

# SIX MILE POST

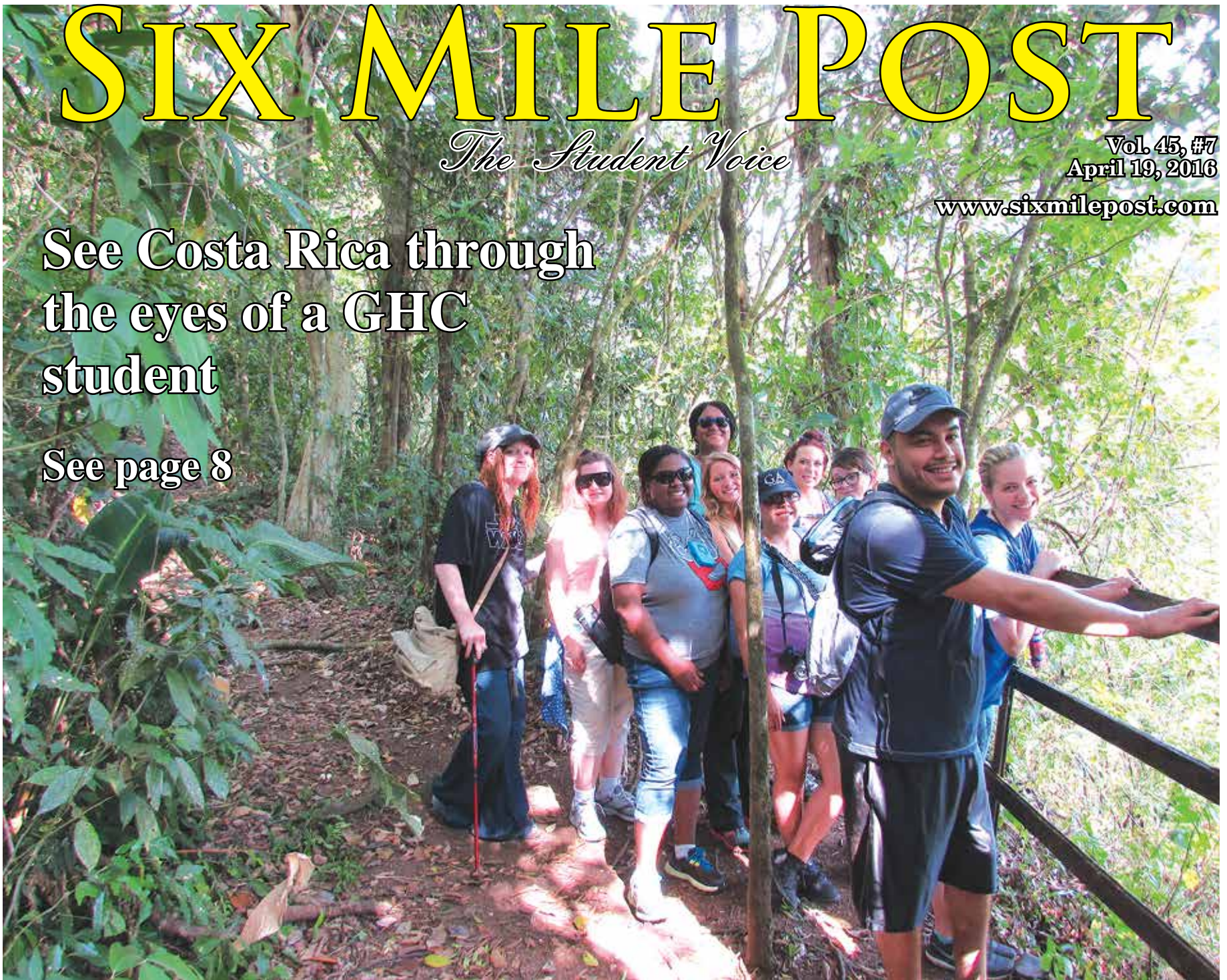
*The Student Voice*

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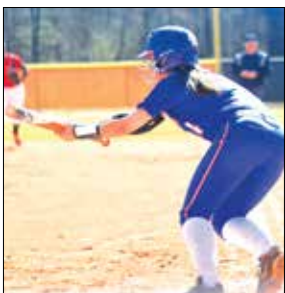
See Costa Rica through  
the eyes of a GHC  
student

See page 8



Contributed

**Ga. Highlands students, staff and faculty traveled to Costa Rica over spring break to learn about its culture and to sharpen their Spanish skills. Here, they pause at an overlook in the San Luis forest.**



GHC  
softball  
season in  
full swing

See page 13.



Highlands  
student wins  
prestigious  
scholarships

See page 7.



School food  
pantry now  
open to  
students

See page 5.

# Student fees will soon see an increase

By Amanda Maxwell  
Staff Writer

The University System of Georgia's governing authority, the Board of Regents, recently approved fee increases for Georgia Highlands College.

The current athletic fee of \$50 per semester will increase to \$85 per semester and the Student Support Services fee, which is currently set at \$100, will increase to \$130 per semester.

According to Jeff Davis, vice president of finance and administration, the requests were sent to the Board of Regents in Nov. 2016 after they had been heard, voted on and approved by the college's Student Government Association.

According to Davis, the cur-

rent athletic fee of \$50 per semester has never covered all of the expenses of operating the Athletic Department and that part of the athletic fee increase will be used to further support men's and women's basketball, baseball and softball.

The department had to collect athletic fees before it was ever set into operation in order to build a reserve.

That money has been used in place of the athletic fees just to keep the athletic programs running.

Currently that money has been used up, which calls for an increase in required fees for every student.

Davis also mentioned another part of the fee increase that includes the Student Support Services fee.



Photo by Stephanie Corona

**The Cartersville Student Center will be supported by the Student Support Services fee increase. The Student Center houses food services, a bookstore, a gym with a walking track, a game room, and offices and meetings spaces.**

This fee is used for access and support for wellness activities on all campuses.

The revenue from this fee

will also be used to pay off the bonds and support the operation of the Cartersville Student Center.

According to Todd Jones, vice president for student affairs, the fee increases will go into effect in the fall of 2016.

## Georgia Highlands works on new strategic plan

By Kayla Jameson  
Managing Ed., News

Georgia Highlands College is currently working on creating a new strategic plan.

A strategic plan is one that helps lay out goals for the college, and every three to five years, institutions of higher learning are tasked to come up with one.

One way the college helps set goals is by using benchmarking and best practices to compare and contrast GHC with other colleges and their effectiveness.

The strategic plan must also align with the college's

mission.

Strategic planning is a team effort that involves the president, vice presidents, faculty, staff and students at Georgia Highlands College.

"The one thing I hear from students is that they want a great education. We want to do everything we possibly can to provide that, a great education. Our faculty is so committed to that work," said President Donald Green.

Jeff Davis, vice president of finance and administration, said, "I'm doing a lot of interviews, interviewing cabinet members, having open forums on our campuses and I've got

a series of pretty open-ended questions that I'm asking folks to help me understand what we, as an organization, value."

These interviews and meetings allow those involved with the college to have an input in to the college's future and goals.

Davis is hoping to be able to ask some questions to students to get their opinions since no students attended the campus meetings.

"We want it to be open. We want it to be transparent. We want people to feel like their voice is being heard," said Green.

Instead of creating a pro-

posal that often needs to be replaced, they will try to create a living document that functions as a relevant plan to be used at Highlands at all times.

"Ultimately, it would be my desire that every division, every department, has its own strategic plan that ultimately serves in moving the entire institution forward by helping to meet the needs within the greater strategic plan for the college as a whole," said Green.

If students have recommendations for the future of the institution, they can email their concerns to Davis at [jDavis@highlands.edu](mailto:jDavis@highlands.edu)



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# Not all e-learning courses are the same

By Tyler Wright  
Managing Ed., Sports

"Online is the fastest growing campus, and it is the largest in the summer," said Diane Langston, dean of academic elearning.

Many students have enrolled in some form of elearning classes but do not necessarily know the differences between the types of classes or the options related to online courses.

Highlands currently offers four different types of elearning classes: WEB based, eCore, eClassroom and hybrid learning.

WEB based courses are taught strictly by Highlands staff and completed entirely online by students. Online exams may employ the use of Respondus, a program geared towards the prevention of cheating.

ECore courses are similar to WEB based and are com-

pleted entirely online. ECore also features its own version of Respondus, called ProctorU.

