

Echoes

FALL/WINTER 2012

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Ciao da
Italia!

Students spread
the Young Harris
spirit abroad

Alumni Weekend
Highlights and Awards

Hollywood
Comes to the Enchanted Valley

Competitive Cheerleading
Debuts at YHC





On the Cover

More than 20 Young Harris College students experienced the breathtaking beauty of Italy during a 16-day study abroad experience led by several faculty members in May. During their visit, the group explored and studied firsthand significant works of art and architecture, such as the iconic Roman Colosseum. *See story on page 12.*

PHOTOGRAPH: SCOTT DEAN

On this Page

Right: Members of the Young Harris College baseball team served as extras in the recent Clint Eastwood film *Trouble with the Curve*. For several days in April, campus was filled with the sights and sounds of a real Hollywood movie crew on site to film a scene at Zell B. Miller Field. Above: Later, the team got the celebrity treatment during YHC's special private screening party for the movie in September. *See story on page 30.*

PHOTOGRAPHS: SCOTT DEAN

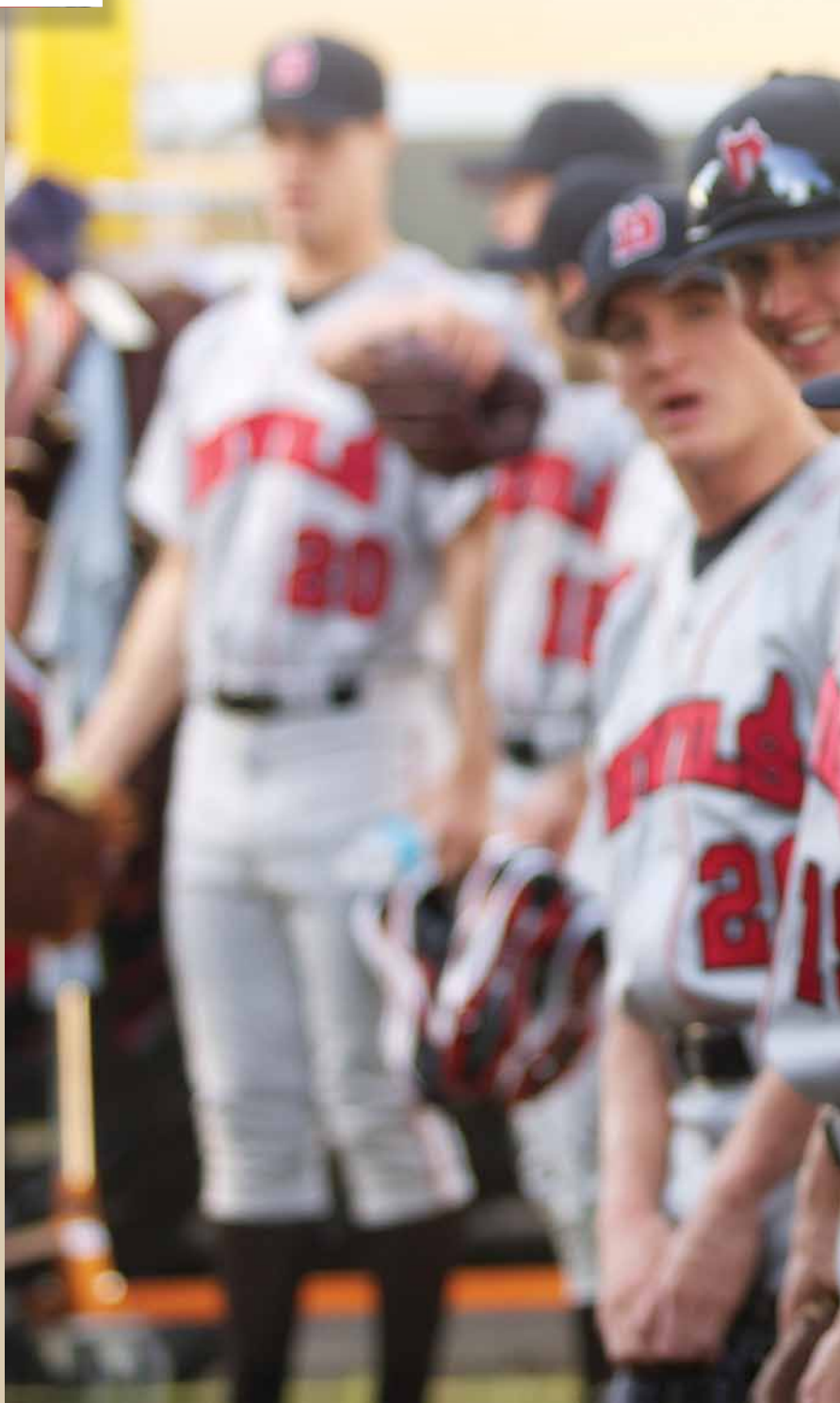
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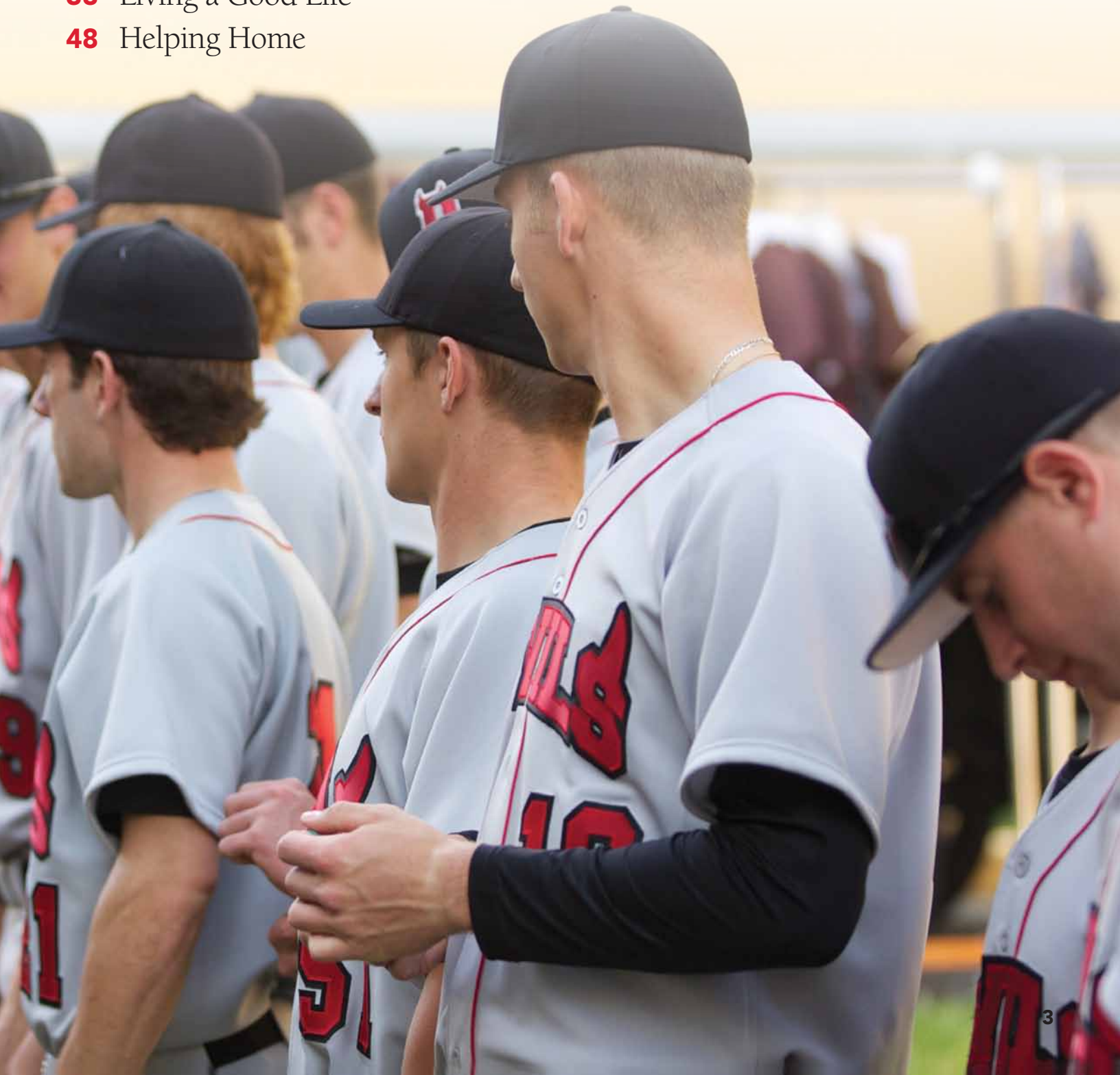


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The Secret Is Out

Shortly after I was selected to become the president of Young Harris College, one of the trustees said to me, “We’re the best-kept secret in the mountains!” I wasn’t sure that was exactly a good thing.

Now, five years later, that certainly can’t be said about YHC! Since we started on our “adventure” in 2007 to restore YHC to a four-year college, we have:

- experienced more than a 60 percent increase in enrollment (1,034 students this fall);
- more than doubled the size of our faculty (now 80 full time and 26 part time);
- implemented 16 bachelor’s degrees and 15 minors; and
- constructed nearly \$50 million in new facilities.

And perhaps most significantly, we’ve embarked on a widespread campaign to let future students—and indeed, the world—know what an incredible education you can receive here in this beautiful valley, surrounded by the inspiring mountains of north Georgia.

Would you be surprised to learn that we have students enrolled this fall from 26 different countries? Many are student-athletes, and a significant number are also coming here through exchange programs and special connections to the College for our unique academic experiences. We also have students from 24 American states—making the array of accents and dialects on campus delightfully interesting. (And thanks to Clint Eastwood’s recent movie filmed on campus, we now have a number of YHC ambassadors and cheerleaders on the west coast as well as our name “in lights” across the country in the movie credits!)

YHC students have also left campus for study abroad and mission trip experiences during each of the last five years. Fine art students have traveled to see Italy’s greatest art treasures and China’s historic artifacts; honors program students have toured Greece and Russia; and individual students have explored Spain, England, other parts of Europe, South Africa and elsewhere for life-changing study and service experiences. Next summer, two dozen YHC students will venture to Ireland for a study of great literature. More plans and international partnerships are in the formative stages.

Given the global economy and “flattening” of the world that our students will be required to master and maneuver when they graduate, the exposure to new ideas and new people that our students get in and outside the traditional classroom, and daily on our campus, better prepares them for success in the real world that awaits them.

We’re going to be pretty bold in our outreach over the next couple of years as we aim to reach our enrollment goal of 1,200 students, and continue to add majors, attract superb faculty and staff, and enhance our campus and academic programs for an even stronger and more diverse educational experience.

We don’t want this news to be a secret—help us spread the word whenever, and wherever, you can!

Warmly,



Cathy Cox
President



YHC President Cathy Cox met Hollywood legend Clint Eastwood on the set of the movie *Trouble with the Curve*.
(See full story on page 30.)

Echoes

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YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE NAMED 'College of Distinction'

Young Harris College has been named to the prestigious "Colleges of Distinction" for the second consecutive year for providing students with the best learning experiences in undergraduate education. YHC is among fewer than 300 colleges and universities from across the country to earn the accolade.

The goal of Colleges of Distinction is to provide students, counselors and parents with information about colleges and universities that excel in the four areas of distinction: engaged students, great teaching, vibrant communities and successful outcomes. Featured schools take a holistic approach to admissions, consistently excel in providing undergraduate education and have a truly national reputation.



» To learn more and to read YHC's profile in the online guide, visit collegesofdistinction.com.

YHC WELCOMES LARGEST ENTERING CLASS

Young Harris College recently welcomed its largest-ever entering class comprised of 437 freshmen. Fall 2012 marks the largest enrollment in the history of the College with 1,034 students on campus, continuing a trend that began in 2007 of steadily increasing enrollment figures.

"We were thrilled to welcome the largest freshman class in Young Harris College history this August, as we also broke overall enrollment records for the sixth consecutive year," said YHC President Cathy Cox.

The previous freshman enrollment record of 406 set in Fall 2008 was surpassed by more than 30 students this fall, and the current overall enrollment represents a 17 percent increase from Fall 2011. Since the transition of YHC to a four-year institution began in 2006, the College's total enrollment has increased by 71 percent.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE NAMED TO **RATE MY PROFESSORS** Top 25 List

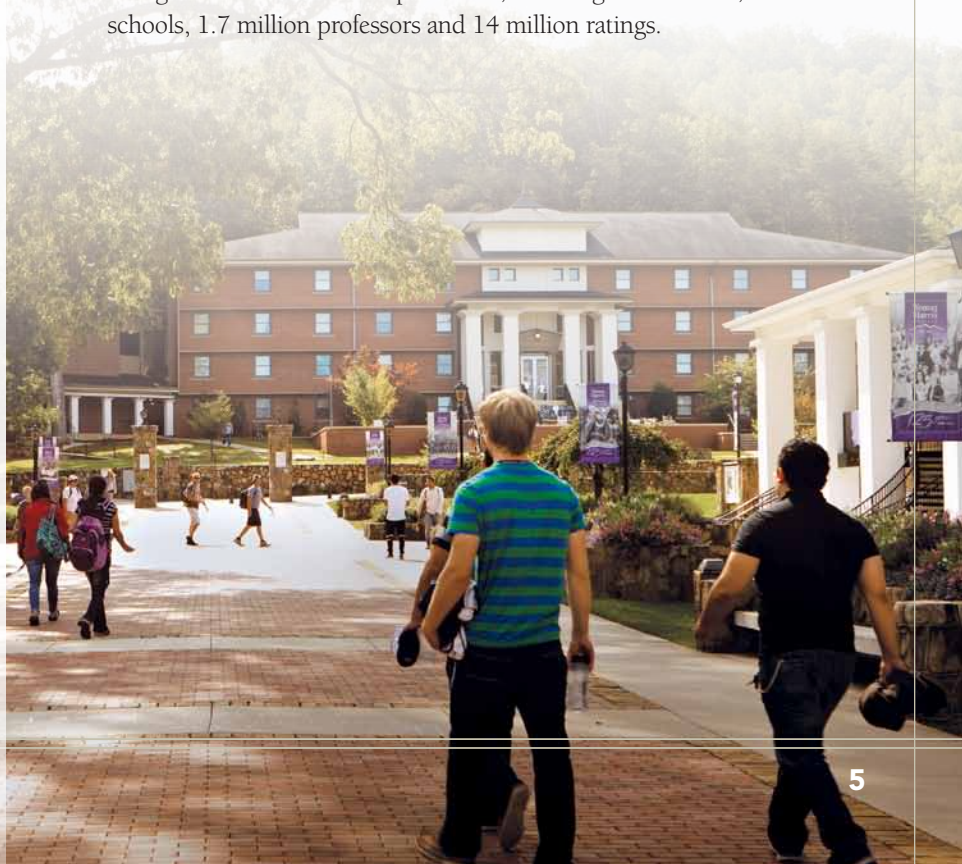
Young Harris College was recently named to the Top 25 Colleges and Universities for 2011-2012 by RateMyProfessors.com, the largest online destination for college professor ratings based entirely on students' input. The only Georgia institution to make the list, YHC was ranked 18th out of more than 7,500 colleges and universities across the nation in the website's annual lists of the nation's top professors and universities.

"There's no higher honor for teachers and schools than to be praised by the students who are being impacted by their influence every day," said Carlo DiMarco, senior vice president for strategic partnerships and development at mtvU, which operates the website.

Rankings were determined by analyzing both professor ratings and campus ratings. Different from typical college rankings, this list is generated entirely from the input of the students themselves—providing an authentic overview of daily life at each respective school.

"Young Harris College is widely renowned for the outstanding personal attention and mentoring that students receive from their professors," said YHC President Cathy Cox. "In fact, many alumni continue to talk about the positive impact their professors made on their lives and remain friends with their mentors long after college."

RateMyProfessors.com is the highest-trafficked U.S. college professor rating site (comScore) and reaches an average of six million college students each month. Owned and operated by MTV's college network, mtvU, the website consists entirely of student-generated ratings of current or former professors, featuring more than 7,500 schools, 1.7 million professors and 14 million ratings.



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE ADDS

Spanish Major And New Innovative Minors

This fall, Young Harris College introduced a new bachelor's degree program in Spanish and also added two

new minor programs in sustainability and Appalachian studies and community engagement.

"This Spanish degree is an important and exciting addition to the College's curriculum. There is a high demand

for people who can communicate in Spanish, as well as people who can teach it," said Foreign Language Department Chair and Associate Professor of Spanish Diana Santiago, Ph.D. "Our department also encourages students to enhance their linguistic and cultural competency in Spanish by studying abroad in Spain or Latin America."



Dr. Diana Santiago leads discussion in a Spanish class.

The sustainability minor provides students with the background necessary to develop solutions for critical issues facing the global economy, such as challenges regarding environmental conservation and creating sustainable cultures.

