

SIX MILE POST

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The Student Voice

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Spring Fling
takes place on
all campuses
see page 12



Photo by Christina Goodwin

Lindsay Benner, a virtuoso entertainer, performs on GHC's Marietta campus by juggling swords and telling jokes.



**Guest speaker
talks about
sex trafficking**

See page 3.



**List of GHC
Graduates
for 2015**

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**Chargers
go to NJCAA
Final Four**

See page 13.



Contributed

The “Kingmakers” crew filmed on Paris Lake behind GHC’s Floyd campus over spring break.



Contributed

“Kingmakers” shot at GHC on March 23.



Contributed

The new Game Room was converted into a women’s prison for the “Kingmakers” TV pilot.

Highlands earns a starring role in ‘Kingmakers’

By Kiston Dowler
Editor-in-Chief;
Derweatra Hammock
Managing Ed., Design

The Georgia Highlands Floyd campus will be featured in the new ABC TV pilot “Kingmakers.”

Sheila Jones, director of public relations and marketing, said, “We were excited to get the call from the local Camera Ready representative.”

Jones said that the production company’s scouts were interested in the lake as well as the facility for the pilot episode. They paid a total of \$2,000 to film at the college.

Jay Beattie, executive producer of “Kingmakers,” said, “We’ll know in May if it will be picked up by ABC.”

Sallie Patrick, creator and executive producer of the show, said “Kingmakers” is a “murder mystery” in which a man’s sister gets murdered, and he goes undercover at an Ivy League college to investigate her death.

“I would compare it to ‘Revenge’ and maybe a little bit of ‘Broadchurch,’” said Patrick.

While the show is set in Massachusetts, Beattie said

the pilot was shot “exclusively in Rome.”

The “Kingmakers” crew filmed at Highlands over spring break on March 23.

The crew shot scenes on and around the lake, and the Floyd Game Room was used to recreate a women’s prison. Beattie jokingly said, “I don’t know what that says about your college being fit for a women’s prison.”

The show also had casting calls for locals to be extras during filming in downtown Rome and at Berry College. According to Beattie, several scenes were shot at Berry.

If the show is picked up by ABC, the first season will film during the summer, late June-early July. Beattie hopes to continue shooting around Rome but is unsure if that will be the case.

Jones said, “The TV and film industry is thriving in Georgia right now, and we are proud to have been chosen to be a small part of that.”

She continued, “This project has the ability to, not only bring name recognition to GHC within and beyond the Northwest Georgia region, but also foster future partnerships within the growing film industry.”

Finishing touches wrapping up on Floyd student center

By Tyler Hogue
Asst. Online Editor

Renovations on the Floyd campus student center are finally coming to a close.

The new Game Room is open for student use, as is the remodeled Solarium.

According to Todd Jones,

vice president for student affairs on the Floyd campus, “There are plans for some later additions once everything is finalized.”

For now, the Game Room holds ping pong and pool tables as it did before the renovation. Jones said possible future additions to the Game Room include

chandeliers over the pool tables, televisions and gaming systems.

The renovated Solarium is now much larger and, according to John Spranza, coordinator of student life on the Floyd campus, holds a temporary stage where performances will be held by the special guests regularly

invited by Student Life. A permanent stage is expected to be put in later.

Jones said there are plans to have a mobile coffee cart in the café-esque seating area that is now outside the Solarium.

Students may also have noticed that there were bubbled areas on the floors out-

side the Charger Café and in various areas of the student center, and, according to Jones, work has begun to fix the flooring problems.

Spranza said the official word is that moisture affected the glue under the tiles and caused the bubbling.

The renovations began late summer of 2014.



Photo by Jessyca Arndt

Lisa Williams, author of "Beautiful Layers," speaks to those in attendance on the Cartersville campus about her life as a survivor of violence.

Author Lisa Williams speaks on the dangers facing girls and women

**By Jessyca Arndt
Digital Technician**

Lisa Williams, author and founder and director of Living Water for Girls, spoke on GHC's Cartersville campus on April 2.

Living Water's mission states that it provides assistance to girls and young women survivors of violence, street life and human sex trafficking and exploitation. Living Water offers survivors a safe space to heal from traumatic life events and a chance to pursue educational endeavors and acquire skills to become self-sufficient.

Photographers and press from several outlets were in attendance at Williams's Cartersville presentation, her last stop before heading to the White House for an Easter Prayer Breakfast.

Williams said she had a powerful calling to help all of those other girls who had to endure anything similar to what she had lived through.

She shared some stories of her life as a survivor, describing what it is like now

and how she dedicates her life to stopping the violence.

Student Jada Garland said, "It was very powerful and moving. She gave me chills with the stories that were told, and I hope for some of us to make a difference in these situations."

Williams' book, "Beautiful Layers," is a collection of stories from those who survived the life of prostitution and child sexual exploitation.

Jerry Gayton, another student in attendance, stated, "Although we had to be here for a class assignment, it really was a powerful presentation."

He continued, "I never realized that sex trafficking was a problem in the U.S. until she started to speak, and you just couldn't help but hang onto every word that she said and really feel what she was feeling."

Anyone who wants to make a difference can find more information about Living Water for Girls at www.cofcl.org and donate time, money or just learn more about the cause.

Student honorees shine

**By Kiston Dowler
Editor-in-Chief**

GHC's 43rd annual Honors Night recognized and celebrated student achievements in the Georgia Highlands College community at the Clarence Brown Conference Center on April 9.

A mix of nursing, academic, special recognition and leadership awards were presented during the ceremony, and over 60 students were honored for their accomplishments.

Donald Green, GHC president, said, "As I watched the Honors Assembly ceremony, I had the opportunity to reflect on the brilliance of our students. They shine in a variety of pursuits including scholarship, arts, athletics and social justice."

He continued, "These students succeed because of their hard work AND the dedication of our faculty. I appreciate both our students for attending GHC and our faculty who choose to serve at Georgia Highlands College."



Photo by Kiston Dowler

(From left) Kevin Cromer receives the Dr. Margaret Davis Mathematics award from Margaret Davis and Blanca Gonzalez, associate professor of mathematics.

A full list of awards, nominees and recipients com.



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<http://www.highlands.edu/site/student-support-services>

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Highlands Happenings

Old Red Kimono annual reception will be April 22

**By Marquis Holmes
Staff Writer**

The staff of the Old Red Kimono (ORK), the GHC student-run literary magazine of 42 years, will hold its annual reception on the Floyd campus April 22.

During the event, contributing writers and artists, from inside or outside of GHC, are invited to display and/or explain their contributions to the magazine.

This year's ORK will have a carnival theme. The theme is traditionally based on the cover art and direction of the student art editor. This year, ORK's art editor is Mary Roberts.

ORK also recognizes the year's top three literary and art contributors.

The reception will be

held in the Lakeview Auditorium on the Floyd campus at 12:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served 15 minutes prior.

The magazine will be issued to every student in attendance.

Other students can pick up a copy of the current issue of the ORK at any campus.

Hope for Hague 5k registration open

**By Kiston Dowler
Editor-in-Chief**

The Hope for Hague 5K Run/Walk will be held at 8:30 a.m. on April 25 on the Floyd campus.

According to Sharryse Henderson, associate professor of biology and coordinator of the race, it will take place at the Paris Lake Walking Trail located at the back of the Floyd campus.

Henderson said, "All

proceeds will go to the GHC Foundation in support of the Nancy Hague Memorial Scholarship. We will also accept donations if you are unable to attend the event."

Checks and money orders should be made payable to "Georgia Highlands College Foundation," and the memo line should say "Nancy Hague Memorial Scholarship."

Teresa Hutchins, associate professor of political science and another coordinator of the race, said, "My favorite thing about the Hope for Hague 5K is that it raises money for the scholarship that Mrs. Sharryse Henderson and myself established to carry on the memory of our beloved former colleague Dr. Nancy Hague."

She continued, "She meant a great deal to us, to her students and to the college. The fact that we keep her memory alive is the most memorable thing to

me."

