

# SIX MILE POST

*The Student Voice*

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GHC alumnus  
chosen for One  
Book Many  
Voices  
see page 4



Photo by Kayla Jameson

**Raymond Atkins, former GHC student and teacher, will be speaking in Rome on Oct. 27.**



Club to host  
election  
night party

See page 2.



Marietta  
GHC students  
feel invisible  
at KSU

See pages 8-9.



Fall  
intramurals  
underway

See page 14.

# Poly Science and Criminal Justice club plans election night watch party at Floyd

By Patrick Wilson  
Advertising Manager

An election night viewing party on the Floyd campus will cap a season full of activity for the Political Science/Criminal Justice Club.

All GHC students, faculty and staff are invited to the event, which will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 8 in the Three Rivers Room of the library.

Free slices of pizza and soft drinks will be provided as everyone watches the election results unfold on two separate screens, one tuned to Fox News and the other to CNN.

The club also held a public forum at the Floyd campus on Oct. 18, where students got the opportunity to hear Floyd County probate judge, the Honorable Steve Burkhalter, speak on legal and political topics.

In addition, club members helped with Floyd County Political forums sponsored by GHC and WRGA Radio. Candidates for five Floyd County offices faced off Oct. 5 at GHC's Heritage Hall site in Rome.

GHC students who served on the questioning panels were Rodney Dillard, Kallie Johnson, Aaron Cooper, Greyson Oswalt Smith, Aly Ranick and Caitlin Brownlow.

The forums were recorded by the GHC digital media services department for playback on GHTV, WRGA radio and GHC's YouTube channel [youtube.com/ghconlinetv](http://youtube.com/ghconlinetv).

The Criminal Justice and Political Science clubs were once two separate organizations but are now one club, advised by Randy Green, assistant professor of criminal justice and political science, and Greg Sumner, professor of criminal justice.

The club is open to any and all GHC students, faculty and staff who have a particular interest in the areas of political science and criminal justice.



Photo by Luis Martinez

**Club members (from left) Justine Dillard, Rodney Dillard and Greyson Oswalt-Smith vote for president in the mock election hosted by the Political Science and Criminal Justice Club at the GHC Floyd Campus.**



Photo by Lydia Chandler

**Randy Green, GHC faculty member and club adviser (center) waits with Floyd Clerk of Superior Court candidates Joan Ledbetter (left) and Barbara Penson (right) prior to the candidate forum at Heritage Hall sponsored by the Political Science & Criminal Justice Club.**

# New SGA president elected

By Karen Kinsey  
Staff Writer

An election was recently held to fill a vacancy for SGA president. Joshua Lucas Lester won the election with 222 votes. Chryst Nkengfack and Madison Harris were not far behind with 177 and 167 votes respectively. Lester became the new SGA president at the meeting held on Oct. 7.

The three candidates showcased their skills, experience, and vision for Georgia Highlands. Candidate descriptions appeared on student voting ballots, which were emailed to all Georgia Highlands students.



Photo by Luis Martinez

**Joshua Lucas Lester**

Lester is a sophomore at GHC. He has been involved with Brother 2 Brother, the Political Science and Criminal Justice Club and Green Highlands.

The past president of the Student Government Association, Holly Chaney, recently stepped down from the position. John Spranza, director of student life, said, "Holly found it necessary to alter her course load, which caused her to drop below the minimum number of credit hours required to maintain the position."

Spranza believes that Chaney will continue to serve on the SGA as a student organization representative.



# Paulding students have KSU four-year degree options

By Matthew Franklin  
Staff Writer

Thanks to a 2+2 partnership with Kennesaw State University, Paulding students can attain a degree from KSU after earning an associate degree from GHC—all without leaving the Paulding campus.

According to KSU Program Manager, Dalton Lemelle, the program allows students continued access to smaller class sizes and closer relationships with professors. All classes can be taken at the Paulding campus or online.

Those in the program will also have support from personal peer success coaches. The coaches help with the transition from GHC to KSU and encourage students to stay on track with their program.

The 2+2 program offers

degrees in accounting, early childhood education, psychology and integrated studies. Lemelle said there are tentative talks to expand the program to add criminal justice degrees for fall 2017. Support from local police departments and Paulding County District Attorney Dick Donovan, should help this expansion become a reality.

According to Christina Henggeler, Paulding enrollment management specialist, students have gained valuable experience due to internship opportunities in their fields of study. Early childhood education, the most successful program, allows students a year in a student teaching program to prepare for their careers.

Students save a minimum of \$800 per semester by taking KSU classes at the Paulding campus.

The program started in 2010 and has been growing steadily. There are currently 187 students enrolled, and by fall 2017 that number is expected to increase to 263.

Interested students can learn more at [Paulding.kennesaw.edu](http://Paulding.kennesaw.edu) or [highlands.edu/campus-locations/Paulding-site](http://highlands.edu/campus-locations/Paulding-site). Information can also be obtained by contacting Anita VanBrackle, KSU-Paulding site director, or Henggeler at (678)946-1105.

VanBrackle's dream for the KSU-Paulding campus is for it to help "turn Dallas into a college town."

The program has many partners in the local community. It has been involved with the America Reads Initiative and the Paulding County Boys and Girls Clubs. KSU students are also helping to mentor and tutor high school students.



Photo by Matthew Franklin

**Christina Henggeler, enrollment management specialist for the Georgia Highlands Paulding campus, counsels students about the 2+2 program.**



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# Former GHC student now thriving author

By Kayla Jameson  
Editor-in-chief

Raymond Atkins, author of "Sweetwater Blues," will be speaking at the historic Desoto Theater in Rome for the One Book Many Voices event on Oct. 27 at 7 p.m.