However, eCore classes can be instructed by any teacher from the University System of Georgia, who may not necessarily be a professor from Highlands.

These courses cost more, but usually have free textbooks. Students who enroll in only eCore classes will also receive a fee break.

EClassroom courses require students to tune in to and participate in video chats with their instructors and fellow students on a regular basis.

Hybrid learning is a middle ground between traditional and online classes, being anywhere from 50 to 95 percent online and requiring some class meetings throughout the semester.

Langston pointed out that students in the hybrid classes tend to be more successful

than those in other elearning courses.

All options require the student to attend a testing center in order to take midterms and final exams. Testing centers are not necessarily at a GHC campus.

Locations range anywhere from a public library to a Sylvan learning center eliminating the worry of planning a road trip to take exams.

Leslie Terrell-Payne, senior academic adviser of elearning, stated that several degrees can actually be completed entirely online.

Highlands' current four-year programs in nursing and dental hygiene can be completed online, but only after the student receives their associate degree in dental hygiene or nursing, respectively.

ELearning is also a huge contributor to the Nights, Online and Weekends (NOW) program, which aims to get adults back in school to com-

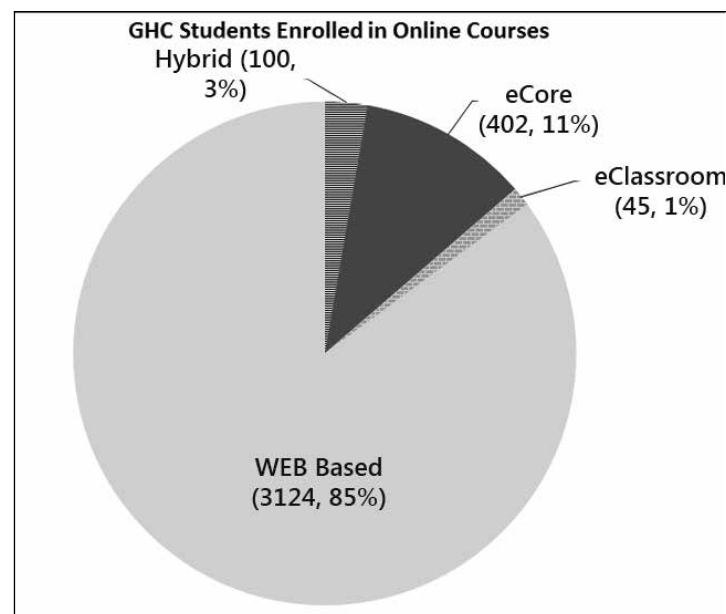


Chart by Tyler Wright

**This graph displays the current number of students enrolled in each type of e-learning in the spring 2016 semester. Students enrolled in more than one e-course are counted multiple times.**

plete their degrees.

With the slogan of "go back, move ahead," the NOW program incorporates various online and hybrid classes in its efforts.

Terrell-Payne also explained that Highlands has a partnership with the University of Georgia that allows students to receive a Bachelors of Business Administra-

tion degree from UGA entirely through online courses.

According to Terrell-Payne, UGA wants students who have already completed their associate degree to enroll in this program.

All students enrolling must also meet the standard requirements for admittance to UGA as well as have at least a 2.8 GPA.

## GHC to offer 4-year business degrees in fall 2017

By Stacey Moffett  
Editor-in-Chief

Georgia Highlands College students will soon be able to major in new business degrees, starting in fall of 2017.

The degrees that will be offered are Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Healthcare Management and Bachelor of Business Administration with a Major in Logistics and Supply Chain Management.

Although the degrees are not available yet, students interested should start on their core classes.

The BBA in Healthcare Management prepares students for careers in the field of

healthcare, including Health Information Management, Nursing Management, Rehabilitation Administration and Hospital Administration.

According to Alan Nichols, dean of social sciences, business and education, likely jobs for this degree would be in hospitals, clinics or private physicians' practices.

This program builds on the Associate of Science in Business already in place at Highlands.

The BBA in Logistics and Supply Chain Management can prepare students to have careers in Customer Relationship Management, Materials and Warehousing Management and Vendor and

Purchasing Logistics Management.

Nichols said, "Given the large industrial base in Bartow County and surrounding areas, we believe that our graduates will fill a need that companies have."

This program builds on the Associate of Science in Business degree.

The upper division courses of these degrees will be taught primarily in the traditional classroom setting, although some classes may be offered in an online or hybrid format.

The junior level courses for these programs will be offered primarily at the Cartersville and Floyd campuses.

The senior level classes

will be primarily at the Floyd campus for Healthcare Management and at the Cartersville campus for Logistics and Supply Chain Management.

Applications for the program will be accepted starting in January of 2017. There are minimum requirements such as an institutional GPA of 2.5.

Once in the program, students will have to complete an internship for either program that they are in.

Krissy Duncan, a business administration major at the Floyd campus who will graduate this semester with her associates degree, said, "I'm going to take a break until 2017 when Highlands has a four-year business degree option."

Nichols said, "I think these new degrees will provide good options for students pursuing a business degree who are interested in being part of an industrial or health workforce. Students can now complete this education at Georgia Highlands."

For more information, students can speak to any business faculty about these programs.

Some of the business faculty include Bruce Jones at Floyd, Jed Gillespie at Cartersville and Howell Sheffield at Marietta.

For a helpful FAQ sheet on these programs, please email Alan Nichols at [anichols@highlands.edu](mailto:anichols@highlands.edu).

## Highlands Happenings

### The police academy will resurface in the summer

By Jordan Appel  
Staff Writer

Even though the police academy rooms on the Floyd campus have been vacant since the end of the fall semester, the program is coming back in the summer according to Jeff Davis, vice president of finance at Highlands.

According to Davis, the program is currently running two to three classes a year. Plans are for the academy to transition to a yearly program.

Davis said he doesn't know the specific date when the program will start again.

### Annual receptions for ORK will be held on the Floyd and C'ville campuses

By Marquis Holmes  
Staff Writer

The staff of the Old Red Kimono (ORK), the GHC student-run literary magazine of 43 years, will hold its annual receptions on the Floyd campus and Cartersville campus April 26 and 28.

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

The receptions will be held at 12:30 p.m. in the Lakeview Auditorium on the Floyd campus.

The Cartersville campus location will be announced.

Refreshments will be served 15 minutes prior and a copy of this year's ORK will be issued to every student in attendance.

This year's ORK reception will have a theme based on the Paradise Garden painting, inspired by folk artist Howard Finster.

The theme is traditionally based on the cover art and direction of a student art editor. This year, ORK's art editor is Wesley Sanders.

### Hope for Hague 5k race is canceled

By Haley Hunter  
Staff Writer

The Hope for Hague 5k race, which would have taken

place on Saturday, April 16 at 9 a.m. on the Floyd campus, has been canceled.

Teresa Hutchins, associate professor of political science, announced that the cause of cancellation was lack of interest.

Funds from the race would have gone to the Dr. Nancy Hague Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship set up by two professors at GHC in honor of Dr. Nancy Hague, an associate professor of psychology, who passed away in 2012 after her battle with ovarian cancer.

The scholarship was created in memory of her dedication to her work and students.

Anyone who would like to donate to the Hague Scholarship can do so by contacting the Advancement Office at advancement@highlands.edu.

### GHC presents awards during Honors Assembly

By Kayla Jameson  
Managing Ed., News

The 44th annual Honors Assembly was held April 12 at the Clarence Brown Conference Center in Cartersville.

Students, their guests and GHC staff and faculty attended the event.

The assembly started with a welcoming speech by Georgia Highlands College President Donald Green.

Nursing, academic leadership and special recognition awards were presented, as well as 50 Who's Who awards.

The full list of award recipients can be found at sixmilepost.com.



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# Food pantry opens on Floyd campus

By Katie Engler  
Staff Writer

The Charger Food Pantry, located in student services, had its grand opening on March 14.

Angela Wheelus, director of student support services and counselor at Floyd, Douglasville and Heritage Hall, said, "There was a study done among college students. It said that one in five students went hungry in this past month, and one in 10 students have been homeless."

With the desperate need of assistance for underprivileged students, a few interns, students and Wheelus founded the Charger Food Pantry.

David Baker, Jane Phillips and Vincent Moreno, who are interns at Georgia Highlands

College, researched models of pantries at other colleges.

Human services students and Floyd campus student Damaris Wilson created food pantry protocol and a training manual for volunteers.

Students are encouraged to volunteer for the food pantry.

