

Echoes

SPRING/SUMMER 2013

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

More Than a *Mission*

Baseball team steps
up to the plate in the
Dominican Republic

- > Homecoming 2012 Celebrates
A Blast from the Past
- > New Staging for the Performing Arts
- > Lacrosse Program Launches at YHC

GOING GLOBAL

Alumni and
students make
a mark on
the world





On the Cover

The Young Harris College baseball team traveled to the Dominican Republic in December to take part in a special weeklong trip coordinated by the sports missions ministry SCORE International. Student-athletes like Spencer Thomas, of Key Biscayne, Fla., and Oliver Pratt, of Dacula, played against teams from the Dominican Republic and participated in outreach in local communities, orphanages and churches. See story on page 12.

PHOTOGRAPH: SARAH DEESE

On this Page

Outdoor leadership majors at Young Harris College have the opportunity to change lives through vibrant and challenging outdoor experiences. As part of a "Backcountry Living Skills" course this spring, students explored minimum impact methods, land use ethics and environmental stewardship while visiting Dry Falls in the Cullasaja River Gorge (above) and enjoying a scenic view of Pisgah National Forest from John Rock (right) in North Carolina.

PHOTOGRAPHS:

ABOVE: ROB DUSSLER

RIGHT: MICHAEL POMAWSKI

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A Meaningful Mission

As we continue to grow and expand, we never want to lose sight of what makes Young Harris College distinctive and special—especially at a time when cheaper online degrees and less costly educational settings are readily available options for our current and prospective students.

We wholeheartedly believe that our residential campus, committed faculty and the overall personal experience you get at YHC makes for a far greater education and helps students develop and prepare for success in far deeper ways than can be found through the online, one-size-fits-all experience of some higher education institutions.

It starts with our mission, which I encourage you to review (yhc.edu/about/mission), and our motto: “Educate. Inspire. Empower.” We take these commitments seriously, and weigh all our growth plans against them. Take, for example, these statements from our mission and goals:

The College will provide opportunities for students to interact with others from diverse backgrounds, thus preparing them for responsible citizenship. The Young Harris College experience will exemplify environmental awareness, stewardship and service to the community.

We believe strongly that we have both personal and collective responsibilities as citizens in service to society. Young Harris College is dedicated to producing leaders who will remain committed to creating a sustainable, just and caring society.

In this issue of *Echoes*, you can read about a variety of ways our mission plays out. YHC's baseball team not only took an enjoyable trip to the Dominican Republic in December, but they also raised their own money to turn an athletics outing into a meaningful opportunity to serve the children of that struggling nation. You'll find inspiring stories of YHC alumni like Emily Clifton, '05, and Jordan Earl, '94, who have made international service and mission work a central part of their lives.

The reach of Young Harris College is rapidly expanding. Our students, faculty and alumni recognize and embrace their roles as global citizens, constantly finding new ways to make a meaningful mark on the world. These experiences foster awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures and provide a wide range of exciting opportunities for personal and communal growth—both on campus and beyond.

You won't get a single lesson in service, compassion or citizenship through an online degree program. And, sadly, even in many traditional college and university settings today, you also won't find any emphasis on one's responsibilities to a “sustainable, just and caring society.”

These things matter to us at Young Harris—they've been grounded in our Methodist heritage since this College was founded 127 years ago. We believe our graduates will carry these lessons into their careers and lives far beyond our campus, making the impact of a YHC education truly lasting. It's a significant part of what makes YHC distinctive. Our thanks to all of you who support what we are doing!

Warmly,


Cathy Cox
President



As part of YHC President Cathy Cox's Georgia history class, students toured The Carter Center in Atlanta and met the nation's 39th President and recipient of the 2002 Nobel Peace Prize Jimmy Carter.

Echoes

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Monica Kaufman Pearson

ADDRESSES GRADUATES

Monica Kaufman Pearson, retired veteran anchor of WSB-TV's Channel 2 Action News in Atlanta, addressed the Class of 2013 during Young Harris College's Commencement ceremony on May 4.



Pearson retired in July 2012 after a 37-year career with WSB-TV. The University of Louisville English graduate has received some of journalism's highest honors including 30 Emmy Awards, the Women's Sports Journalism Award and two National American Women in Radio and Television Awards.

In 2012, Pearson received the Atlanta Metropolitan College Foundation Leadership Award and was honored by members of the U.S. Congress, Georgia lawmakers and the city of Atlanta.

She has served on the boards of directors of the High Museum of Art, Alliance Theatre Company, Metropolitan Atlanta United Way, Northwest Georgia Girl Scouts Council and Azira Hill Talent Development Program of the Atlanta Symphony.

Look for full coverage of YHC's Commencement ceremony in the Fall/Winter 2013 issue of Echoes.

NEW RESIDENCE HALL To Open This Fall

Construction is underway on a new residence hall that will provide an additional 226 beds for incoming freshmen this fall. The facility will be configured in "pods," or small communities consisting of students living in different sizes and styles of rooms surrounding a country club-style bath area.

"This style of housing is extremely popular because it encourages incoming students to frequently interact with their classmates," said Director of Residence Life Stuart Miller. "We want students to enjoy themselves and meet some lifelong friends during their first year on campus before moving on to other residence halls."

The innovative pod concept is a growing trend in residence life nationwide. It provides both living and learning spaces that encourage student interaction and foster a sense of community during their formative semesters on campus.

Each pod will feature large and inviting study alcoves and lounges with comfortable sofas and flat-screen televisions, providing students with ample common areas to study and socialize. These spaces within the building will give resident assistants the opportunity to regularly engage with students and introduce unique programming.

"The new residence hall will allow us to begin to implement a progressive housing model at YHC that targets the specific needs of each class," said Vice President for Student Development Angi Smith. "Our goal is to offer

specific programming for student communities and provide for increased responsibility and freedom as students progress at the College."

The housing was designed to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards and is expected to earn LEED certification.



» Visit yhc.edu/construction to watch the progress of this facility in real time.



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

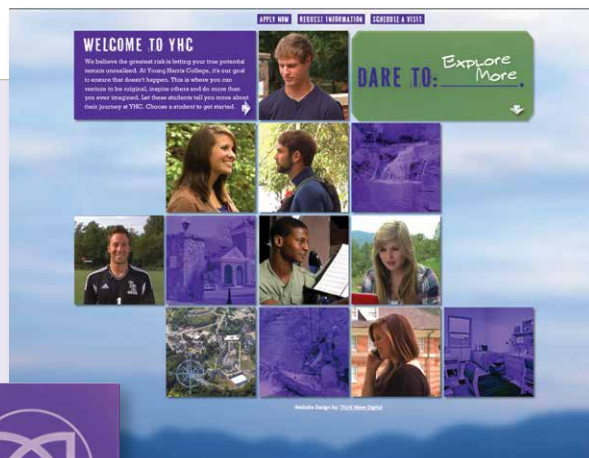
Honored as Leader in Higher Education Marketing

Young Harris College was recently named the 2012 recipient of the Higher Education Marketer of the Year Team Award by the American Marketing Association (AMA). The annual award recognizes extraordinary leadership and achievement in the field of higher education marketing. The College was recognized for the achievement during the AMA's annual Symposium for the Marketing of Higher Education in New Orleans, La., in November 2012.

The award recipient is selected by a panel of marketing experts and practitioners who are leaders in the field. The YHC team was recognized for its successful rebranding initiative and

outstanding collaboration with the Office of Admissions in goal setting and achievement of results.

Young Harris College was also recently awarded "Best in Class" in the 2012 Interactive Media Awards (IMA) competition for its online virtual viewbook, "Explore YHC," which was first introduced in the spring of 2012. The award represents the highest honor bestowed by the IMA and signifies the very best in planning, execution and



overall professionalism.

The immersive viewbook was created by award-winning interactive communications firm Third Wave Digital in partnership with the College's web team, and vividly tells the YHC story to prospective students, parents and other audiences.

» To view the Young Harris College virtual viewbook, visit yhc.edu/exploremore.

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE

Expands Science Offerings

Young Harris College recently added a new bachelor's degree program in chemistry that will prepare students for a wide variety of careers. The College also has an established minor in chemistry that allows students pursuing bachelor's degrees in other disciplines to engage in focused study of the subject.

"The new chemistry major will give students in our division another option, especially for those who want to pursue research in the areas of environmental chemistry or the pharmaceutical industry," said Dean of the Division of Mathematics and Science and Associate Professor of Biology Linda Jones, Ph.D. "Numerous scientific fields require the training and

knowledge that a chemistry degree can provide. I'm happy that our students can now receive that at YHC."

The new program will be available beginning in the Fall 2013 semester.

Freshmen Brian Giafaglione, of Parkland, Fla., and Brett Davis, of Blue Ridge, conducted a chemistry experiment.



» For a complete list of academic programs offered at Young Harris College, visit yhc.edu/degrees.

YHC Welcomes Smith TO STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Last fall, Angela Smith, J.D., was named the new vice president for student development at Young Harris College. She previously worked in student affairs at the University of Tennessee (UT) since 2008, most recently as the associate dean of students.

Smith earned her B.A. in English and J.D. degrees from UT, where she served for four years as the director of UT's Office of Student Judicial Affairs and taught adjunct courses in the master's program and law school. She also privately practiced law for several years with a firm in Chattanooga, Tenn.

"I am excited about being part of the Young Harris College family for a number of reasons: the energy of the campus; the incredible students, faculty and staff; and the opportunity to work as part of such a close-knit community," said Smith. "My goal is to support the College's mission of educating, inspiring and empowering our students."



Angi Smith

Historic Chapel Receives Upgrades

This winter, Young Harris College's Susan B. Harris Chapel underwent renovations to enhance and beautify the oldest building on campus thanks to a generous gift from an anonymous donor. The Chapel has served as the spiritual and physical heart of YHC since 1892.

A major highlight of the Chapel's transformation was the addition of an audio/visual system that features a Bose Line Array audio system specifically designed for unique spaces where acoustics can be a challenge. The video system includes an Epson ultra-short throw projector that fills the screen with a bright, crisp image that doesn't interfere with guest speakers on stage.

"This new system provides a clear sound to each person in the audience regardless of where they are seated in the Chapel," explained Vice President for Campus Technology Ken Faneuff. "In addition, the sleek design of the speakers complements the space and does not distract from the historic atmosphere."

"The generous gift that allowed for improvements to the Chapel will touch the lives of all who are part of YHC," added Dean of the Chapel, Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Rev. Dr. Tim Moore. "The video system adds needed dimensions to flexibility and capacity that will enable the building to serve the College for years to come."

Other cosmetic improvements to the facility include new high-quality carpet and padded cushions for each pew, which received a general cleaning and protective coating to ensure future preservation.

Alumni and friends are invited to commemorate their connection to the historic heart of campus by making a gift of \$1,000 to name one of the 27 individual pews to honor friends, loved ones, a graduating class or favorite organization. Engraved plaques are placed on each named pew. For more information, contact the Office of Advancement at (706) 379-5227.



YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE Presents Full Array of Exciting Lectures

Young Harris College strives to provide students and community members with access to thought-provoking speakers by hosting several distinct lecture series and guest lectures throughout the year. This spring, a diverse array of esteemed speakers provided fascinating insight and sparked meaningful conversation regarding a variety of topics.

Award-winning storyteller Donald Davis

presented the annual Heinze Lecture in January. He attended the Duke University Divinity School and served as a minister in The United Methodist Church for more than 20 years. Davis was a featured storyteller at the Smithsonian Institution and the World's Fair, worked as chairman of the board for the National Storytelling Network and served as a guest host for National Public Radio's *Good Evening* program.



Acclaimed author and humanitarian James Hunt

spoke in March about legendary American conservationist John Muir's thousand-mile walk to the Gulf. Hunt received a National Endowment for the Humanities grant, served as a fellow at Emory University's Candler School of Theology and co-founded The Krista Foundation for Global Citizenship.



Noted historian Dr. Olivier Courteaux

delivered the annual Ragsdale Lecture in March. Dr. Courteaux is the author of several books and countless articles focusing on the history of postwar France and various aspects of diplomatic history. He currently serves as an assistant professor of history at the Royal Military College of Canada, the equivalent to the United States Military Academy at West Point.



Prize-winning poet Mark Doty presented a reading in April as part of the Byron Herbert Reece Lecture Series. Doty, a *New York Times* bestselling memoirist and professor of English at Rutgers University, is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry and prose. He is the only American poet to have won Great Britain's T.S. Eliot Prize and has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and National Endowment for the Arts.





YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE TURNS BACK THE CLOCK AT FALL HOMECOMING

This past November, Mountain Lions fans of all ages kicked off the 2012-2013 basketball season by showing spirit that spanned the decades for Young Harris College's annual fall Homecoming.

A committee comprised of YHC students planned an exciting week of activities as campus organizations competed to earn the title of Homecoming Week Champions. The event lineup included a trivia game, lip sync battle, car decorating competition, spirit banner contest and new "Chalk the Walk" challenge.

"Incorporating old traditions and developing new ones is what Homecoming is all about," said Kelsey Harris, a junior education major from Lawrenceville. "Our first Homecoming last year was a lot of fun, and I had a really great time competing again this year."

To kick off Homecoming weekend, Nov. 16-17, all students, faculty and staff decked out campus in purple and white during the first-ever "Purple Friday" before enjoying a pep rally and bonfire that evening led by YHC's spirited competitive cheerleading squad.



ABOVE The Student Government Association incorporated a '90s theme throughout the week and defended their title as Homecoming Week Champions.





The YHC Alumni Association float was one of many highlights in the Homecoming parade.



On Saturday morning, the College's pep band, Purple Reign, entertained students, alumni and community members who turned out to enjoy a parade on campus featuring floats that celebrated "A Blast from the Past" by highlighting various decades.

Tailgating festivities and a celebratory pre-game picnic lunch catered by Atlanta's world-famous drive-in The Varsity followed on the lawn in front of Enotah Hall. Students and alumni dug in to delicious hot dogs and burgers while enjoying party music and snapping photos with Luke the Mountain Lion.

Also on Saturday, YHC's Student Government Association (SGA) hosted a special exhibit celebrating Sharp Hall's 100th birthday that included a cupcake reception. Students teamed up with Associate Library Director Debra March to create displays featuring historical photos and memorabilia that traced the unique past of the building.

"I really believe that the faster we move forward, the more important it is to understand the past," March said. "The Homecoming festivities provided a good moment for us to reflect on YHC's history."



ABOVE Student Government Association Secretary Madison Perdue, of Loganville, and Associate Library Director Debra March hosted a special celebration in commemoration of Sharp Hall's 100th birthday.





2012 Homecoming Week Champions

1st Place: Student Government Association

2nd Place: Campus Activities Board

3rd Place: Anime Club & Circle K

2012 Homecoming Court

King: Senior Matt Wilmer, of Loganville

Queen: Senior Emalyn Cork, of Marietta

Court Members:

Senior Cedric Epps, of Talbotton

Sophomore John Ross, of Gainesville

Senior Ryan Shepard, of Dahlonega

Sophomore Kaycee Cash, of Woodstock

Junior Erica Lowery, of Newnan

Sophomore Jerilyn Oquendo, of Plant City, Fla.



Former athletes and cheerleaders enjoyed a pre-game reception in the Recreation and Fitness Center, which quickly filled with fans ready to cheer on the Mountain Lions as both the women's and men's basketball teams held court for their season openers in the "Valley of Doom."

YHC's women's basketball team defeated Bryan College 75-46, while the men's basketball team lost to Shorter University in a close match 98-87.

The winners of Homecoming Week contests and the overall champions were announced during halftime of the women's game. Homecoming Court was presented and the Homecoming 2012 King and Queen were crowned at halftime of the men's game.

"Just being part of the first-ever Homecoming competition last year was exciting, but winning is something I will remember for a long time," said Ashley Cross, a junior biology major from Murphy, N.C. "I was thrilled that SGA held on to the title again this year, and our organization built even stronger relationships while competing in fun activities."