Atkins attended Highlands 1978-1980 and went on to Shorter College to finish his bachelor's degree as a psychology major, ultimately getting his bachelor's in behavioral science.

The first piece he ever published was in GHC's Old Red Kimono literary magazine.

"Sweetwater Blues," published through Mercer University Press in 2014, was the fourth of his five currently published books.

"As far as this particular book goes, people are imperfect. People are going to mess up. And this book is kind of about, more than anything, what you do after the big mis-

take defines who you are and it defines pretty much the rest of your life.

"And I think it's important for young people to realize that they're going to make mistakes. Hopefully they won't make a mistake as bad as the one that the young man in the book makes. But even if they do, there is a life after and what happens after is as important as what happened before," said Atkins.

Atkins thinks that the One Book Many Voices program is significant to the community because "reading is critically important for young people."

He was around the age of 50 when he decided he wanted to start teaching and writing novels. He then got his master's in English from Kennesaw State University.

Atkins taught part-time at GHC from spring 2011 through fall 2012. He currently teaches English at Georgia Northwestern Technical College, where

he has taught full time for five years. He also teaches in Reinhardt University's graduate program.

"He's won Georgia author of the year, so he's gotten a lot of recognition. And I think that in Rome we don't really know that. He's just Ray. He's a neighbor, and a community member, and he's a very humble guy," said John Kwist, associate professor of English at GHC. "It's kind of a hidden gem that we have in him," Kwist said.

Tickets for the general public are available for \$5 at Dogwood Books and the Sara Hightower Library.

There are a limited number of free tickets available for GHC students in the Student Life office.

While Atkins will not be on stage until 7 p.m., the band Little Country Giants, featuring Assistant Professor of Art Russell Cook, will be performing beforehand at 6:30 p.m.



Photo by Kayla Jameson

Raymond Atkins in his office at GNTC

## Highlands Happenings

### Fall Frenzy coming to GHC

By Autumn Pritchard  
Staff Writer

Fall Frenzy's main event will be a performance by comedian Jason Cheny. There will be lunch and various other activities.

Fall Frenzy will be held at the Marietta campus on Oct. 31, the Cartersville campus Nov. 1, the Floyd campus Nov. 2, the Douglasville campus Nov. 3 and at the Paulding campus on Nov. 7.

Across all campuses, the early activities should start at

10 a.m., with the comedy show and lunch beginning at noon and the later activities winding down at about 2 p.m.

Fall Frenzy is an annual celebration coordinated by Student Life.

### GHC honors veterans in Nov.

By Autumn Pritchard  
Staff Writer

Appreciation of veterans will be shown on Nov. 10 at the Cartersville campus. Students can go to the main academic building for free coffee and do-

nuts from 7:30-10 a.m.

There will also be a banner available all day Nov. 10 at Cartersville that students will be able to write on to thank a veteran.

Appreciation will also be shown for veterans during the Nov. 15 men's basketball game at the Floyd campus gym.

During the game, there will be a Toys-for-Tots drive.

A contest during half-time will be held with the proceeds going to the Adopt-a-Veteran group.

### Creative Writing Club active at C'ville

By Shawn Bunyard  
Staff Writer

Cartersville's Creative Writing Club is an active and thriving group.

Advised by English Instructor Juliet Kozee and Assistant English Professor Jeffrey Kozee, club members learn to hone their writing skills on a personal and professional basis.

The club meets every Tuesday at 11 a.m. to work-

shop their stories and poems, and to learn how to publish their own novel.

CWC also sponsors a poetry night the third Thursday of each month at Southern Muggs coffee shop on Main Street in Cartersville.

For future projects, students are invited on nature and urban excursions in order to observe the world around them.

Kayaking trips are set to become a staple event, as well as community outreach.

# Dustin Willingham is 'The Gamer'

By Kacey Neese  
Managing Ed., Online

Dustin Willingham recently left the competitive gaming world to pursue a degree in finance. "I really like gaming but feel like I am too old to continue playing," said Willingham, who is 26.

According to The Lions Perspective, a gaming website, the average pro gamer's age is 21.

"I still play games but not professionally. I mostly play League of Legends now," said Willingham.

Willingham has participated in several Halo tournaments. "I have been everywhere from D.C. to Anaheim, N.Y. and Paris. In D.C. my team placed number 1 out of around 200. In Anaheim, I placed number 1 in a free-for-all."

He said, "The worst experience that I can think of was in Dallas, Texas. In the middle of the night someone called in a bomb threat to the hotel I was staying at. Everyone was evacuated, and we had to stand



Photo by Luis Martinez

## Dustin Willingham

outside for two or three hours."

Willingham said, "A lot of dedication goes into being a professional gamer. It takes lots of practice to rank in tournaments. At one point I was playing almost 13 hours a day."

Willingham also commented on the importance of rank in tournament. He said, "If you do not rank you might lose your sponsorships. Most of my sponsors were game makers."

Major League Gaming Inc. is a professional eSports organization that sponsors events such as Halo tournaments.

The Halo tournaments are often aired on YouTube and Twitch T.V. Some of Willingham's game play can be found



Photo Contributed

## Willingham displays one of his awards.

under his alias, Napoleon-Braa.

Being a finance major, Willingham hopes to continue working with gaming. "I want to go into finance so I can still be a part of the gaming community, just on the financial side," he said.



Photos Contributed

Dustin Willingham has been in gaming tournaments around the world.

# Students have access to scholarships

By Morgan White  
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands students have access to a multitude of scholarship opportunities through both GHC and other reliable sources.

Financial Aid Counselor Lisa Garrett is involved in the scholarship award process for the GHC scholarship program, which has 32 institutional scholarships available each year.