Tina Noles, president of The Human Services Club human services club and volunteer for the pantry, stated, "The Human Services Club is about helping others and taking part in the community. I can't think of a better way to begin helping others than to volunteer at the GHC Charger Food Pantry and to spread the word."

The pantry is located on the Floyd Campus, but sacks of food are also available at other GHC campuses.

Nicolas Magana, a GHC student and Eagle Scout, put together 30 sacks to distribute among other Georgia Highlands campuses for students who are in need of food security.

Wheelus is the food pantry's director of operations.

Students can visit the Charger Food Pantry once a week.

The hours available are Monday and Wednesday from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Wilson, student coordinator of the Charger Food Pantry, said, "The food pantry is one of many things that Georgia Highlands is doing to be one of the most well-rounded colleges in our area."

The faculty really cares for

the students."

This service is completely free for students to use. All a student needs to do is fill out the "Charger Food Pantry Participant Agreement," which is located in the Student Services Center.

Students qualify for this service if their earnings are below the income listed for the number of people in their household.

However, if a student is experiencing a crisis, he or she may receive food and basic necessities by simply checking "crisis need" on the form.

A majority of the food received has come from Action Ministries and Community Share Ministry.

In addition, the Charger Food Pantry has collection bins located on all six campuses for



Photo by Cassandra Humphries

**The Charger Pantry is now open.**

anyone who wishes to donate basic necessities or food.

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# GHC to say farewell to long time professors

## Johnny Duke to say farewell after 18 years at Highlands

By Holly Chaney  
Managing Ed, Design

After 40 years of teaching, 18 of which were spent at GHC, Johnny Duke, a professor of mathematics on the Floyd campus, will retire on August 1.

Duke began his teaching career in 1977 at Memphis University School where he taught mathematics and Bible at the seventh grade level for three years.

After leaving MUS, Duke went on to Lipscomb University in Nashville as a graduate assistant in mathematics.

During this time, Duke also earned his master's in mathematics through Middle Tennessee State University,

After achieving his masters, Duke went on to spend his next eight years serving in ministry in Louisville, KY, and working towards a doctorate in Christian education, which he eventually earned in December of 1986.

Duke then took a position at Shorter University, where he taught for 16 years, also teaching in parallel for eight years at Floyd College.

In 2006, Duke took a full time position with Georgia

Highlands College, previously known as Floyd College.

After retirement, Duke plans to spend his free time pursuing the things he enjoys like the outdoors, photography, friends and family, God and grandchildren.

When asked why he was retiring, Duke said, "There are some things I'd like to do before I get too old."

He continued, "There is more to life than work, and I'm ready to do those things. There is also a three-year-old redheaded little girl in Nashville I'd like to spend more time with."

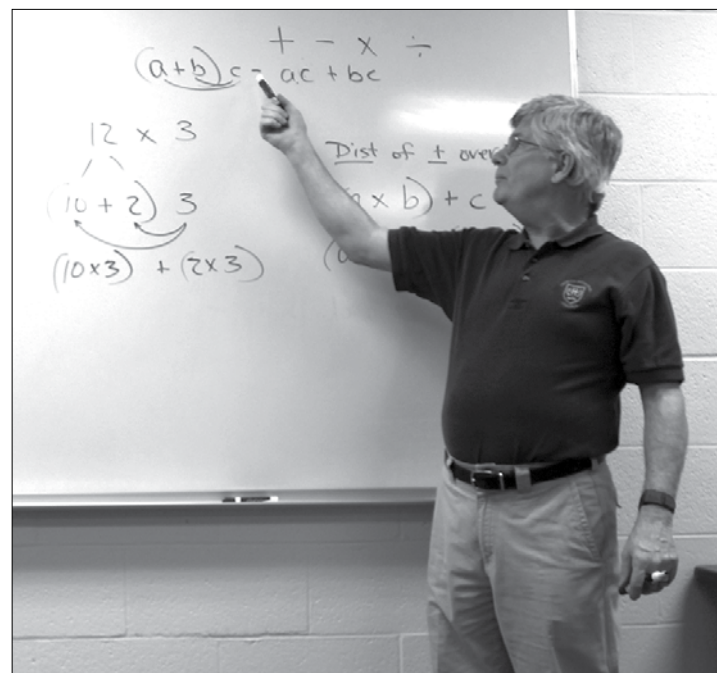


Photo by Lydia Chandler

**Johnny Duke explains a math formula to a Floyd campus class.**



Photo by Lydia Chandler

**Harvey Moody conducts a chemistry lesson.**

## Harvey Moody retiring after 21 years at Georgia Highlands

By Holly Chaney  
Managing Ed, Design

At the end of the semester, Georgia Highlands will say farewell to Harvey Moody, a long time professor of chemistry on the Floyd campus.

Moody began his career with Georgia Highlands 21 years ago, starting in August of 1995.

Before teaching chemistry at GHC, Moody taught the subject for 13 years at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado.

Prior to teaching chemistry, Moody served as a pilot in

the United States Air Force for 25 years and has also trained more than 150 students in flight, logging over 3000 hours in the air.

For his own education, Moody attended Louisburg College for two years before moving on to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to earn his Bachelor's in chemistry, and later attended West Virginia University, earning his doctorate in chemistry.

Commenting on his passion for teaching, Moody says, "It is exciting to take someone who doesn't know about a certain topic or area and you

give them a little knowledge, and they get excited and start learning the subject and go much further on their own."

He continued, "What I'll miss about teaching is my association with the students, faculty and staff, but I'm old! I've hit an age where I am starting to slow down now. If I'm going to teach students, I want to be effective. I want to leave teaching while I'm still effective."

After retirement, Moody plans to use his free time to work on application development and has aspirations to write a mystery novel.

# Justin Jones awarded top scholarships

By Marquis Holmes  
Staff Writer

Justin Jones, president of the GHC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, has recently been honored as the state of Georgia's recipient of the Coca-Cola New Century Scholarship.

One student nominee from each two-year institution competed to represent the state.

The student with the highest application score is named a New Century Scholar and is awarded \$2000 as well as a seat at the President's Breakfast at the American Association of Community College's Convention.

Jones, an English major, has also been awarded several other Phi Theta Kappa scholarships this year, including the 2016 Guistwhite Scholarship, which awards \$5000 to only 15 students in the nation.

Jones' advice to all students seeking scholarships is "Apply for as many as you possibly can. When I applied for a handful, I won none. When I applied for a dozen or so, I won one or maybe two. When I applied for as many as my tired mind could do, I won a handful."

Jones, a native of Memphis, Tenn., graduated from high school in 1994, shortly after moving to Douglasville and worked closely with Renaissance festivals as he toured the nation until he was 37.

After his mother began to suffer from health-related issues, Jones moved back to Douglasville to tend to his family and was convinced to return to school in the process.

Jones was elected Chapter President of Phi Theta Kappa in 2014 and 2015 as well as Georgia Regional Officer. He

has won many awards for his leadership and intellect, such as Most Distinguished Officer at a recent regional conference.

The GHC chapter was also recognized as Most Distinguished Chapter.

He credits Rick Bombard, assistant professor of English; Karen Huggin, club adviser of Phi Theta Kappa; Amelia Bagwell, previous chapter president of Phi Theta Kappa and Todd Jones, vice president of student affairs for his academic success.

"Justin is a great example of a student who sought opportunities to become engaged at GHC and has worked diligently to maintain his outstanding GPA," Todd Jones stated.

Justin Jones is expected to graduate with an Associate of Arts in both English and communication on May 7.



Contributed

Justin Jones (right) stands with fellow PTK officer, Mykayla Jetter.

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## Features



Photos by Taylor Barton  
Photos clockwise from above-

Students (from left) Kendall Sciascia, Karla Cruz and Rachel Allison help pack dirt in preparation for tree planting.

A boat sits on the beach with the Costa Rican sunset as a backdrop.

Students explore the Monteverde Cloud Forest.

A Quetzal bird perches on a branch in the cloud forest.

*Eighteen GHC students and faculty traveled to Costa Rica during spring break as part of the study abroad program.*

*The following is an excerpt from SMP Chief Photographer Taylor Barton's experiences in Costa Rica. The full diary can be read at [sixmilepost.com](http://sixmilepost.com)*

Costa Rica is a beautiful country with the nicest people I have ever met.

On our first morning at the UGA campus in Costa Rica (UGACR), we awoke to the slightly annoying sound of a brown jay and began our first activity: a walk to the farm to milk cows.

