

# Gazette EXTRA

Tuesday, January 4, 2010

## High school adds new 'signing' class

By Brian Messenger  
CNHI News Service

NORTH ANDOVER, Mass. — Talking is not allowed during Larry Stephen's American Sign Language class. His 19 students communicate entirely with their hands.

"It's kind of like riding a bike," said Ryan Boringa, 18, a senior. "Once your body learns how to do it, it remembers."

American Sign Language is a new elective at this suburban Boston high school, and counts toward the requirement that all students must take two years of a foreign language in order to graduate.

Students also earn three college course credits.

Stephen, a community college professor who was born deaf, teaches the high school class three days a week. Students also practice signing two days a week inside the school library, where they record themselves using laptop computers and send the videos to Stephen to be graded.

"It's nice to see the

students come in at a basic level," said Stephen. "It's nice to see something organic grow from nothing to something."

Principal Carla Scuzzarella described the sign language class as a "great addition" to the school's language curriculum, which also includes German, French and Spanish. "It's a wonderful skill to have for any student," she said.

For some students, Scuzzarella said, sign language is easier to pick up than a spoken language.

"It's a foreign language that you don't often hear about," said Siobhan Murphy, 17, a senior. "It's actually really easy to follow and understand. It's easy to learn."

By their second week of instruction, the students said they had learned to introduce themselves in sign language. And af-

ter they successfully counted from 1 to 19, Stephen reacted by shaking both hands above his head, signalling the sign for applause.

"The deaf communi-

ty is everywhere," said Stephen. "Whatever they learn in here, I just want them to be able to communicate and be involved in the deaf community."



Mary Schwalm/CNHI

Students practice signing in American Sign Language class at North Andover, Mass., High School., North Andover, Mass.

## Contest highlights local food products

By April Reese Sorrow  
University of Georgia

ATHENS — On March 22, the University of Georgia Center for Agribusiness and Economic Development will reveal the winners of the 2011 Flavor of Georgia contest. Winners will be announced during Georgia Ag Day.

Judges are looking for market-ready foods — either commercially available or prototypes — from across the state. Categories include barbecue and hot sauces, confections, dairy products, meat products, snack foods, and jams, jellies and sauces. Entries will be judged on flavor, best use of Georgia ingredients, Georgia theme, unique or innovative qualities, commercial appeal and originality.

Flavor of Georgia is only a starting point for many of the category winners, said Sharon Kane, contest director.

"Nearly two-thirds of last year's contestants saw an increase in their sales and busi-

ness contacts following the contest," she said.

Previous winners have received national attention. Candy-flavored Fondarific was featured on the Food Network show *Ace of Cakes*. Hot Squeeze Sweet Heat Chipotle sauce sells in thousands of stores. White Oak Farm products are sold through Whole Foods and Sysco.

Product registrations will be accepted through Feb. 18, 2011. Semifinalists will be announced in February. Final judging will be March 21 at the Freight Depot in Atlanta.

Register online at [www.flavorofgeorgia.aes.uga.edu](http://www.flavorofgeorgia.aes.uga.edu). For more information, call Kane at (706) 542-9809 or e-mail [spkane@uga.edu](mailto:spkane@uga.edu).

The annual food contest is sponsored by the CAED in partnership with the Governor's Agricultural Advisory Commission, Georgia Agribusiness Council and UGA Department of Food Science and Technology.

# WEEKLY AGENDA

## CLASSIC CAR ENTHUSIASTS

Allan Dear, owner of a restored 1969 GTO, is canvassing South Georgia /North Florida enthusiasts who would like to know more about the SEGTOA Club based in Atlanta (where he is a member) to form a sub-chapter for South GA/N. Florida. For more information, call (229)247-1991 or e-mail dear5@earthlink.net. All owners of 1964 – 1974 GTOs, Tempests, LeMans or clones are welcome/invited.

## NARFE MEETING

TIFTON — All active and retired federal employees are encouraged to meet the second Thursday of each month at Ole Times Country Buffet on Highway 82. Call Bill Wiseman (382-4137) or Bob Hellwig (382-2778) for more information.

## GREENWOOD CLUB

TIFTON — The Greenwood Cemetery Club is asking anyone who wishes to help keep the cemetery clean to send donations to Greenwood Cemetery Club, P.O. Box 345, Tifton, GA 31794.