Students qualify for scholarships based on GPA, financial need, interest in study abroad, non-traditional stu-

dent status and type of major.

Some GHC Foundation scholarships are major-specific, such as Nursing, Education, Sociology, and Psychology.

Non-major specific scholarships are also available such as Presidential, Non-Traditional, Service-Based and Learning Support. Students interested in these scholarships should go to [highlands.awardspring.com](http://highlands.awardspring.com).

Links for additional scholarship opportunities, including the Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship and the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Schol-

arship, can be found through GHC's Financial Aid Office's webpage.

Garrett further recommends the American Association of University Women Scholarship, an external scholarship becoming available to non-traditional female students returning to college beginning spring 2017.

GHC is also a certifier for the Benjamin Gilman International Scholarship, an external scholarship for students interested in exploring study abroad opportunities.

Garrett encourages students to explore reliable ex-

ternal scholarship possibilities through the students' or their parents' places of employment, their high schools and churches.

"It is also advisable to research the source on the internet and do not be afraid to call the organization and ask questions," Garrett explained. She also said, "When in doubt about the validity of a particular external scholarship, do not apply for it!"

Garrett refers students to The Scam Adviser website to aid in determining the reliability and authenticity of a scholarship.

2017 Spring  
Registration  
Begins

Oct. 31 for  
those who at-  
tended  
Early Bird  
Advising

Nov. 7 for all  
other students



# Features

## Student Debt

- All community colleges will offer free tuition.
- Borrowers will never have to pay back more than 10% of their income and remaining debt will be forgiven after 20 years.
- Student loan interest rates will be cut so that government never profits from student loans.

## Climate Change

- Launch a \$60 billion Clean Energy Challenge
- Will cut tax subsidies to oil and gas companies to invest in clean energy.
- Will keep public lands public and increase access to parks and public lands for all Americans

## Minimum Wage

- Will increase the minimum wage and eliminate the "tipped-minimum wage."

## Immigration

- End 3 and 10 year bars that force families to remain in the shadows, or pursue a green card by leaving the country and loved ones behind.
- Defend President Obama's executive orders
- DACA and DAPA - against partisan attacks.
- End family detention and close private immigration detention centers.
- Support immigrant integration.

## Unions

"I've always believed that when unions are strong, families are strong and America is strong."



## Healthcare

- Defend and expand the Affordable Care Act, which covers 20 million people.

All information was taken from:  
<https://www.hillaryclinton.com/>

# What matters in

# the 2016 election?

## Unions

"Bring on the competition; tear down the union walls."

## Student Debt

- Work with Congress on reforms to ensure universities are making a good-faith effort to reduce cost of college and student debt in exchange for the federal tax breaks and tax dollars.
- (Trump's campaign website did not offer specific policy recommendations regarding student debt)

## Climate Change

- We will conserve our natural habitats, reserves and resources.
- (Trump's campaign website did not offer specific policy recommendations regarding climate change)

## Minimum Wage

(Trump's campaign website did not offer specific policy recommendations regarding minimum wage)

## Healthcare

- Repeal and replace Obamacare with health savings accounts.

## Immigration

- Begin working on an impenetrable physical wall on the southern border, on day one.
- Move criminal aliens out day one, in joint operations with local, state and federal law enforcement.
- End sanctuary cities.
- Terminate President Obama's two illegal executive amnesties.
- Reform legal immigration to serve the best interests of America and its workers.

All information was taken from:  
<https://www.donaldjtrump.com/>



# GHC Cartersville hosts art exhibit

By Carly Trader  
Staff Writer

The library at the Cartersville campus normally plays host to students taking classes, working on assignments, finishing homework and studying.

But over the course of the past several weeks, there were works of art from the Booth Western Art Museum on display in the library, courtesy of artists Pat Stephenson and Liz Gentry.

Fifteen pictures were hung throughout the library, all available for sale in the original frames or in smaller prints.

Though the exhibit closed at the end of September, the impact of these works still remains.

Both students and staff alike were excited to be featuring these pictures at the

Cartersville campus.

The pictures contained several medias and themes, including western, sculpture, Americana, and even a picture on the United State's presidential history.

Leslie Johnson, Cartersville campus dean, said she especially enjoyed the pictures of the two child ballerinas. "They remind me of my twin daughters when they were in ballet as little girls," she said.

The Booth Western Art Museum is located in downtown Cartersville. Tickets range from \$7-10, and events are held regularly.

According to the museum's website, it is the second largest art museum in Georgia, and "the only museum of its kind in the Southeast."

Stephenson and Gentry have extended the invitation to contact them by email



Photos by Stephanie Corona

Art on loan from the Booth Western Art Museum in Cartersville was displayed in the GHC Cartersville library.

or phone for any questions about purchasing their artwork.

Stephenson may be

reached by phone at 770-386-4085 or 770-300-6047 or through email at pmstephen-

son@bellsouth.net

Those who wish to contact Gentry may do so at 770-387-7235 ext. 7235

or at lizg@boothmuseum.org

Phi Theta Kappa  
is hosting a

Halloween Fall Festival  
at GHC Floyd Campus  
Oct. 29 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

This is a FREE outreach event, and everyone is welcome to attend.

Festivities include: a bounce house, costume contest, relay races, trick-or-treat village, spooky story time for kids and a button coloring station.

Food will be sold by vendors.

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# Marietta is *The Invisible Campus*

## What is the Marietta Campus?

By Mat Shankute  
Staff Writer

The students who attend GHC Marietta are in a position that is unique to that location because they share a campus with Kennesaw State University. The vast majority of students who attend the Marietta campus are actually KSU students.