"To get at the core of what it means to live in a sustainable manner is to also explore issues such as economics, public policy, resource utilization and social justice in addition to the scientific concerns of climate change and loss of biodiversity," said Dean of the Division of Mathematics and Science and Associate Professor of Biology Linda Jones, Ph.D. "I am delighted that we now offer a sustainability minor to help prepare our students to face one of the biggest

challenges of the 21st century."

The minor in Appalachian studies and community engagement introduces students to the study of the Appalachian region through engagement with its history, people and places. All courses incorporate field experiences with local organizations and agencies.

"This minor is an outstanding addition to our liberal arts curriculum," said Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Community Engagement and Professor of Communication Studies Ron Roach, Ph.D. "The program not only gives students the opportunity to study the rich history and culture of the Appalachian region but also gets them outside the classroom to experience the mountains and serve the community."

» For a complete list of academic programs offered at Young Harris College, visit yhc.edu/degrees or, from your smart phone, visit m.yhc.edu and select "Academics."

RECORD ENROLLMENT PROMPTS YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE TO

Expand Student Housing Options

In August, Young Harris College completed a second phase of new housing construction that added 100 more beds to The Village, an apartment-style residential community for upperclassmen that opened in Fall 2011. The five new townhomes clustered along Maple Street provide much needed additional housing for the College's growing enrollment.

"YHC is carrying a lot of momentum right now, and prospective student interest has really skyrocketed as we've come into our own as a four-year college," said Vice President for Enrollment Management and External Relations Clint Hobbs, '88. "Our decision to move forward with completing the second phase of The Village was based in part on our accelerated enrollment projections that have exceeded all expectations."

The Village now consists of 13 three-story houses. Each apartment features four private bedrooms, a living area, kitchen and washer and dryer.

It was constructed to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards and is expected to earn LEED certification.

This year's enrollment surge and projected increase for the 2013-2014 academic year has prompted immediate plans for additional housing to open in Fall 2013.

"Our original plan was to steadily grow enrollment to around 1,200 students by 2024, but we will likely reach enrollment capacity much earlier than projected," said Hobbs. "This rapid growth necessitates the addition of yet another residence hall that can accommodate our growing student population."



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE Welcomes New Faculty

Ten new full-time faculty members joined Young Harris College in August for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Dr. Paul Alonso, assistant professor of communication studies

Dr. Amy Boggan, assistant professor of psychology

Dr. Germán Campos-Muñoz, assistant professor of Spanish

Ashley Carr, assistant professor of education

Chris Crawford, assistant professor of theatre and chair of the department of theatre

Dr. Todd Jones, assistant professor of business and public policy

Dr. Joseph A. Pate, lecturer of service learning and outdoor leadership and director of academic service learning and the Bonner Leaders Program

Dr. Chris Richardson, assistant professor of communication studies

Jeremy Waltman, assistant professor of art

Dr. John Wayman, assistant professor of music and music education coordinator



A new 222-bed residence hall replacing Appleby East is set to open in Fall 2013.

In September, construction began on the area comprising Appleby East and the adjacent outdoor recreational court as YHC prepares to add a 222-bed residence hall for freshmen and sophomores.

"The College has made several key decisions to provide quality housing options for upperclassmen, but we also need an affordable housing option for our freshmen and sophomores," said Director of Residence Life Stuart Miller. "Because of Appleby East's age and limited number of beds, it just didn't make sense to try to renovate the existing space."

The new residence hall will be configured in "pods," or small communities consisting of students living in different sizes and styles of rooms surrounding a common bath area. Each pod will also feature lounges and study alcoves, providing students with ample areas to study and socialize.

"The innovative pod concept is a growing trend in residence life nationwide," explained Miller. "It's unique in that it provides both living and learning spaces that encourage student interaction and fosters a sense of community during the first couple of years on campus."

» Visit yhc.edu to watch construction progress live.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE Names New Deans, New Division

Professor of Education **Bill Brown**, Ed.D., has been named dean of the newly established Division of Education. Dr. Brown serves as the director of the Teacher Preparation Program. He received B.S. degrees in forestry and education and an Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction (secondary science education) from the University of Tennessee. He earned M.A. and Ed.S. degrees in secondary science education from Tennessee Technological University.



Dr. Bill Brown

Previously structured as part of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, the Teacher Preparation Program was approved by the YHC Board of Trustees in Spring 2012 to become the College's fifth academic division.

Associate Professor of Biology **Linda G. Jones**, Ph.D., has been named dean of the Division of Mathematics and Science.

Dr. Jones earned her B.S. in biology from Stetson University, and both her M.A. in biology and Ph.D. in pathology from Vanderbilt University. She completed her postdoctoral studies in pharmacology at the University of California, San Diego.



Dr. Linda G. Jones

Associate Professor of Art and Chair of the Art Department **Ted Whisenhunt** has been named dean of the Division of Fine Arts.

Whisenhunt earned his B.F.A. from Birmingham-Southern College and his M.F.A. from The Florida State University. He also studied traditional Italian oil painting at the University of Lorenzo de Medici in Florence, Italy.



Ted Whisenhunt

Celebrates

Second Four-Year Commencement with More Graduates

The 2012 Commencement marked Young Harris College's second year of conferring baccalaureate degrees. More than twice as many seniors participated in this past spring's ceremony as did in 2011. Friends and families of the nearly 100 seniors joined in the special activities, which included the traditional hike and Vespers Service atop Brasstown Bald and a symbolic Baccalaureate Service.



Vespers Provides Uplifting Kickoff to Festivities

Students were invited to begin celebration of Commencement activities with the traditional seven-mile trek to the top of Georgia's highest mountain, Brasstown Bald, where graduates, their families and friends, and YHC faculty and staff gathered for the annual Vespers Service at sunset. More than 85 hikers joined about 70 other participants from campus on top of Bald Mountain for a picnic and service of worship and reflection.

Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religious

Studies Rev. Dr. Tim Moore delivered an inspiring message, and graduating students inaugurated a new tradition of releasing purple balloons into the sky over the Enchanted Valley. Each environmentally friendly balloon contained a seed that would "change the ground they land on," just as the new graduates are meant to touch the lives of those where they land after leaving YHC.

Rev.
Dr. Tim
Moore



Top: YHC students enjoyed a "Chick-fil-A picnic" prior to the Vespers Service. Bottom: All students who attended the Vespers Service received a keepsake photo of the YHC campus.

Seniors Honored at Baccalaureate Service

Graduating seniors, along with family, friends and members of the YHC community, gathered in Glenn Auditorium on the eve of the 2012 Commencement ceremony to share in worship during the College's Baccalaureate Service.

Rev. Dr. Barbara Brown Taylor, Harry R. Butman Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Piedmont College, addressed the students during the ceremony.

Each senior chose a special mentor who shared in worship during the service and presented their degree candidate with a special purple stole to wear with their cap and gown the next day. As part of another tradition at the College, a bell chimed for each senior to signify their transition from students to alumni.

YHC President Cathy Cox presented each senior with a "green" Bible, printed with organic ink on recycled paper, as a reminder of Young Harris College's spiritual heritage and the importance of spiritual growth and faith while in college and throughout life.



YHC Associate Professor of Biology Dr. Linda Jones (right) presents Kaylin Canup of Jefferson with her graduation stole.



Above: YHC President Cathy Cox presents Jacob Connelly of Madison with his "green" Bible.

Left: Members of the Young Harris College Concert Choir and Chamber Choir performed during the Baccalaureate Service.



Rev. Dr. Barbara Brown Taylor



Above: Jordan Fleming, Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Rev. Dr. Tim Moore, Marcus McGill and Amanda Noonan

» Watch video highlights at youtube.com/youngharriscollege and browse through photos from the weekend at flickr.com/youngharriscollege.



Graduates Receive Prestigious Awards

YHC President Cathy Cox presented special student awards to deserving seniors during the 2012 Commencement ceremony.

In recognition of the graduating senior with the overall highest grade point average, the **Dr. Charles R. Clegg Outstanding Scholar Award** was presented in a five-way tie to **Heather Catherine DelGiorno** of Juliette, **Rachel Lynne Wilkes** of Crawford, **Miriam D. Torres** of Roswell, **Heidi Louise Kruger Sherlock** of Warne, N.C., and **Mayeli Medina** of Dalton.



Allison (Allie) Matulia, of Fayetteville, was presented the **Zell B. Miller Leadership Award** for significant contributions to campus life at Young Harris College as an outstanding leader and role model.



Tara Lynn Shiver, of Covington, received the **Young Harris Spirit Award**, which recognizes the student who best demonstrates outstanding levels of personal integrity, friendliness and engagement with the campus community.



Algernon Sydney Sullivan Foundation President Stephan McDavid presented YHC's inaugural **Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award** to **Austin Dean Freeman**, of Hartwell, and the inaugural **Mary Mildred Sullivan Award** to **Alexandria (Ali) Nicole Neese**, of Marietta. Created nearly a century ago to honor the service leadership of their namesakes, the awards are given by the Foundation to individuals whose nobility of character and dedication to service sets them apart as examples for others.



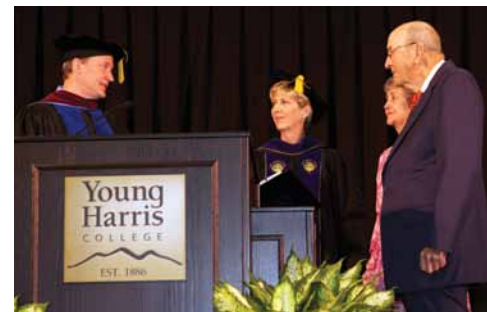
Ceremony Culminates with Degree Conferrals

Friends and families of the 146 degree candidates gathered in Young Harris College's Recreation and Fitness Center on the morning of Saturday, May 5, to take part in the 2012 Commencement ceremony. Ninety-nine seniors received bachelor's degrees in biology, business and public policy, communication studies, English, history, music, musical theatre, outdoor leadership and theatre. Additionally, YHC awarded 47 associate degrees in allied health, art, business, education, liberal arts, music, science and theatre, and many of these students returned in the fall to continue pursuing their bachelor's degrees.

United States Senator Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., delivered the commencement address to the graduates, sharing with them "six secrets to success."

U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson received an honorary doctor of public service degree following his address to the graduates.

President Cox also conferred an honorary doctor of humane letters degree on YHC trustee Dr. W. Harry Hill and his wife, Harriet Hargrove Hill, of Powder Springs. Few couples have had as great an impact on the physical and financial landscape of the College as Dr. and Mrs. Hill, and their longtime financial support and leadership at YHC has included playing an integral part in establishing the College's planned giving program.





President Cox presented Isakson with an honorary doctor of public service degree following his speech, in recognition of more than four decades he has dedicated to serving the citizens of the State of Georgia and the United States through roles in the Georgia Legislature, the Georgia Board of Education, the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. Prior to entering politics, Isakson served in the Georgia Air National Guard from 1966 to 1972.



Right: The Young Harris College Medallion, the highest honor bestowed by YHC to alumni and friends who have made extraordinary contributions, was awarded to Atlanta's Pam R. Rollins, in recognition of her leadership on the College's Board of Trustees and as chair of the College's capital campaign. In March, Rollins announced a \$22 million lead gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation to help YHC build a new 125,000-square-foot campus center.



Above: Representatives from the Class of 1962 marched with the 2012 graduates in recognition of their 50th anniversary of their own Young Harris College graduation.

Right: The Young Harris College Class of 2012 with President Cathy Cox



TOUR OF *Italy*



BY KRYSTIN DEAN

Every day, travelers from around the globe visit the Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore, better known as the Duomo, in Florence, Italy. After climbing up worn limestone steps on a narrow spiral staircase, visitors arrive at the base of the cathedral's massive 375-foot-tall dome, standing merely feet away from breathtaking frescoes of *The Last Judgment*.



In Florence, students marveled at the Duomo's frescoes (right) before climbing angled steps between the dome's inner and outer shells (above).



L-R, Madison Black of Suwanee, Katie Freeman of Hartwell, Audrey McLendon of Lilburn, Aaron O'Tuel of Hartwell, Allison Burnham of Perry, Kyle Huneycutt of Blairsville, Rebecca Fordyce of Arnoldsville, Katheryn Woods of Cleveland, Ga., and Grace Patterson of Blairsville enjoyed the view of Tuscany after making a memorable 296-foot climb to the top of the Leaning Tower of Pisa.



The group made the trek to San Miniato al Monte, a basilica that stands atop one of the highest points in Florence and provides spectacular views of the city and Tuscan countryside.



It becomes clear that the structure is actually a dome within a dome as the 463-step climb continues up angled steps between the inner and outer shells. Finally, a wooden ladder leads to a platform on the dome's peak that provides spectacular panoramic views of Florence and Tuscany.

When a group of 21 Young Harris College students made this memorable trek in May, they were not thumbing through guide books. Instead, they were mulling over minutiae about the

impressive technical genius of the dome's architect, Filippo Brunelleschi.

"Climbing the dome is a single memory I will cherish," said YHC Director of Study Abroad and Lecturer of English Eloise Whisenhunt, Ph.D. "Everyone on the trip had read *Brunelleschi's Dome* and was clearly excited to get inside the dome and see the implements Brunelleschi invented to build it."

"Just seeing the Duomo is one thing, but knowing what sort of obstacles Brunelleschi had to overcome to build it completely enhanced my experience when I saw it in person," added Kyle Huneycutt, a senior art and English major from Blairsville.

This past spring semester, students enrolled in a comprehensive course designed to enhance their experience abroad during a 16-day immersive tour of Italy. The class was taught by Dr. Eloise Whisenhunt along with

Dean of the Division of Fine Arts, Art Department Chair and Associate Professor of Art Ted Whisenhunt and Campus Gate Art Gallery Director and Adjunct Instructor of Art Scott Dean.

Through lectures, class discussions and hands-on activities, the course provided an introduction to many aspects of Italian culture and history. Students learned to identify and evaluate important works of

In Pisa, the group explored the Piazza del Duomo ("Cathedral Square"), which includes four religious edifices: the Duomo, Campanile, Baptistry and Camposanto.



Students toured the Roman Forum (left) and Colosseum (above left) in Rome, and took a gondola ride in Venice (above).



PRICELESS Memories

To offset costs, a percentage of all 2011-2012 gifts to YHC's Friends of the Arts (FOTA) fund were used to reduce expenses for Young Harris College students participating in the Art Tour of Italy study abroad trip. These contributions made it possible for freshman art major Grace Patterson, of Blairsville, to have the unforgettable experience of meeting her Italian relatives for the first time during the excursion.

"Not only was I able to gaze at wondrous masterpieces of artists like Bernini and Caravaggio during this trip, but I also had the amazing opportunity to spend a day with members of my family who live near Lucca. Only one of my cousins, Vito, could speak English, so he had to translate everything I said for them. They all were so kind and excited to see me. They took me to the house where my grandmother was born, welcomed me into their home, served me delicious gelato at their family-owned shop and gave me a tour of the walled city of Lucca. The time I spent with them flew by so fast. I wanted to stay with them forever and mesh into their culture and society. Other than in my own home, I have never felt so loved. I really want to go back and stay with them for a longer period of time. This experience was monumental—I will always remember it," Patterson said.



Above: Grace Patterson (second from right) met (from left to right) her second cousin Clara Mangoni, great-aunt Zia Luigina Giambastiani, third cousin Vito Mangoni and great-uncle Mario Giambastiani during a day trip to Lucca.



Left: L-R, Camden Goddard of Blairsville, Katheryn Woods of Cleveland, Ga., Rebecca Fordyce of Arnoldsville, Kyle Huneycutt of Blairsville, and Aaron O'Tuel of Hartwell hiked between the quaint villages of Cinque Terre ("Five Lands") on the Mediterranean coast.

art and architecture from different eras, including ancient Rome, the Italian Renaissance and the Baroque Period.

"To start our journey in January within a classroom setting was a great way for all of us to learn about each other while preparing for the trip in a completely unique way," Dean said. "We all had something different to bring to the table, and it was interesting to see the students' proficiency about various Italian topics—from literature to language to architecture—develop over the course of the semester."

As part of the course, students read selections that directly related to the cities the group visited. Works by Dante, Boccaccio and Virgil provided the class with an appreciation of the value and influence Italian authors have had on literature, while works by American authors like Keats, Browning and Twain gave insight into Italy from a tourist's perspective.

"Our goal was for students to have a fuller experience because they could hold up what they learned in class and compare it to what was before them," Dr. Eloise Whisenhunt said. "Since we largely focused on works written by tourists, I hope students see



Left: The group paused for a photo in Venice.

Above: Melissa LeViner of Cartersville explored the Capitoline Museums in Rome.

that the tourist experience can inspire, and that the students will therefore be inspired, no matter their field of study.”

