

THE MAGAZINE OF YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE | SPRING/SUMMER 2015

ECHOES

ROLLINS CAMPUS CENTER

THE HEART OF CAMPUS

Discover how the Rollins Campus Center has transformed the student experience at YHC.

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Ken Faneuff

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PLANNING AND
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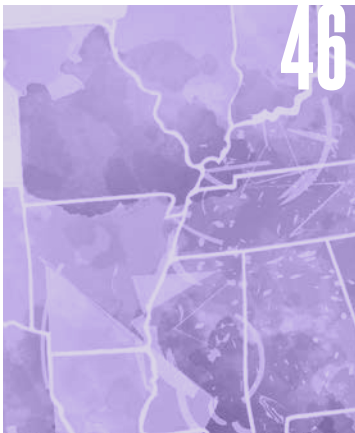
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EDITOR

LeAnn Waldroup

ART DIRECTOR

Melissa Mitchell

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Kyle Huneycutt, '13

CONTRIBUTORS

Jordan Harris
Kyle Huneycutt, '13
Michael MacEachern
Mason Mitcham, '14
Beth Savoy
LeAnn Waldroup

ARTWORK & PHOTOGRAPHY

Tina Bravo, '17
Sheldon Clark, '17
Scott Dean
Kyle Huneycutt, '13
Chris Hunt
Roman Martin, '15
Grace Patterson, '15
Philip Sampson, '84
LeAnn Waldroup

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BIG DANCE MAKES BIG IMPACT

The Grapevine kept the dance floor hopping during an enjoyable Valentine's Day event for a good cause.

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The Rollins Campus Center is a hub of constant social and intellectual activity. One evening around dusk, senior biology major Roman Martin, of Tallinn, Estonia, utilized his photography skills to capture the lobby space as YHC students moved from level to level of the 121,000-square-foot facility. **Learn more about the Rollins Campus Center's many amenities on page 12.**

CONTACT US

Email echoes@yhc.edu
Web yhc.edu/echoes
Mail Office of Advancement
P.O. Box 275
Young Harris, GA 30582
Phone (706) 379-5173
Fax (706) 379-4572



f facebook.com/YoungHarrisCollege
t twitter.com/YH_College
i instagram.com/youngharriscollege
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p pinterest.com/youngharris
f flickr.com/youngharriscollege
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A Time of Transformation

In December 2014, Young Harris College closed the books on the most successful capital campaign in YHC's history. We sat down with President Cathy Cox to find out more about the *Investing in the Future Capital Campaign* and what prompted the College to make this "leap of faith."

Q: How did growing YHC from a two- to four-year institution create the priorities of the *Investing in the Future Capital Campaign*?

A: When we began the transition back in 2007 and 2008, we kidded the Trustees because some of them said, fairly seriously, "Gosh, we might have to hire a few faculty members and build a new building!" As we got into our strategic planning, it became obvious that our needs were much more extensive, and as our list grew, we clearly saw that a major capital campaign would be necessary to address those needs.

Q: What prompted the Trustees to make this leap of faith?

A: It really was a leap of faith! YHC had never undertaken more than a \$10 million capital campaign before, so when our Trustees saw that a 21st century campus center would cost more than \$40 million—it took a great deal of faith to believe that we could raise that kind of money. Had they known we were on the cusp of one of the nation's worst recessions when they set the goal of \$55 million, there's no way they would have gone down that path. The Board of Trustees was foresighted enough to know we needed the campus center, but we didn't need to borrow that kind of money to build it. We needed to raise the money before we broke ground—so we took the leap of faith and it paid off!

Q: How did this campaign lay the groundwork for the College's future?

A: The campaign brought together more than 10,000 separate donors to support our College! We certainly hope that many of them will continue to support and be involved with the College going forward, and that bodes well for the strength and future of YHC. The 17,016 gifts from those donors generated a number of lasting endowed scholarships and other forms of assistance and improvements to the campus, in addition to the hallmark of the campaign—the Rollins Campus Center.

Q: How has the Rollins Campus Center transformed the student experience?

A: Within a week of its opening, the Rollins Campus Center truly became what

we anticipated—the social and intellectual heart of our campus! It is the first true 24-hour building we've ever had on campus, and it is a beehive of activity at all hours of the day and night. In these first months of operation, more than 150 special events per month have been held within it—and that's not counting the daily activities of the dining hall, library and office functions. It draws students in like a magnet—they love it and want to be there all the time!

Q: Looking back, to what do you attribute the immense success of the campaign?

A: Capital campaigns succeed when donors believe in the vision of the campaign—and the mission of the institution that stands behind it. I think that speaks clearly to our success. Our 10,000-plus donors believe in YHC and the educational experience we offer, and they trusted our leadership—Pam Rollins, our campaign chair, and the strong Board chairs we've had for so many years: Brantley Barrow, Jerry Nix, Paul Beckham, and Tom Glenn. Many friends of Zell and Shirley Miller stepped up to honor their lives and legacies. A host of good things and a lot of hard work came together with the world's best alumni and friend base to make this successful beyond our wildest dreams!



President Cox welcomed distinguished guests to the Rollins Campus Center's ribbon-cutting ceremony, which marked the official opening of the remarkable facility.

INFLUENTIAL YHC Leaders Recognized



Young Harris College trustee and Chancellor of the Board of Regents for the University System of Georgia **Hank Huckaby, '62**, was named "Georgian of the Year" by *Georgia Trend* Magazine in the Jan. 2015 issue.

YHC President **Cathy Cox** was named to the magazine's 2015 list of "100 Most Influential Georgians" along with trustee **Jimmy Tallent, '70**, president and CEO of United Community Banks, Inc., and alumnus Georgia Speaker of the House **David Ralston, '74**.

The annual list reflects the state's most powerful and influential citizens who affect the lives and livelihoods of all Georgians.

James Carville Delivers 2015 COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Political strategist and public servant James Carville delivered the address at YHC's Commencement ceremony in May.

Carville's visit to campus paid tribute to his longtime friend and mentor, former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, '51.

"We were delighted to welcome James to YHC," said President Cathy Cox. "Since the opening of the new Zell and Shirley Miller Library, James and his wife, Mary Matalin, have expressed interest in coming to the College to honor Gov. Miller—who happened to perform the couple's marriage ceremony 22 years ago."

Carville's humorous and inspiring message challenged graduates to always get back up when they fail and continue moving towards success.

Best known for crafting a series of impressive political victories at the local and state level, Carville was the leading strategist for President Bill Clinton's successful election in 1992 and Gov. Miller's first gubernatorial campaign in 1990.

Carville's "cross-aisle" marriage to Matalin has resulted in more than two decades of political commentary. Following Hurricane Katrina, the couple relocated from Washington, D.C., to his home state of Louisiana and quickly became champions of the rebuilding and revitalization of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast.

[Look for full coverage of Commencement 2015 in the Fall/Winter 2015 issue of Echoes.]

Gov. Zell Miller, '51, James Carville, Shirley Miller, '54, and President Cathy Cox mingled prior to the Commencement ceremony.



Endowed Lectures Bring Big Names to Campus

The annual Miller Lecture celebrated its 40th anniversary with former U.S. Senator Saxby Chambliss sharing his perspective on the current political climate in Washington, D.C., while reflecting on his 20 years as a Member of Congress.

Sen. Chambliss mingled with students, faculty, and staff prior to the start of the lecture, answering questions and sharing his political insight.

Edward Hirsch, prize-winning poet and president of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, delivered the annual Byron Herbert Reece Lecture.

"Bringing a poet of Hirsch's stature to YHC is a great way to cap a year that has seen the College launch a creative writing major and place three students in a statewide writing competition," said YHC Assistant Professor of English and Director of the Creative Writing Program Chelsea Rathburn.



LEFT Noted poet Edward Hirsch delivered the Reece Lecture in the Suber Banquet Hall. **BELOW** Sen. Saxby Chambliss gathered with YHC students prior to the Miller lecture.



Biology Majors Impress

AT GEORGIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE MEETING

Fourteen YHC biology majors presented research at the annual Georgia Academy of Science meeting held at Georgia College and State University, and for the third year in a row, a YHC student took home a top prize.

Senior Kaycee Cash, of Woodstock, won the "Outstanding Undergraduate Presentation Award" in the biology category for her presentation titled "Population Characteristics and Habitat Preferences of a State-Endangered Crayfish *Cambarus parrishi*." The paper was co-authored by senior Sydnee Weaver, of Sylvania, and Assistant Professor of Biology Dr. Johnathan Davis.

YHC Voices Receive Accolades at SERNATS

Fourteen talented YHC music and musical theatre majors traveled to Auburn University to compete in student auditions of the Southeast Region of the National Association of Teachers of Singing (SERNATS), with seven students passing through to the final round of competition.

Sophomore Mary-Ellen Norwood, of Roswell, senior T'Arica Crawford, of Buford, and senior Benjamin Sims, of Hiram, each received first-place finishes amongst a talented pool of students from across the Southeastern United States.

YHC MARKS OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE

Rollins Campus Center and Zell and Shirley Miller Library

On Oct. 23, YHC held a ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony to mark the official opening of the \$41 million, 121,000-square-foot Rollins Campus Center. Members of the Rollins family were onsite to cut the ceremonial ribbon.

"This was a historic day for the College," said YHC President Cathy Cox. "The Rollins Campus Center would never have come to fruition without the generosity of so many who believed in the College and what we are trying to achieve for our students. We offer heartfelt thanks to the Rollins family for their generous lead support in making this facility possible."

Designed to catapult the student

experience into the 21st century, the facility houses four distinct areas: a 60,000-square-foot, multi-purpose student center; the state-of-the-art Zell and Shirley Miller Library; an expanded Grace Rollins Dining Hall; and a 350-seat, versatile Charles Edwin Suber Banquet Hall.

"The Rollins Campus Center is the perfect example of the positive change happening to our campus," said sophomore business and public policy major and Student Government Association President Espen Myklebust of Asker, Norway, who addressed attendees at the ceremony. "The spirit of the building is created by students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the community. Our presence

truly shapes its potential."

In April 2013, YHC broke ground on the Rollins Campus Center. In March 2012, the College announced a \$22 million gift from the Atlanta-based O. Wayne Rollins Foundation that served as the lead gift for this new facility.

"It brings me great joy to hear the Rollins Campus Center be called the heart of campus," said YHC trustee and Capital Campaign Chair Pam Rollins, whose grandfather, O. Wayne Rollins, made significant impacts on the College and its students over the course of his life. "On behalf of my family, we are proud to be part of this transformation and growth at YHC."



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Members of the Rollins family were onsite to cut the ceremonial ribbon for the new Rollins Campus Center. ■ SGA President Espen Myklebust addressed attendees during the ceremony. ■ President Cathy Cox welcomed guests to the historic event.





A second ceremony was held to dedicate the 40,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art Zell and Shirley Miller Library. Former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, '51, his remarkable wife, Shirley, '54, and several members of their family cut the ceremonial ribbon outside of the new library.

"I hope everyone understands just how much this library means to me," said Gov. Miller, who reflected on his rich connections to the YHC campus. "I walked through it yesterday and could not believe it."

The library more than doubles the College's previous physical space, and features a prominently displayed, permanent exhibit that showcases the Millers' inspiring story, including their legacy of public service to the state of Georgia and the nation. It is a fitting tribute to the couple, who met as students at YHC.

"Much of the foundation of myself and Zell was formed here, as a result of our time on this campus," said Mrs. Miller. "I pray current and future students will be richly blessed by their time in this building and at YHC. We are always at home when we are on this campus, and we enjoy living in this wonderful community."



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Attendees flocked to the Zell and Shirley Miller Library following the ribbon-cutting ceremony. ■ Lifetime trustee Dr. Harry Hill and his wife, Harriet, attended the event. ■ Former U.S. Senator Sam Nunn posed with President Cathy Cox prior to the celebratory luncheon. ■ Members of the Miller family marked the opening of the new Zell and Shirley Miller Library. ■ Gov. Zell and Shirley Miller cut the ceremonial ribbon for the new library.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT DEAN AND CHRIS HUNT



TOP Selected members of the YHC Concert Choir performed a variety of musical selections under the direction of Professor of Music and Director of Choral and Vocal Activities Jeff Bauman. **ABOVE** Trustee Rev. Dr. Don Harp, '61, provided guests with a moving benediction. ■ Members of the Rollins family in attendance included Capital Campaign Chair and trustee Pam Rollins, Margaret Olivia Rollins, Amy Rollins Kreisler, Andrea Rollins, Tim Rollins, Peggy Rollins and Randall Rollins.

A Celebration OF THE *Future*

On April 7, Young Harris College trustees, alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends gathered at Atlanta's InterContinental Hotel to celebrate the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign that raised more than \$75 million.

The evening of celebration kicked off with Bishop Michael Watson, Resident Bishop of the North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church and ex-officio member of the YHC Board of Trustees, providing an invocation, while former Board of Trustees Chair Jerry Nix and trustee Rev. David Haygood, '60, welcomed guests to the event.

Selected members of the YHC Concert Choir awed the audience with performances of "Il Balerino," "The Prayer," and "Ride on King Jesus" following dinner, and donors were recognized in a special tribute video showcasing the Rollins Campus Center—the centerpiece of the College's master plan and the focal point of the campaign.

Campaign Success

\$75,147,663.54 total pledged and received

137 percent of goal

CAMPAIGN COMPONENTS

Rollins Campus Center — \$41,613,395.64

Endowed Funds — \$5,754,634.62

Young Harris Annual Fund — \$10,535,640.84

Restricted Support — \$10,558,621.24

Planned Gifts — \$6,685,371.20



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT

Trustee Kirk Wimberly, '62, and wife Jackie, '64, mingled during the reception. ■ Trustee Rev. Jim Ellison, '88, and wife Beth visited with other guests ■ President Cathy Cox presented Capital Campaign Chair and trustee Pam Rollins with a gift to commemorate her service as chair. ■ Bishop Michael Watson provided guests with the invocation prior to dinner. ■ Immediate past Board of Trustees Chair Jerry Nix welcomed guests to the celebration.

We Celebrate

17,016 gifts from 10,624 donors
 Rollins Campus Center
 Charles Edwin Suber Banquet Hall
 Mary Ripley Warren Student Organization Loft
 Zell and Shirley Miller Library
 Harry and Harriet Hill Library Floor
 Chick-fil-A® Express
 Seed money for performing arts center
 Green Family Lobby in Enotah Hall
 Establishment of 70 endowed and expendable scholarships
 Establishment of faculty professional development endowment
 Renovations to Susan B. Harris Chapel
 New space for athletic offices and facility upgrades
 Study abroad experiences
 Increased support for Young Harris Annual Fund
 Increased support for endowed lectures
 Improvements to campus technology infrastructure





President Cathy Cox provided an overview of the campaign and invited Capital Campaign Chair and trustee Pam Rollins to speak on the campaign's enormous success. Board of Trustees Chair Brantley Barrow, '74, and trustee Rev. Dr. Don Harp, '61, closed the evening with remarks on the campaign's impactful transformation of YHC.

In 2007, the College's Board of Trustees voted to build on YHC's distinguished history as a two-year institution and become a world-class four-year liberal arts college.

This call to be more, do more and serve more initiated the largest fundraising effort in Young Harris College history to meet the growing needs of the College's expanding enrollment, programming, faculty, and facilities.

With an overall goal of \$55 million, the upward momentum of the campaign began when the Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation gave the College a wonderful gift to provide the campaign infrastructure. Since then, more than 10,500 friends have supported this campaign, allowing the College to far surpass the initial goal—ultimately raising more than \$75 million to benefit current and future students. ■

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Friend of the College A.D. Frazier and emeritus trustee Tom Glenn chatted during the pre-dinner reception. ■ Board of Trustees Chair Brantley Barrow, '74, spoke on the campaign's transformation of YHC. ■ Trustee Rev. David Haygood, '60, Harriette Haygood, YHC Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Keith DeFoor, YHC Instructor of Music Cynthia DeFoor and Bishop Michael Watson chatted during the celebration. ■ Trustee and U.S. Congressman Buddy Carter, '77, caught up with President Cathy Cox and trustee Ray Lambert, '77.



▶ Watch the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign tribute video.

THE HEART



OF CAMPUS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT DEAN, ROMAN MARTIN, '15, AND PHILIP SAMPSON, '84



The largest building ever constructed at Young Harris College, the Rollins Campus Center is often referred to as the social and intellectual heart of campus, and the 121,000-square-foot building has certainly lived up to the description. Located next to the Susan B. Harris Chapel—the College’s oldest structure—the opening of the Rollins Campus Center created a new hub of bustling activity, uniting all aspects of the YHC campus.

The Rollins Campus Center's main level welcomes students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members to the glass, brick, timber, and stone building with an expansive lobby. Students are often found at the lobby's front desk, greeting visitors and providing details about the building.

Named for Charles Edwin Suber, a United Methodist layman and retired Fulton County Superior Court clerk who passed away in 2007, the 350-seat **Charles Edwin Suber Banquet Hall** provides an elegant venue for group gatherings, guest lectures, workshops and receptions. Featuring a sound system, retractable screen and portable stage, this multi-purpose space is also available to the surrounding community for rental.

Charles Edwin "Ed" Suber was a lifelong resident of Atlanta. He attended Emory University and served in the United States Army during World War II. His family owned and operated the C. P. Suber Grocery Store in the Ben Hill community. He came to know the College through YHC trustee Rev. Dr. Robert Ozment, '46, who served as his pastor while attending Atlanta First United Methodist Church.

"We are pleased that the Suber name holds a publicly distinctive place on our campus forever now with the naming of the banquet facility to honor Mr. Suber and his legacy," said President Cathy Cox. "I'm thankful for the College's relationship with Jim, Evelyn and Mark Campbell—relatives of

Mr. Suber and executors of his estate—and truly appreciate their support and dedication."

Students gather morning, noon, and night in the **Wyck and Shell Knox Common Area** to study and mingle, then grab hot and fresh Frappuccino's, mochas, and lattes at **Starbucks** without ever having to leave campus.

The new **Grace Rollins Dining Hall** has seating for more than 500 people, nearly doubling the College's previous dining space. It features multiple platform grills, a salad station, and dessert bar as well as several food stations with customized meals and grab-and-go options.

The **William C. Hatcher Dining Room** offers a more intimate space for casual dining or a special event. Named for YHC emeritus trustee William C. Hatcher, the room is a tribute to the retired Genuine Parts Company president by his former colleagues.

The main entrance to the **Zell and Shirley Miller Library** can also be found on Level 1 of the center. Featuring the **Harry and Harriet Hill Library Floor** and the **Patillo Family Conference Room**, the space easily accommodates countless books, nooks for studying, and computer stations. Prominently displayed exhibits pay tribute to the Millers' inspiring story and helpful members of the library staff can be found behind the "Papa Rich" Circulation Desk named in honor of former YHC Librarian Robert Richardson.

DID YOU KNOW?

Every Wednesday at 9:50 a.m., the campus community gathers in the Rollins Campus Center for The Morning Paws, a coffee break designed to bring YHC students, faculty, and staff together to build community and develop friendships. Junior Leah Cheshier, of Bremen, created the name of the weekly event in a student contest held to design a distinctive identity for the break time.



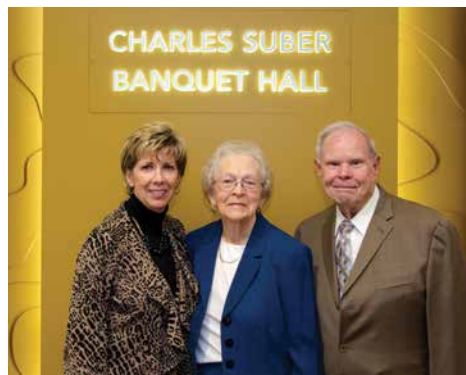
The Grace Rollins Dining Hall offers students and community members a spacious venue to enjoy breakfast, lunch and dinner.



THE STUDENT VIEW

There are so many food options, plus now the dining hall is open for late night. Oh, and Starbucks! Every college kid needs coffee.

DIANE MOUANGKHAM, JUNIOR, BIOLOGY



THE GIVING PERSPECTIVE

Seeing the incredible transformation the College has undergone over the last six years has been very exciting. When plans were announced for the construction of the Rollins Campus Center, my daughter Heather and I wanted to contribute. When we attended Young Harris, we benefitted from the generosity of others who came before and we saw this as our turn to contribute for the benefit of future students. The facility clearly serves as a central focal point for students, and I think it demonstrates the College's commitment to providing premier facilities which will enhance educational and college experiences.

YHC TRUSTEE KURT MOMAND, '77, OF ATLANTA



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The Harry and Harriet Hill Library Floor provides students with space to study alone or work on group projects. ■ The Charles Edwin Suber Banquet Hall is the ideal location for special events. ■ The Wyck and Shell Knox Common Area is a hub of activity. ■ Jim and Evelyn Campbell, along with President Cathy Cox, (far left) tour the banquet hall named in honor of their relative. ■ Students enjoy the addition of Starbucks on campus.

