SPRING/SUMMER 2011

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

## Stroll Down Memory Lane

125 Years of Tradition and History



GET READY FOR

Alumni Weekend 2011

PLUS **Janice Moore** Mountain Poet





### On the Cover

View of Sharp Hall from Young Harris College lawn, circa 1950.

PHOTOGRAPH YHC ARCHIVES

### On this Page

Above: New mascot Luke the Mountain Lion is introduced to the crowd prior to the inaugural home games of the men's and women's basketball teams Nov. 15 in the Young Harris College Recreation and Fitness Center.

Right: Students are full of spirit for the return of YHC basketball.

PHOTOGRAPHS SCOTT DEAN

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### Better With Age

The past several years of warp-speed growth and change at Young Harris College have made some of our heads spin. We've been building and opening new facilities annually, we've repeatedly broken enrollment records in each recent year, we just graduated our first class of seniors in nearly a century, and by this summer, we will have doubled the size of the faculty in only four years, adding great new intellectual energy to the campus.

A few alumni have lamented to me, "We won't recognize anything when we come to visit!" My response has a lot to do with what you'll see in this issue of *Echoes*: the traditions, the core campus, the friendly atmosphere, the encircling mountains and all those other things that contribute to *the Young Harris Spirit* are not going away—they're getting better as our 125-year-old college changes to meet the needs of today's students.

Take our most historic building—the Susan B. Harris Chapel. It continues to be the heart of campus and chapel services are still held every Wednesday evening. We've dressed it up with a beautiful new chocolate velvet stage curtain, a softer paint color on the walls, a newly refinished stage and, at long last, a badly needed repair to



YHC President Cathy Cox presents graduating senior Meg Patterson with the Dr. Charles R. Clegg Outstanding Scholar Award. (See page 42 for spotlight story on Patterson.)

the historic organ. (One of these days we'll get to refinish the hardwood floors, replace the worn grey carpet and retool the beautiful brick outside...but those are topics for another day.) Chapel services are still followed by the loud and (almost) indecipherable cheers of Greek organizations at the center of the plaza, and even if national fraternities or sororities come to our campus, that tradition is too ingrained to ever go away!

We're building a lot of new facilities that are essential to our growth, but we've carefully designed a master plan that will keep our central lawn and plaza in tact—keeping the campus very walkable and compact. When you stand out in the center of the plaza, your memories are always going to be revived by the sight of the Chapel, Sharp Hall and Appleby—our most prominent central buildings. We intend to convert Sharp Hall back to the academic/classroom building so many of you remember as soon as we're able to add more administrative space elsewhere.

In sum, YHC is getting older—but it's also getting better. We are strengthening the programs we offer and improving the campus in ways that we believe will make you even prouder of the YHC you know and love. But rest assured, with everything we do, we consider carefully the potential impact on *the Young Harris Spirit*. It is alive and well—come see for yourself!

Warmly,

Cathy Cox President

### **Echoes**

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 1 SPRING/SUMMER 201

The Official Magazine of Young Harris College

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*Echoes* is published by the Office of Communications and Marketing at Young Harris College. The views and opinions presented in this publication are not necessarily those of the editors or the official policies of the College.

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EST. 1886

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## Brings Big Names to Campus

Throughout the 2010-2011 academic year, Young Harris College President Cathy Cox welcomed seven prominent business and community leaders to campus in the first-ever President's Career Luncheon Series, a new lineup of career-focused events that provides students with the opportunity to learn from the successful guest speakers who share their career stories and offer advice for beginning a career. The popular small-group lunch gatherings were limited to 20-25 students each, allowing for plenty of valuable one-on-one conversation between the speaker and the students in attendance.

Mark Lyden, a college recruiter for a Fortune 500 company who has more than a decade of experience, spoke with students on Sept. 10 about his book *College Students: Do This! Get Hired!*, which offers tips for the job search.

Atlanta Community Foundation President Alicia Philipp spoke to students on Oct. 1 about careers in the non-profit world of philanthropy. *Atlanta Business Chronicle* named her one of the "100 Most Influential Atlantans," and over a span of 30 years, Philipp has grown the Foundation from \$7 million in 1977 to more than \$625 million today.

Monica Kaufman Pearson, anchor for Atlanta's WSB-TV Channel 2 Action News, met with students on Nov. 5. The local and southern regional Emmy Award winner discussed careers in news and media.

On Jan. 21, The Coca-Cola Company's Vice President, Hispanic Strategies, Frank Ros discussed corporate business careers. The packed room included many international students and student-athletes who were interested to learn more about Ros, who was also captain of the University of Georgia's 1980 national championship football team.

Tom Murphy, owner of Murphy's Restaurant, an acclaimed 30-year institution of Atlanta's trendy Virginia-Highlands neighborhood, spoke to students on Feb. 4 about small-business and entrepreneurial careers. Murphy's successful and highly popular delicatessen was born from his collegiate senior project.

Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Hon. Carol Hunstein discussed careers in the legal field with students on March 18. She was tapped by YHC alumnus and former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, '51, in 1992 to become the second woman on Georgia's Supreme Court and was also the first woman to serve as President of the Council of Superior Court Judges.

The series concluded on April 1 with internal medicine private practitioner Dr.

Sandra Fryhofer discussing medical careers. She was the 2000-2001 president of the American College of Physicians—the youngest in the society's history, and is a former medical correspondent for CNN Headline News and a former Miss Georgia.

From top, left to right: Atlanta Community Foundation President Alicia Philipp; Coca-Cola Vice President, Hispanic Strategies, Frank Ros with YHC students; Atlanta entrepreneur Tom Murphy; Georgia Supreme Court Chief Justice Hon. Carol Hunstein; Dr. Sandra Fryhofer; Atlanta news anchor Monica Kaufman Pearson; and author and college recruiter Mark Lyden with students





### YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

### Opens Second LEED-Certified Campus Facility

Young Harris College has been awarded LEED certification by the Green Building Certification Institute for its new Recreation and Fitness Center, which opened in August 2010. It is the second LEED-certified facility YHC has opened on campus as part of its transformation to a four-year college, after opening the 200-bed LEED Silvercertified Enotah Hall the previous year. The Center is only the second higher educational recreation facility in Georgia to achieve this certification, according to the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) project directory.

In just a few months, the \$14.4 million, 57,000-square-foot, twostory recreation and fitness facility has quickly become a popular and busy spot on campus with attractive amenities and services for students, faculty, staff and the local community, including the Balance Café, yoga, dance and aerobics fitness classes, an impressive 37-foot-high rock climbing wall beside a fully equipped weight room and fitness center, and an elevated jogging track surrounding the state-of-the-art 1,100-purple-seat, NCAA-regulation basketball and volleyball arena—dubbed by men's basketball head coach Pete Herrmann as the "Valley of Doom."

The Green Building Certification Institute is a third-party reviewer for the USGBC, a Washington, D.C.-based non-profit organization committed to promoting national sustainability through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. USGBC developed the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System to provide building owners and operators with a framework of tools and performance criteria for the design, construction, operation and maintenance of high performance green buildings.

"As we continue to add new facilities to our growing campus, we are committed to sustainable design practices that reduce the College's carbon footprint," YHC President Cathy Cox said. "It is a challenge to design a large multi-purpose facility, such as our Recreation and Fitness Center, that adheres to strict LEED standards, but that's exactly what our team with Hughes Group Architects have done. We are proud that Young Harris College is leading the way and setting the example for sustainable growth in north Georgia."

A Brailsford and Dunlavey team led by

Chet Roach served as project manager, with responsibility for the development of and adherence to a LEED plan and management of the design and construction teams working on the project.

"As evidenced by the successful pursuit of this tremendous feat, Young Harris College continues to be an exemplary environmental steward in the state of Georgia and in higher education," Roach said. "Throughout design and construction, YHC was steadfast in its implementation of energy-efficient building systems and environmentally friendly operating policies. While many institutions are bound by mandated sustainable design guidelines, YHC is not—yet the College



refuses to compromise its conviction that sustainable practices are consistent with its commitment to its students, its community and its overall mission."

Hardin Construction Company, also committed to sustainable design and construction practices, served as the general contractor for the project.

"This is our team's second LEED-certified project at YHC, and we feel extremely honored to have the opportunity to work with such a forward-thinking and



Students plug in headphones or earbuds to enjoy music and television during their workouts at YHC's new Recreation and Fitness Center.

environmentally conscientious owner," said Frances Locke Bohn, project manager with Hardin. "As general contractors committed to sustainable building practices, we applaud owners who consistently make this important commitment."

LEED standards also call for local materials to be used when available, and the new building made a significant positive impact on the local economy. More than \$3.2 million, or approximately 27 percent of the project's construction cost, was spent locally among several counties surrounding the College.

"We are happy that we were able to once again focus our new construction and College growth in a way that benefits and supports the local economy," President Cox added.

From left: Young Harris College's LEED-certified Recreation and Fitness Center opened in August 2010. An elevated jogging track surrounds the basketball/volleyball arena. The weight room and fitness center offers a variety of first-class exercise and fitness equipment and amenities.

# MUSIC FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS Lead Professional Organizations

Young Harris College was well represented during the 2010-2011 academic year in the leadership of three music-related professional organizations.

In November 2010, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs and Professor of Music Keith DeFoor, Ph.D., took over the presidency of the Georgia Music Teachers Association (GMTA), the state affiliate of Music Teachers National Association (MTNA).

In June 2010, Dean of the Division of Fine Arts and Professor of Music Benny Ferguson, Ph.D., began his twoyear term as president of the Southern Division of the Music Educators National Conference (MENC).

Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land began her presidency of the Georgia Music Educators Association (GMEA) in May 2011.

"It is exceptional for an institution of any size to simultaneously have three state and regional leaders in the same discipline," said Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty Ron Roach, Ph.D. "The fact that Young Harris College does speaks to the caliber of these professors, to the stature of the music department and to the quality of the College faculty as a whole. We are extremely proud of this achievement."







**President** 

Cathy Cox

## PRESIDENT COX, TWO TRUSTEES NAMED TO '100 Most Influential Georgians'

Young Harris College President Cathy Cox was named to *Georgia Trend*'s "100 Most Influential Georgians" in the magazine's January 2011 issue along with Young Harris College trustees Wyck A. Knox, Jr., an attorney with Kilpatrick Stockton in Augusta and Jimmy C. Tallent, '70, president and CEO

of Blairsville-based United Community Banks, Inc.

According to *Georgia Trend*, the annual list, now in its 13th edition, reflects *Georgia*'s most powerful forces in state government and business leadership and lists those people "who affect the course of events in *Georgia* and who influence what you think and how you live"

"It is an honor to be selected as part of this group, and I think it directly reflects the impact that our growth and transformation at Young Harris College is having on higher education in Georgia," President Cox said. "I am also delighted to share this recognition with two of our trustees who are both well-respected business and civic leaders."

The article noted that Knox "has been recognized locally and nationally for his legal prowess...having tried numerous cases in state and federal courts," including the Georgia Court of Appeals and the Georgia Supreme Court. He also serves as director of AGL Resources and president of Knox Charity Fund.

Tallent's profile cites the growth of United Community Bank "from a small, one-branch financial institution in rural Blairsville to the third-largest bank holding company in Georgia with \$8 billion in assets" while under Tallent's leadership for more than 20 years. He is also a member of the Georgia Power board.

Young Harris College alumnus David Ralston, '74, speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, was named "Georgian of the Year" and featured on the cover of the issue.

The story is available online at www.yhc.edu or at www.georgiatrend.com.





Wyck A. Knox, Jr.



## TRUSTEE INDUCTED INTO Business Hall of Fame

Young Harris College trustee René M. Diaz was inducted into Georgia State University's J. Mack Robinson College of Business Hall of Fame during its 27th annual hall of fame dinner on May 10. Through the event, GSU honors outstanding leaders "for the inspiration they have provided through their professional accomplishments and contributions to the community." Diaz joins other

notable names, including Chick-fil-A founder S. Truett Cathy, The Coca-Cola Company former CEO Roberto C. Goizueta, politician and diplomat Andrew Young, media mogul and philanthropist Ted Turner, The Home Depot co-founder Arthur Blank, and fellow YHC trustee former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell B. Miller, '51. Diaz was recognized for his outstanding accomplishments in business. As founder, president and CEO of Atlantabased Diaz Foods, he has grown the company into one of the largest and most prominent Hispanic food distributors in the United States.

### Zell Miller Speaks

## AT MILESTONE COMMENCEMENT

Distinguished Young Harris College alumnus and former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell B. Miller, '51, addressed the Class of 2011 during the College's Commencement ceremony on May 7.



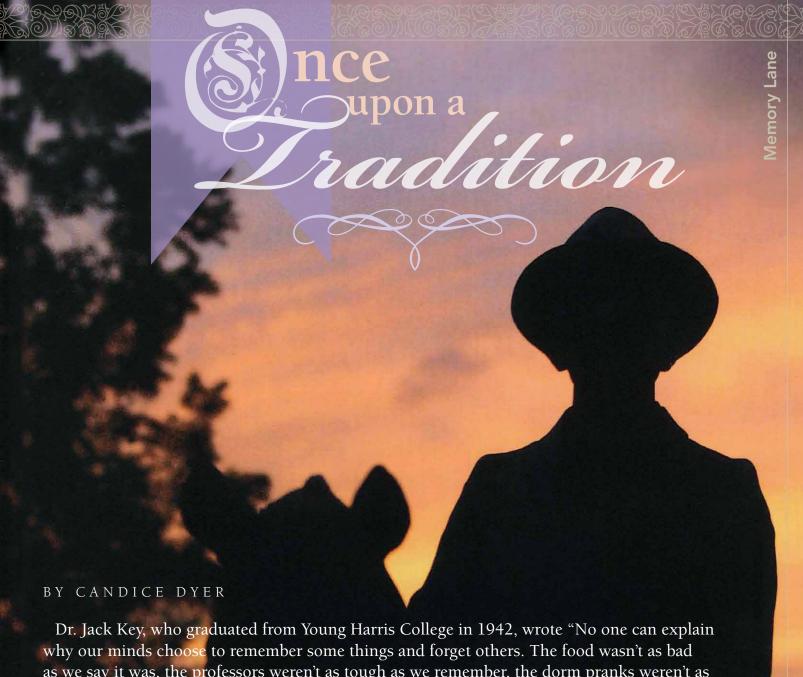
Also a trustee of the College, Miller has well-known strong ties to his alma mater, having famously grown up in the mountains of Young Harris and later serving as a baseball coach and professor.

This year's commencement ceremony marked a significant milestone in Young Harris College's 125-year history as 40 graduating seniors were awarded the College's first bachelor's degrees in nearly a century, including the new business and public policy degree that Miller helped design.

During the ceremony, YHC President Cathy Cox awarded Miller an honorary doctor of public service degree in recognition of all his accomplishments.

Look for full coverage of YHC's 2011 Commencement in the fall/winter 2011 issue of Echoes.





as we say it was, the professors weren't as tough as we remember, the dorm pranks weren't as wild...with many years of telling, a feather oftentimes becomes a goose."

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However, despite these tricks of imagination, "What is important is that we gather some inspiring, life-giving, redeeming memories along the way," he concluded. "Young Harris did that for me."

More than a century after its founding, Young Harris College is the backdrop for many such memories and stories passed down year after year—some fact, some myth, some legend.

The champion debaters are rock stars, the basketball players live on as heroes, and the musicians and artists became royalty. That part is true.

The traditions of YHC are noble and service-oriented (Family Weekend, Thanksgiving Dinner, faculty-served midnight breakfast, mission trips to foreign places) as well as inexplicably silly (what ARE those kids yelling about circled around the seal and WHY would a Spat dunk a Dorcas in the fountain?), but they all give students a common thread of shared experience, a sense of belonging to an ongoing story.

"We had a Practical Joke Society at one point," recalled alumnus Robert Richardson, '89. "At such a small campus in a small town, you become very close-knit and very resourceful at entertaining yourself and each other. You learn quickly how to make fun. And you don't really realize until much later just how much fun you made."

Just for fun, check out these 10 time-tested, memoryevoking Young Harris College traditions.

## If These Bricks Could Talk

n indelible indentation midway up the left side of the alcove entry of the Susan B. Harris Chapel suggests all of the restless feet that have dangled and scuffed against it while students sat on the ledge, studying, gossiping and dreaming. The mortar binding Young Harris College's oldest building, which was constructed in 1892, is an unusual salmon color, the result of red Georgia clay stubbornly seeping through the whitewash that builders once used to delineate and manicure the bricks.

The Chapel, honoring the wife of the College's early benefactor and namesake, Athens judge Young Loftin Gerdine Harris, is the spiritual and physical heart of the campus. Weekly chapel services are certainly a long-standing tradition, but the Chapel also serves as a venue for arts performances, lectures, weddings and other ceremonies.

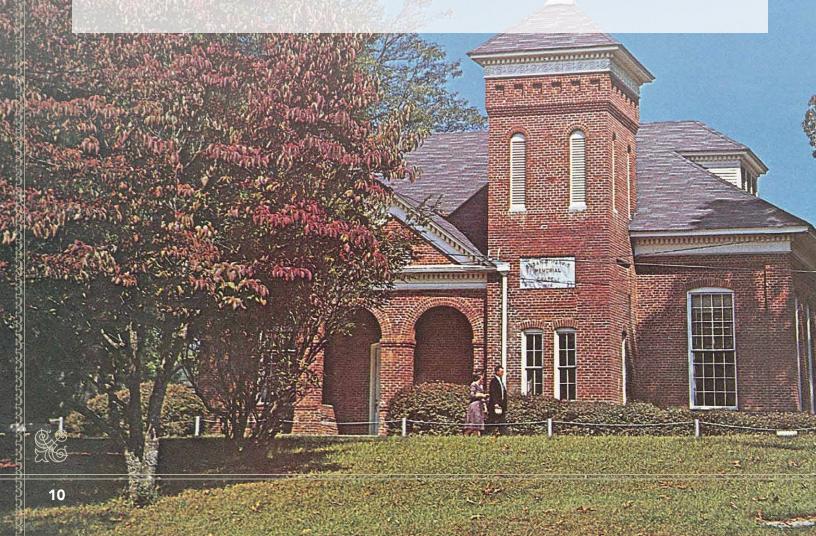
It was most recently updated in 2009 in a painstaking spirit of historic preservation; the antique glass in the windowpanes still refracts incoming light in watery waves, and nobody tries to mask the red clay anymore.

The Chapel has functioned over the years as the beloved domicile of the "Susan B's," a faith-based sorority. It is here that they have plotted their community service projects and prayed for each other—for good grades, for broken hearts, for troubles at home.

Modest, young women in the secret Dorcas Society also pop in surreptitiously to dust and polish the pews and fixtures of the building, and, in gestures of fellowship with less gravitas, fraternity men—perhaps lured by the presence of the Susan B's, the Dorcas girls or some other impulse—occasionally try to "prove their manhood" by walking the length of the ledge around the building.

These days, while walking across the plaza around dusk, one can often hear the sounds of a loud band belting out music and lyrics, either for dedicated practice or pure entertainment of its members. The chandelier lights are ablaze, casting a warm glow through the tall windows that vibrate with the melody of youth.

Meanwhile, those bricks hold fast, gaining character with all of that loving wear and tear.





## For Whom the *Bell* Tolls

hen the Chapel bell rings, all heads turn, and some come running.