In May, the group took what they had learned overseas. They continued their studies of Italian art, literature and culture while touring museums, cathedrals and historical monuments in many of Italy’s cultural and historical centers including Florence, Rome, Venice, Lucca, Pisa, Siena and Cinque Terre.

“Looking at art slides on a screen or in a book is easy to forget. The sights, sounds and smells of the ancient Pantheon or Sistine Chapel will be engraved in their memories forever,” Ted Whisenhunt said. “Studying and traveling abroad also broadens students’ horizons and world views. Suddenly other cultures and world events become more real for them.”

“The trip to Italy was a real eye-opener for me,” added Camden Goddard, a junior art major from Blairsville. “Experiencing a completely new culture and learning to respect a different way of life was the most important thing I took away from the experience.”

The excursion included tours of seven renowned art museums and galleries throughout the country (see sidebar on page 17), as well as many distinctive churches like St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome and St. Mark’s Basilica in Venice. The YHC group also explored the cities on foot, with small teams of students making on-site presentations regarding specific landmarks or cultural elements of the region.

“Unlike the experience in other art classes, it was incredible to actually see what we had studied,” said Kathryn Woods, a senior education major from Cleveland, Ga. “Visiting Michelangelo’s *David* was particularly memorable for me. Standing in the presence of such a huge and well-known piece of statuary was incredibly

mind blowing.”

“Walking through the Colosseum and Pantheon in Rome had the biggest impact on me,” added Grace Patterson, a sophomore art major from Blairsville. “Ancient Roman and Greek history is my favorite thing to study, and I can’t even explain how breathtakingly beautiful those pieces of architecture still are.”

During the trip, students had the opportunity to apply valuable skills and knowledge gained during the course regarding travel etiquette, photography,



The group discussed the architecture of and toured St. Mark’s Basilica in Venice (left) and St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome (right).



philosophy of travel, language and regional foods. Students documented their travel experiences in a journal, which touched on specific assigned topics as well as simple day-to-day reflections.

“My main goal in life is to travel the world, so I really enjoyed the portion of the class dedicated to the art of traveling abroad,” said Audrey McLendon, a sophomore art major from Lilburn. “I gained so many new friends by going on this trip, and the fact that we were all really close highlighted the whole travel experience in an unforgettable way.”

The group made time to savor the unique scenery of each city, from the endless labyrinth-like canals and streets of Venice to the vast shell-shaped Piazza del Campo in Siena to the rugged

coastline and charming hillside villages of Cinque Terre.

Students examined the wares of colorful vendors in Florence’s Mercato Centrale (Central Market), navigated the intricate waterways of Venice’s Grand Canal during a traditional gondola ride and plunged into the clear refreshing waters of the Mediterranean Sea.

In true Italian fashion, the group often ate family-style dinners at local eateries, where they tasted authentic cuisine from

spaghetti alla carbonara to frutti di mare. They also sampled fresh bread and pesto, local cheeses and meats and delicious gelato in every flavor from coffee to coconut.

“Diving into a new culture and really stepping out of my comfort zone in Italy has given me confidence to travel to other places,” said Allison Burnham, a junior art major from Perry. “I literally loved everything about the

trip—the people, cities, food and art. The only thing I didn’t like was the plane ride back to the United States—I didn’t want to leave.”

“This trip allowed me to make new friendships that are still growing and developing today,” added Heather Poole, a junior English major from Young Harris. “The memories from the trip will remain close to my heart long after I leave this campus.”



Above, left: Dean of the Division of Fine Arts Ted Whisenhunt addressed students during a visit to the Pantheon in Rome.

Above, right: The group visited the Museo dell’Opera del Duomo in Florence.



FAMOUS ITALIAN Museums

In addition to marveling at famous works of architecture throughout Italy like the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Colosseum, the Young Harris College travelers took in some of the most famous works of art in the world while visiting seven well-known museums.

FLORENCE

The **Museo dell’Opera del Duomo (Museum of the Cathedral Works)** contains original works of art created for the Duomo, including *The Deposition* by Michelangelo, a pietà intended for his tomb, and Lorenzo Ghiberti’s doors for the Florence Baptistery called the *Gates of Paradise*. The first academy of drawing in Europe, the **Accademia di Belle Arti (Academy of Fine Arts)**, features *David* and four unfinished *Prisoners* by Michelangelo intended for the tomb of Pope Julius II.

VENICE

The **Peggy Guggenheim Collection**, a modern art museum on the Grand Canal was originally the private collection of the American heiress Peggy Guggenheim and features works like the *Birth of Liquid Desires* by Dalí and *The Poet* by Picasso. The **Uffizi Gallery** is one of the oldest and most famous museums in the world, featuring *The Birth of Venus* by Botticelli and *The Annunciation* by Leonardo da Vinci.

ROME

The **Borghese Gallery** is housed in a breathtaking villa located alongside the famous Borghese gardens and features *Apollo and Daphne* by Bernini along with some of Caravaggio’s most famous works, like *Boy with a Basket of Fruit* and *Sick Bacchus*. The **Capitoline Museums** feature the *Capitoline She-Wolf* that is portrayed in many forms around Italy and the equestrian statue of Emperor Marcus Aurelius. The **Vatican Museum** houses a vast collection established by the Roman Catholic Church throughout the centuries, including the *Raphael Rooms* that lead to his famous masterpiece, the *Sistine Chapel*.



» Scan this code to watch highlights from the tour.

Visit yhcitalytour.blogspot.com to read more about the excursion.

A *Good* Fit

BY PEGGY COZART

It was 1997 or so when Eloise and Ted Whisenhunt got a first, unknowing glimpse into their future. The recently married, young graduate students had accompanied Eloise's father on a driving trip through north Georgia. Like so many, they were surprised Georgia even had mountains, let alone that they were so close to the Atlanta metro area. During a stop in Young Harris, the couple—with plans for teaching careers—remarked what a dream college town it was and went on their way, not really thinking much about the town or Young Harris College again.

They returned to school in Florida, earned their degrees and secured teaching positions at Judson College in Marion, Ala., where they spent 11 years. While at Judson, they met a transfer student from

Young Harris College, still a two-year institution at that time. A few years later, relatives bought a house in nearby Sautee Nacoochee, allowing the couple to spend some time in the beautiful area.

Perhaps these encounters were just enough to pique Ted's interest when he came across a YHC job posting just as the College was making the transition to a four-year program. He applied, got the job and was thrilled.

However, "It was a perfect fit and the worst timing it could be for me," said Eloise, who was in the final throes of completing her dissertation. Despite imperfect timing, they made the move, though Eloise admitted to examining the local grocery store before making the commitment to leave the tiny town of Marion. "I checked out the cheese aisle," she said.

Ted was hired to serve as associate professor of art and chair of the Department of Art while Eloise began doing adjunct work at YHC and other area colleges. In August of this year, Ted was named dean of the Division of Fine Arts, and Eloise joined the YHC faculty full time as a lecturer of English and director of the study abroad program.

Both grew up in the suburbs of Birmingham—they actually met at summer camp when she was 15 and he was 16. Both went to Birmingham Southern College and each expresses a strong appreciation for their small, liberal arts college experience.

"The peer pressure was to make good grades, to write that 'A' paper, to succeed," Eloise recalled. Ted added, "I think it helped me. With smaller classes, I had somebody looking out for



Eloise and Ted Whisenhunt

me, and challenging me.” Of the Young Harris College experience, he believes, “When it’s a good fit, it’s a good fit. Not everybody will like it, but those who do, love it.”

The Whisenhunts do indeed love what they have found in Young Harris. A strong sense of place and culture permeates their lives and their work, and according to Eloise, that was much of what drew them to the College and the town, which they saw as an ideal place to raise their now seven-year-old twins.



Dr. Eloise
Whisenhunt

Both Eloise and Ted have studied in Italy—she, Italian and he, painting—and have traveled extensively. Ted can cite roughly 35 domestic and international museums that they have visited, including such varied institutions as the Louvre, the Vatican Museums and The Andy Warhol Museum. Ted strongly believes in “the value of travel as a key to developing a working knowledge of art, architecture, literature and culture,” and both Whisenhunts have a drive to share this with their students.

This past spring they, along with Campus Gate Art Gallery Director and Adjunct Instructor of Art Scott Dean,

taught a semester-long course that culminated in a two-week tour of Italy.

“Culture is a huge part of it,” said Eloise, adding that even at the end of each day’s scheduled activities she and Ted often would find themselves making dinner plans with their young charges. “I enjoy their company,” she said.

Eloise, who holds a B.A. from Birmingham-Southern College, an M.A. from The Florida State University and a Ph.D. from The University of Alabama, describes her role as director of YHC’s study abroad program as “looking for opportunities for our students.” She has a vision of making the program a unique part of the YHC experience and, in her words, “something that sets us apart from other schools.”

“Currently we have three students studying abroad—in Costa Rica, England and Spain,” Eloise said. “This coming summer, in 2013, a group of students will be studying in Ireland. This experience will be the culmination of spring semester courses in both English literature and biology.”

Knowing costs can be a limiting



Ted Whisenhunt discussed the architecture of St. Mark’s Basilica in Venice during the YHC Art Tour of Italy study abroad trip.

factor for students hoping to study abroad, she points out that a \$5,000 Woodward Scholarship is available to help defray the costs of attending Harlaxton College in England for summer studies. “The generosity of alumni and donors like the Woodwards offers life-changing opportunities for students,” she explained. Eloise also was thrilled when members of YHC’s Friends of the Arts organization provided substantial financial support to help each of the 21 students who participated in the Italian study program.

Additionally, Eloise teaches composition courses to incoming freshmen. “These are rigorous courses; they learn how to write an academic essay. It’s important for all of their course work. I feel privileged to teach so many members of the incoming freshman class,” she said. The small class size allows valuable one-on-one time with her students. “I can explain things and show them the way to grow and improve their writing.”

Her other half, Ted, is very much a working artist. He holds a B.F.A. from Birmingham-Southern College and a



Ted
Whisenhunt

“We have made family decisions about our career paths and we feel that Young Harris College is a good fit for career and family.”



Cornbread
Ted

"We make many connections in the region with community leaders and people outside of academia that would not be possible if not for the band performances."

M.F.A. from The Florida State University and has participated in numerous solo and group showings throughout the South. He also has collaborated across disciplines. Notably, working with music author Fred Fussell, Ted's artwork was featured at six galleries throughout Alabama in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution's New Harmonies exhibition celebrating roots music.

Through his work as chair of the Art Department and dean of the Division of Fine Arts, Ted has been instrumental in guiding the transformation of an old elementary school building into a thriving Fine Arts Annex across the street from YHC's main campus. He has also implemented the academic transition from the two-year associate of fine arts degree to the four-year bachelor of arts in art degree.

"When I arrived in 2009, there were 12 art students in the A.F.A. program," he said. "Currently, with only freshmen, sophomores and juniors, there are 34 art majors seeking the bachelor of arts in art degree."

Musically talented as well, the Whisenhunts comprise one half of the old-time string band Cornbread Ted & the Butterbeans. Their YHC colleague

Assistant Professor of Philosophy Jamie Watson, Ph.D., who chairs the Department of Religion and Philosophy, and his wife, Darlena, round out the roster. "Cornbread Ted" plays instruments ranging from the unusual six-string banjo to blues harp and fiddle, while Butterbean

the performance. In his best Eastwood impersonation, Ted squints his eyes, purses his lips and remembers Clint pulling him aside and asking, "What do you have there, a six-string banjo?"

"I guess it's odd that we have done so much together," said Eloise, "but we—it sounds cheesy to say this—but we make a good team."

"The Joseph Campbell quote 'Follow your bliss.' has always meant a lot to me," added Ted. "We chose careers in fields that we are passionate about. Teaching at the college level has kept us intellectually

fulfilled and allowed us to travel and live in a small-town environment, which is what we want for our family. We have made family decisions about our career paths, and we feel that Young Harris College is a good fit for career and family."



Cornbread Ted & the Butterbeans met Clint Eastwood (center) while performing at the wrap party for the movie *Trouble with the Curve*, which filmed at YHC and in other parts of Georgia.

"Weezie" (Eloise) handles duties on upright bass. The band allows them to engage in the local and surrounding communities in a way they may otherwise miss.

"We make many connections in the region with community leaders and people outside of academia that would not be possible if not for the band performances," explained Ted.

They play at festivals and gatherings throughout the region, including a recent gig at the Biltmore Estate in Asheville, N.C., but report a true career highlight was playing the wrap party for the locally filmed Clint Eastwood movie *Trouble with the Curve*. Along with Clint, Justin Timberlake and Amy Adams were front and center during

Weezie (Eloise)



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE ALUMNI

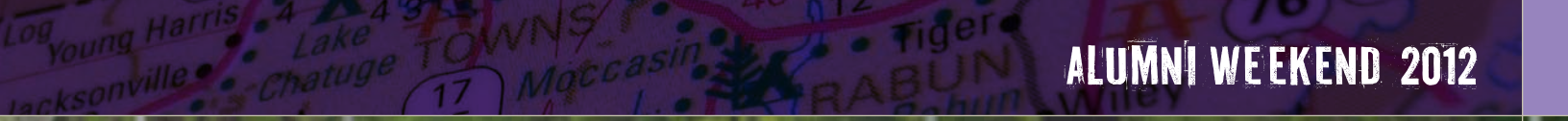
MAKE THE ULTIMATE ROAD TRIP FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND 2012

Hundreds of Young Harris College alumni, their families and friends packed up their bags and took a road trip to the Enchanted Valley for the first-ever springtime Alumni Weekend, April 20-22, 2012. Rain showers did not dampen the blooming Young Harris spirit as generations of alumni enjoyed a fun-filled weekend of reunion activities and special events, including Friday evening's Half Century Club Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony and Saturday's popular Lunch on the Lawn—which was relocated inside the Recreation and Fitness Center due to the weather, proving to be an extremely popular alternative.

The change in season for the annual occasion meant that alumni had the opportunity to mix and mingle with current YHC students who literally “put on a show” for their predecessors with the special theatrical romp *A Walk Through Time*, which offered a walking history tour of campus, as well as the sold-out Theatre Young Harris season finale *Sweet Charity*.







Saturday afternoon activities included alumni soccer games with current student-athletes.



Skies cleared on Saturday, and alumni enjoyed an afternoon of baseball as the Mountain Lions defeated Hiwassee College in a double header.

Special guests of honor throughout the weekend were members of the Class of 1962 celebrating their 50th reunion and induction into YHC's new Half Century Club. Many other classes, athletic teams and campus organizations also enjoyed reunions and gatherings both on and off campus.

Alumni Weekend festivities wrapped up Sunday morning with worship services at Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church led by Asbury Theological Seminary President Dr. Timothy C. Tennent, '79.



YHC alumni enjoyed a variety of class reunions and special events throughout the weekend.



The cast of *A Walk Through Time*



» Watch the Alumni Weekend 2012 highlights video online at youtube.com/youngharriscollege and browse through photos from the weekend at flickr.com/youngharriscollege.

2012 HALF CENTURY CLUB DINNER AND ALUMNI AWARDS CEREMONY

The highlight of Friday evening, April 20, was the new Half Century Club Dinner and annual Alumni Awards Ceremony held at Young Harris College's Recreation and Fitness Center. Young and old gathered to reconnect, reunite and recognize a special group of outstanding alumni and friends. Members of the Class of 1962 were honored as special guests in celebration of their 50th class reunion and were inducted into the Half Century Club along with all other alumni who had previously celebrated their YHC "golden" reunion. Following dinner with live music provided by YHC student musicians, the Young Harris College Alumni Association presented the prestigious annual alumni awards. Following the awards ceremony, alumni mixed and mingled during a casual Reunion Celebration Reception with live music by YHC students.



Dr. Melissa Breedlove Adams, '00, Atlanta, Ga.

Young Alumni Achievement Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has graduated within the last 15 years and has excelled in his or her career

Due to her impeccable academic performance at Union County High School, Dr. Melissa Breedlove Adams, '00, entered into a two-year joint enrollment with Young Harris College and completed the coursework for her entire senior year in 2000 at YHC. Following a spring break mission trip with the College, the self-proclaimed "liberal arts girl" began to pursue a scientific path with a passion to make a difference that led to her studying biology as a pre-med student and enrolling in medical school at Emory University. There, she was named chief resident and voted "Resident of the Year" by her peers. She now serves as assistant program director for Emory University Pediatrics, where she oversees 60 residents in this prestigious program.



Eric Gibbs, '92, Jacksonville, N.C.

Exceptional Military Service Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has served with honor and distinction in the United States military

A long and distinguished career of military service began for Eric Gibbs, '92, when he enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1994. After being assigned as a 2nd Platoon Commander at Camp Lejeune, he deployed with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit and participated in the 2003 invasion of Iraq, and upon his return was promoted to the rank of Captain. In 2007, he was given command of Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marines, which was already deployed to Fallujah. Soon, he was assigned as Team Leader, International Training Team in Sierra Leone, Africa. Upon his return, he was assigned as the Future Operations Officer, 2nd Marine Division, where he was selected to the rank of Major. He has received the Meritorious Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon with one gold star, Joint Service Commendation Medal and a Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal. Today, he serves in the Inactive Ready Reserves of the Marines and works with Orion International, a firm that places military veterans with Fortune 500 companies.