"The main office is only one floor on one building in the back of the campus, and Highlands doesn't receive as much advertising as KSU," said freshman Martin Luna. "We share a small portion of a campus while other Highlands institutions get their own campus."

To access a number of the facilities on the Marietta campus, students need a KSU ID card. This is a process that further serves to make Highlands students feel invisible on this campus. The relatively minimal Student Life events also help exacerbate this feeling.

Since the campus is blended with KSU, the few advertisements for Highlands Student Life can be drowned out amongst the fliers for KSU events.

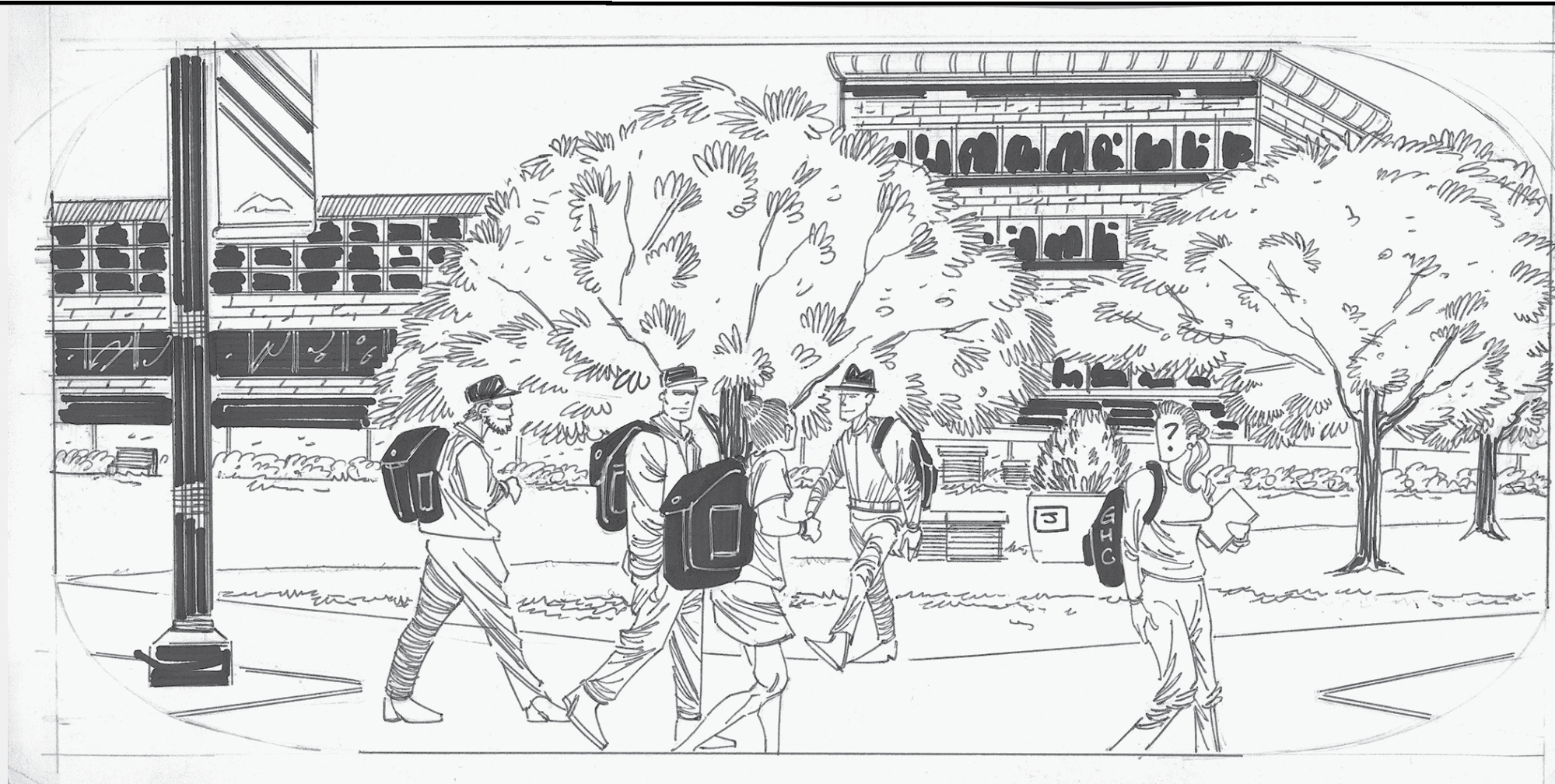
"I'm never aware of any events going on for students," said Tiffany Brown, a student on the Marietta campus.

This sentiment was echoed by a number of students who attend GHC Marietta, giving off the sense Georgia Highlands students really do feel invisible on this campus.



Photo by Alana Stacks

The KSU Marietta campus is home to approximately 48 buildings.



Art by Josh Jones

## What do students have to say about the Marietta campus?

By Miriam Ward  
Staff Writer

Georgia Highlands College's Marietta campus is partnered with the ever-growing Kennesaw State University.

GHC Marietta has grown since opening in fall of 2006 and now has over 1,000 students enrolled. But some students feel like it is in KSU's shadow--like an invisible campus.

As GHC Marietta continues to grow, a lot of students feel there is no representation on campus and many students do not know GHC exists at KSU. The second floor of Norton Hall is the only place that students can come and know this is GHC territory.