Our next activity was to learn about and participate in the Carbon Offset Program at UGACR.

UGACR has a huge carbon offset program where they plant trees on and off campus at surrounding farms. According to the



naturalist who led the talk, Dan "The Naturalist Man," more than 35,000 trees have been planted as of December 2015. A quote he said that stuck with me was "be your own superhero," meaning when you participate in these activities you are saving the Earth and saving yourself. We helped pack dirt to plant the trees in during the wet season.

The next day the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve was calling our names.

The tour guide had an extensive memory of bird classes and after about 30 minutes of chasing, we were able to finally see and get pictures of the colorful Quetzal bird.

Then it was time to head to the beach and resort! We spent 2 nights at Hotel Villas Playa Samara



relaxing by the pool and on the beautiful Costa Rican beach. The water was always warm and we were able to spend more time together before we had to leave the beautiful tropical paradise. Here I witnessed the most beautiful sunset I have ever seen, saw wild horses on the beach and never wanted to leave.

I'll see you again, Costa Rica!

Pura Vida!

# Pura Vida!

## Special Graduation Section

# Graduation ceremony scheduled for May 7

By Katie Engler  
Staff Writer

The 2016 Graduation and Commencement Ceremony will be held on Saturday, May 7, at 1 p.m.

Students will need to be there at noon.

The ceremony will be at the Forum in Rome at 301 Tribune Street.

The keynote speaker is J. Paul Ferguson, an Army veteran, retired neurosurgeon and former president and CEO of Harbin Clinic.



Contributed

### J. Paul Ferguson

Holly Chaney, president of the GHC Student Government Association, will be delivering

the welcome and the closing speech for the graduation ceremony.

The student speaker was selected from the SGA so the student chosen would have an understanding of GHC and the student body.

Students will proceed to the arena from the entrance nearest to the clock tower in the following order:

**Associate Degrees:** Applied Science in Human Services, Arts, Science, Science in Nursing and Science in Dental Hygiene

**Bachelor's Degrees:** Science in Nursing and Dental Hygiene.

Senior Administrative Assistant, Tammy Nicholson, has advice for those who are graduating.

"Enjoy the moment and be prepared. Many do not realize how much emotion will be involved in graduation not only for the students, but for the family members who have helped and supported the student throughout their college career," she said.

Sherri Beideck, assistant

director of admissions and registrar, said in regards to the number of graduates this year, "We are estimating 675, but that number could go up or down."

Students should wear comfortable shoes, since there is a lot of standing.

They should also wear dark clothes, preferably something that looks nice and respectable.

Graduation will be preceded by the 10 a.m. nurses pinning ceremony also held at the Forum.

# 2016 Graduates

Christopher Brandon Able  
Brent Alan Acree  
Jacob Wayne Adams  
Tori Leigh Adams  
Iliana Bettis Alderfer  
Anne Marie Alexander  
Taylor Ann Alton  
Ifunanya Roseline Amobi  
Kalyn Iman Andry  
John Patrick Anthony  
Melody Mae Apgar  
Robert Wilson Arendt  
Neilie Jace Armstrong  
Rachel Emily Arnold  
Theresa Luise Arthen  
Avery Drew Ash  
Hannab Jewell Atkinson  
Benito Aviles  
Josie Caroline Ayers  
Emma Joy Bach  
Eva Mae Bagley  
Patricia Ann Bailey  
Brandie Allen Bailey-Newman  
Brandon Jamez Baker  
Chase Joseph Baker  
Hannab Elizabeth Baker  
Kaylin BriAnna Baker  
Alexander James Baldwin  
Paris Rasbaan Ballinger  
Alexander Katriel Banks  
Neyra Juanita Barajas  
Philip Christopher Barber  
Bradley Steven Barnes  
Johnny Ray Barnes  
Cynthia Barnett  
Deanna Dyer Barnette  
Virginia Bernette Barragan  
Christina Barrera

Karen Hope Barrett  
Melany Victoria Barrios  
Courtney Shae Barton  
Lee Harris Battle  
Taylor Morgan Bays  
Lauren Grace Beber  
Yanik Beckley  
Mauricio Sanjines Beckrich  
Richard Anthony Bell  
Corina M Belman  
Jeremy Geovanny Bernal  
Kellie Felisha Bevans  
Breanna Joy Bevil  
Brittany Nicole Bickers  
Lyea Marie Bickle  
Alexsis Maree Bigelow  
Valeriya S Birdseye  
Jasmine Nicole Black  
Olivia Elaine Black  
Alyssa Kathbryn Blackburn  
Shytasba Renee Blackbear  
Lauren Noelle Blalock  
Kaylie Sue Blankenship  
Deana Jo D Blankinsbip  
Mary Danyelle Blankinsbip  
Nathan Wade Blanton  
Kyle Lewis Bobo  
Megan Elizabeth Bolt  
Wendy Yobana Bonilla Garcia  
Sara Kathbryn Boyer  
Josh Edward Bradford  
Brittany Ellene Brand  
Tyler Houston Brannon  
Shawna Leigh Bray  
Landon Scott Brazinski  
Jessie Colburn Brock  
Rebecca Elaine Brock  
Charlotte Ann Brooks

Auriana Julia Broughton  
Elaunte Maurice Brown  
Kanneya Delon Brown  
Ramsey Lyn Brown  
Scott Richard Brown  
Emilee Jean Brussee  
Brandon Lasbawn Bryant  
Victoria Abigail Bryant  
Haley Gwen Buck  
Alexx Clayton Bunker  
Kevin Thaddeus Burke  
Selene Cassidy Burns  
Sherlyne Buteau  
Jerry D Cagle  
Rachel Jordan Cain  
Cindy Paulette Calderon  
Tiffany Yvonne Calboun  
Theresa Elaine Campbell  
Victoria Ashley Campbell  
Abigail del Carmen Campos  
Jenna L Carr  
Janet Carranza  
Allison Joy Carroll  
Cheryse Danielle Carter  
Christian Cleon Carter  
Kayla Monique Chiquetta Carter  
Megan Ann Carter  
Allen Westley Chambers  
Ashley Rae Chambers  
Catlin Carleen Chambers  
Candis Brooke Chandler  
John Hanson Chandler  
Shanita Chandler  
Jared Tyler Charles  
Mindy Chavarria  
Samantha Nicole Chavarria  
Wysmark Abilio Chaves  
Kaitlin Ashley Chellino

Katy Victoria Chiblers  
Kelsey Lynn Chism  
Linda Chuong  
Brandon Reginald Clark  
Christopher Clark  
John Chandler Clark  
Rachel Clark  
Stephanie Weaver Clay  
Pbillita Kerry Clemons  
Bianca Clerge  
Taylor Anne Cobb  
Cali Danielle Cochran  
Heather Lyne Cochran  
Hunter Lee Cochran  
Taylor Kaitlin Coe  
Casey Robert Collins  
Kaylee Patricia Collins  
Adam Lawrence Combs  
Jacquelyn R Conley  
Melissa Conrad  
Nicholas Joseph Constan  
Chloe Marie Conway  
Emily Michelle Cook  
Andrew Stephen Cooley  
Amanda Kay Cooper  
Brittany Chanay Copeland  
Maria Liliana Cornejo  
Molly Kay Couey  
Chelsea Elaine Cowan  
Joseph Michael Craig  
Daniel A Craven  
Melonie Victoria Craven  
Angela Louise Crider  
Ciara Cheyenne Crider  
Cord Alexander Crider  
Jason Corey Crowder  
Sharon Patrice Crowder  
William Steven Lawson Crowe

Adam Brian Cummings  
Ashley Nicole Cummings  
Yvonne J Cummings  
Emily Lauren Cunningham  
Eric Ian Cureton  
Benita Woodard Curtis  
Caitlynn Marie Curtis  
Deanna Marie Dane Hrenyo  
Ericha Danner  
Shannan Nikki Danz  
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Jessica Kirkpatrick Dowda  
Jessica Nicole Dowdy  
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Tara Elizabeth Downs  
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Hope Nadean Fetzer  
Rebecca Marie Fischer  
Eric Steven Fisher  
Regena Flannigan  
Sarab Elizabeth Flatebo



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William Thomas Griffin  
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Hannab Elizabeth Harrell  
Rosemary Sonia Harris  
Connor M Hart  
Efraim Javon Harvey  
Raleigh Ashton Hawes  
Michael Blake Hawthorne