Rev. Bob L. Bone, '57, Young Harris, Ga.

Artemas Lester Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna in recognition of a lifetime dedicated to ministry and a commitment to Christian service

Following his days at Young Harris College, where he served as bishop of the Student Ministerial Conference, Bob L. Bone, '57, continued on a vocational path dedicated to ministry and Christian service. He began his ministerial work with Center United Methodist Church in Athens while a student at the University of Georgia then earned a master of divinity from Emory University's Candler School of Theology. He became a full member of the North Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church in 1964. Pastoral appointments include Wesley Church in Rossville, Stockbridge First United Methodist Church, Barnesville First United Methodist Church, St. Timothy United Methodist Church in Stone Mountain, Harmony Grove United Methodist Church in Lilburn, St. John United Methodist Church in Atlanta, Conyers First United Methodist Church, Chamblee First United Methodist Church and Shady Grove United Methodist Church in Blairsville. He was selected as Rural Minister of the Year twice in the 1960s, served on a number of boards and agencies of the North Georgia Conference, and set a Conference record for gaining 303 church members during a single year while pastor of St. Timothy United Methodist Church.

Dr. Timothy C. Tennent, '79, Wilmore, Ky.**Iuventus Award**

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has made significant contributions to the education of our youth

In 2009, Dr. Timothy C. Tennent, '79, became the eighth president of Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Ky., one of the top training institutions in the country for United Methodist clergy. Prior to this appointment, he served 11 years as professor of world missions and Indian studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, Mass. Before that, he taught missions at Toccoa Falls College in Georgia, where he was honored as Teacher of the Year in 1995. Dr. Tennent also teaches annually at the New Theological College of Dehra Dun, India, where he has served as an adjunct professor since 1989. Ordained by The United Methodist Church, he served as pastor of several Georgia churches in the North Georgia Conference from 1982 to 1990. He has also served several of the largest churches in New England. He holds a master of divinity from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, a master of theology from Princeton Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in non-western Christianity from the University of Edinburgh in Scotland.

**The O. Wayne Rollins Family, Atlanta, Ga.****Nancy Louise Haynes Stephens Sanderson Robertson Outstanding Friend Award**

Given to a friend of Young Harris College who has dedicated time, resources and energy to ensure a successful future for the College

For more than four decades, the O. Wayne Rollins Family has had a strong impact on Young Harris College and its students. The leadership of O. Wayne Rollins on the YHC Board of Trustees is evident through campus buildings such as the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium, the Rollins Residence Hall, the Grace Rollins Dining Hall and the Rollins Wall, as well as numerous campus beautification projects. The O. Wayne Rollins Foundation continues to fund a scholarship established by Wayne that provides invaluable financial aid for many students today. Wayne and Grace's granddaughter Pam Rollins has served on the Board of Trustees for the past 20 years, carrying on the legacy of her grandparents, and now leading the College through its historic transformation as chair of the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign. The Rollins Family set the pace for the campaign by providing a lead gift of \$22 million toward construction of the 125,000-square-foot Rollins Campus Center—which will include a new library, dining hall, banquet facility and student center.

**The Harrell Family, Bainbridge, Ga.****YHC Family of the Year Award**

Given to a family associated with Young Harris College in recognition of their special connection to the College

Tom and Ruth Harrell stressed the value of education and insisted their children have the opportunity to earn a college degree, as their own educations were interrupted by World War II. Upon the recommendation of a friend, Tom and Ruth considered Young Harris College for their oldest child, Del, and came to love the College's feeling of community, caring faculty, closeness of the student body and mountain environment. Del enrolled in 1966 and was followed in subsequent years by four of her siblings. The YHC alumni family includes Del Harrell Goodman, '68, Walter Goodman, '69, Jane Harrell Roberts, '70, Rudy Harrell, '71, Susan Harrell Pinnell, '75, Marsha Harrell Hodges, '77, and Darrell Goodman, '94. In 1986, the Harrell children and their spouses, created an endowed scholarship fund at YHC named the Thomas E. and Ruth Josey Harrell Scholarship Fund, and over the years, family members have steadily added to the fund, helping many other students obtain the Young Harris College experience that has been so meaningful to them.



» All alumni celebrating their 50th reunion are invited to join YHC's Half Century Club. The Class of 1962 and alumni who graduated prior to that year were inducted at Alumni Weekend 2012 and presented their Half Century Club pins. If you have already celebrated your 50th YHC class reunion and were unable to attend last year, contact the Office of Alumni Services to order your pin: (706) 379-5334 | alumni@yhc.edu



YHC Class of 1962 with President Cathy Cox (far right)



Shirley Carver Miller, '54, Young Harris, Ga.

Susan B. Harris Award

Given to an outstanding alumna who has provided strong support for Young Harris College

After graduating from Young Harris College in 1954, Shirley Carver Miller married Zell Miller, '51, and began a partnership that has had a lasting impact on Young Harris College, the State of Georgia and beyond. Over the years, she has championed important causes like breast cancer awareness and prevention, adult literacy and education. She has also been a faithful ambassador and supporter of her alma mater. As an entrepreneur, Shirley operated clothing stores and founded Mountain Savings & Loan in Hiawassee (now a branch of United Community Bank), making her one of only two women bank presidents in Georgia at the time. In 1990, she established the Certified Literate Community Program, which built adult learning centers and provided materials and assistance for secondary education. While Zell was governor of Georgia, she helped create the HOPE Scholarship Program and strengthen drunk driving laws in Georgia. She has served on numerous boards for organizations such as the Woodruff Arts Center, Georgia Citizens for the Arts and Atlanta International Book Festival as well as the YHC Alumni Association Board.



James McIntyre Jr., '59, Washington, D.C.

Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated great success in his or her career following a successful foundation laid by Young Harris College

After earning an associate of arts degree from Young Harris College, James McIntyre Jr., '59, built on to this foundation a distinguished career in law and public service. He earned his bachelor's degree and law degree from the University of Georgia and was admitted to the Georgia Bar in 1963, the U.S. Court of Military Appeals in 1976, the U.S. Supreme Court in 1981 and the District of Columbia in 1986. His practice areas are banking law, corporate organization, federal legislative practice, environmental regulation, trade association law and insurance regulation. He has served in a number of important leadership positions, including General Counsel for the Georgia Municipal Association, Deputy Revenue Commissioner for the State of Georgia, Director of the Office of Planning and Budget for the State of Georgia, Acting Director/Deputy Director for the U.S. Office of Management and Budget, and Director of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget—during which he was a member of President Jimmy Carter's Cabinet. He has also served

a member of President Ronald Reagan's Commission on Privatization. Today he practices law at McIntyre Law Firm in Washington, D.C.



**THE GREATEST
Purple Party
ON THE PLANET**

YHC

**YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE
ALUMNI WEEKEND 2013**

INCLUDING:

- Milestone Class Reunions (5th, 10th, 15th, etc.)
- Mountain Lions baseball games
- Theatre Young Harris season finale

A detailed schedule and registration form will follow in early spring.

Start the conversation on Twitter #YHCAW13

Friday–Sunday, April 19–21, 2013

FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Half Century Club Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony

All alumni invited! Honor the class of 1963 during their 50th reunion as well as all other alumni who have celebrated their 50th. Special VIP tables available for 50th reunion class. YHC Alumni Association will present the annual alumni awards.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Alumni Weekend Luncheon

All alumni invited!

First-ever All Class Party on Campus!

- All alumni invited!
- Special recognition and reserved tables for anniversary class reunions ('43, '53, '63, '73, '83, '93, '03)
- Live Band!
- Food and beverages available for purchase!

Don't wait! Start planning your class reunion today.

Contact the Office of Alumni Services to reserve tables for your group at the All Class Party.

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

CALL FOR 2013 NOMINATIONS!

Nominate Alumni and Friends for the 2013 Annual Alumni Awards!

Each year, the Young Harris College Alumni Association honors outstanding alumni and friends of Young Harris College during Alumni Weekend. Help the Alumni Association recognize notable individuals and families by submitting your nominations for these prestigious awards.

Young Alumni Achievement Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has graduated within the last 15 years and has excelled in his or her career

Susan B. Harris Award

Given to an outstanding alumna who has provided strong support for Young Harris College

Artemas Lester Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna in recognition of a lifetime dedicated to ministry and a commitment to Christian service

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Given to an alumnus or alumna who has served with honor and distinction in the United States military

Iuventus Award

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has made significant contributions to the education of our youth

YHC Family of the Year Award

Given to a family associated with Young Harris College in recognition of their special connection to the College

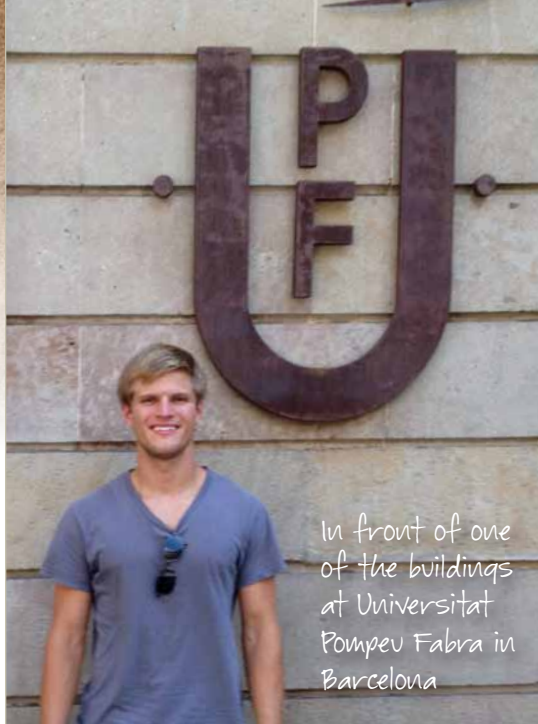
Nancy Louise Haynes Stephens Sanderson Robertson Outstanding Friend Award

Given to a friend of Young Harris College who has dedicated his or her time, resources and energy to ensure a successful future for the College

Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement

Given to an alumnus or alumna who has demonstrated great success in his or her career following a successful foundation laid by Young Harris College

» Submit your 2013 Alumni Awards nominations online at yhc.edu/alumniawards or contact the Office of Alumni Services at (706) 379-5334 or alumni@yhc.edu. Deadline for nominations is Friday, Jan. 4, 2013.



In front of one of the buildings at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona

"I knew that studying in a foreign country for several months would be a unique opportunity to experience a new culture, to challenge and enlighten your beliefs and perceptions of the world, and to grow up," Calhoun said via email from his current residence at Universitat Pompeu Fabra in Barcelona, Spain.

The Young Harris native has been abroad since late August and returns to the United States in mid-December, upon completion of the fall semester. He is currently enrolled in four courses: Advanced III Spanish, Barcelona: the City and its History, Barcelona 1900: Modernisme in the City, and Society and Politics in Contemporary Spain.

"I'm excited about taking these courses because I actually get to experience what I'm learning in the classroom," he said.

Calhoun, who is minoring in Spanish, has loved the language since he was very young. Naturally, he was extremely interested in the opportunity to travel to Spain upon learning about the study abroad partnership Young Harris College had formed with Pompeu Fabra.

"Apart from my desire to go abroad," he explained, "learning the Spanish language and improving my ability to speak and understand Spanish was probably the major driving force behind my decision to study in Barcelona." He added, "Living on

The Spanish Explorer

BY HEATHER POOLE

For senior business and public policy major Ian Calhoun, studying abroad has been a dream since his days in high school.

the Mediterranean for four months didn't sound too bad either."

Within just a few weeks of his arrival, Calhoun had already enjoyed numerous amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experiences. In late September, he was able to witness La Mercè, a festival held in honor of Barcelona's patron saint la Mare de Déu de la Mercè.

"The festival included fireworks, concerts and parades," he said. "It also included something a little less expected: the Castellers, which are teams of people that strategically climb on top of each other until they have formed a human tower that is usually around four stories high."

Calhoun also celebrated his recent birthday in Spain.

"My birthday, Sept. 24, was the final and biggest day of the celebration, making it an even better experience for me."

Study abroad experiences tend to create an appreciation for the new culture in which the student is immersed. Because Barcelona is quite an international city, Calhoun is also learning about cultures outside of Spain as well.

"I have met people from all over the world, and I regularly talk to people from the United Kingdom, Germany, the Netherlands, Portugal and, of course, Spain," he said. "All of these people have different customs and ideas about how the world works. It's also extremely interesting to hear their opinions of the United States, its people and the actions of our government. Surprisingly, many of them are more knowledgeable about our government than a lot of Americans."

In addition, Calhoun had the opportunity to travel throughout central and western Europe on a bus tour before arriving in Spain for fall semester at the university.

"The tour began in London, and then we visited Brussels, Belgium, Innsbruck and several cities in Switzerland before concluding in Paris," he said. "London and Paris were probably my favorite places, but Switzerland and Austria were gorgeous."

His daily conversations are also helping Calhoun improve his Spanish, but more importantly, the interaction he has had with many different types of people has also allowed Calhoun to better



My friend, Ingrid, and I are at the top of Mount Stanserhorn, a mountain in Switzerland. From the top you can see France and Germany.



Standing with my grandparents at the Eiffel Tower. Paris is one of my favorite places in Europe, and I hope to go back.

understand his own beliefs.

"Obviously, everyone I come into contact with—except for a few Americans—can speak Spanish, so I'm constantly interacting with the language," he said. "Having conversations about politics, cultures and everyday topics has also really given me a better appreciation for diversity. It has made me question why some things are the way they are while strengthening other opinions I hold. By comparing my culture, opinions and perceptions with others from all over the world, I can better understand why I think this way, and I am better equipped to decide if I'll continue to hold those views."

That critical thinking and self-reflection is an essential part of the liberal arts experience at Young Harris College, and Calhoun's current study abroad

experience has served to reaffirm his decision to attend YHC.

"It just made sense. I love the town and Young Harris College is a great school," he said. "I love the students and teachers, and I have a lot of awesome memories on campus. Had I gone to another college, I probably would not have been able to afford to study abroad, which is definitely proving to be the best experience of my years in undergrad."

Calhoun will not soon forget his Spanish adventure as he prepares to complete his YHC degree next spring.

"I think the most valuable thing I will gain from this experience, aside from the many friendships I'm building, is

the opportunity to take everything that I have learned and the perspective I've developed at home and look at it from a different angle," he explained.

Following graduation in May, Calhoun hopes to attend his dream law school, the University of Chicago.

"I have to take the LSAT in December before I come back to the States in order to make most law school deadlines, so I'm actually taking the test in Paris!"

When asked what he will miss most, Calhoun said, "I'll miss the people, the international atmosphere of Barcelona and ham-flavored chips, which I have developed a real love for. Seriously, they are delicious."



I am standing in front of the Arc de Triomf (a structure built during the 1888 World Exposition in Barcelona) on Sept. 11, the National Day of Catalonia. People fill the streets, singing their national anthem and chanting "in-de-independencia" because many Catalans want full independence from Spain (it is an "autonomous community" of Spain).



Fifteen Minutes of Fame

Young Harris College is basking in the glow of its own little Hollywood moment, thanks to the recently released Warner Bros. film *Trouble with the Curve*, which stars Academy Award winner Clint Eastwood, Oscar nominee Amy Adams and Justin Timberlake. Filmed in Georgia and directed by Eastwood's longtime producing partner Robert Lorenz, the movie follows ailing Atlanta Braves baseball scout Gus Lobel and his power-attorney daughter, Mickey, on one last scouting trip to North Carolina. In between the baseball action is a moving story about a fragile father-daughter relationship.

Young Harris College's Zell B. Miller Field was selected as the location for one of the critical turning-point scenes in the film, and Hollywood descended on the Enchanted Valley in April for two exciting days, giving the campus community a sneak peak into cinematic magic.

Twenty members of the YHC baseball team and several coaches were chosen to be extras, serving as the "opposing team" in the particular scene shot on campus, and hundreds of YHC students and local citizens had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to appear on the silver screen as extras—baseball fans watching the game.

Celebrity spottings around campus and in town yielded several special photo ops for some lucky students, faculty and staff, and one excited YHC intern landed an exclusive interview with the director. (See sidebar on next page.)