The following comments of current GHC Marietta students and two KSU students show how they feel about GHC on KSU campus grounds:

"Georgia Highlands College, what is that and where is it? I've never heard of this college." (Kayla, communications major, KSU)

"Lots of people don't know that there is another college here; it's kind of overlooked. A lot of people look down on GHC. They don't think it's reputable." (Kameron, biology major, GHC)

"I have heard of GHC, but don't know much about them." (Josh, communications major, KSU)

"To some students this feels like the thirteenth grade, and their college experience hasn't really begun. GHC hosts a lot of events, even more so than KSU, but it falls to the background." (Sean, psychology major, GHC)

## What are the pros and cons of sharing with KSU?

By Moira Hale  
Staff Writer

Ken Reaves, dean of the GHC Marietta campus, sees many benefits of sharing KSU's campus. He said that Kennesaw and GHC have a "complex but good relationship."

Great things about the campus include the access to KSU facilities and transport, more students to interact with and access to most KSU clubs.

Reaves also noted that Marietta has a "diverse and dynamic" student body. The campus expects to continue growing.

While there are benefits, there are also some drawbacks.

Many students agree that parking is a huge problem because most GHC students commute.

Other students note problems with fewer classes to choose from and no recognition of GHC students on this campus.



Photo by Alana Stacks

GHC has space in two buildings, including Norton Hall.





Photo by Daniel Smith

## Poet shares story for Hispanic Heritage month

Spoken word artist Gabriela Garcia Medina shares her lyrics and story for Hispanic Heritage month at the student center at Cartersville Oct. 5. Medina also performed at Marietta on Oct. 3, Floyd campus on Oct. 4, and Douglasville campus and Paulding on Oct. 6.

## Georgia rivers provide outdoor fun



### Staff Column

**Shawn Bunyard**  
Staff Writer

Summer's end brings less traffic and cooler temperatures to the winding rivers of Georgia. It is the final months for water sports, the last time to fully enjoy the freedom of tubing down a scenic waterway or kayaking the rapids.

Some of the most popular rivers in Northwest Georgia are tributaries to the Coosa, such as Etowah, Oostanaula, Coosawattee, Cartecay and Ellicajay. Other options to explore include the Chattooga and Toccoa/Ocoee rivers or lakes such as Allatoona and Lanier.

For those who fancy a day trip, the Nantahala Outdoor Center is an excellent provider of whitewater tours of all kinds down the Chattooga. For those who prefer something

shorter, go local with a guide from Euharlee Creek Outfitters or River Ratz.

### “Go local with a guide from Euharlee Creek Outfitters or River Ratz.”

Friendly to children and to beginners, rivers such as the Etowah and Oostanaula only rank at classes I and II.

Rated by the International Scale of River Difficulty, rapids are safest at level I and rise to the most dangerous level of VI.

For the more experienced adventurer, a trip down the Chattahoochee or Chattooga is

sure to provide excitement and maybe even a challenge, with rapids increasing to classes III and IV.

No matter the route chosen, kayaking while the water runs steady and deep provides the best experience.

A safe yet brisk exercise for the entire family or a party of friends, anybody who loves water parks will enjoy kayaking.

Even non-sporty people should fear not, for tubing or sharing a large raft requires minimal effort.

With river access always free and ever improving, it is the perfect time to try this engaging activity.



Art by Kacey Neese

## Kiefer Sutherland is the ‘Designated Survivor’

**By LaTonya Kilgore**  
Staff Writer

With a compelling storyline and actor Kiefer Sutherland, ABC's "Designated Survivor" promises to be an intense, edge of your seat drama.

The show opens with Tom Kirkman (Sutherland) being thrust into the presidency after a bomb devastates Washington, D.C.

In Kirkman's newfound role, the gentle, soft-spoken Secretary of housing and urban development surprises all with his wisdom and assertiveness as he takes control of the nation.

Along with watching Kirkman become the leader of the free world, the audience follows along as Kirkman's son is snatched from a club where he

was selling drugs.

The FBI investigation of the bombing reveals there is a possibility of a bigger threat to come.

This series premiere sizzled rather than soared. The

storyline is excellent and is full of potential; however, something seemed to be missing.

The premier could have fallen flat due to the magnitude of the story being crammed into one episode.

Will "Designated Survivor" explode into homes across America or will it bomb? Only time will tell, but it is one to keep an eye on.

Watch Wednesday nights at 10 p.m. on ABC.

This T.V. show gets a grade of





## DON'T BREATHE

**By David Pulliam  
Staff Writer**

Director of the 2013 “Evil Dead” remake, Fede Alvarez, delivers a startling experience in fright with his latest film, “Don’t Breathe.”

Three thieves, whose survival depends on what they can steal from other people’s homes, decide to go for one last big score—targeting a blind Vietnam War veteran. The blind vet, played by Stephen Lang, lives with his dog in an abandoned neighborhood in Detroit. One of the would-be thieves, Alex, hesitates, arguing that it would be “wrong to rob a blind guy.”

The blind man, Norman Nordstrom, had received an

undisclosed sum of cash in a legal settlement after a rich woman killed his daughter in a car accident.

**“They proceed to break into his home in the middle of the night.”**

The trio of thieves case Mr. Nordstrom’s house. After feeding the blind man’s dog a tranquilizer, they proceed to break into his home in the middle of the night. Nordstrom wakes up to discover the thieves have invaded his home, and the group of delinquents are swiftly taught they had picked the wrong man to rob.

While toying with the

viewer through a series of unnerving plot twists, Alvarez drags the stereotypical idea of a home-invasion thriller/horror flick into a dark dungeon in the cellar of his mind.

“Don’t Breathe” remains unrelentingly terrifying while inducing frightened flinches and gasps, and satisfies the horror fan’s savage appetite for a good squirm.