Sarab Bain Hazard  
Ronni Michelle Heard  
Kaitlin Brianna Hegwood  
Stacy Ann Heideman  
China Kierra Henderson  
Haley Roxanne Henderson



Spencer Doyle Hendrix  
Jamaal J Henry  
Zuleyma Hernandez  
Timothy Gererd Herrington  
Eli Benjamin Hicks  
Christian Michael Hiers  
Grant Thomas Hightower  
Lindsey Lawrence Hill  
Alejandra Hillier  
Kassie Lee Hite  
Neece Hartfield Hitson  
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Krista Marie Mills  
Erika D Minney  
Anna E Mobley  
Octavia Venus Monsanto  
Darrian Larue Moore  
Natasha LaBria Moore  
Wendy Carina Morales  
Heather Brooke Morris  
Lauren Kathleen Morrow  
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Eric Matthew Newkirk  
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Mcdonnell Onyebuchi Nwokike  
Julienne Lirence Nya  
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 Eanna Mellissa Steadley

## Graduate reflects on time spent at Georgia Highlands College

By Jahmelia Louis-Jean  
 Student Guest Writer



Jahmelia Louis-Jean

After I graduated high school, I was not sure what to expect from the college journey I was about to embark on.

It was something new to me, and it seemed a little scary.

Figuring out which classes to take and filling out applications all seemed a bit confusing. Would I like it? What would it be like?

At the time, I did not know all of the great things I would experience during my time at Georgia Highlands College.

In my classes I learned many new things and studied hard to get good grades.

I made friends, enjoyed student life activities, played

intramural sports and had fun going to the Charger basketball games.

I even had opportunities to get more involved at the school, which allowed me to further enrich my experience.

I was selected to be an orientation leader where I was

able to help new students get started at the college, and I also got a Federal Work Study job as a tutor at the Boys and Girls Club.

Although I had many great experiences, everything did not always go as planned.

At one point, I got off track from my original academic plan, but I was able to form a new plan and continue persevering.

Now, this May, I will be graduating with an associate degree in psychology.

I will carry this achievement with me, as well as all the memories I am thankful to have made at Georgia Highlands College, and move on to discover even more unknown experiences on my college journey.

— Alumni Association —

# GHC

GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE

*Congratulations*

Class of 2016

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.

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[gahighlandsalumni.com](http://gahighlandsalumni.com)

706.368-7772



Poll: What are your plans for the future?



“I’ll probably eat, I guess. Oh, I’m transferring to West Georgia in the fall.”

James Rosser  
Floyd Campus  
General Studies



“I would like to continue school but I don’t want to leave Georgia Highlands.”

Krissy Duncan  
Floyd Campus  
Business Administration



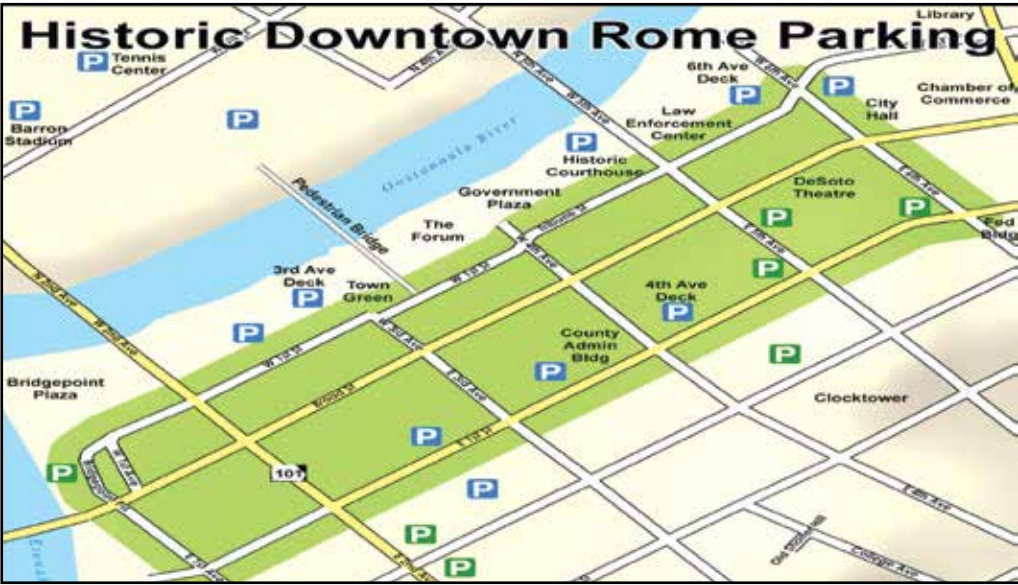
“I’m attending a 4-year college. I haven’t decided which one yet, but I’ll go to a 4-year college to play basketball on scholarship.”

Photos and poll  
by Taylor Barton

Paris Ballinger  
Floyd Campus  
Economics

- Cassidy F Steele  
Kristyn Leigh Steffers  
Dana Stephens  
Dynel Stephens  
Kentrina LaCrystal Stephens  
Jacob Lee Stone  
Kathleen Stone  
Mary Scott Storer  
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Kristina D Thursby  
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Amanda Hope Tierce  
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Austyn Drake Todd  
Tymetrius Montovia Toney  
Clinton Anthony Tonini  
James Lucas Toole  
Sarab Stephanie Torres  
Cortney Ann Traylor  
Rbiannon Leigh Tressler  
Victoria Nicole Troche  
Adam Lee Tucker  
Ivy D. Tucker  
Sasba Gaye Peta-Gaye Tucker  
Jonathan D Twilley  
Richard William Twist  
James Autry Urich  
Aissa Berinyuy Umaru  
Franklin Luis Urtiz  
Luis Ernesto Valencia  
Brandon Michael Vallean  
Katherine Marie Van Horn  
Jamie Elizabeth Van Ness  
Stephanie Vanas  
Anna Marie Volpe  
Cristelle Voltaire  
Holly Anne Voss  
Shannon Marie Waddle  
David Fleming Wakefield  
Jasmine Lee Walberer  
Gwendalynn Ann Walden  
Adrainne Christina Walker  
Kati L Wall  
John Levi Wallace  
Callie Ann Ward  
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Christopher Tracy Wells  
Jade LoCote Wells  
Grayson Leigh West  
Taylor Nicole West  
Victoria Ann West  
Phillip David Wheeler  
Hannah Elizabeth White  
Marcus Reed White  
Melissa Nicole White  
Zachary Hamilton White  
Zeiquaan Javar White  
Candace Janay Whitfield  
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Mary Cayla Wilkerson  
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Kareen Gainor Wilkins  
Sara Lynn Wilkinson  
Alexis Hope Williams  
Alison Taylor Williams  
Danielle Lacole Williams  
Jesse Brooksbire Williams  
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Taylor Dawn Williams  
Isja Marie Williams-Sherrod  
Emily R Willingham  
Zoie Danielle Willis  
Jessica Elaine Wilson  
Kevin Daniel Wilson  
Mikayla Anne Wilson  
Robert Elijah Wilson  
Robin Eliza Wilson  
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Kelly Nicole Wise  
Pangey L Womble  
Victoria Catherine Woods  
Katherine Elizabeth Wright  
Margaret Isabelle Wright  
Karly Sarah Wyant  
Crystal Pelfrey Wyatt  
David Calier Yancy  
Shane Taylor Yandow  
Carlene Dawn Youngblood  
Justin Christian Zakbary

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



Graduation Parking Options



**Stacey Moffett**  
Editor-in-Chief

I have learned so much being both a managing editor and then the editor-in-chief of the SMP.

I have gained confidence in my leadership skills, as well as learned how to manage my time better and work with different types of people.

I have found a new love for news writing, instead of just creative writing, and I will take that with me into my next chapter of life.

Some of my best friends at GHC came from this year's SMP staff, and the memories we made were priceless. I'll miss you all.



**Olivia Camp**  
Advertising Manager

As ad manager for the Six Mile Post staff, I have made new memories and useful connections.

The experience of not only being involved with the Six Mile Post, but selling ads out in our community has been such a new learning experience that I have enjoyed.

# *The Award Winning* **Six Mile Post**

*The Student Voice*

Invites GHC students on all campuses to apply for a position on the 2016-2017 staff!