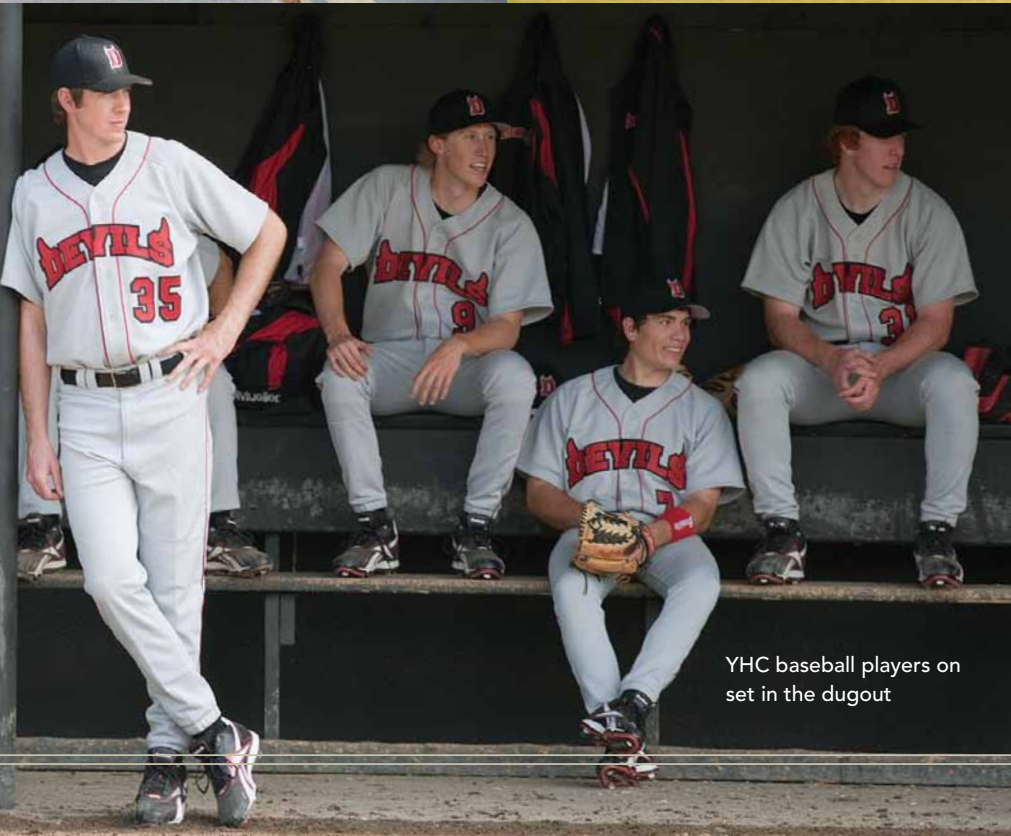
Celebrities like Justin Timberlake (above) and Amy Adams and Clint Eastwood (left) were on the YHC campus to film a scene from the movie *Trouble with the Curve*.



PHOTOS THIS PAGE COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES



Trouble with the Curve director Robert Lorenz



YHC baseball players on set in the dugout

ON DECK WITH *the Director*

Young Harris College alumna Ali Neese Hatley, '12, was interning in the Office of Communications and Marketing during the filming and had the exclusive opportunity to interview *Trouble with the Curve* director Robert Lorenz.

YHC: Can you tell us more about the scene you are filming here?

RL: In this scene, close to the end of the movie, the star prospect that [Clint and Amy's characters are] scouting is playing his championship game, and based on his performance here, all the scouts present are going to decide whether they want to take him and whether he's going to be their number one pick. Clint Eastwood's character is so seasoned that he recognizes that this guy has a flaw that makes him far less valuable than everybody thinks. That's what he has discovered here—that the guy can't hit a curveball quite right because of the particular way he swings.

YHC: You're filming here on campus for two days. How does that translate to time on screen?

RL: Typically a script is around 120 pages. These days you want them to be about 110.

Each page roughly represents a minute of screen time, so 110 minutes is about a two-hour movie. What we've done here today is about two pages, and tomorrow we'll do another two-and-a-half pages, which will be about five minutes of screen time.

YHC: How long is the shoot as a whole?

RL: This is day 35 of 38 days—we're almost done!

YHC: You've been filming all over Georgia. What has your experience been like in the north Georgia mountains and working throughout the state?

RL: It's been wonderful. We've had really cooperative weather, which is the most important thing, and it looks just beautiful! Everything is in bloom. The crews here are excellent; there are a lot of qualified people and a lot of production that goes on here because of the state's incentive program. Everything's been quite good. I was saying the other day, I'd come back and shoot in Atlanta anytime.

YHC: Had you ever been to Georgia before looking here for the film?

RL: Yes, I was assistant director on the movie *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* down in Savannah almost 15 years ago. Savannah's beautiful; I really liked that city.

YHC: You're working with some really well-known people. Has it been hard to film and keep the fans at bay?

RL: You know, it hasn't been that bad. Justin [Timberlake] is the one that attracts the young crowd. When we were in Athens out on the street, we had gathered a few hundred people. Everywhere else has been pretty contained just because we are not out shooting in public very much. Everything else has been ball fields and interiors and so forth, so we can kind of control everything ourselves.

YHC: From what I understand, this is your directorial debut after working with Clint Eastwood for more than a decade.

RL: That is correct, almost two decades now.

YHC: What has this experience been like for you?

RL: It's fantastic! This is why I got into the business, to direct. I became an assistant director to be close to directors and observe and learn, and I had intended to go right into directing. Clint asked me to start producing because we got along so well, and we worked well together. I became responsible for more of the development and the release of projects, whereas before, my role was mainly just production. This is what I've always wanted to do.

YHC: Why this project in particular?

RL: I liked this script because it was really well written. It has a very classic feel to it; it's a classic American story about baseball and a father-daughter relationship. My wife loved it—that was a big selling point also. It just has everything: comedy, drama, a little bit of romance and some fun.

YHC: What has it been like directing Clint?

RL: It's been fun and interesting! He's been really good. Every project he's done for the last almost 20 years, he has directed himself, so he is naturally inclined to want to start directing. I have to be extremely well prepared because at a moment's hesitation, he will try to get in there and start to do it himself. But he's been great, really accommodating and respectful and lets me call the shots. He's a great guy.

YHC: We've heard good things about the whole team.

RL: This is a great crew. This crew sort of gathered over the years because Clint treats everyone so well and respectfully, and everybody comes back—which is a hard thing in this business. Most people do a picture, then move on to other pictures. It's hard to ever get the same crew back together again, but this group comes back because they know it's going to be a good experience.



COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES



YHC baseball players and coaches serving as movie extras were the "Red Devils."



Ready for A Close-up

Young Harris College partnered with local movie theater Fieldstone Cinemas Six in Young Harris to host a special red carpet screening party on the eve of the film's nationwide release. On Thursday, Sept. 20, nearly 500 YHC students, faculty and staff "dressed to the nines" to walk the red carpet, pose for photos provided by the YHC Photography Club and enjoy a fun baseball-themed soiree prior to a private screening of the film. The event included a free raffle for *Trouble with the Curve* swag, and Fieldstone Resort President Ken Merritt and YHC President Cathy Cox welcomed the crowd before showtime. Complimentary tickets to the event were provided by Warner Bros. Pictures, and Eastwood's Malpasco Productions company is credited with making the historic occasion a reality and putting YHC on the Hollywood map.



YHC students, faculty and staff packed the theater for the private screening.





The Fieldstone Cinemas Six staff made it a memorable evening for YHC.



» Browse more photos from the event at flickr.com/youngharriscollege



Bass Fishing Team Continues to Fry the Competition

BY HEATHER POOLE

The Young Harris College bass fishing team finished 12th nationwide in the B.A.S.S. (Bass Anglers Sportsman Society) 2012 Carhartt College Series National Championship in Little Rock, Ark., this past July, adding another accolade to the budding club's growing list of national and regional recognition.

The team, which began in 2009 with two guys, now has grown to 15 members and competes regularly in fishing events throughout the Southeast.

The YHC team frequently competes against much larger nearby institutions like the University of Georgia, Auburn University and Clemson University.

"I think that we hold our own and are the best team in Georgia because we're only sending one team of two guys and the other schools are sending six or seven teams," said the club's advisor, Assistant Professor of Biology Johnathan Davis, Ph.D.

Brad Rutherford, a junior business and public policy major from Lavonia, and Chandler White, a senior business and public policy major from Powder Springs, primarily represent YHC in competition.

"The tournament itself was very tough fishing," White explained, "but just to be there among other top schools in the U.S. was very humbling. To be in Little Rock representing Young Harris College was an honor."

Because the team is organized as a club sport, White, Rutherford and other members must cover their expenses each time they compete.

"Our students pay out of their own pockets to travel and participate in these events," said Dr. Davis. "Gas is expensive, and we have to drive and pull the boat to events. Hotels are expensive too. And of course the guys have their own expenses like tackle and rods and reels. Our goal is to participate as much as possible to show off Young Harris College, but right now we can only afford to send one team."

The team has established sponsorships with noted companies such as St. Croix Rods, Berkley, Abu Garcia and Tackle Warehouse, and the Towns County Tourism Association recently made a \$1,000 contribution for travel expenses. Additionally, several YHC alumni have made contributions to help the team.

"Being on the team is not all about fishing," explained White. "We have to maintain relationships with sponsors as well as local organizations and businesses, which has given me an added sense of responsibility."

The team plans to get more involved with the local community by hosting benefit tournaments throughout the year as well as children's fishing derbies.

The bass fishing team is also extremely dedicated to conservation and preserving the environment, taking part in numerous lake cleanups and constantly working to promote awareness of ecosystem conservation.



Chandler White and Brad Rutherford

The YHC Bass Fishing Team is accepting contributions toward their competition expenses through YHC's Office of Advancement. If you are interested in supporting the team, you can make a tax-deductible gift by phone at (706) 379-5173.

Easy Living

BY HEATHER POOLE

Several Young Harris College students have been enjoying a unique residential experience during the Fall 2012 semester. The recently acquired Young Harris Motel located across the street from the main campus was transformed into a new residence hall to help accommodate the College's record enrollment of more than 1,000 students on campus this fall.

Don Bracewell, a senior history major from Alpharetta, was tapped to be a "senior resident assistant" and oversee the students living in the motel.

"Although it is a little longer walk from place to place, the community over here is palpable," he said. "Many of the residents are incredibly outgoing and friendly."

Approximately 50 male students reside in 24 rooms. Although it is a somewhat unusual structure compared to other housing options on campus, according to Bracewell, it does not lack anything and even includes an air hockey table and outdoor grills.

"The atmosphere is very laid back and chill," he added.

Will Skelton, a sophomore theatre major from Hayesville, N.C., said one of his favorite features is having bathtubs in each room, as well as the convenience.

"Probably the most wonderful thing about motel life is all the parking!" he said. "I never have to worry about finding a space."

Skelton also points out that he enjoys the new "sense of freedom" and extra space. "You get all the perks of campus life without being in the middle of campus."

To foster a sense of community among the students, YHC sponsored a naming contest for the temporary residence hall with a Walmart gift card going to the winner. After sorting through all of the email entries, the top picks were voted on, and "The Thunderdome" was chosen as the official name.

"Mel Gibson's Mad Max would be proud," Bracewell said.



L-R, Sophomore Daniel Jones of Jonesboro, Senior Resident Assistant Don Bracewell of Alpharetta and freshman Logan Polley of Canton enjoy hanging out in their new residence hall.

2012 Clay Dotson Open Sponsors

A & A Auto Rental of Blairsville
Advanced Disposal Services
Elois Anderson
ArtBytes, Inc.
Atlantic Capital Bank
Batchelor & Kimball, Inc.
Blue Moon Printing
Blue Ridge Mountain EMC
Brailsford & Dunlavey
Brasstown Valley Resort
Bruce L. Ferguson, PC
Cable Television Association of GA
Cadence Bank
Carl Patterson Carpet Tile & Wood
Chestatee Golf Club
Choate Construction Company
Cisco Systems
Citizens South Bank
CMA Agency, Inc.
Cornerstone Management, Inc.
Cox & Son Roofing, Inc.
Custom Home Painting
Duplicating Products, Inc.
Fieldstone Resort
Follett Higher Education Group
Thomas F. Forkner Sr., '37
Georgia Florida United Methodist
Federal Credit Union
Hardin Construction Company, LLC
Heritage Propane
Mr. and Mrs. Henry M. Huckaby, '62
Jacky Jones Chevrolet
Lord, Aeck & Sargent Architecture
Richard McGinnis
Men on the Move
Metcalf Davis
Kurt Momand, '77, and Heather
Momand, '08
Montag & Caldwell, Inc.
Myers McRae
Nantahala Bank & Trust
Northeast Georgia Living Magazine
Padgett Group
Parker Petroleum
Prime, Buchholz & Associates
William F. "Bill" Roberts, '52
Sodexo
Southeast Water Productions
The Lambert Co.
Tordust, LLC
Towns County Lions Club
Tri-State Utility Products, Inc.
Union County Sheriff's Office
(Sheriff Scott Stephens)
United Community Bank
Barbara Marshall Williford, '87

A Scramble for Scholarships

The 2012 Clay Dotson Open golf tournament to benefit student scholarships at Young Harris College was held May 18 at Brasstown Valley Resort. Approximately 140 players enjoyed morning and afternoon flights followed by an awards ceremony. The annual tournament is the College's premier scholarship fundraiser and brought in more than \$61,000 this past spring.

Prize categories included overall winners for each flight as well as second and third place for each flight, longest drive, closest to the pin and closest putt. The tournament also featured the annual Alumni Team Challenge with a special prize going to the team of four YHC alumni with the lowest score.

Morning Flight:

Flight 1 Winner: Adam Cohen, Jim O'Brien, Lee Gresham

Flight 2 Winner: Dale Anderson, Doug Thrasher, Erik Brinke, Brian Mashburn

Flight 1 Second Place: Mike Kelley, Mark Cabe, Jack Kelley, Chris Kelley, '83

Flight 2 Second Place: Dale Stanley, John Davis, Morgan Arp, Drew Phillips

Flight 1 Third Place: Randy Dunn, Justin Ash, Tom Beatty

Flight 2 Third Place: Rob Turner, Lawrence McNabb, Brian Mundy, Lyle Carringer

Closest to the Pin: Freddie Henson

Longest Drive: Tom Beatty

Afternoon Flight:

Flight 1 Winner: Dana Dow, Clay Huckaby, Ben Huckaby, Carter Huckaby

Flight 2 Winner: Mike Caversizi, Mike Patton, Jeff Payne, Stacey Poteete

Flight 1 Second Place: Michael Kimsey, '96, Larry Kimsey, '65, Jerome Burch, '94, Jimmy Stewart, '89

Flight 2 Second Place: Steve Towe, '91, Bart Boyd, '90, Zeke Farriba, '91, Britt McAfee, '91

Flight 1 Third Place: Brandon Stooksberry, Bill Bland, Reid Dyer, '83, Wes Grant

Flight 2 Third Place: Joe Winters, Eric Bram, Chet Roach

Closest to the Pin: James Bates

Longest Drive: Mike Patton

Putting Contest Winner: Tim Holcomb and Jack Kelley

Alumni Challenge Winner: Steve Towe, '91, Bart Boyd, '90, Zeke Farriba, '91, Britt McAfee, '91



Morning Flight 1 Winner with YHC President Cathy Cox



Morning Flight 2 Winner with YHC President Cathy Cox



Afternoon Flight 1 Winner with YHC former President Clay Dotson



Afternoon Flight 2 Winner with YHC former President Clay Dotson



Alumni Challenge Winner

Join YHC for the 2013
Clay Dotson Open Monday, May 20,
at Brasstown Valley Resort! Visit
yhc.edu/claydotsonopen for details.

Local Leaders Raise Support for Local Students

The members of the 2011-2012 Young Harris College Board of Associates wrapped up their annual Local Scholarship Campaign this past June, raising more than \$65,000 in scholarships for local students enrolled at YHC from their own communities. Each fall, the Board launches this annual campaign in an effort to assist the College in providing scholarship aid to a growing number of local students.

In March, the Board of Associates hosted the second annual Big Dance. Hundreds of supporters from the local communities purchased tables of eight or individual tickets and packed YHC's Recreation and Fitness Center arena floor for a fun-filled evening of good food and fellowship with live music provided by the Swingin' Medallions. The event was a huge success, netting more than \$10,000 for local scholarships, and the Medallions are already set to return for the third annual Big Dance on Saturday, March 9, 2013.

In September, the 26-member board kicked off the 2012-2013 Local Scholarship Campaign to raise scholarship funds for more than 200 local students enrolled at YHC this year from Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Rabun, Towns and Union counties in Georgia and Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina.

During this academic year, more than \$3.2 million in scholarship dollars will be awarded to local students, reflecting a commitment by the College and the community to these students. Gifts from local communities to this campaign make much of this scholarship assistance possible.

Students like Nathaniel Hayes, a freshman biology major from Clay County, and Holli Abernathy, a sophomore education major from Union County, benefit from the scholarship money raised.

"The money that I was given from the Local Scholarship Campaign helps connect me with one of the greatest campuses I have ever been to!" Hayes said.