The fee for same day registration is \$30, but students can register ahead of time for \$25 at <https://runsignup.com/Race/GA/Rome/HopeforHague5K-RunWalk>.

Donald Green's GHC inauguration planned for Sept. 18

**By Ariana Carter
Staff Writer**

Donald J. Green, president of Georgia Highlands College, will be inaugurated Sept. 18.

Green took over as the fourth president of GHC on Sept. 8, 2014. "I am loving being the president of GHC because our college has so many things going for it," said Green.

One of those things he mentioned was the Coca Cola Foundation Georgia All-Academic Team event

in which students all across Georgia going for associate degrees were honored. GHC had largest representation of any community college in Georgia.

Green also stated, "I want to change the message at GHC for students to not just come and transfer credits but to go for the full two years and earn their associate so they can perform better at the next institution."

Preparations for the inauguration are led by Sheila Jones, director of public relations and marketing, who is enlisting others to help select a theme, vendors and fundraising to make it special.

Green said he wants to show off the college and turn the focus on the students and not him.

To RSVP and learn more about the event, go to highlands.edu and click on the inauguration banner at the top of the Georgia Highlands homepage.



Photo by Kiston Dowler

B2B (members pictured above) has been named Outstanding Chapter of the Year nationally for the third time in four years.

B2B wins Chapter of the Year Award

**By Tyler Hogue
Asst. Online Editor**

The students and advisers of GHC's chapter of Brother 2 Brother accepted the Outstanding Chapter of the Year Award at the Student African American Brotherhood (SAAB) conference in Detroit, Mich., March 28.

When picking a winner from the 300 chapters throughout the country, SAAB takes into account the activity of the group, retention rate, graduation rate and college performance of the members.

Jon Hershey, director of B2B, said, "I think the fact the students were able to stay unified and focused and have a strong academic record all played a part."

Hershey said the Highlands chapter of B2B is unusual as it is split across five campuses.

Blankenship and Bontrager complete Bridging Cultures

**By Katie Hogan
Staff Writer**

Steve Blankenship, associate professor of history, and Shannon Bontrager, assistant professor of history, have recently completed the Bridging Cultures seminar that has held meetings across the nation for the past three years.

Bridging Cultures is a seminar designed to bring together a community of professors and help them encompass history cumulatively and effectively.

"The greatest thing you can get from history is the quality of empathy," said Blankenship.

They both also agree that the United States views its own history as free-standing, without needing

the influence of other cultures. They believe, however, that it in fact does need that influence, and it's also important for us as a people to realize that need and incorporate it into our studies.

Bontrager said he likes to focus on different types of teaching styles, including having his students teach him to help them gain a more functional knowledge of the text.

Overall, they were both impressed and challenged by this community of their peers and really enjoyed the experience.

Alan Nichols, dean of social sciences, business, and education, said, "I am very proud of both of them. The experience will be beneficial for the college and the division."

Russell Fulmer retires after 20 years at GHC

By Anna Douglass
Managing Ed., Online

After 20 years of working as a librarian and teaching FCST classes at Georgia Highlands, Russell Fulmer, assistant librarian for public service on the Floyd campus, has decided to retire.

"In life the most important thing is to be able to look at something and tell whether it is a challenge or a disaster. I have been looking at life as a challenge," said Fulmer.

Fulmer was born in Birmingham, Ala. in 1946 but later moved to Pennsylvania when he was four. He attended Dickinson College to receive his BA in Modern European History and later attended the University of Alabama's Library Graduate School.

After many years of working as the Assistant Director of Libraries at Colora-

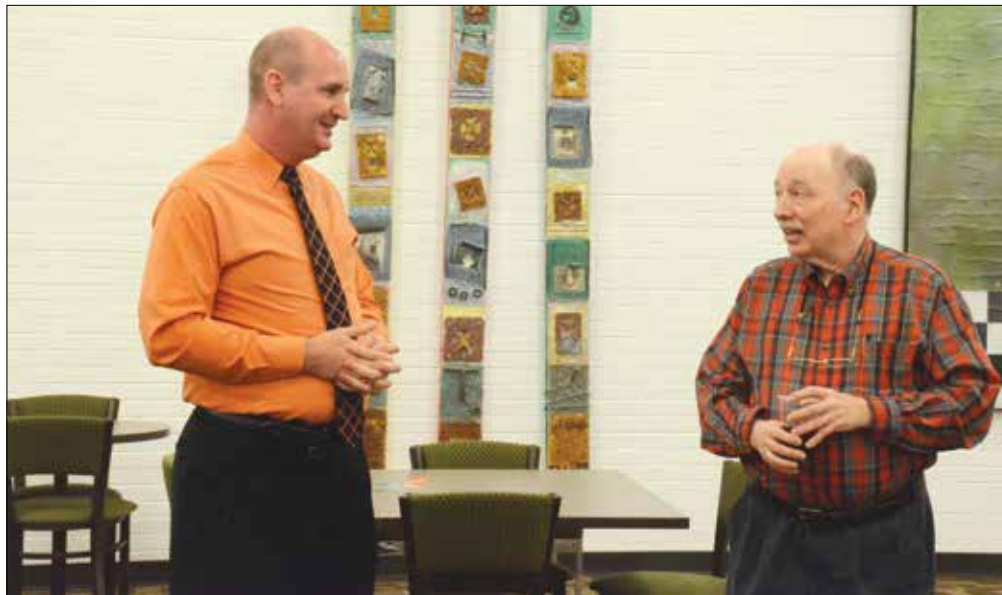


Photo by Anna Douglass

(From left) Elijah Scott, director of libraries, gives a heartfelt speech during Fulmer's retirement party in the Floyd campus library.

do College, he came to Rome to be closer to his family.

Fulmer believes that education is not just a service, but that the teachers and the staff are here for

the students. They aren't here to coddle them, but to educate them the best that they can. He said it is up to the students to decide how much education they get.

"I fell into this profession. The profession has been very good to me, and all of the institutions I've worked for have been good to me," he said.



Photo by Anna Douglass

Russell Fulmer

"The most important thing about Russell is the way he has worked with our students over the years. I've seen him approach students in a way that is very professional but also in a way that is very warm and welcoming," said Elijah Scott, director of libraries on the Floyd campus.

"He makes them feel at ease, but at the same time he gives them a clear indication that he respects them," he continued.



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Former GHC student makes custom guitars

By Candace Whitfield
Staff Writer

Craftsman, University of Georgia graduate, English major and Georgia Highlands College alumnus, Eric Rose is a jack of all trades.

Rose, who now works full time in the UGA library, makes guitars from scratch.

When he was a child growing up, he watched his father, who had inherited a guitar from his grandfather, remodel and repair old guitars.

After gaining inspiration from his father, Rose began reading catalogs and watching instructional videos on YouTube and internet message forums which allowed him the knowledge to begin his own guitar making.

"I'm self-directed in the way that I learn," Rose declared.

Although Rose pursued journalism during his early years at GHC and ultimately



Contributed

Eric Rose

mately gained a degree in English from UGA, he has had little to no education on handcrafting guitars. He claims that he was "able to pick it up without going to school."

The fact that Rose's guitars are handcrafted is not the only special aspect of his instruments.

They are also eco-friendly and made from recycled parts.

Rose stated, "I like to reuse materials and reclaimed wood from old buildings."

When creating a guitar for a client, Rose "tries to make things that will resonate with the customer's style."

He has even created guitars from material brought in by the customer that symbolizes a memorable token or family keepsake. This gives the guitar a significance that customers will cherish for a lifetime.

Not only does Rose hand-make his guitars, he also makes the pick-ups on the guitars himself, the elec-

"Handmade pick-ups have a unique sound that machines can't create."

-Eric Rose

tronics inside of a guitar that "gives it its voice."



Contributed

A sample of Rose's handiwork.

He also sells these thin, metal, magnetic parts independently for clients who desire an unparalleled sound.

"Handmade pick-ups have a unique sound that machines can't create. There is a randomness to its sound that can't be duplicated," Rose said.