» Scan this code or visit yhc.edu/homecoming to watch highlights from Homecoming 2012.



RIGHT Former athletes and cheerleaders were recognized during halftime of the men's basketball game.



SAVE THE DATE:

Homecoming 2013

More details coming soon!

- Pep Rally & Bonfire
- Parade
- Alumni Athletes Reception
- Basketball Games

yhc.edu/homecoming | #YHCHC13

AND

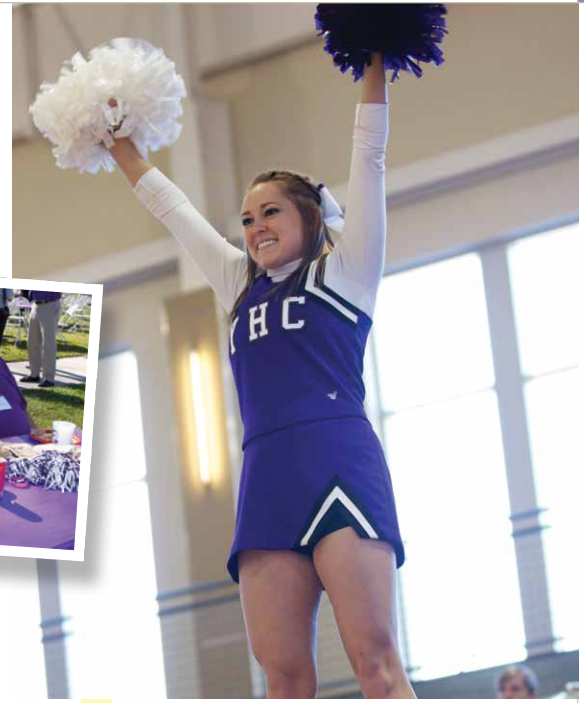
Alumni Weekend 2014

Friday-Sunday, April 18-20

- Half Century Club Dinner & Alumni Awards Ceremony
- Alumni Weekend Luncheon
- All Class Party on Campus
- Spring Arts & Athletics Events

yhc.edu/alumniweekend | #YHCAW14

For more information, contact
the Office of Alumni Services.
(706) 379-5334 | alumni@yhc.edu



MORE
THAN A
Mission



BY KRYSTIN DEAN

The Dominican Republic's endless miles of coastline feature scenic white-sand beaches shaded by towering palm trees. Further inland, the diverse landscape of the exotic island nation gives way to stunning mountain scenery, lush jungles, and picturesque caves and waterfalls. It's the perfect place to spend time soaking up rays and leaving all cares behind.

When the Young Harris College baseball team embarked on a weeklong trip to Hispaniola in December, however, caring was the *only* thing on their minds.

Twenty-one student-athletes and four coaches traveled to the Caribbean country to participate in meaningful outreach while using their love of baseball to bond with local communities.



The team played with children during a visit to the Emanuel House in the town of Quisqueya.



The team won a game at The Highlands Complex in Boca Chica.

The baseball team's student assistant Sarah Deese, a senior communication studies major from Roswell, joined the team, along with YHC alumnus and Atlanta Braves relief pitcher Cory Gearrin, '06, and Doug Kovash, former head baseball coach at Presbyterian College in Clinton, S.C.

YHC Baseball Head Coach Rick Robinson had always wanted to take part in global outreach, but didn't start planning in earnest until his wife and daughter traveled to Peru for a mission trip last summer. "After hearing about their experiences, I decided it was time to step up to the plate and see if the team wanted to go along," he explained.

The seed for the excursion was planted last year when a leader from the sports missions ministry SCORE International

did a devotional for the team during a spring break trip to Florida. The organization was established in 1985 by former Tennessee Temple University basketball coach Ron Bishop to help teams plan short-term mission trips to foreign countries.

A medical facility was established by SCORE in the Dominican Republic to serve local pastors, missionaries and residents who cannot afford medical care. SCORE also partnered with the Rawlings Foundation to build and operate a baseball academy, camp and Bible college there.

"I initiated this trip because I wanted to give my players the

opportunity to make memories that will last a lifetime," said Robinson. "This real-life experience impacted our team members' lives, as well as the lives of the Dominican people, and exposed them to an environment that most had just read about in textbooks."

To help fund the excursion, the group received several gifts from generous donors. Each player raised \$500 in his hometown, and the team played a 100-inning baseball game, hosted six car washes and organized two yard sales. The squad also voted to allocate funds received when team members were featured as extras in the Warner Bros. film *Trouble with the Curve* that was partially filmed on the YHC campus in 2012.



ABOVE Junior Taylor Topping, of Virginia Beach, Va., made a friend at the Emanuel House in Quisqueya.

LEFT Sophomore Cody Beck, of Lexington, N.C., and senior Josh Rudnik, of Lawrenceville, mentored some young athletes during a baseball clinic.



"I feel like the Lord helped us receive this opportunity and the means to go to the Dominican Republic and share the good news of Jesus Christ," said David Atwood, a junior biology major from Waynesville, N.C. "This trip allowed us to really get to see each other in action and learn about who we all are as people, not just baseball players."

The team flew into the capital city of Santo Domingo and was based at SCORE accommodations in Juan Dolio, a small seaside community on the southern coast featuring unspoiled beaches and turquoise waters. They were treated to sunshine and balmy heat all week—a marked difference from the few inches of snow that postponed their first game of the season in February.

They kicked off the trip by conducting a clinic and winning a game at The Highlands Complex, home of the San Francisco Giants Dominican Summer League team, in the touristy seafront village of Boca Chica. Later in the week, the team traveled into downtown San Pedro to watch a professional game between the hometown Estrellas (Stars) and visiting Águilas Cibaenas (Eagles).

While the Mountain Lions enjoyed experiencing baseball in a distinctly different milieu, the real thrill came

from venturing out to towns like San Pedro de Macorís, a place known for its sugarcane fields and reputation as the birthplace of more than 75 major leaguers.

The team ministered to hundreds of locals and competed against homegrown teams in organized contests. Each experience brought unexpected firsts that led the student-athletes to view "America's pastime" in a new light.

One game was played alongside cows grazing in the surrounding pasture, while another took place near a sugarcane mill located next to a large village. Dozens of children made their way into the dugout to be near the players as adults gathered to watch the action from the sidelines.

"All that the kids there needed was a stick and a bottle cap to play baseball. It made me appreciate the facilities and gear that I'm given to play the game I love," said Adam Moore, a junior business and public policy major from Kennesaw. "We won all four games that week, but our opponents never showed any negative emotion. You could tell by the way they competed that they were playing for a greater purpose beyond just winning or losing."



Seniors Zach Bricknell, of Woodstock, and Sarah Deese, of Roswell, played with local children.

While many areas of the country the team visited were littered with trash, they continually observed that each makeshift stadium was pristine. One field even had running water in the dugout while the surrounding villages lacked such a luxury.

"You could tell that each field was their sanctuary. Even in very unkempt areas, the baseball diamond was always as groomed as could be," said Atwood. "Every local player had a serious passion and love for the game, which was inspiring."

The team moved blocks to assist in the construction of a local county church.





The YHC baseball team prayed with the opposing team after their game in San Pedro.

"I have never seen anyone have more fun playing baseball than the guys we competed against," added Bowen Klosinski, a junior business and public policy major from Augusta. "If you walk up to a field in the middle of a game in the Dominican Republic, you can't tell which team is winning because both of them are having such a good time."

The group realized that the baseball games could also be utilized as ministry opportunities. During one outing, Deese used her Spanish-speaking skills to share scripture with two little boys before giving them their first Bibles.

"After highlighting some of my favorite verses for them, they told me they would protect it because it was very special," she recalled. "Then they said to me, 'Voy a compartir con mis amigos'—'I am going to share with my friends.' It was so amazing—something I had never experienced before."

Off the field, the team was touched by the warm welcome they received wherever they went. They attended church services during day trips to Catalina and Juan Dolio, visited the Pasitos de Jesus Orphanage for Girls established by SCORE, and gave away assorted baseball equipment, YHC apparel and 100 Spanish-language Bibles.

One afternoon, the group purchased provisions at a local market for 45 families living in a poverty-stricken

RIGHT Junior David Atwood, of Waynesville, N.C., took part in an impromptu baseball game on a playground.

BELOW Assistant Baseball Coach Rick Guarno got a lesson in fingernail painting.



but that plan quickly changed when the local girls realized the team had brought them fingernail polish as a gift.

"The guys were eager to participate and get involved with the kids—even if it meant getting their nails painted bright colors," said Deese. "In those moments,

I was able to see a different

side of them and catch a glimpse of their big hearts."

During a visit to the Emanuel House, a half-day Christian school available to disadvantaged children in the town of Quisqueya, the team helped repaint a classroom, played with children and visited some of the students' homes.

"The best part about the trip was connecting with the children. Even with the language barrier, we could still feel the love pouring out of them," said Atwood. "We constantly noted that they did not want something to play with, but someone to be with. This was very touching and inspiring to us, especially since we live in a very thing-based society."

sugarcane village. Each team member presented a bag of food that would feed each family for one week before taking time to pray together.

"It was such a blessing to spend time with the people from that village. They might not have spoken the same language as us, but a smile was all the language we needed," said Moore. "Their bright faces spoke more than words could. No matter their situation, they were just happy people that loved the Lord and spending time together."

The communing continued at a nearby playground that had been set up by a missionary. The players brought their gloves to play catch with the children—

The concept of what constitutes a happy home was turned on its head for the team as they were exposed to the primitive living conditions of many families. A small group visited one dwelling that, like most, had a roof constructed of scrap metal, several holes in the walls and no floor, electricity or bathroom. After praying with the family, the matriarch of the household kept repeating “Dios es bueno”—“God is good.”

“The one thing I took away from this trip is that no matter how poor the people were, they all had a strong belief in Christ and were always very happy,” said Klosinski. “It made me realize that happiness comes from your belief in Christ. No matter how poor the Dominicans were, they were all rich with happiness.”

The bond of brotherhood of the already close-knit team strengthened with each new encounter. Every evening, the group met to swap stories and highlight each player’s most striking moments of the day. Many shared the same sentiment—that this was more than just a mission trip.

“Our real mission was to take what we experienced from the trip and minister to others back home,” said Moore. “While our experience performing mission work in a third-world country was incredible and at times indescribable, it’s equally important to be missionaries within our own community.”



Senior Zack Bricknell, of Woodstock, stepped up to the plate during the team’s final game in La Romana.

The team regularly participates in a myriad of activities and engagement opportunities, including speaking at local high school Fellowship of Christian Athletes meetings and organizing games and teambuilding activities for the Towns County after-school program.

While NCAA teams can only compete internationally once every four years, the Mountain Lions plan to schedule outreach opportunities every year even if it doesn’t include time on the field. The team is already tossing around ideas for a place to serve stateside next year.

According to Robinson, a group of

10 former players and coaches—many who contributed funds to make the December trip possible—are committed to returning to the Dominican Republic next year “not as athletes, but as men with servants’ hearts.”

The baseball team’s time spent serving others overseas gave them a deeper understanding of what it means to be part of a community while also teaching them that being a team player in life requires the same dedication as it does in a purple and white uniform.

“Being an outstanding person throughout their lives is more important than the number of games they win on a baseball field,” said Robinson. “I hope that this experience made them better people willing to give back a small portion of their time when they graduate and become leaders in their communities.”

Junior Mike Medori, of Newark, Del., played guitar for students at the Emanuel House.



» Scan this code to view more photos from the trip.



Citizen of *the World*

BY PEGGY COZART

Young Harris College Chair of the Department of Foreign Languages and Associate Professor of Spanish Diana Santiago, Ph.D., is a self-described cosmopolitan world traveler. Her insatiable desire to see the world and experience diverse societies has led her to journey to or live in several countries including Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Germany, Spain, France and Italy.

“Travel and the knowledge of other cultures opens so many immense possibilities,” she said in a lilting Spanish accent that could belie the fact that she was born and raised in the United States.

While growing up in her hometown of San Juan, Puerto Rico, Dr. Santiago experienced an infusion of old world Latin American culture with marked North American influence. Additional cultural exposure came from the international high school she attended with students from around the globe.

Dr. Santiago earned her bachelor’s degree in sociology from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, and was poised for a legal career in San Juan. Then she visited the Peach State for the first time, and all that changed.

“While I was in law school, I came to Georgia to visit a friend and get a summer job,” she recalled. “I liked Athens and the University of Georgia so much that I decided to stay on. That was nearly 25 years ago.”

Dr. Santiago discovered that her calling

was in the humanities, and she decided to pursue a degree focusing on Spanish and Latin American literature from the 19th and 20th centuries. She earned both her M.A. and Ph.D. in romance languages from UGA.

This is actually her second stint at YHC. After teaching at UGA and traveling to France and Spain to conduct research for two scholarly books, she spent three years in Young Harris. While she loved the area, her desire to teach upper-level courses led her to take a position in New Jersey in

2003. When news broke that YHC was transitioning into a four-year institution a few years later, she was eager to return to north Georgia.

In 2009, she signed on to chair the Department of Foreign Languages and set to work building a new program from the ground up, starting with the creation of a dynamic curriculum. Under her leadership, the department’s faculty significantly expanded and Spanish was approved as an academic major in 2012. According to Dr. Santiago, a French minor will soon follow as language offerings at the College continue to expand.

She sees the study of foreign languages as a path to multiple levels of knowledge



Dr. Diana Santiago



"It's my job to encourage them to constantly explore the world. Every single day, they find ways to become excited and thrilled with language and culture."

and uses many tools to achieve her educational goals.

"I am strongly committed to the liberal arts curriculum, which I feel is essential for our students as imaginative, creative and responsible members of our local community and society as a whole," she said.

Dr. Santiago noted that it is popular for YHC students to combine a Spanish minor with a variety of academic majors ranging from education to business and public policy, and she believes students "know the importance of getting prepared for the global world."

In addition to introductory Spanish courses, Dr. Santiago also teaches unique offerings like "Hispanic Short Fiction," "Modern Hispanic Cinema" and "Hispanic Cultural Heritage in the U.S." Between classes, she makes a point to be available to her students.

Shelby Campbell, a senior from Blairsville, enjoys the one-on-one time she experiences in her small Spanish class that encourages intensive study and lively discussion. "I learn best by

talking, with a lot of group interaction," she said. "I get the most out of student-centered classes like the ones Dr. Santiago teaches."

While Spanish is her first language, Dr. Santiago is also fluent in English and Portuguese and speaks French. She has never forgotten how listening to music in English helped her learn the language, and she brings music into the classroom whenever she can.

"As a teacher, it is one of my challenges to be open to a variety of teaching methods in order to hold students' interest and awaken curiosity," she said.

She also makes connections by discussing Spanish films and books with students. "It's my job to encourage them to constantly explore the world. Every single day, they find ways to become excited and thrilled with language and culture," she said. "It is my hope to be the kind of teacher who is, when all is said and done, able to pass on a love of learning that remains with my students

for the rest of their lives."

Dr. Santiago was instrumental in developing a top-notch study abroad program at the College that gives all YHC students the opportunity to spend a summer, semester or year overseas. She is most proud of a direct agreement she brokered with the prestigious Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona, Spain.

Through an affiliation with International Studies Abroad, YHC students can choose from programs in Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East. Many study abroad programs in Georgia and nationwide are also available to YHC students including AsiaLearn, AustraLearn and the American Institute for Foreign Study.

Dr. Santiago doesn't leave her love of intercultural learning behind when the workday ends. While her family has established a home base close to the YHC campus, each member is fluent in at least three languages and shares a thirst for

"When I see a student open up to something outside of their comfort zone, or decide they want to double major or travel, I've done my job as a professor."

studying and traveling to faraway places.