**Go to [sixmilepost.com](http://sixmilepost.com) and click "Staff Application" under "Links" to apply.**



**Holly Chaney**  
Managing Editor,  
Design

I've worked with the Six Mile Post for six semesters now, initially serving as a staff writer for my first four semesters at GHC. In the fall of 2015, I decided to take the next logical step and apply for an editor position. It was a big decision, and one that would be a considerable undertaking.

As a Douglasville student and resident, becoming a managing editor would require being on the Floyd campus frequently, sometimes daily, but in the end, I decided it was something I wanted to experience.

Now, as I come to the end of my second semester serving as a managing editor, I can truly say that it has been an experience that provided a great deal of personal growth.

At times the position was challenging and demanding, but it also proved to be rewarding, providing a great sense

of privilege to be a part of the Georgia Highlands' student voice.

Many times I felt honored to write about meaningful subjects and took pride in layout of important pages.

I will never forget my experience here, and I have no doubt that the things I've learned during my time as an SMP staff member will serve me well in my future.



**Tyler Wright**  
Managing Editor,  
Sports

I had a lot of fun working on the Six Mile Post. The position I took gave me a newfound interest in sports, as well as improved my understanding of them.

I got to work with a lot of cool people too and learn a lot about Georgia Highlands that I would not have just being a student going about my way.

It's also cool that I'm leaving my mark on the school, in a way. I like that my name will be in the papers I worked on for years to come.



**Kayla Jameson**  
Managing Editor,  
News

I had not anticipated becoming a managing editor for the paper. I started as just a staff writer.

I was worried about taking the position since I did not know much about it, but my New Year's resolution was to try new things and gain more experiences, so I took it.

Working with the SMP gave me a new respect for the time and effort that goes into this paper.

There is so much more involved than people realize, but we handled it well with each other's help.

I had fun learning how the paper operates and meeting people that I would not have otherwise.

It might have been stressful at times, but I will miss it and cherish all the knowledge and friends I have made on the journey.



**Jessica Lee**  
Digital Technician

Working as the digital technician for an award-winning newspaper like the Six Mile Post has been an experience I will never forget.

As a journalism major, this has been a great opportunity for me to learn what goes into creating reliable, quality news.

My job with the SMP has been the first step towards achieving the career I want.



**Taylor Barton**  
Chief Photographer

I consider it a huge honor to be able to say I worked for such an amazing paper. Working for the Six Mile Post has given me hands-on experience that I will be able to use for my future as well as made me more confident in my people skills and photography. I have made lots of new friends on this staff and have many fond memories.

It is awesome to be able to say that in the future other students will be looking in the archives and see my name and pictures. I will always have a fond place in my heart for the Six Mile Post and anyone associated with it.

# New Bill shoots through the state legislature

Thanks to Georgia House Bill 859, in the near future Georgia college students attending a public institution of higher learning may be stressed by more than their coursework when taking a seat in class.

That is because HB 859, which has already passed the Georgia House and the Senate and now awaits final approval by Gov. Nathan Deal, would allow anyone 21 years of age or older who has a concealed carry license to carry a gun onto any public college or university campus, but not inside dormitories, fraternity or sorority houses or athletic events.

The bill, which has made traction with lawmakers as an effort to aid student

safety, has been highly contested by the institutions the bill aims to affect.

to be known, there is a real air of anxiety already permeating students and staff

Georgia institutions could expect if HB 859 is signed into law, Texas institutions, who are in the midst of readying their campuses for their own campus carry initiative, have been implementing safety training that suggests teachers limit their accessibility, censor their speech and curriculum and be wary of challenging a student.

lative that more guns will lead to more violence on campuses across the state. Just by employing simple reasoning, one could deduce that the prevalence of guns on campus, statistically, makes the likelihood of a gun-related incident on campus more likely.

It is a slippery slope predicting what could come from HB 859 becoming law, but one thing is certain: campus carry is a concept that fosters an inclination toward violence and works to bastardize the virtues of intellectualism that have long embodied higher education.

**-Six Mile Post  
Editorial Board**



Artwork by Josh Jones 2016

While the reality of whether weapons on campus will yield more protection for students or more incidents of violence is yet

alike in terms of how the law could change Georgia's institutions of higher education.

As a precedent for what

dent.

With guns now responsible for more deaths than cars, according to a 2016 Forbes article, it is specu-

## Becoming the SMP sports editor gives new respect for athletics



### Editor's Box

**Tyler Wright**  
Managing Editor, Sports

Growing up, I never had much interest in sports. I understood the rules to most sports, knew when a team did something wrong or right and I knew when to cheer, not that I ever did.

So, why did I take the job of managing editor for sports with the Six Mile Post?

To be honest, at first I did not even know. But as time went on, and I went to the first game I had to cover, I realized watching sports can actually

be fun.

Witnessing the Lady Chargers pull ahead of East Georgia by 17 points at halftime of the quarterfinals of the GCAA Women's Basketball Tournament and win the game in the end filled me with joy, the first time watching a sport ever had.

When the men's basketball team made it to the NJCAA National Tournament and advanced to the Elite Eight, I was really excited, and I was

heartbroken when they lost to the Rangers.

Finding teams I supported really helped spur my interest in sports.

Keeping up with the season and learning all the players' names added to that fun. It was really nice to see players I knew doing well and cheering as the team pulled ahead.

Hearing about the awards the players won was nice as well.

Taking this position really changed my view on sports. I went from being rather apathetic towards them to actually coming to appreciate them. I went from avoiding watching games to actually looking forward to watching games, and having fun watching them rather than being bored.

I have this position to thank for this new outlook.

### Six Mile Post

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**Managing Editor, Design**

Holly Chaney

**Managing Editor, News**

Kayla Jameson

**Managing Editor, Sports**

Tyler Wright

**Chief Photographer**

Taylor Barton

**Advertising Sales Manager**

Olivia Camp

**Digital Technician**

Jessica Lee

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**Marietta Campus--** Mike Augustin, Morgan Edwards, Aujhati Jacquette

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**Online Consultant**

Jeannie Blakely

# Presidential candidates vs. King Larry



## Larry's Look on Life

Larry Oswalt  
Student Guest Columnist

As a history major, I am aware that some really crazy things have happened in previous presidential campaigns, but it is still hard to believe that anything can touch the present campaign, and it is only just beginning.

On the Democratic side, we have a Socialist candidate, yes...Socialist. I'm not accusing him of being a Socialist. No, no, he is registered and proud of the fact. We have another candidate under FBI investigation and facing federal

indictment for security violations.

Republicans... well they are not to be ignored in our little drama.

One is a businessman who freely admits having spent forty years contributing money to both political parties and is now campaigning under the pledge to stop influence buying in politics.

Another candidate is so reviled by his fellow senators that at least two have stated that they would vote for a

Democrat before voting for him.

A third dropped out of the race before calling a news conference and declaring that his party had gone "bats%t" crazy.

And lastly, another candidate spent over a week not denying but insisting, bringing forth witnesses and attempting to prove that, yes, he had in fact, stabbed a young man in his youth.

God Bless America 'cause Lord knows we'll need it.

If I were King of the World:  
All power lines would be underground to prevent loss of power during snow and ice.

All automobiles would have an extra built-in battery...no more jumper cables.

Every military veteran

who wants a job would have a job.

Bars would give away beer free, but they could charge for use of the restrooms.

Convicted pedophiles would never be released into society...ever.

No person over the age of 50 would be allowed to do Karaoke. It's just too ugly.

Fire trucks would be red, not orange, not yellow, red. They are supposed to be red.

No company would be given a business license without a live person to answer their phones.

People who "Just don't have time to serve on a jury" would have their jury pool made up of people who "Just don't have time" to hear their case.

After Ray Charles, no one would ever again be allowed to sing "America the Beautiful."



Artwork by Josh Jones 2016

Children would be seen, and heard, and hugged, and played with and totally loved.

All bears and spiders would be killed on sight. They are spawns of Satan and God-less killing machines. They cannot be allowed to exist.

## People should not be angry

People get mad. They make mistakes when they are mad. Anger is an issue in our society.

Today, everybody is angry at something. I know I am. The systems that are in place right now can fail us from time to time.

The reason why is because we let the system police itself to the point where we could care less about what happens sometimes.

The system is open to corruption and scandal, and then there are people who claim they can change the system.

This might sound jaded or pessimistic, but they could be influenced by the same system



## Soap Box

Jordan Appel  
Staff Writer

these people came out against in the first place.

Basing things on emotional, illogical and irrational thought is a dangerous process.