This movie  
gets a grade of



Art by Leslie Davis

## Event Calendar

- Oct. 27 - Costume contest at Floyd campus**
- Oct. 29 - PTK fall festival at Floyd campus**
- Oct. 31 - Costume contest at Norton Hall, Cartersville, Paulding and Douglasville**
- Oct. 31 - Costumed dodge ball at Cartersville**
- Oct. 31 - Haunted student center at Cartersville**
- Oct. 31 - Fall Frenzy with comedian Jason Chaney at Marietta student center**
- Oct. 31 - Blood drive at Douglasville 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**



Art by Leslie Davis

## HALLOWEEN POLL WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CANDY?



Tabitha Puckett  
Floyd campus  
History major



Steven Godfrey  
Floyd campus  
English major



Sara Craig  
Floyd campus  
History major



Kaitlyn Phillips  
Floyd campus  
Education  
major





# Americans now more polarized over politics than real policies

Polling data over the past several years shows that Congressional approval fluctuates at or near all-time lows. Americans just do not feel that government officials are doing the job voters elected them to do. Almost nothing is accomplished, and we seem to rarely hear of any good thing elected officials have done together for the American people.

Some say that campaign contributions are to blame because those who give large sums control the way representatives vote. Others comment that political parties often use underhanded tactics such as threatening to back a primary opponent if a representative does not vote with his or her political party.

While politicians and political parties seem very divided on issues, Americans as a whole are not as polarized as polls and politicians would have voters believe. We actually tend to be in strong agreement on a number of major issues.

For example, One area of agreement is the subject of campaign finance reform. According to Sunlight-Foundation.com, "84 percent of Democrats and 72 percent of Republicans favor limiting the amount of money individuals and organizations can spend on campaigns and issues."

In an article about belief in climate change, Seth Bornstein, science writer for the Associated Press, wrote, "Overall, 78 percent of those surveyed said they

thought temperatures were rising and 80 percent called it a serious problem."

Also, according to a Harris Poll, "An overwhelming 84 percent majority believes having a system that ensures sick people get the care they need is a moral issue." In the same poll, "A 63 percent majority favors a universal health care system."

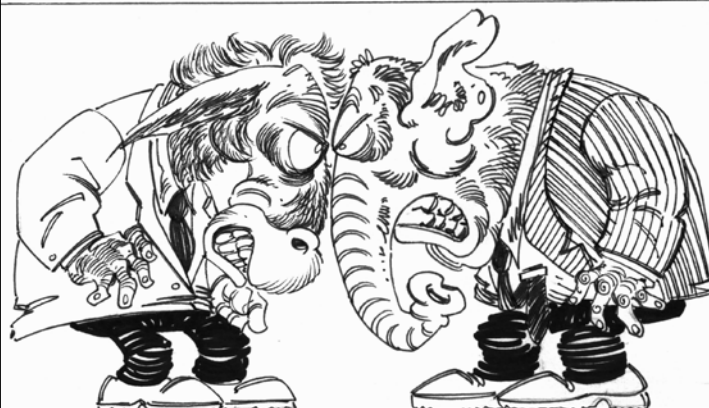
Elected officials continually show unwillingness to compromise. This is not what our founding fathers wanted when they designed a system of checks and balances. Although "compromise" has become a dirty

word, compromising is the only way our system of government works effectively.

Politicians pander to their respective bases even though both major party bases combined do not make up a majority of the American electorate. If we are to resolve present and future issues, Americans must participate in the political process and keep pressure on our elected officials to move forward, especially in areas of such strong agreement among the Americans.

-Six Mile Post  
Editorial Board

EVEN THOUGH WE ARE POLITICALLY POLARIZED...



Art by Josh Jones

## Editor's Box

By Kacey Neese  
Managing Ed.,online



## Why I like used books

The used book market isn't what it used to be. There are times that you want a printed book, not an Internet subscription.

There are things you can only get from having a used book. The sweet pungent aroma of aged paper, ink and glue to the hand written notes.

The main reason I buy used books is the price. I can find a used adventure for half the price or cheaper than that of a new one.

I like to support my local used book stores and second-hand shops. I always find interesting things there compared to modern bookshops,

which sell whatever is popular at the moment.

You may already own all of the works by your favorite author, but still have the desire to own a book in its first edition. Finding a copy of "The Cat in the Hat" in print can make you feel even closer to Dr. Seuss than reading your own digital copy for the hundredth time.

My love for used books has continued to affect my college studies.

I would much rather buy a used college textbook than a new one. Some college textbooks contain hints and tips to understanding the material written by the last owner.

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# Veterans give their best



## Veteran Perspective

**Larry Oswalt**  
Navy Veteran

You can often recognize veterans by their walk. Their eyes not gazing or peering, but rather casually taking in the life around them. Life is precious to veterans.

They hold their heads up, not from arrogance, but from pride. Pride is an integral part of being a veteran. The easy walk is not from nonchalance, but due to self-confidence. Confidence is a result of being a veteran.

You can sometimes tell veterans by their demeanor and their reactions when around others. While others laugh they often just smile, as if they know some mystery others only suspect.

Veterans carry experiences that others can only imagine.

When others criticize and complain, they often simply shrug and continue on. Veterans are very good at carrying on.

If action is called for, they are often the first to act, but the last to panic. Keeping calm in the face of adversity is what veterans do best.

Veterans have seen more, done more, given more and lost more than most of their peers. Yet they seldom show regret or yearn for lost years. Having

seen how short life can be for some, they seem to enjoy life a little more.

They live their life a little fuller, treat life a little more precious, and love their loved ones a little dearer.

Giving the best that they had, they not only served their country, but also their family, friends and community.

While others got a head start on their educations, careers and family, veterans served and sometimes gave the ultimate sacrifice. Please know that their service was not a burden that they bear; in fact, their service is the pride of their life, and they will humbly carry this honor of their service through the last mile.