"Sometimes we'd scream when we ran just for fun, just to add to the excitement," said Rebecca Hardin Hill, '90, who belonged to the "Susan B's," the sorority that rallies in the Chapel whenever the bell rings at unexpected moments, signaling distress, celebration or some other call to action.

That ritual, naturally, has inspired some prankster ingenuity over the years.

"We were always trying to finagle our way into the belfry just to make the Susan B's run," said Robert Richardson, '89, a member of Epsilon Delta Sigma. "We had a guy in our fraternity we nicknamed 'MacGyver' who rigged up this filament and light bulb contraption to ring it by remote control."

The bell in the Susan B. Harris Chapel also heralds serious campus-wide milestones and other observances.

"We started a new tradition in the past year," said Campus Minister Rev. Dr. Tim Moore, "by ringing it some 800 times, once for every student's name, and in the future we will ring it once as freshmen enter their first semester, once during their commencement and once upon their death, with the idea that, ultimately, Young Harris students will have the bell rung three times as their name is spoken."

An annual All Saints' Day service honors alumni who have passed in the last year with the bell's crystalline peal.



## In the Spirit of Creativity

at a board of trustees meeting in the early 1960s, when the vocal ensemble singers publicly challenged the board by singing, in perfect harmony, a ditty

they had composed called "Only You Can Build a Fine Arts Building." Around the same time, the music faculty proposed a program with concentrations in music, art and theatre.

"Thus was created the first Associate of Fine Arts degree program in the state of Georgia," recalled Emeritus

Professor of Music William "Bill" Fox, '50, who was named chairman of the division in 1969. He and his wife, Mary Ann Nielsen Fox, also an emeritus professor who still serves as an adjunct instructor of music, have contributed

more than 80 years of combined service to the College.

For years, students were required to attend a certain number of arts events coordinated by the Arts and Assemblies committee, which brought a vibrant parade of guest lecturers and international artists to the mountains, including mimes, magicians, symphony orchestras and ballet troupes.

Of course, a tradition of eloquent selfexpression was already deeply ingrained at YHC, thanks to dozens of literary and music clubs, crackerjack debating teams and ambitious dramatic productions such as *The Curious Savage* and *The Man Who Came to Dinner*.

"The culmination of these occurred near commencement season with very high energy, sweat-and-tears competitions of public oratory," said Fox, "and music was always an integral part of campus life in its various forms."

In the early years, the College supported the Schubert Music Club, which eventually was supplanted by the more service-oriented Pro Musica Camerata, a name adopted from a similar Florentine society. (PMC even built its own harpsichord.) There was also an Art Club and Palette and Brush Club on record. The Young Harris College Choir showed up later in yearbooks of the 1940s, and now is a legacy unto itself.

Today, all YHC students, regardless of their majors, are encouraged to participate in the activities of the Division of Fine Arts, including regular field experiences and trips sponsored by the various departments as well as a bounty of on-campus concerts, performances, lectures and exhibits by students, faculty and special guest artists.

"All in all, this part of the college program serves a most valuable function in broadening the cultural, educational and spiritual growth of the college community," Fox said. "It is a long-standing and valuable tradition which deserves to be fully and heartily perpetuated."







### I'd Climb the Highest

Mountain

n the 1950s, students would take a hayride to the top of Brasstown Bald for a precommencement vespers service. The tradition had flagged until centennial celebrations in 1986, when then-campus minister Rev. Fred Whitley revived the evensong ceremony, encouraging students and family to hike or drive to assemble at the highest point in Georgia.

There, amid barbecue and picnic fare, the campus minister delivers an address designed to balm the transitional pangs of graduation.

"I always enjoyed standing on a picnic table and reading from a collection of poems titled *God's Trombones*, by African-American poet James Weldon Johnson, inspired by the cadences of the sermons he heard growing up," said Whitley, who was known around campus simply as "Rev" before retiring in 2008. He now holds the title emeritus professor of religion and campus minister. "Brasstown Bald, with its beauty and mystique as the pinnacle, is the perfect

setting to contemplate one of those poems called 'The Creation,'" he said.

Alumnus Robert Richardson, '89, remembers those services fondly. "Rev looked just like Charlton Heston, waving his arms around dramatically, with the wind whipping all around us on the mountaintop! It made me feel inspired to move on to my next challenge."

Whitley added with a laugh, "One year, the fog was so bad that no one could see me, but they could hear my booming voice, like a voice from beyond—that may have been the most memorable one for me."

Even now, a brave group of students and family members carry on the tradition of the hike each year. Other students, their families and faculty and staff meet them at the picnic tables on top for food, fellowship and the annual sermon.

In 2011, for the first time ever, YHC "live-tweeted" the hike and posted video of the service on Facebook and YouTube—allowing alumni all over the world to share a part of that treasured tradition.





## A 'Case' Study in Romance

oung Harris College President Charles R. Clegg reportedly compared YHC to a shoe factory. "Students come in single and leave in pairs," he famously declared.

Blame it on Cupid Falls, a popular spot for proposals—romance sweetens the air like honeysuckle on the valley campus and, more often than not, culminates in nuptials.

"I've performed an estimated 200 weddings of Young Harris students and alumni to date, and still get called to officiate," said Emeritus Professor of Religion and Campus Minister Rev. Fred Whitley, who served almost 30 years before retiring in 2008.

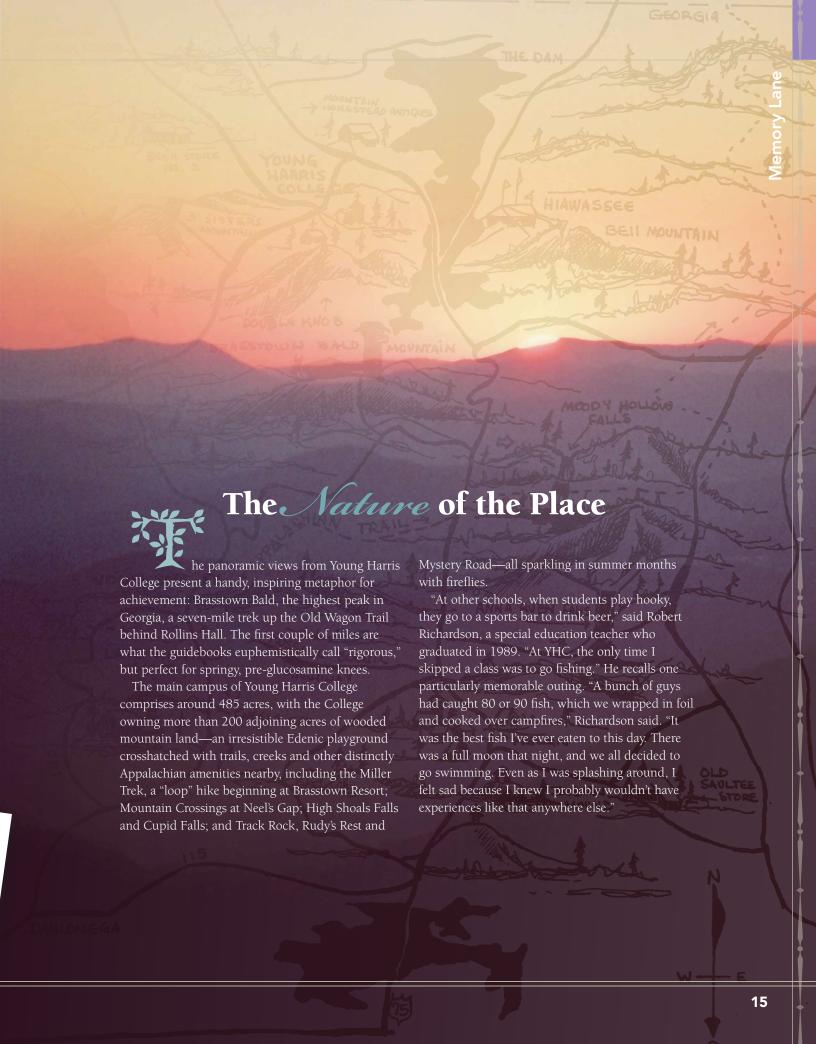
Unlike most colleges, YHC has been co-ed since its inception, with administrators striving early on to contain the amorous desires of young men and women, who entered and exited buildings on separate stairwells and were forbidden to converse except between the hours of two and five in the afternoon on Sundays—a respite signaled by the Chapel bell.

Even then, students had to perch in the open on benches so that faculty and staff monitors could reconnoiter 360 degrees around couples who might be tempted to canoodle; hence, the class tradition of giving a bench. (First-time visitors will notice that there is no shortage of alfresco seating on the grounds.)

Never underestimate the resourcefulness of a 19-year-old in love, though. "In that earlier era, students communicated by leaving love notes for each other, called 'cases," said Duckworth Library Associate Director Debra March, who serves as campus historian. "So if you left a note for someone, you had a 'case' for that person. That's very localized YHC lingo that I haven't heard anywhere else."

Thankfully for the students, the rules have relaxed quite a bit over time, but you can still find couples lingering in swings and on benches throughout campus, exchanging affections, stealing kisses and kneeling where many have done so before to pop that all-important question.





## The Bookends of Convocation and Commencement

cademic Convocation at the beginning of fall semester, with its starchy, magisterial swish of robes, hints at certain expectations.

"The faculty are in full regalia, trying to impress on these young minds the opportunities that lie ahead, that they are no longer in high school and have moved up to another level of bigger and broader challenges," said historian Debra March. "Students sign the honor code, meet their professors and hear a speech that essentially says, 'Welcome, we love you, open your minds."

Adds retired longtime campus minister Fred Whitley, "It sets a tone designed to encourage them to make the most of their time here, because it will go by so much faster than they realize."

And when it does, when the campus sprouts mortarboards in early May, students can flash back to those nervous first days and savor a hard-earned sense of accomplishment.

"Then it's their turn to wear the robes, to be part of the formality," March said.

Registrar Pat Strickland can direct the commencement choreography with her eyes shut. "The graduates take a group photo before lining up outside to form the processional with the faculty," she said. "Students and faculty enter and march to their seats in the center of the room while everyone watches. Then I exhale for the first time that day! It's my favorite occasion, seeing the pride on the faces of students and their families."



might be altered with YHC's new four-year status. March's husband, Lee, welcomes the change.

"At the end of two years, they're just figuring out what they want to do," said the professor of political science and dean of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences. "Now we get to hold on to them longer and watch them form into increasingly interesting and complex and focused adults, so commencement is even more momentous, I think."



he precise origins of this tradition remain unclear, but perhaps some combination of preexam jitters and cabin fever led to "Walking the Wall," a rowdy, sweetly superstitious, good-luck ritual.

"It begins at midnight on the night before finals," explained student ambassador Clay Thomason, a junior education major from Cleveland, Ga. "We line up next to the post office on Rollins Wall, and we all begin walking, going all the way across to the other side of Sharp Church. Then we have to turn around on the wall and come all the way back, which is where it becomes tricky because you're either hugging other students or sitting down and letting them crawl over you to keep walking, all while trying not to fall off. If you do it successfully, you'll ace the final, but if you fall, legend is that you'll fail."

To this day, no one has authoritatively charted the correlation between wall-walking agility and grades ("I believe it did bring me luck," Thomason said), but everyone agrees that this activity provides a welcome stress reliever.

"It sounds like a loud elementary school playground on those nights, with students giggling and carrying on," said historian Debra March, who traces this tradition at least as far back as the 1980s. "It's clear they need a break by then."



## When the Sap Rises

fter a chill winter of hibernation, students are ready to let loose their pent-up energy during Spring Fest—traditionally a one-day celebration that recently has been lengthened into a weeklong romp of games, outdoor contests, swag, sunburn and carny fun.

Organized by the Campus Activities Board (CAB), the event usually includes a movie on the lawn, live music and barbecue, a "battle of the bands" competition among students, games, Bongo Ball Mania (think paintball), Extreme Air Inflatable events (similar to skydiving but contained),

airbrush tattoos, photo booths, cornhole tournaments, a water balloon toss, sack races and plenty of free souvenirs.

"I fondly remember the Holy Water Luau," said Cohen Hill, an Alpha Omega alum and a Spat Club member who graduated in 2000. "Other frats were chugging beer, but we chugged 'holy water' made from juice and sherbet. And there was a pig, which people—or at least the Susan B's—were a little too nervous to eat."

More reliably irresistible are the homemade fudge and candy, sold by the Pro Musica Camerata society.





Mentors Reunited

hether it's called Homecoming, Alumni Weekend or some other time in between, loyal Young Harris College alumni plan their lives around that annual pilgrimage to the Enchanted Valley.

A mellow, appreciative nostalgia pervades Alumni Weekend, which is scheduled for July 29-31 this year, when graduates in different stages of career and family life descend in adoration on the charmed campus to reminisce, reconnect and reflect. The weekend usually draws as many as 1,500 alumni and their families.

The homecoming tradition is believed to have started in the late 1940s in conjunction with the building of Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church.

Festivities include a college update followed by lunch on the lawn Saturday, along with smaller reunions and gatherings of different classes and clubs, often joined by beloved professors.

A celebratory dinner also recognizes alumni for achievements in their careers, communities and churches.

For example, The Iuventus Award is presented to an alumnus or alumna who has made significant contributions to the education of young people. (The Latin, "Iuventus," is taken from the Young Harris College motto: Hic Iuventus Incenditur - "Here Youth Are Inspired.") The Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Career Achievement recently has been presented to political luminaries such as Zell Miller, '51, and Jack Brinkley, '49.

Past celebrations also have included dances, fireworks, alumni art exhibits, musical performances, readings of the poetry of college laureate Byron Herbert Reece, '40, and of course, the ritual tolling of the Chapel bell.







# YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE LUMNI DEEKEND 2011 Friday-Sunday, July 29-31

Whether for good memories, to get informed about Young Harris College or to enjoy the companionship of old friends, Alumni Weekend is an event you don't want to miss.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, July		SCHEDULE C	Saturday, July 30	
	7:30–9 a.m.	Breakfast, Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant, \$6.50	7:30–9 a.m.	Breakfast, Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant, \$6.50
	9 a.m.–2 p.m.	Registration Tent Open, Campus Plaza Sign in, pick up an events schedule and get your Alumni Weekend souvenir!	8 a.m.–2 p.m.	Registration Tent Open, Campus Plaza Sign in, pick up an events schedule and get your Alumni Weekend souvenir!
	10 a.m.–6 p.m.	Campus Book Store Open	8–9 a.m.	Coffee with YHC President Cathy Cox Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant Special recognition for Class of '61
	11 a.m.– 1:30 p.m.	Lunch, Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant \$7.50		
	2:30–3:30 p.m.	Ice Cream Social, Myers Student Center	8–9:30 a.m.	Dorcas/Spat Breakfast
	•	Now and Then Walking Tours of Campus		Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant \$6.50, pay at the door
		Leaving from Susan B. Harris Chapel YHC Social, Campus Gate Art Gallery Event for YHC Alumni Association Board, Young Alumni Council, Class Coordinators, Student Ambassadors. Light refreshments will be provided. *Pre-registration required	8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.	Campus Book Store Open
	- -		8:30 a.m.– 5:30 p.m.	Works of Al Garnto, '94 Exhibit Campus Gate Art Gallery
			10 a.m.–4 p.m.	College Archives and Special Collections Duckworth Library
	4–5 p.m.	Saturn: Jewel of the Heavens O.Wayne Rollins Planetarium Family Show	10:30 a.m.	YHC Alumni Update Hilda D. Glenn Auditorium Arrive early to get a seat for this celebratory college
		Celebration Reunion Dinner and Alumni Awards Ceremony YHC Recreation and Fitness Center All alumni invited! Special VIP tables are available for Class of '61 50th Reunion. Other special reunion classes should contact Alumni Services for reserved group seating. Please submit scanned YHC photos to alumni@yhc.edu for reunion weekend slideshow.	President and YHC President. will be given to this year's 50th and Alumni Award recipients of Association Board members, th Council, Class Coordinators a current faculty and staff. The Alumni Board will anno	update with news from the YHC Alumni Association President and YHC President. Special recognition will be given to this year's 50th Anniversary Class and Alumni Award recipients as well as Alumni Association Board members, the Young Alumni Council, Class Coordinators and both emeriti and current faculty and staff. The Alumni Board will announce important news regarding future alumni weekends.
		*Pre-registration required. Free admission for Class of 1961 members celebrating their 50th reunion \$20 Class of '61 spouses/guests \$30 all other alumni and guests	12:15-2 p.m.	Lunch on the Lawn, YHC Plaza and Lawn Mix and mingle with generations of YHC alumni and friends.  *Pre-registration suggested, \$10 (Kids 12 and under free)



Campus Lawn

Enjoy live music and children's activities with fellow

young alumni and Greek organizations.†

12:15–2 p.m. Faculty Meet and Greet

Susan B. Harris Chapel

1, 2 and 3 p.m. Now and Then Walking Tours of Campus

Leaving from Susan B. Harris Chapel

1 p.m. Anniversary Reunion Photos:

Classes of '36 (75th), '41 (70th), '46 (65th), '51 (60th), '56 (55th), '61 (50th), '66 (45th), '71 (40th), '76 (35th) and '81 (30th) in front of

Myers Student Center

Classes of '86 (25th), '91 (20th), '96 (15th), '01 (10th), '06 (5th) and '11 in front of Enotah Hall

2 p.m. Alumni Weekend 2011 Group Photo

YHC Plaza in front of Sharp Hall

Grab your fellow alumni and smile for the camera! Let's outdo last year's effort by making this the largest group ever! You just might see yourself in a future

issue of Echoes!

2 and 3 p.m. The Problem with Pluto

O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium

Family Show

### Sunday, July 31

11 a.m. Alumni Weekend Church Service

Rev. Bob Bone, '57

Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church

11 a.m.–2 p.m. Sunday Brunch

Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant, \$9.50

†Decade tents on the lawn will be provided by decade tent coordinators. If your Greek or social group would like a tent on campus please contact the Alumni Office.



### **Class Reunions**

Class of 1951 ('50 and '52) 60th Reunion

Saturday, July 30, 6–8 p.m. Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant \*\$20 pre-registration required

Class of 1961 ('60 and '62) 50th Reunion

Cake and punch reception Saturday, July 30, 2:30 p.m. Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant Free

Class of 1971 ('70 and '72) 40th Reunion

Saturday, July 30, 9-10 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m.

The Green Family Lobby, Enotah Hall

Saturday, July 30, 7 p.m., Appalachian Gallery, Young Harris, Ga. For details, contact Ramona Joseph Fricks, '71, at frickswgsr@aol.com or Jane Harrell Roberts, '71, at jane.h.roberts@gmail.com

### Class of 1976 ('75 and '77) 35th Reunion

Saturday, July 30, 7:30 p.m.

The Tack Room, Brasstown Valley Resort, Young Harris, Ga.

\$15, RSVP to Bobby Bolton at boltonius@aol.com

Class of 2001 ('00 and '02) 10th Reunion

Saturday, July 30, 4-6 p.m.

El Cancun Restaurant, Hiawassee, Ga.

All alumni welcome

If you are a member of a reunion class not included in this list, contact the Office of Alumni Services or visit **www.yhc.edu/alumniweekend** for the latest information.

Get involved by volunteering for your class reunion committee or be a special group sponsor.

