**UGA New Faculty Tour includes Sumter County**

On August 7th Americus hosted a stop on the UGA New Faculty Tour at the City’s Welcome Center and Windsor Hotel. The five-day tour, designed to familiarize new faculty with the state’s people, culture, history and economics, was made possible by the UGA Office of the Vice President for Public Service and Outreach and the Office of the Vice President for Research. Local participation included the Archway Professional, Archway Executive Committee, and Regent Hooks.

- New Faculty Tour - [http://americustimesrecorder.com/local/x125815510/UGA-Faculty-Tour-stops-in-Americus](http://americustimesrecorder.com/local/x125815510/UGA-Faculty-Tour-stops-in-Americus)

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**USDA Smart Rural Communities Conference**

On August 13th South Georgia Technical College hosted the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Smart Rural Communities Conference. Presentations were made on maximizing broadband connections, wireless devices and Telemedicine as innovative ways to position a rural community in the ever changing and always competitive global market. Of particular interest to Sumter County was the Telemedicine portion. Community players and future meetings to share this information and identify interest in participating were discussed as action items moving forward. Archway, CVIOG, SBDC and the new UGA Economic Development Office were all represented at the meeting not only as potential resources for those in attendance, but also to glean information to help further facilitate rural development in connection with other state and federal resources.