Daniel Bell, a friend of Rose and fellow GHC alum-

nus, said, "Eric has always been a creative and talented person, and those qualities are reflected in the finished products of his work. Each guitar is truly a work of art."

More information and photos of Rose creating guitars can be found on his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/EricRoseGuitars.

GHC alumnus Garcia heads to Cannes, France

By Brianna Drake
Staff Writer

Antonio Garcia, an alumnus of Georgia Highlands and former Six Mile Post managing editor, online and film major at Georgia State University, made a film that is headed to the Cannes Film Festival in France.

His film is called "Vue de Moi." He says the official description is "A lonesome man reflects inward as he wanders the streets of the city for the perfect spot."

Garcia stated, "I do not want to spoil anything, but it shows just how ridiculous

a common thing is in today's society in a lighthearted way."

By entering the Campus Moviefest at GSU, where the top 16 move on and only the top four are judged in Hollywood, Garcia placed in the top four, which led him to have his film in Cannes.

Donations to help Garcia go to France can be made at <http://www.indiegogo.com/projects/send-struggling-film-student-to-cannes/x/10415497> and his film can be seen on YouTube or on the Campus Moviefest's website by searching the title.

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Keeping the Comforts of Home™

Student artist shares creative talent

By Anna Douglass
Managing Ed., Online

After having a couple of major surgeries and being bedridden two years ago, Luis Valencia, an art major on the Floyd campus, took the initiative and decided to get back into painting.

"From not being able to do anything, all of my cre-

ativity and what I wanted to do just went on to the canvas," said Valencia.

"I've always been an artist since I was little. I've always drawn, painted and been creative. During that time it went further and I took it more seriously," he continued.

The time it takes for him to complete one of his paintings varies due to a busy schedule. Usually it takes him about two to three weeks to finish a painting.

"I get into this zone when I am drawing, so I don't really think about anything else. I could be drawing for eight hours and sometimes I have to remind myself to eat or go to the bathroom," said Valencia.

Some of the artists that Valencia looks up to are Frida Kahlo, who is most influential to him, and Jen Mann, who is more of a mod-



Photo by Anna Douglass

Luis Valencia stands with two of his paintings (from left) "Noah" and "In Grid." More of his artwork is featured in the Old Red Kimono.

ern influence.

"I've really enjoyed having Luis in several of my classes," said Brian Barr, associate professor of art on the Floyd campus.

He continued, "I can tell you that he is not only an ex-

ceptionally talented artist, but also a very brave one. Luis is always willing to learn and try new techniques which is a rare quality for such a skilled artist."

Some of Valencia's paintings were featured at

the Rome City Auditorium, and more of his work will be featured in the Old Red Kimono.

All of his paintings can be seen on his Tumblr page at <http://l-valencia.tumblr.com>.



Photo by Anna Douglass

Luis Valencia



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invites GHC students on all campuses to apply for a
position on the 2015-2016 staff!

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Kiston Dowler
Editor-in-Chief

As a geology major, I never thought that I would be working for an award-winning paper, let alone being the Editor-in-Chief.

It hasn't always been easy, but whatever difficulties we were up against, it took nothing more than a little bit of teamwork to overcome them.

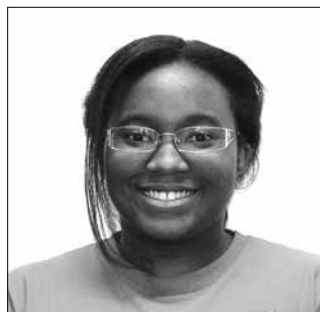
I'll miss my messy desk (if you are the EIC, trust me, it will get messy), running around and chasing the president of the college.

I'll also miss working relentlessly on something as long-lasting as a newspaper, but most of all I will miss the friends I have made.

I didn't know what to expect when I applied for the managing editor of design position for the SMP, but after two years in this position I can say that I'm glad I did.

It's not every day that one can say that she worked for an award-winning newspaper, and it's a great feeling to be part of a collaborative effort. I've met several talented artists, writers and photographers along the way.

I will definitely miss working for the SMP, but I'll be sure to take what I learned from my experience and use it in my pursuit of a bachelor's degree in business.



Derweatra Hammock
Managing Ed., Design

When I first started working for the SMP I was a staff writer, but before I knew it, I was asked to interview for the managing editor, sports position.

I got the job (obviously) and that's where it all began.

For the past two years I have created lifelong friendships with my fellow editors, writers and the student athletes and coaches that I have interviewed time and time again.

I'm going to miss the late nights in the office and my amazing courtside view at the basketball games, but one thing is for sure: my time with the SMP is something I will always cherish.



Karlee Helms
Managing Ed., Sports

When I found out that I was going to be the managing ed., online for the SMP, I was so excited. I was not only going to be able to work on an actual print paper but also acquire the skills, knowledge and dedication it takes to run an entire news website.

I've learned that caffeine was my best friend during layout week. Also, posting stories online during layout week is almost impossible to do without the rest of the online staff, and no matter how hard I try, my desk will never be clean.



Anna Douglass
Managing Ed., Online

Working with SMP is a great learning experience whether you are planning on pursuing a career in journalism or not.

Whether it be improving your networking skills or just getting to know your classmates, writing for the SMP has definitely made my time at GHC more enjoyable.

I have learned so much from this group of dedicated students, and it's nice to feel like you're part of something.



Shelby Hogland
Assistant Sports Ed.



Tyler Hogue
Assistant Online Ed.

I have had many wonderful experiences with the SMP, from club activities and weekend get-togethers to various trips I got to go on with everyone.

I believe what I have learned while working at the SMP will help me throughout the rest of my career, and the friendships I have made will last throughout the rest of my life.



Jeremy Huskins
Chief Photographer

I have worked on the SMP for the past two years, but the experience I have had will last a lifetime. The workflow has allowed me the opportunity to learn and grow, not only as a dedicated employee, but a person.

I am proud to say I was a part of such a great organization.

As the Digital Technician for the SMP, I have enjoyed exerting my own creativity onto the Facebook updates and knowing that my voice has had at least a small impact on the lives of others.



Jessyca Arndt
Digital Technician



2015 Graduates

Lenzi M Aaron
Ethan Dale Abernathy
Parker Randall Acuff
Deborah H Adair
Madyson Adams
Jhamil Tarik Adams-Flowers
Kayla Alexis Agan
Sara Marie Agra
Laney Michelle Aiken
Jake Tyler Akin
Kelcey Megan Akridge
Stacy Rene Albers
Misti E Aldridge
Anne Marie Alexander
Dwona Garnigan Alexander
Justin M Alexander
Dafina Aliu
Jennifer Commins Allen
William Gerald Allen
Leinab Marina Alvarado
Carlos Andres Angel
Robert Wilson Arendt
Jessyca Lyn Arndt
Johnna Christine Arthur
Logan Kristin Ashe
Jaycie Elizabeth Atcheson
Tomiko Johnnetta Atkins
Tiffany Elizabeth Austin
Lili Avalos
Chelsea Lynne Baasch
Maghan LeAnn Bagley
Jonathan Ryan Bagwell
Thomas Jason Baity
Curtis James Baker

Jeremy Seth Baker
Katherine Elizabeth Baker
Rhonda Lou Baldonado
Jeffrey Paul Barber
Samuel K Barefoot
Marilyn Kim Barton
Andrea Elizabeth Baskin
Catherine Marie Baxley
Madeline Claire Bays
Zachary R Beavers
Brian Scott Beckman
Erin Joy Bell
Richard Anthony Bell
Shannon Leigh Bell
Victoria Ann Bell
Walker Elizabeth Bell
Nicholas Ryan Bennett
Kelsey Elizabeth Berger
Tia Cassandra Berger
Pachis Dawn Berner
Kimberly Lois Bills
Jessica Paige Bishop
Courtney Anne Blackmon
Shay Elizabeth Blalock
Trevor Holling Blalock
Kyle Christian Blume
Shelby Lee Bobo
Ciel Johann Boley
Kiersten Michelle Boley
Sarah Katharine Bolt
Joshua Aaron Booker
Babiyah Alia Bost
Patrick Cameron Bostic
Marsba Desirey Bourdeau