#### CONTACT:

Young Harris College Office of Alumni Services P.O. Box 275 (706) 379-5334 alumni@yhc.edu





BS

WIIY I'M GOING TO' MISS YOUNG HARRIS

How well I remember up to law Young Harris, was a gloomy day in November and commy day in November with the friendly admired to the provided received with the friendly admired to the provided received with the friendly admired to the provided received who greeted with the many the friendly admired to the law three years and to the law three was to the law three works and a crowd would nove a few to the law three works and a crowd would nove a few three works and a crowd would nove we were now who for the law three works and a crowd would nove we were now that the work of the law three works and a crowd we were morning to wake up and the works and the control of the works and the



While Young Harris College was just beginning in 1886, the world saw some other memorable events during that same year. The city of Vancouver, B.C., was incorporated; modern field hockey was born with the formation of the Hockey Association in England; Atlanta Pharmacist John Pemberton invented Coca-Cola; Grover Cleveland became the first (and only) U.S. president to wed in the White House; Karl Benz drove the first automobile in Germany; the eighth and last Impressionist art exhibition was held in Paris, France; Apache Chief Geronimo surrendered in Arizona, ending nearly 30 years of U.S.-Indian wars; and the tuxedo was born when the first dinner jacket was worn to an autumn ball at Tuxedo Park, N.Y.

Here are some memorable passages from old YHC academic catalogs.

### Welcome to YHC

- Due to the very fine climate in this mountain section of Georgia the health of the student body is particularly fine. This climate is especially recommended to students from low altitudes. (1932-33)
- All students must go to their rooms immediately after the ringing of the study bell and remain there during the night. (1932-33)
- No students will be permitted to leave the grounds without permission from the president. (1932-33)
- There are daily buses from Atlanta by way of Gainesville to Young Harris. The mail bus also carries passengers. (1939-40)
- Young people who are not disposed to assume responsibility and subject to wholesome discipline, should not apply for admission. We undertake rigid discipline. Especially do we insist on complete separation of the boys and girls. Parents may feel that their girls are safe so far as human endeavor can affect safety. (1939-40)
- All clothes should be plainly marked in indelible ink or with name tapes. (1947-48)
- Girls must have special permission from parents to leave the campus on weekends. By special arrangement, girls may be granted standing permission to go to their own homes or to visit with specially designated relatives. Boys are not permitted to spend the weekend in nearby towns or resorts without special permission. (1958-59)
- Students with an average grade of *C* in all subjects are eligible to keep automobiles on the campus. (1958-59)

### Farmville

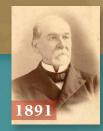
- Corn, rye, oats, potatoes, beans and cabbage are grown on the farm. A large bunch of hogs and a good herd of cows are kept for use of the dormitories. One hundred boys and girls are being aided on the account of this farm each year. Twenty-five boys work on the farm in the summer months and six girls remain in Young Harris for the summer months for canning. (1932-33)
- Opportunities are offered needy boys and girls to help defray their expense at the College by working either part-time or full-time. The full-time work involves work on the College farm for boys and is under the direct supervision of the Farm Superintendant. For his work he is credited with an amount based on a daily wage of \$1.50 and his room and board. Girls who do full-time work are employed on the same basis but their work is in dining-hall, kitchen or the girls' dormitory and is under the supervision of the Dietitian. (1947-48)



The McTyeire Institute is founded by circuit-riding Methodist minister Artemas Lester to meet the educational needs of youth in the Blue Ridge Mountains area. The first classes are held in a vacant storefront beginning in January, and the institution provides primary and secondary instruction in addition to the collegiate program.



The school grew rapidly, and by 1888, its name changes to honor one of its early benefactors—Judge Young L. G. Harris of Athens. During this early period, 11 buildings are constructed, including boarding houses, a classroom, a girls' dormitory, a bell tower and a laundry facility.



The school officially changes from Young L. G. Harris Institute to Young L. G. Harris College.



The Susan B. Harris Chapel, a memorial to the wife of Young L. G. Harris, is constructed. It is used as a general assembly hall for vespers, concerts and lectures. The Chapel still stands as the oldest building on the 21st-century campus.



### Walk by Faith

- Boarding pupils and those living in the immediate vicinity will be required to attend both morning and evening services on the Sabbath. (1932-33)
- Regular attendance on classes and on the church service on Sunday morning are required of all students. (1947-48)
- Evening vespers services are held daily, Monday through Saturday, in the Susan B. Harris Chapel. These vespers programs are student-initiated and student-sponsored for the spiritual and personal guidance of all students. (1968-69)

### In the Club

- The *Enotah Echoes* is the College Paper. It is published by the Student Council with officers elected by this body. It is published twice each month during the school year. The students pay 50 cents each quarter for the support of this publication. (1932-33)
- The young men have two societies—the Young Harris and Phi Chi. These societies meet each week during the school year and occasionally give public programs. They have done a very fine piece of work. Most of the young men belong to one or the other of these societies. (1935-36)
- The young women have two societies—the Susan B Harris and the Phi Delta. They hold weekly meetings throughout the year with occasional public programs. They are a splendid training place for the young women. (1935-36)

### The Price is Right

A single dollar doesn't get you very far today, but it could get you out of a lot of trouble during the 1939-1940 academic year.

- Radios are permitted only by special consent of the President and if they are permitted, a charge of one dollar a month shall be paid by the student for such use.
- Any student who leaves school without the permission of the president shall be fined one dollar before allowing to enter classes.
   The parent will be notified of this and the fine imposed charged to the account of said student.
- Any student absent from class just before or after a holiday will be charged one dollar for reinstatement.
- Students may not move from one room to another in the dormitory without permission and if they do move, one dollar fine shall be imposed on said student.

### Cost of Living (and Learning)

1932-33: Tuition per quarter is \$15, student fees are \$9 per year, board per month is \$15, laundry per month is \$1 and the room rent fee is \$1 per month.

**1947-48:** Tuition per quarter is \$45, room and board is \$69 and laundry is \$3.

1956-57: Tuition per quarter is \$60 and room and board is \$100.

**1968-69:** Tuition per quarter is \$182, board is \$134 and room rent is \$75-83.



Rev. Dr. Joseph A. Sharp is named president and undertakes the construction of a new classroom building. The facility opens with classroom space, an auditorium, a library and offices. By 1903 it has a telephone connection with Murphy, N.C., and generator-supplied electricity.



President Joseph A. Sharp purchases property near the college and establishes the college farm to supply the school with fresh food. It also provides job opportunities for students.



Young Harris College discontinues the baccalaureate program in favor of a junior college program. After the auditorium building burns in December 1911, bricks are cleaned and reclaimed to build a new classroom building that opens in the fall of 1912 as **Sharp Hall**. It still stands as the second-oldest building on the 21st-century campus and houses the president's office and academic administration on the second floor and the Myers Student Center and campus bookstore on the first floor.

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## Familiar Faces

It is the people who make a place special. They possess memories, stories, traditions and wisdom that are often shared with others they encounter. Whether, faculty, staff, student or friend, they set the tone that gives a place its unique personality. Young Harris College is one of those special places, and these familiar faces are some of those special people who define it. Either faculty, staff or both, most of these individuals have served at YHC for 25 years or more—a testament to their passion for what they do and the place they have helped shape over the years.



Name: Janice T. Moore
Title: Associate Professor of
English

Years of service: 48

Start date: Sept. 1, 1963

Favorite YHC tradition:

Faculty-student Thanksgiving Dinner

Best thing about YHC: Just one? It's small enough to know most people in this gorgeous location.

Favorite spot on campus: In 2011, it has to be the view of the mountains from the top of Enotah

> Best part of my job: Colleagues and students who remain friends over the years



Name: Brenda Garrett
Title: Admissions Coordinator

Years of service: **41** 

Start date: June 8, 1970

*Favorite YHC tradition*: The annual children's theatre production. I love to watch the kids interact with the characters

of the play.



Best thing about YHC: Our long history of providing a quality education, and the commitment of our staff who go that "extra mile" to make that education available to so many.

Favorite spot on campus: Being a flower lover, I would have to say the plaza with its brick walkway and raised flower beds.

Best part of my job: My co-workers and the interaction we have with parents and students



Peel Hall, which was built in 1923 and named for Board of Trustees Chair William Lawson Peels son, burns and causes a housing crisis for many students. A new building is immediately built, also named for Peel.



Dr. Joseph A. Sharp dies after serving a total of 25 years as the college's president. His wife, Ella Standard Sharp, becomes the first female president of Young Harris College. The first President's Home is built in the center of campus. The house still stands on the 21st-century campus and is used for student services.



Sharp Memorial United Methodist Church is constructed as a memorial to former college president Dr. Joseph A. Sharp and serves the college and the community. Planning began almost immediately following Sharp's death in 1930, but the Great Depression and World War II delayed construction until 1948. The first church service was held in January 1949, and it was



Pruitt-Barrett Administration Building is constructed in 1949 and named for two of the college's benefactors: J.C. Pruitt and Guy



Name: John Kniess, Ph.D. Title: Retention Officer Years of service: 35

Start date: Jan. 1, 1976

Favorite YHC tradition: The graduates walking the wall.

Best thing about YHC:

LOCATION. LOCATION, LOCATION. In addition, because we have purposefully remained small, the relationships that can be developed between the students and faculty, staff and administrators are like none other.

Favorite spot on campus: Currently, I really enjoy sitting in front of Appleby Center, overlooking the plaza and



watching the activities unfold. Of course the view of the surrounding mountains is also nice from that vantage point.

Best part of my job: Working with the outstanding people that are here at YHC and my continued relationship with current and former students



Name: Steve Harvey, Ph.D. Title: Professor of English

Years of service: 35

Start date: Sept. 1, 1976

Favorite YHC tradition: I like the tradition of faculty addressing each other by first names, regardless of rank.

Best thing about YHC: The friendly, but professional, relationship that students have with faculty has been the greatest strength of the College. When I first arrived here this place was truly a family—faculty ate dinners and lunches with the students, and faculty children saw the campus as a playground.

Favorite spot on campus: I love the gazebo in the center of campus, the only structure dedicated to former teachers. The names of past greats are carved into the

beams there, representing the ghosts of Young Harris past listening in, no doubt, to the student gossip below. I once wrote an essay about the gazebo in which I ran an experiment, placing a dime on the rail for anyone to take. It remained there untouched for a year!

Best part of my job: I feel blessed to have been a part of the fouryear transition. It was always my dream to teach at a four-year liberal arts college, and I simply stayed here long enough for that dream to come true!





John's wife, Linda, joined

the YHC staff in 1992



Dr. Charles R. Clegg, '27, becomes president of Young Harris College. He collaborates with board of trustees chair Scott B. Appleby, an 1896 alumnus, to transform the campus over the next decade, adding Appleby, Manget and Winship residence halls, a new President's Home, the Rich Building and a new power plant and water system.



Under the leadership of legendary head coach Luke Rushton, the men's basketball team competes in the national championship in Hutchinson, Kan.



Charles R. Clegg Fine Arts Building, named in honor of former college president Clegg, opens. The facility features the 1,100-seat Hilda D. Glenn

### Familiar Faces



Name: Louisa Franklin

Title: Professor of English and Director of the Academic Success Center

Years of service: 32

Start date: Sept. 1, 1979

Favorite YHC tradition: Greek jersey "appreciation" days

Best thing about YHC: Our students' kindness to each other

*Favorite spot on campus*: The Academic Success Center (still known as the Hesed House)

Best part of my job: Helping students map the connections between the liberal arts





Name: Ken Henderson
Title: Chief of Police

Years of service: 28

Start date: April 4, 1983

Favorite YHC tradition: I love

Homecoming/Alumni Weekend because it gives me an opportunity to visit with former

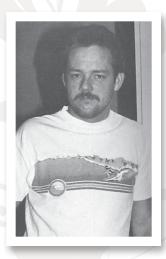
students, faculty and staff and see where their lives have taken them!

Best thing about YHC: The small size allows you to meet and get acquainted with more people than if we were on a large campus. I have friends to this day that I first met as students at YHC—and not always under the most favorable circumstances!

Favorite spot on campus: For many years, I wore two hats and worked as both chief of police and a residence hall director. I've lived in almost every residence hall on campus, including Peel Hall. This campus is my home, and

I'm very appreciative of the many years I've been able to serve. My favorite place at the end of the day is YHC!

Best part of my job: Interacting with the students. I work in a position that may be viewed as unpleasant, but I hope that most of those interactions reach a positive conclusion. I think my job allows me to do many good things for students.





The new **Duckworth Library** named for alumnus and trustee J. Lon Duckworth, '20, opens adjacent to the existing library facility that had served the campus since 1924, named for the trustee's brother, W. Henry Duckworth, '17. The older building houses the Office of Information Technology on the 21st-century campus.



Maxwell Center for Mathematics and Sciences opens. Its name honors the legacy of alumnus and board of trustees chair Alva Maxwell, '14, who served more than 50 years on the board, and his wife, Edna Stephens Maxwell, whose grandmother, Nancy L. Robertson, gave the original parcel of land upon which the college was established. The facility houses classrooms and the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium, in honor of the trustee and longtime benefactor of the college



Rollins Residence Hall opens in 1986. Its name honors O. Wayne Rollins, who served the college for 21 years as a loyal trustee prior to his death in 1991. He and his wife, Grace C. Rollins, were longtime dedicated benefactors of the college.





Name: David Brackin, Ph.D.

Title: Associate Professor of Psychology

Years of service: 21

Start date: **Aug. 1, 1978** 

Favorite YHC tradition: Vespers on Brasstown Bald and the Madrigal Dinner

Best thing about YHC: Students and the mountain setting

Favorite spot on campus: The classroom

Best part of my job: Getting to know the students and working with them



Name: Lynne Nation

Title: Associate Professor of Math

Years of service: **25** 

Start date: **Sept. 1, 1986** 

Favorite YHC tradition: Its absolute emphasis

on teaching

Best thing about YHC: At Young Harris, it has always been about

student learning—supporting dedicated and inspiring teachers and, therefore, giving students every possible opportunity to succeed. All this has been accomplished through a strong liberal arts focus.

*Favorite spot on campus*: Obviously, the classroom is my favorite spot on campus.

Best part of my job: Teaching students and giving them those opportunities to learn and succeed





Name: Pat Strickland
Title: Registrar
Years of service: 25

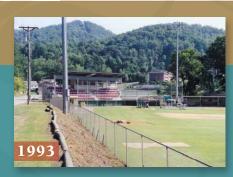
Start date: June 16, 1986

Favorite YHC tradition: The commencement ceremony, although it has always been a major undertaking to coordinate. Watching the parents and friends celebrate their students' accomplishments is reward for all the hard work.

*Best thing about YHC*: The YHC spirit of community has always been very special. All are treated with respect and care, and we share each other's sorrows and joys.

Favorite spot on campus: Sitting in front of Susan B. Harris Chapel helps me relax. I like to take my lunch break there and imagine the many people who have been influenced by the services held in the Chapel. Prayers are offered for students and staff to cherish their experiences in this wonderful place.

**Best part of my job:** Interacting with students has been the highlight. Serving as sponsor of Baptist Student Union and also several years as sponsor for the *Enotah* yearbook enabled me to get to know students informally.



Zell B. Miller Field becomes home to the college's baseball team. Dedicated in 2000, it is named in honor of U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell B. Miller, '51, a trustee and lifelong Young Harris resident.



Goolsby Center for Humanities and Social and Behavioral Sciences opens, named in honor of trustee G. Milton Goolsby, '16, and his wife, Ophelia Roberts Goolsby, '16, both generous benefactors of the college.



Hillgrove Hall opens. Dedicated in 2008, its name honors trustee Dr. W. Harry Hill and his wife Harriet Hargrove Hill, both generous benefactors of the college and founders of the W. Harry and Harriet Hill Society for Planned Gifts.

## A Flistory of Change

BY DEBRA AND LEE MARCH



Some memories are like snapshots in one's mind.

It was Spring Fest. The older of our sons found some friends and played Frisbee on the Young Harris College lawn. Our younger son, probably four years old at the time, walked around with an ink-black puppy on a red leash, both of them drawing a lot of attention. They both grew tired, and one of us carried the puppy, one the boy, for the

Debra and Lee March with sons Ben (left) and Bill, '03 (right).

rest of the afternoon.

Those days were good ones, caught in a blur of our children's activities, of establishing careers, of learning to live in this community. We would return to our Midwestern home a couple of times a year, and grandparents would remark how tall the boys had gotten, how much they had learned, the skills they

had mastered. The boys were growing in leaps and jumps.

We couldn't see it. We were busy living day-to-day life, keeping up and keeping them fed; their growth and maturing wasn't so hard to adjust to. They would outgrow their shoes, or their jeans were too short and we would realize they were getting taller, but the times we stopped to consider their

amazing progress and the rapid nature of their growth into young men was by the reactions of others, those not involved in the day to day.

We keep a snapshot of the past in our hearts, and it is natural to compare the present to that snapshot. But life is really a movie, with thousands of frames, each one slightly different, and each one a change.

All of the amazing, loyal Young Harris College alumni and friends must feel surprised sometimes by the leaps and jumps of growth. Returning after months or years or decades away, they see the change, while those of us who have been here day after day have lived through it, and perhaps do not feel the magnitude of it in the same way. But on the other hand, what those folks who return do not see are the increments that led to the change. They often are not aware of the planning, the meetings, the discussions over meals, the research, the consultants, the sleepless nights and busy days that led to the change. The planning for a building, the documentation for a new



Under the leadership of head coach **Kathy Brown**, the **Young Harris College women's soccer team** wins the NJCAA National Championship in Albany, Ga. Coach Brown is named NJCAA Coach of the Year.



Former Georgia Secretary of State **Cathy Cox** is named 21st president of Young Harris College and leads the transition from a two-year to a four-year college.



Under the leadership of head coach Rick Robinson, the Young Harris College baseball team goes to the NJCAA World Series in Grand Junction, Colo.

#### 2008

Young Harris College receives accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to grant bachelor's degrees. program, the care that is put into hiring a new position, and the discussions of how best to serve our students are less visible to those not involved.

Everyone who has ever been here has left a mark at Young Harris College. We remember colleagues who have gone on in retirement or for different career opportunities. We remember the students—literally thousands of them who came to us as scared freshmen, and left with a little experience in their lives. We remember those who left us suddenly and painfully, teaching us the lesson to cherish each moment. Of course, there are the generations of people who were a part of Young Harris College that no one reading this ever knew—including Judge Young L. G. Harris, Rev. Artemas Lester, those early faculty and the students who attended a small school that by all rights should never have survived. All had a part in that incremental change that has made Young Harris College what it is today.

Our sons are now grown. The older one is well on his professional path. The younger one walked the Young Harris College campus this past year as a freshman, active in the instrumental music program that did not exist until recently. He lives in Hillgrove Hall, a building that did not exist when we came and seemed like such a dramatic

change when it was built. He has the opportunity to complete all of his undergraduate work at Young Harris College, an opportunity his older brother did not have.

But, like those in years past, he can sit in a swing and watch the clouds skip by. The Chapel bell still rings. Corn Creek still flows over Cupid Falls. Double

Knob guards the campus, and the students study in the sun on a nice spring day. Frisbee golf is big now, and hammocks are strung between trees and in the gazebo. We can see the close friendships he has found, the maturity he is gaining, and the good academic experience he is getting at the same Young Harris College that has served many generations of bright-eyed, eager students, just like him, for 125 years.