LEVEL 2

Current and prospective students flock to Level 2 of the Rollins Campus Center—the home of YHC’s Division of Student Development and Office of Admissions. Decisions are made by the College’s Student Government Association each month when student-leaders meet in the **Buddy and Amy Carter Senate Chamber**. Many conference room spaces are available for private study sessions and meetings including the **Brantley and Sharon Barrow Conference Room**, **Kurt Momand and Heather Momand Conference Room**, **Bob and Carol Head Conference Room**, and **Jones and Marion Webb Conference Room**. Students are also able to enjoy classes within the facility, thanks to the high-tech **Bill and Judy Roberts Classroom**. Level 2 also houses the second floor of the **Zell and Shirley Miller Library**. Featuring reading carrels, private study rooms, and numerous rows of academic texts, this is the ideal location for students looking to prepare for exams or complete homework assignments.

THE GIVING PERSPECTIVE

My initial impression of the Rollins Campus Center was one of a high level of pride that this could happen to YHC. I am deeply indebted to President Cathy Cox and United Community Bank President Jimmy Tallent for their roles in having the Bob and Carol Head Conference Room named for me and my wife. I’m thankful for their friendship. We will continue to aid Young Harris College in every way possible.

YHC TRUSTEE ROBERT L. HEAD, ‘59,
OF BLAIRSVILLE

DID YOU KNOW?

The Rollins Campus Center boasts many sustainable features, including materials made from pre-consumer and post-consumer recycled content. A geothermal exchange systems of 180 wells uses the Earth’s natural temperature to help heat and cool the building, plus silk-screened glass in the Zell and Shirley Miller Library helps reduce heat gain and lighting load while providing beautiful natural light.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Members of YHC’s Student Government Association meet monthly in the Buddy and Amy Carter Senate Chamber—the first dedicated space on campus for the organization. ■ Level 2 of the Zell and Shirley Miller Library features informative displays highlighting the Millers’ dedicated service to the state of Georgia and beyond. ■ Private study rooms are available for students to collaborate on group projects. ■ Mountain views enhance the library’s relaxing space for students to study.

THE STUDENT VIEW

The social aspect is much stronger on campus. Previously, we only had the old student center to socialize in, but now we have this whole beautiful building. Studying in the library is my favorite part. It has beautiful architecture.

ESPEN MYKLEBUST, SOPHOMORE, BUSINESS AND PUBLIC POLICY

3
LEVEL

The **Mary Ripley Warren Student Organization Loft** is the place to be for YHC's student organizations. This versatile area includes dedicated office and meeting spaces for spiritual organizations, student media, Greek life, and other clubs. It also features multiple lounge areas, informal meeting spaces and computer workstations.

The space is a tribute to the late Mary Ripley Warren who served more than a quarter century as a YHC trustee and gave generously of her time and gifts to ensure a bright future for the College. "Mary would appreciate having that area named for her," said Billy Warren, her husband of 57 years. "She would be flattered. She enjoyed her years of work as a trustee at Young Harris." Her legacy as a loyal and dedicated trustee and generous benefactor with an enduring commitment to the College's future will continue to touch the lives of students for generations to come.

The **Wofford-Frazier Board Room** is the perfect location for high-level meetings with its private kitchenette and expansive, custom-made executive table, while the third floor of the **Zell and Shirley Miller Library** boasts designated space for permanent and special collections. The space also houses exhibits on the history of YHC. The **John and Margret Oswald Terrace** is just off the special collections reading room and is a prime location for special gatherings with its breathtaking views.



TOP The Mary Ripley Warren Student Organization Loft provides space dedicated to YHC's student-run clubs and organizations. ■ Clair, '81, and A.D. Frazier tour the Wofford-Frazier Board Room along Clair's father, Lawton Wofford (far right).

THE GIVING PERSPECTIVE

I have loved Young Harris since I was an incoming freshman in 1979. The transformation to a four-year college is one of the best things we ever did. Also at the top of the list was bringing on Cathy Cox. She has absolutely driven us to excellence in academics, sports, campus life and facilities. The Rollins Campus Center is the best of its kind. It was brilliantly conceived and thoughtfully constructed to have maximum flexibility for use as a student center, meeting center and dining facility. So many have given to YHC over the years with no memorial or recognition. We are honored to have our names associated with YHC and particularly with this splendid center of campus life.

YHC TRUSTEE CLAIR WOFFORD FRAZIER, '81,
OF ATLANTA

DID YOU KNOW?

Many of the building's materials were harvested, extracted or manufactured within 500 miles of the College.



LOWER LEVEL

The Rollins Campus Center's Lower Level is designed to offer students a space for both motivation and relaxation. With a **Theater and Gaming Lounge** plus **Pool and Foosball Lounge**, students never have to worry about entertainment during their downtime. Before relaxing, though, many students can be found in the **Student Success Center**, planning course schedules and receiving career advice. *[Read more about the Student Success Center on page 42.]*

Due to the generous and loyal support of Trudy and John White, YHC's partners in WinShape Camps for Girls, the YHC campus now houses the ever-popular **Chick-fil-A® Express**. With fresh and delicious meals always within reach, students, faculty, staff, and members of the community congregate to enjoy a chicken sandwich and waffle fries in the restaurant or on the patio.

THE GIVING PERSPECTIVE

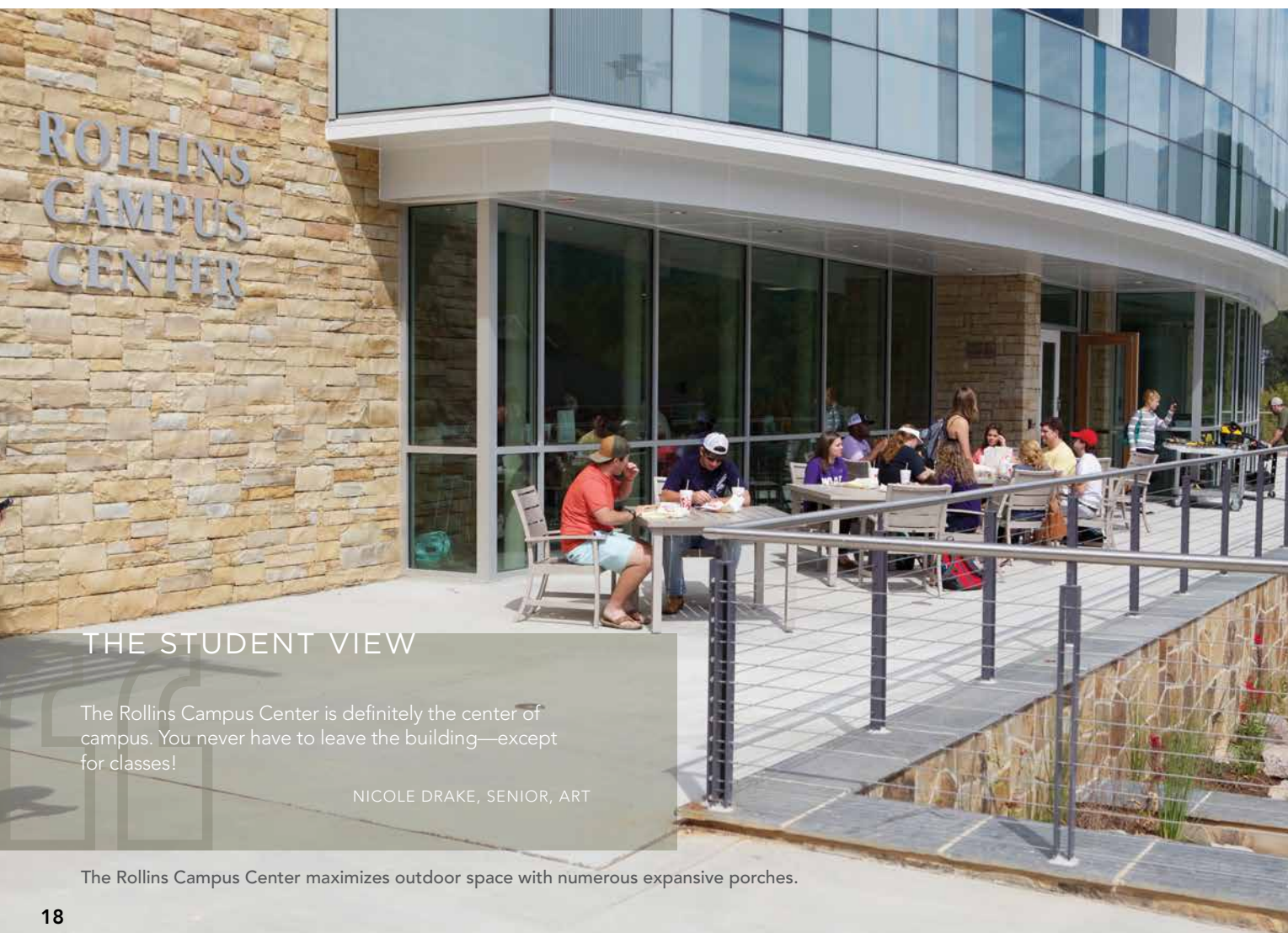
My wife, Marion, and I decided to make a gift to the Rollins Campus Center because we felt this facility was very important to give the campus a great focal point and would mean very much to the students. It is a beautiful building both inside and out. Young Harris College has been a part of our families for more than 100 years. We appreciate the honor of having a conference room named for us.

YHC EMERITUS TRUSTEE JONES WEBB,
OF LAWRENCEVILLE



DID YOU KNOW?

A large installation featuring the word "HOPE" hangs just outside the Zell and Shirley Miller Library, paying tribute to Georgia's unique scholarship program created by then-Governor Zell Miller.



THE STUDENT VIEW

The Rollins Campus Center is definitely the center of campus. You never have to leave the building—except for classes!

NICOLE DRAKE, SENIOR, ART

The Rollins Campus Center maximizes outdoor space with numerous expansive porches.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP
LEFT Students enjoy having Chick-fil-A® Express as a dining option. ■ The Pool and Foosball Lounge provides endless entertainment for students. ■ The Chick-fil-A® Express on campus is utilized by numerous students, faculty, staff, and community members on a daily basis. ■ Gaming consoles like Wii, Xbox and PS4 capture students' interest during study breaks.

THE STUDENT VIEW

My favorite aspect of this entire building is the Chick-fil-A® Express. Being from Atlanta, there are many Chick-fil-A® restaurants around, but there's not any here living in the mountains. Having it on campus allows me to enjoy a little something from back home.

PTAH GARVIN, SENIOR, THEATRE

DID YOU KNOW?

Topographic maps of Young Harris are found on walls throughout the building.



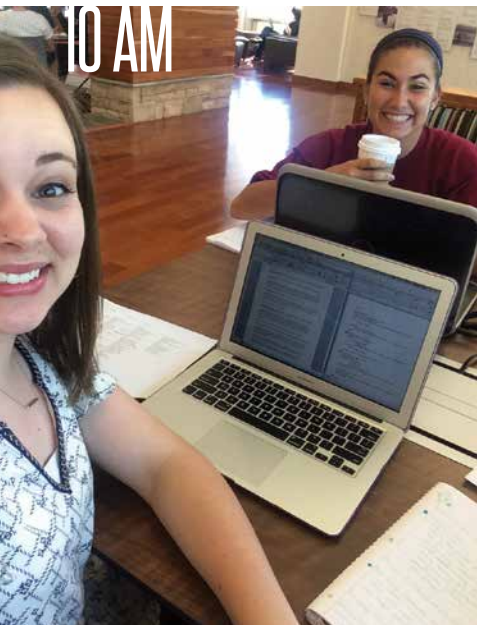
THE GIVING PERSPECTIVE

Sharon and I gave to the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign because we really wanted to be a part of taking Young Harris College to the next level and providing our students with an unforgettable experience. I had the opportunity to visit the Rollins Campus Center several times while it was under construction and you could just tell it was going to be transformational to our campus. Well, it exceeded my expectations! The many amenities and student spaces are unbelievable and surpass those on many campuses of our peer and aspirant institutions. It is truly a campus center like no other!

YHC BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR BRANTLEY BARROW, '74,
 OF ATLANTA

A DAY IN THE LIFE

When the Rollins Campus Center opened in the fall, students were amazed at the amenities the building offered. In fact, many claimed they never had to leave the building—that is, except for class. Sophomore interdisciplinary studies major Sheldon Clark, of Norcross, recently took to YHC's Instagram account to give followers a firsthand look at a day in the Rollins Campus Center, proving just how true that statement is.



9:15 AM: Hello YHC! Where else do you get such a great view from your residence hall? I love getting to see our little campus come to life everyday on the lawn. [#lovemycampus](#)

10 AM: It's time for finals! My friend, Darby, and I have moved into our second home for the week. Let the studying begin! [#librarylife](#)

10:30 AM: Friends are fun, especially when they distract me from my work! [#stilllovethem](#)

11:15 AM: If you haven't heard, Chick-fil-A® is one of the best parts of the Rollins Campus Center! Not only do I love having such great food available to us, but I also love the Chick-fil-A® staff. Ms. Heidi and Ms. Robin are too sweet! If only we all got more dining dollars... [#yhccommunity](#)





1:15 PM

1:15 PM: These blue skies and a balcony all to myself are making this afternoon so peaceful. #beautifulcampus

3:45 PM: What fun staff?! Chad and Angi keep this place running! Chad takes care of the RCC and makes sure we are all happy. Angi is such a resource and encourages all of us students to be better. I love that everyone plays a part in making YHC such an awesome place!

4:15 PM: Perfect afternoon treat! Love me a Starbucks date with my roomie.

7:45 PM: Surprise! I'm back in the library and we are losin' it! #examweek

9:50 PM: No day is complete without a visit to late night in the Grace Rollins Dining Hall. Love spending time with friends at any time of day!

11:05 PM: Well, YHC, I'm headed back to my room now. I hope you enjoyed the day as much as I did. I'll be back and workin' in the RCC bright and early tomorrow morning. Come visit!



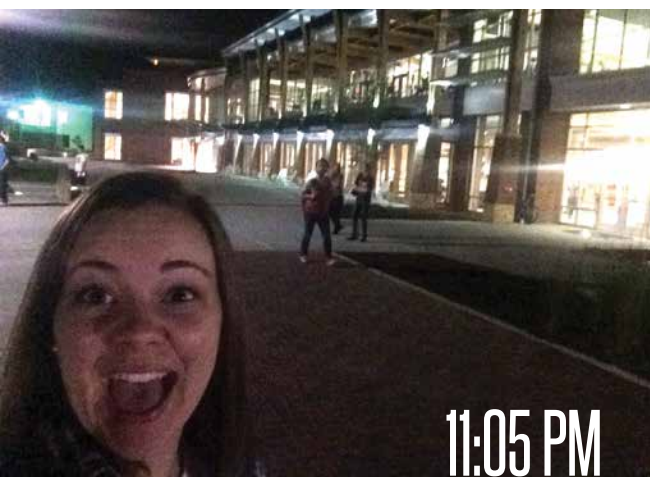
3:45 PM



4:15 PM



7:45 PM



11:05 PM



9:50 PM

In Her Heart of Hearts

BY KYLE HUNEYCUTT, '13 | PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT DEAN

Young Harris College trustee and *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign Chair Pam Rollins has had a profound influence on YHC's historic transition to an exemplary four-year institution. By choosing to follow in her grandfather's footsteps, Pam continues to make O. Wayne Rollins' vision for the College a reality—transforming the campus while preserving the history, beauty, and heritage of the Enchanted Valley.

Pam and her grandfather have many things in common besides their familial relation to each other. While neither attended Young Harris College, both have displayed enormous generosity enabling the College to fulfill its mission of educating, empowering, and inspiring each student who calls the Enchanted Valley home.

As an exceptional high school student who was valedictorian of the Ringgold High School Class of 1930, Wayne had every intention of attending Young Harris College. When a fateful hailstorm destroyed all of his family's crops, though, his dreams of pursuing a college education were dashed.

An obstacle of this nature may have

bested the ambitions of many, but Wayne refused to be anything short of determined. He persevered to carve out his own path to success that would ultimately benefit YHC, leading countless students to a College of opportunity and hope.

Wayne's inability to further his education at YHC did not stop him from allowing the College to play an important

DECADES of DEDICATION

From "walking the wall" the night before finals and studying the stars under the planetarium's full-dome to eating meals in the Grace Rollins Dining Hall and socializing in the Rollins Campus Center, YHC students are impacted daily by the Rollins family's legacy.



1930

Following the example of his uncle, John Frank Rollins, Jr., O. Wayne Rollins aspired to attend

Young Harris College. Instead, a hailstorm that damaged the family's farm left him without tuition. Despite his misfortune, Wayne and his wife, Grace, were married in 1931 in Young Harris with Uncle Frank, a ministerial student at YHC, presiding over the wedding.



1960

Considering he could not afford to pay tuition to attend Young Harris College, Wayne decided to provide scholarship assistance so others could.

1967

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation is formed in an effort to provide a number of scholarships to deserving college and university students in the United States.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE
ROLLINS FAMILY ARCHIVES

“It’s great to have your name out there and be appreciated, but what it really comes down to is knowing in your heart of hearts that you are doing the right thing, which is going to not only help yourself, but also others.”

PAM ROLLINS



1970

Wayne joined YHC’s Board of Trustees, and worked to provide leadership, boost College enrollment, and improve campus facilities.

1976

Wayne and Grace pledged \$250,000 for the construction of a planetarium on the YHC campus.

1979

The O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium opened, attracting more than 25,000 visitors each year.



1981

Wayne and Grace celebrated 50 years of marriage.

1984

Wayne received the Young Harris College Medallion—the highest award bestowed by the College—for his philanthropic efforts to improve YHC.



1985

Wayne pledged \$500,000 to YHC for the construction of Rollins Residence Hall—a modern dormitory.

role in his life. It was in Young Harris on Easter of 1931 that Wayne married his sweetheart, Grace Crum, in a ceremony conducted by his Uncle Frank, who was a ministerial student at the College.

"My grandparents genuinely enjoyed each other's company," Pam reflected. "They held hands, and he always referred to her as his 'sweetheart.' Maybe the happy memory of their wedding in Young Harris contributed to his loyalty to the College."

The Rollins family has played an integral role in the history and growth of YHC for more than four decades. When Wayne joined YHC's Board of Trustees in 1970, he posed a simple, yet essential question: "What does the College need more than anything else?" He then proceeded to answer that question through his immense generosity and committed leadership—characteristics he passed down to his granddaughter.

"It was a great honor and duty to continue my grandfather's legacy and help fulfill his vision for Young Harris," said Pam, who stepped into her grandfather's role as a member of the College's Board of Trustees more than 20 years ago. "By

serving on the board, I knew I would be preserving my family's connection with the College."

The answer to Wayne's question from 1970 is one that his granddaughter realized still holds true today. The College needs additional students pursuing a quality education in the Enchanted Valley.

With that in mind, the Board of Trustees voted in 2007 to build on the College's distinguished history as a two-year institution and become a world-class, four-year liberal arts college. As a result, the College's expanding enrollment, programing, and faculty led the Board of Trustees to authorize the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign in 2009.

"We knew when we decided to become a four-year institution that the campus was going to need a lot of construction," said Jerry Nix, chair of the YHC Board of Trustees during the campaign's early stages. "At the time, we called it a leap of faith, and that's what it was—a leap of faith. We were so fortunate to have strong leadership."

The Board of Trustees looked to a member of the Rollins family—Pam—to serve as chair of the largest fundraising

effort in the history of the College.

"When we began this endeavor, we knew the essential ingredient would be leadership," said YHC President Cathy Cox. "We needed a great leader who knew the College, valued its history and understood what our plans for the future were. No one was better suited for that role than Pam Rollins."

Much of the campaign's success can be attributed to Pam's straight talk and high-energy initiative—traits she inherited from her grandfather.

"Pam is the life of the party, passionate about her family, as serious as a heart attack about accomplishing goals, and loves continuing the vision her grandfather had for YHC," said trustee Rev. Dr. Don Harp, '61. "Pam is so much like Wayne. She accomplishes things the same way he did, and with so much generosity."

Under her leadership, the campaign's lofty goals aimed to raise \$4 million for endowment, \$5 million in annual support, \$2 million in restricted support, and \$41 million for a new 121,000-square-foot campus center.

Soon after the campaign's launch, Pam



1989

Wayne pledged \$500,000 for the renovation of YHC's dining hall named for his wife, Grace.

1991

On Oct. 9, Wayne gifted the College with \$91,000 to cover an operating shortfall, keeping YHC financially viable. Shortly thereafter, Wayne passed away at the age of 79.

1992

Pam Rollins joined the YHC Board of Trustees to carry on the legacy and vision of her grandfather.