Joshua Garrett Bowling
Jason Paul Bragg
Conner Anthony Bramlett
Erin Michelle Brammer
Scott David Brandt
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Cortney Lynn Bruce
Michala Victoria Bruce
Helene Brun
Kaitlin Denise Brush
Rachel Christine Buckley
Regan Leigh Burch
Kaleb Cole Burfield
David Anthony Burkett
Hunter Michael Burkhalter
Macey Erin Burnley
Hali C Bobannon Burns
Emily Margaret Burton
Yvette Colleen Burton
Sierra Joycelyn Cagle
Clay Michael Cain
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Bernice McClendon Caldwell
Tiffany Yvonne Calboun
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Daniel C Castillo-Matthews
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Christopher Wesley Chambers
Erin Renay Chance
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Sondra Jean Chasteen
Mayra Janett Chavez
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John M Christian
Cody Jase Chupp
Heather Lee Churchill
Donald Clark Cigainero
April Dawn Clark
Diana Tamara Clarke
Skye Amelia Clay
Katie Leigh Clegborn
Melani Nicole Clements
Allen Grant Cochran
Justin Philip Colburn
Darrab Morgan Cole
Kaitlin Anne Coleburn
Diana Mae Collett

Lindsey M Comer
Lynn Reynolds Commins
Rebecca Michelle Cooley
Richard Cooper
Stevie Noel Cordell
Jason Bradley Cordle
Morgan Lynn Coss
Teresa Garmon Couey
Robert Justin Crabtree
Dillan Eugene Crawford
Laura Alyssa Crew
Emily Jan Criswell
James Aaron Cromer
Kevin Wayne Cromer
Garett Carson Crook
Robin Francis Crook
Kassy M Crump
Candice Bridgett Culp
Shannon Lynn Curl
Amber Shanay Curtis
Frank Phuc Dang
Jacob Paul Darbonne
Lindsey Paige Davidson
Tyler Brent Davidson
Ellen Katbleen Davis
Haley Nicole Davis
Hannah Catherine Davis
Karen Marie Davis
Laura B Davis
Rebekah Lee Davis
Taylor Jordan Davis
Wendolyn Anne Davis
Jeanne Rose Day
Kristin Faith Day

Student speakers named for GHC graduation ceremony

By Holly Chaney
Staff Writer

Every spring two students are chosen to represent their fellow graduates as student speakers for the Georgia Highlands' graduation ceremonies. These students have proven themselves to be notable and exemplary models of the Georgia Highlands student body.

This year's honored student speakers will be Kristen Mullis and Connor Hooper.

Hooper, a native of Rockmart and political science major, began his journey at Georgia Highlands in the fall of 2012 as a dual enrollment student. His choice to attend GHC was not decided half-heartedly, but rather assuredly, as he followed in the footsteps of his father, mother and sister, each of whom also attended GHC.

During Hooper's time at Georgia Highlands, he has had the privilege of hold-



Photo by Derweatra Hammock

Connor Hooper

ing an announcer position for the college's basketball team and has broadcasted as "The Voice of the Chargers" in over 30 games in the course of two years.

Hooper, who is also a HOPE scholarship recipient, wishes that he had more time outside of work and keeping up his GPA to be more involved in school activities.

Hooper, who identifies himself as a "regular guy," was humbled by the speaking honor and said, "I'm not

your average student to get the speaking opportunity. I've only made the Dean's list twice. My GPA is 3.5, and I made a 79, C, in statistics once."

The biggest obstacle Hooper faced as a student at GHC was the death of his grandmother. Hooper stated, "That was the toughest time for me in my life. I lived with my grandparents, and my grandmother was instrumental in shaping who I am today."

After Georgia Highlands College, Hooper plans to attend the University of West Georgia. He is planning to major in political science with a minor in mass communications.

Mullis, a native of Cleveland, Ga., began her journey at Georgia Highlands in the fall of 2013 as a student athlete for the school's inaugural softball team. Starting as a left fielder, Mullis helped her team to come in third at conference, a nota-

ble achievement for a first-year team.

As a freshman at Georgia Highlands, Mullis was awarded Scholar Athlete on both the GHC softball team as well as the female with the highest GPA overall for the school's athletic program, finishing the semester with a 4.0.

Mullis, who has studied at both the Cartersville and Floyd campuses, will be graduating with an Associate of Science Degree in Biology. After graduating from Georgia Highlands College, Mullis will attend the University of Georgia, where she plans to earn a bachelor's degree in biology.

After completing her bachelor's degree at the University of Georgia, Mullis plans to extend her education further by becoming a physician's assistant. She aspires to specialize in surgery or emergency medicine.

Tammy Nicholson, administrative assistant to the



Photo by Shelby Hogland

Kristen Mullis

vice president for student affairs, said, "Announcements that included the speaker eligibility requirements began in December with emails directly to graduating students and with GHC Inform posts targeting faculty and staff."

Traditionally, faculty members have nominated students speaker; however, the graduating class of 2015 was the first to be granted the opportunity to nominate fellow students to represent their class.

Sabitbi Shabini Dayes
Chasity Collum Deal
Justin Tommy Deal
Beverly Anne Deen
Amanda Stuckey Deering
Shelby Lynn Denmon
Darian Taylor Diehl
Tirey H Dingle
Jamie Lucinda Doberty
Gregory Christopher Donato
Richard Charles Downer
Christopher Ian Drummond
Shanda Bowden Dugger
Sarah Jutras Dunn
Ansley Nicole Dupree
Allison Marie Durham
Christa Danielle Dutton
Emily Kristine Dutton
Tori Ann Dycus
Brooke Rose Dyer
Terrell Walter Dyer
David Andrew Eberts
Amber Marie Ellison
Tyler Benjamin Elwer
Montie Dianne Esworthy
James Dylan Eubanks
Kaylee Renee Fallon
Franklin Andrew Fednander
Chelsea Alannah Ferguson

Jessica Ryan Ferguson
Austin Samuel Fingerle
Colby Garrett Finley
Hannah Rebekah Flowers
Kaci Nicole Floyd
Ryan Christopher Floyd
Aaron Devant'e Foster
Caitlin Abigail Foster
Bradley J Freeman
Jennifer Lynne Freeman
Emily Akin Frey
Britt Leslie Fuller
Russell Tyler Fuller
Stacey Lauren Fuquea
Jasmine K Gajadbar
Taylor James Gallimore
Breeana Lynn Galloway
Maggie Sue Gambrell
Jean-Claude J Gardere
Kelly Michelle Garmon
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Jonathan Skylar Gayton
Joshua James Geer
Erica Renee Geise
Andrea Marie Gibson
Cbelsi LeAnn Gibson
Ashlee R Gilley

Joel D Godin
Mary Latrice Goggins
Camila M Gonzales
Jennifer Lynn Goossens
Kayla LeAnn Goss
Miya Santiana Graves
Patrick Elkins Gray
Chase Jordan Green
Jacob Daniel Green
Ronique Nikki Green
Skye Ann Green
Keri Ann Gresham
Jennifer Lynne Grubb
Christian Alberto Guerra
Jenni D Guest
Rebeca Guevara
Alison Nicole Hall
Anna C Hall
Ashley Renee Hall
Catherine M Hall
Kristen Miranda Hall
Jacob Grady Hammitt
Derweatra Curlyse Hammock
Courtney Danielle Hann
Jordan Grace Harber
Austin Jerry Harbin
Brandon Tyler Hardin
Nicole Leslie Hardy
Nathan Sherrod Hargrave