Her Romanian-American husband, Mihai Spariosu, Ph.D., teaches comparative literature as a distinguished research professor at UGA. Her daughter, Ana Maria, and her son, Michael Anthony, are currently studying at the Lycée International Georges Duby in southern France. This fall, Ana Maria will begin pursuing a degree in international studies at Leiden University in the Netherlands.

"My kids grew up here and call it home. My husband says the local area reminds him of his home in Transylvania," Dr. Santiago said. "There is something special about this place that made me come back. The mountains are so welcoming and peaceful; it's so nice and safe and nature-oriented here."

In 2005, she published a Spanish language volume titled *El Costumbrismo En La Prensa Puertorriquena del Siglo XIX* that documents the customs and habits of 19th century Puerto Rico. Her research allowed her to return to San Juan, where she underwent the overwhelming task of pouring through thousands of old newspapers and ancient microfiche files.



Dr. Santiago speaks four languages.

"I thought, 'There is no way I will be able to do this.' But I found the most amazing literature," she recalled. Her second book about the progressive Franco era writer Juan García Hortelano was recently accepted for publication in Madrid, Spain.

Dr. Santiago also works to help students find informal ways to speak Spanish outside of the classroom and engage the campus and local communities in meaningful experiences that foster

awareness and appreciation of diverse cultures.

"I'm committed to developing all kinds of language programs for the future of our students," she said. "When I see a student open up to something outside of their comfort zone, or decide they want to double major or travel, I've done my job as a professor."

Dr. Santiago hopes to establish new events on campus such as a Spanish film festival and musical performances ranging from a Flamenco guitarist to a tango dance troupe. She is also working to form a chapter of the national collegiate Hispanic honor society, Sigma Delta Pi, at YHC.

Her easy and energetic manner exudes a blend of old world meets new, which she incorporates into her life and work.

"Having meaningful cultural experiences makes you a citizen of the world," she said, "and you can make wherever you go your home."

Senior Shelby Campbell, of Blairsville, discussed an upcoming class presentation with Dr. Santiago.



Cultivating a *Global Mindset* for the Modern Business World

BY NATHAN GRAY, P.H.D.

Business and Public Policy Department Chair and Assistant Professor of Business and Public Policy

The financial crisis known as the “Asian Contagion” began when Thai credit markets essentially froze and generated rippling effects throughout the world as the United States stock market dropped more than seven percent in the latter part of 1997. Today, the world again finds itself in a period of economic instability following the subprime mortgage debacle in the U.S. and excessive borrowing in many European countries. As we saw with the Asian Contagion, economic problems do not stay small or localized.

Business decisions are not solely responsible for these economic issues. Many governmental policies contributed to both of these worldwide situations. Indeed, economists and political pundits have spilled gallons of ink attempting to describe the causes of these economic crises. The point? Business and government activities are becoming increasingly more globally interdependent.

One of Young Harris College’s most distinguished alumni, former U.S. Senator and Georgia Governor Zell Miller, ’51, astutely noted the need to be properly informed about both business and public policy. We are proud to claim him as an inspiration for developing an academic major for the future that recognizes the global business and government interconnection.

The business and public policy degree prepares students for an ever-changing and fast-moving economic world through a curriculum that stresses critical thinking, reasoning and strong communication skills. Our goal is to prepare students for modern and future global conditions.

Business and public policy majors seek to answer questions concerning why government does what it does and why businesses and organizations do what they do. Students interested in public administration are challenged to

consider the impact of government decisions on business. Students interested in business are challenged to consider the motivations and concerns of government policymakers.

The final piece of our program takes these elements and globalizes them. Our department recognizes the intertwining of worldwide businesses and governments, and it has implemented courses that stress the globalization of economic affairs.

One of our electives, “International Business and Governmental Policy,” is a fine example of the program’s unique approach to preparing our students. The course covers factors associated with doing business internationally, but it also expands that view to include the role and goals of government policymakers. We hope to enrich the experience with a study abroad component that will allow students to see how companies deal with the special circumstances associated with engaging in international business.

Other courses recognize new and intertwined global realities. Our students

study leadership challenges posed by multinational organizations and discuss how cultural differences can affect marketing decisions of international companies. They analyze governments and cultures of other countries noting why and how the U.S. has different policies.

We also encourage our students to explore the business and government world in foreign countries. Last fall, two seniors spent the semester in Europe. Ian Calhoun, of Young Harris, honed his Spanish skills in Barcelona while realizing the necessity of global business in the future. Josh Gilliland, of Hiawassee, studied at Harlaxton College in Grantham,

England, where I also spent an undergraduate semester several years ago. He explored the English parliamentary system of government while broadening his horizons for a meaningful cultural experience.

Our department is enthusiastic about pioneering this important and essential degree program that prepares students for the present and the future. We will

continue to expand opportunities for students to learn about, recognize and experience the global dimensions of business and government.



Dr. Nathan Gray

Dr. Gray joined the Young Harris College faculty in 2009. His research interests include K-12 education policy and reform, and he has published several articles concerning school finance and school choice policies. He received his B.A. in history from Hanover College in Hanover, Ind., and his M.A. in economics from Indiana University-Indianapolis. He earned his Ph.D. in public policy from the University of Arkansas.

The Compass *Within*

BY ELIZABETH BRADLEY TURNER

“Follow your inner compass!” This ideal is one that was instilled in Young Harris College alumnus Jordan Earl, '94, by his parents throughout his life. If it wasn't blatantly spoken out loud, it was expressed even more strongly by example.

For a man who “long wanted to travel and possibly live and work abroad,” Earl has spent nearly a decade doing just that. His inner compass led him from his hometown of West Palm Beach, Fla., to places often only read about in books

myself cut out for teaching, but he convinced me to try it,” Earl recalled. “I really enjoyed the classroom discussions and reading to prepare for the course. Once being an educator became an option for me, I started to look into ways to teach internationally.”

“As with any good point in life, this phase is a culmination of education and experiences,” Earl mused. “Many things about Morocco stayed in my mind from when I was an intern. The country has amazing geographical diversity, rich history, beautiful architecture, interesting

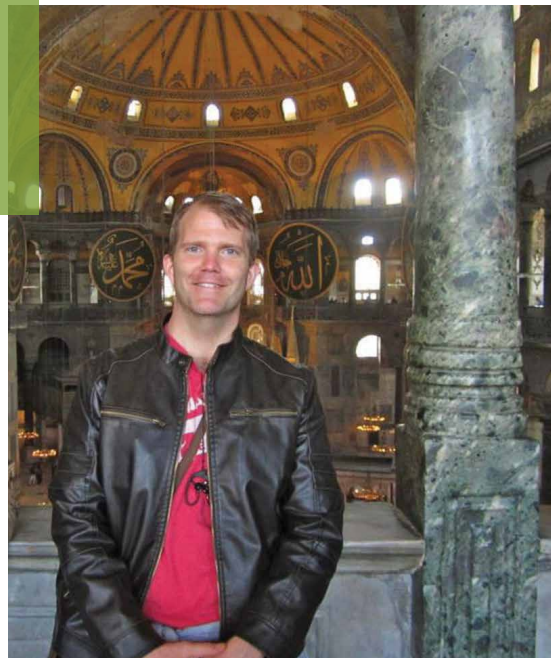
“As with any good point in life, this phase is a culmination of education and experiences.”

or travel magazines—most recently to Morocco, where he serves as the director of the American Language Center (ALC) of Marrakesh.

Linguistics has always been one of Earl's passions. After focusing his studies at YHC on foreign languages, he went on to receive his bachelor's degree in English literature from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, N.C., and his master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vt.

Earl was always intrigued by the idea of working abroad and experiencing new cultures firsthand, and he fittingly found his calling in the field of education during his collegiate studies.

“When I was finishing up my undergraduate degree, one of my professors asked me if I wanted to co-teach a course on 20th century authors with him. I told him I'd never considered



This is inside the famous domed church-turned-mosque-turned-museum Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, Turkey.

He has served in a number of roles all over the globe that have utilized his unique education and training. He enjoys his current role heading up the ALC in Marrakesh—a place that is familiar to him, since he also interned there more than 10 years ago.

people and great food—and the ALC is an excellent community resource.”

Earl directs one of 11 ALCs throughout the Kingdom of Morocco, and his location serves thousands of students of all ages each year. The facility is involved with many community service efforts, including special needs education and scholarship programs.

“What I enjoy most is that, in addition to teaching English, the centers provide activities for the surrounding communities,” he said. “We sponsor concerts and lectures, host exchange students, house libraries and bookstores, and even offer cooking and music classes.”

Prior to taking on his current vocation, Earl served as an English Language Fellow for the U.S. Department of State for several years through a program administered by Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Approximately 150 fellows are sent around the world each year on educational projects such as teacher

During a visit to Giza, Egypt, I spent a late afternoon in front of the Sphinx.



Some of my conference colleagues and I strolled on a Mediterranean beach in Antalya, Turkey.



Peace Corps. He was evacuated from his post in Uzbekistan shortly after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, due to the United States' apparent imminent invasion of Afghanistan.

Because his Peace Corps experience also provided Earl with course credit towards his master's degree, he was anxious to complete his service. "I didn't want to go just anywhere. I really wanted to go back to Central Asia," Earl recalled. "I had never encountered anything like the mix of medieval Islamic culture and decaying Soviet Russian influence I experienced there. Unfortunately, those countries were closed, at least for a while."

The American Red Cross soon contacted Peace Corps evacuees in hopes of reemploying their skills for efforts aimed at helping the families of 9/11

training and resource development.

Earl's various assignments included setting up English training for government workers in the West African nation of Mauritania, leading a language center for faculty at Al-Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt, and helping to expand the English language program at Ankara University located in the capital city of Turkey.

One of Earl's most poignant international experiences occurred when he was volunteering for the United States



This is a great group of English students and teachers at Ankara University in Turkey.

victims. Earl jumped at the opportunity to assist the Red Cross International Services sector with this endeavor.

"We provided the same kind of assistance that the domestic services were providing to U.S. families of victims—but we reached out to family members in 64 other countries," he explained. "It quickly became apparent that the short-term volunteer work was going to continue for much longer, and I stayed with the Red Cross until the Peace Corps reopened their programs nearly a year later."

Through the years, Earl has acquired an extensive list of professional accomplishments and international

I snapped some photos on a clear day overlooking Ankara, Turkey, with an Egyptian teacher colleague.



"I hope to use what I know to help our successful center adapt to new competition and changing trends in education."

"If I could speak to 'the YHC me,' or others like him, I would say: Listen to those older, wiser mentor figures when they offer you advice and counsel, whether it is solicited or not. Respect their experience and appreciate their concern for you. Then, follow your inner compass."



I'm waiting for my grilled fish dinner on the Black Sea.

I visited the mausoleum of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the founder and first President of the Republic of Turkey, with some university students and their teachers.

travel experiences that have instilled important lessons about the world around him. As time passes, he still remembers his alma mater in north Georgia that helped shaped him.

All the way from his current home in Morocco, Earl described YHC as a place that creates a special and meaningful experience for all those who attend. He warmly recalled open mic nights in the student center, silly pranks with friends and the splendor of YHC's mountain-framed campus in autumn.

"One of the most striking things about YHC is how much it stands out in the memories of former students. Is it the beautiful location? The access to caring and professional educators?" Earl pondered. "It was still a tiny two-year school when I was there, and that was only one stop in a series of transformations throughout its history. Yet YHC clearly makes an impact and endures as a strong, fondly recalled milestone for many alumni."

In addition to treasured memories,



This photo was taken the morning after hopping an overnight coal train in Mauritania through the Sahara. I had never seen so many stars. Upon arrival, I was tired, filthy and happy.

YHC also provided Earl with foundational experiences that continue to inform his current career. For instance, a trip to Paris, France, with his French class led by YHC Professor Emeritus of Foreign Language Meg Gring Whitley, Ph.D., was the first of many trips abroad.

Earl has blazed a trail through life that took him from the Enchanted Valley on an incredible journey to far-off places filled

with both exquisite beauty and extreme hardships. Along the way, he has acquired keepsakes in the form of valuable lessons that are relevant for YHC students who are still determining where their path in life will lead.

"If I could speak to 'the YHC me,' or others like him, I would say: Listen to those older, wiser mentor figures when they offer you advice and counsel,

whether it is solicited or not. Respect their experience and appreciate their concern for you. Then, follow your inner compass."

For now, until he is led elsewhere by his compass within, Earl plans to continue applying his immense talents in leading the ALC in Morocco to new heights.

"I hope to use what I know to help our successful center adapt to new competition and changing trends in education," he said. "I believe this will happen with increased empowerment of staff and teachers, strong financial management, a clear and common vision, a commitment to service, and the fostering of cycles of learning and reflection."

Half a world away from where Earl's journey commenced, the faculty and students who serve and are served by his center will surely be inspired through his leadership to apply the ideals Earl has carried with him across the globe. Perhaps they will even be motivated to make an indelible mark by following their own inner compasses throughout the world.

EMILY CLIFTON, '05

A World Without Borders

BY PEGGY COZART

As a coordinator of finance and human resources for the international medical humanitarian organization Doctors Without Borders (DWB), Young Harris College alumna Emily Clifton, '05, has a talent for handling the intricate details that get things done.

She also seems to have a gift for knowing where she should be. Clifton grew up in Fayetteville, where her family ties go back several generations. She attended the same high school as her father, who currently serves as mayor of the city.

While she initially planned to attend a large public university, she had a change of heart when YHC landed on her radar.

"I had been accepted to Georgia Tech, but then I decided that I wanted the smaller, more intimate liberal arts experience a bigger school could never provide," she said. "I just knew that Young Harris was where I should be."

Clifton's experience at YHC taught her that she "can accomplish anything I set my mind to if I ask for help and work hard enough." The first challenge she encountered when making the transition to college life came in an unexpected but fitting form—the mathematical study of change known as calculus.

While her AP high school credits qualified her to opt out of introductory calculus, she decided to audit the class anyway as a refresher for future math courses. She promptly scored a 57 on the notoriously "unpassable" math basics test given by Professor Emeritus of Mathematics Bob Nichols, Ed.D. "Then second semester rolled around, and things *really* started to get complicated," she said.

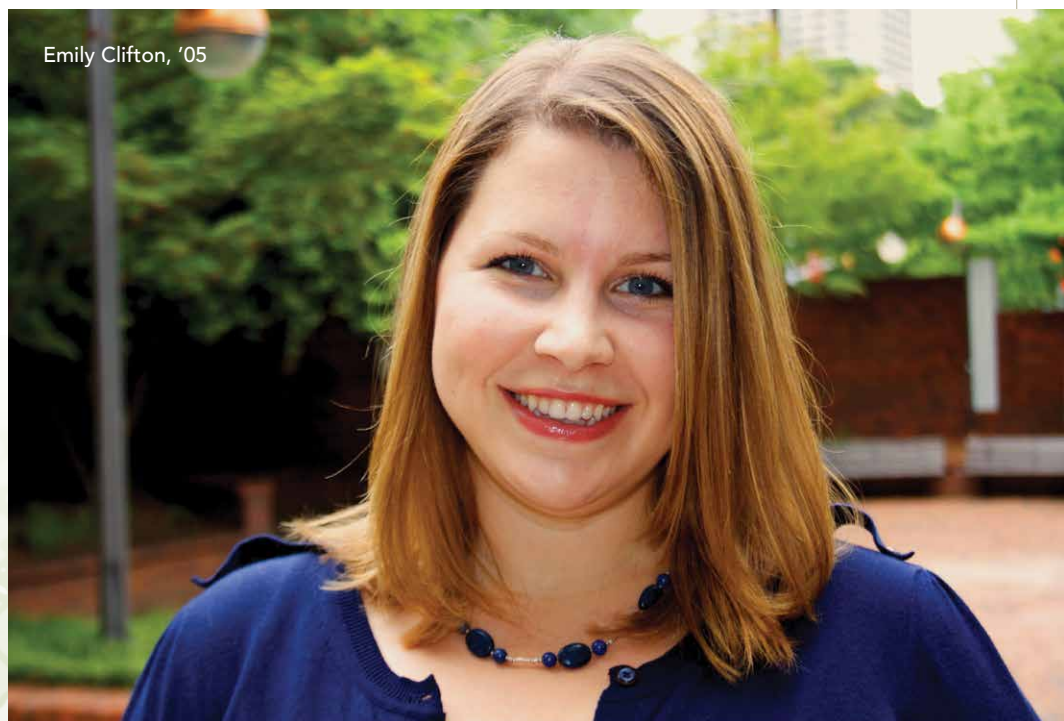
Tough grading aside, Clifton praised her former professor as a mentor and role model who motivated her to succeed. She

enrolled in Calculus II with Dr. Nichols that spring, bound and determined to make it to his famous "Survivors Dinner."