1993

Grace received the Young Harris College Medallion for her exceptional efforts on behalf of the College.



2002

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation enabled the purchase of a state-of-the-art GOTO Chronos Space Simulator to be installed in the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium—the first installation of the Chronos model anywhere in the world.

2008

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation made a generous contribution of \$200,000 to enhance the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium with the Sky-Skan Definiti full-dome digital projection system.



“As far as I’m concerned, there’s a great love story between my grandfather and the College. For the campus center to be named for him and the family and for it to be called the heart of the campus is a full circle.”

PAM ROLLINS

announced a \$22 million gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation—funds that would enable the construction of the now complete Rollins Campus Center.

This leadership gift inspired many other foundations and individuals to pledge their support for the campaign. To

accelerate the project, the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation provided an additional \$2 million in 2013.

“When we opened the doors to the building—in fact, when we broke ground on the building—we had already raised all of the money to pay for it, which was such

a tribute to Pam’s leadership in chairing this campaign,” said President Cox.

After closing in December 2014, the campaign’s gifts from more than 10,000 generous donors totaled over \$75 million—a testament to Pam’s effective leadership and hard work over the five-year period.

“I don’t think there is a specific moment in your life when you determine if you are successful,” said Pam. “It is when you have done the right thing that you know you have made a difference in the world. To me, that is the kind of verification of success one should strive for. I think the Rollins Campus Center is the best way our family could give back to the campus in my grandfather’s honor.”

The largest building ever constructed at YHC, the Rollins Campus Center is indeed the new social and intellectual heart of campus. “Students, faculty, and staff now have a common area to learn, meet, and gather to attend programs and develop community,” said Vice President for Student Development Angi Smith. “In years to come, I have no doubt the Rollins Campus Center will serve as the core of the YHC community.”



2012

Pam received the Young Harris College Medallion for her extraordinary dedication and leadership.



2014

The new \$41 million, 121,000-square-foot Rollins Campus Center opened in October and a special ribbon-cutting ceremony was held in November.



2010

Pam is selected to chair the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign. YHC announced a gift of \$22 million from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation to benefit the construction of a new campus center during a celebration of the campaign’s launch.



2013

The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation provided an additional \$2 million to accelerate the Rollins Campus Center project and a ground-breaking ceremony is held for the facility.



2015

Pam was honored for her service to the College during a celebration of the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign’s enormous success.



LEFT TO RIGHT Rollins chatted with trustee Jerry Nix during an event on the YHC campus. ■ Rollins welcomed guests to the groundbreaking of the Rollins Campus Center. ■ Rollins posed with trustee Rev. Dr. Don Harp, '61, and his wife, Mary Ellen, at a special dinner for members of the Board of Trustees.

The Rollins Campus Center only adds to the incredible impact the Rollins family has had on the YHC campus through beautification projects and the building of numerous facilities including the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium, Rollins Residence Hall, and Rollins Wall.

Wayne and Grace also established the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation Scholarship Fund, which provides valuable financial assistance for numerous students still today. Wayne also made an abundant show of generosity by writing a substantial check days before his death so the College could make their yearly budget.

"As far as I'm concerned, there's a great love story between my grandfather and the College. For the campus center to be named for him and the family and for it to be called the heart of the campus is a full circle," said Pam.

Pam is now writing a new chapter in her grandfather's love story, guided by the advice he provided her: "You purchase success with effort, the same way you purchase groceries with money."

Pam has learned the key to purchasing that success and accomplishing goals is believing in yourself and setting out to achieve whatever one wants in life—a philosophy she lives each day.

In fact, the civic leader and philanthropist recently became a director of Rollins, Inc.—making her the first woman to ever serve on the board, an accomplishment of which she is very proud.

"What motivates me the most is having pride in what I'm doing and pride in myself," she said. "It's a form of pride that comes from doing the right thing when no one is looking. That's what is really important. It's great to have your name out there and be appreciated, but what it really comes down to is knowing in your heart of hearts that you are doing the right thing, which is going to not only help yourself, but also others."

As for her role as campaign chair, Pam noted her appreciation for the guidance received from both friends and colleagues, and the dedication from the numerous people who supported the College's mission and plan.

"It was wonderful to see that Young Harris College, on its own, was a major selling point during the campaign," Pam reflected. "It was reaffirming to know people weren't just giving to the campaign because they knew me, but rather because they wanted to help the students enrolled at YHC."

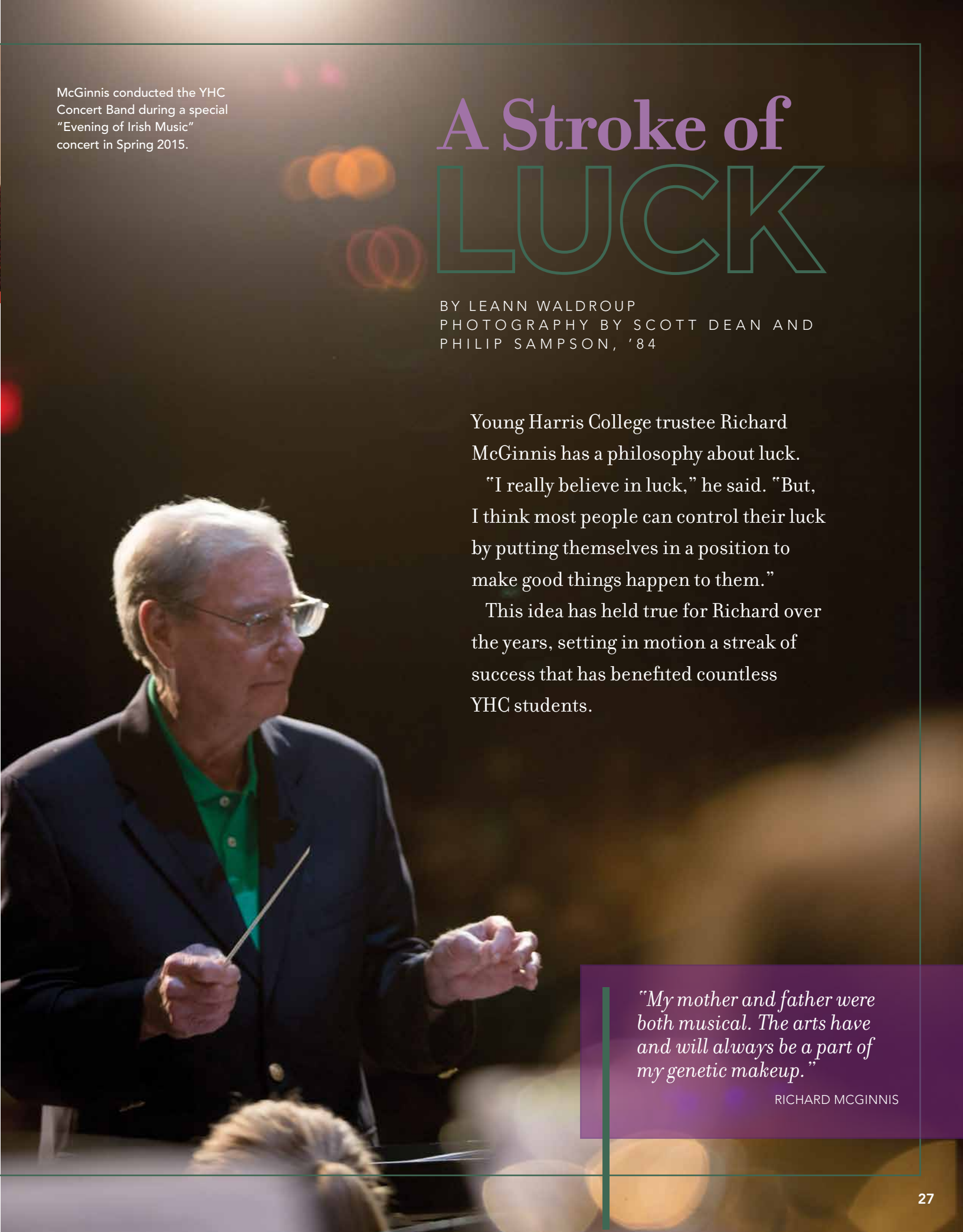
As Young Harris College continues to grow and complete its transformation

into a four-year liberal arts college, generations of alumni and friends continue to value the leadership provided by Pam, who looks to preserve and expand her grandfather's vision for YHC.

"My grandfather said, 'Giving to a living institution that goes on and on and affects people's lives is, to me, the best. That's the highest kind of giving, when you are investing in others.' I have been delighted with the growth and leadership that has continued to make this institution what I think he hoped it would become."

Now Pam, the third member of the Rollins family to receive the Young Harris College Medallion for her remarkable contributions and leadership, will continue penning chapters in the love story her grandfather began years ago.

"The Rollins Campus Center truly puts us in a different league. It is the crowning gem that makes YHC even more of what a student is looking for," said Pam. "I think the College is getting more and more spectacular every year. I am so happy that my grandfather's vision for Young Harris College is being realized and that our family has had such a role in making that happen." ■

A photograph of Richard McGinnis, an older man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue blazer over a green polo shirt. He is holding a baton and conducting a concert band. The background is dark with warm, out-of-focus lights, suggesting a stage or concert hall setting.

McGinnis conducted the YHC Concert Band during a special "Evening of Irish Music" concert in Spring 2015.

A Stroke of LUCK

BY LEANN WALDROUP
PHOTOGRAPHY BY SCOTT DEAN AND
PHILIP SAMPSON, '84

Young Harris College trustee Richard McGinnis has a philosophy about luck.

"I really believe in luck," he said. "But, I think most people can control their luck by putting themselves in a position to make good things happen to them."

This idea has held true for Richard over the years, setting in motion a streak of success that has benefited countless YHC students.

"My mother and father were both musical. The arts have and will always be a part of my genetic makeup."

RICHARD MCGINNIS

"The McGinnises have been wonderful role models for our students as they have been able to see firsthand the importance of giving."

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR OF MUSIC AND DIRECTOR OF BANDS MARY LAND



McGinnis saluted members of the YHC Concert Band and Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land following a spring concert dedicated to the McGinnises for their unwavering support of fine arts at the College.

Richard's love of the fine arts, specifically music, dates back as far as he can remember. "My mother and father were both musical," said Richard, who noted the arts have and will always be a part of his genetic makeup. "My mother could play the piano by ear—if you could hum it, she could play it—and my father sang some. They used to go to the front steps of the Decatur courthouse and have 'singings' in the 1920s."

That early exposure at home and a surprise ticket to a live military concert solidified his love of music.

"My first experience seeing live music was the United States Marine Corps band, which traveled from Washington, D.C., to my home in Jacksonville, Fla., for a concert at the Armory," recalled Richard. "My sister bought two tickets for me to go with a friend from across the street. We were probably in first grade."

While living in Maryland, Richard would often drive into Washington, D.C., to listen to that same band practice from their barracks on Capitol Hill.

Richard's "luckiest moment" in life came through a chance encounter with his future wife, Shirley, while in high school.

"I had spent the night with a friend who lived near Richard," explained Shirley. "She walked me to the bus stop the next day and introduced us."

The two became high school sweethearts and got engaged after graduation. Richard went on to serve in the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Japan. While on leave in 1953, he and Shirley married.

During his service, Richard was sent to Connecticut to study and would often make his way outside to listen to his comrades perform drills. The music lover even hitchhiked to New York City to take in a live performance of "South Pacific" at the Majestic Theatre.

"It was a sold out show, but I was able to get two tickets from the box office at the Waldorf Astoria," said Richard, who acknowledged this was yet another bout of luck. "I ended up sitting next to an Admiral. I'm not sure where he got his tickets!"

Upon his discharge from the military, the couple moved to Gainesville, Fla., where Richard earned a bachelor's degree in advertising from the University of Florida on the G.I. Bill in 1958.

After an outdoor advertising stint in Maryland, a job opportunity brought the McGinnises to Atlanta in 1961 and a chance meeting with Ted Turner during a convention launched Richard's remarkable career in advertising and media.

"Ted's father bought the company I was working for at the time," said Richard. "When Ted walked into the building, the first thing he asked was, 'Where's McGinnis?' He found me and reminded me of our meeting at that convention, saying 'I told you that you would work for me one day.'"

Turner went on to appoint Richard vice president for sales of Turner Outdoor Advertising in 1963. When Turner began his new media venture of Turner Communications in the 1970s, he named Richard executive vice president and a minority partner in the advertising firm.

Richard's career at Turner spanned an impressive 21 years and involved exposure to radio stations, television stations and even the manufacturing of sailboats. In 1983, he retired from Turner and ran a small advertising agency out of his home for five years.

Retirement allowed the McGinnises to spend more time at their cabin in North Georgia, which Richard refers to as the "nerve center of their mountain life." The couple and their children, Douglas, Cynthia, and Bradley, eight grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren retreat to the mountains each year during the holidays to enjoy the beauty of the area as an entire family.

Over the years, Richard and Shirley often frequented the YHC campus for various concerts, theatrical performances, lectures and athletic events, but it was Richard's longtime friendship with YHC trustee and alumnus Paul Beckham, '63, a former vice president at Turner, that changed the couple's general interest in the College to active support.

"A group of us enjoyed hiking and canoeing together in the areas surrounding the campus," recalled Richard, smiling at the memory. "When Paul became chairman of YHC's Board of Trustees, I told the group around a campfire that we should all do something to support him by giving to the College. That's when Shirley and I decided to provide a new sound

system for Glenn Auditorium."

It didn't take long for Richard to become a member of YHC's Board of Trustees himself, continuing the College's streak of luck involving the McGinnis family.

"One day, Paul said that he was going to get me on the Board," said Richard. "I told him, the devil you are! He won, though, and I was elected in 2004. Being on the Board has given me the satisfaction of fooling with the business side of things—something I lost when I retired."

For more than a decade, Richard and Shirley have had a strong impact on YHC by enhancing campus programming and student experiences. The couple generously contributes to many causes, including the Mountain Lions Booster Club, Clay Dotson Open, Young Harris Annual Fund, and Friends of the Arts, and regularly attends fine arts performances on campus to support the endeavors of current YHC students.

In 2012, Richard and Shirley further expressed their enthusiasm for the fine arts with a \$4 million gift to the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign, funds that are serving as an early investment in the development and design of a new performing arts center.

"The McGinnises have made a tremendous impact on YHC's music faculty and students," said Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land, who recently honored the couple during

a spring concert on campus. "Their gift to start the new performing arts center inspired everyone. The McGinnises have also been wonderful role models for our students as they have been able to see firsthand the importance of giving. We have all become quite fond of both Richard and Shirley."

Richard said that he and Shirley know their \$4 million gift represents a fraction of the total cost of the new facility, and they hope their contribution will encourage others to follow their example and support the project. "Our gift was a seed gift, but gardens are no good if they are only made of seeds," explained Richard.

"Our gift to this future center is the most important contribution we have ever made or hope to make," said Richard, who noted this center will also benefit the surrounding community.

Due to the McGinnises' enormous generosity, they have set in motion streaks of good luck for generations of YHC students to come.

"That bus stop. Joining the Air Force. Going to Connecticut to study. Meeting Ted Turner at that convention. I've placed myself in a position for good things to happen," reflected Richard. "You can put yourself out there for good, and even bad, luck, but I believe you set yourself up to benefit from the circumstances of the moment. Now, that's luck." ■



LEFT TO RIGHT McGinnis and his wife, Shirley, are dedicated and generous supporters of the College and its students. ■ The McGinnis family enjoys a visit to the North Georgia mountains each year during the holidays. ■ President Cathy Cox presented Richard and Shirley McGinnis with the Young Harris College Medallion during the 2014 Commencement ceremony.

THE ELIZABETH GARRARD HALL FACULTY IMPROVEMENT FUND: Promoting Scholarship on the YHC Campus

BY DR. NATALIA STAROSTINA

Being an excellent teacher requires staying current in one's discipline. In my field—modern European history—hundreds of books and articles are published every year, and, in order to be informed of new studies, I present my research at many scholarly conferences, listen to presentations by my colleagues, and publish articles. I seek to integrate the latest research into the content of my lectures and inspire my students to select topics that will help them become familiar with cutting-edge studies in the field.



Find out more about faculty research @ yhc.edu/notables.

Graduates from Young Harris College's history program now pursue their master's degrees and Ph.D.s at the University of Alabama, the University of North Alabama, Florida International University, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Mercer University, and many others. Our history majors are accepted with teaching and research assistantships to prestigious graduate programs. This demonstrates how well the YHC faculty teaches our students and how scholarly networks which the faculty create by presenting at conferences and publishing articles tremendously help our graduates in their careers.

In this article, I would like to present a brief summary of my research themes and the ways the Elizabeth Garrard Hall Faculty Improvement Fund has helped me to conduct research for these topics.

As a historian, I have always been fascinated with the First World War and interwar period—that is, the period between 1918 and 1939. The First World War was a catastrophe for European civilization. In August 1914, when the war had just begun, thousands of Europeans went to the front with the firm conviction that the war would be over by Christmas 1914. Such optimism was naïve: the war dragged on until November 11, 1918. Trench warfare had become an essential characteristic of the First World War.

The subject of my research, French railway companies, played a significant role in the war. First, during the mobilization, they delivered troops to the battlefields with lightning speed. Throughout the war, the trains brought provisions, weapons, uniforms and many other essential goods for the French army. Contemporaries argued that, at the same time, railways allowed the war to last for many months. If the army did not receive daily provisions, a stalemate on the Western Front would not happen.

France suffered badly during the war, leading to the destruction of many cities and the loss of more than 1.3 million people who died in the war fronts. After emerging victorious in World War I, the French nation sought to consolidate its superpower status in the diplomatic arena and simultaneously restore and modernize its economy, which suffered severe shocks during the First World War. Raul Dautry, director of the Northern railway company (Réseau du Nord), built a network of "garden cities" (cités-jardins) in Northern France, which helped reconstruct the destroyed cities. Dautry sought to improve relations between employers and workers and was a firm follower of the principles of paternalism. Dautry built a well-developed infrastructure in his town-gardens. Hospitals, clinics, playgrounds, libraries, clubs and many other cultural institutions were offered to the residents of these new cities. The urban experiments by Dautry left a profound impact on French urban development, and in the aftermath



Chair of the Department of History and Associate Professor of History Dr. Natalia Starostina joined the YHC faculty in 2008. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of St. Petersburg in Russia, her master's degree from Michigan State University and Emory University, and her Ph.D. from Emory University.

of the Second World War many French cities were rebuilt according to Dautry's vision of such garden-cities.

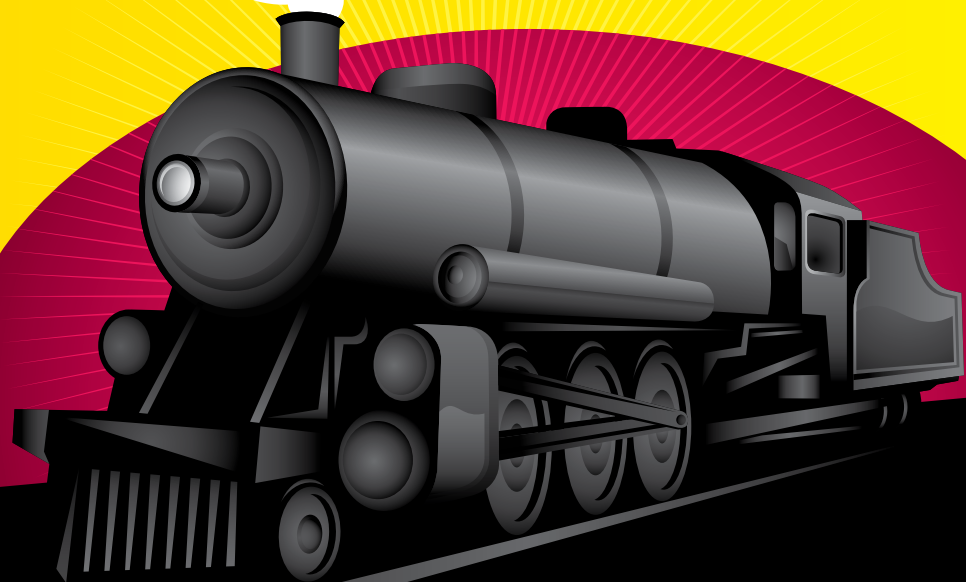
Interwar decades were also a time when France had become a home for a significant number of immigrants from Belgium, Italy, Russia and other countries. In the aftermath of the October Revolution of 1917 and the ensuing civil war, many Russians immigrated to France—45,000 such newcomers settled in and around Paris. In comparison to the United States and countries of Eastern Europe in the 1920-1930s, France accepted the largest number of Russian émigrés. According to a recent estimate, between 70,000 and 80,000 people settled in France. The history of a Russian émigré community in interwar France is the example of successful assimilation of émigrés into French culture. Thanks to the efforts of the Russian diaspora in Paris and other French cities, second-generation immigrants inspired the French to respect and become interested in Russian culture. In fact, Russian émigré writer Ivan Bunin (1870-1953) won the Noble Prize in literature in 1933. Educated Russians created literary salons, organized numerous charitable soirees, and published Russian classical works and works by contemporary writers. The Russian diaspora countered an existing myth of an émigré as an uneducated and unsophisticated newcomer to cities. The Russian émigrés left a profound influence on French and European culture. Sergei Diaghilev's (1872–1929) enterprise Ballets Russes not only brought the revolutionary aesthetics and avant-garde music of Igor Stravinsky (1882–1971) and others to the French, but also introduced the artwork of Pablo Picasso (1881-1973) and Coco Chanel (1883–1971), and many other avant-garde artists to the European cultural establishment and the cultural mainstream. One of the most significant French writers of the twentieth century, Romain Gary (1914-1980), was the son of a Russian émigré who left Lithuania and settled in Nice. Gary's novels showed a profound influence of the Russian literary tradition on his own style and, more important, a repertoire of themes in 20th-century French literature.