We know he's taking lots of snapshots.



Clockwise from left: Debra, Bill, '03, Lee and Ben March in 2001 at YHC.

Lee March, Ph.D., joined the Young Harris College faculty in 1993, and Debra began working at the College in 1995. Lee is dean of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences, professor of political science and John H. Harland chair of political science. He has been selected as Teacher of the Year nine times during his tenure at the College. He specializes in American Government and is also a recognized expert on the Vietnam War and America's involvement with Southeast Asia. He is the author of If You Ain't Cav (Jona Books, 2005). Debra is Associate Director/Special Collections in the College's Duckworth Library. She is passionate about the history of Young Harris College and enjoys helping students find the information and resources they need—regarding YHC history or academic subjects.



The 200-bed residence hall **Enotah Hall** opens as the college's first LEED Silver-certified green and sustainable facility, setting a precedent for all future campus construction.



A new student recreation and fitness center opens featuring a state-of-the-art arena, home to the reestablished men's and women's intercollegiate basketball programs.

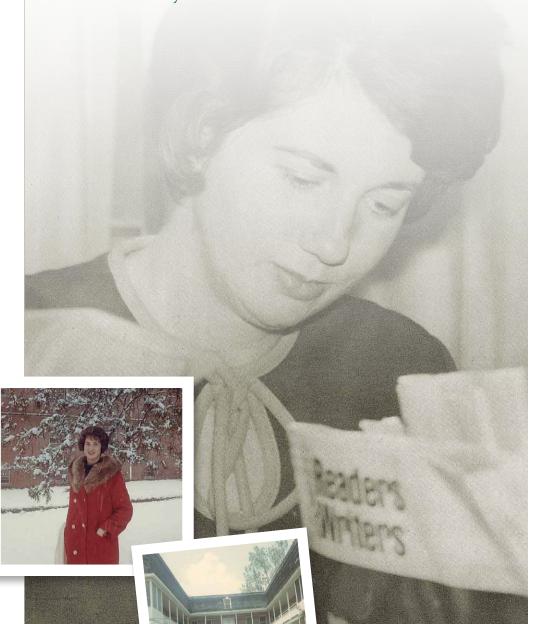


Young Harris College awards **bachelor's degrees** to its first class of seniors in nearly a century.

## MOUNTAIN POET

BY PEGGY COZART

Associate Professor of English Janice Moore has seen many changes during her time at Young Harris College. She came to campus just out of graduate school and spent her first couple of years living in a faculty apartment in the Hamby Hall dormitory. Hearing voices, laughter or the sounds of a radio coming through the walls was not unusual. One November day was different.



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Through the wall she heard the grave pronouncement, "The American people should be praying..." Instinctively, she reached to turn on her own radio and heard the news that President Kennedy had been shot. It was the fall of 1963 and the beginning of a teaching career that would, in 2011, find her to be the longest serving professor on the current YHC faculty roster.

"You'd think I saw them put the first brick in the chapel," Moore said with a smile. The tall and trim professor does not look possibly old enough to have been teaching all these years. Her recollection of hearing the news of the Kennedy assassination illustrates the scope of change during her tenure at Young Harris College, where she has seen the days of campus phone booths, letters in the mail and tabletop radios give way to cable TV, high-speed Internet service and ubiquitous smart phones. "For a long time things were pretty much the same. That's the truth," she said.

A poet whose pieces appear in journals, anthologies and textbooks, Moore teaches creative writing and poetry. She grew up in the Morningside neighborhood in Atlanta and received her bachelor of arts degree from LaGrange College. She came to YHC right after earning her master of arts in English from Auburn University. She began publishing poems while still a student at LaGrange in the college's literary magazine. Her career as both a poet and a teacher has flourished during her years at Young Harris College, and

Left: Janice Moore circa 1971 Inset: Left, Janice Moore takes in one of her first snows at YHC. Right, Moore called Hamby Hall home her first year as a professor in 1963-1964.





she continues to write and is published widely.

Describing her early days in Young Harris, when there was almost nothing to do off campus other than visit the Tasty Freeze restaurant, she said, "It was not the ideal place to be single." By her second year she had met her future husband, a high school business teacher in neighboring Hayesville, N.C. They married the next year and built a home in Hayesville, where they raised a son and still live. Her short commute across the state line each morning is not only "a fantastic way to start the day," but it also gives her the chance to take in the inspiring and ever-changing view of the Young Harris mountainscape she has come to love.

"I cannot imagine a college where I could have been any happier in my teaching and in my friendships with colleagues than Young Harris College.

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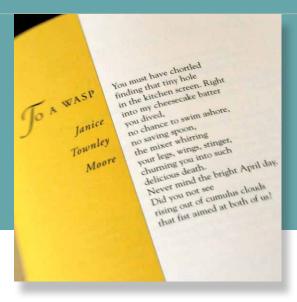
One of the joys about my students, which I can observe by staying here for so many years, is that many of them are now in important positions in the mountain community. I have former students who are dentists, pharmacists, bankers, a veterinarian, the founder of a ballet studio and even in the administration of Young Harris College," Moore said.

When she arrived on campus, the English department, then housed in the Pruitt-Barrett Building, had one telephone shared by the entire staffand it was enough. "There was a time when we didn't have offices," she said, "just partitions." Her office today, on the lower floor of Goolsby Center, is every bit an English professor's office. Wellworn books line the shelves. Papers and folders are stacked high—all quite neatly-on most available horizontal surfaces. Mementos from career and

Associate Professor of English Janice Moore inside her office in YHC's Goolsby Center

family adorn the desk and walls. The look is as settled and comfortable as the old, low-slung chair she keeps for visitors. The previous building had no AC and the windows had to remain open. As the town of Young Harris grew so too did the intrusive sound of the passing traffic. She admits, "I like the air conditioning."

As the cliché goes, the more things change the more they stay the same. Moore notes with humor the full circle of change in having seen telephones installed in the residence halls and around campus and now witnessing their cell phone era removal. "I never could have dreamed how technology would have impacted a college campus," she said. The poet describes how she used to see the telltale bend of the students' arms as they walked across



Janice Moore's witty poem "To A Wasp" appeared in the 1996 poetry cookbook Like A Summer Peach, which she edited along with Blanche Farley.

campus while chatting on the cell phone. Now, it's walking while texting. "It's been such a change. Students have this access to technology. They are hooked onto it one way or another at all times."

Her teaching style is much the same as it ever was. On any weekday morning the professor strides promptly into class, and with a friendly greeting she is ready to teach. Her classroom itself, timeless but not dated, has seen few technological changes. It is outfitted with just the basics—books and the dry erase board that has replaced the chalkboard. Students come to class, having read classic and modern literature, ready to discuss the universal themes of works ranging from Chekhov to Colette to Bobbie Ann Mason. "There's a reason we read fiction. We're not just reading for entertainment, but we are really reading about life's situations and choices that have to be made. The stories present conflict just like we meet in our lives. This is the knowledge that will help inform those future decisions," she explained.

A recent seismic shift, now that YHC is a four-year college offering bachelor's degrees in English, is that Moore has had the opportunity to teach creative writing to upper-level students. "The time seemed exactly right to go four-year, and the board, the administration and the

faculty all worked extremely hard to bring it about. There is no doubt that we have

the expert leadership required to be successful." After the work of getting the approval for the program, "It has been enriching for all," she said. "We really get to know our majors." Spring 2011 brought the first graduates. "Before,

students whizzed in and out of here." Of the change she said, "It is so rewarding now to get to share our love of literature with our majors. We are seeing our investments in them pay off as some of our seniors have applied for and been accepted to graduate school in English or creative writing."

The unchanging constant throughout the years has been her devotion to the written word. In a professorial life that seems the essence of doing what you love, Moore finds time to serve the College, the community and her muse. Perhaps her longevity at YHC can be attributed to her sense that it all has never seemed like work to her because she "enjoys literature and discussing writing so much." In addition to her teaching duties, she was chair of the

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YHC Humanities Division for eight years, she served 12 years as poetry editor for the Georgia Journal—a state magazine published in Athens and Atlanta that folded in the late 1990s, and in 1996 she edited a poetry cookbook with Blanche Farley. The book, Like a Summer Peach, pairs recipes with poetry and includes Moore's poem "To A Wasp."

Moore typically teaches four classes each semester, usually teaching in the mornings and meeting with students or handling other administrative duties in the afternoons. She tends to write before coming to campus and always has a portfolio of poems she is working on as she tries to "keep baking them." Once a draft is underway she can sneak in moments to work on it at odd times during the day. "Poetry is a slow process.



One cannot just sit down and say, 'I'm going to write three new poems this week,'" Moore explained. Being at YHC and in the Georgia mountains "has provided a place for me to be at ease, to ponder and to react to all these thoughts in my writing. Quite a large number of my poems have grown out of this mountain setting and some have also grown out of the classroom experience."

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In serving the community that has come to mean so much to her, Moore sits on the board of the Byron Herbert Reece Society, a group honoring the renowned North Georgia poet who attended YHC and was later both poetin-residence as well as an instructor at the College. His brief career, cut short by illness and suicide, also included a Pulitzer Prize nomination and literary achievement awards from the Georgia Writers Association. Currently, the group is overseeing the preservation of his Union County farm near Vogel State Park. Additionally, she is a facilitator for a monthly poetry group that meets in Murphy, N.C. She is an active member in the Georgia Poetry Society and the North Carolina Writers' Network as well as serving as an officer in the Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

The busy professor is able to carve out time for scholarly research as well. Her recently published work includes an article in the *Flannery O'Connor Review*, titled "Surprise Legacy: Latter Day Notes from Betty Hester." Hester, a Georgia native who also attended YHC, went on to become O'Connor's trusted, and perhaps most well known,

correspondent. "The article was a good project for me because it combined my enthusiasm for O'Connor and information that I could research about Betty Hester's years at Young Harris. In my research I discovered that Betty and Byron Herbert Reece had known

and lost

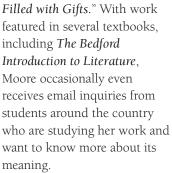


each other at Young Harris and that Betty had followed Reece as the literary editor of the college newspaper," Moore said.

Very much a working poet, Moore claimed first prize in the 2009 Press 53 Open Awards for her three poems "Windows Filled With Gifts," "I'd Like to Think the Truth About the World" and "Beginning Homer's *Iliad* Once Again." Some of her poetry has just been published in *The Southern Poetry Anthology: Contemporary Appalachia* from the Texas Review Press and more will be included in a forthcoming anthology from the same press, *Contemporary Georgia Poets*. She certainly has written enough poems for a full-length manuscript and, in fact,

said, "I am working on that, and the title is *Windows* 

Aside from writing poetry,
Associate Professor of English
Janice Moore is passionate
about teaching her YHC
students and helping them
succeed.



Finding time to pursue faculty development opportunities throughout her

career, Moore has been a teacher who has remained a student. "I took classes primarily at Emory University and Georgia State University in the summers so that I never missed my teaching routine at Young Harris." She also has taken classes at North Georgia College & State University and has attended the Sewanee Writers' Conference at the University of the South. At Sewanee, she says the chance to work with wellknown poets such as Maxine Kumin and Mark Jarman truly "advanced my skills. I started publishing my work in more acclaimed literary journals, and I think I owe that to the workshops at Sewanee.

"It is my good fortune to have been a part of this college and the mountain community all these years," she said. "It seems that when a person remains in one place, it is not the same feeling as for a person who moved from place to place and could say, 'Let's see, I spent 10 years in this job and 15 in this job, et cetera. By staying here all these years, I sometimes think that time has not





## Office Space

poet has transformed her home-away-from-

Associate Professor of English Janice Moore has accumulated many treasures over the years in her Goolsby Center office at Young Harris College. Having come a long way from her early faculty days in a small cubicle, the teacher and

home into an eclectic and inspiring space that is uniquely her own.

My favorite books to use for Introduction to Literature classes



A potpourri of colleagues, family and friends mixed with postcards from my travels and from former students

I am a longtime subscriber to *The Georgia Review*. This is only part of my collection. The photos above are of poets who met at YHC for a summer conference in 1984. The editor of *The Georgia Review* attended as well.



Two special photos I framed for my office: the campus maple in October and a snow-laden tree from the blizzard of '93



These photos were taken at a book signing that former art professor Blanche Farley and I were given at Barnes and Noble when our poetry cookbook was published in 1996.





## Fine Arts Offer Ticket to Culture

Young Harris College's Division of Fine Arts offered a full lineup of special events, performances and exhibits for the spring semester.

Theatre Young Harris, led by Assistant Professor of Theatre and Department of Theatre Chair Eddie Collins, opened the semester with seven performances of Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in February. Directed by Assistant Professor of Theatre Rachel Chaves, Ph.D., the production featured a unique "re-envisioning" of this timeless story. The group closed out the season with the Rodgers and Hammerstein groundbreaking Broadway favorite *Carousel* in April.

The Campus Gate Art Gallery hosted three diverse exhibits throughout the semester, including an exhibition featuring works by Herb Williams that showcased how the artist uses the unique qualities of several hundred thousand crayons to transform a space. The Alice Hirt Memorial Art Exhibition, "Foundation to Fruition" by Georgia artist Tom Haney, featured kinetic, interactive pieces as well as works heavily influenced by Southern folk

Right: Pictured with YHC President Cathy Cox and show juror Stan Anderson, '73 (left), and Associate Professor of Art Dawn Dickens (right), sophomore art major Jacob Rhodes was awarded Best of Show at the annual Student Juried Art Exhibition. art. "PhotoVoice," an innovative gallery display organized by YHC students as part of the College's Palliative Care Week, featured caregiver and clinician images and narratives showcasing the struggles and successes in serious, chronic and terminal illnesses. The semester concluded with a Student Juried Art Exhibition in April, featuring work by many talented YHC students. Sophomore art major Jacob Rhodes, of Blue Ridge, received the Best of Show award for his paint and charcoal piece "Like a Pinball Machine."

The Department of Music kicked off the semester in January with a Music Faculty Recital. The Young Harris College Choir, directed by Professor of Music and Director of Choral and Vocal Activities Jeff Bauman, presented a special concert in February at McConnell Memorial Baptist Church in Hiawassee, and the annual spring concert in March featured an exclusive preview of the Choir's first-ever European Tour,





including European and American choral music. Internationally acclaimed conductor Robert Sheldon guest conducted the YHC Wind Ensemble and YHC Community Band, both directed by Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land, as the groups came together to delight audiences with a variety of familiar classic and contemporary works in February. Also, in March, YHC hosted the DeKalb Symphony Orchestra for the "Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag Concert Series," featuring guest conductor Fyodor Cherniavsky and piano soloist Sergio Gallo in Schumann's Piano Concerto; the YHC Guitar Ensemble, directed by Instructor of Guitar and Music History Richard Knepp, presented "An Evening with Andrew York," performing works by the famous American composer; and Southern Harmony, YHC's 12-voice female a cappella group, and their 12-voice male counterpart, The Compulsive Lyres, both directed by Bauman, presented two performances of "Acapalooza: Standing Room Only" to a sold-out house. In April, the YHC Jazz Ensemble, directed by Dean of the Division of Fine Arts and Professor of Music Benny Ferguson, Ph.D., and the YHC Wind Ensemble presented a joint

Theatre Young Harris Presented Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream in February 2011.





The spring semester at YHC included performances by the Dekalb Symphony Orchestra, directed by Fyodor Cherniavsky; the YHC Wind Ensemble and YHC Community Band, both directed by Mary Land; and the YHC Guitar Ensemble, directed by Richard Knepp.



concert, and the YHC Community Band closed out the season with its annual outdoor concert featuring John Philip Sousa favorites and other patriotic tunes.

Visit www.yhc.edu for information about upcoming fine arts events.

## European Tour in May

Members of the Young Harris College Choir had the once-in-a-lifetime educational opportunity to experience European culture and musical heritage during a sightseeing and performance tour of Europe May 9–18. The group explored the Czech Republic, Austria and Germany on a 10-day excursion, immersing themselves in the art, history and music of Europe's cultural hubs while performing in some of Europe's historic venues, such as Prague's Church of St. Nicolas, Vienna's St.

Stephen's Cathedral and Munich's Frauenkirche.



The YHC European Tour Choir prepares to perform in St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna.

# Named to All-College Band and Chorus

Earlier this year, 11 Young Harris College students were selected to perform in the Georgia All-College Band and Georgia All-College Chorus, comprised of music majors from colleges and universities throughout the state. The students performed during the Georgia Music Educators Association's (GMEA) Annual In Service Conference held in Savannah in late January.

Students selected to perform in the All-College Band include senior Tara Shiver, clarinet, of Covington, junior Raquel Jasso, clarinet, of Gainesville, sophomore Jake Wentzek, saxophone, of Blairsville, sophomore Jeremiah Kersting, trumpet, of Sugar Hill, and sophomore Nic Gannon, percussion, of Blue Ridge.

Students selected to perform in the All-College Chorus include freshman Caitlin Davis of Baxley, sophomore JeRee Dukes of Agnes, sophomore Melissa Murphy of Blairsville, junior Genevieve Rodriguez of Calhoun, freshman Will Skelton of Hayesville, N.C., and freshman Brian Walker of Powder Springs.

"This is the first time Young Harris College has had representation in this prestigious event," Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land said. "Membership in these groups is a significant accomplishment in a college student's musical career, and we are extremely proud of the students who were chosen."



(From left to right) Senior Tara Shiver of Covington, sophomore Jeremiah Kersting of Sugar Hill, junior Raquel Jasso of Gainesville, Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land, sophomore Jake Wentzek of Blairsville and sophomore Nic Gannon of Blue Ridge perform in the All-College Band at the Georgia Music Educators Association's Annual In Service Conference in Savannah.

#### OUTREACH ACTIVITIES RAISE AWARENESS OF

## Hunger, Homelessness and Helping Others

#### Fall Break Trip Provides Volunteer Opportunities for Students

Eleven Young Harris College students traveled to Charleston, S.C., during Fall Break, Oct. 6-10, to take part in the "Scratch Beginnings Experience," as part of the College's recently adopted campus-wide reading program.

Students read Adam Shepard's Scratch Beginnings: Me, \$25, and the Search for the American Dream, which chronicles Shepard's time spent living in Charleston on the edge of poverty.

The group sorted and prepared boxes of food at the Low Country Food Bank, worked at Rural Missions with children that

in National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, by traveling to Asheville, N.C., Nov. 13-14, to take part in outreach activities with the Haywood Street congregation of Central United Methodist Church.

While in Asheville, the group from YHC took a walking tour

LOWCOUNTRY
FOOD BANK
A Common Sense outurion to Hunger
2864 Azaka Drive

The Young Harris College group gathers after volunteering at the Low Country Food Bank in Charleston, S.C.

of downtown Asheville to witness homelessness firsthand, volunteered in the Haywood Street clothing closet and participated in a weekly meal for the homeless and poor at Pritchard Park.

Rev. Brian Combs, the pastor of the Haywood Street congregation, was delighted by the grace and demeanor of the YHC students. "When an epileptic homeless brother with mental illnesses and substance abuse struggles walked in unannounced to our dinner gathering [at the Haywood Street church], the theology of the weekend moved from conversation to incarnation," he explained. "The students from YHC responded just as Jesus would. Hospitality was extended, conversation was engaged and

Spring Break Mission Trip Builds Community and Faith

the table was widened."