Wesley Levi Harkins
Harold Eugene Harmon
Candace Renee Harp
Jason Bradley Harrod
Rachel Mignon Harvey
Christopher Dakota Harwell
Victor Noel Harwood
Kathryn Rose Hatmaker
Zachary Newton Hayes
Stacy Lee Haynes
Tyler Gus Haynes
Ali Jade Stewart Heard
Cody Lane Heller
Elisa D Hembree
Jenna Danielle Hemphill
Katie Lynn Henderson
Timothy Connor Henderson
Shana Leigh Henry
Jessica Leah Hensley
Sarina Gabrielle Hensley
Jaime Ann Henthorne
Jose Javier Hernandez
Jeremiah Lemont Hicks
Joseph Sansom Hicks
Marjorie Lela Hilicus
Annie Elizabeth Joy Hill
Scotlyn Sherrill Hill
Meagan Elizabeth Hise
Shelby Paige Hogland

Richard Tyler Hogue
Trevon Lee Holder
Cindy Lori Holman
William Connor Hooper
Jessica Lynn Hopkins
Kimberly Elaine Hopson
Corey Daniel Houliban
Mary Kaitlyn Howard
Hannah Diane Hufstetler
Brandi Ann Hughes
Maballey Gabrielle Hughes
Katheryn Leigh Humphrey
Jeni Melinda Hyde
Evelyn Lokenye Itoe
Heidi Marie Jackson
Jorge Jacobo
Jaclyn Marie James
Courtney Ellen Jameson
Dong Hwan Jang
Gabriella Luz Jaramillo
Karlie Ruth Jarrett
Richard George Jennings
Cipriano Jimenez
Celisa Ann Johns
Alex Gregory Johnson
Daniel Jeffrey Johnson
Jordan Renn Johnson
Kelsie Moriah Johnson
Kirstian Jitano Johnson

Meridith Sade Johnson
 Mitzi Renee Johnson
 Brandi Lawler Jones
 Larry Don Jones
 Qwaunzee Shaquille Jones
 Robenson Joseph
 Carson Marie Judy
 Angelei K Kainoa-Gabriel
 Sara Marie Katasak
 Shaina Rachel Kattaron
 Denise Marie Kay
 Tressa Elizabeth Kelley
 Kathryn Marie Keys
 Edward William Kincaid
 Lyric Cecelia Kirk
 Megan Nichole Kiselewski
 Neil Andrew Klopsch
 Bentley Elizabeth Knox
 Kyle Thomas Korzonowski
 James Joseph Kress
 Lauren Mechelle Kubik
 Brett Christopher Lane
 Lisbanda Jerdan Lane
 Morgan Emily Lane
 Christa Joy Lang
 Patrick Ryan Latham
 Alan Michael Lee
 Meaghan Le Lee
 Heather Ann Lessis
 Ashley Caroline Lewis
 Pamela Denise Lewis
 Matthew Joseph Lingerfelt
 Brittany Ellison Lively
 Hannab Paulette Lively
 Kelli S Livingston
 Emily Talia Loebach
 Christina Maria Loper
 Isaac Uriah Lopez
 Tiffany Latasha Lowe
 Chase Allan Luke
 Amanda Marie Lummus
 Joshua C Lummus
 William Brandon Lumpkin
 Elizabeth Nguyen Luong
 Amanda Renee Lydick
 Suzanne Elizabeth Madrid
 Jonathan Gerard Maleiko
 Kenneth Ray Manis
 Justine Marin
 Candice A Martin
 Thomas Tyler Martin
 David Eduardo Martinez
 Eli Martinez
 Miguel Martinez
 Morgan Leigh Mason
 Makayla B Maulding
 Patrick R Mayban-Harrell
 Valerie Lynn Maynor
 Stephanie Lynn Mazzotta
 Amanda Ann McBurnett
 Chelsea Lauren McBurnett
 Joni Lynn McCormick
 Jessie Louise McCoy
 David Van McCrory

Nivenitie N McDaniel
 Jana Marie McDaris
 Brandy Quick McDowell
 Bianca Dianne McElwee
 Christopher D McFadden
 Karen Lee McFarland
 Taylor Lee McGaba
 Timothy Michael McGaba
 Tracy D McGaba
 Emilie Augustine McCarthy
 Phillip Taylor Meadows
 John Michael Mealar
 Angela Marie Melendez
 Amanda Michelle Mendez
 Susana Carolina Mercado
 Fatima Edith Meza
 Robert Anthony Miceli
 Lindsey Nicole Miles
 Lindsey Nicole Miller
 Mathew Miller
 Mason Seth Minsbaw
 Amber Leigh Mitchell
 Christina Hope Mitchell
 Steven Seth Mitchell
 Samuel Arlington Mixson
 Shawn Thomas-Allen Mohr
 Abbey Suzanne Moll
 Jessica Anne Monea
 Aimee C Montes de Oca
 Kadie Lynn Montgomery
 Shakera Katrice Moody
 Matthew Carl Moore
 Michael Leon Moore
 Pamela Denise Moore
 Leydi Elizabeth Morales
 Paulzy Bettina Morel
 Demaurius M Morgan
 Adilene Penaloza Morillon
 Jesse Ralph Morris
 Hannab Marie Morrow
 Jonelle Jillian Morrow
 Kari Marquel Morse
 Shawna Mae Moyer
 Mason Hoyt Mull
 Elizabeth Marie Mullenax
 Kristen Elizabeth Mullis
 Katlynn Diane Munro
 Jessica Noelle Murdock
 Sarah L Neighbors
 Earl Raymond Nelan
 Megan Annice Nesmith
 Michael Justin Newson
 Rebecca Espay Newton
 Amanda Eleanor Niemann
 Mary Elizabeth Nixon
 Jessica Lauren Norton
 Brittini Victoria Nunn
 Shirley Ijeoma Nwokike
 Jessica Diane O'Donnell
 Robin Lee Oliver
 Amanda Heather Owens
 Matthew Seth Oxford
 Carmen Augusta Palmour
 Leah Olivia Parker

Coca-Cola Foundation manager to speak at graduation ceremony

By Emily Varnum
 Staff Writer

The keynote speaker for this year's commencement ceremony will be Erica Ward-Williams, program manager for the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation.

The graduation ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 16, at 1 p.m. at the Forum in downtown Rome.

Ward-Williams is from Atlanta. She attended college at Georgia State University, and she received her Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration degrees from Mercer University.

"I am currently pursuing a Master of Science in Organizational Development and Design from Kaplan University," she said.

Ward-Williams is "absolutely ecstatic" about being the keynote speaker for the Georgia Highlands' commencement ceremony.

"Having the opportunity to share in this celebration of achievement with the graduating class of GHC and those that support and love them is an overwhelming honor," she said.

According to the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation website, Ward-Williams has been with the foundation since 2002 and is heading the Scholar selection process.

Ward-Williams stated on her profile, "There is something very fulfilling about seeing a Scholar grow from a teenager making an impact in his or her local community, into a young man or woman making an impact



Contributed

Ericia Ward-Williams

on a greater scale and knowing that the work that you do on a daily basis helped facilitate their success in some small way."

Graduates should report to the Forum by noon and should wear dark colors with their cap and gown.

The nursing pinning ceremony will precede graduation at 10:00 a.m.

Pre-ordered caps, gowns and announcements may be picked up from the Georgia Highlands College bookstores. The bookstores will have a few extra caps and gowns available for purchase on a first come, first served basis.

GEORGIA HIGHLANDS

Alumni Association



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2015

The GHC Alumni Association proudly celebrates the accomplishments of our alumni. Stay in touch and continue to share with us your most exciting achievements such as receiving additional degrees, employment, marriages, births, honors and awards.

Find us on Facebook and LinkedIn
www.gahighlandsalumni.com
 706-368-7772

POLL: What are your plans for after YOU graduate?



**David Cody
Douglasville**

"I plan on attending Kennesaw State University. While I am there I will be pursuing a degree in business management with a minor in accounting and a focus in communications."

**David Eduardo Martinez
Paulding**

"To finally go on a summer vacation! I haven't been on one since I was a child."



**Quanzie Jones
Paulding**

"I plan on going into KSU's bachelor's and master's programs for psychology."

Poll and Spencer Cody photo by Holly Chaney.
Other photos contributed.