The Elizabeth Garrard Hall Faculty Improvement Fund helps me to pursue research in European libraries and archives. I have presented at many conferences in the United States and abroad and received valuable feedback from my colleagues that informed and inspired my research. In many ways thanks to this funding, I was able to publish more than twenty-five articles in peer-reviewed journals, and edited collections of articles and other editions in English, French, and Russian, including articles in *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historiques*, *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*, *Canadian Review of Comparative Literature*, *Southeast Review of Asian Studies*, *Revue Diasporas*, *Revue Migration*, and *Revue d'histoire des chemins de fer*. The Elizabeth Garrard Hall Faculty Improvement Fund, therefore, plays an immensely positive role in my scholarly career and, in direct and indirect ways, contributes to the growth and success of YHC's history program and Young Harris College.

MY TOP 5: RESEARCH SITES

Dr. Natalia Starostina has traveled across the world researching the role of railways in defining French culture after World War I. Here, she shares with us her top five locations for scholarly research on the topic.

1. The Bibliothèque nationale de France
(The National Library of France) | Paris, France
2. Centre des archives historiques de la SNCF
(The Center for the Historical Archives of SNCF) | Le Mans, France
3. The Bibliothèque of AHICF
(The Library of the Association pour l'histoire des chemins de fer / French Railway Historical Society) | Paris, France
4. The Archives Nationales
(The National Archives) | Paris, France
5. Archives nationales du monde du travail
(The National Archives of Working World) | Roubaix, France



INQUIRING MINDS: CHADLEY GRAY

PHOTOGRAPH BY KYLE HUNEYCUTT, '13

When the Rollins Campus Center (RCC)—YHC's new intellectual and social heart of campus—was nearing completion, it became evident that the building would require the hard work, time, effort and attention of a very special individual to ensure it could grow to realize its full potential. A guardian, caretaker, handyman, event planner and director—Chadley Gray is all these things and more. This new building would not be the hub of activity it is today without him at the helm of the colossal ship that is the RCC.

WHAT WAS YOUR PATH TO A CAREER IN FACILITY MANAGEMENT?

This summer will mark the end of my 15th year working in higher education. Most of those years were spent in a student development department either in residence life, student activities, or service learning and engagement. Over that 15-year span, I've always had management responsibilities for a multitude of facilities—residence halls, campus centers, lecture halls,

alumni centers and dining services. I first got a taste for facilities management when I was a residence life coordinator for four residence halls at Maryville College in Maryville, Tenn. After four years there, I became the assistant director of activities, leadership and engagement at Carroll College in Helena, Mont. This is where my passion for managing a campus center began. A few years later, I became the director of student life at Arkansas State University-Beebe, where I oversaw the daily operations of the campus center, theater, lecture hall and three dining facilities. All of these experiences led me to the opportunity I have today to manage a state-of-the-art facility like the RCC.

HOW DOES THE ROLLINS CAMPUS CENTER HELP DEFINE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE AT YHC?

One thing that attracts me to specific institutions is their mission statement. YHC's quest to "educate, inspire and empower" students is a mission I believe in. When students come to YHC, they quickly learn that these three elements will be the backbone of their experience and time on campus. I truly believe the Rollins Campus Center fully provides and supports the mission statement. If a student gives the RCC the opportunity, it will have a defining influence on their YHC journey. I don't think I can specifically identify what the defining



impact is because every student will use and experience this facility in different ways. I honestly think the extent to which the RCC can impact a student's life is limitless—the facility is that impressive. It's unlike any campus center I have ever experienced. I applaud the administration for the bold statement made by a building like the Rollins Campus Center. When I visited campus and toured the RCC last October, I quickly realized that YHC is committed and invested in the lives of its students. Once I made that realization, I wanted to be a part of it. I think prospective students and families get that same feeling when they visit the campus for the first time—an indescribable energy that draws you in.



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ROOM IN THE ROLLINS CAMPUS CENTER?

This is difficult to answer. I've gotten to know this entire building quite well. Each room provides such a different and unique experience, and I've fallen in love with each one for a different reason. If I had to identify my favorite space in the building, I would say the main lobby. From this location, you're able to see a multitude of building features: stone work, glass conference rooms, Suber Banquet Hall, students socializing, Grace Rollins Dining Hall and more. You can see the surrounding mountains and the beautiful campus through the windows. However, the third floor of the Zell and Shirley Miller Library also holds a special place in my heart. There's something very calming about that space—probably has something to do with the panoramic view of the Enchanted Valley and the natural woodwork in the room. Like I said, this is difficult to answer.

WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR FAVORITE EVENT IN THE ROLLINS CAMPUS CENTER?

Every new event in the building is exciting for me because I get to discover what this great facility is capable of. My first week in this position was in November and it was Homecoming week. It was my initiation into the job. It still stands out to me because I heard and saw firsthand how important this facility is and will be to Young Harris College alumni, faculty, staff, students, and the surrounding community. It was that week that I realized I was going to be a part of something very special in managing the Rollins Campus Center.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT LIVING AND WORKING IN THE NORTH GEORGIA MOUNTAINS?

These mountains are extremely special to me. I've lived a good portion of my 39 years near this region. The Northeast Georgia, East Tennessee, and Western North Carolina mountains were always a constant destination for me, my family, and my friends. Now, I'm living right in the middle of them. These mountains are like having a dog. You always know no matter what kind of day you're having, they will always make you feel better when you see them. My love for these mountains and this region was engrained in me at an early age. My father is an outdoor enthusiast and he passed on his love of nature to me when we lived in Tennessee growing up. We would often visit the Ocoee River, hike the great trails these mountains provide, or grab a little spot creekside and camp. I always knew that I would return to this area at some point in my life. It has always felt like home to me.

WHAT'S ONE OF YOUR FAVORITE CHILDHOOD MEMORIES?

Several of my childhood memories have these mountains as a backdrop. My family and I were just talking the other day about one of our first weekend camping trips we took when my sister and I were very young. We were in these mountains and ill-equipped for the weather we experienced our first night. It was a torrential downpour. None of us slept that night. My mother was absolutely miserable. By the time the morning came around, our tent had slid several feet away from the camp site. We got caught in our own mini-mud slide. All of our belongings were soaked. We had planned to stay the entire weekend, but we packed up that morning and headed home. I was hooked on the outdoors after that trip!

WHEN YOU WERE A KID, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE

WHEN YOU GREW UP? I absolutely adored playing basketball when I was a kid. I had a healthy imagination and beat all the greats—MJ, Larry, Magic—in my driveway time and time again. I truly believed I deserved to take John Paxson's spot on the championship Chicago Bulls team. When I was 16, my high school coach helped me come to terms with the fact that God had only equipped me with enough basketball talent to get me through 10th grade. It was preseason practice my junior year and coach came up to me while I was practicing shooting free throws. He said, "Chad, it's going to be a long season for you." That next day, I went and tried out for the soccer team. It ended up being an absolute blessing. I discovered a sport that I wished I had started much earlier in life. After I moved past my NBA dreams, I started thinking about a different future profession: soccer. I'm kidding. I went to college, unsure what I wanted to study. I dabbled in several majors: recording industry management, sociology, horticulture. I eventually settled on psychology, which has served me well working in the student development world. It was not until I graduated from the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga with a bachelor's degree in psychology that I accidentally fell into the world of higher education. I'd moved back to Murray, Ky., to spend some time with friends before I gave a hard effort to find a professional job, and a position opened at Murray State University in the alumni department. I applied and interviewed for the position. This was the beginning of the next 15 years of my professional journey in higher education. ■

MOUNTAIN LION STATE OF MIND

Priorities for the job of the Rollins Campus Center director require constant reshuffling throughout the day and week. Chadley Gray is a pro at this. Here, he shares with us his keys to success.



Have patience and an ability to quickly adapt to a constantly changing work environment.



Multitask and remain organized.



Be a calm presence and response in the wake of an emergency.



Be a team player and willing to ask for and give support.



Don't take it personally when the facility is not meeting its performance standards. There will always be issues with the multitude of working systems in a building this size.



Always think about the next step to take in the event something does not go as planned—there's always some element of a plan not being perfect.



Remember this is not a typical 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. job.



Have a sense of humor. Sometimes all you can do is laugh.

MOUNTAIN LION LUMINARY: DEBRA MARCH

BY JORDAN HARRIS

PHOTOGRAPH BY SCOTT DEAN

When your passion becomes your job, you know you're in the right profession. For Debra March, her love for reading, research and technology turned into a career. What started as a part-time job 19 years ago, has led her to obtaining her master's degree, and becoming the Dean of Library Sciences at Young Harris College.

March moved to Young Harris in 1993 when her husband and Dean of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences Lee March, Ph. D., accepted a job teaching political science. As her children got older, she started looking for a part-time job. She knew she liked the college atmosphere from her previous experience at the public radio station at the University of Missouri.

"I was lucky enough to wander in when former Head Librarian Bob Richardson needed someone to work one night a week and a few hours during the day," reflected March.

March says she never thought about the library profession until she started at YHC, and she enjoys the flexibility that allows her to spend time with her children. In addition to the six-minute commute and flexibility, March says she loves working with the students and her coworkers at YHC.

"We watch students grow from scared kids into less scared adults," she said. "Plus, working with the library staff and the whole YHC community to connect people to the resources they need to succeed in the classroom is rewarding."

March is also the advisor of the Dorcas Society. In this role, she's had a chance to become close with this group of young female leaders on campus.

"I admire them and their good hearts, their scholarship, and their devotion to service," she said. "Sometimes we have conversations where I remind them to care for themselves in the mix, and that it's okay not to be constantly on the go."

March counts passing the exam to become a certified archivist as one of her greatest accomplishments—there are fewer than 1,500 people in the United States with that designation. As archivist, one of March's favorite things to do is provide First Year Foundation classes with a historical tour of YHC.

"I try to connect these new students with the place they are in by telling stories about what former students' lives were like," she said. "They love hearing about dating and 'casing' notes and the suspension of 'the rules' on Sunday afternoons. I think the common theme of trying to find their 'someone' resonates. They also love the ghost stories—the phone booth in Appleby Center lives on!"

Since she started in 1993, March says the biggest change she has seen at YHC is the exponential growth.

"I think there were fewer than 100 employees when we arrived, and about 500 students," she said. "We were a very insular little community. That had its good and bad side. There are more opportunities now, more diversity, more room to grow intellectually."

This past fall, March and her staff made the move to the new Zell and Shirley Miller Library—an integral area within the 121,000-square-foot Rollins Campus Center.

The library is complete with group work rooms, private study spaces and, as March describes, "a lot of windows!"

Despite the grand appearance and state-of-the-art technology, March works to ensure others see the Miller Library as more than just a building. She and her team work tirelessly to guarantee their services help students and that the library's collections are as complete as possible.

"It's a glorious space," March said. "We see faculty meeting with their students and working in a quiet spot on their own projects. It is a meeting place, a sanctuary, a place full of tools for academic success."

❖ Like most librarians, March is an avid reader. She read the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy for the first time in 1974, and has read it every three or four years since. She's not sure she'll ever forgive Peter Jackson for putting faces, voices and scenery into the world she'd loved so long, but admits he did a darn good job.





INVESTED
IN THEIR FUTURE



BY BETH SAVOY | PHOTOGRAPHY BY GRACE PATTERSON, '15, AND KYLE HUNEYCUTT, '13

When students apply to Young Harris College, they know they will receive a well-rounded education complete with the personal connections that a low student-to-faculty ratio offers. We sat down with six endowed scholarship recipients to see how their scholarships have helped them discover their passions to learn, grow and give back to the community that has given them so much.

PARKER SEWELL

Sophomore Biology Major | Marietta

Mabel Gaines Fincher Memorial Endowed Scholarship

To say sophomore biology major Parker Sewell is involved at YHC would be an understatement. When asked about his involvement at the College, he rattles off that he is currently a resident assistant, peer mentor, START Orientation leader, Student Government Association member, Student Conduct Council member, Student Alumni Ambassador, SPAT Club member, and a gentleman for the Gamma Psi sorority.

He realizes that some people might find his involvement “extreme,” but he wouldn’t have it any other way. “Getting involved is what has led me to know so many wonderful people here, including some of my best friends,” Sewell explained.

Young Harris College was not always in the plans, though. Sewell was born in Mandeville, La., and throughout high school, he planned to go to Louisiana State University (LSU). However, Sewell’s dreams were temporarily shattered when he found out he could not attend—that was, until he says YHC “chose” him.

“I’d heard of YHC from some of my friends who were planning to attend,” he said. “I took one tour of the campus and immediately knew this would be my new home. I’ve loved it here ever since.”

Sewell is ecstatic about his decision not to attend a larger state university and believes the opportunities he’s gained at YHC were made possible when he received a scholarship from the Mabel Gaines Fincher Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund.

“This scholarship has made it possible for me to attend this wonderful place,” said Sewell. “Without it, I don’t believe I would have gotten all of the opportunities to shine as a person. I don’t think I would have been able to go here. I would, instead, be going to a larger in-state university where I would be nothing more than a number.”

When Sewell is not busy with one of his endless extracurricular activities, he likes to spend time exploring the beauty around him with friends. “My favorite way to pass time in the Enchanted Valley is to explore the gorgeous area surrounding the College,” he said. “I’m the person who will randomly decide I want to go hike to the top of a mountain and invite my friends to come experience the journey with me.”

After Sewell graduates from YHC, he sees his life journey taking him to medical school. “My list is topped by Emory, the Medical College of Georgia, Tulane University and LSU,” said Sewell. “After receiving my M.D., I plan to pursue pathology.”

Just like his time at YHC, Sewell knows that the life of a doctor might be “extreme” to some, but he wouldn’t have it any other way.

FRANK EASTERLIN

Sophomore English Major | Louisville

Thomas Alexander Ripley Scholarship

Familiarity and exoticness, two opposing concepts, are what brought sophomore English major Frank Easterlin to Young Harris College. Easterlin liked that the Young Harris area was smaller—like his hometown of Louisville. What Louisville did not offer Easterlin, though, were the mountains of the Enchanted Valley.

“I absolutely fell in love with the campus. Being from the swamps of Georgia, I was blown away by the mountains,” said Easterlin. However, the exotic beauty of the mountains was not the only thing that brought Easterlin to YHC.

“Bob and Gale Nichols, who are retired faculty and live behind campus, played a big role in my coming here. They are good family friends and a familiar connection away from home,” he explained.

These familiar ties to campus were further made evident as Easterlin spent more time at YHC. “No matter where I am on campus, I’m never without a close friend. I love little more than interacting with people and making new friends. The environment here allows me to do just that.”

His Kappa Sigma fraternity brothers have also played an integral role in his life as a YHC student. “Immediately—literally the first night on campus—I made friends with the Kappa Sigma brothers and then was made a brother in my second semester,” recalled Easterlin. “We’ve all grown so close and, because of them, I can’t imagine leaving YHC.”

The familiarity of close bonds kept Easterlin passionate about continuing as a Mountain Lion, but he also acknowledges that being a recipient of the Thomas Alexander Ripley Scholarship has kept him grounded and made him passionate about helping future YHC students.

“To say I am grateful for my scholarship is an understatement,” he said. “To think that another person or organization is investing in me to further my education and grow as a person only makes me want to reciprocate the opportunity—hopefully to a future YHC student.”

When he’s not in class, Easterlin likes to pass the time visiting with friends and attending lectures in the English department.

“I love walking around campus on a warm day visiting and talking to people,” said Easterlin. “I’ve gone to lectures presented by my English department professors. I even enjoy going to senior presentations given by other English majors. Most definitely though, being with people is my favorite way to pass time at YHC.”

The “exotic familiarity” of learning is, at the end of the day, what gets Easterlin excited about his present and future. After graduation, he plans “to never stop learning and be successful by my own standards.”

“TO THINK THAT ANOTHER PERSON OR ORGANIZATION IS INVESTING IN ME TO FURTHER MY EDUCATION AND GROW AS A PERSON ONLY MAKES ME WANT TO RECIPROCATATE THE OPPORTUNITY—HOPEFULLY TO A FUTURE YHC STUDENT.”

FRANK EASTERLIN

MEGHAN MCQUADE

Freshman Education Major | Hayesville, N.C.

Bob L. and Barbara Bone Endowed Scholarship

Local student and member of the women's basketball team Meghan McQuade has a long history with Young Harris College. Growing up in nearby Hayesville, N.C., McQuade knew the College at a young age. Seeing her sister, Paige McQuade, '14, attend YHC and serve as the women's basketball student assistant coach for four years, McQuade knew she would receive a quality education from Young Harris College while getting to play on a NCAA Division II basketball team—all within the beauty of the Enchanted Valley.

“YHC offers me the opportunity to receive a great education while simultaneously getting to spend time outside in the beautiful weather watching people play games and hang out on the lawn,” she said.

While McQuade is excited about the quality of the education she's receiving in picturesque Young Harris, she is also grateful for the opportunity to play for the women's basketball team as a guard for the Mountain Lions. Former Smoky Mountain Conference Player of the Year, North Carolina Basketball Coaches Association's District Player of the Year and member of the All-Western North Carolina team, McQuade was excited to continue her athletic career in the “Valley of Doom.”

While she is recognizable as No. 32 on the court, she has also found community during her time as a freshman Mountain Lion. “Being a member of our team has expanded my horizons and allowed me to meet lots of new people,” she said.

As many students know, opportunities to learn and grow in the North Georgia mountains do not come for free. McQuade is a recipient of a scholarship from the Bob L. and Barbara Bone Endowed Scholarship Fund and the Local Scholarship Campaign.

“Without the funds from the Local Scholarship

Campaign and Dr. and Mrs. Bone, I would not be able to afford such a wonderful education from Young Harris College,” said McQuade.

Valuing her educational opportunities at YHC, McQuade says she, in turn, wants to be an educator when she graduates.

“I am pursuing a degree in middle grades education. After graduation, I plan to work as a middle school math teacher,” said McQuade, who wants nothing more than to give back to the community that has afforded her so many opportunities.

DEVIN THOMPSON

Freshman Business And Public Policy Major | Bainbridge

Charles Edwin Suber Scholarship

Hailing from Bainbridge, freshman business and public policy major Devin Thompson says Young Harris College was top on his list of colleges to attend. Besides the charm of the Enchanted Valley, small class sizes and a bright student body, Thompson revealed President Cathy Cox, also a Bainbridge native, was the main person drawing him to attend YHC.

President Cox's younger sister, Kim Burrell, was one of Thompson's mathematics teachers in high school, and from knowing her, he knew he wanted to make connections with President Cox. “I saw this as an opportunity to expand my horizons and make connections with the most influential person I have come to know—President Cathy Cox,” said Thompson. “She and her sisters are exceptional women, and that is the most perfect reason to choose to attend this prestigious institution.”

Getting to know President Cox has been a dream of Thompson's as his future plans involve a dual J.D. and MBA from the University of Georgia. His future plans also involve a life in politics, and his biggest dream is to become President of the United States.

“I TRULY BELIEVE I OWE A LOT OF MY
SUCCESS TO THOSE WHO GIVE
TO MY SCHOLARSHIP, WHICH ALLOWS
ME TO ATTEND THIS INSTITUTION.”

JESSICA KIRBY

“I want to make a difference in this world and the only way I possibly can do that is to make a great first impression,” he said. “Making a good first impression is key to any one person’s success in life. That is my philosophy, and I am sticking to it.”

On his journey to attaining these goals, Thompson is currently involved with YHC’s Student Alumni Ambassador Program. He sees the organization as “the most influential program on campus” and one he knows will help him achieve his goals. “By far, the Student Alumni Ambassador Program will open doors for students to interact with some of the College’s most prestigious alumni,” said Thompson, who is also the announcer for Mountain Lion athletic games and a member of the YHC Concert Band.