"Even though it meant skipping some sunny afternoons with my best friends on the lawn, I went to his office nearly every week," she recalled. "Those visits

inspiring professor handsomely for the life lessons she had received.

"Dr. Nichols always said that with the excellent foundation in math he had given us, he fully expected us all to become millionaires in our lifetime," she said with a smile. "All he asked in return was that



Emily Clifton, '05

eventually evolved from math review to philosophical life discussions in which he challenged my then-naïve worldview and made me think critically."

She earned her coveted invitation to the dinner, and victory never tasted so sweet. Soon, Clifton was able to reward the

we send him \$10,000 of our first million."

While on a study abroad excursion to Vietnam during her sophomore year, Clifton found that she had achieved "millionaire" status—thanks to a generous exchange rate of around 16,000 Vietnamese dong to one U.S. dollar.

"I have gotten to see some of the most beautiful scenery in the world, as well as witness some of the most destitute poverty and heart-wrenching situations."

"I saved one of the 10,000 dong bills and sent it to Dr. Nichols with a note explaining my recent success," she said. "He got such a kick out of the letter that he framed it with the money and displayed it in his office."

That pivotal trip to Vietnam, organized by YHC Dean of the Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences and Professor of Political Science Lee March, Ph.D., marked Clifton's first time traveling "off the beaten path" and opened her eyes to the possibility of living and working abroad.

She continued her education at Georgia Tech, double majoring in international affairs and modern languages with a minor in finance. She then signed on as an analyst at a telecom expense management firm in metro Atlanta.

"After a couple of years I started to feel that my career didn't speak to who I really was, and I didn't feel like I was giving back to the world in the way I had envisioned for myself," she said, noting that her passions have always included community service, travel and language.

She never imagined that her background in international affairs and finance could lead to a position with DWB, especially considering her lack of medical training. A conversation with a friend prodded her to research the requirements for working with the organization.

Clifton learned that DWB provides independent and impartial assistance to populations affected by armed conflict, natural and man-made disasters, epidemics, malnutrition and lack of access to proper health care.



While working with DWB in a cholera treatment center, I visited a school in Bauchi in northern Nigeria.

She also realized that the organization needed employees with her skills to help support missions and projects around the world. "I could hear the mental checklist of my passions tallying in my head, 'Check, check and check!' Even more serendipitous, I met all of the requirements to apply," she recalled.

After a yearlong interviewing and training process, Clifton moved to Malawi, one of the world's least-developed countries located in southeast Africa, to work as a field administrator. She hit the ground running, working on a measles vaccination campaign in the middle of

I helped prepare vaccines in Malawi during a measles vaccination.

one of the worst epidemics in a decade.

While the organization is called Doctors Without Borders by the English-speaking world, the group was founded in France and is known as Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) internationally. Clifton is now fluent in French, the language she exclusively communicates in while on the job.

Through the years, she has worked in Nigeria for three separate assignments and in Haiti during a cholera emergency response. She also had a brief assignment at MSF headquarters in Paris, France.

Clifton currently lives in Antananarivo, the hilly capital city of Madagascar, and collaborates with other coordinators to oversee programs throughout the island country. She is responsible for planning budgets, ensuring that national labor laws are followed and implementing human resources policies, among numerous other responsibilities.

"We work long hours, sometimes seven days a week," she explained. "We work in

contexts where almost everything seems to be broken—the school system, the health care system, the infrastructure—so we have to find creative ways to solve problems we never imagined encountering because they just don't exist back home.”

In addition to working with DWB, Clifton also sits on the board of the Sponsorship of Orphans in Uganda Project,

which equips more than 300 orphans in the village of Isiti, Uganda, with food, education and medical care.

When asked what role she sees for herself in the next decade, Clifton quickly responded, “Dog owner!” While mostly kidding, she said that, aside from being so far away from family and friends, not being able to have a canine companion is what she misses most in her life of constant travel and transition.

“I still see myself working in the humanitarian world, perhaps more in development than in emergency response. I believe education is one of the most important gifts we can give to a person, and I am passionate about providing more opportunities for women and girls,” she said.

Clifton would love to work for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, a grant-making charitable foundation that addresses extreme poverty

and poor health in developing countries. She also hopes to eventually have her own consulting firm to help improve the inefficiencies she has witnessed in non-governmental organizations.

While living outside of the country limits her opportunities to stay involved with YHC, Clifton still attends Alumni Weekend and alumni connections in the Atlanta area whenever she's stateside.

“I love reconnecting with my fellow alumni—sharing stories and finding the commonalities between us, no matter our graduation year,” she said.

Clifton described the three years she has worked with DWB as “an incredible experience” that has allowed her to make lifelong friends from across the globe while constantly learning about herself and exponentially expanding her worldview.

“I have gotten to see some of the most beautiful scenery in the world, as well as witness some of the most destitute poverty and heart-wrenching situations,” she said. “I truly wish that everyone could travel to a developing country in his or her lifetime—it really changes a person.”



In southern Nigeria, I visited our orthopedic and trauma surgery project and got to see my first surgery.

I love this photo that was taken in northern Nigeria during a parade to celebrate the prophet Muhammad's birth.



YHC CHAMBER CHOIR

Makes European Debut

In December 2012, the 23-member Young Harris College Chamber Choir, led by Professor of Music, Director of Choral and Vocal Activities, and Musical Theatre Program Co-Coordinator Jeff Bauman, traveled to Europe for a one-of-a-kind study abroad experience.

Students spent a week at the world-famous Hochschule für Musik und Theater München, one of Europe's most prestigious music conservatories. The group rehearsed with other music students, attended choral workshops and observed lessons.

"Opportunities like this one are rare for any program at any college on any level," Bauman said. "Our students traveled to Munich at no additional cost to them because of a grant from the German government coupled with the



The Chamber Choir braved the cold in front of the Hochschule für Musik und Theater München.

generous support of our Friends of the Arts donors, which highlights YHC's commitment to its students and to their educational experience."

In between rehearsals, observations and lessons, the students attended musical performances nearly every evening and furthered their musical education in unique ways off campus.

"I traveled an hour outside of Munich one morning to visit a well-known tuba and low brass factory. They let me test all of their horns and lent me a remarkable tuba for the trip," said Patrick Young, a

sophomore music education major from Dawsonville. "I got to take private lessons with a tuba instructor from the Hochschule, and came away with a new approach and way of thinking about music."

Students visited sites of historical and cultural significance in Bavaria and experienced the region's wintry weather firsthand. They explored some of the country's world-renowned Christmas markets and

marveled at nearly three feet of snow during a day trip to the famous Neuschwanstein Castle.

During walking tours of Munich, the group explored the Frauenkirche, the largest Gothic assembly building in southern Germany and the seat of the Archbishop of Munich, the Neues Rathaus ("New Town Hall") with its famous glockenspiel and the impressive Sendlinger Tor city gate. They also took a day trip to the Dachau concentration camp and toured parts of the Hochschule that were used as headquarters for the Nazi party leading up to World War II.



Neuschwanstein Castle resembled a winter wonderland during the group's visit.



Jeff Bauman presented a choral workshop for the Hochschule Madrigal Choir regarding contemporary choral music from the United States.



The YHC Chamber Choir and the Hochschule Madrigal Choir rehearsed together.

"We went on a memorable walk through the city one night with some of the German students, singing and harmonizing whatever song we could think of," recalled senior theatre major Emily Espy of Cumming. "Getting to be part of the incredible music program at the Hochschule allowed me to explore music on an international scale and opened my eyes to new opportunities in music."

The trip culminated with the Chamber Choir's European debut at the university. The momentous concert was presented in conjunction with the Hochschule Madrigal Choir.

"The students at the Hochschule displayed a high level of musicianship, and the fact that our ensemble was able to share the stage with those musicians and compare favorably with their group in a live performance speaks volumes for the music program at YHC," said Bauman.

Many students cited getting to know the Madrigal Choir members as the best part of the experience. The Chamber Choir hopes to see their new friends again when the German ensemble visits the United States in 2014.

"I loved getting to know the students from Germany," said sophomore music major Judith Lyle from Clarkesville. "Singing 'Silent Night' with them at the end of our concert was incredible. It's amazing to think about how music brought us all together."

"I have been lucky enough to have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity happen twice as a YHC student—the European concert choir tour in 2011 and now this," added Bekah Medford, a senior musical theatre major from Powder Springs. "It was exciting to share my passion for music with my fellow YHC students and the students from Germany. We come from different cultures, but our love for music connects us all."



The Feldherrnhalle in Munich



Students enjoyed the festive atmosphere in the town square located next to the Musik Hochschule.

STUDENT MUSICIANS RECEIVE Statewide Recognition

Sixteen Young Harris College students were selected to perform in the Georgia All College Band and Georgia All College Chorus, comprised of student musicians representing colleges and universities throughout the state. The students performed during the Georgia Music Educators Association's Annual In Service Conference held in Savannah in January.

All College Band students were selected based on a recorded audition piece ranked by instrument-specific professors from Georgia colleges and universities. Students were selected to participate in the All College Chorus through director recommendation based on vocal ability, musical experience and intended field of study.

"It is amazing that 16 of our students earned the opportunity to perform in these elite ensembles," Assistant Professor of Music and Music Education Coordinator John Wayman, Ph.D., said. "Our students are among the best, and they truly demonstrated their talents as they performed with other top students from higher education institutions across the state."



Students selected to perform include (front row, L-R) Sally Petty, horn, of Cumming, Adham Hamilton, bassoon, of Powder Springs, Lindsey Yearwood, clarinet, of Douglasville, Sarah Stogsdill of Shalimar, Fla., Codi Wayand, of New Port Richey, Fla., Allison Arnold, flute, of Young Harris, (back row, L-R) Zach Waters, of Calhoun, LaDareon Copeland, of Centerville, Andrew Smith, of Blairsville, Carrie Moll, of Suwanee, Rachel Bettis, flute, of Dawsonville, John-Michael Thomas, of Clarksville, (not pictured) Joanna Burrell, clarinet, of Dawsonville, Patrick Young, tuba, of Dawsonville, Rolando Fernandez, trumpet, of Canton, and Courtney Farmer, of Hiawassee.

Combining CULTURES

YHC SERVES AMISH AND APPALACHIAN COMMUNITIES DURING ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK TRIPS

This March, Young Harris College students, faculty and staff members traveled north to take part in an Amish immersion ministry experience in Lancaster, Penn., and complete service projects with Interfaith Appalachia in Harlan County, Ky. The two alternative spring break trips were facilitated by YHC's S.E.R.V.E. (Service, Education, Responsibility, Voice and Engagement) initiative.

Eight students spent a week in America's oldest Amish settlement, where horse and buggy remains the primary form of transportation and windmills dot the landscape, to learn about the life and ministry of the local community. The group participated in service projects, engaged in cultural experiences and participated in faith-based discussions facilitated by the Center for Leadership Development at Lancaster Theological Seminary.

"I learned more about the Amish in a week than I had previously accumulated in a lifetime, which shows the invaluable importance of direct cultural engagement and travel that is vital to an educated life of



Eight students and Rev. Dr. Tim Moore stayed at the Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, Penn.

discipleship and faith," said Dean of the Chapel, Campus Minister and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies Rev. Dr. Tim Moore, who led the trip. "I hope students learned to break down preconceptions and realized that doing so is essential for a faithful life in a complex, evolving world."

The students attended worship services, toured the seminary and spent quality time with members of the community in an effort to discover how

Amish perspectives on faith influence their expression and ministry. As part of the interactive program, students engaged in cross-cultural conversations regarding the Amish way of life as well as relationships between different faith communities.

One evening, the group gathered in an Amish family's generations-old farmhouse to enjoy a special dinner under the soft hum of propane lamplight. The students sampled several homemade courses, including barbecue meatloaf, chicken potpies and banana pudding, before listening to traditional hymns performed by the family in three-part harmony.

"I will always remember playing one of their popular card games called Dutch Blitz and singing everywhere we went with the wonderful people we met," said sophomore Kristen Dippold, of Thebes, Ill. "I learned so much about the Amish throughout the week. I was able to look past stereotypes and realize they are just regular people who have chosen to live a different lifestyle."



Students learned the popular Amish card game Dutch Blitz.

Kristen Dippold, of Thebes, Ill., visited a historic Amish farm maintained as a living museum.

The group volunteered at the Mennonite Central Committee, a relief, service and peace agency.



A small group from YHC traveled to snowy Kentucky to work with Interfaith Appalachia, an organization that offers lively service learning programs for college students that focus on communities in the Appalachian region. The group repaired homes, prepared meals for local families and took part in interfaith activities organized by Heritage Ministries.

"We attended local church services, learned about the area and its people, and really immersed ourselves in their environment," said Interim Director of Campus Activities Brittany Hopson. "Both the Harlan County community and our group were open to each other, which made the experience impactful, educational and fun."

The group also explored the surrounding area and interacted with locals during visits to the Kentucky Coal Mining Museum and Black Mountain, the highest natural point in Kentucky.

"My favorite part of the week was making and delivering food with a retired couple who decided to use their free time to start a food pantry. I got to spend a day with this inspirational couple hearing about the county and meeting people from the area," said junior Laura Grace Tarpley, of Little Rock, Ark. "I found that I could learn a lot from the people I met. It was definitely a humbling experience and a reminder to focus on my commonalities with others."

Nathan Hughes, of Young Harris, and Alec Housholder, of Athens, Ga., installed drywall at a home in Hiram, Ky.



The group spent the week in coal country while working with Interfaith Appalachia.



BONNER LEADERS PROGRAM RECOGNIZED FOR CONSERVATION EFFORTS

The Holman Water Quality Stewardship Award was recently presented to Young Harris College student Nathan Hughes, a senior business and public policy major from Young Harris, and the YHC Bonner Leaders Program by the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition (HRWC).

The Bonner Leaders Program is the first group to receive the award, which is presented annually by the HRWC to a person or group who has done the most to sustain good water quality in rivers, lakes and streams in the upper Hiwassee River watershed.

"Nathan and the other Bonner Leaders who have worked with the Coalition's restoration program have been extremely dedicated to protecting and improving water quality in our area," said Callie Moore, executive director of the HRWC. "I am delighted that the board chose to recognize the program and the students."

The award is named for Bill Holman, who serves as director of state policy at the Nicholas Institute for Environmental Policy Solutions at Duke University.

"Receiving this award was such an honor and a blessing. Oftentimes in today's society, it is assumed that the college experience is solely about obtaining a degree and finding a job," said Hughes. "I feel like receiving this award proves that my generation is ready to positively impact the community now, and that age is not a qualification for making a difference in the world around you."

Bonner Leaders represent the College through outreach work, relationship building, and shared experiences in learning and leadership at non-profit agencies throughout the local community. They typically serve more than 300 hours each year at YHC, addressing a variety of needs through direct and meaningful service at community partner sites like the HRWC.

"We are very excited and honored to be the first group to receive this award, and that Nathan's efforts in particular are being recognized," Bonner Leaders Program Director and Director of Academic Service Learning Joseph Pate, Ph.D., said. "HRWC is one of our strongest community partners, and this award recognizes the collective work the Bonners have contributed towards addressing issues of water quality, conservation and stewardship in our community."