Abernathy added, "These scholarships play a huge role in my future by allowing me to attend the college of my choice. I'm very grateful for the support of my community!"

For more information or to contribute to the 2012-2013 Local Scholarship Campaign and support students from Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Rabun, Towns and Union counties in Georgia and Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina, contact Jennifer McAfee at (706) 379-5318 or Mark Dotson at (706) 379-5355, both in the Office of Advancement, or visit yhc.edu/giving.



2012-2013 Board of Associates Vice Chair Judy Fullerton, a civic leader in Towns County (left), and Chair Donna Reece, of Piedmont Mountainside Hospital in Pickens County (right), are pictured with YHC President Cathy Cox.



Nathaniel Hayes



Holli Abernathy



2012-2013 Board of Associates

Donna Reece, *Chair*
Piedmont Mountainside
Hospital
Jasper, Ga.

Judy Fullerton, *Vice Chair*
Civic Leader
Hiawassee, Ga.

Ada Barber
The Copper Door
Hayesville, N.C.

Julia Barnett
Fannin Regional Hospital
Blue Ridge, Ga.

Tsali Bentley
Georgia Power Company
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Erik Brinke
Blue Ridge Mountain EMC
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Scott Chastain
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Sheila Cody
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Kim Farmer
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Beth Hand
Stone & Associates
Blairsville, Ga.

Robert "Bob" Head, '59
Head Westgate
Corporation
Blairsville, Ga.

Kim Johnson
First Citizens Bank
Murphy, N.C.

Rob Kaser
Mercier Orchards
Blue Ridge, Ga.

Candace Lee
Towns County Chamber
of Commerce
Young Harris, Ga.

Britt McAfee, '91
J. Britt McAfee Law
Firm, LLC
Blairsville, Ga.

Duane Miller
Civic Leader
Hiawassee, Ga.

W.C. Nelson, '63
Nelson Tractor Company
Blairsville, Ga.

Jimmy Nichols
United Community Bank
Blairsville, Ga.

Teresa O'Blenes
Branch Banking & Trust
Murphy, N.C.

Donnie Parker
Parker's Clothing
Blue Ridge, Ga.

Julie Payne
Park Sterling Bank
Hiawassee, Ga.

Don Schneider
United Community Bank
Hiawassee, Ga.

Tony Stewart
Wal-Mart
Blairsville, Ga.

Peggy Thrasher, '59
Civic Leader
Tiger, Ga.

LIVING A GOOD LIFE

BY JUDY LUNSFORD

Harry Gaines, '55, believes living a good life involves helping others to succeed and grow. He considers it one of his core values and demonstrates it regularly through his actions.

Throughout his life, he has coached and mentored young professionals in successful business practices and presentations. He has served on boards of community service organizations. He wrote a book to inspire and motivate adults, especially those 50 and older, to become active and healthy. Most recently, he established a significantly endowed scholarship fund at Young Harris College.

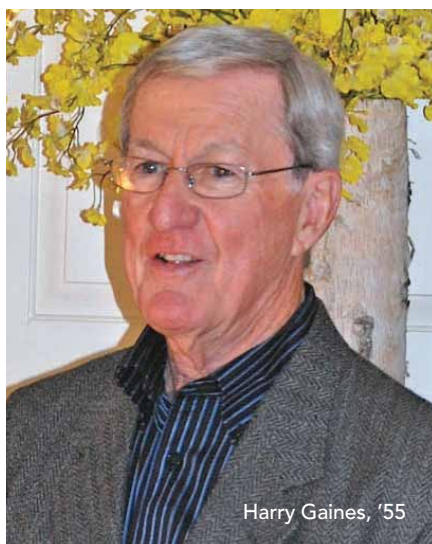
His altruistic philosophy has formed and evolved from many influences throughout his 75 years, but he says that part of it stems from the generosity he experienced 60 years ago while he was a student at YHC.

When Gaines was 15 years old and living in south Georgia, his mother, Mabel Gaines Fincher, decided that he and his older brother, Richard, would benefit from a new academic environment. She contacted one of her former Sunday school teachers, Dr. Charles Clegg, for advice. He was serving as president of Young Harris College at the time and suggested that the two boys enroll in the College's two-year high school academy.

"He convinced us to come," said Gaines, who was in one of the last classes of the academy. "I had saved about

\$500 from working at a drugstore and delivering papers. I used those funds for my tuition and room and board and my spending money for the first year."

Gaines remembers well his trip from south Georgia. "In a matter of hours,



Harry Gaines, '55

we went from 85 degrees in Albany and arrived in the mountains of Young Harris, where it was cold."

In September of 1953, the College had an enrollment of about 300 students. Gaines shared a room with a second-year college student. He recalls the beauty

of the surrounding mountains, the classmates who became longtime friends, the very capable instructors who made learning fun and the dining hall steady fare of onions, corn, beans and potatoes.

When the next academic year began, the teenager did not give much thought to how his tuition and room and board were paid even though his personal funds had been largely depleted. 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. Later in 1955, he moved to Atlanta, where he earned his B.B.A. degree in 1960 by attending Georgia State University in the evening and working full time during the day.

Gaines embarked on a dynamic career in publishing with Prentice Hall, the nation's leading education publisher. He was moving up the ranks in the publishing house to serve as executive editor of science, mathematics, business and economics textbooks when he learned of the unexpected gift he received as a student at Young Harris College.

Twenty years after he completed his studies at Young Harris, he learned from his mother that the tuition and room and board of his last year at the College were provided through the generosity of an anonymous benefactor.

"I don't know why my mother didn't tell me at the time," he said, remembering back on the discovery. "She never learned who paid it, so I have no idea who it was. But, that person's

PAYING IT FORWARD TO A NEW GENERATION

The inaugural recipients of the Mabel Gaines Fincher Memorial Scholarship are Annie Hunter and Trent Jones. Hunter is a senior communication studies major from Powder Springs. Jones is a junior English major from Lakeland, Fla.



Annie Hunter



Trent Jones

generosity has stuck with me all these years.”

Gaines’ career continued to thrive. His talents in business were recognized, and he assumed new leadership positions in publishing and corporate training, eventually serving as the CEO for four different companies.

When Gaines’ successful career enabled him to retire from full-time employment at the age of 58, he and his wife, Debra Carrier, established a charitable remainder unit trust (CRUT). The investment vehicle allowed Gaines and his wife to obtain an income for a period of years and then donate the substantial balance to their choice of nonprofit organizations.

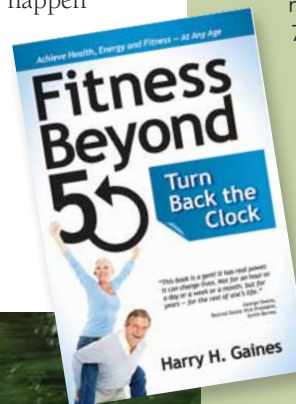
“As soon as we set it up, I thought of that person’s generosity at Young Harris, and I decided I was going to provide an opportunity to students like someone did for me,” said Gaines. “I happen to be a big fan of education and of helping others to grow and succeed. Plus, that generosity from 60 years ago is something I just never forgot.”

Gaines has written a letter to go to the Young Harris College students who are awarded monies from the Mabel Gaines Fincher Memorial Scholarship Fund. Along with sharing his story of the anonymous gift he received as a



student, he encourages the scholarship recipients to consider helping students in the future if and when they are able to give back.

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



INSPIRING FITNESS

Harry Gaines enjoys an active lifestyle. An avid cyclist, Gaines averages close to 5,000 miles a year, including a recent 75-mile bike trip through the mountains in Pennsylvania to celebrate his 75th birthday.

His longtime interest in health and fitness led him to writing articles for an online newsletter for a local fitness center in southwest Florida. Through his research for his articles, he discovered health information that he felt others could benefit from learning.

In 2010, the former textbook editor began to write a book about what he had learned about health and fitness for adults. His 315-page book, *Fitness Beyond 50: Turn Back the Clock*, was released earlier this year and has attracted national media attention. Gaines has been a guest on both radio and television programs.

Gaines stresses that there is a significant difference between his book and the majority of other fitness guides available. Written in a conversational style of inspirational stories, the book focuses on why adults should become more active and live a healthy lifestyle instead of how to diet and become fit.

“It isn’t about exercise; it is about motivation,” he explained. “Over 70 percent of our health problems, such as high blood pressure, heart disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and hypertension, can be prevented. I believe knowledge is a strong incentive to take action, and I want to help people develop the motivation. But, if you don’t understand, you can’t be motivated.”

Gaines said his years of editing textbooks helped him prepare his book. “What I learned in publishing is how people learn, how to organize the materials that makes it most accessible to students. I used those techniques in my book.”

Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble readers have given the book high praise. Their reviews say “fantastic,” “inspiring,” “compelling,” “a friendly and humorous approach to fitness” and “his message is critically important.”

“I am glad that people are finding the book helpful,” he said. “Helping people succeed is important to me. I believe in setting bold goals. I hope the book will motivate others to set bold goals and then work towards them.”

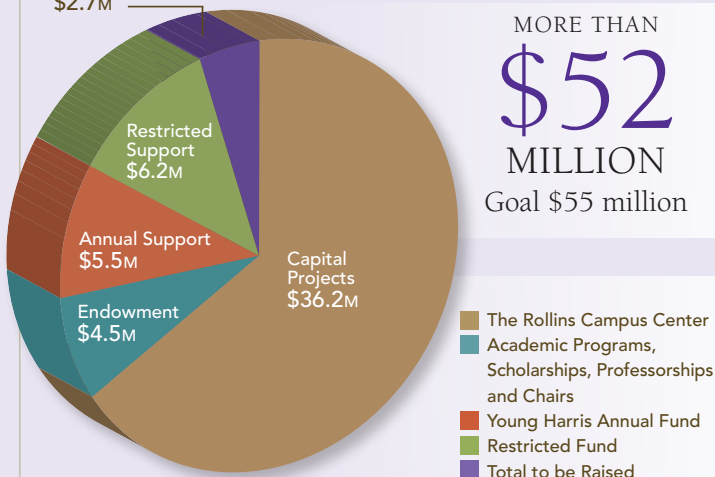
Harry Gaines, '55, is an avid cyclist and health and fitness writer.





Investing IN THE Future

Remaining to be Raised
\$2.7M



Capital Campaign Progresses

After kicking off the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign this past April, Young Harris College has raised nearly 95 percent of its \$55 million goal. Hundreds of alumni, friends and foundations have stepped forward to support YHC's historic transformation into a world-class, four-year liberal arts college. While much progress has been made, \$2.7 million in critical support must still be committed in order to complete the campaign.

The focal point of this capital campaign is the construction of the 125,000-square-foot Rollins Campus Center designed to catapult the student experience into the 21st century. Named for a \$22 million lead gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation, the Rollins Center will become the signature facility at Young Harris College—the social and intellectual heart of campus. Upon completion of the campaign's fundraising goal, YHC will break ground on this historic structure.

» To learn more about the *Investing in the Future* Capital Campaign at YHC, visit yhc.edu/campaign.

GET READY FOR THE Class Scholarship Challenge

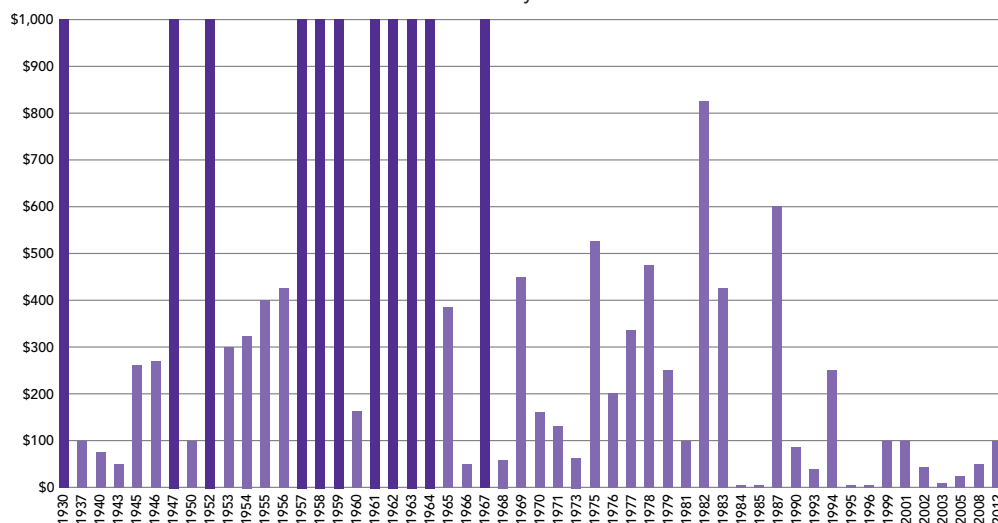
And the 2011–2012 Winner Is...

The Class of 1952 came in first place in the 2011–2012 Class Scholarship Challenge, but the real winners are the many YHC students that will benefit from more than \$34,000 raised by enthusiastic alumni ready to pay it forward and help the next generation succeed. More than 50 classes participated in the challenge last year, with 11 classes reaching their \$1,000 goal. In addition, some classes even raised enough to award more than one scholarship! An extremely worthy "Honorable Mention" goes to members of the Class of 1962 who, in addition to surpassing their \$1,000 goal, raised enough to endow a new student scholarship outside of the Class Challenge.

The 2012–2013 Race Is On

The Class Coordinators will officially kick off the 2012–2013 Class Scholarship Challenge in January with letters going out to their classmates to encourage the friendly competition in hopes of raising even more money this academic year. Some classes have already begun raising funds, and any alumni interested in participating can mail in a gift now marked for the Class Scholarship Challenge, make a gift online at yhc.edu/giving, or call the Office of Advancement at (800) 241-3754 or (706) 379-5173.

Class Scholarship Challenge
Fiscal year 2011–2012



Classes Who Reached \$1,000:

1930	1 scholarship
1947	5 scholarships
1952	7 scholarships
1957	1 scholarship
1958	1 scholarship
1959	1 scholarship
1961	1 scholarship
1962	3 scholarships
1963	1 scholarship
1964	1 scholarship
1967	1 scholarship



ATHLETICS ACHIEVES Next Milestone

Young Harris College received notification from the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) in July that it has successfully completed Candidacy Year One in the Association's Division II membership process and is now in Candidacy Year Two.

"The NCAA sets the gold standard for college athletics, and this first year of our candidacy membership has required us to meet those high standards in everything we've done," said YHC President Cathy Cox. "We are delighted to get the 'go-ahead' for year-two of our membership, and we're ready to take on higher levels of athletic competition and academic achievement of our student-athletes."

Full, active membership in NCAA Division II is a three-year process, and the Mountain Lions are now one-third of the way complete and look forward to gaining active membership status by the 2014-2015 season.

The Mountain Lions began their first season as members of the Peach Belt Conference this fall. Though YHC will not be eligible for national competition until it completes the membership process and gains active status, the College will be immediately eligible for all regular-season championships without automatic bids to NCAA tournaments and all other PBC awards, including all-conference and all-academic honors for its student-athletes. YHC will not be eligible for participation in any PBC championships which award automatic bids to NCAA tournaments until it becomes a full-fledged member of NCAA Division II.

The Mountain Lions currently field men's and women's basketball, baseball, softball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's soccer and men's and women's tennis, all of which are PBC championship sports. YHC also sponsors men's and women's lacrosse, which does not compete in the PBC, and competitive cheerleading, which is not yet a Division II sport.

"We are honored to be able to move forward to year two," said Director of Athletics Randy Dunn. "This transition has been a campus-wide effort since we began the NCAA membership process."

President Cox echoed Dunn's remarks, adding, "This is a big milestone for us, and it couldn't have happened without the leadership of Randy Dunn, our superb coaching and athletic staffs, and all the academic support staff who play important roles in a first-rate athletic program."



» 2012-2013 game schedules and statistics are available online at yhcathletics.com.

Blount Tapped TO LEAD TENNIS PROGRAM

Kelly Blount has been named the women's tennis head coach and the interim men's tennis head coach by Young Harris College Director of Athletics Randy Dunn.

A search for a permanent men's tennis head coach is underway.

Blount served as the assistant coach for both the men's and women's tennis programs at YHC during the previous two seasons.

A native of Augusta, Blount graduated from Mercer University in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in health care management. She played tennis for the Bears all four years and was named the Atlantic Sun Conference Player of the Week twice. She was also a three-time selection on the Atlantic Sun Conference's All-Academic Team.

As a sophomore, Blount compiled a 10-7 record in singles play and 9-6 in doubles—both leading the team in victories. She followed that by going 3-5 in singles and 7-11 in doubles as a junior. As a senior, she was 13-7 in singles and 13-9 in doubles—both leading the team in wins.

Blount remained at the university to complete her master's degree in business administration, earning MBA Student of the Year. During her first year at the graduate level, she served as an academic assistant with the athletics department and then was named an assistant tennis coach.