With these opportunities being afforded to him, Thompson also expresses gratitude for those investing in his present. As the recipient of the Charles Edwin Suber Scholarship, Thompson knows that he is not alone in gratitude.

“I’m beyond thankful for the support and generosity of all YHC donors who are investing in the future for, not only myself, but every single student on this campus,” said Thompson. “This scholarship has given me hope for tomorrow, it is preparing me for the future, and has shown me that by the grace of God, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

EMMY HENDRIX

Junior Psychology Major | Marietta

**Rev. James Robert Styles, ’47, and
Rev. Betsy Pittard Styles Scholarship**

Junior psychology major and Marietta native Emmy Hendrix knew the Enchanted Valley would be her home away from home when she toured the campus a few years ago. “I first looked at Young Harris College because I’d

never heard anything negative about it. When I toured the campus, I got a feeling that this was where I was supposed to be,” said Hendrix.

This “feeling” she felt during her campus tour was confirmed as she became involved at YHC as a Bonner Leader—a national, service-based scholarship program. This opportunity has allowed Hendrix to work in the YHC Swap Shop, handling the exchanges of gently used items. On top of that, it has given her the opportunity to volunteer in the local community as a mentor to younger students.

“Through these opportunities, I’ve served as an assistant coach for a soccer team with Mountain United Soccer Association in Blairsville, and I’ve mentored two students from Towns County Schools,” explained Hendrix.

Through giving back to the community surrounding YHC, Hendrix says it has, in turn, given her the opportunity to learn more about herself. “YHC has really helped me grow. Plus, I’ve learned a lot about the community outside of campus,” she said.

While she enjoys the space for her own personal development, Hendrix also enjoys giving back to the Young Harris community as an expression of her gratitude as a recipient of the Rev. James Robert Styles, ’47, and Rev. Betsy Pittard Styles Scholarship.

“This scholarship has allowed me to have a wonderful experience in and out of the classroom,” said Hendrix. “I am so thankful for this scholarship because without it, I would not be able to afford to attend Young Harris College.”

When not out working hard in the community, Hendrix says she loves to spend her spare time outside in the Enchanted Valley. “I love to go on long walks, hike, play soccer and hammock. Any time the weather is nice, I just enjoy being outside,” she said.

After graduation, Hendrix plans to pursue a graduate program in sports psychology, but she will always fondly remember her time at YHC.

“Young Harris has truly become my home away from home,” said Hendrix. “I have relationships with professors and fellow students that I know will last a lifetime. The College has such a loving and welcoming atmosphere, and I could not imagine myself at any other school.”

JESSICA KIRBY

Sophomore History Major | Martin

Margaret Appleby McCormick Scholarship

A strong sense of community is what sophomore history major Jessica Kirby says drew her to the Enchanted Valley. “A lot of the reason I chose to go to Young Harris was the sense of community. Growing up in a small town, I always appreciated the closeness of the community, and that same feeling was apparent to me even from my campus tour,” said Kirby.

This sense of community only grew as Kirby got to know other students and faculty. “I have made a lot of great friends and connections with people,” she said. “My professors have helped me achieve goals for myself, and that has really influenced my time here. I’ve honestly fallen

in love with Young Harris.”

Kirby says the Young Harris community has also encouraged her to get involved. With law school in her future, Kirby is both the founder and president of YHC’s Pre-Law Club. She is also involved in the history honors society Phi Alpha Theta, and current co-chair of ideas and issues for the Campus Activities Board (CAB). Next year, she is excited to be CAB’s director of social media and a peer mentor.

Looking to her future, she is grateful to those who’ve endowed the Margaret Appleby McCormick Scholarship—a direct investment in Kirby’s success. “I truly believe I owe a lot of my success to those who give to my scholarship, which allows me to attend this institution.”

Above all, Kirby emphasizes that the Young Harris community and the people she has met at YHC have made the biggest impact on her and her decision to attend law school after graduation. “I really enjoy spending time with the people I’ve met on campus and participating in all of the activities that CAB works hard on for the student body to enjoy.” ■

CREATING A LEGACY

“My husband’s love for YHC has been a constant during our 56 years of marriage. He has said over and over that his life and commitment to the ministry was made possible by the College—this mountain man from Dawsonville served as a minister for more than 60 years until his retirement including 22 years as a U.S. Air Force Chaplain. James has always supported YHC. Finally, when he was able, he made a gift in his parents’ names—Cleo and Otis Styles. This scholarship evolved into the James Styles Scholarship and eventually the Rev. James Robert Styles, ’47, and Rev. Betsy Pittard Styles Scholarship. Each student who has been a recipient of the scholarship was given the same chance James was given in 1947. It’s our hope Emmy Hendrix—the current recipient—has the same success.”

REV. BETSY STYLES, WIFE OF REV. JAMES STYLES, ’47

“When my wife, Barbara, and I discussed endowing a scholarship, it just seemed to be the right thing to do. I’ve always been in debt to YHC because scholarship aid made it possible for me to complete two wonderful years there and acquire a good education. We now receive much pleasure from being close to YHC’s beautiful campus and its many activities. It has been a dream come true to us—to live here and be blessed with the resources to endow a scholarship. It has been our joy to get to know Meghan McQuade, watch her play basketball and entertain her in our home. We believe she will leave YHC with a world-class education and make an impact on her students as she becomes a first-class teacher. We also hope that she and other scholarship recipients leave YHC with a desire to help others find their way to this wonderful place we call Young Harris College.”

REV. BOB BONE, ’57

PAVING THE ROAD TO SUCCESS

BY KYLE HUNEYCUTT, '13

The road to a student's success is often full of bumps, turns, forks and detours. It can be tempting to give up and settle for less when the going gets tough, but at Young Harris College, students learn to navigate their journeys and accomplish goals by taking advantage of the resources and opportunities available.

The recent opening of the Rollins Campus Center has provided students with not only a newly defined social experience but also an intellectual one, due in part to the restructuring of the College's academic services by creating a comprehensive resource—the Student Success Center (SSC).

"The SSC is committed to supporting students' steps to graduation and beyond," said Student Success Center Director Jaime Miller. "As educators, we want to promote student growth and learning through all of our programs so that students can benefit from our services all year long."

The center houses a wealth of resources for students including academic advising, career exploration and peer coaching. Students are connected with the most relevant service according to their specific needs—from talking with a career specialist to learning time-

management techniques from a peer mentor.

As Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Planning, Amy Brock's primary role is to advise students and help them not only prepare for the upcoming semester, but also their entire academic experience.

"My favorite part of my job is the students—we have some of the best in the world," said Brock. "Student success is what we are all about. The SSC provides students with a comprehensive support network that enables them to get the help they need to get the most out of their education."

Students can meet one-on-one with an Academic, Career and Engagement (ACE) peer coach to discuss academic goals and study skill development, or meet with a tutor to review course content, clarify questions and gain confidence in a particular subject matter.

The SSC offers students many ways to accomplish academic achievement in college, but the center also provides students with the knowledge and tools needed to succeed following graduation as they enter the workforce or graduate school.

As a leg of the SSC, the Professional and Career Development Office aims to engage students early on in their exploration of self. The office's Series on Success (SOS) initiative introduces and helps students to appropriate their next steps and preparation.

Through SOS, first- and second-year students are encouraged to use online career exploration tools such as Purple Briefcase and Focus2. In addition, students learn to prepare for interviews, craft strong resumes and cover letters, and focus on skill development. Upperclassmen are encouraged to participate in various events such as career and internship exploration, graduate program preparation, and visits to prospective graduate schools.

STUDENT SUCCESS BY THE NUMBERS

1,689 academic advising appointments

191 career consultations

45 employers posted career opportunities on the internal job-posting site Purple Briefcase

279 students attended a Series on Success presentation

187 students attended a career or internship preparation event

44 career preparation events held during the spring semester



LEFT TO RIGHT Assistant to the Student Success Center Paige McQuade, '14, welcomed students to the new space. ■ Director of the Student Success Center Jaime Miller met with students to provide guidance and discuss needs for the semester.



"Liberal arts students are searchers and seekers. They choose an explorative educational path that will provide them with many opportunities to find a fulfilling career," said Coordinator of Professional and Career Development Jenny Pate. "The SSC is a wonderful resource that aids students in their career journey."

The services offered by the SSC play a huge role in the success of YHC students, and so does its location. Since its opening, the Rollins Campus Center has transformed the student experience and created a hub of social and intellectual activity. The SSC is located next door to the Chick-fil-A® Express and game room, and is directly below the Zell and Shirley Miller Library—collectively creating the perfect atmosphere for student success.

"The SSC provided me with the academic guidance I needed," said senior psychology major Holli Abernathy, of Blairsville. "It's very convenient for me because I spend most of my time in the Rollins Campus Center anyway."

Ensuring students realize this resource is available to them played an integral part in deciding to merge previously separate academic services. Additionally, placing the SSC in the new heart of campus has provided students with a central location to actively reach out for assistance.

"I understand the importance of communicating with students in an environment they are familiar with," said Assistant to the Student Success Center Paige McQuade, '14. "When someone walks into the SSC, they will likely be greeted by me at our beautiful reception desk."

MEET THE STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER



JAIME MILLER
Director of the Student Success Center



AMY BROCK
Assistant Director of Academic Advising and Planning



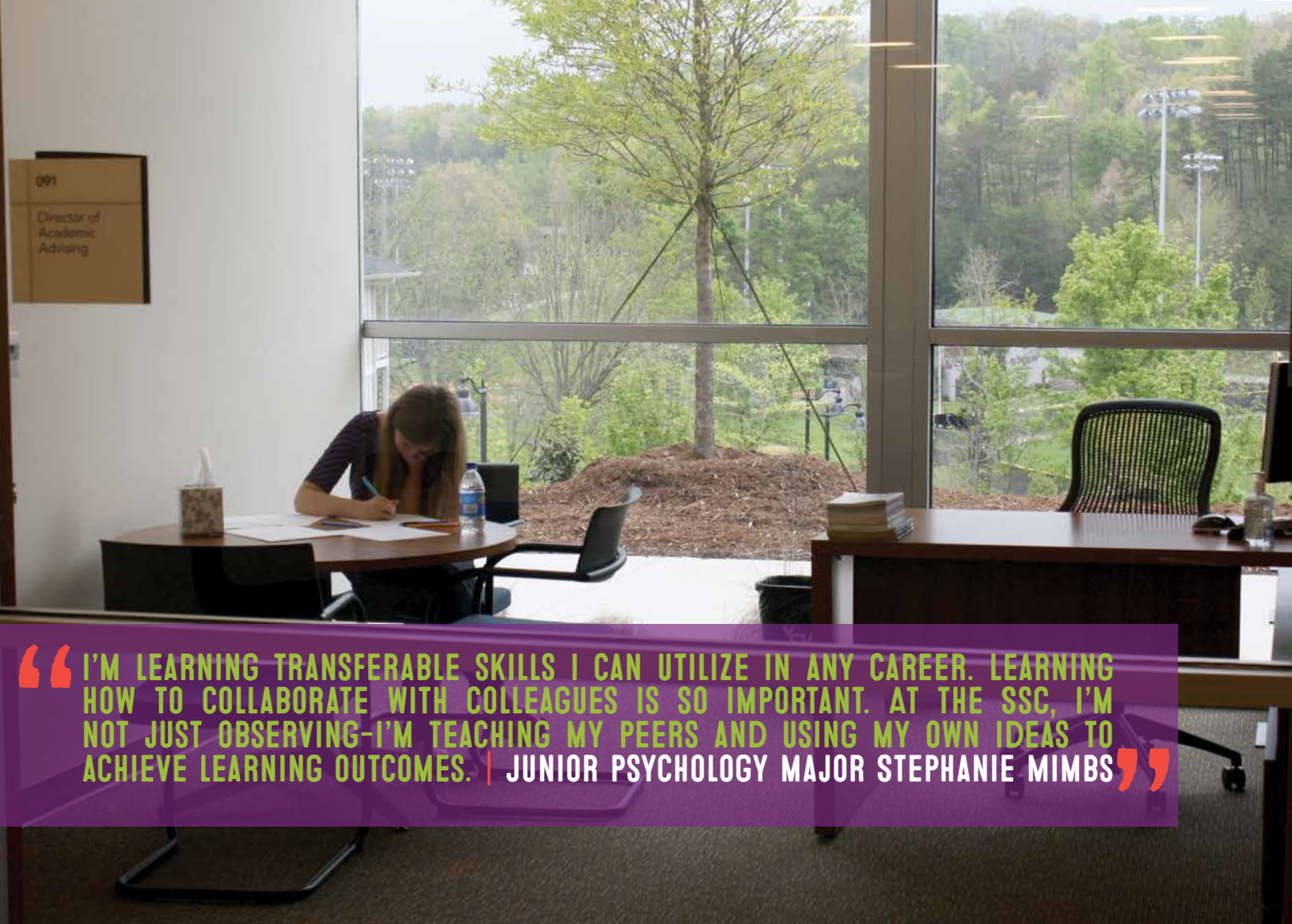
JENNY PATE
Coordinator of Professional and Career Development



PAIGE MCQUADE, '14
Assistant to the Student Success Center



BILLIE YOUNG, '71
Coordinator of Accommodations and Accessibility



“I’M LEARNING TRANSFERABLE SKILLS I CAN UTILIZE IN ANY CAREER. LEARNING HOW TO COLLABORATE WITH COLLEAGUES IS SO IMPORTANT. AT THE SSC, I’M NOT JUST OBSERVING—I’M TEACHING MY PEERS AND USING MY OWN IDEAS TO ACHIEVE LEARNING OUTCOMES. | JUNIOR PSYCHOLOGY MAJOR STEPHANIE MIMBS”

The SSC provides a quiet, comfortable space for students to study, take tests and receive tutoring.

 Visit the SSC online @ yhc.edu/success.

 Follow the SSC on Twitter: @YHC_Success

 Like the SSC on Facebook: facebook.com/YHCSuccess

I’m here to help answer questions and point students in the right direction according to their needs.”

Having a common suite that offers services helps students find the specific support they need. Now under one roof, students have easier access to the academic and career services that provide students with the resources, skills, experiences, and support they are seeking—with a location that helps them feel comfortable and at home.


At the SSC, students not only have an inviting space to learn how to help themselves, but they also have the opportunity to develop leadership skills to assist their fellow classmates through work as peer tutors, mentors and coaches.

“As a transfer student, I knew I needed to be involved on campus in order to thrive at YHC,” said Stephanie Mimbs, a junior psychology major from Loganville. “I’ve been a new student twice, so I really know what it’s like. Being a peer mentor allows me to make first-year

students’ transitions a little more graceful.”

Peer mentors learn how to engage with each other professionally—a valuable skill in a competitive job market. “I’m learning transferable skills I can utilize in any career,” said Mimbs. “Learning how to collaborate with colleagues is so important. At the SSC, I’m not just observing—I’m teaching my peers and using my own ideas to achieve learning outcomes.”

While the SSC officially opened its doors in October, it’s already making a huge difference in the lives of students due in part to the dedication of the center’s hardworking staff who firmly believe in their mission.

“Our students work hard to be successful, and they have a desire to influence their community at large,” said Miller. “I’m continually impressed by my advisees’ ambitions. While the path to accomplishing those goals is not always clear at first, it’s our job in the SSC to help all students create a plan to make their dreams a reality.” 

ADVANCES IN EXCELLENCE

BY JORDAN HARRIS

Today's college students have the world at their fingertips, and they require a technologically advanced learning environment to meet their expectations. In order to meet this goal, professors must stay current on the latest technology for classrooms in order to be effective educators.

Until recently, Young Harris College's classrooms and laboratories did not reflect the high quality of teaching provided by faculty. Without the upgraded technology or training opportunities, professors were not able to keep up with students' fast-paced expectations.

In 2013, YHC acknowledged this gap and applied for a federal grant that would focus on two overarching goals. The first is to provide quality teaching and learning experiences using technology designed to positively affect student outcomes and success, while the second goal looks to improve technology infrastructure capacity to meet current and future demands.

YHC was one of only 39 colleges and universities nationwide to receive the \$2 million Title III Strengthening Institutions Program grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to update and upgrade classrooms, technology, and laboratories.

The grant will be used throughout five

years in five phases, and the most immediate effect of the grant's funding can be seen in the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL).

"A CETL emphasizes the knowledge, techniques, and issues related to teaching and learning," said CETL Director and Assistant Professor of Education Peggy Lumpkin, Ph.D. "The CETL delivers individual guidance for faculty by providing instructional materials and special training with advanced educational equipment, especially in 'smart' classrooms. The center also provides spaces and structures for faculty to share their scholarship and instructional strategies with their colleagues."

While YHC's CETL is primarily utilized by members of the faculty, students also benefit from the advances in technology.

"The center plays an important role by engaging the academic community and, therefore, providing students with a successful college experience," said Dr. Lumpkin.

The CETL officially opened in Fall 2014 and has since hosted numerous workshops and trainings on teaching techniques, instructional technology, and assessment. There is also an ongoing series for academic division deans and department chairs that will continue into the coming fall.

"This year, YHC faculty developed and presented panel discussions, mini-retreats, and workshops in the CETL," Dr.

Lumpkin said. "Prior to the CETL, faculty presentations were held in the Wilson Lecture Hall, the library and in various classrooms. Presentations still occur around campus, but the CETL provides a designated space for faculty to congregate."

In addition to the hands-on activities offered, faculty can access the CETL website for tutorials, resources and a calendar of events.

Funding from the grant was also allocated to upgrade 12 classrooms to become "smart" classrooms.

"The main focus is to get some uniformity among the classrooms so that faculty members can walk into any classroom and get set up quickly," said Instructor of Mathematics and CETL Instructional Technologist Diane Bauman, who teaches faculty how to use the "smart" technology.

"The technology is a tool for faculty and we want it to be a help, not a hindrance. We help them know where every button is in every room so they can focus on the students, rather than the technology itself," explained Bauman.

In fact, the CETL houses an exact replica of the "smart" podiums now found in YHC's classrooms to enable hands-on training and equipment experimentation prior to classroom instruction.

In addition to the CETL and "smart" classrooms, the funds from the grant will also be used to purchase laptops for library research. Additionally, many faculty members received new laptop computers, and software was purchased to enhance animal and human physiology courses within the Department of Biology.

Other plans for the funds include updating the College's server infrastructure to set the stage for future technology and replacing graphic arts lab computers, as well as additional technological advances across campus.

Visit the CETL online @ yhccetl.com.

Follow the CETL on Twitter: @YHC_CETL

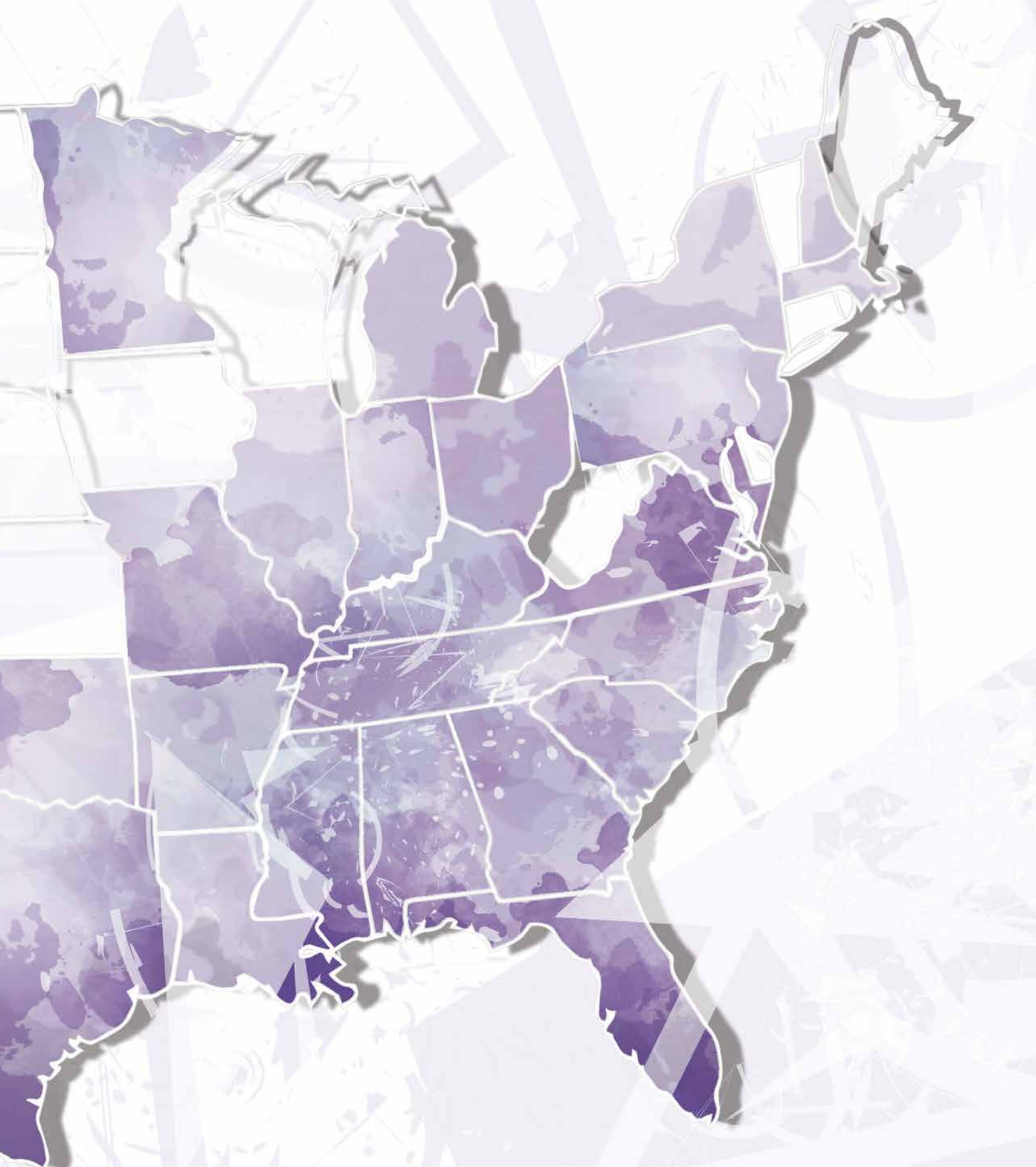


Faculty and staff gather in the CETL for a presentation by Director of the Student Success Center Jaime Miller.