## FREE RIDES FOR VETERANS

TIFTON — The Disabled American Veterans of Tifton offers free transportation to the veterans hospital in Dublin. The bus leaves from U.S. Highway 82 East at 6 a.m. each Tuesday and makes stops in Ocilla, Fitzgerald, Abbeville and McRae. The service is free. For more information, call 256-3737.

## HERITAGE BOOKS FOR SALE

TIFTON — There are only 100 copies left of the second printing of the "Tift County Heritage Book, 1905-2003," sponsored by Tift County Genealogical Society. Copies are available for \$70 each. Call Bill Wiseman at 382-4237; Jean Courson at 382-1046; or Kenneth Willis at 382-8749; or pick one up at Moon's Pharmacy or Tift Eye Care.

## AMERICAN LEGION

TIFTON — American Legion

Post 21 and Auxiliary meet at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the post home.

## NEW IN TOWN?

TIFTON — The Newcomers' Club provides educational, social, and service activities for women to stimulate new friendships and build a stronger sense of community. Call 387-7649 for more information or visit the web-site at newtotifton.com.

## VFW MEETINGS

TIFTON — VFW Post 5250 and Ladies Auxiliary meets at 6:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Post Home on Victory Drive. Interested parties are welcome.

## NAACP MEETINGS

TIFTON — The Tift County NAACP meets at 6 p.m. the first Sunday of each month at Shiloh Baptist Church on Southern Avenue.

## TEA PARTY MEETINGS

TIFTON — The Tiftarea Tea Party Patriots meet every Monday night at 7 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn. The meetings focus on the need to preserve and defend our Constitution and Bill of Rights, with government truly representing the citizenry. All are welcome. For more information, contact Ronnie Greer, 848-0194.

## MARINES

TIFTON — Join your fellow Semper Fi buddies for breakfast at Golden Corral at 0900 the third Saturday of every month. Corpsmen and others who served with the Marines are also invited. For more information call Jim Lever at 382-1082, Jim Willkomm at 391-3953, or Don MacDonald at 382-2183.

## OPW

TIFTON — The Tifton Organization of Professional Women meets at noon on the first Tuesday of each month at Harper's in the Myon. All professional women are invited. For more information, call Christy Kunes at

392-1278.

## FREE MEAL PROGRAM

TIFTON — The Leroy Rogers Center is currently accepting applications for its free meal program for persons 60 years of age or older. Applicants may come into the center or call 391-9299.

## AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP

TIFTON — The Autism Support Group for the Tiftarea will hold meetings at 6 p.m. every three months on the first Monday of that month at the Child Care Resource & Referral Office building, 218 N. Central Ave. Supper will be provided for all guests. Call 556-9834, 386-2797 or 671-9325 to reserve a place. Families of children with other disabilities are also invited.

## FREE RIDES FOR VETERANS

TIFTON — The Disabled American Veterans of Tifton offers free transportation to the veterans hospital in Dublin. The bus leaves from U.S. Highway 82 East at 6 a.m. each Tuesday and makes stops in Ocilla, Fitzgerald, Abbeville and McRae. The service is free. For more information, call 256-3737.

## WOODMEN OF THE WORLD

TIFTON — Woodmen of the World Lodge #144 holds its regular monthly meetings at 7 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the lodge on Highway 82 E. in Tifton. All members are encouraged to attend.

## BOSOM BUDDIES

TIFTON — Bosom Buddies, a breast cancer support group, meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. every third Thursday at Shoney's.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TIFTON — The Tifton Soup Kitchen needs volunteers to help serve and clean up after meals Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers are especially needed for Mondays and Wednesdays. Even if you can only come for part of the time, or one day a month, your help

would be greatly appreciated. For more information, contact a volunteer coordinator at 821-6102.

## DONATIONS NEEDED

TIFTON — The Tifton Soup Kitchen currently needs donations of a variety of canned goods as well as sugar and corn meal. No home-canned goods or expired foods, please. Deliver donations to the Community Service Center at 2737 S. Central Avenue anytime 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

## NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

TIFTON — Narcotics Anonymous meets at 7 p.m. Sundays and at 8 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays at First Presbyterian Church, 217 N. Park Ave., near the U.S. Post Office. Call 848-2986

## AL-ANON

TIFTON — Al-Anon Family Group for families of alcoholics and addicts meets every Tuesday at 11 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church in Tifton, and also every Tuesday at 8 p.m. at First Baptist Church Sunday School Annex (rear entrance) on the corner of Fourth Street and Central Avenue. Call Teresa Moore at 388-1833 for more information.

