroll through Historic Downtown, view parks, fountains, and many restored historic buildings. Visit a restored early 1900's Train Depot that now is the home of the Waycross Visitors Center and the Waycross - Ware County Chamber of Commerce. Enjoy shopping at unique boutiques for gifts, clothing, antiques and dining from barbeque to haute cuisine. Contact Waycross Main Street for more information at 912.287.2944. www.waycrossga.com

Laura S. Walker State Park
Located near the northern edge of the mysterious Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Laura S. Walker State Park is the home of many creatures and plants. This is one of the few state parks named after a woman. Laura Walker was a Georgia writer, teacher, civic leader and naturalist who was a great lover of trees and worked for their preservation.
The 120-acre lake offers opportunities for boating, birding and fishing. It is the home of one of the largest heron rookeries in Georgia. Walking along the lake shore or the 2 miles of nature trail, visitors are sure to encounter numerous birds, plants, animals and insects. For reservations contact the Georgia's State Parks and Historic Sites at 800.864.7472 for reservations or contact the Park directly at 912.285.6154.
www.gastateparks.org/Laura5Walker

Okefenokee Swamp Park
Located at the northern tip of the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge, Okefenokee Swamp Park is a significant part of America's heritage and a beautifully preserved segment of what was here when America began. The Okefenokee Swamp Park is a convenient point of entry and a magnificent showcase for "Georgia's Natural Wonder". The park's lily decked water trails, with their miraculously reflective waters mirroring overhanging beauty, lead to all points in this vast wilderness of islands, lakes, jungles, forest and prairies. You can experience the "Land of the Trembling Earth" by taking a walk along one of the wilderness walkways, taking a boat tour on an original Indian waterway or by taking a train ride on the Okefenokee Railroad Touring Train. Attending an "Eye on Nature Show" is sure to be a treat for the young or the young at heart. Each year thousands of people explore the Okefenokee Swamp Park, "Georgia's Natural Wonder". The park is open year-round 7 days a week from 9:00am to 5:30pm, but closes for New Years Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. For more information contact the park at 912.283.0583.
www.okeswamp.com

Okefenokee Heritage Center
Established in 1975, the Okefenokee Heritage Center is an art center and history museum dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of the Okefenokee region, and its people for future generations. Exhibits include a 1912 Baldwin steam locomotive with baggage car, mail car, passenger car and caboose. There are also exhibits on Native Americans of southeast Georgia, early settlers of the region and Waycross' African-American heritage. Sacred Harp singing, and the history of newspapers in the region. The Okefenokee Heritage Center also features exhibits of fine art by regional artists, which are changed monthly. For more information call 912.285.4260.
www.okefenokeeheritagecenter.org

Obediah's Okefenok
Obediah's Okefenok is the 1800's pioneer homestead of legendary Swamper, Obediah Barber, who was also known as the "King of the Swamp." The homestead was restored in 1989 and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visitors can venture down the 1100 foot board walk, explore the nature trails, or just stroll through the many buildings and museums. Wildlife observation areas also allow viewing of over 100 different animals native to the Okefenokee. Obediah's is open all year round from 10:00am - 5:00pm. For more information call 912.287.0090.
www.okefenokeeswamp.com

The Lakes at Laura Walker 18-Hole Golf Course
Awarded 4 ½ stars in Golf Digest's Best Places to Play and listed as the Best Municipal Course in Georgia for 2009; this championship 18-hole golf course is complete with its own fully stocked Pro Shop, clubhouse and a beautiful landscape. The wastelands, sand traps, and rolling hills were all created from the dirt removed to make the three large lakes on the course. Open all year round, The Lakes offers unlimited weekday play and junior/senior discounts. For Tee Times, call 800.434.0982. Contact the Golf Shop at 912.285.6154 or 877.591.5578.
www.LauraWalkerGolf.com

Southern Forest World
Southern Forest World is a museum illustrating the history of the forestry industry in the southeastern United States. Exhibits include the role of forestry and wood products in colonial America, early logging in the Okefenokee Swamp, modern techniques of tree farming, the region's wildlife, wood products, the turpentine and naval stores industries. Visitors can also meet the "Talking Tree," see Stuckie the Mummified Dog, board a small locomotive train used in logging operations, walk inside a hollow cypress tree and lots more! For more information call 912.285.4056.
www.OkefenokeeSwamp.com/Forest.htm

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today & get the most from your visit to our city.
BRINGING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Calendar of Events