THE STATE OF *Giving*

BY MASON MITCHAM, '14, AND LEANN WALDROUP
ARTWORK BY TINA BRAVO, '17



Young Harris College is tucked away in a quiet corner of the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains, but the impact of the College on alumni and friends is seen across the United States and beyond. In fact, the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign received generous gifts from more than 10,000 donors living in 33 states. We sat down with five of those donors to learn what inspired them to give to YHC.



JIM HUMPHREY, '60

Florida

In his lifetime, James “Jim” T. Humphrey, '60, has been a soldier, a lawyer and a politician. He certainly knows the value of hard work—and learned the discipline needed to succeed during his time in the Enchanted Valley.

“I have fond memories of the two years I attended YHC as a student,” Humphrey said. “Young Harris College and its faculty helped me understand the importance of education, and with that focus on learning, I committed myself to continue until I achieved my goal of becoming an attorney.”

While Humphrey credits the College with encouraging him to complete his education and reach his professional goals, YHC also holds a special place in his heart for another reason. It was on campus that he met and fell in love with his late wife Carolyn Williams Humphrey, '61.

After graduating from YHC, he enrolled at Mercer University—where he was in the ROTC program—and married Carolyn that same fall.

Humphrey's military career took him overseas to Germany following his graduation from Mercer Law School. When he completed his tour of duty, he took up residence in Fort Myers, Fla., where he practiced real estate law.

In the late 1990s, Humphrey was elected mayor of the City of Fort Myers after vowing he would run if he “couldn't convince someone else.” He noted that his interest in public service was sparked during his time serving on YHC's student government.

During his two terms as mayor, Humphrey focused on downtown development and historic preservation, resulting in a thriving downtown environment.

Today, Humphrey serves as Of Counsel at Knott Ebelini Hart, a law firm he founded in 1982.

While he's always kept in contact with his alma mater, he recently became interested in learning more about the College's growth and leadership, noting he was “proud of the academic programs being added as a four-year institution.”

When Humphrey heard about the launch of the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign, he and his daughter, Jennifer, decided they wanted to aid the College's growth by creating the Carolyn Williams Humphrey, '61, Endowed Scholarship in memory of his wife and her mother.

“I am very proud and fortunate to say I convinced the valedictorian of her high school class, who was also an All-State basketball player, to marry and live with me for 30 years before her passing. I am also thankful she was such a good influence on our daughter,” Humphrey reflected.

Now, Carolyn's legacy will serve to help deserving students attend the institution that first brought she and Jim together.



HARRY GAINES, '55

Pennsylvania

Harry Gaines, '55, believes living a good life involves helping others succeed.

Throughout his life, he has mentored young professionals in successful business practices, served on boards of community service organizations, and authored an acclaimed book, *Fitness Beyond 50: Turn Back the Clock*, to motivate adults to become active and healthy. Most recently, he and his wife, Debra Carrier, established an endowed scholarship at Young Harris College.

His altruistic philosophy has had many influences over the years, but part of it stems from the generosity he experienced 60 years ago while he was a student at YHC.

As a teenager, Gaines' mother, Mabel Gaines Fincher, decided he and his older brother would benefit from a new academic environment, and contacted one of her former Sunday school teachers, Dr. Charles Clegg, for advice. He was serving as president of YHC at the time and suggested the boys enroll in the College's two-year high school academy.

“He convinced us to come,” said Gaines, who was a member of one of the academy's last classes. “I paid for my first year at Young Harris through savings from working in a drug store and delivering newspapers.”

When the next academic year began, Gaines did not give much thought to how his tuition was paid. He continued to attend school and worked in the dining hall to pay for a portion of his expenses.

He graduated from the Young Harris Academy in 1955 and continued for a quarter at the College. He then earned his



DR. MARY LASHLEY BARCELLA

Washington, D.C.

B.B.A. degree from Georgia State University in the evening while working full-time during the day.

Gaines went on to serve as executive editor and publisher at Prentice Hall, Inc., and 15 years as CEO of several notable companies.

Years later, Gaines learned of the unexpected gift he received as a student at YHC—his tuition, room and board for his last year at Young Harris was provided by an anonymous benefactor.

“I don’t know why my mother didn’t tell me at the time,” he reflected. “She never learned who paid it, so I have no idea who it was. But, I never forgot that act of kindness.”

The generosity of that anonymous individual and the impressive growth at YHC inspired Gaines and Carrier to establish the Mabel Gaines Fincher Memorial Scholarship Fund. Gaines shares his story with each scholarship recipient and encourages them to consider helping others in the future.

“At various times of my life, different people have really determined my future by their willingness to help me,” he said. “I happen to be a big fan of helping people. This struck me as a terrific way to do so, and that really is the name of the game.”

Dr. Mary Lashley Barcella’s family has deep ties to Young Harris College and the surrounding area. At varying times throughout the last century, her family has called the mountains, lakes and forests of the Enchanted Valley home.

The story of the Lashley family’s connections with Young Harris began when Barcella’s grandfather, Alonzo Erastus (A.E.) Lashley, studied at Young Harris College soon after the institution opened its doors.

“My father used to say that my grandfather had walked to Young Harris from his boyhood home near Calhoun,” recalled Dr. Barcella. “His diploma still hangs in the living room at my mother’s house in Young Harris.”

After graduating from YHC, A.E. married Blairsville native Mary Elizabeth Butts and joined the College’s faculty as a science professor in 1899. He went on to serve in the state legislature and owned farmland that is now part of the local Brasstown Valley Resort.

While A.E. served as professor at YHC, Dr. Barcella’s father, Gene, was born in a house that “still stands, beautifully renovated” today across the street from the College. Gene’s sister, Lucille, grew up to marry 1915 alumnus and former Georgia Governor E.D. River, for whom the College’s softball field is named.

The Lashley family eventually moved south from Young Harris. “In 1915, my grandfather decided the farmland was better—and certainly less rocky—in South Georgia. He moved the family to Cairo where he and my grandmother lived for the rest of their lives,” said Dr. Barcella, who serves as director of North American Natural Gas for IHS, Inc., and is a leading economist within the field.

After Gene retired as a rural mail carrier in Cairo, he and Dr. Barcella’s mother, Elizabeth, ventured back to the Enchanted Valley. The couple eventually purchased a home on the small plot of land A.E. had sold in 1915, where Elizabeth still lives today.

Following Gene’s death in 1988, the family chose to honor him by endowing the Professor A.E. Lashley Scholarship to benefit deserving YHC students.

For more than two decades, Dr. Barcella, along with her mother and brothers, have regularly contributed to the scholarship fund, further intertwining the Lashley family’s story with that of Young Harris College.



TARA TALLMAN LAYFIELD, '08

California

Tara Tallman Layfield, '08, looks back on her time at Young Harris College with fond memories—from camping under the stars and attending shows at O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium to playing Ultimate Frisbee on the College's lawn.

While at YHC, Layfield honed her leadership skills as president of Phi Delta sorority, a group of women with whom she still keeps in contact with today. As many often do, Layfield also developed a sense of adventure during her time in the Northeast Georgia mountains.

The honor student graduated from YHC with an associate of science degree in business and went on to earn a bachelor of business administration degree from the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business in 2010.

Since then, Layfield has climbed the ranks at one of America's most iconic companies—The Hershey Company.

Her positions, ranging from sales to managerial roles, have given Layfield the opportunity to explore the United States.

"My job has enabled me to move and work all over the country which is so fulfilling to me," she said. "I've done all of this traveling in the company of my husband, Dylan."

Since joining The Hershey Company in 2008, Layfield has lived in nearly every corner of U.S., making her home in Tallahassee, Fla., Newport Beach, Calif., and Seattle, Wash., which she noted was her

favorite place to live.

While she adventures out to other parts of the country, Layfield will always consider Young Harris College to be home and she acknowledges it was the generous contributions of others to the College that made her attendance possible.

"The small community, beautiful scenery and amazing teachers had such a huge impact on who I am today," said Layfield, who makes yearly contributions to the Young Harris Annual Fund. "Without donors to fund scholarships, I would not have been able to experience that."

Layfield also takes advantage of her company's generous gift matching program, which doubles her contributions to YHC.

"I'm so thankful for the opportunities I've had," she said. "I want to give someone else that same experience because Young Harris College is such a special place."



SCOTT ELLINGTON

Texas

Scott Ellington gives back to the institution that educated, inspired and empowered his grandmother more than 75 years ago.

"My grandmother, Doris Boles Warbington, '40, attended Young Harris College and always told stories of how much she loved her time there," said Ellington. "She saw the value of education—how it could change people's lives. She had such an affinity and connection with the College, and it's important to us that her legacy is continued."

For that reason, Ellington, a successful partner and general counsel at the money management firm Highland Capital Management, L.P., and his mother, Conni, established the Doris Boles Warbington Scholarship Fund to support the academic endeavors of young women from Gwinnett County pursuing education degrees at YHC.

"My grandmother relentlessly supported the cause of giving everyone an equal chance at an education and a life that they could make their own through effort and diligence," said Ellington, who has followed in his grandmother's benevolent footsteps.



PRESERVING A LASTING LEGACY

Few couples have had a greater impact on the physical and financial landscape of Young Harris College than Lifetime Trustee Dr. William Harry Hill and his wife, Harriet. Their longtime financial support and leadership at YHC includes playing an integral part in establishing the College's planned giving program, aptly named the W. Harry and Harriet Hill Society for Planned Gifts.

The Hill Society is comprised of alumni and friends who have notified the College of specific provisions in their estate plans naming YHC as a beneficiary of a will, trust, life insurance policy or additional planned giving instrument.

Members of the esteemed Hill Society made an undeniable impact on the success of the *Investing the Future* Capital Campaign. Comprising a significant portion of the campaign's overall total, alumni and friends stepped up to establish meaningful legacies.

"I was fortunate that my father left me a trust fund that was enough to pay for four years of college, but I know many students will never have that opportunity unless someone helps them," said Ruth Woolley Sapp, '67, of Grovetown, who, along with her husband Jimmy, has made special provisions in her will to support YHC.

Many of YHC's most generous donors are those who include a provision in their wills or estate plans, knowing they have secured a legacy that matches their life's goals.

In 2012, the College received a \$2.9 million gift from the estate of Doris Futreal Watts, wife of late YHC alumnus Hubert S. Watts, '28, benefitting the Rollins Campus Center.

The following year, the College was the beneficiary of two additional major planned gifts used to create endowed student scholarships. Funds from the estate of Christine Collins totaling more than \$500,000 established the Daisy Gober Collins Endowed Scholarship named in honor of Collins' mother and 1902 alumna, Daisy. A gift of more than \$345,000 from the estate of James Otto Souther established the James Andrew Souther Endowed Scholarship named in honor of Souther's father.

Estate gifts of all sizes remain integral to the success of the College and its students, and the Hill Society is just one of the ways YHC is able to thank and recognize those who have provided for some form of future gift.

"I would encourage people to consider remembering YHC in this way," said Sapp. "It is such an easy and sensible way to share your blessings with those who follow in your footsteps."

For more information about planned giving, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173.

In addition to his work pursuits that include founding the re-insurance company Sentinel Reinsurance, Ltd., he also sits on the boards of the American Heart Association, the Dallas Zoo and the Sportsmen's Club of Fort Worth, an organization dedicated to outdoor educational activities for youth.

Ellington's successful business ventures can be attributed to his hard work and dedication—often working 18 hour days—traits passed down to him from Doris.

"She was very successful taking a small sum of money and rolling up a real estate empire without debt and no aid from anybody as a single mother in the 1960s—that just doesn't happen," marveled Ellington. "As a kid, that's just how I thought adults were. Then when I became an adult, I realized there were no other adults like her."

Over the years, Doris never wavered in her commitment to helping others and, according to Ellington, never forgot the special place where she received an education and memories to last a lifetime.

"My grandmother lived her life with a benevolence I have seen in very few people on this earth. It was almost her life's obsession to help those who were willing to help themselves," he said. "She always used to say she was going to save her pennies and give them to YHC one day. I want to honor her while helping those who, by their efforts, can raise the bar for future generations." ■



Learn more about planned giving @ yhc.edu/plannedgiving.

CALLING ALL MOUNTAIN LIONS!

Did you answer the call? YHC students and alumni recently had the unique opportunity to chat during the annual Phonathon, a seven-week program that works to build relationships and raise essential support for YHC.

"When I discovered that I would be speaking with alumni and hearing about their experiences at the College, I knew it was the perfect job for me," said Emily Harper, a senior business and public policy major from Powder Springs, who was one of 24 student callers this fall.

Phonathon is one of the easiest ways for alumni to pledge their support to the Young Harris Annual Fund. The most recent call session raised more than \$43,000 in pledges from more than 460 alumni, including 146 first-time donors to the College. Although the initiative boosts financial support for YHC, it also works to rekindle connections for alumni.

"I chatted with an alumnus from the 1960s and he spoke about YHC like he was a student last year," said Ali McCollough, a senior music major from Augusta, who noted the conversation made her feel honored to attend a College so revered by its alumni. "He was so supportive of YHC and very interested in hearing about my campus involvement."

The relationships McCollough has built through her Phonathon experience are not out of the norm for student callers, according to Harper. "I feel as though I'm making lasting connections with former YHC students by sharing the experiences we've had and our love of Young Harris," she said.



Alumni from across the generations answered the call during YHC's 2014 Phonathon.

Phonathon will kick off again in Fall 2015 when alumni will have the opportunity to support the College through their pledges and get to know current students on a personal level.

"I loved talking to people who share the common thread of YHC," said McCollough. "Every alumnus I spoke with—from the 1940s through 2014—all remember Young Harris as being a big family. Even as it has grown, the community has not changed. Working as a Phonathon caller made me realize just how blessed I am to be part of the Enchanted Valley."

For more information about Phonathon, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173. To make a gift to the Young Harris Annual Fund, visit yhc.edu/giving.

ALUMNI TAKE THE CHALLENGE

YHC's Class Coordinators officially kicked off the 2014-2015 Class Scholarship Challenge in January. This challenge is a fun and easy way for alumni from across the generations to give back to the College and pay it forward to a deserving YHC student.

YHC alumni—like Alumni Board member and Class Coordinator Tommy Drake, '82, of Blairsville—believe in the power of supporting the institution that helped shape them. One of the ways Drake chooses to do that is through the Class Scholarship Challenge.

"It feels good to give back," said Drake. "We're benefiting students and everyone they will ever come in contact with. One day, these

students will do exactly the same by supporting an institution that has meant so much to them and another generation of the brightest and best."

Organized by Class Coordinators, the Class Scholarship Challenge encourages each alumni class to raise \$1,000 or more each year for scholarships awarded every fall to current and incoming YHC students.

"This project has accomplished a number of things," said Drake. "We have a great reason to keep in contact with our classmates in a consistent manner, we have friendly competition between classes and Class Coordinators, and we support YHC students."

Last year, 56 classes participated in the challenge, and 27 surpassed the \$1,000 goal. More than \$89,000 was raised, representing an increase of more than \$30,000 from the challenge held in 2012-2013.



Join the Class Scholarship conversation by using the hashtags [#youngharris](#) and [#dare2give](#).

BIG *Dance* MAKES BIG IMPACT

YHC presented the fifth annual Big Dance featuring the live music of The Grapevine on Feb. 14. Patrons flocked to the Recreation and Fitness Center for this special Valentine's Day event benefitting YHC's Local Scholarship Campaign.

"Folks from the local community came out to have a relaxed, entertaining evening in the midst of the dreary winter months," explained YHC alumna Peggy Pleasants Thrasher, Ph.D., '59, of Tiger, who invited her nieces and nephews to join her at the event for a "hi-ho good time."

The event raises essential scholarship funds for nearly 300 students from Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Rabun, Towns and Union counties in Georgia as well as Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina.

"The Big Dance is an integral part of the Local Scholarship Campaign," said Dr. Thrasher. "This event is also an exciting way

for alumni to return to the YHC campus for an evening of good music, dancing, and renewing friendships amid an atmosphere of fun and fellowship."

YHC is committed to providing scholarships for local students. For the 2014-2015 academic year, more than \$3.6 million was awarded to students from nearby counties.

"The Local Scholarship Campaign has made it possible for me to spend four

years at a place I truly enjoy and love," said Jade Smith, a senior mathematics major with education certification from Clayton. "I am so blessed and thankful to have people believe in me and help me financially to obtain my goal of teaching in underserved communities."

BELOW YHC faculty and staff members shared the first place award in the annual table decorating contest with YHC trustee Jon Anderson, '65, and friends.



Find out more and see additional photos from the event @ yhc.edu/bigdance.

"At YHC, I am pursuing my dream of playing collegiate golf while getting an amazing education that will help me get into medical school. I want to extend my appreciation to all those who have so generously contributed to this fund that's allowing us to be part of this time of tremendous growth at YHC."

JAMES ROWE

sophomore, biology, Blairsville

"What started as a very modest effort is likely to again raise significant funds for direct scholarships in 2015," said Drake. "The smaller, collective efforts of many individuals can have a great impact."

Alumni interested in participating can make a gift now marked for the Class Scholarship Challenge, make a gift online at yhc.edu/giving or call the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173.

CLASS SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE BY THE NUMBERS

All statistics reflect standings as of June 17.

Class of **1947** in the lead, followed by **1952**

\$83,985.86 received to date

22 classes reached **\$1,000** goal

59 classes participating

MOUNTAIN LIONS ROUNDUP

Fourteen YHC student-athletes were named to their respective sports' All-Peach Belt Conference team.

+ Thirteen YHC student-athletes were named PBC Player of the Week during the 2014-2015 year. + Thirty-three YHC student-athletes were named to their sports' PBC All-Academic Team. + **Sydnee Weaver** earned the PBC's Elite 15 Award for softball—an award honoring student-athletes competing in the championship event with the highest cumulative GPA. + **Kaycee Cash**, **C.J. Wilson**, **Sarah Magill** and **Sydnee Weaver** were each named to the Capital One Division II Academic All-District III Team for their sport. + PBC Defensive Player of the Year **Isaiah Johnson** was named to the NABC Coaches' Division II All-Southeast District Second Team for basketball. + **Sarah Magill**, **Jeanie Perrucci** and **Sydnee Weaver** were named to the NFCA Division II All-Southeast Region First Team for softball. + Women's Lacrosse Head Coach **Katie Ziek** was named Division II All-Independent Coach of the Year, while **Sarah Nudelman** was named Goalie of the Year and **Rachel Lepine** was named Freshman of the Year. + In 2014-2015, **men's soccer**, **softball**, **men's lacrosse**, **women's lacrosse** and **men's tennis** posted the most wins in NCAA-era program history. + The **women's golf** and **baseball** teams earned the PBC Team Sportsmanship Award for their sport. + The **women's cross country** team earned the USTFCCCA NCAA Division II All-Academic Team award. + The **women's soccer** team picked up the NSCAA Team Academic Award. + The **men's soccer** and **men's tennis** teams earned the first-ever berths into NCAA Division II championships, and the **men's** and **women's cross country** teams competed in the NCAA Division II regional meet. + The large coed **competitive cheerleading** team finished in fourth place at the NCA Collegiate Cheer and Dance National Championship.

NEW LEADERSHIP WELCOMED TO THE "VALLEY OF DOOM"

The Young Harris College women's basketball team will have new leadership courtside next fall.

Matt Stearsman, who served as interim head coach since mid-December, was named head coach for the Mountain Lions while Brittany White was selected as the program's assistant coach.