Blount also coached and taught tennis in Augusta and Macon for the past eight years, developing junior tournament players.

Blount attended Lakeside High School in Evans, where she earned varsity letters in tennis and softball. While in high school, she played competitive junior tennis on the state and southern level.



Kelly Blount



Bringing it On

BY MICHAEL MACEACHERN

Competitive cheerleading is making its debut as an intercollegiate athletic program during the 2012-2013 academic year at Young Harris College. Many Mountain Lions fans may be pleasantly surprised when they see the competitive cheerleading team perform this year.

“Cheerleading almost always means sideline and game-day cheerleading. It showcases the skills, talent and athleticism that cheerleaders possess; however, no titles, awards or trophies can be won at a basketball game,” explained Competitive Cheerleading Head Coach Chase Carter. “Competitive cheerleading encompasses all that cheerleading has to offer. We still cheer at basketball games, but these are more like practices en route to something larger, like competing for a national championship.”

According to Carter, what fans will see at basketball games and pep rallies is just a fraction of what the team can actually do.

“Thirty seconds and full timeouts only allow the team to perform bits and pieces of what will be in their routine for nationals.”

Carter continued, “A major advantage we will have by performing at basketball games will be the crowd-leading experience that will be needed to score well in the 45-second crowd routine performed before preliminaries at nationals. For us, being able to cheer at basketball games is a huge advantage that some colleges do not have.”

Competitive cheerleading is by all measures a year-round sport with no real “off season.” Throughout the year, the Mountain Lions will go back and forth between training for team competitions and training for game days. During the summer, the team primarily trains to perform well at camp in August, in order to qualify for the national competition. After camp during the late summer and early fall, the team skill-builds and trains for basketball season. Midway through

basketball season, the team begins the transition into nationals season—working on both basketball/game day material and their competition routine. By spring, the team will be training hard for the National Cheerleaders Association (NCA) Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship in April. Shortly after the national championship competition, the process begins again.

YHC’s inaugural squad boasts a roster of 23 student-athletes coming from all levels of experience. Some have cheered for their high school teams, and some have cheered for all-star programs. Others were gymnastic performers, and several had never even cheered before joining the Mountain Lions.

Christian Hambrick, a freshman biology major from LaFayette, cheered for three years in high school and was involved in sideline cheerleading and competitive cheerleading. He was already captivated by the Enchanted Valley before finding out Young Harris College was starting a competitive cheerleading team.

“Once I stepped on campus, I was sold,” said Hambrick. “When I found out they had cheerleading, I was so excited.

“Competitive cheerleading is a whole lot more than cheerleading,” added Hambrick. “There are a lot more hits in competitive cheerleading, and you have to get right back at it. There is a lot of endurance and ability involved. It’s a lot of fun, and I enjoy it because you get to show off.”

Corbin Gilfilian, a sophomore biology major from Young Harris, had never thought of cheering before this year. He was a three-sport athlete—cross country, basketball and baseball—at nearby Towns



County High School.

Gilfilian met Carter and Competitive Cheerleading Assistant Coach Victoria Neisler, '12, over the summer, and they encouraged him to join the team. At first, he was not sure about the idea, but after attending a couple of practices he was convinced.

“I didn’t know what all was involved,” said Gilfilian. “Once I knew, I thought I would enjoy it. The more I do, the more I enjoy it. When I first started, I couldn’t do cartwheels in a straight line, but now in a short time, I can do back handsprings.”

Bailey Brado, a freshman from Rincon, previously had not cheered since being a youngster in coastal Georgia. She was involved with gymnastics most of her life but had not thought about cheerleading until she heard Director of Athletics Randy Dunn speak at a Young Harris College admissions event in Savannah—where he mentioned that the College was adding it as a sport this year.

“It’s easier because my older sister was a



cheerleader,” said Brado. “I hadn’t cheered since the third grade, but this team is great because it helps each other out.”

Chelsea Bellanger, a freshman biology major from Jacksonville, Fla., had cheered for her high school and cheered competitively for all-star teams prior to coming to YHC.

“I heard they were starting cheerleading here, and I thought it would be great to be on the first team and make history,” said Bellanger. “It’s a big jump from high school to cheerleading at the college level. I have learned so much already this year, more than I ever did in high school.”

The competitive cheerleading team has already made a strong impression in a short time. In their very first competition as a squad at the NCA Cheerleading Camp held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Aug. 10-12, they took second place in both the game day competition and the rally routine competition and earned a Bronze Bid to the NCA Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship, April 10-14, 2013, in Daytona Beach, Fla.

The Mountain Lions were among some of the best competition in the country. The Myrtle Beach camp had a record attendance this year of 26 teams and 802 cheerleaders, including teams from NCAA Division I programs University of Louisville,

University of South Carolina, North Carolina State University, University of Georgia, Georgia Tech and East Carolina University and Division II programs Valdosta State University, Queens University of Charlotte and Southern University.

“We heard from many different coaches and the NCA staff that they did not believe we were a first-year program,” said Carter. “They were very impressed with our talent level as well as the

maturity of our squad.”

Since returning from camp, the team has been training three times a week for three hours at a time.

“We can’t wait to show what we have been working on,” said Carter. “We were able to turn heads at camp as a first-year program with only two weeks of practice under our belts, and we look forward to seeing how we contend for a national championship in April after months of training.”



Raccio Named NEW SOFTBALL HEAD COACH

Young Harris College Director of Athletics Randy Dunn announced in June the addition of Paul Raccio as the Mountain Lions’ new softball head coach.

“We are extremely excited about Coach Raccio taking the reigns of our women’s softball program at YHC,” said Dunn. “Coach Raccio is a very knowledgeable, enthusiastic and motivated individual who has become an excellent addition to our athletics staff.”

Raccio comes to YHC after spending the past eight seasons as the assistant softball coach at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) in New Haven, Conn. The Owls went 43-13 last season as they advanced to their first-ever appearance in the NCAA Division II Softball Championship in Louisville, Ky. SCSU finished ranked No. 6 in the final National Fastpitch Coaches Association’s NCAA Division II Top 25 poll and advanced to the third round where the Owls were eliminated by the eventual national champion—Valdosta State University.

“I am excited to lead the Young Harris College softball program in its inaugural season of competition in the Peach Belt Conference,” said Raccio. “The PBC is a conference known for its core values of character, commitment, community and competition. Our softball student-athletes will represent those values in the classroom, in the community and on the playing field. I look forward to building a Division II softball program that serves the mission of the College and competes for championships at the conference, regional and national levels.”

During Raccio’s stay at SCSU, the Owls posted a 256-145-5 (.636) record. In five of those seasons, the team recorded a win total in the top five in the program’s history, including this past year’s record-breaking 43 wins. SCSU, which won two Northeast-10 Conference titles, made five appearances in the NCAA Division II tournament during that time, captured the East Region title in 2012 and advanced to the regional championship game two other times.

Raccio also served as SCSU assistant volleyball coach for five seasons and assisted with academic monitoring and student-athlete development for both squads, along with fundraising and community outreach efforts. He also handled recruiting and on-field instruction pertaining to the softball program.

He has amassed significant administrative and coaching experience at a variety of levels, including six years as athletic director at New Haven’s Hyde Leadership School where he directed and facilitated all areas of 10 interscholastic programs from 1998 to 2004.

His association with Hyde began in 1994 when he created the school’s baseball program, and his teams qualified for the Connecticut state tournament on five occasions. Four players were awarded college scholarships while one was selected in the Major League Baseball draft.

Additionally, Raccio has been a head coach with the Amateur Athletic Union’s Connecticut Bombers baseball program since 2000. During his time as coach of the 14U and 16U teams, he has led the Bombers to seven state championships. He also served as an assistant coach with the Hamden Post 88 American Legion baseball program from 1997-2001, where he was instrumental in the team’s turnaround into an annual contender for the league title.



Paul Raccio



SAAC: The Voice of the Student-Athlete

Young Harris College's SAAC, or Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, is the voice of the College's 287 student-athletes. Its purpose is to address concerns raised by student-athletes with a mission to enhance the total student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity, protecting student-athlete welfare and fostering a positive student-athlete image.

The first student-athlete advisory committees were adopted at the 1989 NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) Convention. Young Harris College formed its first SAAC five years ago, and the current committee meets every month. Two members from each intercollegiate athletics program at YHC make up the SAAC.

Men's soccer player Wezly Barnard, a senior business and public policy major from Boksburg, South Africa, has been a member of the SAAC at YHC for the past three years. He served as the group's co-president for the 2011-2012 academic year and, this year, serves as president.

"The first couple of years, the SAAC was finding its feet," said Barnard. "We were trying to establish the SAAC and learning what made a good SAAC."

Barnard got involved in the SAAC for a variety of reasons.

"I wanted to take care of the student-athletes at Young Harris," he

said. "I wanted to be involved in the decision-making process. Also, the SAAC does much community service."

Last year, the SAAC was involved in several fundraising and service projects such as "Paws for a Cause" and "Breakfast with Santa" in order to raise money and support the local community. In coordination with the YHC Department of Athletics, the SAAC helped raise \$6,510 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the official national philanthropy of the NCAA Division II SAAC. The Mountain Lions raised the second-highest total in the Peach Belt Conference for 2011-2012.

This year, Barnard says the SAAC will be even more involved. Now that the Mountain Lions have joined the Peach Belt, members of the YHC SAAC will be a part of the Peach Belt SAAC and eventually the SAAC at the Division II level.



2012-2013 Young Harris College SAAC

BASEBALL

junior David Atwood and senior Josh Rudnik

MEN'S BASKETBALL

junior Steve Viterbo and junior Phillip Uys

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

junior LaDondra Johnson and junior Lauren Smith

COMPETITIVE CHEERLEADING

junior Cassie Chupp and freshman Rachel Lindsey

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

freshman Nicole Smith and freshman Dakota Barrett

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF

senior Kelsey McEntyre and senior Matthew Peeler

MEN'S LACROSSE

senior Mike Matthews and sophomore Jeffrey Rivait

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

freshman Jaclyn Kernohan and freshman Jordana Freitas

MEN'S SOCCER

senior Wezley Barnard and senior Ashley Walker

WOMEN'S SOCCER

senior K.C. Pagnotta and junior Allison Burnham

SOFTBALL

sophomore Brittany Olsen, sophomore Tori Dyer and junior Kayla Jones

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS

senior Tom Gibaud and sophomore Charlotte Dawson

The SAAC functions to:

- promote communication between athletics administration and student-athletes
- disseminate information to coaches and teammates
- provide feedback and insight into athletics department issues
- generate a student-athlete voice within the athletics department's formulation of policies
- build a sense of community within the athletics programs involving all athletics teams
- solicit student-athlete response to proposed conference and NCAA legislation
- organize community service efforts
- create a vehicle for student-athlete representation on campus-wide committees (e.g., student government)
- promote a positive student-athlete image on campus and within competition

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

1970s

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter, '77, delivered the commencement address at South University in Savannah, Ga., on June 17, 2012. He currently serves as chair of the Georgia Senate's Higher Education Committee and vice-chair of the Health and Human Services Committee. He also serves as a trustee of Young Harris College, the Mighty Eighth Air Force Heritage Museum and The Coastal Bank.

Ron H. Rabun, '74, has a new job working as a governance advisor for USAID at the U.S. Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Prior to this assignment, which began in 2011, he worked in a similar position in Iraq for three years. He retired from a 28-year career in city and county management in 2007 and decided to explore international work in some of the world's hot spots.

1980s

Julie Johnston Tepp, '87, has been named to the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 2012 "Who's Who in Hospitality" list of the top 100 people "who are serving up leadership in Atlanta's hospitality industry," marking her second consecutive appearance in the annual guide. She is founder and president of the Atlanta Arts Festival, held each September in Atlanta's Piedmont Park. The festival is ranked among the top 200 arts festivals in the country.



2000s

Christina N. Douglass, M.D., '02, completed her three-year residency in family medicine at Floyd Medical Center in Rome, Ga., on June 30, 2012, and began operation of a Floyd Medical Center Family Medicine Outpatient Clinic in Summerville, Ga., on July 16, 2012.

Jessica Keaton, '11, is currently pursuing a master of fine arts degree in creative writing at San Jose State University and working on her memoir.

ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES, BIRTHS & ANNIVERSARIES

1950s

Marcus Lamar Adair, '51, and **Amanda Harrell Adair**, '52, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Oct. 20, 2011. They were married in 1951.



1990s

Ulmer Z. "Zeke" Bridges III, '97, and Grace Bolles Bridges announce the birth of their daughter Liliana Olivia Bridges on July 9, 2012, at 1:08 p.m. at Cary WakeMed Hospital. She weighed 7 pounds, 8 ounces and was 20 3/4 inches long. Liliana joins big sister Gabriella Francesca, age 3. Zeke and Grace were married on May 17, 2004.



(cont. on page 46)



Charles T. "Chuck" Adams, FACHE, '80, who serves as CEO of Ty Cobb Healthcare System (TCHS) in northeast Georgia, received the Georgia Hospital Association's prestigious Chairman's Award at its annual summer meeting in July 2012, pictured above on left. Adams was recognized for his role in positioning the newly built Ty Cobb Regional Medical Center as part of what many see as the future of health care: hospital-physician integration. He has served as president and CEO of TCHS since June 2002 and serves as the past chairman of the Georgia Hospital Association. He is also past president of the Royston-Franklin Springs Rotary Club and is a trustee and deacon of Royston Baptist Church. He is also a member of the board of trustees of Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, where he is an adjunct professor of business. He is also a board member of the American Hospital Association, Region 4.

» Send your YHC alumni photos to alumni@yhc.edu or post them on Facebook at [facebook.com/youngharriscollege](https://www.facebook.com/youngharriscollege).

2012-2013 YHC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

Rufus Brown, '60
President
Gainesville, Ga.

Rob Murray, '75
President-Elect
Young Harris, Ga.

Bobby Bolton, '76
Ellenwood, Ga.

Sally Boyd, '60
Gainesville, Ga.

Carol Chastain, '84
Young Harris, Ga.

Steve Davenport, '85
Newnan, Ga.

Phil DeMore, '63
Clarksville, Ga.

Jared Downs, '96
Savannah, Ga.

Tommy Drake, '82
Winter Park, Fla.

Ramona Fricks, '71
Rome, Ga.

Oscar Garrison, '90
Hoschton, Ga.

Candler Ginn, '77
Cartersville, Ga.

Ron Hinson, '76
Atlanta, Ga.

Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58
Athens, Ga.

Ceil Jarrett, '75
Berkeley Lake, Ga.

Brian Johnson, '94
Atlanta, Ga.

Jan Biggers Keith, '69
Atlanta, Ga.

Charlotte Sparks McCloskey, '64
Big Canoe, Ga.

Paula Mitchell McClung, '61
Winston, Ga.

Linda Lee Boleyn Saye, '61
Atlanta, Ga.

Joe Stanley, '57
Mullins, S.C.

Peggy Pleasants Thrasher, '59
Tiger, Ga.

Michele Turner, '95
Athens, Ga.

Todd Turner, '81
Hiawassee, Ga.

2012-2013 YHC CLASS COORDINATORS

The YHC Class Coordinators are busy working on plans for upcoming reunions at Alumni Weekend and organizing class participation in the second annual Class Scholarship Challenge. Contact your class coordinator today to get involved! Don't see a coordinator name or email address for your class? Contact the Office of Alumni Services at (706) 379-5334 or alumni@yhc.edu.

1942	Charles Ivey	qdeck1@gmail.com
1944	Rebecca Manis Green	
1945	Dorothy O'Dillon Sayer	
1947	R. Lee Powell	
1951	Rachel Thornton Windsor	
1952	William Tomlin	billtomlin32@hotmail.com
1954	Patricia Stone Huckaby	pdhuckaby@windstream.net
1955	Norma Jean Smith Stewart	normbob@windstream.net
1956	Kitty Van Geuns Mann	JamesKittyMann@aol.com
1957	Elizabeth Fincher Nevil	efnevil@bellsouth.net
1958	Carole Morgan	caroledmorgan@windstream.net
1959	Ruth Pannell Cole	
1959	Carolyn Hessinger Drinkwater	drinkwater@bellsouth.net
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2003	Matt Anderson	mander36@gmail.com
2005	Jessie Collins Wood	jessiecollinswood@gmail.com
2007	Marc McAfee	bulldog220@hotmail.com
2007	Alex Fairchild	alex.fairchild@biascorp.com
2008	Kim Lynch	kimblync@yahoo.com
2009	Alex Ginn	alexginn@uga.edu

2000s



Amy Beck Conner, '05, and her husband, Jason Conner, are excited to announce the birth of their first son, Brayden Thomas Conner, on June 15, 2012. He weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches long. The family resides in Braselton, Ga.