Lindsay Nicole Parker
Eryn Allison Parks
Matthew McManus Parry
Greg Michael Paulson
Candace Alexandria Payne
Katie Teresa Payne
Mary Katherine Payne
Tobby Joe Payne
Matthew Scott Pearson
Carmen Cberice Peeler
Annay Perez
Mandrell T Perryman
Amy Joyce Pierce
Alberto Pineda
Jessica Marguerite Piper
Laurie Marie Pittard
Rachel Ann Pitts
Rosemary Helen Pokojski
Nayali Yeraldine Porter
Holly Michelle Porterfield
Melissa Alison Poteet
Elizabeth Prance
Randy Daryl Prewett
Carey Barbara Price
Dustin C Putnam
Denita Lynn Quackenbush
Eagle Queens
Melissa Michelle Quezada
Kimberly Anne Radell
Michelle Lane Ramsey
Brady Taylor Ransom
Fatima Reavis
Karent J Recinos
Matthew Thomas Rees
Ross Tanner Reeves
Daniel Thomas Reid
Sarah Elizabeth Reisig
Damali Atride Renous
Kelsey M Richards
Robert L Richardson
Eduardo Rico
Sania Rizwan
Neil Allen Roberson
Kaitlyn A Roberts
Jose Lino Robles
Jonathan Santiago Rochez
Andrew Lewis Roddy
Kristen L Rogers
Rebekah Annette Rogers
Alberto Hernandez Romero
Kaitlyn Sara Root
Allison Carlye Rose
Patricia Diane Rossey
Hillary Elaine Rowell
Devin Joshua Ruff
Olga Rusu
Mary Ann Sailors
Mirlene Saint-Aime
Crystal Dawn Samples
Bradley David Sansing
Karen Lori Satterfield

Deidra T Satterwhite
Stephanie L Schindler
Kori Ashley Schmidt
Jeffrey Thomas Schroedter
Fabian Alexander Schwark
Taylor L Scoggins
Dillon Cameron Scott
Sharon Louise Seiz-Jones
Jacob Hardy Sellers
Shannon Lindsey Semones
Justin Allen Shattles
Jared Christopher Shaw
Kaitlyn Virginia Sheirling
Justin Montrez Shooks
Brandan E Simmons
Albert Thomas Smith
Allison Henry Smith
Hannah Lorine Smith
Holly Marie Smith
Jesi Bry-Ann Smith
Melissa Faith Smith
Clarissa Elizabeth Snow
Riley Marc Solomon
Rachel Lee Spangler
Jordan Keith Sparks
Taylor Leigh Spears
Tiffney Lynn Spencer
Katherine Nicole Sprinkle
Jennifer Brooke Sprayberry
Michelle Louise Stamper
Alex Carl Starcher
Noel Marie Stevens
Sarah Katherine Stinson
Devon Shantell Strickland
Alexis Noelani Strom
Jesse James Stroup
Ryan Thomas Stubblefield
Catherine N Sturniolo
Leslie Brianna Dell Sullins
Jessie Nicole Summers
Georgia Leola Summey
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Melissa Ann Swanson
Allison Rose Swinson
David Brian Szczech
Dorothy Ann Taylor
Kelly Lynn Taylor
Lyndi Eady Teague
Dustin James Thaxton
Julie Thom
Dontavis Shi Thompson
George Nathan Thompson
Justin Lee Thompson
Shanna Nycol Thompson
Wyndi Lannette Thompson
Karen Theresa Thula
Joseph Paul Tidwell
Sandra Kay Morris Tilton
Stacey Yvonne Tolliver
Mckenna Lee Tomczyk
Lauren Kathleen Tomich

Haley Jean Topham
April Nicole Towery
Meagan Leigh Townsend
Callie Bennett Trammell
George Pierce Trotter
Christina Michelle Ucci
Rosa Isela Valadez-Cordero
Laura Valdez
Michael Derek Vanderberg
Elizabeth Lane Vann
Ashlyn Iris-Marie Varvel
Leonardo Emilio Vasquez
Megan Ann Vaughan
Sarah Lynne Veitch
Megan Lavon Vernon
Daisy Vicente
Lauren Noelle Wa-Dutumi
Vienna LaKeisha Walker
Haden Joseph Wallace
Candice Marie Walls
Jenna Omaria Ware
Douglas Lee Warner
Alison M Warren
Rashad Jervae Washington
Lindsay Ann Wasielewski
Andrew Graham Watkins
Yancytra K Watkins
Zachery Errol Watson
Isaac Dewayne Watters
Shawn Arthur Watts
Kimberly Ann Waynick
Mallory Alissa Weaver
William Barry Weaver
Morgan ReAnn Webster
Genevieve Jerie Weeks
Matthew Eric Welch
Christopher Tracy Wells
Hilary Anne Wells
Lacey Marie Weltch
Brieanne Michelle Whaley
Everett Paul Whallon
Indigo E Whatley
Benjamin Scott Wheeler
Erika Alexandra White
Stephen James Whitfield
Elizabeth B Whitman
Christina Raines Willard
Madison Cortney Willbanks
Elizabeth Erin Williams
Matthew Gregory Williams
Michael Keith Williams
Austin Lee Wolfschlag
Chanda Janel Wood
Kristi Brooke Wood
Rachel Lynn Wood
Vicki Eileen Woolridge
Bronte Larue Wright
Katherine Elizabeth Wright
Shane Taylor Yandow
Seung Ho Yu
Robert C Zyck in deVarennes

Note: These applicants for graduation must complete all necessary requirements in order to graduate.

Is this really a college?

Students often refer to GHC as “High School 2.0.”

It isn’t surprising when Highlands is compared to larger universities. There are considerably lower numbers of students in classes, smaller lecture rooms that give off a juvenile classroom feel and the fact that most students do not have to go very far from home to get a college education.

Basically, Highlands does not fit in with incoming students’ expectations when they think of as “college life.” To improve its students’ college experience, Highlands does not need to build dorms

or bigger classrooms. It doesn’t even need to demolish a campus or two to force students away from home.

What Highlands should do is provide its students with more activities they can attend. Student life plans various activities throughout the year, but at inconvenient times for most current GHC students.

According to John Spranza, student life coordinator on the Floyd campus, GHC used to have an activity time when classes would be cancelled, allowing students to participate in various events.

Ever since changes

in scheduling have been made, student life events have taken place during the busiest time of the day. This means that although the largest number of students are on campus, those students will be unable to partake in the event because of classes. If student schedules had gaps longer than 15 minutes in between classes, then students would be able to participate in more events.

Joshua Colombo, general studies major on the Floyd campus, said, “Sometimes it doesn’t feel like there are enough activities or organizations.”

**-Six Mile Post
Editorial Board**



Mary Roberts 2015

Don’t miss out on the opportunity to make long-lasting relationships

“Don’t be caught off guard by the relationship between students, faculty and staff. We sometimes have faculty and staff picking up students and giving them rides to school.”

I was very surprised to hear this during my Georgia Highlands orientation session, and I was not the only one. By the audible gasps that went around the auditorium, I could tell that other students, as well as attending parents, were shocked by the statement too.

Teachers emailing students, giving them rides and setting up meetings outside of school was unheard of in high school and would have been considered questionable behavior.

There was always this invisible line that said, “Do Not Cross,” and high school faculty and staff always seemed to have the upper hand.

For example, it felt like



Editor’s Box

Derweatra Hammock
Managing Ed., Design

they could ask me any question because they had the right to know everything about me, but this was not a two-way street. Asking them questions, especially non-school related, could be seen as being nosy and disrespectful.

Don’t get me wrong, respecting faculty and staff and their boundaries is a must, even in college, but from my two years at Highlands I have realized that the statement at orientation was truthful.

The barriers between college students and faculty and staff are not as solid, and this has allowed me to create close and, hopefully,

long-lasting relationships at GHC.

When my professors ask me personal questions, most don’t mind if I ask them one back. My professors also don’t mind if I ask for assistance with non-school related things, and some even ask me for help too.