"Matt is an excellent individual who is very knowledgeable about the game of basketball," said YHC Director of Athletics Randy Dunn. "He's an incredibly enthusiastic and passionate coach who I believe will build a program that the entire YHC community will be very proud of."

Under Stearsman's guidance, Young Harris was ranked eighth in the final NCAA Division II statistics in scoring defense and 18th in three-point field goal percentage defense.

"I'm extremely humbled by this opportunity," said Stearsman, who joined the Mountain Lions in 2013 as assistant coach. "This is a special place to coach and there are not many programs in Division II who have the support provided by Young Harris College and this community."

Women's Basketball Assistant Coach Brittany White comes to YHC after spending the past two seasons as a graduate assistant at Delta State University in Cleveland, Miss. With her guidance, the Statesmen were 19-10 in 2014-2015 and advanced to the Gulf South Conference Tournament championship game.

"I'm really excited to have Brittany join our program," said Stearsman. "She was a great player in the Peach Belt Conference and has been an assistant for two very good coaches at Delta State. She's extremely motivated and a self-starter." White attended Delta State after playing NAIA Division I basketball at Southern Polytechnic State University in Marietta and NCAA Division II basketball for Augusta State University—now Georgia Regents University—where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in kinesiology.

While at Southern Polytechnic State, White was named to the all-freshmen team, all-academic team and all-tournament team, as well as the Southern States Athletic Conference Tournament championship team.

White completed her collegiate basketball career at Augusta State, being named team captain during her junior and senior seasons. She contributed to the team's best regular season record in school history, and helped Augusta State finish in sixth place for scoring defense amongst NCAA Division II teams. The standout also finished fourth nationally in steals per game, and first in the Peach Belt Conference.

"Brittany brings many intangibles to the table because she knows what it takes to win on this level. She's proven that already as a player and as a coach," said Stearsman. "She will be great not only for the program but will be someone the community will love."



Women's
Basketball Head
Coach Matt
Stearsman



Women's
Basketball
Assistant Coach
Brittany White



YHC LACROSSE PLAYERS BEAT THE ODDS

When freshman business and public policy major Sean Dever, of Marietta, was 11 years old, he was diagnosed with Osteosarcoma, a bone cancer, in his left knee.

For some, such a diagnosis might have convinced them to give up an athletic lifestyle, but for Sean, an avid lover of lacrosse, giving up was never an option.

Three months after his diagnosis, Sean had rotationplasty surgery to rid his body of the cancer—a treatment that would increase his odds of being able to play the game he loves. Six months after his last round of chemotherapy, Sean played his first post-surgery lacrosse game as his team's goalie—and they won 11-1.

After one particular high school lacrosse match, Sean's mother, Mary Beth Dever, noticed her son chatting with the other team's goalie. To her surprise, she discovered this other goalie was also a survivor of childhood cancer. Freshman biology major Brock Lohnes, of Roswell, was diagnosed with Leukemia at 18 months of age and sustained severe hearing loss.

Now, both young men attend Young Harris College and play on the men's lacrosse team.

"Having the opportunity to play the game that has changed my life at the college level is a dream come true," said Sean. "Being a part of this lacrosse family has meant a lot to me, and I can't wait to see what the next couple of years have to offer."

For Mary Beth, the two boys' shared experience is a testament to their determination and strength.

"I love that these two young men beat the odds, fought like heck and are now back on the lacrosse field doing what they love," said Mary Beth. "They are not rivals anymore. They are warriors."

The men's lacrosse team finished the 2014-2015 season with a winning record, and saw six consecutive wins over intense competitors.



MEN'S SOCCER TEAM, COACH AND PLAYERS RECEIVE PRESTIGIOUS NATIONAL AWARDS

Young Harris College senior business and public policy major and soccer stand-out Ilija Ilic, of Belgrade, Serbia, was recently honored for his achievements on and off the field.

The National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) presented Ilic with the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) Division II Men's Player of the Year award and the Men's Scholar Athlete of the Year award at a special ceremony in Philadelphia, Pa.

"Receiving any of these awards is a goal for all student-athletes in the U.S.," said Ilic. "I wasn't sure how significant they were until I walked out on the stage in Philadelphia. Getting one of the awards is a great achievement, but getting both is definitely a dream come true."

This marks the first time a Mountain Lion or Peach Belt Conference (PBC) player has received either of these prestigious awards. The Men's Scholar Athlete of the Year award is chosen from all NCAA divisions and National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) institutions.

The nationally ranked Mountain Lions enjoyed their finest season in program history, making their first-ever NCAA Division II Tournament appearance and advancing to the quarterfinals before losing to eventual champion Lynn University.

"As I reflect on our accomplishments from this past year, I realize the tremendous heights we reached: a national ranking of No. 2 in the country, a regular season PBC championship and a PBC conference tournament championship in which we went undefeated," said Men's Soccer Head Coach Mark McKeever, who was also honored at the NSCAA banquet with the Division II Southeast Region Coach of the Year award.

"Being named Southeast Region Coach of the Year feels amazing, but you only have to look at the achievements of my players to see that I was working with influential student-athletes who made this season possible," reflected McKeever. "This includes every single player on our roster—not just the student-athletes who received awards. You don't achieve these type of recognitions without having a great team."

Ilic, along with sophomore psychology major Paco Craig, of London, England, senior business and public policy major Lewis Hilton, of Newquay, England, and senior communication studies major Khurram Shazad, of Halifax, England, were placed on the NSCAA Division II All-America Team—more than any other institution and the first PBC school to have four players from one team named All-Americans in men's soccer.

The Mountain Lions also racked up accolades for their academic achievements. They were recognized as having the highest cumulative grade point average for soccer teams in the conference, and collected the NSCAA Academic Team award for the fourth consecutive year. Additionally, Ilic and Hilton were named Scholar All-Americans.

"YHC is one of the best places for student-athletes to be, especially if they want to pursue a good education with great athletic development," said Ilic. "The best facilities, the peace of the mountains, and the great treatment from faculty and staff give opportunities for athletes to progress and develop like nowhere else."

Ilic, Mansour and Shazad will now have the opportunity to expand on the solid foundation established by the YHC athletics program, as the players recently signed contracts to play at the professional level. Ilic will play for the Louisville City FC in Louisville, Ky., along with former teammate Niall McCabe, '14, while Mansour and Shazad will play for the WSG Swarovski Wattens in Austria.

"This is proof of the high caliber of soccer player coming through YHC," added McKeever. "It's important to us that our student-athletes leave the College with an opportunity to become a professional—for some that will be in employment and for many, it will lead to professional soccer contracts. I have a strong feeling there will be more to follow in the near and distant future."

TOP Ilija Ilic received top honors at the NSCAA 2015 Convention. ■

BOTTOM The men's soccer team were Peach Belt Conference champions.



RAISING THE BAR

YHC HONORS 2014 ATHLETICS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Established in 2013, the Young Harris College's Athletics Hall of Fame recognizes individuals for outstanding athletics achievements and distinguished service to YHC and the greater community. The second induction ceremony was held on Nov. 15 as part of the College's Homecoming festivities. "This year provided another strong representation of the tremendous individuals who have competed for YHC over the years," said Director of Athletics Randy Dunn, who presented the night's honors along with YHC President Cathy Cox and Mountain Lions Booster Club President Marvin McArthur, '65. "Each is very deserving of this honor."

CHARLIE BLACKMON, '06

Opting to enroll at YHC rather than turning pro, Blackmon posted a 7-1 record in 14 appearances as a freshman, striking out 49 batters in 44 innings. He helped the Mountain Lions to a GJCAA State Championship in 2005, receiving tournament MVP honors. Following his 2005 season, the Boston Red Sox selected him in the 20th round of the Major League draft and he was also invited to spend the summer in the prestigious Cape Cod Baseball League.

After a successful summer in the Cape, he again turned down a professional contract and chose to return to YHC. He excelled as a sophomore, recording eight wins with 89 total strikeouts. The 2006 season also launched his career as a hitter and he was named to the GJCAA All-Conference team. He also excelled academically and was named to the Dean's List before graduating in 2006 and furthering his education at Georgia Tech.

In 2008, his impressive performance at Georgia Tech led to him being named to the All-ACC second team, ESPN the Magazine Academic All-American second team, and NCAA Athens Regional All-Tournament Team.

The following summer, the Colorado Rockies selected him in the second round of the Major League draft. He has been named National League Player of the Week twice and was selected to the National League All-Star Team.

CORY GEARRIN, '06

During his freshman year at YHC, Gearrin excelled as a pitcher and went 3-1 with 22 strikeouts with a 1.88 ERA in 28.2 innings out of the bullpen, making a team-high 29 appearances.

During the 2006 season, Gearrin posted a 2.55 ERA both as a starting and relieving pitcher, with a team-high 12 wins against just two losses, striking out 88 batters in 81.3 innings pitched. Following the 2006 season at YHC and prior to enrolling at Mercer University, Cory played in the prestigious Cape Cod Baseball League, where he made the All-Star team and was tapped as a top-30 Major League Baseball prospect.

Gearrin's sole season at Mercer in 2007 proved to be a record-setting one, as his 13 saves and 2.44 ERA are still among the all-time single season pitching records. He was drafted in the fourth round of the Major League draft by the Atlanta Braves and made his major league debut against the Padres in 2011, working two perfect innings with two strikeouts. Gearrin has pitched in 77 games with a 3-3 record and 4.28 ERA, recording one save and striking out 68 batters in 69 innings.

Gearrin was presented with the Bill Lucas Award by the Braves in 2012, which recognizes the player in the organization who exhibits the best character and sportsmanship.

REV. DR. DON HARP, '61

Dr. Harp enrolled at YHC in 1959, where he played baseball for two years and was known as an excellent catcher and tremendous hitter for the Mountain Lions as team captain. He had several offers to play professionally, but decided to go into the ministry instead.

Dr. Harp received his bachelor's degree from Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Ala., and was selected as an All-American for the 1963 baseball season. He earned his master's degree in divinity from Emory University, and his doctorate from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago.

Dr. Harp served in the North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church for more than 40 years and currently serves as minister emeritus at Peachtree Road United Methodist Church. He is pastor and theologian-in-residence, and also teaches at Emory's Candler School of Theology.

Dr. Harp has served as a YHC trustee since 1989, chairing the trusteeship committee and serving on the development and executive committees. He has been instrumental in the growth of the College for more than 25 years.

DR. BOB NICHOLS

Emeritus Professor of Mathematics Dr. Bob Nichols taught math, coached tennis and served as director of academic advising at YHC before retiring in 2009 after 42 years in the classroom. He was named Coach of the Year four times and selected as Outstanding Teacher of the Year five times at YHC. Two of his YHC teams won Georgia Junior College championships.

Dr. Nichols was an All-American athlete at Georgia Tech where he served as team captain. He served as president and director of Georgia Mountain Tennis Camp, Inc. from 1973-1985 and was inducted into the Georgia Tech Hall of Fame.

He and his wife, Gayle, ran the popular Georgia Mountains Tennis Camp at the College from 1972 through 1985. In 2012, the couple was recognized for their outstanding contributions to the College when the Bob and Gayle Nichols Tennis Complex was dedicated in their honor. In 2013, Nichols was inducted into the Georgia Tennis Hall of Fame.

The pair currently resides in Young Harris, where Dr. Nichols still plays tennis on campus a few times a week with a group of what he affectionately refers to as "old geezers."

STACIE OAKLEY, '06

During her freshman year at YHC, Oakley was selected as a First Team Louisville Slugger NJCAA Division I All-American. Her success continued into her sophomore year with 301 strikeouts in 183 innings pitched. She had an ERA of .535 with 20 wins and only four



Damien Westfield, '02, Rev. Dr. Don Harp, '61, Charlie Blackmon, '06, Cory Gearrin, '06, Bob Short, '51, and Dr. Bob Nichols attended the 2014 YHC Athletics Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

losses. She was selected to the All-Region 17 team in 2004.

That same year, Oakley spread out four hits and a walk throughout her complete-game performance, striking out nine while leading her teammates to a second-straight Georgia Junior College State title. During the tournament, she had 20 straight scoreless innings and struck out 28 batters in 21 innings, allowing only seven hits and two walks.

Oakley struck out 13 and allowed only two hits to put Young Harris in the championship game of the state tournament. She was instrumental in helping Young Harris return to the national junior college tournament during her sophomore year.

After graduating from YHC, Stacie went on to play for the University of South Carolina-Aiken. She had an outstanding career there where she had 26 wins and 389 strikeouts, which was a long-standing school record.

BOB SHORT, '51

Short played for the Mountain Lions from 1949-1951. He was twice named to the All-State basketball team after breaking the school's individual scoring record for a single season and topped his own record by netting 594 points in an era when there was no three-point line.

Following his career at YHC, Short played for Georgia Teachers College—now Georgia Southern University. He joined the U.S. Air Force where he helped his teammates in scoring and assists before his discharge in 1955. He found a home at the Northside Youth Organization in Atlanta where he coached basketball, baseball and football for more than 20 years.

Short also began a career as a sportswriter for the Atlanta Journal Constitution and later served in various capacities in the administrations of many Georgia governors. He was later appointed Regional Director of the Office of Emergency Preparedness by President Lyndon Johnson. In the mid-1970s, he entered the private sector, and eventually founded his own firm, Investmart, Inc.

After Short retired from the business world, he became special assistant to U.S. Sen. Zell Miller, '51, and his successor, U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson. He wrote an award-winning biography on Georgia Gov. Lester Maddox and hosted an oral history series about Georgia politics which is currently housed in the Zell and Shirley Miller Library.

DAMIEN WESTFIELD, '02

In his sophomore year at YHC, Westfield became captain of the soccer team. Throughout his college career, he received several accolades including First Team All-Region, All-Tournament Team, NJCAA First All-South Team, Team MVP and NSCAA First Team All-American. He is the all-time scoring leader in YHC history with 68 career goals. In 2012, he was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Soccer Hall of Fame.

After graduating from YHC, he attended Creighton University and was named to the Missouri Valley Conference All-Newcomer Team. He was instrumental in helping Creighton win the Missouri Valley Conference Championship, as well as scoring the winning goal to take the school to the NCAA College Cup Final Four. On the international level, Westfield has captained the Trinidad and Tobago under-17 youth national team and played on the under-20 team in tournaments throughout the Caribbean and North America.

He currently holds NSCAA National, Advanced and Premier Diplomas. He became a youth staff soccer coach for the Omaha FC and Nebraska FC Soccer Clubs, and eventually became professor of communications and the men's soccer head coach at Truett McConnell College.

DIMELON WESTFIELD, '01

Westfield was key to elevating the YHC soccer program to the top 10 in the nation.

During his freshman year, he scored 35 goals and had 15 assists. During his sophomore year, he was selected as team captain.

Throughout his YHC career, he received multiple accolades including First Team All-Region, All-Tournament Team, NJCAA First All-South Team and First Team All-American.

Westfield is the first two-time All-American in YHC history and is second for all-time leading scorers at YHC. In 2012, he was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Soccer Hall of Fame.

After YHC, he attended Clemson University. During his senior season, he finished with 20 goals and five assists for 45 points, and was twice named ACC Player of the Week. He was also named National Player of the Week by College Soccer News and was on the National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-American Second Team.

Westfield was a member of the National Society for Collegiate Scholars and was drafted as the No. 22 overall pick in the MLS.

Westfield currently serves as president of the youth department at Bethel New Life for the Chris International Ministry. He is involved in coordinating sporting activities within the community of Coconut Drive Morvant in Trinidad.



Nominate former student-athletes, head coaches, major contributors or even an entire team for the Class of 2015 @ yhcathletics.com/nominatehof. The deadline is Saturday, Aug. 1.



View more photos from the event.





CLOCKWISE FROM TOP The Student Athletic Advisory Committee participated in the annual parade. ■ The men's basketball team defeated Tennessee Temple University. ■ President Cathy Cox lead the Homecoming parade through campus. ■ Alumni and students gathered in front of the Rollins Campus Center for lunch catered by The Varsity. ■ Students showed their Mountain Lion pride at the basketball games.



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE MOUNTAIN LIONS EXPERIENCE

Magic in the Mountains

Following the theme “Magic in the Mountains,” YHC students, alumni and Mountain Lions fans celebrated the home opener of the 2014-2015 basketball season with Homecoming on Nov. 15.

In anticipation of the big weekend, students participated in a variety of challenges and events throughout the week, including a dueling pianos show, trivia night, pep rally on the YHC Plaza, lip sync challenge and an epic dodgeball tournament.

Student organizations had the opportunity to earn “spirit points” during several campus events, including the annual Mountain Lion Madness and “Major Connections!”—an academic majors fair hosted by the Student Success Center.

“I really enjoy seeing the YHC spirit in all the students during Homecoming week each year,” said CAB President and senior history major Ashley Eschbach, of Big Pine Key, Fla., who was nominated for this year’s court. “It’s the time of year when we get to really show off our Mountain Lion pride.”

Students, faculty and staff volunteers attended a food-packing event to assist Stop Hunger Now, an international hunger-relief agency that coordinates the distribution of food and other lifesaving aid around the world.

“Stop Hunger Now is a great way to stop the global deficiency of nutrition for children and families,” said freshman biology major Jana Carpenter, of Savannah. “This organization also provides aid and resource education to those in need. I was honored to be able to participate this year.”



LEFT TO RIGHT Members of the Alumni Association threw candy from their float to parade onlookers. ■ Sophomore Kiley Ward, of Springfield, and junior Darby Stanford, of Alpharetta, posed with Luke the Mountain Lion prior to the parade. ■ The Purple Reign Pep Band entertained Homecoming guests during lunch.

Royal Decrees



ZACH CHAMPION, A JUNIOR OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP MAJOR FROM LAKE LAND, FLA., AND GRACE PATTERSON, A SENIOR ART MAJOR FROM BLAIRSVILLE, SHARED THEIR EXCITEMENT ABOUT BEING CROWNED HOMECOMING KING AND QUEEN BY THEIR CLASSMATES.

"It was a great honor to be nominated by my peers to be part of the Homecoming court. Winning Homecoming King was a huge surprise! To be recognized by my classmates as worthy of this honor was really touching. It was made even better because my close friend, Grace Patterson, was named Homecoming Queen. Being a part of the Homecoming tradition is one of the highlights of my time at Young Harris College thus far."

HOMECOMING KING ZACH CHAMPION

"During my past four years at Young Harris College, I have been actively involved in several organizations, gained incomparable academic, verbal, and social experience, and made lifelong friends. My time here, without a doubt, has been the best of my life and to be voted Homecoming Queen by the student body meant more to me than I can adequately express in words. I am forever grateful for all of the gifted teachers and unforgettable friends who have helped me get where I am today. I will miss this place—my second home!"

HOMECOMING QUEEN GRACE PATTERSON



TOP The Homecoming court included senior Ashley Eschbach, of Big Pine Key, Fla., junior Breann Lindsey, of Lindale, senior Sara Beth Tankersley, of Gainesville, senior Grace Patterson, of Blairsville, junior Zach Champion, of Lakeland, Fla., sophomore Parker Sewell, of Marietta, senior Michael Pomawski, of Ball Ground, and sophomore Espen Myklebust, of Asker, Norway. ■ YHC's Alumni Board and Young Alumni Council met on campus prior to the festivities. ■ Sigma Beta Sigma (Susan B) sorority took home the top prize in the parade float competition.

Despite frigid temperatures, students brought Mountain Lion spirit to a Friday evening pep rally on the Plaza.

Also that evening, the College hosted an induction ceremony for the second class of the YHC Athletics Hall of Fame. Members of the 2014 class included YHC baseball player and outfielder for the Colorado Rockies Charlie Blackmon, '06, YHC baseball player and relief pitcher for the Atlanta Braves Cory Gearrin, '06, YHC baseball player and trustee Rev. Dr. Don Harp, '61, YHC tennis coach and Emeritus Professor of Mathematics Dr. Bob Nichols, YHC softball player Stacie Oakley, '04, YHC baseball and basketball player Bob Short, '51, YHC soccer player Damien Westfield, '02, and YHC soccer player Dimelon Westfield, '01. *[View the full story on these inductees on page 56.]*

"What I see from Young Harris College—from when I was a student here, and what I am seeing now—is people who take care of each other and want to uplift students and help them grow to be successful individuals, husbands, wives and productive members of society," said Blackmon. "I feel very grateful to have been chosen to be in YHC's Athletics Hall of Fame."

On Saturday morning, the sun shone brightly as students, alumni and community members turned out to enjoy a parade on campus. The College's pep band, Purple Reign, entertained the crowd and welcomed floats as they entered the Plaza. Tailgating festivities and a celebratory pre-game picnic lunch catered by Atlanta's world-famous drive-in The Varsity followed on the front patio of the newly constructed Rollins Campus Center. Students and alumni were entertained by YHC's spirited competitive cheerleading team as they dug into delicious hot dogs and burgers.