Dr. Joseph Pate and Nathan Hughes



YHC *in* NYC

STUDENTS STUDY ART IN THE BIG APPLE

BY KRYSTIN DEAN AND ALI
NEESE HATLEY, '12

From spectacular soaring skyscrapers to gritty street graffiti, art is everywhere in the city that never sleeps. This spring, 10 Young Harris College students bundled up against the cold and braced themselves for a whirlwind weeklong tour of one of the globe's most thriving cultural meccas.



The group admired the Guggenheim Museum's famed architecture designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

YHC students discussed artwork by American artist Robert Rauschenberg at the Museum of Modern Art.



Led by Associate Professor of Art Dawn Dickens and Adjunct Instructor of Art and Director of the Campus Gate Art Gallery Scott Dean, the group absorbed various aspects of the visual and performing arts each day while also visiting some of the city's most celebrated sights.

"Any journey a young person encounters outside of their familiar routine helps them gain life experience that they can utilize in their careers and relationships outside of the College," said Dean. "This trip opened students' eyes to art, theatre and culture, while also allowing them to see and experience one of the most influential cities in the world."

Just minutes after touching down, the group headed to one of the most highly trafficked areas of Manhattan, Times Square, where they soaked in the dizzying lights and sounds before hopping on the subway to marvel at the century-old Grand Central Station.

The sightseeing continued the next day, as students headed out at sunrise to watch Chinatown and Little Italy come to life. They sampled Asian cuisine and stocked up on homemade pasta to take home as souvenirs before heading to Pier 83 to embark on a Circle Line Sightseeing Cruise around the southern half of the island.

The ship coasted under the Brooklyn Bridge and passed many popular city sights including the USS Intrepid aircraft carrier, Battery Park and the Statue of Liberty, which was undergoing repairs due to damage from Hurricane Sandy.

The group then visited the National September 11 Memorial, gazing in silence at the two reflective pools that sit within the footprints where the Twin Towers once stood, before ending the day on a high note with an outing to the Great White Way for a showing of Broadway's fifth-longest running production, the Tony Award-winning musical *The Lion King*.

"I was completely taken aback by all the diversity in New York City. Seeing Chinatown come to life was one of my favorite moments. There was a ton of really good graffiti there, which is always interesting and exciting to find and look at," said sophomore Jerilyn Oquendo of Plant City, Fla. "It was inspiring to see how artists interpret different issues in today's society. It gave me ideas on how to present my artwork in ways that help get the concept across to the viewer."

The group spent most of the trip exploring major works of art from the past 5,000 years at some of the city's most celebrated museums while also sampling smaller galleries featuring cutting-edge work of contemporary artists.

The art majors admired the architectural structure of the Guggenheim Museum where they explored modern and classic works by the likes of Picasso and Kandinsky before heading across the street to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the nation's largest art museum with a permanent collection featuring more than two million works.

"My time in New York City opened my eyes to a variety of cultures all in one place and allowed me to see a part of the world that's very different from anything I've ever experienced before," said senior Jordan Wilkes, of Cleveland, Ga. "I really enjoyed visiting all of the museums. Seeing some of the most famous works of art in the world in person is an experience I will always remember."

Across town at the Museum of Modern Art, students studied works by renowned artists like Warhol and Van Gogh while also becoming acquainted with less familiar forms of visual expression including illustrated books, architecture and design, and film and video.

One of the group's favorite stops was The American Museum of Natural History, where students had the opportunity to wander through exhibitions and scientific



The group visited New York City during Grand Central Station's 100th anniversary celebration.

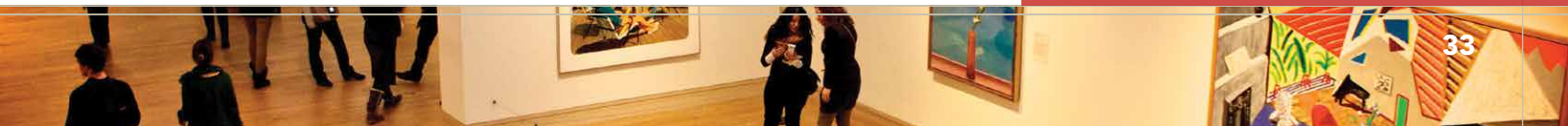
collections that serve as a field guide to the planet and present a panorama of the world's cultures.

"The memories that resonate the most are not just of towering buildings, sprawling museums or even the spectacular works of art that surrounded me," recalled senior Jacob Rhodes of Blue Ridge. "Instead, the moments I shared with my friends on the streets or on the subway are what I will always remember. I really value the time we got to share in the big city."

The metropolis transformed into a winter wonderland at the end of the week, and students took advantage of the weather by walking through Central Park to spots like Poet's Walk, Bethesda Fountain and Belvedere Castle that were blanketed in crisp white snow. The journey ended with a trip to the top of the Empire State Building, where the group enjoyed a clear view of the iconic New York skyline.

"As an artist, you never stop looking to be inspired, challenged and amazed—and New York City never ceases to do all of these things," said Dickens. "Seeing artwork projected in a dark classroom is helpful, but to see it in person is life changing. I loved getting to be there when that happened for these wonderful students. It was a beautiful thing to experience and witness."

» Scan the code to watch highlights from the trip.



Exploring The Emerald Isle

BY ALI NEESE HATLEY, '12

Young Harris College senior English major Emily Hornsby, of Nashville, Tenn., used to be the kind of person who relished having a reassuring sense of routine in her life. Stepping outside her comfort zone and exploring the road less taken was never something she aspired to do. All that changed when she transferred to YHC for her sophomore year.

"My routine was snatched away and replaced by a completely new environment. It was terrifying but ultimately rewarding and freeing in ways I never could have imagined," Hornsby recalled. "Once I came to YHC, I knew I would regret not taking advantage of the opportunity to study abroad. The aspects that made me nervous were completely eclipsed by the idea of living, learning, growing and exploring in a different country."

This beautiful castle is located in the Burren region, which I explored on a day trip to the Cliffs of Moher and Aillwee Cave.



Hornsby set her sights on the Emerald Isle, drawn there by the desire to study in an English-speaking country with a rich literary history. She touched down in January ready to explore the spectacular coastline and endless expanses of bright green hills dotted with ancient ruins.

She settled in at the National University of Ireland (NUI), Galway, located in a popular seaside city with labyrinthine cobble-stoned streets and colorful shop facades. The Quadrangle on campus, known as the "Quad," is built in local limestone in a Tudor Gothic architectural style and stands proudly at the heart of the university as a testament to its past.

The Irish language has a unique position at NUI Galway, mainly due to its proximity to the Connemara Gaeltacht, one of several Irish-speaking regions in Ireland. Hornsby immersed herself in the language and literature of her temporary home by taking courses such as "Modern Irish Literature" and "Irish Literature in English Before 1900."

"Studying literature through an Irish lens was fascinating. It helped

I often ran along this road located in the countryside on the outskirts of Galway.



During my trip to London, I made sure to stop by Abbey Road Studios.

me learn about Irish culture in a way I never expected," Hornsby said. "I also gained a new appreciation for history. In Galway, the original old stone of the medieval city is seamlessly integrated with the newer buildings. It made me realize just how young America really is and how much there is to be learned from older civilizations."

With an enrollment exceeding 17,000 students, NUI Galway is a far cry from the small liberal arts college in Georgia that Hornsby had grown accustomed to. However, the differences between the two campuses gave her a new appreciation for the close-knit environment at YHC, as well as the chance to get a taste for a large university atmosphere.

"More than anything, I really gained a new sense of my own place in the world. There is such a big difference between hearing about a different country and actually experiencing it," she said. "Being in a country that has its own identity completely separate from America is wonderful and eye-opening and humbling all at the same time. It



We enjoyed a rare sunny day on the cliffs near the Dun Aengus ruins on Inis Mor, the largest of the Aran Islands.

made me feel small in the best way possible.”

According to Hornsby, some of her best days in Ireland were spent simply wandering around Galway and gaining an appreciation for the lively music, friendly locals and striking medieval architecture that add to the city's charm. That being said, the coastal locale did have one drawback.

“I told myself over and over again that it would be a rainy city, but nothing could have prepared me for the reality,” Hornsby said. “It rained or hailed every day, and getting a glimpse of the sun was a rare and special treat. Many of my most memorable experiences involve walking the 15 minutes from my apartment to class in any combination of rain, ice and gale force winds.”

She made a point to explore the nearby County Clare, visiting the world-famous Cliffs of Moher and the Burren, a vast limestone plateau shaped by glaciers. While Hornsby vividly recollected spending the day drenched and cold, she was also quick to note that it was “one of the best days I spent in Ireland.”

She enjoyed weekend excursions to Cork, Kilkenny, Connemara and the Aran Islands. She also traveled outside the country with fellow students

to London, England, and took a backpacking trip through France, Italy, Switzerland and Spain—a country she was particularly eager to visit, as her mother had studied abroad there.



I stood on top of Blarney Castle with Annie McEivie, a fellow American student in my program.

“One of the best things about studying in Ireland was being in such close proximity to other countries and cultures,” Hornsby noted. “Compared to the U.S., it is ridiculously easy to

travel and explore places that have vastly different cultures even though they are geographically close.”

Hornsby returned stateside in April, replacing visions of the emerald hills of Ireland with the mountains of north Georgia that initially drew her to campus. During the last few years, she has become a vibrant member of the YHC community, serving as treasurer of the Inter-Religious Council and vice president of Roots & Shoots, a global environmental and humanitarian youth program of the Jane Goodall Institute.

“What I like most about YHC are the people I get to spend every single day with, including my friends and professors,” she said. “When all is said and done, they will have left the greatest impact on my heart and mind.”

Hornsby will soon graduate from YHC, and she plans to translate the global awareness she gained during her collegiate studies into her future endeavors.

“I am hugely passionate about the planet and about people, especially those who find themselves marginalized,” she said. “If I can devote my time and energy to projects that incorporate both of these passions, I will be happy.”

YOUNG HARRIS COLLEGE STUDENTS TO “Find Roots” in Ireland

This May, 22 Young Harris College students will set out on an immersive tour of the Emerald Isle as part of “Study Abroad in Ireland: Finding Our Roots,” an interdisciplinary program featuring innovative courses that build bridges across cultures and disciplines and provide an introduction to the rich texture of the country and its literature.

The tour will begin in Dublin, where the group will view the famous Book of Kells at Trinity College, visit the Dublin Writers Museum, tour St. Patrick's Cathedral and attend a play at the Abbey Theatre. The group will then travel north to Sligo, where students will visit Markree Castle, tour the Carrowkeel Tombs, and enjoy dinner with author and playwright Brian Leyden.

“Students will gain the joy that comes from marrying an intellectual grasp of Irish literature and history to lived experience,” said Dean of the Division of Humanities and Professor of English Ruth Looper, Ph.D. “I still hear from alumni who participated in the College's previous Ireland study abroad programs, and they all say it was the highlight of their YHC experience because the history and literature came alive for them in the company of good friends.”



Anatomy of a Leader

BY KRYSTIN DEAN

Some students graduate high school with the sole mission of leaving their hometown to start a new life. Others—like Ashley Cross—realize that a thrilling new journey awaits them right in their own backyard.

Her path took an unexpected turn in 2012 when her sister made the difficult decision to transfer to pursue her passion for microbiology. Cross found herself living apart from her twin for the first time—a transition made easier by the deep-rooted relationships she had already forged on campus.

“Everyone here truly cares about you, and they all contribute to the Young Harris spirit,” she said. “Only at YHC would you be on a first-name basis with faculty you’ve never even had a class with, and have staff who interact with every single student but still take the time to learn your name. I know the reason I’m succeeding here is because of their unconditional encouragement.”

Cross has relished the opportunity to conduct research side by side with her professors. As a member of YHC’s Honors Program, she has taken intensive courses and completed independent research.

As part of an astacology class, Cross worked with three students and Assistant Professor of Biology Johnathan Davis, Ph.D., to analyze the habitats of two species of crayfish that inhabit Corn Creek on campus in an effort to identify areas in need of conservation or restoration. Their findings were presented at the 2013 Annual Meeting of the Georgia Academy of Science in March.

She got a jumpstart on her required senior capstone project this spring by studying bacteria that compose dental



plaque, exploring potential ways to prevent their growth. When some experiments didn’t yield the expected results, Cross counted on faculty mentors to keep her motivated.

“Being a biology major has taught me so much about science, but it has also taught me life lessons,” she said. “I know every single faculty member in the department, and I know I can rely on them for help whenever I need it—whether it’s just a quick question about a project or something bigger like advice about graduate school.”

Cross sates her love for science by serving as a laboratory assistant, biology tutor and co-founder of the College’s Chemistry Club.

An inquisitive mind combined with

The junior biology major grew up on “the other side of the mountain” in Murphy, N.C., with her twin sister and best friend, Karissa, ’12. From a young age, their grandparents instilled in them the importance of following their dreams. “I would not be where I am today if it wasn’t for their constant love, guidance and support,” said Cross.

She often looked forward to visiting the Young Harris College campus as a child on school trips to the O. Wayne Rollins Planetarium in Maxwell Center. Little did she know then how much time she would spend in that building years later.

“I had no idea how much the College was going to influence my life. As I got older, I took note of all of the exciting advancements YHC was making—becoming a four-year institution, the new buildings and so on,” she recalled. “I went to a small high school, so what ultimately drew me here was the friendliness and closeness of everyone I met. That’s still what I love the most.”

Cross realized she had a knack for the sciences while taking AP courses in high school. She found the field fascinating, which bolstered her decision to pursue a biology degree. “The program was still fairly new when I finalized my enrollment, and I’ve been along for the journey ever since,” she said.

a servant's heart have led her to select many other significant leadership positions both on and off campus.

She was a delegate for the 2012 National Conference on Ethics in America in West Point, N.Y., and sits on YHC's Honor Council and Student Conduct Council. Cross was also a small-group leader for YHC's annual Spiritual Life Retreat and attended Coming Together 6, an interfaith student leadership conference held in Chicago this year.

Her penchant for helping others is the most prevalent in the three roles she values most at YHC—Student Government Association (SGA) president, resident assistant (RA) and START Orientation co-director.

"It is an indescribable feeling to know that people come to you when they need help with something," she said. "As president of SGA, I have really gotten a feel for the workings of the College, and I enjoy being a liaison between the students and administration."

Cross still vividly recollects meeting her classmates at START during what she called "one of the most exciting weekends ever," and she enjoys reliving the experience with incoming students each summer.

"You get to help shape their view of the College, and they look to you for advice. As an RA, I get to know most of the students even better, and they still come to me when they need support," said Cross. "One of the biggest compliments I've ever received was when a freshman said they wanted to be like me. I told them it just takes a lot of time commitment and dedication."

After living on campus nearly year-round throughout her college career, the familiar mountains of southern Appalachia now signify home on many levels as Cross has become inextricably woven into the fabric of the YHC family she treasures.

True to form, the intrepid scholar is challenging herself yet again by taking on a new adventure—leaving the country for the first time to study abroad. This May, Cross will head to Harlaxton College in Grantham, England, as YHC's Woodward Scholar.

"I can count on one hand how many times I've been outside of the tri-state area, so I thought applying for this scholarship would allow me to experience something completely new," she explained. "I cannot even begin to describe how excited I am about this amazing opportunity."

When she returns stateside, Cross will again travel into new territory—the life of a college senior. She is already gearing up to apply for graduate school and plans to pursue a degree in molecular biology or microbiology—"anything that deals with cells and the small things."

Cross looks forward to spending one more year surrounded by the "YHC spirit" that she said is difficult to explain but easy to feel.

"I believe it comes from the closeness of the College and the amazing friends that become your family," she said. "The faculty and staff help add to this spirit and really make YHC a unique place to be. I have made such amazing friends that I know will be there for me now and forever."



"Being a biology major has taught me so much about science, but it has also taught me life lessons. I know every single faculty member in the department, and I know I can rely on them for help whenever I need it."