College faculty and staff have no problem sitting and chatting with students, and I am no longer surprised to get hugs, handshakes or pats on the back either.

Developing great relationships with faculty and staff has been one of my favorite experiences at GHC, and I encourage others to make it one of theirs too.

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GHC keeps former child SPAM-eater from becoming an electrician as destined

By Nick Godfrey
Guest Writer

The first time I stepped foot on the Georgia Highlands College campus, I was wearing flip-flops, plaid shorts and shirt (of different colors, stripe direction, and design) and a gray flat cap. My girlfriend, who would later (somehow) become my wife, saw me in the hall and immediately walked away in the other direction.

I didn't exactly apply myself in high school, which my wardrobe choice at the time would probably imply.

Having grown up an electrician's son, who was an electrician's son, I learned pretty quickly that I didn't want to be an electrician.

As I was growing up, Dad took me to every job site he could. He made me watch. He made me work. And he said the reason he did was so that I could see that a college education could make a big difference in my life.

So I went.

If you had grown up with us, you would have moved around a lot, not really sure where you would end up

next.

You would know what SPAM is and actually enjoy it as something other than human grade cat food, you would prize utility over fashion or trend and you would have followed the old adage "If it ain't broke, don't fix it" so religiously that it would become "Even if it is broke, if it still works, and that means if you have to hit one side or tilt it or do a special ritual to get it to work, then don't fix it."

This meant I needed to save every penny I could when choosing where to

go to college. It also would mean working several jobs while attending college to pay for everything.

Georgia Highlands College was the perfect start for me, and I argue, for any student. It was close to home, it was a much, much more affordable alternative to gaining all of my core classes and the greatest thing was the atmosphere of support I found in a place that invested so much time and attention into me that I probably wouldn't be where I am today without it.

While at GHC, I served as assistant editor and editor for the Six Mile Post, president of the Writer's Collaborative, an intern for the Rome News-Tribune and many more positions and opportunities that wouldn't have been possible without the help of the faculty at GHC who pointed me in the right direction, guided me on how to get there and helped me achieve any goals I set forth along the way.

After completing my core classes at GHC, I went on to obtain a bachelor's degree in English at Armstrong State University, which was a smooth transition since I had learned so much and gained so many tools at GHC early on.

When I returned to GHC three years later for the big



Photo by Anna Douglass

Nick Godfrey

interview to be the content coordinator, I had traded my flip-flops for dress shoes, shorts for business slacks, plaid shirt for a crisp button-up collared shirt and the hat for a (if I do say so myself) handsome-amplifying blazer.

I'm very excited and look forward to working in the public relations and marketing office at GHC, which not only gives me an opportunity to give back to the college that helped me make my start, but also to share all of what makes GHC a great place to be.

It's been very nice to return to GHC. I have seen many familiar faces and people, who have greeted me and talked with me like I never left. And although the facility has seen many upgrades from my time, coming back to GHC feels like coming home.



Photo by Anna Douglass

Nick Godfrey, content coordinator in public relations and marketing at Georgia Highlands, works on a project at his desk.

**Have books you no longer need and wish to sell?
Need books for the upcoming summer semester?
Checkout the Six Mile Post Textbook exchange
on Sixmilepost.com.**

Sometimes the hardest decision is the best decision to make



Path From Highlands

Ashlee Gilley
Staff Writer

My decision to come to Georgia Highlands was one of the hardest, most beneficial of my life thus far. Even though I desperately wanted to go, due to my anxiety issues, I wasn't sure if college was even in the picture for me.

Thankfully, I had a good friend who took the time to sit down with me and help me choose a school that worked for me. Because I made that decision, I am

about to graduate with an associate degree in journalism.

Students need to realize that getting involved in activities is beneficial even at a two-year school. The experiences I have gained while writing for the SMP are extremely valuable.

I attended a conference in Savannah, Ga. and was able to attend several workshops led by professionals in the fields of study that I was

interested in.

I was also able to meet with people from all over the state who were interested in and cared about the same things I did.

Working for the SMP has helped me hone my writing skills, learn how to develop valuable connections and given me a taste of the environment in which I plan to work. Joining the SMP is one of those experiences that is either going to validate your decision or cause you to completely change your plans.

The next stop on my academic journey is going to be Georgia Southern University, where I plan to get my bachelor's in communications.

Stop the violence and respect others for those proud to be themselves



Soap Box

Christina Goodwin
Staff Writer

A couple weeks ago, I was watching my favorite YouTuber, GigiGorgeous, ramble on about another one of her wild experiences that has happened in her life recently.

As a person that's been a subscriber since she started, I automatically went down to the comment section to tell her how much I love her

and her funny story.

When I was finished, I began to read other comments, and I saw something repulsive, people calling Gigi a "he" and a "man."

Gigi was born biologically as a male. However, she has openly identified herself as a woman for a year and half. Although Gigi has the appearance of a woman, she

still experiences trans-brutality.

Brutality against the trans-community needs to stop.

Instances from the negative commentators on Gigi's videos to people that attack transgenders are examples of the violence the community faces.

These violent actions are often dismissed because of ignorance, intolerance and hatred.

I am not transgender and I do not know any transgender people in real life, but I am a supporter of those who are proud to be themselves.

Letters to the editor

Student points out need for new campus in Marietta

Dear Editor,

I am a new student at Georgia Highlands this semester, and I take classes at Southern Poly in Marietta I major in Business administration and I live in Marietta. Though I thoroughly enjoy the location, classrooms and my teachers, I have come to a conclusion that Georgia Highlands should make progress towards putting a campus in Cobb County as soon as possible. More of the population lives closer to the city obviously so it would make sense to have a campus closer to the city.

A campus much like the one in Cartersville would be great not only the college but for the students and faculty. A bigger campus would attract more students with amenities such as lounges, athletic center, new classrooms and equipment for learning, cafeteria, and other college necessities that I feel

are needed for everyone at Georgia Highlands.

I'm sure the school at this time may not have the resources for this kind of project, but from a financial standpoint doing this will only help increase the number of students at Georgia Highlands and increase revenue because it will help draw more of the city's attention to the school.

More people want to come to Georgia Highlands, and more will if the College decides to build a campus in Marietta or somewhere in Cobb (closer to the city) to really help the students, teachers and staff and overall improve the college atmosphere, which I have heard from many that people are yearning for.

In praise, Highlands is a great college, and we should definitely consider this idea to better the school as a whole. Thank you!

Sincerely,
Jack Kern
Business major
Marietta

Student feels online classes should be noticed more

Dear Editor:

I'm writing you to inform you of a concern I have encountered. I have been at Georgia Highlands since the fall of 2014, and I don't feel that I have ever been thoroughly informed of how online classes work. Being a mom of two, I had never realized the convenience of taking some courses online. I talked to some classmates, and they explained how online classes worked and how easy

they were to work into my schedule to give a little more flexibility. I have now even signed up for a couple in the future, and it looks as if they are going to work out great. I feel like new students, especially ones with families or restricting jobs, should be made more aware of online classes.

Thank you for your time,
Catherine Furtado
Pre-Nursing
Floyd Campus

Have something to say? Send us letters to the editor by e-mailing us at 6mpost@student.highlands.edu.



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Photo by Christina Goodwin

Lindsay Benner feeds a Marietta student paper hearts during the wedding bliss chapter of her show.

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Photo by Christina Goodwin

Benner introduces her domestic bliss chapter.



Photo by Callie Stokes

Floyd students Johnny Barnes (left) and Danny Hales lift Benner during her juggling act.

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FUN!!!



(From left) Chargers Montrel Goldston, Paris Ballinger, Fritz Lucien, Ty Toney, Markele Smith, Denzel Council, Terrence Thompson, Doniel Dean, Donovan Harris, Quay Fergerson, Taquan Givens and Jordan Adams stand with the awards won during the 2014-2015 basketball season.

A reception honoring the 2014-15 Chargers and their run to the NJCAA Final Four was held in the Floyd campus gym on April 15.