We live in an emotional society today, and that drives our thought processes.

That is why we have got to take a step back and realize

that emotion isn't everything.

But logic fails people too. Ideas can sound good at the time, but with retrospection, the idea is not that accomplishable.

People feel safe and secure with the system that can help them, but in reality, that same system can be the knife in the back.

## Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,

Recently, French supermarkets have been banned from throwing away unsold food. Instead, they must donate it to charities, animals in need and people in need in order to get rid of the excessive food waste they have in their country. In 2011, a 59-year-old father of six working for minimum wage at a supermarket almost lost his job for picking six melons and two heads of lettuce out of a bin. France saw the desperate times the people in their country were facing. My question is why can't America see that?

There are over 600,000 homeless people in America as of this moment, and homeless animals outnumber homeless people five to one. Even so, we are still throwing away food that so many people need to survive but cannot afford. In

fact, U.S. households threw away 7.7 tons of food in 2012, enough to fill an entire stadium nine times. How ironic is it that homeless and unemployed people huddle for warmth behind huge buildings filled with all the food you could imagine, yet receive no food?

I also find it ironic that I, a young 19-year-old female, can see the commonsense and kindness in helping others with unbought food, but corporate businesses cannot for they are blinded by their money. My hope is that more young people will realize how important it is to help others in need. We are all human and we all deserve to be well taken care of. Be kind.

Rylee Black  
General Studies  
Douglasville Campus

**Check out the online poll at  
sixmilepost.com**

# YNAB helps with budgets

By Brandon McNally  
Staff Writer

App review

"Hello, YNABers! My name is Jesse Mecham.... we teach you four rules to stop living paycheck to paycheck, get out of debt and save more money."

YNAB, an acronym for "you need a budget," is a computer budgeting software application for smartphones and computers. Most people, especially college students, think that budgeting software is boring. Therefore, YNAB must be boring, right? Wrong.

Using YNAB for budgeting is like putting money in a virtual envelope representing true expenses, such as rent, food and gas. Those purchases are entered into your smart-

phone in real time, so you know at all times how much money you really have available to spend. Once the money in the virtual envelope is gone, it's gone. So you don't go through the drive-through for



that Starbucks vanilla latte when you really cannot afford it. A user friendly design and website provide product support.

The best part is the cost. YNAB is completely free for college students. Just send

YNAB a picture of your college transcript, and they send back a password for a free YNAB subscription for that year of school. It is a perfect fit for a college student on a budget that is trying to be responsible with the funds that he or she has.

YNAB is not perfect, but it is a great choice for a budgeting app, and it lets a student feel like he or she is in control of their money. YNAB is an A+ product.

This app  
gets a grade of



# '25' has arrived

By Morgan Edwards  
Staff Writer

Album review

Many fans were ecstatic when Adele said "Hello" after so many years!

British contemporary singer and songwriter Adele released a new album on Nov. 20 titled "25."

"25" is a representation of Adele's age, mindset and process of thoughts at the time when she recorded the album from 2013 to 2015. Adele, who is currently 27, used the "25" album to make up for the wait of her new releases.

According to Rolling Stone, "Adele's '21' album was all about turning pain into power. '25' finds her queenly and resolute, lamenting the past

on songs with titles like 'Water under the Bridge' and 'When We Were Young.' Throughout '25,' there's a deeper sense of artistic command." Adele's newest album is indeed very well written lyrically and tells a story of the past.

The single "Hello" has 455,580,384 streams and counting on Spotify since the release date.

Although "25" is Adele's comeback into the music industry, some fans feel that the album dwells heavily in the past. Many of the songs on the album do not carry an upbeat tempo. "25" is certainly not a record that would be played at a party due to the high emotion placed on the tracks.

Adele's album carries a lot of sentiment and detail. In some way, almost anyone can relate to the work Adele has put into "25," which fairly gives it a B+.

# Mediterranean restaurant is a hidden gem

By JD Martinez  
Staff Writer

Are you in the hunt for authentic Mediterranean food and need to get your fix fast? Jerusalem Grill Restaurant in Rome, Ga. might be the answer for your next dine-in or delivery.

If you're thinking of having an authentic Mediterranean theme for your next catered event, then a variety of well-prepared dishes, select pastries and fresh squeezed natural juices would be a delight for all of your guests. Among many important aspects, I owe my upcoming visits to Jerusalem Grill Restaurant to its friendly staff.

A good dining experience with outstanding customer service gives the restaurant a current 4.7 star customer satisfaction rating for Rome's favorite Mediterranean cuisine choice.

To satisfy my palate at the end of every meal, I love to order my juices with a shot of fresh squeezed ginger juice. Mmm ginger.

I asked the owner, Tony Jasper, how he has accomplished his success, and he said, "I owe it to the employees, also known as the team that prides themselves with serving customers." Meeting with Jasper is always a pleasure, and he said that customers get a free cheese cake with a combo purchase.

My last impression upon leaving was the restaurant's location. Every other restaurant is out in plain sight, but it's the nice little hidden restaurants that make it worth the find.

Located at 223 Turner McCall Blvd., across from Floyd Medical Center behind Walgreens, the Jerusalem Grill Restaurant is a great place for the entire family.



Photo by Katie Engler

Located near Floyd Medical Center in Rome, Jerusalem Grill offers Mediterranean food and good customer service.

## GHC softballers defeat Emory

By Jorge Tinoco Ramos  
Staff Writer

Saturday, April 2, the Division I NJCAA Georgia Highlands Chargers softball team defeated the #2 nationally ranked NCAA Division III Emory University Eagles 7-5.

The Emory Eagles scored early in the first inning, and at the beginning of the third inning, Emory's Janelle Turnquest hit a homer to bring in three runs.

The fourth inning would belong to the Chargers as they scored three runs by capitalizing on the errors of the Eagles' first baseman.

Going into the fifth inning, the Chargers still trailed 4-3. The Emory Eagles increased the gap as they were able to gain one more run.

However, Brianna Fickes, from Corona, Calif., would strike back as she hit a home-run to bring in two runs for the Chargers.

The Chargers were starting to gain momentum, and the Eagles seemed to be unable to deal with the pressure of the Chargers' offense. With runners on third and second, Andria Booth, from Snellville, Ga., made a big hit to bring in Ashley Jordan, Taylorsville, and Madison Gianfala, Canton.

The Emory Eagles tried to rally back as the game went into the seventh inning. They applied immense pressure to the Chargers' pitcher Rebecca Meade, from Winder, Ga.

Even under the pressure the freshman pitcher kept her composure and prevented the

Eagles from scoring any more runs.

"The momentum the team gained from playing against Emory will help in the upcoming conference games against Gordon State College and Georgia Military College," said Melissa Wood, head coach of the softball team.

As of April 13, the Chargers softball team had a GCAA conference record of 5-7, and an overall record of 22-30 with only two games left in the season. The team is scheduled to compete in the Region XVII World Series Qualifier beginning April 28 and continuing until April 30. For updates, head to [sixmilepost.com](http://sixmilepost.com).



Photo by Jorge Tinoco Ramos

Madison Gianfala stands ready for a pitch from Emory.

## Softball Featured Photos



Photo by Kaileb Webb

Caitlin Parks waits at third base to run home in a game against Dalton State on February 28.



Photo by Kaileb Webb

Lauren Womack stands at the plate ready to swing against Dalton State with Gianfala on-deck on February 28.

# Brandon Harrell receives Coach of the Year award

**By Tyler Wright  
Managing Editor, Sports**

Georgia Highlands' head women's basketball coach, Brandon Harrell, received the 2016 NJCAA District J Coach of the Year Award.

The District J Coach of the Year Award is given to the coach whose team wins the District J tournament.

This year, the Lady Chargers won the District J championship, guaranteeing Harrell the award.

"The award is just a reflection of what they did," Harrell said. "The players are the ones who got us in the tournament and won the game."

Harrell added, "The award

is just a reflection of the players we have."

Due to their victory in the district tournament, the Lady Chargers advanced to nationals.

**"The award is just a reflection of the players we have."**

-Brandon Harrell

"Our players getting a chance to play in the national tournament was a higher priority than the coaching award," Harrell said. "I was more focused on the tournament."

Harrell received the award in a ceremony after the girls' district championship in Lubbock, Tx.



Photo by Taylor Barton  
**Brandon Harrell**

## Women's basketball eliminated at nat'l tourney

In the 2015-2016 season, the Lady Chargers' basketball team had an overall record of 26-10.