Seven Young Harris College students, faculty and staff members spent an "alternative spring break" mission trip in the Bahamas, March 5-12, volunteering with Bahamas Methodist Habitat (BMH), a building ministry that repairs old houses and builds new homes for local residents on the islands.

The YHC mission team traveled to Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, where they joined nearly 60 volunteers from other Methodist-affiliated colleges, universities and community organizations.

"It was wonderful to witness the closeness of the community and the humbleness of the people in the Bahamas," said sophomore Marissa Thomas of Brunswick. "They were so grateful to have our help, and they constantly reminded us of that through their words and actions."

The group helped restore the community's health clinic to working order by hanging cement wallboard, pouring concrete pillars for a roof and digging out a bank for drainage.

"When we were not working, we found ourselves playing with the everpresent children who popped over from the primary school next door," Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religion Rev. Dr. Tim Moore said.

The volunteers attended an Ash Wednesday ecumenical worship service organized by the local community.

"The service proved more than a valued cultural experience; it was truly a holy moment that summarized our week," Dr. Moore said. "The team stretched their expectations of themselves, their abilities, their understandings and their faith."



Freshman Kirby Dickerson, of Eastanollee, assists with the Head Start program activities at Rural Missions in Charleston, S.C.

participate in a Head Start program for migrant workers and cooked breakfast for the Women and Children's Shelter and Men's Shelter at Crisis Ministries.

"We went to several places Adam Shepard mentioned in his book, so we got a little taste of how some people have to live," said freshman education major Elizabeth Chastain of Dillard. "For one day of the trip, we weren't allowed to have any money or phones, and were given six dollars for a bus ticket and two dollars for food. I learned that people do not always get the same opportunities, so you should be thankful for what you have."

#### Students Travel to Asheville To Assist with Church Outreach

A group of Young Harris College students, faculty and staff participated



The YHC mission team helped restore a community clinic to working order with the Bahamas Methodist Habitat organization.

#### YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

## Kicks Off 125th Anniversary Celebration with Founder's Weekend Festivities

tion

Young Harris College hosted a special Founder's Weekend, Jan. 26-29, to kick off a year of celebration that will commemorate the College's 125th anniversary. The weekend's events included a special chapel service, an "Exploring the History Day" hosted by YHC's Student Government Association (SGA), a student dance and men's and women's home basketball games.

Emeritus Professor of Philosophy and Religion Dr. John Kay, '56, spoke during a special service on Jan. 26 in Susan B. Harris Chapel. The service included sermon notes from former YHC President Dr. Joseph A. Sharp incorporated into a prayer as well as a slideshow featuring historical photos of the College along with quotations from prayer journals dating back to 1987.

"I chose to address the topic of 'legacy' from the context of Christian accountability as well as our role as stewards of the YHC heritage," Dr. Kay said. "In my mind, there is a compelling argument for honoring the past and showing concern for the future by living dutifully in the present."

On Jan. 27, YHC's SGA hosted "Exploring the History Day" to expose students to places and people in the College's past. Festivities began with

a scavenger hunt in which fiveperson student teams followed clues to historical sites on campus. The evening concluded with a lecture by retired long-time campus minister Rev. Fred Whitley, '68, emeritus professor of religion and campus minister, as part of the College's popular, new "Last Lecture Series."

The celebration continued on Jan. 28 as various student organizations co-sponsored a "Decades Dance" in Dobbs-McEachern Gymnasium.

"It's been exciting to work with various faculty, staff and students on these projects. I was amazed how eager students were to learn about the history of the College," Duckworth Library Associate Director/Special Collections and 125th Anniversary Committee Chair Debra March said.

Founder's Weekend culminated with "Purple Pandemonium" on Jan. 29 as students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members dressed in purple to support the men's and women's basketball teams during thrilling home-game wins against Tennessee Temple University.



festivities included, clockwise from top, a special chapel service with Dr. John Kay, '56, SGA "Last Lecture Series" event with Rev. Fred Whitley, '68, a student scavenger hunt, joint Alumni Board and Young Alumni Council meetings, and a "Purple Pandemonium" home basketball game. Below: YHC mascot Luke the Mountain Lion and the cheerleaders fire up the crowd.





## Upperclassmen Village

#### SET TO OPEN IN AUGUST

Young Harris College students are eagerly awaiting the completion of the latest construction on campus—a new upperclassmen village along Maple Street set to open in August.

The College broke ground last fall on the first phase of the new village, which calls for 148 beds, configured in apartments with four private bedrooms. The coveted new housing option is initially being offered to rising junior and senior students for Fall 2011. A second phase, likely to be constructed in 2011-2012, will offer another 100 beds in the same style.

"The apartments will be contained in 13 separate units that look very much like nice two-story houses, and when grouped together in the 'village,' they will have much more of a residential look and feel," YHC President Cathy Cox said.

In addition to four private bedrooms, each apartment will include a living area, kitchen and washer and dryer. The "village" atmosphere will be facilitated by expansive porches, designated areas for grilling and abundant green space surrounding the apartments.

"This residential style of living provides our older junior and senior students with the opportunity to begin living more independently," explained Stuart Miller, director of residence life at YHC. "They will be able to cook some of their own meals and maintain a residential home while enjoying more privacy and more convenient laundry facilities than the residence halls."

The "village" is being designed and constructed to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards and is expected to earn LEED certification. It will be the third new construction project to be completed as part of Young Harris College's strategic plan to make the transformation to four-year status as well as the third to earn LEED certification.

"As an upcoming senior I'm really looking forward to the addition of the upperclassmen village," said Catherine Ponce, a junior biology major from McDonough. "Upperclassmen will get a chance to be more independent and have a sense of living on our own. I am fortunate to have the opportunity to live in the village and am grateful YHC is now offering this privilege to its students."

## **Greening of YHC Continues**

Young Harris College faculty, staff and students organized a variety of events during the spring semester to promote sustainability efforts both on and off campus.

"Through many of our planned activities, we highlighted efforts being made at YHC to improve recycling, composting, reducing energy consumption and minimizing negative impacts to the environment," said Jennifer Schroeder, Ph.D., assistant professor of biology and YHC sustainability committee co-chair.

YHC joined more than 600 colleges and universities across the United States to promote recycling efforts by participating in RecycleMania 2011. Students, faculty and staff recycled hundreds of pounds of materials during the eight-week friendly competition.



Students Sam Allen of Gainesville and Emily Villas of Jupiter, Fla., participated in RecycleMania 2011.

In February, the Student Government Association's

sustainability committee collected 175 pounds of clothing as part of "oneSHIRT," a national collegiate clothing drive.

"I was very pleased with the clothing drive and the willingness of students, faculty and staff to make donations," said SGA Sustainability Chair Jill Tuttle, a senior English major from McCaysville. "It was a great event that helped reduce clothing waste and also allowed people to give back to the community."

To further sustainability efforts in the College's dining services, YHC's food service provider, Sodexo, recently teamed up with Enotah Biofuels, a local company that creates biodiesel from used oil generated by the College's dining facilities.

"Our dish machine has also been overhauled to ensure that the sensors that control water usage are functioning so that whenever water is not needed, it is not flowing. We also use Apex dish chemicals from Ecolab that require less chemical use and can easily be biodegraded into harmless compounds," Sodexo General Manager Allen Clark said.

Young Harris College hosted a special day of service in April to celebrate Earth Day in which volunteers participated in a campus and city-wide "blackout," collected recyclable electronics on campus and started a composting system at the YHC Farm. The group also planted an heirloom seed garden located next to the new home of the Center for Appalachian Studies located across Hwy. 76, added to an herb garden in front of Grace Rollins Campus Restaurant and prepared garden plots at Enota Village Apartment Homes to be tended by students in local after-school programs.





Katie Dyer, '11, and Meg Ruth Patterson, '11, will attend Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU) College of Dental Medicine this fall.

# Pearls of Wisdom

BY KRYSTIN DEAN

The first thing you notice is their smiles, and recent graduates Katie Dyer and Meg Patterson have plenty of reasons to flash their mega-watt grins these days.

After making history this May as members of Young Harris
College's first class of graduating seniors in nearly a century, these two young women are headed to Augusta in the fall to begin a new chapter of their lives at the prestigious Georgia Health Sciences University (GHSU)
College of Dental
Medicine.

Formerly the Medical College of Georgia,

GHSU is home to the state's only dental school, one of just 56 in the entire United States. The program is extremely selective, with only about 60 students accepted each year.

"It is almost unheard of for a college the size of YHC to have two students accepted into this program when there are often 350 or more applicants each year," said Dean of the Division of Mathematics and Science and Professor of Biology Paul Arnold, Ph.D. "Both Katie and Meg are extraordinary students, and they thoroughly impressed the admissions staff who found them to be extremely knowledgeable, skillful and flexible."

#### Forging a Family Tradition

Patterson and Dyer each have nearly a decade of experience in the dental industry under their belts. In fact, some of their earliest memories involve watching their fathers at work in their respective private dental practices.

Patterson began working as a dental assistant at her father's office in Toccoa at the age of 16, while Dyer can recall the thrill of delivering a filling to her first patient—her grandmother—at the age of 15 in her father's Blairsville practice.

"My dad is very passionate about what he does, and I can tell he makes a difference in the lives of people in our community through his service," Patterson said. "From working with him, I had the opportunity to see firsthand how this profession helps people look and feel better about themselves."

According to Dyer, it was one patient in particular who solidified that she wanted to pursue a career in dentistry. The patient came in to receive dentures at the age of 19—only a few years older than Dyer at the time—due to addiction to methamphetamines.

"I was struck by her hope and desire to change her ways," Dyer said. "When the dentist walked in, the patient said, 'I want my teeth to look like hers' and pointed at me. I knew at that moment that dentistry was more than a career—it was a passion. I knew I could one day help people, like this patient, find their smile and gain confidence in a new beginning."

#### Finding the Foundation

Patterson and Dyer experienced firsthand Young Harris College's four-year transformation. While they both originally intended to move on to other colleges after two years, their plans changed when YHC announced the arrival of a bachelor's degree in biology.

"No other college I visited felt like home to me, and I felt God was directing me in a different path and that path was YHC. Within mere weeks of completing my associate degree, I knew after prayer that my heart was with YHC—this was my niche," Dyer said. "I knew right away that YHC was expecting a lot from the senior class, and this

Meg Patterson worked as a chemistry lab assistant at Young Harris College.





Katie Dyer gained valuable experience as a dental assistant in her father's Blairsville practice.

confidence pushed me to do my best. Through the transition, we have all grown into mature, confident students ready to take our next steps."

"To be one of the first students to graduate with a bachelor's degree from YHC is a tremendous

honor, and I feel lucky to have come through this college at the time that I have," Patterson added. "I have seen YHC make the transition to a four-year institution, and I'm excited to see more new developments take place after I've graduated."

Patterson and Dyer are both quick to point out the important role their professors played in preparing them for dental school and beyond.

"I've had the privilege of learning from and becoming friends with some of the most challenging, brightest, passionate and down-to-earth professors of science," Patterson said. "I will truly miss all of the professors who have not only taught me the Krebs Cycle or every species of tree in the southern Appalachians, but who have also taught me patience, confidence and valuable life lessons."

During her junior and senior years, Patterson participated in an intensive work-study program at YHC, gaining valuable experience as a lab assistant for her mentor, Associate Professor of Chemistry Margaret Forrester, Ph.D.

In addition, both Patterson and Dyer worked on research projects related to the dental field during their studies. Patterson investigated the effects of xylitol, a substitute sweetener used in gums, toothpastes and mouthwash, while Dyer's research involved determining which angle of curing the composite in fillings produces the least amount of fractures and micro-shrinkage. They recently presented their findings at the Georgia Academy of Science Annual Meeting at Gainesville State College in Watkinsville.

"YHC has helped me in so many ways and provided the foundation for my education. One of my math professors, Dr. Nichols, once said 'Fight the ghost of mediocrity,' and

On May 7, Meg Patterson and Katie Dyer received their bachelor's degrees during YHC's first-ever commencement in the new Recreation and Fitness Center.

it's a quote I live by daily," Dyer said. "I have been given opportunities here that I could not have had elsewhere. I appreciate the faculty for their help and confidence in me and in every student here at YHC."

#### Looking Forward to the Future

Dyer and Patterson will be two of the first students to set foot in the dental school's new \$100 million, 269,000-square-foot building at GHSU this fall. In May, they shared another special moment together—the summa cum laude graduates walked across the stage to receive bachelor's degrees from YHC during the College's first-ever commencement in the new Recreation and Fitness Center.

"It means a lot to be one of the seniors who are setting a new standard for YHC students," Dyer said. "I am grateful for the many opportunities that this college has given me, and it means so much to me to be able to represent the college."

Dyer plans on remaining an active alumna and looks forward to watching the College progress once she returns to the North Georgia mountains to work alongside her father.

"The first day I visited the College of Dental Medicine, it made me proud to look at the wall of alumni and see my father's picture," Dyer said. "Not only is he an inspiration, but he has a lot of wisdom and expertise to offer. It would be an honor to work with him and be called a partner."

Patterson hopes to start a private dental practice while also giving back to the community through both services in dentistry and by volunteering her time for charitable causes. She plans to regularly return to the "Enchanted Valley" to participate in events like Alumni Weekend.

"It's hard to describe how attached you can become to a small college that truly cares about you and helps you succeed," Patterson said. "I have experienced some of the best memories of my life at Young Harris, and I will always feel very much attached to the campus and what's going on with the school. I definitely plan on staying involved with Young Harris College in the years ahead."



### WELCOME TO THE

## Valley of DOOM

Forty-one years after dropping its junior-college basketball program, Young Harris College ushered in a new era of men's and women's basketball in a big way on Nov. 15 with a shiny new recreation center arena (dubbed the

"Valley of Doom"), hundreds of alumni, former players, cheerleaders, students, faculty, staff, fans and two young teams of men and women determined to prove they were worthy of the immortalized YHC jersey.

The women's team took the floor first in front of a packed

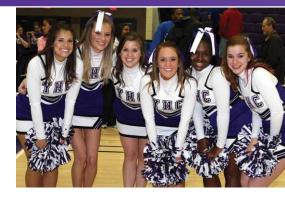
house and roaring crowd during YHC's home opener against Peach Belt Conference member and neighboring rival North Georgia College & State University.

It was the Mountain Lions' first contest of the season and YHC fell behind. 14-5. in the first eight minutes and trailed 33-16 at the half. The very youthful Young Harris team was unable to mount a rally in the second half, dropping a 64-39 decision to the Lady Saints.

Sophomore Nikki Winn, of Hiawassee, a former Towns County High School standout, led the way offensively with 15 points on 6-of-15 shooting. Freshman Miata Askew, of Hinesville, had 10 points as the Mountain Lions shot 33 percent from the floor.

The men's team already had a game

Freshman YHC women's basketball player Missy Conrad, of Young Harris, takes the shot during the team's first game of the season



The YHC cheerleaders make their 2010

under its belt when Nov. 15 rolled around. Young Harris had opened the season on Nov. 13 against Virginia Intermont College at Time Warner Cable Arena—home of the NBA's Charlotte Bobcats. The Mountain Lions used a big rally to start the second half of that game but could not overcome a last-second basket by Virginia Intermont, falling to the Cobras 73-71.

Returning home may have been the best cure for the Mountain Lions.



KW I





The YHC men's basketball team tip off their first home game against North Georgia College & State University.

Despite falling in their first game, the men carried their momentum into the first home game and roared to a 78-68 victory over the NGCSU Saints.

Freshman O'Neil Lubin, of Orlando, Fla., led Young Harris with a career-high 26 points, while freshman Steve Viterbo, of Melbourne, Australia, had 17 points and seven rebounds. Freshman Frank Adams, of Stone Mountain, scored 13 points and pulled down eight boards and freshman Bryson Robertson, of Elberton, chipped in with 10 points and a team-high nine rebounds.

Left: Eddie Rushton, son of legendary basketball coach Luke Rushton, '42, and YHC Director of Athletics Randy Dunn unveil center-court seats named for Luke and June Rushton.

Above, right and below: Former YHC basketball players and alumni attended and were recognized at the inaugural basketball game on Nov. 15 in the new YHC Recreation and Fitness Center.





## **Meet Luke**

Prior to the women's game on Nov. 15, Young Harris College President Cathy Cox introduced the newest member of the YHC family, a new mascot named Luke the Mountain Lion.

"Everyone at Young Harris College is thrilled about bringing basketball back, and having a new mascot brings so much fun and excitement to each game," President Cox said. "While the mascot is new, he brings a lot of history because he is named for our legendary basketball coach, Luke Rushton."

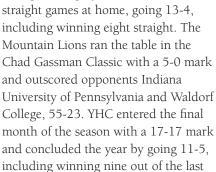
Rushton, '42, coached the men's and women's basketball teams at YHC from 1948 to 1969. Throughout 21 seasons, Rushton and his teams won 407 games and only lost 167. In addition, he coached tennis and served as athletic director. The Atlanta Tip-Off Club named Rushton the Georgia Junior College Coach of the Year in 1961 and 1962—the two consecutive seasons that the Mountain Lions advanced to the junior college national tournament.

## **Spring Sports** Recap

#### Baseball

The Mountain Lions finished their first season playing against four-year schools by going 28-22. Young Harris

College opened the year on the road against University of Montevallo, Belmont Abbey College and Atlanta Christian College. It was a rough start for head coach Rick Robinson's very young team as the Mountain Lions were 2-7 before their home opener on Feb. 18 against Saint Augustine's College. Young Harris played 17



Victoria Sink





Adam Moore



The YHC softball team hosted Cancer Awareness Day April 6.

#### Softball

The Mountain Lions went 19-25 in their first season playing against four-year competition. Young Harris College opened the year on the road, going 4-6, before playing a doubleheader at E.D. Rivers Field against Truett-McConnell

College. YHC swept that twinbill, but hit the road for the next 20 games. During that stretch, head coach Eric Geldhart's Mountain Lions went 7-13, including losses against NCAA Division II opponents Columbus State University, nationally ranked Armstrong Atlantic State University, Brevard College and Mars Hill College. A doubleheader sweep of Bryan College gave the Mountain Lions a 15-19 record. In the final month of the season, YHC went 4-6. One of the big highlights of the season came on April 6 when the program hosted Cancer Awareness Day, raising \$700 to benefit the Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation at the Chris Evert Children's Hospital with the RBIs4CANCER.COM Program. Sophomore Kayla Jones, of Covington, led the team offensively by batting .391 with 54 hits and scoring 40 times. She was 16-of-18 in stolen bases. On the mound, sophomore Victoria Sink, of Dacula, led the team with an 11-11 record and a 3.55 ERA. She recorded a team-high 88 strikeouts.

#### Golf

It was a solid spring for head coach Brett Beazley's Mountain Lion golfers as the women's team ended the season on a roll. YHC started its string of top-three finishes at the University of West Georgia Invitational in Villa

Rica, as the Mountain Lions took third. In its next event, Young Harris was third at the Fifth Annual Piedmont College Spring Invitational and capped its season with a second-place finish at the Reeder Cup. Individually, in those last three events, freshman Rachel Mason,

of Ringgold, led the way by finishing tied for third, fourth and eighth. Sophomore Kelsey McEntyre, of Hiram, was tied for eighth, tied for seventh and ninth in those last three events. On the men's side, the Mountain Lions placed fourth at the University of West Georgia Invitational as sophomore Matthew Peeler, of Zebulon, led the way in the event by being tied for 14th. Junior Chase Hankla, of Valdosta, finished tied for 17th.