Chantell Girle, '01, married Jordan Rice on Aug. 27, 2011. They were excited to have a number of YHC classmates attend. Blessed by her YHC friendships through the years, Chantell chose these women to stand beside her as bridesmaids, as well as a current YHC student and family member. Pictured from left to right are **Janice Nesbitt Gambrel**, '01, **Lucy Jordan Parks**, '01, **Stephanie Girle**, **Christen Duncan Salamone**, '01, **Hillary Butler**, '15, **Chantell Girle Rice**, '01, **Brittany Girle**, '01, **Lindsey Watson Haynes**, '01, **Janine Brown Dzuba**, '01, and **Audrey Lindsey Bryan**, '01.



Jessie Hodge, '08, accepted a marriage proposal from Daniel Woodward of Dallas, Texas, on July 15, 2012. The wedding will take place Nov. 24, 2012, in Jessie's hometown of Douglas, Ga.



Jennifer Malcom Silva, '03, and her husband, Joseph Silva, would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Jaycee Ann Silva, pictured at nine months old. She was born on Oct. 6, 2011. She weighed 11 pounds, 2 ounces and was 22 1/2 inches long.

Jared Norton, '08, married Linsey Cahoon on July 15, 2012. He is a sales and project manager for CertaPro Painters.

Ryan Sutton, '02, married Ashley Crosby in September of 2011 at Second-Ponce de Leon Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga., pictured at their wedding with one of their nieces. The couple currently lives in Suwanee, Ga., where Ryan is in his fifth year of teaching health and physical education and coaching high school soccer at Peachtree Ridge High School. His wife is also a teacher, and they enjoy spending summer breaks together traveling and with family.



2012–2013 YHC YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL

IN MEMORIAM

Venable C. Allison , '41 July 18, 2012	Catherine Morris , '39 Sept. 3, 2012
Rev. Max E. Barlow , '49 June 24, 2012	Elma R. Nance , '45 June 26, 2012
Gerald A. Bishop , '49 June 1, 2012	Albert N. Parker <i>Trustee emeritus</i> Aug. 10, 2012
Sara F. Bray , '46 May 30, 2012	Billy L. Pelfrey , '58 Sept. 18, 2012
Dr. Claud L. Brown , '44 May 27, 2012	James R. Perkins , '52 May 16, 2012
Sally L. Davis , '74 July 19, 2012	Bernice Porter , '37 June 23, 2012
G. Alton Dinkins , '47 June 7, 2012	Paul E. Purvis , '61 April 16, 2012
Darla Leigh Anne Fox , '07 Aug. 1, 2012	Willard W. Reinhardt Jr. , '55 Aug. 4, 2012
Joseph R. Garrard Jr. , '80 Sept. 23, 2012	Elie V. Shaw , '37 March 18, 2012
Mark Graetz , '76 Feb. 24, 2012	William B. Stark <i>Former trustee</i> Aug. 23, 2012
Lowell G. Hollums , '62 July 19, 2012	Charles M. Swanson , '52 Sept. 11, 2012
John E. Mobley , '57 July 25, 2012	J. Harold Trapnell , '33 July 9, 2012

Holly Gunter Royston, '01
President
Atlanta, Ga.

Alex Fairchild, '07
Vice President
Atlanta, Ga.

Matt Anderson, '03
Marietta, Ga.

Catherine Boothe, '99
Atlanta, Ga.

Kim MacNeill Boswell, '01
Jefferson, Ga.

Heather Moody Breeden, '99
Sandy Springs, Ga.

Skip Breeden, '99
Sandy Springs, Ga.

Stephanie Davis Cannon, '02
Monroe, Ga.

Jodie Ivester Crome, '03
Savannah, Ga.

Clayton Franklin, '08
Cornelia, Ga.

Alex Ginn, '09
Royston, Ga.

Andrew Knoblich, '06
Acworth, Ga.

Elizabeth Lobello, '02
Douglasville, Ga.

Matthew Lund, '00
Athens, Ga.

Kim Lynch, '08
Lawrenceville, Ga.

Marc McAfee, '07
Kennesaw, Ga.

Ali Neese Hatley, '12
Dahlonega, Ga.

Mandy Nichols, '98
Lilburn, Ga.

Beth Haggerty Odum, '96
Smyrna, Ga.

Cynthia Robinson, '01
Marietta, Ga.

Jack Tripp, '12
Fayetteville, Ga.

Carrie Smith Trotter, '98
Alto, Ga.

Jessie Collins Wood, '05
Hull, Ga.

Class of 1991 Enjoys 20th Reunion

On Oct. 8, 2011, members of the YHC Class of 1991 gathered at Manuel's Tavern in Atlanta to celebrate 20 years of YHC memories and friendship. Classmates enjoyed time together catching up and meeting new friends as well. The group plans to get together again at YHC's Alumni Weekend in the spring. Members of the Class of '91 interested in being involved with the next reunion are invited to contact Class Coordinator Leigh Burns at leighburns@mindspring.com. "Thank you" to everyone who came out to join the celebration!



Mark your calendar and join your fellow YHC alumni at these upcoming events!

YHC Homecoming 2012 — Blast from the Past!

Friday-Saturday, Nov. 16-17, 2012

Mountain Lions Mingle — St. Augustine, Fla.

YHC Basketball vs. Flagler College
Saturday, Dec. 15, 2012, 12:30 p.m.

Mountain Lions Mingle — Columbus

YHC Basketball vs. Columbus State University
Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013, 5 p.m.

Note date change

Mountain Lions Mingle — Milledgeville

YHC Basketball vs. Georgia College & State University
Saturday, Jan. 26, 2013, 12:30 p.m.

Mountain Lions Mingle — Dahlonega

YHC Basketball vs. North Georgia College & State University
Thursday, Feb. 21, 2013, 5 p.m.

The Young Harris Connection — Marietta

Wednesday, March 6, 2013, 6:30 p.m.
Indian Hills Country Club

YHC Big Dance

*Presented by the Board of Associates
to benefit scholarships for local students*
Saturday, March 9, 2013, 6 p.m.

The Young Harris Connection — Macon

Monday, March 18, 2013, 11 a.m.
Mulberry Street United Methodist Church

Mountain Lions Mingle — Savannah

YHC Baseball vs. Armstrong Atlantic State University
Saturday, March 23, 2013, 11 a.m.

YHC Alumni Weekend 2013

Friday-Sunday, April 19-21, 2013

Please RSVP at least 10 days prior to event: (706) 379-5334 or alumni@yhc.edu
For more details and cost information or to RSVP online, visit yhc.edu/alumni

HELPING Home

BY ELIZABETH BRADLEY TURNER

While not quite in full-fledged Appalachia like breathtaking Young Harris, the charming town of Cartersville hosts its own unique beauty in the western foothills of the north Georgia mountains. Nestled among those foothills, Lake Allatoona and bustling Interstate 75 is a historic downtown that elicits the nostalgia of a graceful southern community, the leisure of a mountain resort town and sufficient hints of modern city life. Charged with preserving, enhancing and promoting Cartersville's distinctive downtown is Young Harris College alumna and Cartersville native Tara Thomas Currier, '04.

Returning to her hometown after college was never in Currier's original plan. But, then again, neither was going to Young Harris for college. As a senior at Woodland High School, Currier had her heart set on finding her spot among the thousands who attend the University of Georgia. She was a straight-A student, and it came as no surprise that she was accepted to the University during early admission. With her UGA acceptance letter in hand and her decision made, Currier attended a college fair with some friends. As fate would have it, she found herself in discussion with the YHC representative—mainly due to the shorter line of students at that booth compared to some of the others. Although Currier was adamant about her intentions to attend UGA, the YHC advocate managed to convince her to visit the campus.

As Currier recalled from her cozy spot in a downtown Cartersville coffee shop—one of the local businesses she is now responsible for helping promote—a single visit to YHC was all it took. It was one of those ineffable, love-at-first-sight feelings experienced by many who ultimately chose to attend Young

Harris. From that moment, there was no further discussion about attending anywhere else freshman year, and, as Currier herself describes it, there was no better place for her.

"I was immediately drawn to the small, intimate campus at Young Harris," Currier noted, "and during my time there I really learned what it meant to be a part of a community and how to be an active participant."

Never will the skills of working within a tight-knit community be more useful than in Currier's current role as manager of Cartersville's Downtown Development Authority. While she has only been on the job since August, the young professional already has big plans for her hometown.

One of her major focuses so far has been on increasing

communication among downtown business owners. Understandably, it is easy for them to become consumed with their own daily responsibilities, so it is Currier's job to ensure that each shopkeeper thinks beyond their own four walls from time to time in order to promote the broader community for



Tara Currier, '04, in her office at the Cartersville Downtown Development Authority

everyone's benefit. It is the old "TEAM" mentality, where "Together Everyone Achieves More." Greater communication among downtown businesses helps Currier have a better understanding of items of common concern so that she can maximize her efforts and their bottom lines. Ultimately, she believes, collaborating in this way will yield considerable benefits for the entire downtown community.

While Currier notes she was initially drawn to her current position because of the tourism aspect, she now knows that one of her main challenges and goals is to recondition the mindset of the local public. The current diversity of shopping and dining in downtown Cartersville that out-of-town visitors rarely fail to notice has not always been available to longtime residents. And with the struggling economy, there has been some turnover of businesses—an unfortunate circumstance that can make promotion

somewhat tricky.

"Growing up in Cartersville, we never thought about heading downtown when we wanted to go out to eat with friends or needed to buy a birthday gift," Currier recalled. "Part of my job now is to continually remind our local citizens what is available so that their first instinct is to go downtown rather than straight to the big-box store or chain restaurant."

One way Currier is helping attract folks downtown and introduce them to the options available is by helping shop owners incentivize patrons with unique experiences they will not receive from the larger commercial operations. The first large event Currier helped coordinate was "Sample Your City" in October, which highlighted the many culinary offerings in downtown, from the various restaurants to the coffee shop. Even the butcher shop participated. Events featuring downtown shops are

also scheduled to take place throughout the holiday season. Promotions such as this provide consumers with more than an opportunity to enjoy a social affair with their fellow citizens; they also highlight what each individual establishment has to offer. Currier and the local business owners hope that shoppers will remember that next time they need or want something the downtown stores can provide.

On the tourism side of things, Currier feels lucky to be in charge of promoting a community that has such diverse amenities.

"We really do have something for everyone to enjoy here," she said. "Between our shopping and our eco-

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Tara Currier, '04

tourism offerings, our opportunities to explore art and science, and our historical landmarks, the town has so much to offer. Cartersville really is a unique place, and our downtown is the heart of it all.”

Currier knows firsthand about many of these community aspects. Prior to her current position with the Downtown Development Authority, for example, she served as the director of marketing at Booth Western Art Museum. The Booth Museum, located right downtown, is the second-largest art museum in Georgia and, according to its website, “houses the largest permanent exhibition space for Western art in the country.”

Though still quite young, Currier brings significant experience, impressive leadership skills and strong academic credentials to her professional role. After YHC, Currier ultimately did find her way to Athens and graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in journalism. However, she maintains that she would have eagerly stayed to receive her bachelor’s degree from Young Harris College had that been an option at the time. Currier also credits her success at UGA to the skills she acquired from her time at YHC.

“There is no doubt that we had fun at Young Harris—probably more than we should have,” she said, “but the environment was such that you also felt



Tara Currier, '04, watches as sales associate and fly fishing specialist Garner Reid assists shopper Patrick Clark with a new item at Cohutta Fishing Company in downtown Cartersville.

accountable for your academics. The professors were so engaged and involved with each individual student that you wanted to succeed in their classes.”

Currier further observed that she did not just learn about the subject matter of the classes in which she was enrolled at YHC but also how to study and how to succeed as a college student and beyond.

“I graduated from UGA and have been successful in my career because of the foundation I received from Young Harris,” she noted.

After college, Currier took a job working as an account manager with Flammer Relations, a real estate public relations firm. Prior to her role at the Booth Museum and her current position, she also served one year as community partners director for the local chamber of commerce, where she was responsible for implementing both the organization’s

mentoring program and adult leadership program.

“I am very young to hold the position I am in now,” she said, “but I feel like I have fantastic experiences to build upon. I gained so much from my roles both at the Chamber and at the Booth Museum, especially with regard to tourism and the community itself, and I am excited to apply those skills and to learn more about the economic development aspect of my new position.”

In addition to the exciting work opportunities that she has received from her hometown and the education she received through the public schools there, the community’s unique scholarship foundation, the Etowah Foundation, also helped send Currier to Young Harris College.

“It means so much to be able to use the knowledge and skills I gained at Young Harris to give back to the community that has invested so much in me,” Currier said.

In looking at all of Currier’s contributions to her hometown thus far—one of which is the addition of a new citizen whom she and her husband, Seth, look forward to welcoming in December—there is no doubt that Cartersville has received a very high return on its investment.

Tara Currier, '04, takes a moment to chat with Meg Pie coffee and gift shop owners Deborah Ballew and Nancy Childs during Cartersville’s “Sample Your City” event.



Let's Face It!

Young Harris College is buzzing on Facebook with great conversations between alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends. Here's a little of what was overheard recently...

YHC was the only Georgia institution named to the 2011–2012 Top 25 Colleges and Universities by RateMyProfessors.com, so we asked which YHC professor has made the biggest impact on YOUR life?

Join the conversation at facebook.com/youngharriscollege and share your thoughts!

Robert Nichols wins, simply because he has (had, 37 years ago) the ability to teach a math class infused with wit and relevance. I am a lifelong mathlexic. Will never forget him or his class.

CINDY EVANS

Dr. Nichols definitely. His guidance helped me throughout my college career to fight for my goals. Wouldn't have obtained my Georgia Tech degree without him. One of my favorite things he used to say: "You didn't think that life was always going to be a rose garden, did you?"

JOE CASH, '05

Dr. Hale. I could sit and listen to him all day. He made history come alive!

LYN GEORGE HARBIN, '75

Bettie and Ezra Sellers, and I loved listening to Rabbi Page.

KATHY GILMER, '77

Margaret Forrester laid a great chemistry foundation for me, which is a good thing to have when going into pharmacy school.

CHRIS VYNANEK, '99

Love, love, love, loved this school! Austine Hunter (I was lucky enough to work for her), Howard George Hanson (did she spell her last name that way?), Bill Bohannon (my first class of the day, first quarter of college—how I loved it!) and Zell Miller (of course).

DOROTHEA WHITAKER MCALVIN, '60

Dr. Bob Nichols! I could still use a weekly session with him! So inspirational!

WENDY SEDLOCK HARRISON, '88

Nichols, Harvey, Hale, Aunspaugh. To name a few. There were really none that were forgettable. They all opened my young mind up to endless possibilities.

HAL MISSEI, '95

Dr. March, Dr. Dupont, Dr. Franklin, Dr. Nichols, Dr. Nations, Ms. Hull—all AMAZING!!!

JAKE JONES, '01

John Kay made a tremendous impact on my life.

MARILYN CATHERINE ROBERTS, '83

Ruth Looper, Tom Jeffrey, Robbie Rankin, Steve Harvey!!

MICHELLE GOLDEN, '05

Nichols and Van Vliet. Gray and Terrebone. Both Franklins. Hughes, even though I didn't have a course with her—she was always smiling, pleasant and fun to talk to. Thanks also to Cathy Cox—without her and Van Vliet, I probably would only have an associate degree right now. Clint Hobbs for giving me a chance to attend. The financial aid office for getting me the help I needed to pay for everything. Pat Strickland and the registrar's office for all their help. There are many more, and just because I didn't list you, doesn't mean you didn't have an impact. Thanks to everyone at YHC!

JOSHUA DYER, '11

Dick Aunspaugh, David Franklin, Lee March (in alphabetical order) and Kathy Brown, because without her, I never would have been a YHC alumna.

ABBIE HAMILTON, '99

Ed Rich, Bettie Sellers and Dr. Hale. Every teacher made an impact, some more than others. Oh, and Rabbi Page too.

PEGGY GARRETT BOYLAN, '77

Dr. Robert Andress, Ms. Hilda McCurdy, Mrs. Myers and others were so friendly, so knowledgeable and cared so much for all of us.

MERRILL BAGWELL, '67



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APRIL
19-21
FRIDAY-SUNDAY

- **Half Century Club Dinner & Alumni Awards Ceremony**
- **Alumni Weekend Luncheon**
- FIRST-EVER **ALL CLASS PARTY ON CAMPUS**
- **Milestone Class Reunions**
(5TH, 10TH, 15TH, 20TH, 25TH, 30TH, 35TH, 40TH, 45TH, 50TH, ETC.)
- **Mountain Lions Baseball Games**
- **Theatre Young Harris Season Finale**

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#YHCAW13

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Check out *Today@YHC*, a monthly online newsletter for Young Harris College alumni that includes news from the College, spotlights on alumni, interviews with faculty and more. Subscribe to *Today@YHC* now by visiting yhc.edu/alumni.

TODAY @ YHC