The team competed in and won the NJCAA Region 17 Championship and advanced to the national tournament, becoming the first women's basketball team at Highlands to do so.

At the national tournament, the Lady Chargers made it to the second round of the tournament, where they lost to Gulf Coast State on March 15.

With a final score of 71-64, this loss eliminated the Chargers from the tournament.

The team is currently recruiting for their next season.



Photo by Taylor Barton  
**Coaches Harrell (left) and Colson (back row, center) pose for a picture with the Lady Chargers.**



Art by Josh Jones

**Because of a low number of volunteers, the cheerleaders weren't able to make it to every game last season. If you will be at Highlands in the fall and would be able to come to the Floyd campus to cheer during the basketball games, watch for information on cheerleading tryout dates. The Chargers need you!**



Photo by Daniel Smith

**The Lady Chargers huddle before their game against East Georgia State College on January 9.**

# Phil Gaffney wins two Coach of the Year awards

**By Tyler Wright  
Managing Editor, Sports**

For his efforts in the 2016 season, Phil Gaffney, Georgia Highlands' head basketball coach and athletic director, has received both the NJCAA Region 17 Coach of the Year award and the NJCAA District XIII Coach of the Year award.

The recipient of the Region 17 award is decided by a vote of peer coaches, taking place at the same meeting in which individual players' awards are determined.

Gaffney received the award while being honored after the men's Region 17 Championship game.

"The main reason I won was our players," Gaffney said. "We were pretty dominating this past year, and we were ranked second nation-



**Coach Gaffney (center) leads his team to the court at the men's Region 17 semi-finals.**

Photo By Taylor Barton

ally." The Chargers also had the winningest record in the country at 33-2.

The District Coach of the

Year awards are presented to the coaches who win their district tournaments. Winning the tournament guarantees

the award.

Due to the Chargers' victory over Central Georgia Tech in the district champion-

ship, this award also went to Gaffney. He was honored in a pre-game ceremony at the Chargers' first game of the national tournament in Hutchinson, Kan.

"All awards are team awards," Gaffney said. "I have great assistant coaches who recruit players and great players who got us that far."

He added, "My name is on the award, but really my players' and my assistant coaches' names should be, too."

Gaffney has won Coach of the Year awards in the past, but these awards are the first he's received since the Chargers Basketball program began in 2012.

"I've won seven or eight Coach of the Year awards, but I don't put them up," he said. "A whole lot of people deserve credit for them."

## Chargers basketball eliminated in Elite Eight

The Chargers basketball team had an overall record of 33-2 in the 2015-2016 season. After losing their first game, the team went undefeated for 33 straight games.

The Chargers hosted the NJCAA Region 17 Tournament, which they won, and then advanced to the NJCAA National Tournament in Hutchinson, Kan. The Chargers managed to make it all the way to the Elite Eight, where they were defeated by the Ranger College Rangers on March 17.

The team is already recruiting players and preparing for next season.



Photo by Taylor Barton

**The Highlands Chargers (in white) mount an offense against the Chattahoochee Tech Eagles at the Region 17 semi-finals.**

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# Players travel to Highlands for baseball

## Syracuse's John McClure pitches for Highlands as a warm-up

By Jorge Tinoco Ramos  
Staff Writer

John "Jack" McClure is from Syracuse, N.Y. He was originally scouted by Coach Mike Marra to join the Georgia Highlands Chargers but decided that he wanted to stay close to home.

McClure attended a Division I school, St. Bonaventure University in New York, where he played a couple of years as a St. Bonaventure Wolf. However, McClure felt that his health and overall performance were suffering due to the frigid temperature of New York.

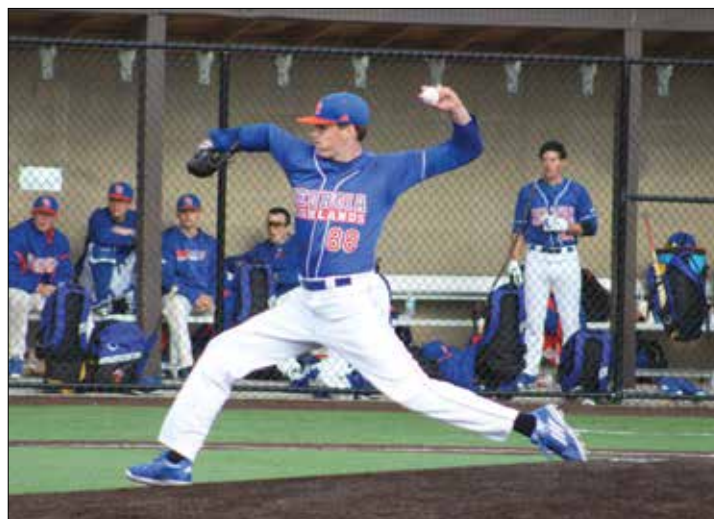
He decided that moving down south would be his best path to reaching his top level of fitness. He was then recruited by Coach Marra and joined

the Georgia Highlands Chargers.

McClure said the difference between playing for a NCAA D1 school and now playing for the NJCAA D1 Chargers was that "the level of some of the teams we play is similar except that in New York we played those types of teams a bit more regularly."

Moving down to Georgia was for the most part easy for McClure. However, he did experience some homesickness. He missed being able to travel home on his time off to see his family.

After being in Georgia for a while, McClure was able to get back to the level of play that he was unable to display in New York. He had a great performance against one of the team's biggest rivals, Walter



Contributed

### John McClure pitches to a rival team.

State.

Unfortunately, in that same game he injured his elbow. Due to that injury McClure has been out since Feb. 14 and is currently recuperating.

McClure has goals to reach a NCAA DI school and con-

tinue his baseball career. He knows that the Chargers have a tough season and is hopeful to be back in action.

"I want to be back on the field and help the team win some titles," said McClure regarding his goals at Georgia Highlands.

## Bryan Quillens pitches in from New Orleans, La.

By Jorge Tinoco Ramos  
Staff Writer

Bryan Quillens, pitcher for the Georgia Highlands Chargers, has overcome several obstacles in pursuit of his goals of playing baseball.

Quillens was originally from New Orleans, La. and lived there until his fourth grade year of school.

His time in his home state was cut short due to the destructive Hurricane Katrina that hit in 2005.

Like most of the people affected by the hurricane, Bryan's family lost everything they owned.

After the hurricane, the Quillens family had to relocate.

The family decided to move to Austell, Ga.

They were able to move in with one of Quillens' aunts and lived with her for four months while they got back on their feet.



Contributed

### Brian Quillens prepares to pitch.

Quillens would again face adversity when he was cut from his baseball team his freshman year of high school.

"My dad encouraged me to keep playing baseball and did

not allow me to give up," said Quillens when recalling how he was able to stay motivated and continue his baseball career.

Quillens was scouted by Georgia Perimeter right out of high school. He would become the first of his generation, on both sides of his family, to go to college.

He played with Georgia Perimeter that fall.

However, with the closing of Perimeter's baseball program, Quillens was left looking for other options.

That is when he was recruited by Coach Mike Marra.

Quillens said, "The baseball program is a great program, especially when you consider how new the program is and how much they have accomplished."

He believes that playing for the Chargers has helped open up doors for him to continue to play baseball at a higher level in the near future.

## Chargers to play at Rome Braves on April 26

By Tyler Wright  
Managing Editor, Sports

State Mutual Stadium, home of the Rome Braves, will host the Georgia Highlands Chargers on Tuesday, April 26.

The Chargers will face off against the Gordon College Fighting Scots in a conference game. Gordon College is located in Barnesville, Ga.

According to David Mathis, assistant athletic director, everyone attending must have a ticket for the game.

Tickets may be purchased at both the Cartersville and Floyd campus business offices for \$5 each.

Mathis also stressed that \$2 from every ticket will go to support Charger Baseball.

The game will start at 5:30 p.m.

## Ping Pong Champions

Every year, Highlands hosts a ping pong tournament sponsored by the Six Mile Post and intramural sports at both the Floyd and Cartersville campuses.

The eighth annual ping pong championships were held Monday, April 4, at Cartersville and Thursday, April 7, at Floyd.

This year's champions were Reese Spencer, a physical therapy major from Cartersville, and Jonathan VanGraan, a computer science major at Floyd.



Photo by Sarah Cousar

### Reese Spencer poses with his trophy.



Photo by Taylor Barton

### Jonathan VanGraan holds his trophy.