#### **Tennis**

The men's and women's teams found themselves in new territory this season. Under the direction of first-year head coach Jacob Turner and assistant coach Kelly Blount, YHC took on a very tough task, playing a difficult



schedule against top NCAA Division I and Division II schools throughout the season. The Mountain Lions played against all four-year schools, including Division I Kennesaw State University, Presbyterian College and Mercer University. The experience is a learning curve as Turner prepares for the future in the new tennis complex. The Mountain Lions women picked up wins throughout the season individually from sophomore Mary Beth Maxwell, of Carrollton, and freshman Sara Gillispie. of Marietta, while the team lost a hardfought match at Mars Hill College, 6-3. The men's team was paced by freshman Gabriel Oliveira, of Cotia, Brazil, who had four wins in singles play. Freshman

of Lawerenceville, and

freshman Adam Moore, of

bay. Rudnik pitched in 65.2

innings and went 4-4 with

a 3.29 ERA. Moore led the

team in wins by going 7-3

with a 4.62 ERA and had a

team-high 62 strikeouts.

Kennesaw, held teams at

Martin Harach, of Salta, Argentina, trailed with three wins and sophomore Keon Gottenbos, of Holland, had two. The doubles team of Oliveira and freshman Aleksandar Zobec, of Belgrade, Serbia, went 3-4. The Mountain Lions came close to downing Berry College on Feb. 20, falling 5-4.

## Student-Athletes Recognized at Inaugural Athletic Banquet

With the spring sports season coming to an end, the YHC Department of Athletics hosted an Athletic Banquet on April 28 at The Ridges Resort. During the inaugural awards ceremony, men's soccer player Wezly Barnard, a sophomore from Boksburg, South Africa, and women's



Wezly Barnard was named Male Athlete of the Year.



Emily Villas was named Female Athlete of the Year.

soccer player Emily Villas, a junior from Jupiter, Fla., were named the male and female athletes of the year. They were chosen by a committee based on academics, community service, athletic achievements and coach recommendations.

Other awards presented during the banquet included Most Promising Freshman Scholar-Athlete Award, given to Timothy Montgomery of Statesboro (men's cross country); Outstanding Sophomore Scholar-Athlete Award, given to Sarah Pinson of Jasper (softball); Outstanding Junior Scholar-Athlete Award, given to Allison Matulia of Fayetteville (women's soccer); and the Luke Rushton Scholar-Athlete Award, given to senior Rachel Wilkes of Crawford (women's soccer).





## FOR THE **Love of the Game**

Young Harris College's men's and women's tennis teams loved competing during their first season at their new home, the lighted, 12-court, tournament-quality YHC Tennis Complex. Memberships to the complex are also available to the community for those who also want to enjoy the top-quality, beautiful recreational facility.







## A Peach of an Athlete: Lindsey Watson Haynes, '01

BY EMILY SANE

The beginning of a team's season does not always determine how the season will conclude. The same can be said of any athlete or individual. The first impression of a person is not always an accurate reflection of what that person can achieve.

Young Harris College Women's Soccer Head Coach Kathy Brown learned this when she first met former YHC soccer player Lindsey Watson Haynes, '01.

"I will always remember this," Brown reflected. "I went to meet Lindsey in Dahlonega at her high school. When I saw her from a distance, I thought, 'Please don't let this be her.' She had glasses, long braids and was tall and awkward. I did not think, 'Now there's an athlete."

Brown quickly learned, however, Haynes may have appeared unpolished, but she had the core of something special—the determination of a winner.

"I think Coach Brown wanted to turn around and drive back to Young Harris as soon as she first saw me, but she stuck around and managed to see some sliver of potential," Haynes remembered. "Thank goodness. She later told me not to come back my sophomore year at Young Harris unless I ditched the glasses and got contacts. She was right as always. I was a much better player without glasses."

Haynes started playing soccer in elementary school. She played with the boys at her school because no separate soccer programs were available for girls in Dahlonega.

Her high school's first women's soccer team started her freshman year. In addition to soccer, she played softball and basketball.

After high school, Haynes attended YHC because she adored the College and its beautiful campus. She also hoped for the opportunity to play for YHC's women's soccer team.

"Academically, I was able to get

Young Tari

Above: Lindsey Watson Haynes, '01, during her sophomore year on the YHC women's soccer team; left: Haynes with her husband, Hank; below: Haynes during her freshman year on the team several scholarships which gave me the opportunity to attend a private school," Haynes said. "I really had no interest in going anywhere else or playing anywhere else. I had heard great things about Coach Brown and the program."

Haynes played center midfielder for the Mountain Lions. During her sophomore year, she served as a team captain.

"I really was kind of a diamond in the rough when I got to Young Harris," Haynes said. "Coach Brown was an amazing coach and leader, and we all adored her. I learned maturity, discipline and teamwork, and many other areas of my life were influenced."

While playing for the Mountain Lions, Haynes and her teammates advanced to the national tournament in 1999 and

2000. The team reached the national semifinals in 2000 and finished third.

"Going to the national tournament was an amazing experience," Haynes said. "I flew for the first time ever with the soccer team and had the opportunity to go to New York and several other states I had never been."

The student body supported the team. During the night before the team went to the national tournament, some students wrote "Good luck soccer chicks!" on the outside of their residence hall in huge letters.

After graduating from YHC in 2001,







Above: Lindsey Watson Haynes, '01, during her sophomore year on the YHC women's soccer team

Haynes attended North Georgia College & State University. She played soccer two years for the Lady Saints. Her efforts on and off the field earned her Boy Scouts of America's Peach of an Athlete award during her senior year, which recognizes athletes "who live their lives with the same values as Scouting."

Haynes returned to YHC after graduating from NGCSU to serve as an assistant coach under Coach Brown. During the 2004 season, the YHC women's soccer team made it to the national tournament again and competed in the national championship game, finishing as the national runner-up.

"It was a great experience to return to Young Harris," Haynes said.

After wrapping up the season, Haynes continued her education at Emory University where she studied to become a physician assistant.

She now works in her hometown of Dahlonega as a physician assistant for a family practice. She is married and is active in her community and church.

"I think Young Harris definitely provided me with an excellent education as well as confidence in myself and my leadership skills," Haynes said. "I also loved the cultural aspects of Young Harris. The music, art and theatre were all very new to me. I loved the variety that was available on such a small campus."

After playing soccer during college, Haynes continued to play for a women's league and an indoor co-ed team for several years. She currently focuses more on running, and although she only plays soccer occasionally, she enjoys attending the alumni games at YHC.

"I am extremely proud of Lindsey. She had a metamorphosis while at Young Harris," Brown said. "She was a good student and a good athlete. Those are the ones that excel on and off the field."

Recently, one of Brown's soccer players went to get a physical for the season. "When she returned to school, she told me that Lindsey was her physician assistant," Brown said. "What a small world! Lindsey continues to help those around her and make an impact in all she does."



Above and below: Lindsey Watson Haynes, '01, served as an assistant soccer coach at YHC during the 2004 season.



## Building the Next 125 Years

Having embarked on possibly the most ambitious journey in its 125-year history, Young Harris College continues to grow and inspire a new generation as a baccalaureate degree-granting college. Facility and programming improvements and additions must continue to be made at an accelerated rate to meet the needs of the 21st-century student.

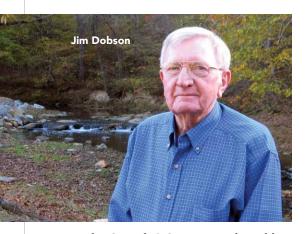
Your contribution to the Young Harris Annual Fund provides the critical resources that are necessary to attract the best and brightest students as well as scholarship assistance for those who otherwise may not be able to attend Young Harris College. Gifts from alumni, parents and friends go directly toward student scholarships, technology upgrades, facility improvements and programming enhancements so that Young Harris College can continue to educate, inspire and empower tomorrow's leaders.

Please use the enclosed envelope to designate your contribution to the Young Harris Annual Fund or make a gift online today at www.yhc.edu/annualfund.

All gifts received on or before June 30, 2011, benefit the 2010-2011 Young Harris Annual Fund.

### A Friend in Deed

Actions speak louder than words. James W. "Jim" Dobson Jr. was a man of his word—and deeds.



The Central, S.C., native and World War II U.S. Army veteran never attended Young Harris College, but like other things he believed in, it soon became a part of his legacy.

After being wounded in January 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in Luxembourg, he recovered in hospitals in England and Atlanta.

He later received his bachelor of science degree at Clemson University and a master of science degree at the University of Georgia prior to moving to Blairsville, where he lived most of his life.

Dobson served 38 years as superintendent of UGA's Georgia Mountain Experiment Station (now called the Georgia Mountain Research and Education Center) in Blairsville before retiring in 1991. "In 1953, I came to the station thinking I would stay a couple of years and then shoot for a doctorate," he once recalled. "But I liked it so much here that I just stayed."

In 2009 at age 84, Dobson was named the inaugural recipient of the Holman Water Quality Stewardship Award by the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition (HRWC) for his career accomplishments and his contributions in retirement—model soil conservation practices and breakthroughs in feeding the world. He was also a founding board member of the Coalition.

Dobson died May 5, 2010. One of eight children of a cotton farmer, he never married.

However, work and career was not his greatest legacy. Dobson devoted his life to family and public service and was well known for his dedicated, active involvement in community life in Union County. Throughout his professional career and in retirement, he led the development of new business opportunities, tirelessly volunteered countless hours of his time to important local causes, and was often recognized for his service to numerous church. civic, education, historical and veterans' affiliations. He was also a member and deacon of First Baptist Church of Blairsville and the longtime chair of the Blue Ridge Mountain Soil and Water Conservation District.

"It's fair to say no one was more dogged or insistent in selling tickets to nonprofit fundraisers," said Tom Bennett, a former member of the HRWC board of directors. "Holding a batch of tickets and with a gleam of determination in his eye, he made local charity drives successful. A frequent target once told him, 'When you retire again, then I will start having more money."

Dobson was also a strong advocate for education and Young Harris College, having served as a member and chair of the College's Board of Associates, which primarily raises funds through the annual Local Scholarship Campaign to benefit local students attending YHC. In 2002, he was awarded YHC's highest honor, the Young Harris College Medallion, for his civic leadership.

Through a planned gift, Dobson left \$40,000 in his will to benefit YHC's Local Scholarship Campaign, a testament to his passions and beliefs.

"Jim was the most community-minded person I knew. He firmly believed that every child needed an education," said YHC Board of Associates Chair Rick Davenport, of Blairsville. "The difference between Jim and everyone else was Jim put this belief into action."

To learn more about making a planned gift, contact Jennifer B. McAfee, director of development and planned giving, in Young Harris College's Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5318 or jmcafee@yhc.edu.

#### YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

## Receives Gift to Enhance Music and Theatre Performances

Young Harris College has received a generous \$12,000 gift from patrons Jim and Helen Yost to purchase two pieces of equipment that will greatly enhance music and theatre performances in Glenn Auditorium of the Clegg Fine Arts Building.

One of these exciting additions is an organ cage that facilitates additional organ recitals and rehearsals. The cage also allows the organ to be easily accessed onstage and stored securely offstage for the first time ever.

The College also acquired a personnel lift that provides safe and efficient access to lights inside the facility that are used during performances, marking an unparalleled upgrade in safety and technical flexibility.

"When Helen and Jim asked if there was anything they could do to help the College, these gifts seemed like they would highlight the couple's love of organ music and theatre while also greatly benefiting our students, faculty and staff," said Keith DeFoor, Ph.D., associate vice president for academic affairs.

Helen and Jim Yost are longtime residents of Union County and are active parishioners at St. Clare's Episcopal Church in Blairsville. Helen is a retired middle school teacher, while Jim is retired after serving in the U.S. Air Force.

"We truly appreciate what the Division of Fine Arts at Young Harris College offers the community and us," Helen said.



YHC President Cathy Cox with Friends of the Arts members Helen and Jim Yost



## Get Backstage

#### WITH FRIENDS OF THE ARTS AT YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Play a leading role in the arts at Young Harris College by becoming a member of Friends of the Arts.

Your support enables the Division of Fine Arts at Young Harris College to continue offering quality programming that benefits student development and enhances the local cultural landscape. Students are offered creative and performing opportunities in Art, Music, Musical Theatre and Theatre. Friends of the Arts supports Young Harris College's goals to enable students to grow and learn in an environment of uncompromised artistic and academic freedom and integrity.

All members receive a welcome packet, semi-annual newsletter, annual spring dinner with YHC President Cathy Cox and name recognition in event programs.

Visit www.yhc.edu/fota or contact YHC's Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173 to learn more.

## \$5,000 Gift in Honor of Alumnus' 100th Birthday

This past fall, Young Harris College received a \$5,000 gift in honor of the 100th birthday of YHC alumnus Dr. Stanton J. Singleton, '30, from Kurt and Dudley Carlson of Portola Valley, Calif. Their gift was designated to benefit the College's Local Scholarship Campaign, which annually raises funds to support the educational goals of local students at Young Harris College.

Dr. Singleton's niece, Dudley, is a native of Cherokee County, N.C. and chose to pay tribute to her uncle and his love for Young Harris College by supporting students from her hometown so that they may also have the opportunity to attend YHC.

A resident of Athens, Ga., Dr. Singleton is a professor emeritus

of education at the University of Georgia.

Reflecting a commitment by the College and the local community to local students, the annual Local Scholarship Campaign seeks to provide scholarship funding for local students from Fannin, Gilmer, Towns and Union counties in Georgia and Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina.

If you would like to support the Local Scholarship Campaign, contact Jennifer B. McAfee, director of development and planned giving, in Young Harris College's Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5318 or jmcafee@yhc.edu.



### **Class Notes**

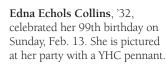
Share your news with other Young Harris College alumni and friends. Send achievements, announcements and photos to: Young Harris College Class Notes Office of Alumni Services • P.O. Box 275 Young Harris, GA 30582 • alumni@yhc.edu

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Trustee Emeritus William C. "Bill" Hatcher, Vice Chairman (Retired) of Genuine Parts Company, was recently honored as a "Community Leader of Faith" by the Alliance for Christian Media. He has been a longtime member of Northside United Methodist Church in Atlanta and served on the YHC Board of Trustees for more than 20 years. He was the recipient of the Young Harris College Medallion in 2004.

Trustee Emeritus Jeffery P. "Jeff" Adams was promoted to president of Balentine, an Atlanta-based independent, employee-owned investments firm. Adams was named to the newly created position in February 2011 and works alongside chairman and CEO Robert Balentine to lead the firm. Adams is a founding member of the firm, which has more than \$800 million in client assets under management. He is also a trustee of The Culver Academies, which, under his guidance, was named Small Endowment of the Year in 2010 by Institutional Investor. He also begins a term as vice president of community/vocational service for the Rotary Club of Atlanta in summer 2011.

1930s



1960s

Nan Harman-Dempsey, '62, graduated from Georgia State

College (now University) after YHC. One month after graduation, she accepted a job with Eastern Airlines and, along with her

husband, Cal, enjoyed and used the unlimited free passes on EAL and other airlines as well. While working for EAL, she attended John Marshall Law School at night. She left EAL to devote more time to preparing for the bar exam, which she passed in May 1991. Sadly, her husband died in December of the same year. She continues to enjoy her profession, and while most of her cases revolve around family law (divorce, custody, etc.), she has a general practice and enjoys working on different types of cases.

John Parmele Jr., '62, recently was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at age 68. After earning his MPA, he returned to Tidewater Community College in Virginia Beach where he earned an AAS in Management through the G.I. Bill. He taught in the Business Division in 1987-1988. Now he is an audit student taking "fun" classes and enjoying the campus life.

James Whitaker, '63, was recently honored by the Board of Directors of Circles of Care for his 40 years of employment and service to the organization. Circles of Care is a comprehensive behavioral health care organization serving the citizens of Brevard County, Fla. He has been President and CEO for the past 34 years.

**Joe Nicholson**, '65, was elected President of the Georgia Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation in April 2010.

#### 1970s

Jimmy Tallent, '70, was named to the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*'s "Who's Who" list of the top 100 business and government leaders guiding metro Atlanta's financial sector. He serves on the Board of Trustees of Young Harris

College and also on the Board of Directors for Georgia Power. He is President and CEO of United Community Banks, Inc., headquartered in Blairsville and the third largest bank holding company in Georgia.

1980s

Julie Sibley, '80, has given to the YHC Office of Alumni Services the first of a permanent collection of her work. The oil paintstik drawing on satin, "The Lemon," was part of



a Fruit Show, which debuted at the College's Campus Gate Art Gallery in October 2008. With more than 30 years as an artist, designer and teacher, she credits part of her abilities and development of talent to training received in the YHC art department led by Ezra Sellers. See more of her work at www.artfromthewilds.blogspot.com.

**Greg Roach**, '85, is now the Director of North Georgia Technical College's Currahee Campus in Toccoa.

Kelli Goolsby Morrow, '86, is now representing the Vasculitis Foundation as a chapter leader for the Birmingham, Ala., area, after being diagnosed in 2010 with a rare vascular disease called Wegener's Granulomatosis. She helps provide support for other patients and their families at the renowned UAB Hospital and Kirkland Clinic. She hopes to bring awareness to others regarding Wegener's as well as other diseases that fall under Vasculitis. To learn more, visit www.VasculitisFoundation.org.

(Continued on page 58)

#### 2010-2011 YHC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

Carol Chastain, '84 President Young Harris, Ga.

Rufus Brown, '60 President Elect Gainesville, Ga.

Lita Tipton Barnette, '85 Clarkesville, Ga.

Bobby Bolton, '76 Ellenwood, Ga.

Richard Burrell, '47 Lilburn, Ga. Bud Clegg, '55 Dahlonega, Ga.

Jared Downs, '96 Savannah, Ga.

Ron Hinson, '76 Atlanta, Ga.

Ramona Fricks, '71 Rome, Ga.

Oscar Garrison, '90 Hoschton, Ga.

Candler Ginn, '77 Cartersville, Ga. Sylvia McCoy Hutchinson, '58 Athens, Ga.

Ceil Jarrett, '75 Berkeley Lake, Ga.

Brian Johnson, '94 Atlanta, Ga.

Jan Biggers Keith, '69 Atlanta, Ga.

Shirley Carver Miller, '54 Young Harris, Ga.

Rob Murray, '75 Young Harris, Ga. Ed Nichols, '60 Clarkesville, Ga.

Linda Lee Boleyn Saye, '61 Atlanta, Ga.

Michele Turner, '95 Athens, Ga.

Todd Turner, '81 Hiawassee, Ga.

Barbara Marshall Williford, '87 Marietta, Ga.

## Brig. Gen. Royce Smith, '46 The Call of Duty

BY PEGGY COZART

Royce Smith has managed to pack more working years into a career than would seem possible. It helps that the retired brigadier general actually had two simultaneous careers, spending 30 years working for the state of Florida and 36 years serving in the U.S. Air Force. "You go through a career, and when you start adding it up you wonder how you were able to do that," he said, reflecting on his chosen vocational path with its roots in the Enchanted Valley.