## LUNCH AA MEETINGS

TIFTON — Alcoholics Anonymous meets at noon Mondays through Wednesdays and Fridays at the One Day At A Time clubhouse on Whiddon Mill Road, just west of Carpenter Road on the left.

## AA MEETINGS

TIFTON — Alcoholics Anonymous meets at 5 p.m. Sundays, 8 p.m. Monday and Thursday and 9 p.m. Fridays at the One Day at a Time clubhouse on Whiddon Mill Road, just west of Carpenter Road on the left. For additional help, call 1-800-766-4653.

## OVEREATER'S ANONYMOUS

TIFTON — Overeater's Anonymous meets at 6 p.m.

Thursdays at the First United Methodist Church Activities Building on the second floor. Contact people are Jackie 229-326-5681 or Ann 229-387-9920.

## RECOVERY MINISTRY

TIFTON — Celebrate Recovery Ministry meets every Thursday evening at First Baptist Chapel on the corner of Love Avenue and Fourth Street. Fellowship supper is at 6 p.m. followed by a large group service at 6:30 p.m. and small sharing groups at 7:30 p.m. Celebrate Recovery is a spiritual 12-step program for anyone with hurts, hang-ups or habits. For more information contact John Hughes at 386-6063 or e-mail celebrate@fbc-tifton.org.

## ARTISTS' GUILD OPEN

TIFTON — Atlantic Coastline Artists' Guild is open from 2 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays. Original pieces of art by local artists are on exhibit with many available for purchase at all price levels. Other free exhibits around town are at Affinity Health Group of Tifton, Georgia Agrirama, Henry Tift Myers Airport, Myon Hotel/City Hall (permanent exhibit), Tifton/Tift County Chamber of Commerce, the Tifton Welcome Center and the Betty Jo Roach Center.

## MASONIC LODGE #47

TIFTON — The Tifton Masonic Lodge #47 meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of every month.

## COASTAL PLAIN COMMANDRY

TIFTON — Coastal Plain Commandry #42 meets at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Masonic Lodge, 1480 Kennedy Road.

## MASONIC LODGE #745

TIFTON — The Tifton Masonic Lodge #745 holds its daylight lodge meeting at 9 a.m. the second Saturday of every month.

## PARENTS IN PARTNERSHIP

TIFTON — All parents, grand-

parents and guardians of Tift County High School students are invited to join the Parents in Partnership student and teacher support group. Membership applications are available through the main office of the high school. Call 387-2475.

## DRUG ABUSE SUPPORT

TIFTON — Have someone with a drug or alcohol addiction problems? We understand and care. Need help? Need someone to talk to? Call "Brothers Against Drug Abuse...People Helping People." BADA is an outreach of Holy Temple Church of the Trinity, 1103 Doc Melton Drive. Call Darryl Redding at 256-6221 or David L. Reid at 387-7412.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TIFTON — United Hospice is seeking volunteers to provide companionship to Hospice patients in the Tift County areas. For details on the volunteer training program, call Mary Taylor at (229) 271-0300 or 1-800-288-8466.

## BROTHER CHARLIE'S

TIFTON — Brother Charlie Rescue Center, Inc., and Crossway Addiction Ministry, Inc., will pick up household items such as furniture, appliances, clothing, cars, trucks and tools and donations are tax deductible. All proceeds benefit the homeless men and Crossway students as well as needy families and the elderly. Call 382-0577 or 386-0645.

**WANT PORTABLE CAR PORT.** Call 478-893-7144.

**ONE CORD FIREWOOD,** make offer. Call 229-556-9403.

**WANT 3' or 4' plastic layer and transplanter.** Call 229-385-5222.

**FOUR ROW JOHN DEERE MAX EMERGE 1700** air planters with disc closing system wanted. Also want 18' harrow, and Rainbow irrigation hose reel to hold 660 ft. of 4 1/2" hose. Call 478-893-7004.

**WE HAVE 1, 2, 3 & 4 BR HOUSES AND APARTMENTS WITH 1 & 2 BATHS... PLEASE CHECK WITH US. CALL GARTMAN RENTALS 238-0424**