NEW STAGING FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

BY JUDY LUNSFORD

Young Harris College trustee Richard McGinnis loves music. Whether it is the melody of notes from musical instruments or the entwining of words with music in song, music always lifts his spirits.

"On a bad day, music and voice can alter my mood to the better in minutes," Richard explained. "If I am not in a good mood, my wife, Shirley, will put on some of my favorite music and I am better."

Richard's affection for music developed during his early childhood. "My mother and father were quite musical. Mother played piano by ear and sang duets with my father," he explained. "Music and the arts have, are and will always be a big part of my genetic makeup. My musical ability, however, is limited to playing the radio."

Last year, Richard and Shirley expressed their enthusiasm for the fine arts with a \$4 million gift to Young Harris College. The funds will serve as seed money for the development and design of a new performing arts center.

"YHC has always been big on the arts, especially for such a small school," said Richard. "Now that more than 1,000 students attend the College, and all areas of the arts are moving up, YHC is fast becoming the place to be."

Richard and Shirley envision the performing arts center being much more than a concert hall for entertaining performances. "We picture it being a teaching center with recital rooms, practice halls and study venues," described Richard. "Of course, a state-of-the-art stage and sound system will enhance theatrical and dramatic events as well as musical offerings."

Richard also noted that the new center will provide hands-on learning experiences for YHC students that will prove invaluable as they seek out

professional opportunities.

"Beyond those developing their performance skills, the students learning the technology of sound, lighting and special effects of staging could be recruited by performance venues across the nation upon graduation," he said.



Shirley and Richard McGinnis

The generous gift to the College for a performing arts center wasn't the first from the couple. The McGinnises have enhanced campus programming and student experiences for more than a decade by supporting Young Harris in many ways, including contributing to athletics and the Young Harris Annual Fund.

In 2002, the pair provided funds for a new sound system for Glenn Auditorium in the Clegg Fine Arts Building on campus. Through the College's Friends of the Arts program, they supported the YHC Concert Choir's European tour in

2011 and an art tour of Italy in 2012.

The pair's affection for the performing arts at YHC grew from their attendance at hundreds of concerts, plays, musicals and recitals over the past 37 years. Events at the College are often part of the couple's activities when they visit their cabin in nearby Union County.

While Richard and Shirley have planted their roots deep in Georgia's red clay, they grew up in Jacksonville, Fla. They met as teenagers when one of Shirley's friends introduced them at the bus stop. Richard confided that one of the best decisions he ever made was sitting with Shirley on the bus that day. They became high school sweethearts and got engaged after graduation.

Richard went on to serve in the U.S. Air Force, stationed in Japan. While on leave in 1953, he and Shirley married. Upon his discharge from the military, the couple moved to Gainesville, Fla., where Richard earned a bachelor's degree in advertising from the University of Florida on the G.I. bill in 1958. They moved to Maryland, where Richard began his career in outdoor advertising.

A job opportunity brought them to Atlanta in 1961. When Ted Turner became president of a new company called Turner Outdoor Advertising in 1963, the first appointment he made was naming Richard vice president for sales. When Turner began his new media venture of Turner Communications in the 1970s, he named Richard executive vice president and a minority partner in the advertising firm.

Richard's career at Turner spanned

21 years and involved exposure to radio stations, television stations and even the manufacturing of boats. In 1983, he retired from Turner and, for five years, ran a small advertising agency out of his home.

Retirement allowed the pair to spend more time at their cabin in north Georgia. The couple and their children, Douglas, Cynthia and Brad, and eight grandchildren enjoy the beauty of the mountains and the friendliness of the surrounding communities.

While YHC concerts and productions are favorite activities for the family, it was Richard's longtime friendship with Paul Beckham, '63, a former vice president at Turner and YHC trustee and alumnus, that changed the couple's general interest in the College to active support.

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

In 2004, Richard was asked to become a trustee of the College. During his tenure, he has taken part in two of YHC's most significant votes. The first was for the two-year college to become a four-year, baccalaureate degree-granting institution in 2007; the second was the election of Cathy Cox to the presidency of the College that same year.

Both Richard and Shirley believe those two votes greatly contributed to the success the College is experiencing today, along with its bright future. "We had to become a four-year school to stay viable, and Cathy Cox is so very good for the College," Richard said.

At a board meeting last year, the trustees expressed their



YHC sophomore art major Jerilyn Oquendo, of Plant City, Fla., Richard and Shirley McGinnis, and Dean of the Division of Fine Arts and Associate Professor of Art Ted Whisenhunt enjoyed a special Friends of the Arts dinner in the Campus Gate Art Gallery.

appreciation to Richard and Shirley for their gift toward the performing arts center that set in motion the long-term planning and fundraising effort. In response, Richard pulled out two quart-sized mayonnaise jars—one empty and one full of coins.

"I told them that when we empty a mayonnaise jar, I fill it up with change, and that is how I was able to make that gift," said Richard, with a twinkle in his eye.

Richard said that he and Shirley know their \$4 million gift represents a small part of the total cost of the new facility, and they hope their contribution will encourage others to follow their example and support the project.

"Shirley and I are grateful for the privilege and opportunity to provide the seed money for YHC's first true performing arts center," said Richard. "I can say for sure that our gift to this future center is the most important contribution we have ever made or hope to make. We just hope things move fast enough that we can hear the first note when the curtain goes up."

YHC Board of Trustees Chair Jerry Nix, YHC Capital Campaign Chair and trustee Pam Rollins, YHC trustee Richard McGinnis and his wife, Shirley, and YHC President Cathy Cox celebrated the announcement of the \$4 million gift that will serve as seed money for a new performing arts center. Richard and Shirley were presented with a one-of-a-kind glass sculpture by artist David Goldhagen.



A Legacy of Learning

BY KRYSTIN DEAN

“To whom much is given, much is required.” This was the mantra of Doris Boles Warbington, ’40, a Young Harris College alumna with a dynamic disposition who spent 91 years daily living her alma mater’s mission to educate, inspire and empower others.

Doris grew up the middle of five children in Gwinnett County on a self-sustaining 120-acre farm complete with orchards, smokehouses and a stream that generated electricity. According to her daughter, Conni Ellington, she was “a Duluth girl through and through” and her family’s roots were firmly planted on Georgia soil. In fact, a portion of the gold used to create the dome of the State Capitol building came from the Boles’ farm.

While she would have been content to stay in her hometown forever, Doris was also always up for an adventure.

She followed in the footsteps of her beloved older sister, Dorothy “Dot” Boles Burel, ’38, by traveling two hours north to Young Harris to attend college.

Doris recounted her time at YHC as “some of the happiest years of her life” and often

regaled family members with thrilling tales of taking unauthorized treks to Brasstown Bald, getting caught with hot plates in her residence hall room and hopping in a car with

friends and teachers alike to take spontaneous day trips off campus.

A voracious reader who always said there was “no such thing as too much education,” Doris went on to Oglethorpe College before returning to her hometown to teach first grade. “My mother just loved children, no matter whose child it was,” said Conni.

A few years later, her course changed when Ruben Eugene “Gene” Warbington walked into her family’s store in Duluth. The pair wed in 1943 and had two children, Conni and Bob. A successful businessman, Gene owned an electronic manufacturer’s representative agency.

While short in stature, Doris had a commanding presence and “had to be doing something and moving at all times,” according to Conni. The Warbingtons moved to Florida after they married for a brief stint while Gene was in the Navy. When Doris received a call that someone needed to run the store, she immediately hopped a train back to Georgia.

While she didn’t care much for earthly possessions, Doris did have a serious passion for fashion. She was known for her perfectly coiffed hair, bright red lipstick and countless pieces of jewelry that matched each perfectly pressed ensemble.

“I don’t remember ever seeing her sweat—it was like she was a doll,” said Conni, who relayed with a smile how her mother always dressed to the nines no matter the occasion. “We went to Hawaii one time, and I wanted to hike to a cave

to view some petroglyphs. I saw her coming up the path and I told her, ‘You can’t hike in high heels.’ She said, ‘Well, I am!’”

Her tenacious and convivial spirit was challenged when Gene died of congestive heart failure at the age of 43. Suddenly faced with the loss of her husband and the prospect of raising two children on her own, Doris displayed incredible fortitude. “She was a strong, independent and optimistic human being. She believed that you live with the hand you’re dealt in life, and you try to make the best of it,” Conni said.

Doris decided to delve into the business of buying and selling rental properties—a trade that had already proven to be lucrative for both Doris and Gene’s parents. She purchased one rental property that evolved over time into numerous locations, both commercial and residential. She managed every aspect of her business dealings daily without the assistance of property managers, lawyers or accounting and marketing support.

“She was very successful taking a small sum of money and rolling up a real estate



BELOW Doris Boles Warbington, ’40, and her husband, Ruben Eugene “Gene” Warbington



At YHC, Doris was a member of the Phi Delta sorority and enjoyed exploring the surrounding area with friends.

empire without debt and no aid from anybody as a single mother in the 1960s—that just doesn't happen," marveled her grandson, Scott Ellington. "As a kid, that's just how I thought adults were. Then when I became an adult, I realized there were no other adults like her."

Doris navigated dealings with developers and city planners with ease and regularly told attorneys how to draw up contracts to everyone's benefit. She could account for every dime in her business and knew how to maximize profits. She didn't believe in borrowing money to buy more properties, always using the income from one to purchase the next.

"She raised me with the idea that there's absolutely nothing you can't do. I don't think it ever crossed her mind that she was ahead of her time," said Conni. "She didn't give up when she wanted something, and she cared about her tenants more than the money. I never met one person who didn't love my mother to death. She was outgoing, kind and funny—truly the wittiest person you ever met."

Doris was blessed with the power of persuasion, and was known to march into a courthouse to get a signature or push through paperwork that could take others weeks to accomplish. Scott never forgot one occasion when she was dealing with a business matter and said, "I'll just call Zell Miller."

"I was a teenager at the time, and I said, 'Okay, you call him,'" he recalled. "She literally picked up the phone and had a two-hour conversation with him where she laid out exactly what she needed. I never questioned her again."

Some properties Doris owned were located in rough and tumble neighborhoods, and families often couldn't make rent. On several occasions, Scott remembered visiting these homes with his grandmother to leave sacks of groceries on the front porch. When



he asked her why she didn't ring the doorbell, Doris said, "I don't want to embarrass them."

"She sincerely felt that when people were down on their luck, you supported them. She always rooted for the underdog, gave everyone the benefit of the doubt and never judged anyone," said Scott. "She lived her life with a benevolence I have seen in very few people on this earth. It was almost her life's obsession to help those who were willing to help themselves."

If Doris found out one of her tenants was a struggling single mother, she bought the children Christmas presents. She helped those out of work find jobs, and was always available to lend an ear or offer a word of encouragement.

She believed that the ultimate equalizer was education and passed along her love of learning to her family. Her three grandchildren—Scott, Shari and Marcia—have eight degrees between them.

"All of my children are interested in helping others get an education," said Conni. "That's the only way you rise above anything—poverty, family problems, low self-esteem. If you're educated, you have the tools and confidence to succeed."

According to Scott, his grandmother never forgot the special place where she received an education and memories to last a lifetime. "She

Doris visited the campus as often as possible with her family.

always used to say she was going to save her pennies and give it to YHC one day," he said.

To honor Doris' commitment to fostering education, her family established scholarships for deserving young women from Gwinnett County pursuing education degrees at YHC.

"My grandmother relentlessly supported the cause of giving everyone an equal chance at an education and a life that they could make their own through effort and diligence," said Scott. "She saw the value of education—how it could change people's lives. She had such an affinity and connection with the College, and it's important to us that her legacy is continued."

Conni noted how her mother had "the best time ever" at her 50th reunion in 1990—which she attended in a hot pink silk dress—and enjoyed keeping in touch with classmates through the years. She visited the campus as often as possible with her family, eager to share stories of her days at YHC.

"When you get older, you look back and think about life. Sometimes it surprises you what the happiest times were. It's usually not the big moments—it's the small things," said Conni. "In her mind, those were the golden years. She lived a full and fulfilled life, and Young Harris College is truly a magical place that she never forgot and always cherished."

Doris (second row, first from left) attended the Class of 1940's 50th reunion gathering.



Generous IRA Gift Helps Fund Student Scholarships



Bill and Judy Roberts' generous contribution has helped put the Class of 1952 in the lead for this year's Class Scholarship Challenge.

Young Harris College alumnus William F. "Bill" Roberts, '52, makes solid investments that help build lasting legacies. Since joining YHC's Board of Trustees in 2009, he has worked to ensure his alma mater continues to thrive for generations to come.

Bill and his wife, Judy, regularly support scholarships and athletics programs, in addition to the College's Capital Campaign and Clay Dotson Open golf tournament. While searching for a way to continue to support the College in the future, they decided to take advantage of the

tax-saving opportunity recently passed by Congress by making a gift to YHC directly from his IRA.

"This was a simple way for me to give back to a place that has meant so much to me," said Bill, who came to YHC in 1950 from his hometown of Clarkesville at the invitation of Dr. Charles Clegg, '27, and still has fond memories of playing basketball during his student days.

Bill's professional career revolved around helping to build things—literally—to benefit the state of Georgia. He worked for the State School Building Authority before taking a position at the Georgia State Financing and Investment Commission. In 1994, he retired from his position as executive secretary and director of the construction division for the commission, which sells general obligation bonds to design and construct state buildings in Georgia.

These days, the Roberts can often be found frequenting the YHC campus to take part in Alumni Weekend and Homecoming festivities or cheer on the Mountain Lions during athletics events.

"Many exciting things have been happening at YHC during the last few years, and it's been a pleasure to witness it all firsthand," said Bill. "I hope other alumni and friends will do whatever they can to help YHC progress and flourish."

Taking Advantage of IRA Charitable Rollover

Under the American Taxpayer Relief Act, individuals aged 70½ and older may make gifts up to \$100,000 from traditional or Roth IRA accounts directly to YHC without being subject to federal income tax on the IRA withdrawal. Known as the "IRA charitable rollover," this law has been extended to the end of 2013 and is a tax-smart way to support the College. Visit yhc.edu/ira or contact Director of Planned Giving Jennifer McAfee at (706) 379-5318 to learn more.

Classes Who Surpassed \$1,000:

1930	1960
1947	1961
1952	1962
1955	1963
1958	

Classes Over the Halfway Mark:

1953	1968
1956	1970
1957	1979
1959	1991
1967	1994

Paying It Forward

ALUMNI CLASS SCHOLARSHIP CHALLENGE IS UNDERWAY

The Young Harris College Class Coordinators officially kicked off the 2012-2013 Class Scholarship Challenge in January, and enthusiastic alumni are once again banding together to provide financial assistance for deserving students.

More than 50 participating classes raised over \$34,000 during last year's inaugural challenge. As of April 1, last year's winning Class of 1952 was once again in the lead, followed by the Class of 1947 and the Class of 1963. Nine classes had surpassed their \$1,000 goal, with nearly \$39,000 already raised.

"Like many others, I was at YHC because someone cared and believed in me enough to give back by providing funds so that I could benefit as they had as a Young Harris student," said Class Coordinator Elizabeth "Liz" Fincher Nevel, Ph.D., '57. "Since becoming a four-year college with increased enrollment, YHC has a real need for additional scholarship funding. This is a time in our lives when we can give back, and small amounts really add up."

Any alumni who wish to participate in the Class Scholarship Challenge may make a gift online at yhc.edu/giving or call the Office of Advancement at (800) 241-3754 or (706) 379-5173.

A HEART of GOLD

BY ALI NEESE HATLEY, '12

Longtime Young Harris College trustee Dr. William Harry Hill has dedicated his life to doing what he loves. At 95 years old, he remains vivacious by championing causes that are dear to his heart while making time to appreciate life's simple joys.

An avid horseman, Dr. Hill was raised on a farm in the South Fulton area and fondly recalls riding his saddle horse to school or on errands around town.