# Black Lives Matter: a cry for justice



## Soap Box

**Breyuna Shorter**  
Staff Writer

The Black Lives Matter Movement was created after the tragic murder of Trayvon Martin back in 2012. His killer, George Zimmerman, was acquitted, and Martin was basically placed on trial for his own murder.

When people outside of the African-American race hear about Black Lives Matter, they sometimes misunderstand the movement. This movement isn't about secluding other races and it is not to say that no one else is of importance, but it is to bring awareness to the violent crimes that take place

daily within the black community.

It's not just about the police brutality that black people face daily, but the constant oppression and regression of black people around the world.

How can anyone not support a movement of people that just want to be able to walk to the store for a pack of Skittles, or play cops and robbers at a city park, or even take the trash out for their nagging mothers without being shot down in cold blood?

The movement may have started after the Trayvon

Martin trial's verdict, but the injustice has been happening throughout history. The police brutality and inequality remain current.

Black Lives Matter is a cry out for help, a cry out for justice, and a cry out for equality. So before you try to down a movement of people that just want to be able to function as Americans are supposed to be allowed to function in this country, ask yourself if you are part of the reason.

Imagine your brother, sister, mother, or father not making it home to dinner tonight because he or she was killed for no reason.

Support the movement no matter your race, color, or creed. Go to the website [www.blacklivesmatter.com](http://www.blacklivesmatter.com) for more information and dates of events that you could attend.

# Letters to the Editor

## Celebrating Hispanic Heritage

Dear Editor,

I am a freshman at Georgia Highlands College currently studying to become a RN. In my literature class we have recently been introduced to the Six Mile Post. The page that caught my attention was page 7, "United States Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month." The reason this caught my attention is because I, myself, am Hispanic, and I could really relate to the tradition you described. I really liked how you included pictures, along with a caption to add more to the article. Simply reading the article with no pictures wouldn't have been as interesting. The pictures gave more of a visual explanation and really brought everything together.

What really made a difference was when you added a few Hispanic people who work in the United States with their occupations. I was not even aware of who these people were until I came across this article. Seeing Hispanics, just like me, making an impact on our community really gave me confidence in who I am.

Giselle Martinez  
Pre-Nursing  
Floyd Campus

## Informed voting is important

Dear Editor,

I really enjoyed the Sept. 27, vol. 46 of the Six Mile Post. Two of the main things that I found interesting in this edition were the article "Have you registered to vote?" and "Stuglin teaches students about elections." I think it is very important for us in the United States to vote. Many men and women have fought in wars and lost their lives for our freedom. Women used to not have the luxury of voting, while men had that privilege over them. Nowadays, I think it would be a disgrace to America if a person chose not to vote. The article "Have you registered to vote?" encourages students to do so.

Not only voting, but informed voting is just as important. I admire the fact that Professor Stuglin is taking the time to inform young adults about the elections and getting them to be involved. I think it would be enjoyable and beneficial if more of the Georgia Highlands campuses had classes like this one.

Niki Mitchell  
Business major  
Floyd campus

**To see more Letters to the Editor go to  
[sixmilepost.com](http://sixmilepost.com)**

**Submit letters to  
[6mpost@student.highlands.edu](mailto:6mpost@student.highlands.edu)**





Photo by Kayla Jameson  
David Boaz gets ready to pass during the co-ed flag football game on Sept. 30 at Floyd.

# Intramurals open to anyone at GHC

By Joshua Mabry  
Managing Ed., Sports

Intramurals are extracurricular activities in which all GHC students, faculty, and staff can participate regardless of how fit they are. Most intramural activities take place at the Floyd or Cartersville campus.

Co-ed basketball, co-ed flag football, a tennis tournament, and the Turkey Day Walk & Run are some of the intramural activities that are offered during fall semester. Soccer, corn hole, and a ping-pong tournament are offered in the spring.

J.J. Merritt, Floyd campus intramurals director and assistant men’s basketball coach, said intramural activities that are underway, such as the co-ed flag football, are going “well.” Participation is about the same as in previous years.

Merritt said that he would like to see intramural par-

ticipation grow but also noted there are several factors that influence why it has not.

Some intramural activities at the Floyd campus take place in the gym.

Physical education classes and the men’s and women’s basketball teams also use the gym. This requires intramurals to work around those schedules, sometimes creating inconvenient times.

GHC also has many non-traditional students. These students have work and school schedules that do not allow for intramural participation because these activities are typically offered earlier in the day.

There are also students who do not know about intramurals.

If you would like more information about intramurals or would like to participate in an activity, contact Merritt at [jmerritt@highlands.edu](mailto:jmerritt@highlands.edu) or visit [www.imleagues.com/ghcintramurals](http://www.imleagues.com/ghcintramurals).

## Upcoming intramural dates

- Oct. 26 - Yoga lesson - Douglasville**
- Oct. 26 - Just Dance dance-off - Cartersville**
- Oct. 31 - Costume dodgeball - Cartersville**



Photo by Kayla Jameson  
Students take part in the flag football action.



Photo by Kayla Jameson  
The flag football participants gather after the game.



# Tommy John throws wrench in Geekie's first full season

By Joe Webster  
Asst. Sports Editor

Two seasons have passed since Dalton Geekie last tossed a fastball for the Georgia Highlands Chargers. Since Draft Day 2015, his journey through the Braves system landed him on the 2016 Opening Day roster of the Rome Braves to begin his first full year of professional baseball.

The GHC coaching staff put Geekie in the right situations to shine for professional scouts, and when the time came, Geekie's raw local talent caught the eyes of Braves scouts.