Don Green, president of GHC, Phil Gaffney, athletics director and men's head basketball coach, and David Mathis, assistant athletics director, addressed the large crowd.

The players, coaches, support staff, cheerleaders and members of the media were recognized for their support of the Chargers.



Phil Gaffney, athletics director and men's head basketball coach, addresses the crowd.



President Don Green congratulates Donovan Harris.

Coaches and players reflect on 2014-15 basketball season

By Joseph LeFurgey
Staff Writer

The GHC men's team finished their season 30-8, were nationally ranked and went to Kansas for the NJCAA national championship tournament.

The Chargers went on a winning streak in the first three games of the tournament.

The first team the Chargers beat was Butler Community College out of Kansas, 88-86 in overtime.

The Chargers then defeated Southern Idaho College, 67-66 with a last second three pointer by Montrel Goldston. Finally, Chargers defeated Hutchinson Community College, 64-59.

In the Final Four round the Chargers lost in over-

time to Northwest Florida State College, 105-103.

"We are very happy with how far our team made it this year," said Phil Gaffney, athletics director and men's head basketball coach.

He continued, "I think we had a shot at winning the championship because the team that won was the team that beat us in overtime in the Final Four."



Donovan Harris

"We made it farther than last year, and this entire season has been full of so much excitement!"



Montrel Goldston

"Winning the conference championship and making it to the national championship was the biggest part for me and my teammates. We accomplished a lot this season, and I love these guys and the entire support system we've had this year."



Jordan Adams

"We overcame a lot as a team. Nobody believed we could make it that far except for us."



Denzel Council

"We overcame a lot of odds this season. This was a historic year and a great season for the whole team."



Ty Toney

"The season was great! We came together as a team, we grew as brothers and we played very well."

Photos by Karlee Helms

Chargers' journey through NJCAA tournament

Georgia Highlands #19 seed
Butler College #14 seed

88-86

1st place...NW Florida State
2nd place...South Plains College
3rd place...Hill College
4th place...Georgia Highlands

Georgia Highlands #19 seed
Southern Idaho #3 seed

67-66

Georgia Highlands #19 seed
Hutchinson #6 seed

64-59

Northwest Florida State #2 seed
Georgia Highlands #19 seed

105-103

Hill College #12 seed
Georgia Highlands #19 seed

94-82



Recruitment for 2015-16 basketball season underway

By Joseph LeFurgey
Staff Writer

Basketball recruitment efforts are in full swing for the Chargers and Lady Chargers.

Recruitment is in process all year, but with the new school year just around the corner the push is greater now.

Recruiting begins at the beginning of the season with the coaches sending emails to prospective recruits.

Throughout the year, the GHC coaching staff goes to tournaments and exposure events looking for new talent. When they find someone they like, the coaches bring them to Georgia Highlands for a visit and give them a tour.

With five sophomores moving on from the men's team, there are spots that have to be filled.

"Recruitment is going



Photo by Karlee Helms

(From left) Matt Williams goes over information with prospective recruits Deontae Woodbridge and Shakari Jones, both from Arkansas.

very well so far," stated Matt Williams, assistant men's basketball coach. "We haven't signed anyone so

far, but we have a number of prospects."

"We had a list of kids we were looking at before we

made it to the Final Four," JJ Merritt, assistant men's basketball coach and Floyd intramurals director, stat-

ed. "After the Final Four, it opened up a whole new class of athletes to recruit. Some are even from Division I schools," he said.

The Lady Chargers' coaching staff is also working hard to bring in new recruits.

With eight sophomores moving on next season, there are plenty of spots that need to be filled.

"So far things are going good," says Demetrius Colson, assistant women's basketball coach. "We have four verbal commitments and are looking for about three more players." The Lady Chargers also have three local students as walk-ons.

"Our coaching staff really looks for students that will do well at our school," says Phil Gaffney, athletics director and men's head basketball coach. "Not only do we want good talent, but also good character."

Have pride in being a Georgia Highlands Charger



Karlee's Corner

Karlee Helms
Managing Ed., Sports

The unsigned editorial of this April issue focuses on how Georgia Highlands could feel more like a college.

When I was in high school I wanted to go to

the University of Georgia. I didn't have my college education on my mind, (don't judge me). Instead I had my heart set on using my student ID to get those student tickets for the football

games.

In my personal opinion, sports are a huge part of the college experience.

Over the past three years, Georgia Highlands has added and maintained four different sports teams on two of its six campuses.

I know that most of the students attending GHC are working through college (myself included), but that shouldn't stop students from trying to enjoy the col-

lege experience by taking part in everything our college has to offer.

Instead of being a "Negative Nancy" and calling GHC "high school 2.0," students should just embrace it. We all made the decision to come here in the first place.

So make the most of it. Come out to the remaining baseball and softball games with your faces painted blue and orange.

Our basketball teams have only been in existence for three years, and in this year alone the men have won the Division 1 GCAA playoffs and finished fourth out of 24 teams in the NJCAA national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan. If I may say so myself, they had one hell of a season.

Make your time in college count, no matter how small its population. Be proud to be a GHC Charger.



Congratulations to Donovan Harris and Ty Toney for being voted All-Regional for GCAA and to Toney and Montrel Goldston for being named to the NJCAA All-Tournament Team!



Lady Chargers continue to excel on the field

**By Shelby Hogland
Asst. Sports Editor**

The GHC softball team defeated Georgia Military College, 6-2, in the second game of a doubleheader at Stars Field April 4.

The Lady Chargers made three runs in the first inning. Georgia Military would not score until the third inning, making the score 3-1.

GHC scored three more runs in the fifth inning. Georgia Military made its last attempt at a comeback in the seventh inning, with one last run.

GHC was not as successful in the first game of the day at 1 p.m. losing 11-7.

"This game showed us exactly what we need to

improve to get ready for post-season, and now it's up to us to make the proper adjustments so we can compete and try to make it to the national tournament" said Melissa Wood, GHC softball head coach.

At the April 4 game, the GHC softball team raised \$560 for Stomp Out Cancer. GHC jerseys and raffle tickets were sold to raise the money. This cause was especially important to the GHC softball team because Jericca Medlin, former GHC player, lost her father, Andy Littlejohn, to cancer last summer. In honor of Littlejohn, the GHC softball team wore his name on their jerseys during the game.

"All in all, it was a very emotional day, and I am



Photo by Shelby Hogland

Kayleigh Medlin sprints to second at Stars Field on April 4.

glad we could get a win after the start we had in the first game," said Liz

Prance, GHC softball third basemen.

Prance continued, "It

was an honor to have the Littlejohn family there in the stands."

At press time, the Lady Chargers are in first place in the region. The GCAA regional tournament will take place at Strong Rock Christian, Locust Grove, Ga., on April 23-25.



Photo by Shelby Hogland

Chargers welcome Zach McCrum at home plate after his grand slam on April 7.

McCrum pushes Chargers to a victory with home run

**By Shelby Hogland
Asst. Sports Editor**

Tuesday, April 7, the Chargers baseball team played East Georgia State College at LakePoint, winning the game 7-3.

The game had a slow start with neither team putting any runs on the board until the fifth inning. East Georgia State put the first two runs on the board, but the Chargers came right back when Zach McCrum hit a homerun in the bottom of the fifth, helping three teammates make it home.

Later in the game McCrum hit a two run double, making a personal total of six RBI for the game. McCrum was definitely the star of the game, scoring

six of the Chargers's seven runs. In the eighth inning East Georgia State made one run, and once again the Chargers came right back, scoring twice in the bottom of the eighth inning.

"It was a great team win. We played great defense and pitched well. I just happened to come up in the right spot with runners on," said McCrum.

"I was very pleased with our offensive execution," stated Mike Marra, GHC baseball head coach.

Marra said, "I thought we hit the ball well, and we got some big hits when we needed to. We showed a lot of resilience; a lot of good things happened offensively."

The Chargers' season ends May 2.

The Chargers baseball team will play at State Mutual Stadium, home of the Rome Braves, on April 28.

Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the GHC Business Office.