Smith came to Young Harris in 1944 at the age of 16 and completed his studies sooner than most of today's students would expect. He is a graduate of the bygone Young Harris College Academy, which offered four years of high school until about 1938, when the first two years were dropped. By 1958 the high school academy had phased out altogether.

After finishing 10th grade in his hometown of Ocala, Fla., Smith and his family decided he should follow in the footsteps of a family friend from Atlanta and travel to the hills of north Georgia to complete his high school education. Having never been north of Macon, he immediately fell in love with the mountains. "I had never seen a mountain before," he said. "I'd seen a picture of one, but that's about it."

His time in Young Harris would leave an indelible imprint on the life of service that lay ahead of him. After receiving his high school diploma from the Academy in 1946, he enlisted in the Marine Corps, serving two years and achieving the rank of sergeant before his discharge. The next fall he enrolled at Tulane University where his military experience helped him garner an appointment in the Air Force ROTC program. He graduated with a psychology degree in 1951 and earned his commission as a second lieutenant.

Being at Young Harris, he said, "did as much to shape my total career as anything because of the education and academic reputation. I credit it with getting admitted to Tulane and completing my studies there."

After his release from active duty, Smith returned home and took a civilian job with the

state of Florida as a probation and parole officer in Jacksonville—beginning a career that would span 30 years and see him rise to chief probation and parole officer of the Jacksonville district, among other roles, before retiring from the Department of Corrections in 1984.

Concurrent to his career with the state, Smith was assigned to the Air National Guard in Jacksonville in 1954. "Between the two, work was about nine days a week," he said. Smith held numerous Air Force assignments, including serving as executive officer and base commander before receiving an appointment as the assistant adjutant general for air. Subsequently, he was promoted to brigadier general before retiring in 1987.

After retiring from both careers, he served as the executive director of the Florida Council on Crime and Delinquency from 1987 through 1996. Then in 1999, he put his military expertise to work in a volunteer position overseeing training and equipment upgrades for Southern Baptist Disaster Relief—a role he continued through this past year. He has traveled the Southeast working flood and hurricane relief with a feeding unit capable of distributing up to 22,000 meals per day.

"I am a man of faith, and I believe throughout my career I was exactly where God wanted me to be," Smith said of his journey.

Always active, Smith's years have been filled with much more than work. Along the way he met and married his wife, Carol, and they raised two daughters in Jacksonville.

He has kept his affection for the Georgia mountains. For many years, he and his wife had a place near Blairsville as a base from which they enjoyed a life of outdoor activities, including hiking sections of the Appalachian Trail and whitewater rafting. "Our feet are still in Georgia," he said, and he gets back to Young Harris whenever he can and remains close friends with his YHC roommate and several classmates.

Summing up the years, he said with a smile, "I'm very happy with where I am and who I am. It's been a blast."



Royce Smith, '46, from his school days at Young Harris College Academy



Fit and trim, retired Brigadier General Royce Smith, '46, can still wear his Air Force uniform.

As Young Harris College commemorates 125 years, *Echoes* celebrates the generations of alumni who embody the Young Harris spirit by highlighting men and women from across the decades who make up an important part of the YHC story. Each one of them has an important story all their own.



## Shirley Carver Miller, '54 More Than Words

BY CANDICE DYER

As Georgia's First Lady and a senator's wife, Shirley Carver Miller has charmed dignitaries, power brokers and celebrities at countless ribbon-cuttings and Georgetown dinner parties, but one momentous occasion trumps them all.

"Hands down, there isn't anything more exciting

"Hands down, there isn't anything more exciting to me than a GED graduation," she said, referring to the General Equivalency Diploma. "It often marks the first time someone has finished high school in a family, and it's always such a special, emotional ceremony that signals hopeful things to come for the graduate, the family and the community. I'll go to as many of those as possible, at the drop of a hat!"

Many of those milestone moments can be traced directly to Miller's work for literacy and education.

A 1954 graduate of Young Harris College, she married Zell Miller—after a courtship that began at a square dance—and eventually became an entrepreneur, operating clothing stores and founding

the Mountain Savings & Loan (now the Hiawassee branch of United Community Bank), becoming one of only two women bank presidents in Georgia at the time.

"In my businesses, I dealt with customers from all walks of life who struggled with literacy," she recalled. "When Zell was elected governor, I knew exactly what I wanted to do."

She established the Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP) in 1990, a grassroots initiative to build adult learning centers and provide materials,

equipment, tutors, GED scholarships and assistance for secondary education.

"We wanted to have the GED centers on or near a technical school campus to capture those learners and help them keep going," Miller said. "One in five of those technical graduates will create a small business within three years."

CLCP started with five pilot projects and now oversees 62 programs that have served more than

300,000 Georgians, ranging from teens deterred from dropping out to mid-life job seekers to senior citizens who want to learn to read the Bible.

"Mrs. Miller worked tirelessly, one-on-one, with civic leaders, instructors and the students themselves across the state," said the program's state director Billie Izard. "Over and over, I've heard people from all of those ranks point to her and say, 'I couldn't have done this without her. I am here because of her.' To inspire others like that is a remarkable, ongoing legacy."

Miller says her experiences at YHC groomed her, academically and socially, for those challenges.

"I was a shy country girl who'd grown up on a farm," said Miller, who was born in Andrews, N.C., "but I worked as an assistant to the president's wife, Fay Clegg Hoag, ['33]. She introduced me to a different level of hospitality and exposed me to scholars passing through and their ideas. It helped open up my world."

Added her husband, a 1951 alumnus, "I couldn't have accomplished what I did without Shirley, but she would have been extraordinarily successful in whatever role she took, whether I had ever come along in her life or not. She was always much more than just 'Zell's wife."

Today Miller calls Young Harris home, living across from the campus that played a pivotal role in her life. She dedicates much of her time to her role on the YHC Alumni Association Board, where she has served as second vice president and committee chair for alumni awards for the past few years. She has had a front-row seat for the College's four-year transformation and continues to watch events unfold from what she believes was "the best decision YHC could have made to better serve Georgia students."

The College plans to honor her legacy, as well as that of Zell, by naming a new library in the soon-to-be-constructed campus center in honor of the Millers, with a wing dedicated to their achievements for Georgia—a fitting tribute for a lady who has championed the power that lies inside those books.



Shirley Carver Miller, '54, during her days in the Georgia Governor's Mansion



Shirley and Zell Miller enjoy the inaugural basketball game at YHC on Nov. 15, 2010.

## Henry Barnes, '60 A Window to the World

BY EMILY SANE

The advice from alumnus Henry Barnes, '60, to current Young Harris College students who may be undecided about their life's work is straight and simple: "keep your eyes open."

"Watch for the things in your life that strike you," Barnes advised. "That's how I discovered painting. Also look for people to study and learn from."

The nationally and internationally recognized oil painter is best known for his landscapes and waterscapes depicting both American and European scenes. Today his works appear in corporate and private collections both in the U.S. and abroad, but Barnes did not grow up dreaming about a future as an artist.

The Union Point native came to Young Harris College in 1958 on a basketball scholarship. Rather than painting images of the surrounding mountains, he focused on his game, starting for the Mountain Lions during his second season.

He graduated with an associate of arts degree and continued his studies at Huntingdon College in Montgomery, Ala.

At Huntingdon, Barnes majored in biology and joined biology honor society Beta Beta Beta. The drawings he completed in biology classes resonated and planted a seed that would spring up 15 years later.

After graduating in 1962, Barnes joined the United States Navy and settled on the west coast. He served at a naval command post at Coronado, Calif., and continued playing basketball.

Barnes returned to the Southeast after leaving the Navy. He moved to Atlanta and embarked on a career as a singer-guitarist, performing popular folk and country music as he searched for his life's work.

He also explored the real estate field near Lake Lanier and, while working in realty, read Maxwell Maltz's book *Psycho-Cybernetics*.

"This book pushes people to open their eyes and see their life goals," Barnes said. "If you can see your goals, you can go after them. I opened my eyes."

At 35 years old, Barnes picked up a pen and started sketching. Thinking back to his biology coursework, he quickly realized he possessed the ability to draw more than his college class assignments.

"I started drawing and realized I could do this," Barnes reflected. "I went to places I loved and associated with people who loved what I loved."

Barnes followed the advice that he shares with others today.

He set out to learn how to paint. He studied in Atlanta for six years with two well-known Russian painters, brothers Constantin and Roman Chatov, who taught him portraiture and figure painting.

With the Chatovs, Barnes developed his color palette in oil and achieved his signature feeling of light in his paintings.

In 1984, Barnes painted the 12 apostles that are displayed on the ceiling of one of Atlanta's oldest churches, the Catholic Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, each measuring a majestic 10-by-10 feet.

Before beginning the paintings, Barnes spent time in France and Italy, visiting museums and studying the landscapes used in many Renaissance masterpieces. He also studied in Paris with noted French artist Yves Brayer.

Ask him to choose his favorite painting, and he will compare it to picking a favorite child—an impossible task. He loves painting American waterscapes with shrimp boats and low-country marshes as much as European street scenes and river towns.

Barnes' work can be found in major galleries throughout the Southeast, including Charlotte, Nashville, Knoxville, Jacksonville and Atlanta—where he lives and works. There, he has been represented by Lagerquist Gallery since 1986.

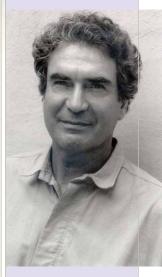
Painting still strikes Barnes, and he has a passion to continue painting for "as long as possible."

"I didn't leave Young Harris with an exact career path," Barnes explained. "But I did leave with the ability to find that path. I kept my eyes open; and I never forgot Paul Cezanne's explanation of Claude Monet's brilliance: 'Monet is only an eye, but—oh what an eye!"





Henry Barnes, '60, during his basketball days at YHC



Henry Barnes, '60

Left: "House on the Marsh," Brunswick, Georgia, oil on canvas, Private Collection by Henry Barnes, '60

Background: "Sunset on Burgundy Falls," France, oil on canvas, Private Collection by Henry Barnes, '60

## Don Bagwell, '71 Know Thyself

BY PEGGY COZART

Don Bagwell, '71, is a philosophical man. He ponders the world around him and looks at life in ways others may not.

In the 1971 *Enotah* yearbook, a black and white photo shows Bagwell standing on the steps of Young Harris College's Appleby Center behind a smiling, young woman.

He now knows how much of the story unfolds for him and the young woman—now his wife of nearly 40 years, and he is content to measure his successes on his own unique terms.

Bagwell earned his bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Georgia, and married his sweetheart, Mary Margaret McElmurray, '71, in 1973.

Both an artist and a musician, Bagwell spent eight years selling pianos before taking a job in 1980 as a graphic artist in Athens, Ga.

In 1989 he launched his own design firm in Cornelia, a small town one hour from Athens and one hour from Atlanta. He knew only one person there—the organist at the Methodist church—but the location made for an attractive base that would allow him to live in the foothills of the Georgia mountains.

During the first grueling years of the venture he worked most hours of the day and well into many nights, losing 15 pounds he did not have to spare but always meeting clients' deadlines.

"I never set financial goals," the resourceful artist said. "I did not want to be driven by money. It is far more important for me to please clients, solve their problems and create a friendship in that relationship than it is to measure the success of that relationship in terms of my financial gain."

Bagwell has seen a digital revolution sweep in, and his company, under the moniker Digital Impact Design, has shifted heavily into Web design to meet his clients' needs.

Bagwell also sits on the city council for his adopted hometown—a place struggling to survive unsettling economic times and the grand failure of the trusted local bank.

"In a climate of mutual respect and diplomacy, you have to create consensus among people with very different agendas and viewpoints," he said of his political role.

It is an atmosphere that is familiar to him. "At YHC, there was a campus full of authentic, smalltown characters that came together as a wonderful

ensemble," he said.

The son of a Methodist minister father and a musical and artistic mother, Bagwell likes to say that his parents "are to blame for letting me major in art." Yet he credits them with instilling in him the qualities for a successful life.

Referencing his professors as mentors Bagwell said, "Virtually all of them were multi-dimensional and spiritual. Ezra Sellers, my art professor, was a creative writer and Sunday school teacher, and Edgar Rich, our drama and theatre professor, was an amateur photographer who rose to the post of senior editor at *Smithsonian* magazine."

Besides being voted Mr. YHC, he also gave his class commencement speech. "I used the Greek principle 'Know Thyself' as the theme because I was certainly given every opportunity to test and prove myself there. Young Harris was the fertile field into which we all were planted."

He believes YHC was unique as a church-affiliated college that was not afraid to deal with a student's total development. "These professors well knew that the kaleidoscope of campus life would tantalize us with every possible opportunity to lead, follow and blaze a path to the one person that all of us post-adolescents knew least well: ourselves. But the unspoken message from each of them was, 'Go ahead, spread your wings but count on me to make sure your academic bags are packed with the serious tools you'll need to carve your own face on the mountain."

The story of Bagwell's life thus far does include a somber chapter.

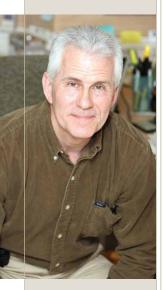
After YHC, Bagwell and his new wife built their marriage and started a family that grew to include two daughters. In 2008, the couple's younger daughter, who had just completed her freshman year of college, died in an auto accident.

"These things bring great moments of clarity," Bagwell said. "I had plenty of personal goals before Caroline arrived and graced our lives—and the experience of watching her become a bright and shining star is a reason for celebration."

He continued, "As I thought about Caroline's life, it became important to me to begin to decide what my life meant, where I had made contributions." He sums that life up with a philosophical take, "I have had a life of real significance. Because we are all connected."



Don Bagwell, '71, and his future wife Mary Margaret McElmurray, '71, stand on the steps of Appleby Center, from the 1971 YHC Enotah yearbook.



Don Bagwell, '71

## Sarrah McDonald, '89 Untamed Melody

BY CANDICE DYER

One way or another, Sarrah Ellen McDonald's work resounds with a mission as old as the hills: to help others get the *twang* of it.

The 41-year-old educator, who graduated from Young Harris College in 1989, co-founded and directs the Georgia Pick and Bow Traditional Music School, a Dahlonega-based after-school program that teaches children in grades four through 12 how to play and appreciate bluegrass and other highlands "roots" music.

"The music our young pickers are learning to make sings to me the sweetest song," said McDonald, a teacher in the alternative education program for Lumpkin County. "It's a song of these Appalachian Mountains and of those who came before us, and it's a song of those generations who will come after us."

Every Thursday, McDonald teaches and oversees seven instructors for 40 students in banjo, mandolin, fiddle, guitar and upright bass. After every class in the media center of the Lumpkin County Middle School, students and teachers—some in overalls and floppy hats—congregate for a toe-tapping jam session that builds in peppery confidence on numbers such as "Cripple Creek," "Muleskinner Blues" or "Soldier's Joy."

Since its inception in 2007, the "P&B kids," as they are known, have become mainstays of Dahlonega's vibrant music scene, where they perform at festivals and open for big-name acts. The program, which relies on grants and fundraisers, furnishes instruments, keeps tuition affordable and offers needbased scholarships. Allison Krauss was so impressed with its work that she donated eight fiddles.

"We don't turn anyone away," McDonald said. "If the desire is there, we'll find a way. We started on faith."

Countless studies have shown that music lessons boost children's overall cognitive development as well as their self-esteem, she points out.

"I've seen students who were withdrawn and troubled develop into smiling, confident classroom leaders when they realize they can play this challenging instrument and earn genuine applause for it," said McDonald. Moreover, the repertoire from centuries-old, mountain songbooks also instills a sense of cultural pride to counteract the stigmatized "hillbilly" stereotypes children encounter in pop culture, she added, though "Dueling Banjos" from *Deliverance* remains a perennial favorite.

Heritage is important to McDonald, who plays most stringed instruments and sings—in a rich, lark-like treble that needs no amp—with an act called Barefoot Creek. (She kicks off her shoes before taking the stage.) A Forsyth County native, she lives outside Dahlonega in a cabin dubbed the "Cowgirl Ranch," which proudly lacks a television but often reverberates with high-lonesome sounds.

Her love for her instruments is reflected in their names, after heirloom gems: the guitar is christened "Pearl;" her bass is "Ruby;" "Opal" is the banjo; and the fiddle answers to "Garnet."

McDonald, who majored in business at YHC, finished her undergraduate studies in education at the University of Georgia and is working toward a master's degree in middle grades math at North Georgia College & State University. Known to her students as "Miz Mack," she also has taught English for Speakers of Other Languages; specialized in curricula for children with behavioral challenges; and instructed in adult literacy for the Forsyth County Detention Center—a project she affectionately nicknamed "Grammar in the Slammer."

Not one to sit still except to read a good novel, McDonald also enjoys contra dancing, belly dancing, roller derby and lighting out for Montana during summers, where she works as a "bona fide cowgirl," wrangling steers on a ranch. Among the laurels she has picked up on her travels is a beauty pageant crown. She was named the "Okra Queen" of Jackson,

Miss., for three successive years until the organizers finally declared her "Queen for Life."

Early on, YHC helped McDonald nourish her rootedness as well as her free-range curiosity, she said.

"Growing up on an old, dirt road in the backwoods, I had never been away from home until I went to Young Harris," she said. "I was crying the day my family dropped me off because I didn't want to stay. And I was crying again the day I graduated because I didn't want to leave."



Above and below: Sarrah McDonald, '89, with students from the Dahlonegabased Georgia Pick and Bow Traditional Music School, which she co-founded and directs



## Michelle Hall Mitchell, '98 Searching for a Cure

BY CANDICE DYER



Michelle Hall Mitchell, '98, in her lab coat



Michelle Hall Mitchell, '98, with her husband, Daniel, and their daughter, Kyriandra

The dots she connects are microscopic, but they are big enough to change the world.

Awarded a Cancer Research Training Award to work as a postdoctoral fellow at the National Cancer Institute, Michelle Hall Mitchell, '98, has been studying the basic structure of the genome of the Human Immunodeficiency Virus that causes AIDS.

"I've been looking at specific pieces of viral RNA (ribonucleic acid) to see how they interact," she said, "with the hope that my findings will get pulled together toward the final goal of preventing and shutting down this virus. So, I'm not developing a vaccine, but I hope my work eventually will help lead to its development."

Such are the satisfactions of science, she said, like arranging building blocks in installments on a large-scale construction site.

"It's always about studying the parts that make up a whole," she explained. "Every single day in the lab doesn't bring a big, dramatic discovery, but you make a lot of little discoveries along the way that, when taken together with other research, lead to that big breakthrough on a hot topic. It's that sense of wonder, discovery and excitement that attracted me to science in the first place, and I still feel it."

In one of Mitchell's "eureka!" moments, she identified a previously unknown family of proteins that yielded new insights into how its class functions—no surprise to her mentor, Paul Arnold, Ph.D., professor of biology and dean of Young Harris College's Division of Mathematics and Science.

"Michelle was always a self-starter with a very focused, inquisitive mind and the kind of tenacious persistence necessary for the medical sciences," Dr.

Arnold said. "I think those character traits will help her make a big impact in her area of expertise."

Mitchell, who grew up in Marietta, split her workstudy time between the library and the chemistry lab at YHC, before finishing her double degree in chemistry and biology at Kennesaw State University. She worked for a year and a half at CIBA Vsion in Duluth and then enrolled in graduate school for molecular biophysics at Florida State University.