His first full season was going well with the Rome club, tossing 45.1 innings in the South Atlantic League. But during his Aug. 1 start, after some elbow discomfort in the earlier weeks, Geekie's arm popped. However, he "didn't think anything of it." On the next pitch, his elbow began hurting, and he was removed from the game. The next day, Geekie knew he was going to need Tommy John Surgery.

Geekie is currently at the Braves facilities in Kissimmee, Fla., rehabbing from his surgery. The recovery time for this surgery varies from 12 to 18 months. Geekie will begin

throwing to live hitters again this time next year at the Instructional level in Kissimmee.

"Expect him to come back with the same roaring enthusiasm Chargers fans saw during his collegiate days."

Geekie may have hit a bump in the road this season, but expect him to come back with the same roaring enthusiasm Chargers fans saw during his collegiate days.



File Photo

Dalton Geekie got his start at Georgia Highlands.

## Returning Lady Charger hopes to gain even more experience

By Joshua Mabry  
Managing Ed., Sports

Pam Diokpara, born in Nigeria, is a returning sophomore to the Georgia Highlands College women's basketball team and is looking forward to the 2016-17 season.

Diokpara expects to be "gaining experience" this season. She hopes that the Lady Chargers will go farther than they have in previous seasons and win the NJCAA national championship.

Diokpara said that in order to achieve this goal, the team must "display effort and have confidence that we can win."

She believes there are a lot of signs that show that this goal is possible for this year's team.

There is more depth this season, according to Diokpara. There are several players who will be able to play a lot of minutes. There are also several sophomores on this year's team. This means that they know and understand the pressure of playing at the college level.

Diokpara also believes that there are some cons to this



Photo by Jaida Lovelace

Pam Diokpara

year's team.

There are only five returning players, and this means that the rest of the team does not know much about what it is like to play at GHC's level. Diokpara said it is a "learning process" for them. There is also uncertainty about who will get playing time.

Diokpara moved to the United States at a young age and was raised in McDonough, Ga. Diokpara fell in love with basketball early in life. Her father took her to a University of Georgia women's basketball game, and the rest is history.

## Don't miss Chargers in action

**The GHC Chargers' men's basketball first regular home game will be on Nov. 8 against Gadsden State at 7:30 p.m. in the Floyd campus gym.**

**The GHC Chargers' women's basketball home opener will be on Nov. 8 against Gadsden State at 5:30 p.m. in the Floyd campus gym.**

**GHC students, faculty and staff are admitted to all Chargers' basketball games for free with their GHC ID.**



Career Exploration

Counseling Support

Disability Support

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Program



Available on all GHC campuses.

Learn more online at:

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

Connect with us now on our  
Linkedin, Instagram and Twitter pages!





# Wood has 'talented group' for the 2017 softball season

By Joe Webster  
Asst. Sports Editor

Calling this year's team "the most talented group of athletes we have had here as a whole," Chargers Head Softball Coach Melissa Wood has high expectations for her team going into this season.

Coming off a 27-33 season last year, with an even 7-7 conference record, Wood's Chargers look to strive headstrong

into a new season.

Wood particularly put emphasis on sophomore Brianna Fickes, the first baseman from Corona, Ca. Wood expects Fickes to have a record-breaking season, partly because of "field renovations and fences coming in" for home games.

Wood played for Florida State University and the University of Georgia. Following her collegiate career, she played overseas in Austria.

Her first coaching job was at Berry College as a graduate assistant, followed by a job in "one of the best softball conferences in the nation, the SWAC" with North Idaho College. In 2012 Wood came to GHC, where she has held the head coaching reins since.

Wood said, "This team is special, and I'm excited to see what the future has in store for them."



Photo by Daniel Smith

Lacey Mount swings at the ball while Kaleigh Mobley takes her catcher's stance.



Photo by Daniel Smith

Brianna Fickes fields a ball during team workouts.

## All fans need to appreciate their home teams



### Mabry's Pitch

Joshua Mabry  
Managing Ed., Sports

Excitement was in the air during the summer of 2016 at State Mutual Stadium, home of the Rome Braves.

The Rome Braves had one heck of a season, ending with an overall record of 70-69. They advanced to the post-season and became the 2016 South Atlantic League champions. The Rome Braves kept things exciting all season long.

Three of the post-season

Rome Braves games took place in Rome at State Mutual Stadium. These games were not well attended considering the team was playing championship baseball. There were around 3,500 fans there for each of those games, and the stadium holds just over 5,000.

It was sad to see the stadium that empty because the players worked very hard all season and the Rome Braves'

staff did a phenomenal job advertising for the post-season games. As a fan, I was very disappointed with the people of our area for not supporting our local team. For the price, Rome Braves baseball is some of the best entertainment Rome has to offer.

Rome is a baseball town. We have everything from recreation league, Dizzy Dean, Miracle Field, and high school to college baseball. With that many baseball fans in Rome, there should have been more support for this Rome Braves team.

The Rome team allows baseball fans in this area to

become up close and personal with potential major league players.

As an avid fan myself, I have gotten to know some of the players such as Mike Soroka, who was a big part of this season's success. During the regular season, he won nine games for the Rome Braves and ended with a 3.02 ERA. Now that's good baseball.

The most impressive things about Soroka in my opinion are his work ethic and his kindness and respect for the fans. He is a very good role model for young kids.

People who have children who are ballplayers or just

baseball fans should bring them out to the park to get to know players like Soroka.

Several players in our area have played for the Braves organization, such as Stephen Gaylor and GHC's own Dalton Geekie, a former GHC pitcher, who just finished his first year with the Atlanta Braves organization. This is another good reason to come out to the ballpark.

The Rome Braves' next home game is not until April. In the meantime, go support the GHC Chargers baseball team. Their season starts in February.