Former athletes and cheerleaders were recognized in the Recreation and Fitness Center between basketball games, and were cheered on by fans ready to see the Mountain Lions compete as both the women's and men's basketball teams held court for their season openers in the "Valley of Doom."

The YHC women's basketball team defeated Brenau University in an exciting matchup 67-64, while the men's basketball team saw a 93-87 victory over Tennessee Temple University.

During the games, the Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity was named Homecoming Week Champions. Junior outdoor leadership major Zach Champion, of Lakeland, Fla., and senior art major Grace Patterson, of Blairsville, were crowned Homecoming King and Queen.

Students and alumni alike are already looking forward to next year's Homecoming festivities. "My wife, Joyce, and I had been going back to YHC at least once a year until basketball returned and previous players were acknowledged at the half time of the Homecoming game," said Phil Hope, '64, of Savannah. "Last year, we visited three times, and these memories cannot be bought. Seeing people we haven't seen in 50 years is very exciting. We can't wait to come back for Homecoming." ■



Watch the Homecoming 2014 highlights video online.



Save the Date: HOMECOMING 2015 Saturday, Nov. 21

- Pep Rally
- Parade
- Alumni Athletics Reception
- Basketball Games
- Athletics Hall of Fame Induction

Find out more about Homecoming @ yhc.edu/homecoming.

Start the conversation using the hashtag #YHCHC15.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Services.

(706) 379-5334 | alumni@yhc.edu



Former athletes and cheerleaders were recognized during halftime of the men's basketball game. ■ Students cheered on the men's and women's basketball teams to victories.



In The Moment



THE YHC COMMUNITY CAPTURED MEMORABLE MOMENTS THROUGH PHOTOS AND SHARED THEIR EXCITEMENT WITH THE INSTAGRAM WORLD DURING HOMECOMING 2014.



Our float is all ready for the Homecoming parade!

Gamma Psi Sorority



The campus of Young Harris College: the most beautiful school in the South.

Scott Thompson, '93, Lawrenceville



What'll ya have?!

YHC Residence Life Coordinator
Hilary Martin



Going back to an old subject.

John Trotter, '91, Clarkston



Luke the Mountain Lion and I are so excited for the Homecoming parade!

Sara Beth Tankersley, Psychology, Gainesville



Phi Alpha Phi is ready for the Homecoming parade!

Breann Lindsey, Outdoor Leadership, Lindale

CLASS NOTES

Share your news with other Young Harris College alumni and friends.

Send achievements, announcements and photos to: Young Harris College Class Notes
P.O. Box 275 Young Harris, GA 30582 | alumni@yhc.edu | yhc.edu/alumni

ACHIEVEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1930s



Margaret Goolsby LeCroy, '38, recently visited the YHC campus with her family in November. She has fond memories of taking turns with her roommates sleeping on the porch of old Appleby Center, and Sunday afternoon walks where she would pick fresh fallen apples to eat right off the ground.

1960s

Chuck Clowdis, '64, was a guest speaker at the "Jump Start 2015" annual conference held in Atlanta in January. He spoke on the forces impacting the motor carrier service providers from global economic prospects to

diesel fuel prices. More than 500 people attended the session. Clowdis serves as managing director for global transportation in the IHS economics and country risk sector, where his team is responsible for delivering comprehensive data and advisory support to providers of cargo transport services worldwide as well as federal and state government agencies.

1980s

Christopher Linter, '88, of Ellerslie, was appointed to the Harris County Planning Commission representing District 5 by Circuit Court Judge and County Commissioner Joey Loudermilk. The Planning Commission hears applications for the rezoning of property and makes a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

1990s

Amanda "Mandy" Nolen Seals, '94, of Marietta, was recently selected as 2015-2016 president-elect for the Junior League of Cobb-Marietta. She was also selected to serve on

the National Task Force for Higher Education Government Relations, a 15-member group that plans its annual meeting sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges, the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, and the Association of Public Universities and Land-Grant Colleges.

2000s

George Larsen, '02, attained his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Georgia in Fall 2014. He has accepted a postdoctoral position at the Savannah River National Laboratory in Aiken, S.C.



Jason Norton, '02, has qualified to attend the LPL Financial SUMMIT 2015 conference, an event for the highest tier of advisors at LPL Financial LLC, the nation's largest



STAYING CONNECTED

YHC recently launched a new and improved version of yhc.edu. The site's responsive design allows users to have the same experience via desktop, tablet, and mobile devices, and includes many exciting features, beautiful images, and specialized landing pages. The site's new virtual tour and interactive map give prospective students first-hand accounts of life as a student on the YHC campus. Visit yhc.edu/tour today to learn more.

independent broker-dealer. Norton, who resides with his family in Whitesburg, is celebrating his 11th year as a professional in the financial services industry. He recently hosted a special Valentine's Day event for his widowed clients and their friends. The group dined at a local Italian restaurant and was escorted to and from dinner in a white stretch-Hummer.

Francisco Writers' Grotto Fellowship, a program dedicated to fostering emerging writers who have demonstrated a commitment to their craft but who are not yet widely published. Through the fellowship, Jessica will have the opportunity to meet established writers, do readings and engage in other activities to develop her writing over a six-month period. She is currently pursuing her M.F.A. in creative writing at San Jose State University.

2010s

Jessica Keaton, '11, was recently awarded the San

Continued on page 64



YHC alumni from the 2000s gathered at Red Brick Brewing Company in Atlanta.

ALUMNI EXPERIENCE DECADE GATHERINGS

The Office of Alumni Services recently launched new programming designed to bring together alumni who experienced YHC during the same time period. Known as "Decade Gatherings," groups from across the generations have mixed and mingled at locations including Atlanta's Botanical Garden and Stone Mountain Park. Visit yhc.edu/alumni/events to find out when classmates from your decade are getting together.

A Tribute to Hugh M. Tarbuton | 1932-2015

Hugh Tarbuton served YHC as a loyal and dedicated member of the Board of Trustees for 30 years after being nominated by G. Milton Goolsby and elected in 1972. He then served for 13 years as an emeritus trustee.

A life-long resident of Sandersville, Tarbuton earned a bachelor's degree in business administration at Emory University. Following his graduation, Tarbuton assumed the role that would ultimately become his greatest passion—railroading.

For more than 60 years, Tarbuton was employed by and served as president of The Sandersville Railroad Company. He never tired of working to ensure the Sandersville Railroad provided quality service to its customers.

The longest-serving member and two-time chairman of the Georgia Ports Authority, Tarbuton's expertise in and devotion to the transportation industry extended to the state's port system, which he recognized as crucial to Georgia's economic future.

In addition to his work in the transportation industry, Tarbuton was active in real estate development and timberland acquisition and management, developing the first shopping center in Washington County.

Tarbuton also served on many corporate and advisory boards, and was a founding member and original officer of the

Sandersville-Washington County Chamber of Commerce. He was also the co-founder and co-owner of B-H Transfer Company.

He was a member of Sandersville United Methodist Church and served the church in many capacities.

As a YHC trustee, Tarbuton served on the Endowment, Development and Long-Range Planning Committees, providing sound advice for many years. He was an early benefactor of the Miller Family Scholarship and a generous supporter of the Zell and Shirley Miller Library.

For his distinguished service to YHC and The United Methodist Church, Tarbuton was awarded the College's highest honor, the Young Harris College Medallion, in 2002.

A devoted family man, Tarbuton was married to his wife, Gena, for 53 years. He had four children—including current YHC trustee Loulie Tarbuton Reese—and eight grandchildren.

He passed away on Jan. 7 at the age of 82.



Remembering Byron King, '35 | 1915-2014

Esteemed educator and YHC alumnus Byron King, '35, taught in public and private high schools for more than 30 years, educating countless students in the subject of English.

King grew up in the rural community of Fort Gaines in Southwest Georgia. After graduating from YHC as valedictorian, he received a B.A. from Vanderbilt University and a master's degree from Peabody College. King also studied at Columbia University through a John Hay Whitney Fellowship.

He enjoyed traveling, and after retiring from the classroom, visited nearly every state in the U.S. and traveled to Japan, China, Australia, New Zealand, and Greece alongside his sister, Hortense "Tensie" King Fowler.

In addition to his years in the classroom, King's dedication to education could also be seen through his

generous gifts to his alma mater. He and Tensie named a classroom in Goolsby Center and created the Erasmus Grier Fowler Math Award in honor of King's nephew, which is presented annually to the College's most outstanding mathematics student.

Additionally, the William Byron King, '35, English Award was established in 1986. Given to the most outstanding freshman English major, the award highlights "the importance of written communication in a world now attuned to the visual media."

King was also an avid supporter of the Young Harris Annual Fund and a member of the W. Harry and Harriet Hill Society for Planned Gifts—securing a meaningful legacy that will benefit future generations of YHC students.

For his support of the College over the years, King was awarded the YHC Alumnus of the Year Award in 1987 and the Iuventus Award—given to an alumnus who has made significant contributions to the education of our youth—in 2005.

King passed away on Dec. 26 at the age of 99.



Continued from page 62

Brad Rutherford, '14, is the field test coordinator for Pure Fishing—the leading global provider of fishing tackle, lures, rods and reels—in Columbia, S.C.

Tom Valichka, '14, joined the team at Brown Haven Builders in Hiawassee, bringing more than five years of construction experience to the company.

ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES & BIRTHS

1960s

Margaret Greer Davis, '66, of Auburn, Ala., is proud to announce the birth of her first grandson, Christian Andrew Brinkley. Margaret and her husband, Andy, are both retired and enjoy babysitting Christian Andrew. She loves reconnecting with her classmates from YHC and noted the best two years of her life were at Young Harris.

1980s

Lt. Col. Michael Thomas, '80, of Vienna, Va., married Kimberly Ann Kolifraith Kern on Nov. 22, 2014.

1990s



Jared Downs, '96, and his wife, Kathryn, of St. Simons Island, are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Carolyn Emma Downs on March 2, 2014. Emma weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 21 inches long.

2000s



Bridget Larsen, '00, and **Ryan Leverette, '04**, of Athens, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Oliver Keats Leverette, on Sept. 26, 2014. Oliver weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. He was welcomed home by proud big sister Juliet Eliana Leverette.



Brent Snodgrass, '05, married Gabrielle Bohan on Oct. 11, 2014 in Newnan, where the couple currently resides.



Teresa Kinzalow Dossett, '06, and her husband, Jacan, of Eatonton,



Alex Fairchild, '07, married Ashlea Wiley on Feb. 7, 2015, in Tallahassee, Fla. Alex's groomsmen included fellow YHC alumni **Hunter Garrison, '07**, and **Hank Tumlin, '07**. Alex and Ashlea currently reside in Atlanta.

welcomed their first child, Rylee Louise, on Sept. 30, 2014. Rylee weighed 7 pounds, 15.9 ounces and was 21 inches long.



2010s



Jesse Brock, '13, and **Kelsey McEntyre, '13**, were married in May 2014, and the couple completed their masters degrees in May 2015. Jesse has been accepted into an American history Ph.D. program at Mississippi State University and Kelsey has been accepted into a sport pedagogy Ph.D. program at the University of Alabama. Both have earned prestigious teaching assistantships that will cover the cost of their programs.

Clayton Franklin, '08, married Allyson Waters in Ocho Rios, Jamaica on Sept. 27, 2014.

RETIRED AND CURRENT FACULTY ENJOY THE YOUNG HARRIS CONNECTION

This spring, YHC's Office of Alumni Services hosted a luncheon for current and retired faculty in the Rollins Campus Center. The group shared stories of their days spent teaching at YHC and got to hear about what's going on at the College today. Prior to lunch, current students led tours of the new building for the attendees.



ALUMNI LEADERS MAKE PLANS



YHC's Alumni Board and Class Coordinators mixed and mingled during a meeting and lunch at Luna's Restaurant in Gainesville, this January. These dedicated groups help plan class reunions, alumni gatherings, Alumni Weekend events, and other activities that help alumni stay connected and keep Young Harris vibrant and exciting. Later in the evening, the Young Alumni Council met over dinner to plan exciting events for the year.



In Memory of Bishop Charles W. "Handy" Hancock, '44 | 1924-2015



Bishop Charles W. "Handy" Hancock, '44, was active on the YHC campus as a student, serving as freshman class president, president of the Young Harris Debating Society, president of the Ministerial Association and member of the Spat Club.

After graduating from YHC, he went on to earn his bachelor of arts degree from Emory University and his master of divinity from the Candler School of Theology. He was awarded the doctor of divinity from LaGrange College in 1967.

Bishop Hancock was ordained deacon and elder in the South Georgia Annual Conference and served in numerous pastoral appointments including the Bloomingdale and Butler Circuits, Dawson Street United Methodist Church in Thomasville, Porterfield Memorial United Methodist Church in Albany, Epworth United Methodist Church in Savannah, Mulberry Street United Methodist Church in Macon, and First United Methodist Church in Valdosta. He also served four

districts as superintendent including Columbus, Thomasville, Statesboro and Macon.

Bishop Hancock was chairperson of the Conference Agencies Board of Missions and Church Extension, Council on Finance and Administration, and Board of Directors for the Wesleyan Christian Advocate. He dedicated several years of service to the Board of Ordained Ministry, Board of Evangelism, the Historical Society of The United Methodist Church and the South Georgia United Methodist Foundation.

He was a delegate to seven jurisdictional conferences and six general conferences. The South Georgia Annual Conference awarded him the Harry Denman Award for Evangelism in 1986, and the Southeastern Jurisdictional Conference elected him to the episcopacy in 1988. Prior to his retirement in 1992, he was assigned to the newly created Alabama-West Florida Episcopal Area.

In 2001, Bishop Hancock was named a trustee emeritus at YHC after serving as a member of the Board of Trustees for several decades. For his dedication to the ministry and Christian service, Bishop Hancock was awarded YHC's Artemas Lester Award in 2013.

Bishop Hancock passed away on March 13 at the age of 91.

IN MEMORIAM

Bertha N. Bagwell, '46
Nov. 29, 2014

Susan B. Bagwell, '58
Dec. 6, 2014

Henry M. Barnes, '60
Nov. 15, 2014

Leo Burgess, '38
Jan. 1, 2015

Barbara L. Curry, '57
Jan. 13, 2015

Robert Ensley, '50
May 4, 2015

Jack E. Garrard, '40
May 11, 2015

Herbert C. Gibson, '56
March 25, 2015

Rebecca M. Green, '44
Feb. 22, 2015

Charles W. Hancock, '44
March 13, 2015

Herman C. Harden, '57
Jan. 29, 2015

Mary Hill, '45
April 18, 2015

Brenda K. Houle, '65
Dec. 9, 2014

Margaret H. Jamison, '46
Jan. 19, 2015

Lucille Johnson, '43
Feb. 2, 2015

Ralph T. Johnson, '55
Nov. 11, 2014

Patricia Kennedy, '50
Dec. 8, 2014

W. Byron King, '35
Dec. 26, 2014

Jessilyn Knight, '75
March 1, 2015

C. F. Martin, '37
Feb. 16, 2015

Smythy A. Murphy, '55
March 21, 2015

H. Mack O'Kelley, '56
Feb. 7, 2015

Vicki H. Prophet, '69
Nov. 3, 2014

Deke Richards, '66
Feb. 27, 2015

Rebecca L. Sailors, '62
April 8, 2015

Robert E. Sherrer, '64
Oct. 15, 2014

Larry P. Shore, '02
Jan. 31, 2015

Donald L. Southerland, '60
Feb. 8, 2015

Hugh M. Tarbutton
Emeritus Board Member
Jan. 7, 2015

C. Edward Terry, '56
Nov. 26, 2014

Ron S. Thomas, '69
Dec. 16, 2014

James W. Thurman, '58
Nov. 18, 2014

Frankie Vinson, '58
Feb. 15, 2015

THE LAST WORD

Overheard@YHC:

The opening of the Rollins Campus Center in October sparked exciting conversation among YHC alumni, students, faculty, staff, parents and friends. Check out what they had to say about the largest building ever constructed at Young Harris College.

-  Our new student center is unreal and has completely surpassed all my expectations. **Ashley Starnes, '16**
-  The Rollins Campus Center is a real show-place and will benefit our students for decades to come. **Former Interim President and Academic Dean Clay Dotson**
-  Wow, I wish YHC would have had Chick-fil-A® when I was there! **Michelle Kueffer Ussery, '02**
-  YHC has its own Starbucks! Lucky kids!! **Melissa Lord Bramlett, '90**
-  Look forward to touring the beautiful center soon. We watched it being built from ground up via webcam and just driving by when we're in Young Harris. Congratulations! **Becky B. Johnson**
-  The new student center far surpassed my expectations. Way to go! **Austin Tibbetts, '18**
-  Toured this wonderful building recently. So proud my grandson has the opportunity to attend Young Harris. **Carole Rackley, grandparent of Jonah Rackley, '18**
-  Got to tour this grand facility. YHC should be proud. Thanks to all that made it possible. **Robert Yonchak, parent of Anna Yonchak, '18**
-  I was there last weekend for Family Weekend. My son took me on a tour and it was fabulous. The views from every part of the building are remarkable. The building is top quality and just absolutely gorgeous. Not to mention, it is a much needed building that will be a huge asset to YHC. **Vickie Root, parent of Aaron Barfield, '16**
-  Waiting for our new student center to open was well worth the wait because it is awesome! **Emilyann Pittman, '18**
-  This is even more beautiful in person. It offers great space for the students to gather and hang out. **Pam Jenson Jones, '75**



Join the conversation on Twitter @YH_College and on Facebook @ facebook.com/YoungHarrisCollege.

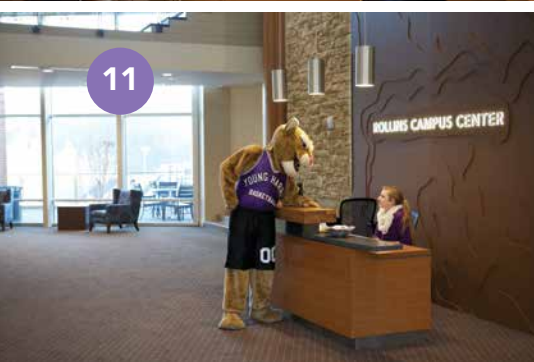
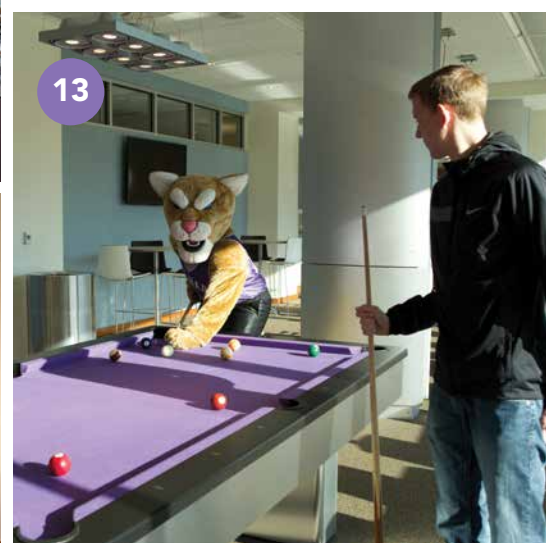
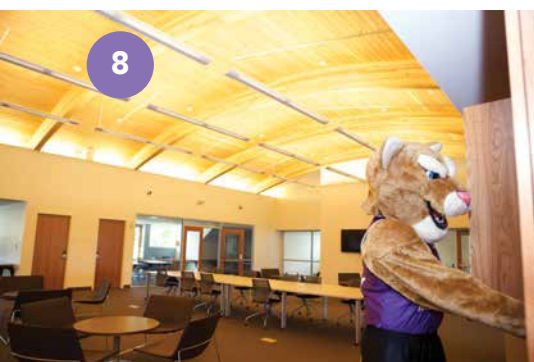
Where's Luke?

Luke the Mountain Lion made his way through the Rollins Campus Center, exploring all four levels of the 121,000-square-foot building and making friends along the way. Match Luke's location with the name of the space for your chance to win a special YHC prize! Email your answers to echoes@yhc.edu.

1

ANSWERS

- Chick-fil-A® Express
- Grace Rollins Dining Hall
- Grace Rollins Dining Hall Balcony
- Harry and Harriet Hill Library Floor
- Lobby
- Mary Ripley Warren Student Organization Loft
- Pool and Foosball Lounge
- Second Floor Balcony
- Starbucks
- Student Success Center
- Theater and Gaming Lounge
- Wyck and Shell Knox Common Area
- Zell and Shirley Miller Library Third Floor





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Alumni and friends took to Facebook to share the first word that came to mind when they thought of YHC. Although the landscape of the campus may change over time, there are many things that remain certain—Young Harris College leaves a lasting impression on those who have spent time learning and growing in the Enchanted Valley. YHC will forever be a HOME away from home.