In 1946, he began a celebrated career of showing Tennessee Walking Horses. "I had American Saddlebreds at the time, but every time you mounted one there was a rodeo involved, so I went to an old man's horse instead," he explained with a grin.

Through the years, he has competed in Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia—always with his wife of 65 years, Harriet, at his side. "She was the groom and I was the rider," said Dr. Hill, who currently shows three of his 16 horses and still racks up countless blue ribbons and trophies.

Dr. Hill is as accomplished in the medical field as he is in the riding arena. A graduate of the University of Georgia and Medical College of Georgia, he

worked as a surgeon during World War II at a portable surgical hospital in the southwest Pacific.

"Those were the days before helicopters, and no plane could fly the Pacific. We operated under shade trees and went right along with the infantry," recalled Dr. Hill, who returned to Atlanta to begin a 41-year career as a general surgeon. "Helping people was the best part about the job," he said. "You get to make people well—that's the fun part."

Since his retirement at 71, the Hills have traversed the globe, visiting far-off places like Egypt, Israel, Russia and Australia. These days, the pair enjoys spending time on their 45-acre farm in Powder Springs where they continue to raise 25 laying hens, two peacocks and five beehives.

Each year, the couple travels to Shelbyville, Tenn., to compete in the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, a 10-day event Dr. Hill describes as the "World Series" of the sport. He has won the 70-and-older age group nearly 10 times, and was inducted into their Hall of Fame in 2008.

In addition to showing horses, the

Hills also share another great love—education. Dr. Hill first heard about YHC in the 1960s when his men's Sunday school group sponsored two scholarships. He remembered being "really impressed" with the recipients.

Dr. Hill won the blue ribbon in the 70-and-older age group at the 2011 Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration.



Dr. William Harry and Harriet Hargrove Hill

"I first started contributing to the College because I believed it would change lives, and it does—I've seen it happen," said Dr. Hill, who became a YHC trustee in 1976. "It matures people, it provides a good liberal arts education in a Christian environment and it's in one of the prettiest areas of our state. I just think it's a great place—I wish I'd gone to school there."

Few couples have had as great an impact on the physical and financial landscape of YHC as the Hills. They played an integral part in establishing the College's planned giving program, the W. Harry and Harriet Hill Society for Planned Gifts. Fittingly, the society's seal features a Tennessee Walking Horse.

The couple also established the Hillgrove Scholarship for graduates of Cobb County's Hillgrove High School, which was built on land donated by the couple. They are active members of McEachern United Methodist Church in Powder Springs, and established the McEachern Scholarship to help students from their church attend YHC.

"I provide scholarships for students who deserve to be there," said Dr. Hill. "I expect these young men and women to be good citizens and to be leaders in their community, in the world and in their generation."



YHC Establishes Parents/Grandparents Council

Parents and grandparents are an integral part of the Young Harris College family, serving as ambassadors within their communities and faithfully supporting the College's ongoing mission to provide students with a comprehensive liberal arts experience.

The recently established YHC Parents/Grandparents Council serves as an outlet for family members who want to play a more active role in shaping the present and future of the College.

The group is comprised of volunteers with a deep commitment to YHC who seek to forge meaningful relationships with fellow parents and grandparents. Members encourage dialogue and engagement and serve as a link between family members and the College.

The council participates in many YHC events including Family Weekend,

alumni connections and receptions hosted by the Office of Admissions. They also help establish connections that can lead to internships and other professional opportunities for students.

"My husband and I became involved in this council because we recognized the profound impact YHC has on our son, Shaw, and we wanted to further enhance his educational experience—and that of all YHC students," said YHC Parents/Grandparents Council Co-Chair Sandy Carter, of Gainesville.

The group's 23 members help encourage financial support and stewardship through the new YHC Parents/Grandparents Fund, which gives family members an opportunity to make a targeted investment in the services and programs that students benefit from every day.

One of the main goals of the Parents/Grandparents Council is to raise funds annually to bolster core priorities of the College such as student research tools, state-of-the-art classroom equipment and stimulating campus programming.

"Our support is essential to ensuring that our children and grandchildren benefit from the continued success of the College," said Toni Brewton, '77, of Marietta. "The gifts we make help YHC continue the tradition of educational excellence for our children as well as students to come."

For more information about the YHC Parents/Grandparents Council or the YHC Parents/Grandparents Fund, contact Senior Director of Development Stacie Barrow at (404) 365-4871 or sbarrow@yhc.edu.

BIG Dance

Makes Big Impact

The Swingin' Medallions kept the dance floor hopping at Young Harris College's third annual Big Dance held on March 9, and patrons from all over flocked to the Recreation and Fitness Center for an enjoyable evening of live music and fun fellowship for a great cause. The event was hosted by YHC's Board of Associates, the driving force behind the annual Local Scholarship Campaign. More than 600 guests danced the night away while raising more than \$12,000 in scholarship funds for local students from Fannin, Gilmer, Pickens, Rabun, Towns and Union counties in Georgia and Cherokee and Clay counties in North Carolina.

» View more photos and get details about next year's event at yhc.edu/bigdance.



United Community Bank of Blairsville won this year's new table decorating contest.





MEN'S SOCCER TEAM COMPLETES MEMORABLE SEASON WITH Peach Belt Conference Tournament Play

Young Harris College's men's soccer team enjoyed a special season in 2012. The Mountain Lions won 14 matches, spent three weeks in the national polls and qualified for the Peach Belt Conference (PBC) tournament during their first season in the league.

"It was a very positive season for our program," said men's soccer team co-captain and goalkeeper Wezly Barnard, a senior from Boksburg, South Africa. "We welcomed some talented new players that made an immediate impact. We also had an awesome team dynamic, and everyone worked extremely hard together. As a result, we achieved great success this year."

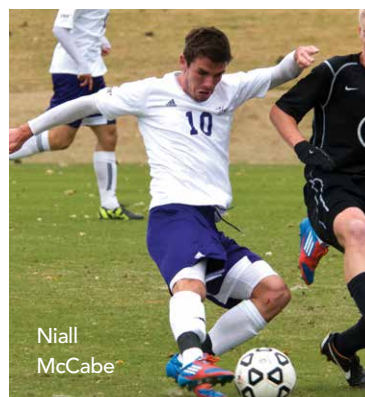
The Mountain Lions kicked off the season by defeating two nationally ranked teams, Christian Brothers University and Rollins College. They cracked the national polls at No. 18 and then worked their way to No. 6 just two weeks later, marking the first time a YHC team has been ranked nationally since the College began competing as a four-year institution.

"I was delighted with the overall success of the team. Having been in the national rankings for three weeks running and listed among the top 10 teams in the country tells its own story," said Men's Soccer Head Coach Mark McKeever. "Being ranked No. 1 in one of the toughest regions in the country shows the respect we are getting from other coaches."

The Mountain Lions dealt with several injuries throughout the season, but the team still battled their way to a fourth-place finish in the PBC regular season race.

"Our starting lineup changed quite a bit

due to injuries, so having such a strong finish in the regular season was a great accomplishment—especially beating the regular season champs and both tournament finalists along the way," McKeever said.



Niall McCabe



Lewis Hilton

By virtue of their fourth place finish, the Mountain Lions secured another first: a conference tournament game held on the YHC campus. Young Harris scored twice in a six-minute span midway through the second half to rally for a 2-1 win over the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and advance to the final four.

The team's season came to an end during the semifinals of the tournament following a nail-biter against the University of South Carolina Aiken. The Mountain Lions lost 5-4 on a sudden death shootout after battling to a 2-2 draw through 20 minutes of overtime play.

The team wasn't eligible for NCAA Division II tournament

consideration, as the Mountain Lions are in Candidacy Year Two of the three-year membership process. Nonetheless, they certainly made their mark in the PBC and on a national scale.

"We put Young Harris men's soccer on the map within the conference, region and nation after this memorable season," said McKeever. "We have established a great base to build upon in future years."



YHC UNVEILS NEW SOCCER SCOREBOARD

Last fall, Young Harris College installed a new state-of-the-art Daktronics scoreboard at Frances Wood Wilson Soccer Field. The wireless scoreboard was unveiled on Oct. 30 when the Mountain Lions defeated University of North Carolina at Pembroke 2-1 during the quarterfinals of the Peach Belt Conference men's soccer tournament.

In addition to displaying the time and score, the LED scoreboard also shows penalty time for lacrosse matches and the number of shots and saves made during soccer games.

This summer, the College will install new scoreboards for the softball, baseball and lacrosse teams at E.D. Rivers Field, Zell B. Miller Field and the new YHC Lacrosse Field.



Ilija Ilic



FALL SPORTS TEAMS MAKE A MARK

On and Off the Field

Young Harris College's fall sports teams exemplified the NCAA Division II motto, "Life in the Balance," making an impression during their first season of competition in the Peach Belt Conference (PBC) both on and off the field.

Men's soccer team co-captain and goalkeeper Wezly Barnard, a senior from Boksburg, South Africa, was named to the prestigious Capital One NCAA Division II Academic All-America® Men's Soccer Second Team. He also earned the conference's newest accolade, the PBC "Elite 15," which honors student-athletes who competed in the Peach Belt championship with the highest cumulative GPAs. Barnard was named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America's College Division Men's Scholar All-South Region Honorable Mention Team in 2012 and recognized as YHC's Male Athlete of the Year in 2011 and 2012.

Three soccer players were named to the Capital One NCAA Division II Academic All-District III team. Senior K.C. Pagnotta, of Dallas, Ga., sophomore Ilija Ilic, of Belgrade, Serbia, and senior James Thorpe, of Nuneaton, England, received the accolade.

Eleven Mountain Lions were named to their sport's PBC All-Academic teams. In addition to Barnard, Ilic and Thorpe, senior Andreas Pechmann, of Munich, Germany, senior Alex Rivera, of San Pedro Sula, Honduras, and senior Ashley Walker, of Birmingham, England, were recognized in men's soccer. Junior Allison Burnham, of Perry, was named to the women's soccer All-Academic team. Men's cross country team members Tyler Gunnin, a senior from Douglasville, Trent Jones, a junior from Lakeland, Fla., and Harrison Myers, a sophomore from Bryon, were also recognized, along with women's cross country runner Erica Brooks, a junior from Watkinsville.

Two cross country athletes, freshman Nicole Smith, of Ball Ground, and sophomore Alex Bitok, of Kapsabet, Kenya, were named to the PBC All-Conference Second Team in women's and men's cross country, respectively. Smith was selected as one the conference's Co-Runners of the Year and was also the first YHC student-athlete recognized as the conference's Player of the Year.

Junior Niall McCabe, of Dublin, Ireland, was named to the PBC All-Conference First Team in men's soccer, while Ilic and freshman Lewis Hilton, of Newquay, England, were Second Team picks. The trio was also named to the National Soccer

Coaches Association of America's NCAA Division II All-Southeast Region team. McCabe received the Peach Belt's Golden Ball Award, which is presented to the top goal scorer in the conference. Hilton was recognized as the conference's Freshman of the Year.



Wezly Barnard and PBC Commissioner David R. Brunk



Nicole Smith and Cross Country Head Coach Barry Brown



Niall McCabe and Lewis Hilton



Pep Band

REIGNS SUPREME IN PBC

Young Harris College's pep band, Purple Reign, recently won the Peach Belt Conference's (PBC) annual Spirit Competition, taking the title from three-time defending champions University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Each band's five-minute set was evaluated based on musicianship, musical impact and school spirit effectiveness.

"Colleges and universities have really started to take this competition very seriously, and YHC has now raised the bar for everyone else," said Director of Athletics Randy Dunn. "Purple Reign has meant so much in terms of creating an electric atmosphere for our basketball games, and their performance at the competition was outstanding."

Purple Reign was formed in 2010 during YHC's inaugural basketball season. The band performs regularly at all home basketball games and is directed by Senior Instructor of Music and Director of Bands Mary Land.

"This was our first trip to the PBC championship, and we really didn't know what to expect," said Land. "I am very proud of our students who worked hard all season and then brought home the championship trophy to YHC."



Randy Dunn and Mary Land accepted the award.

Elkins Named NEW MEN'S TENNIS HEAD COACH

Young Harris College Director of Athletics Randy Dunn announced in February the addition of Barrett Elkins as the Mountain Lions' new men's tennis head coach.



Barrett Elkins

"Barrett has a tremendous passion for the game and concern for developing student-athletes both academically and athletically," said Dunn. "I believe he will do an excellent job building a competitive program and developing relationships within the community."

Elkins came to the Enchanted Valley after spending nearly four years as the men's and women's tennis head coach and men's and women's golf head coach at Ave Maria University in Ave Maria, Fla. He started the tennis program there from scratch, and increased his win total each year despite playing in one of the top National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) conferences in the nation.

During his time at the southwest Florida institution, he was also responsible for significantly raising the team's grade point average and coaching five players who were named NAIA Daktronics Scholar-Athletes.

An Atlanta native, Elkins earned a bachelor's degree in sacred theology from Southern Catholic College in Dawsonville. He also initiated the college's first club tennis program during his studies.

Elkins played tennis for four years at St. Pius X Catholic High School and led his team to two state championship appearances. St. Pius was a finalist at the 2000 Georgia High School Association (GHSA) Class AA state tournament and won the GHSA Class AAAA state title in 2001. That same year, Elkins received the Most Valuable Player award.

Elkins went on to work as a tennis club pro and took part in running a high-level tennis academy where he coached many of the top-ranked high school juniors in the state of Georgia.

At YHC, he will take over a team that is ranked No. 26 in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association's Division II men's tennis team ranking. Men's tennis is one of three Mountain Lions programs to be nationally ranked this season, along with men's soccer and women's tennis.

Kelly Blount, who headed up both the men's and women's tennis programs since August 2012, will continue serving as the women's tennis head coach at YHC. Under her guidance last fall, the women's team went 2-0 and the men's team was 1-0 in the dual match portion of their schedules.

DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS Checks Into New Digs

The Young Harris College Department of Athletics saw an exciting phase of growth and transition this spring as coaches and administrative staff relocated to the recently acquired motel space across the street from the main campus.

"We're very excited about the move. The new setup allows our coaches to have their own offices, which will help them run their teams more efficiently," said Director of Athletics Randy Dunn. "It's also wonderful that student-athletes can stop by and see their coaches and athletics administration all in one place."

Nearly all of YHC's coaches can be found in the same block of offices. Men's and women's tennis offices remain in the Berry House adjacent to the Bob and Gayle Nichols Tennis Complex, and offices for men's and women's basketball are still housed in the Recreation and Fitness Center.

Another new addition to the property is a dedicated strength and conditioning space for YHC's athletics teams located in the former Mary Ann's restaurant in front of the motel. The area boasts 2,000 square feet of equipment tailored to the effective training and preparation of student-athletes.

"Our teams used to condition in the basement of the old Dobbs-McEachern Gymnasium, which was lacking some of the modern equipment needed as our athletics programs continue to expand," said Dunn. "The student-athletes absolutely love the new workout facility that is conveniently located near their coaches."

The lobby of the motel has been transformed into a reception area for the department that includes offices for Dunn as well as other athletics administrative staff.

The former Department of Athletics building located across the street from the Recreation and Fitness Center will soon be renovated to include an expanded athletics training room and six locker rooms for the baseball, softball, men's and women's lacrosse, and men's and women's soccer teams.

"The locker rooms will include dressing rooms, showers and restrooms for our teams and provide a communal area for them to congregate before and after matches," said Dunn. "The new training room will feature much more space for the treatment and rehabilitation of any injuries."





Game Time

BY MICHAEL MACEACHERN

Men's and women's lacrosse recently debuted at Young Harris College, introducing the fast-paced and fast-growing sport to the north Georgia mountains. The Mountain Lions boast two of 48 schools adding NCAA lacrosse programs this spring, marking a national trend of expansion for the sport at the collegiate level.