MARCH - Waycross WINGDING
Celebrating the March 3rd 1874 incorporation of Waycross. This event is held on the nearest Saturday to the 3rd. A great family event with lots of vendors, music, kid's games, arts & crafts, entertainment, fun and competitions for everyone of all ages including the WINGDING Scavenger Hunt 2 weeks before the event. www.waycrossWINGDING.com

MARCH - Okefenokee 10K Swamp Run and Fun Run
10K Swamp Run presented by Okefenokee Track Club at the Laura S. Walker State Park. A 1-mile Fun Run follows the 10K event. www.okefenokeetrackclub.blogspot.com

APRIL - April Fool's Rod Run
For over 30 years, car aficionados have come to the April Fool's Rod Run to see everything from Model T's to foreign sports cars. Over 500 cars, trucks, vans, and motorcycles converge at this weekend event held at the Twin Oaks Park. www.aprilfoolsrodrun.com

APRIL - Swampfest
Don't miss this annual spring event held in downtown Waycross featuring arts & crafts, games and activities for the kids, great food, music and entertainment. Swampfest starts on Friday afternoon and continues to Saturday night when the events culminate with a street dance and concert featuring The Swinging Medallions. www.swampfest.us

JULY - Jaycee's 4th of July Celebration
Every year, the Waycross Jaycees celebrate with music, food, and fireworks at the Memorial Stadium, located on US1. People from all over the area come and enjoy live entertainment and activities for the whole family at the stadium. The grand finale of the evening is the fireworks show at about 9pm & can be seen for miles.

SEPT & APRIL - Twin Oaks Bluegrass Conventions
Twice a year, the Flat Top Travelers host 3 days of Gospel and Bluegrass music at the Twin Oaks Park in Hoboken, GA. The spring convention is the weekend before Mother's Day and the fall convention is the weekend after Labor Day. Camp sites and RV hook-ups are available. www.twinoakspark.com

SEPTEMBER - Rumble in the Swamp
The Golden Rams of Albany State University battle it out for bragging rights against the Tigers of Savannah State University in this fall football classic played in Memorial Stadium (AKA "The Swamp"). The game is sponsored by the 100 Black Men of Valdosta and Southeast Georgia. www.rumbleintheswamp.com

SEPTEMBER - J-Fly Jazz Festival
Nationally renowned jazz artist, Jorel "J-Fly" Flynn, returns to his hometown for this annual jazz festival. This fun free event takes place in Phoenix Park located in downtown Waycross. Bring the family and your chairs and blankets and enjoy an evening of great musical performances, good food, and fine arts. www.jflyjazzfestival.com

SEPTEMBER - Gram Parsons Guitar Pull & Tribute Festival
Come for a weekend of great music in honor of Waycross native Gram Parsons. Parsons was the founding father of country-rock and alternative country music genres. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and camera ... but no pets, please. Camping is available.
www.gramparsonsguitarpull.com

NOVEMBER - Okefenokee Agricultural Fair
Hosted by the Waycross Exchange Club. Livestock, midway rides, local entertainment, concessions, games, livestock shows, petting zoo, rides, & many more exciting events. Admission fee charged daily. Ride rates vary.

NOVEMBER - Oak Street Festival
An annual fall festival celebrating the Oak Street area of Waycross. Festivities include a concert, basketball tournament, food and craft vendors. www.oakstreetfest.com

NOVEMBER & APRIL - Big Z Garage Sale
Held twice a year at Twin Oaks Park in Hoboken, GA, the Big Z features garage sale items, art & crafts, and so much more. www.twinoakspark.com

NOVEMBER - National BBQ Festival
This event is sponsored by the Waycross Exchange Club, & brings teams from around the world to compete for the best-tasting BBQ in several categories. Teams are divided into backyard, open, kids and invitational categories for the right to claim they are tops at "Smokin' in the Swamp." There's fun for the whole family with pig races. Held on the Time Change Weekend at the Waycross Exchange Club Fairgrounds. www.nationalbbqfestival.com

DECEMBER - Holiday Light Show
The Light Show is held on certain nights during the holiday season. Get aboard the Lady Suwannee Railroad and be dazzled by the lights throughout the Okefenokee Swamp Park! For more information call 912.283.0583. www.okeswamp.com

DECEMBER - Main Street Christmas Parade
The annual Christmas parade held in historic downtown Waycross features colorful floats, festive walkers, the Golden Gator Marching Band, and Santa Claus on the "Big Red" fire truck! www.waycrossga.com

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