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Starbucks now on campus

AUGUST 24, 2006

It was supposed to be a quiet beginning, but the unmistakable aroma of Starbucks coffee this week clearly signaled the newest addition to Georgia Southern University's Russell Student Union.

Students who have been waiting for more than a year since the Starbucks plans were announced are lining up to purchase coffees, lattes and Frappuccino's, saying they're glad the coffeehouse is finally here.

"I am very excited that Starbucks has finally opened on campus," said Amanda Kepfer, junior writing and linguistics major.

"It's exciting that we don't have to go off campus to get coffee. It also gives us a nice place to hang out and talk to friends," said Rebekah Wilson, senior public relations major.

The intended low-key opening week was to give new employees a chance to learn the ropes. A grand opening is planned for the near future. "When we opened Chick-fil-A, we did it in the same way," said Tom Palfy, director of auxiliary services. "By doing so it gives the staff a chance to learn the system."

Georgia Southern joins the ranks of approximately 200 other colleges and universities who also have Starbucks on their campus. "This is one of the largest Starbucks on a college campus," said Palfy. "Starbucks only requires 800-1200 square feet of space. Our space is 3,000 square feet.

"Georgia Southern is a licensee with Starbucks. This means we are licensed to represent them, and we own and operate the store," he said.

"I realize that this operation was a long time coming and there was a lot of frustration, and I am certainly apologetic to that," Palfy added. "We're finally here and I think everyone is experiencing the fruits of our labor, and we appreciate everyone's patience."

The store currently employs 25 students and two managers, Jeff Yawn and Margo Hutchins, and is still hiring. Hours are Monday-Friday 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The hours may adjust as time goes on.

"It's also important to point out that for the second time in three years our Chick-fil-A was the number one Chick-fil-A in the country by business volume on college campuses," Palfy added. "I expect that Starbucks will come close to doing the same."

New exhibit at Museum will show children link between nature and mathematics

AUGUST 24, 2006

Math is everywhere in nature.

The pattern of spots on a dog, the delicate symmetry of a butterfly's wings and the shape of crystals in salt are all examples of mathematical properties that can be found in the natural world.

An upcoming exhibit at the Georgia Southern Museum will provide children with an interesting and fun look at the connection between nature and math.

"Nature's Numbers" will be unveiled on Saturday, Sept. 2. A traveling exhibit from the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia, Pa., it features four distinct sections that allow curious young visitors to conduct their own hands-on explorations of the subject matter.

Geared toward children in grades K-8, the exhibit is sponsored by the Statesboro area office of Georgia Power and the Statesboro Service League

"We are delighted to host this quality exhibit," Museum Director Brent Tharp said. "It will help convey in an entertaining way that math is both fascinating and relevant.

"We are grateful to Georgia Power and to the Statesboro Service League for making this possible."

"Nature's Numbers" is divided into the following sections:

- Designs In Nature – kids can learn about logarithms by replicating the pattern found in a seashell, study gravity by building their own arch, and observe symmetrical patterns by looking through a kaleidoscope.
- Mathematical Inquiry – visitors can challenge themselves by attempting to put together a variety of interesting puzzles, including a 3-D jigsaw puzzle of a leaf and a large cube that is comprised of seven smaller cubes.
- Repeating Patterns – guests can make their own snowflakes, analyze the patterns on a butterfly's wing, and use a spiro graph to create a repeating pattern that looks like one found in a flower.
- Shapes and Structures – children can visit "Tanagram Zoo," where they create something beautiful out of simple shapes, or spin the 'Shape Wheel' and make the attached beads flow from one shape into another.

"Nature's Numbers" will remain on display through Sunday, Dec. 31.

There is no admission fee for the Museum, which is located in the Rosenwald Building on Southern Drive. The Museum is open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

For more information, visit <http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/museum> or call (912) 681-5444.