In 2009, she joined the HIV Drug Resistance Program of the National Cancer Institute in Maryland, and in 2010, she won the prestigious Michael Kasha Award for her published research on nucleic acids.

"I have specialized in structural biology and X-ray crystallography—the crystal structures of proteins, basically," she said. "More recently, I've been working with viruses and viral systems, specifically HIV1, which is a new field for me."

Worldwide, the HIV virus infects an estimated 33 million people, and treatments typically involve high doses of drugs in expensive combinations on difficult-to-follow schedules. Even then, the therapy often fails, resulting in a more resistant virus.

"This virus is so tricky because it mutates faster than the body can keep up with," she said. "So we've been trying to understand on a molecular level how it mutates and develops this resistance to drugs."

Now expecting their second child, she and her husband, virologist Daniel Mitchell, and their four-year-old daughter, Kyriandra, recently relocated to San Antonio, Texas, this spring where Mitchell plans to pursue teaching as well as research.

### Class Notes

1990s

Dr. Bryson Payne, '91, chief information officer and associate professor of computer science at North Georgia College & State University in Dahlonega, was a finalist in the Atlanta Telecom Professional of the Year awards. Dr. Payne was peer-nominated for his efforts in modernizing the IT infrastructure at NGCSU and for his role as a collaborator and co-writer in the \$43 million North Georgia Network fiber optic broadband grant project. Payne was selected as one of 12 Enterprise finalists and recognized at the ATPY

awards gala event in Atlanta on Nov. 9, with more than 600 IT and telecommunications professionals in attendance. Dr. Payne is also currently serving as the chair of the University System of Georgia's CIO Advisory Council, the professional organization of CIOs and IT leaders in all 35 USG universities and colleges, and recently completed the Chancellor's Executive Leadership Institute training program. Payne completed his Ph.D. in computer science at Georgia State University in 2004 and has been serving as CIO at NGCSU since 2006.

**Amanda Nolan Seals**, '94, is now the Executive Director for Government Relations

for the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, working in the Regents' Office of External Affairs in Atlanta. She previously had worked in the Georgia General Assembly.

Dr. Jill Harnesberger Wade, '94, married Brian T. Wade on Aug. 3, 2010, in the Day Chapel at the State Botanical Gardens of Georgia. Dr. Wade published her book Sovereignty and Experience: Walter Benjamin and Witold Gombrowicz - the Redemptive Violence of Allegory and the Interhuman Church in 2009. She currently teaches at Fort Valley State University in the Department of English and Foreign Languages, where she

## Jessie Hodge, '08 Family Ties

BY KRYSTIN DEAN

Jessie Hodge, '08, started playing golf during her senior year of high school in the south Georgia town of Douglas and discovered she had a natural talent for the game. She accepted a scholarship to attend Young Harris College and become a member of the inaugural women's golf team in 2006.

"Although I didn't realize it at the time, some of my fondest memories of YHC were created during golf practices and tournaments," Hodge said. "The men's and women's teams were like one big family. We all loved the golf trips and treasure the memories made during our time together."

As the team rapidly grew, Hodge recalls the support she felt from the YHC faculty and staff.

"They were very friendly, caring and supportive of both academics and athletics," Hodge said. "They worked closely together to make sure our academic performance remained our major focus and made accommodations for athletes to be away for sports events. They cared about us as individuals."

While her studies and golf kept her busy, participating in church-related activities at the College also remained a priority for Hodge.

"I was very involved in church ministry and feel this is where I began to understand what God was calling me to pursue—broadcast/church media," she said. "My interest in broadcasting began during my youth. I was involved in my home church technology team throughout my middle and high school years. I knew this was an area that I enjoyed and intuitively found that I excelled in."

After graduating from YHC in 2008 with a business degree, Hodge had the opportunity not

only to further her education in her desired field, but also to be a part of another inaugural golf team at Lee University in Cleveland, Tenn. She earned

her B.A. in telecommunications and broadcast media with minors in religion and business in 2010.

An internship at Daystar Television Network in Dallas, Texas, led Hodge to accept a full-time position at the headquarters of the company, the fastest-growing and one of two largest Christian television networks in the world.

"I love traveling and have been blessed to accompany DayStar to Israel and India thus far," Hodge said. "I have seen things that will forever be engrained in my mind and heart. I can't wait to see more of the world."

Hodge still enjoys playing golf in her spare time and hopes to be able to participate in local tournaments and teach young girls to pursue golf as a sport. She also remains extremely involved in church activities, sings in the choir and participates in various ministries.

Since graduating, Hodge has returned to Young Harris every year to visit her lifelong friends and "adopted family" during summer and at Christmas.

"Although it is a six-hour trip to Young Harris from my home in Douglas, the bonds created while at YHC have made north Georgia feel like my home too," Hodge said. "I was blessed to have a wonderful family in Young Harris take me under their wing and make me a part of their family."



Jessie Hodge, '08, at her office at Daystar Television Network in Dallas, Texas



Jessie Hodge, '08, had the opportunity to spend time with children in India as part of her new role at Daystar Television Network.

has represented the English department in implementing QEP Critical Thinking Strategies.

Margaret Greer Davis, '96, and her husband, Andy, live in Auburn, Ala. She recently retired as a Resource teacher with students with learning disabilities at Auburn Junior High. She also served as an academic aide to athletes at Auburn University. She is currently enjoying her retirement and substituting in the Auburn City Schools system. She has a grown son, Drew, as well as a daughter, Mary Margaret.

#### 2000s

Jason K. Norton, '02, CRPC, a financial advisor in Waddell & Reed's Villa Rica office,

has been named to the company's President's Council. The honor is given annually to only 12 of the company's financial advisors based on an analysis of investment, insurance and financial planning sales generated. This is the third consecutive time that Norton has earned this honor. He joined Waddell & Reed in 2004.

Colby Glenn Pendrey, '04, graduated from Lee University in December 2010 with a master's degree in music education. He recently finished his fifth year of teaching music and currently serves as the Music Specialist for Sardis Enrichment School in Gainesville, Ga.

### ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES AND BIRTHS

1990s

Valorie Hogue McGovern, '93, and her husband, Kevin, would like to announce the birth of their third (and last) child, Liam Emerson, on Sept. 27, 2010. He weighed 9 pounds, 7 ounces. Big sister Evie (9) and big brother Niall (6) are excited to have a new baby to play with, and they do a lot to help out Mom and Dad.



(Continued on page 60)

### **Class Notes**

**Keith Golden**, '95, and Whitney Golden would like to announce the arrival of their second child, James "Brady" Golden, on April 2. He weighed 9 pounds, 14 ounces.

**Randall Jordan**, '95, and his wife, Andrea, welcomed a baby boy, Alistair Rombauer Jordan, to their family on Dec. 31, 2010.

George Stewart Johnston II, '99, announces the

birth of his son George Stewart "Tripp" Johnston III, born Dec. 16, 2010, at 10:20 a.m. He weighed 7 pounds, 10.8 ounces and was 19.5 inches long.



2000s

**Sandee Ewing George**, '01, and her husband,

Michael, announce the birth of their daughter Emylee "Reagan" on Nov. 29, 2010. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces and was 20 inches long.

**Emma Tatum Johnson**, '01, and her husband, Brandon, announce the birth of their son Andrew Porter Johnson on March 31, 2011. He weighed 5 pounds, 9 ounces.

**Ryan Whitelaw**, '01, and Lindsay Gilbert Whitelaw, '01, were blessed with a son, David Edward, on April 26, 2010.

Candace Corn Lee, '03, and her husband, Donnie, would like to announce the birth of their son, Alexander Michael, on April 12, 2011. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches long. He joins big sister Addyson.



Meredith Newman Sibenaller, '04, and Daniel Sibenaller welcomed their first child, Joseph Doyle, on July 30, 2010. He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 20 inches long.

Rev. A. Troy Acree

Friend of YHC Oct. 12, 2010

Edith Ashley, '48 Oct. 5, 2010

Joseph Bauer

Member of W. Harry and Harriet Hill Society May 2, 2011

**J. B. Bearden**, '56 Sept. 29, 2010

Charles E. Bennett Sr., '42 Jan. 29, 2011

Mildred Bradford, '33 Dec. 25, 2010

George H. Broadrick, '41 April 13, 2011

Comer L. Brownlow, '43 April 19, 2011

Mimi Jo Butler, '59 March 17, 2011

**Susan D. Carson**, '71 Jan. 6, 2011

Olive Carter, '38 Jan. 7, 2011

Evelyn Collins, '38 Feb. 5, 2011

Clayton S. Doss, '53 Dec. 10, 2010

Marion M. Edwards, '59 Jan. 24, 2011 IN MEMORIAM

**Robert E. Eubanks**, '59 Oct. 29, 2010

C. Byron Farmer, '65 March 23, 2011

Ann Fitzgerald, '59 April 24, 2011

Charles W. Francis, '50 Feb. 23, 2011

Jeff M. Golden Jr., '37 Jan. 25, 2011

Amanda Lynn Hale, '03 Dec. 22, 2010

**Bobby Hendrix**, '61 Jan. 20, 2011

Hazel Gilstrap Henson, '46 Feb. 3, 2011

John M. Jackson, '68 Dec. 11, 2010

Elton B. Lanier, '64 March 19, 2011

**Robert C. Leach**, '57 Dec. 8, 2010

**Max Lovell**, '58 Oct. 6, 2010

Janice C. Mason, '70 March 2, 2011

Ida Mitchell, '37 April 24, 2011 **Danny C. Moore**, '81 Nov. 2, 2010

**Vera B. Morgan**, '41 Dec. 9, 2010

Lillian Lawson O'Bryant, '35 Dec. 13, 2010

James V. Pleasants, '56 Jan. 22, 2011

Vernon W. Risher, '35 Dec. 8, 2010

Corey John Samford, '91 Feb. 8, 2011

John W. Smith, '36 Sept. 24, 2010

Margaret Stricklen, '43 Oct. 19, 2010

**Norma M. Thomas**, '42 Jan. 23, 2011

**Dennis M. Thompson**, '72 Oct. 16, 2010

**Hiram Todd Jr.**, '40 Nov. 8, 2010

Wade F. Verner, '35 Dec. 28, 2010

Mary R. Warren Trustee Emeritus March 29, 2011

Maylise White, '42 April 17, 2011

#### In Memory of Hazel Gilstrap Henson, '46

Hazel Gilstrap Henson, '46, a native of Chickamauga, came to Young Harris College in 1944 as a freshman on a work scholarship. She became active in all aspects of campus life, graduating in 1946 as a member of the Alpha Honor Society, business manager of the *Enotah* yearbook, president of Phi Delta Literary Society and president of the Student Government Council.



She continued her education at Appalachian State Teachers College in Boone, N.C., and after graduation, she promptly returned to Young Harris in 1948 to teach mathematics and serve as dean of women. Henson moved to Clayton in 1949, where she married C. A. Henson, her husband of 60 years. There, she taught mathematics at Rabun County High School until her retirement. She was an active member of Clayton First United Methodist Church and served for many years as chairperson of Rabun County Family and Children Services.

Henson died on Feb. 3, 2011, following an extended illness. She was preceded in death by her daughter, Claudia Lee Henson. The Hazel (Gilstrap, '46) and Claudia Lee Henson Scholarship Fund, was created to honor Henson and her daughter, Claudia, and benefits a student from Rabun County attending Young Harris College. To make a gift to this scholarship or another fund in memory of Hazel Henson, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5173.

#### A Tribute to Bishop Marion Edwards, '59: 1939-2011

Bishop Marion Edwards will always be remembered for his dedication and service to God and to The United Methodist Churchmost notably perhaps for his support of mission work. A retired United Methodist bishop and pastor, Edwards died Jan. 24, 2011, at Columbus Hospice House. He was 71.



Bishop Edwards was a loyal and dedicated alumnus of Young Harris College. He was a member of the Class of 1959, along with his wife of 48 years, Linda Layfield Edwards. He went on to graduate from Georgia Southern University and Emory University's Candler School of Theology, where he earned both master's and doctorate degrees in divinity.

Bishop Edwards began his ministry at Fort Valley United Methodist Church as the youth minister in 1960. After ordination, he served United Methodist churches throughout the South Georgia Conference. His last pulpit was St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus, where he was a senior minister for eight years before his election as a bishop in 1996. From then until his retirement in 2004, he was resident bishop of the North Carolina Conference of The United Methodist Church, based in Raleigh. He was responsible for overseeing the work of hundreds of local churches and church-related programs across eastern North Carolina. After his retirement, Bishop and Mrs. Edwards returned to Georgia.

"Bishop Marion Edwards was a bannercarrier for God—a man who was deeply loved by his family, St. Luke Church, the South Georgia Conference, the Raleigh Episcopal area, the Southeastern Jurisdiction and the whole church," said Dr. Hal Brady, senior pastor of St. Luke UMC.

On April 7, 2011, during the spring meeting of the Young Harris College Board of Trustees, the board unanimously passed a resolution honoring Bishop Edwards for his loyalty and dedication as an alumnus of the College, as an emeritus trustee for 14 years and as an enthusiastic and influential supporter of the College. The resolution

> was presented to his widow, Linda, following the meeting.

Linda Edwards, '59, receives a resolution from Board of Trustees Chair Jerry Nix.



Lillian "Lilla" Lawson Gray O'Bryant was born in Chamblee to Presbyterian parents with deep old-fashioned agrarian roots. She graduated from Young Harris College in 1935 and went on to attend Georgia State College for Women (now Georgia College & State University) in Milledgeville, where she was president of the Student Christian Association. She graduated with a degree in psychology and education.

She married Rev. Charles T. Gray, a YHC classmate from the Centerpost Community near LaFayette. For 40 years, they labored together in the Lord's vineyard across the North Georgia Conference: the Bowman Circuit, Clarkston, Mann Memorial in Augusta, Manchester, Jonesboro, Cascade



Heights, Austell and Peachtree Road in retirement. They were loved, esteemed and effective wherever they served throughout their long ministry in the North Georgia Conference.

Under their pastoral leadership and tutelage in Augusta, at least four young men were called into the ministry: the late Rev. Cyrus Wesley Edwards Jr., Rev. Zack Walton McNeal, Rev. James Brawley and Rev. Edward Boyce Nelson Sr.

They also had a life-long love affair with Young Harris College. Not only did they recruit students, but they were active in alumni programs and very generous in their

They were blessed with one daughter, Wilma Dianne Gray-Pough of Cumming, one granddaughter, Jennifer Sanders of Birmingham, Ala., and one great granddaughter and namesake, Lillian Sanders, also of Birmingham.

After Charles' death, Lilla married another retired United Methodist minister and YHC classmate, Rev. Henry O'Bryant. Their presence at YHC and Emory University functions, annual conference meetings and retired clergy retreats mesmerized all of the dignitaries, old classmates and retired clergy and spouses. The O'Bryants proved that "the best was yet to be" past 70.

Following Henry's death, Lilla discovered another old classmate at a YHC reunion around 10 years ago, Col. Vernon Risher, whose wife had died recently. Risher, a retired U.S. Marine, and Lilla rallied alumni and friends to join their hands and hearts in support of YHC during the past ten years of transformation. They made everyone want to live past age 90!

When Lilla heard that her dear friend Risher had died on Dec. 8, 2010, following surgery, she told her family in Birmingham, "I'm going with him!" and so she did in quiet peace on Dec. 13. She was 95.

An angel of God, she graced every Methodist parsonage and gathering with regal dignity, sterling character and an abundance of personal charm.

#### 2010-2011 YHC YOUNG ALUMNI COUNCIL

Created in 2010, the Young Alumni Council plans young alumni gatherings and programs and creates opportunities to encourage young alumni to stay connected and involved with Young Harris College.

Matthew P. Anderson, '03 Atlanta, Ga.

Hull, Ga. Catherine A. Boothe, '99

Jodie Ivester Crome, '03

Marc W. McAfee, '07 Panama City, Fla.

Atlanta, Ga.

Savannah, Ga.

Jessie B. Collins, '05

Beth Haggerty Odum, '96 Smyrna, Ga.

Heather Moody Breeden, '99 Sandy Springs, Ga.

Alexander J. Ginn, '09 Royston, Ga.

Holly Gunter Royston, '01 Atlanta, Ga.

Ralph D. "Skip" Breeden, '99 Sandy Springs, Ga.

Matthew C. Lund, '00 Athens, Ga.

Nancy Mann Williams, '02 Canton, Ga.



### Let's Face It!

We posed a simple question to Young Harris College's 3,000-plus Facebook fans: What do YOU remember most about the first time you visited the YHC campus? Here are a few highlights.

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

I remember deciding very quickly where I was going to college.

-MATT LONG '03

It was late summer. There was a shade of green I don't remember ever seeing before. In fact, I haven't seen it since. There was an overwhelming sense of "this just feels right."

-HAL TURNER '84

I came up in November, over Hwy 19 through Dahlonega. It was beautiful. My Rep was Jeff Doke, and he asked me what I liked about high school. I said, "Nothing. I don't belong there." And he said, "You can belong at YH. Other colleges you just go to, YH you belong to." That did it. I turned down scholarships to Emory and Berry for two wonderful years at YHC.

-AUDREY DALTON PRICE '94



Join the YHC online community on Facebook and connect with alumni, faculty, staff, current students, future students and friends. Stay even more connected to what's happening with the YHC family around campus and across the world.

Check out news and events, watch cool videos and participate in active conversations, polls, competitions and more!

www.facebook.com/youngharriscollege

My rep's name was
Grimace and he swore
he was conceived in the
McDonalds drive thru. Lol
-NANCY MELISSA LORD
BRAMLETT '90

Once I visited the campus, the beauty overwhelmed me. Taking walks to Cupid Falls is still one of my favorite memories.

-ERIN SCHAEFER PARKER '91

How beautiful the campus was and how friendly and helpful everyone was!

-AMANDA WEBSTER '06

I was actually eight when I first saw YHC. I danced in a couple of productions of *The Nutcracker* at the theatre. I remember thinking "I want to go to college here." So I did!

-CARLY SHAREC '05

I first visited YH in the fall of 1974 when I was a senior in high school. Back then it was still a very rural drive from Marietta up Hwy 5. It was a beautiful fall weekend that sealed the deal for me.

-CINDY EVANS '77

-CINDY EVANS //

My high school boyfriend was a freshman at YHC, and he invited me to visit on the weekend the Sigs and Phi Chi had their football game. I rode the Greyhound to Clayton, and I remember riding around the curve from Hiawassee and he pointed down in the valley and said, "There's the college." It was so pastoral and so beautiful. We pulled into campus to see everyone hanging the signs on the front of Appleby—total joyful chaos. I had a scholarship to another college, but then I knew! The next two years...I'd be up on the building, too! Best decision I ever made in my life!





Office of Alumni Services P.O. Box 275 Young Harris, GA 30582 NONPROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID PPCO

Mark your calendar and make plans now to join generations of alumni at Young Harris College.





ALUMNI WEEKEND 2011

Friday-Sunday, July 29-31



Celebrate 125 years of enchantment as Young Harris College commemorates 125 years of excellence during Alumni Weekend 2011.



Events schedule and registration information inside!
Visit www.yhc.edu/alumniweekend to check out the latest details and register online.

You don't have to wait for the next issue of Echoes...

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