"YHC strives to be a leader in providing a wide range of academic and athletic opportunities," said Director of Athletics Randy Dunn. "Lacrosse is attractive to many prospective student-athletes, and we believe this sport will enhance our entire campus."

The Mountain Lions competed independently for the inaugural lacrosse season, as the Peach Belt Conference doesn't currently sponsor the sport.

"Our goals are to defend our home field and win games against in-state opponents. We want to get better with every play, every day. We have the ability to be great, if we can be detail-oriented and consistent," said Men's Lacrosse Head Coach Kirk Rogers. "We were competing against ourselves this year, not our opponents. I'm very excited because I know we are building something great here."

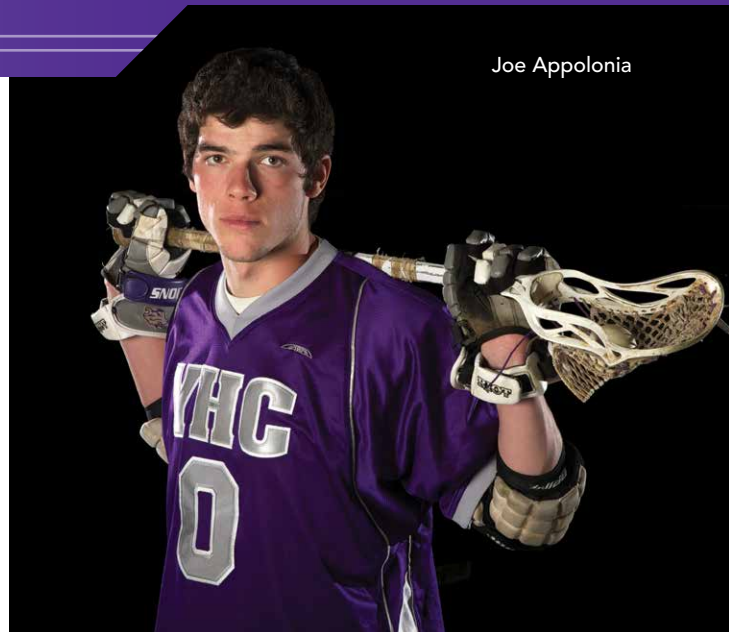
Rogers came to YHC in January of 2012 with the sizeable task of building the Mountain Lions' intercollegiate lacrosse programs from scratch. He was soon joined in June by Women's Lacrosse Head Coach Katie Ilott.

The first-ever women's lacrosse team features a combination of youth and experience. The College held open tryouts last August, and the young squad hit the ground running, developing at a rapid clip in just a few short months.

"Having some team members who are new to the game has been a challenge," said Ilott. "They are working hard, adapting to the game and getting comfortable. We became a better team as we progressed through our first season."

Rogers put together a young but talented men's lacrosse team for the inaugural season, seeking out players with experience and determination who understand what it takes to succeed.

"It won't happen overnight and it won't be easy, but I think we found the right core group of guys to get there and get there fast," said Rogers. "We are constantly continuing to improve. I think we've only scratched the surface of the potential this team has."



This season, Rogers looked to promising freshman midfielder Joe Appolonia, of Hampstead, N.H., who came to YHC eager to prove himself.

"Joe came here with skill, but he brings so much more to our program," Rogers said. "More than just lacrosse players, we want engaged student-athletes within the Young Harris community, and he exemplifies that."

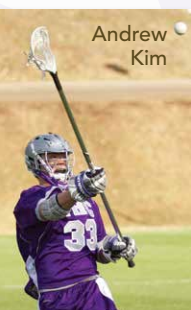
Appolonia hails from New England, a lacrosse hotbed, and was a U.S. Lacrosse High School All-American during his junior season at Tunkhannock Area High School.

"I was looking at a lot of schools, but I wanted to go somewhere with a strong academic program. My family has a motto: school comes first, and lacrosse is something that comes with school," said Appolonia, who plans to double major in biology and chemistry.

He quickly fell in love with the close-knit campus community. "I came from a large high school with 3,100 students, and it was nice to downsize," he explained. "I like being able to talk with my professors."

Another draw for Appolonia was the opportunity to help establish a new lacrosse program at YHC. "I love exposing lacrosse to people who aren't familiar with the sport, and it's exciting to be part of something special like an inaugural season," he said.

An all-around athlete, Appolonia played football, ran cross country and competed



Andrew Kim



Ronnie Adams

in track and field events in high school. When his older sister petitioned to play on their school's men's lacrosse club team, she encouraged him to try out. He quickly fell in love with the sport.

"Lacrosse is a combination of a lot of things," he said. "Not like football, where you pretty much just hit people."

Appolonia is optimistic about the future of lacrosse at YHC and credits Rogers and volunteer assistant coach Nathan Young with fostering a strong group dynamic. "We're starting to become a family, more than a team," he said. "We're getting better every day."

Rogers described Appolonia as "the ultimate team player"—a hard-working student-athlete who serves as a great ambassador for the new program.

"Joe is responsible, respectful and humble," said Rogers. "We're excited to have him on the team and look forward to seeing him progress through what promises to be a very successful college career both on and off the field."



Ivey Franklin

Freshman midfielder and Whitby, Ontario, Canada, native Jaclyn Kernohan, is a spirited student-athlete who quickly acquired a leadership role on the new women's lacrosse team. The seasoned player won the Ontario Provincial Championships for six years with her club team, the Whitby Warriors.

"Not only is Jaclyn a role model on the field, but she also excels in the classroom," said Illott. "She pushes herself to be better every day, and is a great representative of what YHC women's lacrosse is all about."

Finding a college where she could achieve a balance between academics and athletics was crucial for Kernohan, who was valedictorian of her class at Father Leo J. Austin Catholic Secondary School.

"I really like the small class sizes at Young Harris," said biology major Kernohan. "The professors know your name—you're not just a number."

She also chose YHC because she wanted to be part of something

special. While she hails from a country where lacrosse is second nature, she was drawn to the challenge of coming to an area where the opposite was true.

"It was pretty neat coming somewhere where people don't know much about the sport," explained Kernohan. "The South is known for football and baseball, and it's great to share a sport like lacrosse that I've grown up playing. To be part of history and starting something from the ground up is fantastic."

Kernohan has become a mentor for some of her teammates, and she is constantly impressed by the tenacity of her fellow Mountain Lions.

"My team is determined and plays for the love of the game. We improved so much just from the start of fall through the preseason," she said. "Everyone got a chance to play and improve this year. Some of the teams we play may be better, but we play with heart and we are ready to battle."



Jaclyn Kernohan



LACROSSE BY THE NUMBERS

- According to U.S. Lacrosse, the number of NCAA lacrosse programs grew from **493** to **637** between 2006 and 2011.
- Lacrosse is by far the top-growing NCAA sport in the last five years, showing a **26%** increase for men's teams and **31%** increase for women's teams.
- The National Federation of State High School Associations indicates that lacrosse has the fastest percentage growth rate of all high school sports, with **1,447** varsity teams added from 2006 to 2011.
- Georgia is one of **22** states with governing associations that sanction high school lacrosse, with **84** active teams.



BASKETBALL TEAMS

Play Hard in the Peach Belt

Young Harris College's basketball teams displayed fierce determination in the "Valley of Doom" as they completed their first season in the Peach Belt Conference (PBC). The men's team finished with a 17-9 overall record and a 12-7 conference mark, landing in second place in the PBC West Division and fourth overall in the conference. The women's team finished 13-13 overall and 7-12 in the league.

According to Men's Basketball Head Coach Pete Herrmann, the team's success was made even sweeter considering the Mountain Lions were picked 13th in the 14-team league in the preseason poll.

"We were in contention for the PBC West Division up until the last day of the season," said Herrmann. "The core players had a very solid season and played a highly entertaining brand of basketball. They set a good standard for future years."

YHC joined PBC champion University of South Carolina Aiken as the only institutions to have three players named to the 2013 PBC All-Conference Team. Senior Malcolm Jackson, of Atlanta, was named to the Second Team, while junior Frank Adams, of Stone Mountain, and senior Vince Martin, of Marietta, were Third Team selections.

Jackson was second in the league in scoring, scoring average and field goals. He tied the College's record for most points in a game when he scored 38 in a double-overtime victory over Azusa Pacific University in November. Martin led the Peach Belt in assists, assists per game, assist/



Malcolm Jackson

turnover ratio and steals per game. He holds YHC's records for most assists and steals in a game, and registered nine "double doubles" (points and assists) this season. Adams, the all-time scorer for the Mountain Lions with 1,573 points in his career, was named the conference's Player of the Week in January and was second in the league for free throws and free throws per game.

The women's basketball team played the final nine games of the season without their leading scorer and rebounder, junior forward Ladondra Johnson, of Athens, Ga., due to an injury. She led the Peach Belt in scoring and field goal percentage, finishing among the top 10 in rebounding. She became the first team member to score 1,000 points in her career and led the Mountain Lions to 10 wins this season.

The Mountain Lions led the conference in field goal percentage and finished third in three-point field goal percentage and fourth in assists per game and opponents field goal percentage.

Junior Lauren Smith, of Colbert, averaged 10.9 points in Peach Belt contests, led the league with 164 assists and was fourth in steals. Sophomore Keta Robinette, of Jasper, Tenn., finished third in the conference with 62 three-pointers and averaged 10 points in PBC games. The team's second-leading scorer, sophomore Peyton Robertson, of Gainesville, was fifth in the league hitting half of her field goals.

"We were competitive in nearly every league game this season," said Women's Basketball Head Coach Brenda Paul. "We

will have everyone back next year after competing well in one of the top Division II leagues in the country."



Ladondra Johnson



Keta Robinette



Frank Adams

FANS SHOW PURPLE PRIDE IN THE VALLEY OF DOOM

Young Harris College hosted the first-ever "Purple Out" on Feb. 7 as the men's and women's basketball teams took on the University of North Georgia at home. Students lined up to receive free Chick-fil-A and an official T-shirt, and all Mountain Lions fans enjoyed contests and giveaways throughout the games. The evening's "Purple Passion Spirit Award" went to the Sigma Beta Sigma sorority and Upsilon Delta Sigma fraternity. YHC's women's basketball team won 71-64, while the men's team lost in a close match 85-77.



Class Notes

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

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

ACHIEVEMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

1950s

John Adcock, '57, was inducted into the 2012 Calhoun County Sports Hall of Fame in Jacksonville, Ala., for his outstanding performance as a high school coach for basketball, baseball and track. Adcock played basketball at Young Harris College, then known as The Academy, for four years and was an All-State performer every season.



1960s

Ed Nichols, '60, was elected county commissioner for District 5 in Habersham County. He previously served for several years as executive director of the Habersham County Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the YHC Alumni Board. He currently serves as president of Nichols Consulting, a management training and human resources consulting firm. He resides outside Clarkesville with his wife, Judy.

Dr. William G. Sloan, Jr., '65, was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for the Teacher Retirement System of Georgia by Governor Nathan Deal. He is now one of 10 people who oversee \$53 billion of assets for more than 97,000 retired educators in Georgia.

1970s

Brantley Barrow, '74, is the new chairman of the Alumni Board for the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business. He recently completed the sale of Hardin Construction Co. LLC, where he served as chairman, to California-based DPR Construction. Barrow has served on the YHC Board of Trustees since 2004.



Neal Clark, '72, presented a concert on April 6 titled "Neal Clark and Friends: The Finale" at the Fine Arts Center of Kershaw County in Camden, S.C. The talented vocalist and his friends took the stage, singing some favorite tunes from Broadway and beyond.

Pam Godfrey Younker, '75, resigned from her position at Engineering Design Technologies, Inc., after 10 pleasant years with the company where she enjoyed meeting new friends and colleagues. In January, she joined Children's Healthcare of Atlanta as the Cobb County community liaison. She can imagine nothing more fulfilling than promoting the welfare of children in the community she knows and loves.

1990s

Beth Davis, '97, currently serves as the scheduling assistant for the Office of President Jimmy Carter at The Carter Center in Atlanta.

David L. "Roy" Henry, '99, was called to be the pastor of administration for Faith Baptist Church in Battle Creek, Mich. He is responsible for coordinating communication between various ministers of the church, overseeing human resources and business affairs, staff training and development, and devising the communication strategy for the church.



Mark Hodges, '91, recently returned to WRDW-TV News 12 in Augusta as the station's creative services director.

Rebekah Lee Ricardo, '94, is currently working for the Winston-Salem Police Department as a grants analyst, where she is responsible for writing grant proposals and managing public safety grants awarded to the agency. Earlier this year, she received the Director's Award from the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program for her efforts in writing and administering a multi-agency public safety grant. Aside from work, she also writes a blog, olympicfanatic.com, and was a repeat guest on BBC Radio during the London 2012 Summer Olympics.

(continued on page 54)

» Send your YHC alumni photos to alumni@yhc.edu.



YHC's Senior-Most Faculty Member Retires After 50 Years of Service

Associate Professor of English Janice Moore recently announced her retirement after 50 years of dedicated service to Young Harris College. Moore taught creative writing and poetry at YHC, focusing on contemporary poetry and Southern literature.

In addition to her teaching duties, she was chair of YHC's Division of Humanities for eight years and served as poetry editor for the *Georgia Journal* for 12 years. Moore claimed first prize in the 2009 Press 53 Open Awards and was awarded first place in the Georgia Poetry Society's annual competition in 2011. Her work has appeared in more than 60 esteemed journals, anthologies and textbooks, including *The Georgia Review*, *The Southern Poetry Anthology*, *Contemporary Appalachia*, *Contemporary Georgia Poets*, *Women Writing in Appalachia* and the *Southern Poetry Review*.

"Being at YHC 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 the mountain setting as well as the classroom experience," said Moore. "I cannot imagine a place where I could have been any happier in my teaching and in my friendships than Young Harris College."

Ron Hinson, '76, was recently named executive vice president, chief financial officer, treasurer and comptroller of Georgia Power, the largest subsidiary of Southern Company, one of the nation's largest generators of electricity. Since beginning his career there in 1979, Hinson has held numerous positions in the company's accounting and finance organizations, including serving as vice president and comptroller, where he was an active participant in state regulatory activities.

The Atlanta native holds an A.S. in business from Young Harris College, a B.B.A. in accounting from the University of Georgia and an M.B.A. in finance from Mercer University. He is also a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. A certified public accountant and certified management accountant, Hinson is a past director and secretary/treasurer of the American Red Cross Atlanta chapter and past director and president of the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association of Georgia. He has served on the YHC Alumni Board since 2009.



In Memory of Mrs. Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag, '33



Since 1933, a strong yet graceful woman supported, guided, nourished and thoroughly loved Young Harris College in every way possible. Often referred to as the beloved “Guardian Angel” of YHC, Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag, '33, was a central member of the local community for more than 80 years.

Mrs. Hoag was born in Maysville, and grew up the daughter of a cotton farmer in Unadilla. She enrolled at YHC during some of the nation's toughest economic times. She captured the heart of a distinguished educator and YHC alumnus, Dr. Charles Clegg, '27, and the pair wed soon after she graduated from YHC with an associate of arts degree.

Dr. Clegg was appointed president of YHC in 1950. Mrs. Hoag wrote of her homecoming to Young Harris: “It was the good fortune of the Unadilla girl to return to the campus, this time as wife of the president.” She served as the gracious “first lady” of the campus until Dr. Clegg died in 1963, and the couple raised three children, George “Bud” Clegg, '55, Mary “Jean” Dickinson Minus, '52, and Charles Parks Clegg, '67, who passed away in 2005.

“She acted as a surrogate parent to YHC students, guiding and nurturing them, sewing clothes and prom dresses for them, even washing laundry for them,” said YHC President Cathy Cox. “Faculty members regularly took coffee breaks in her home, including her good friend and noted poet Byron Herbert Reece.”

Mrs. Hoag served as the first full-time director of the YHC Alumni

Association, guiding the organization through its formative years. She also served in other capacities at the College, including director of public relations, assistant to the president, manager of the dining hall and instructor of music.

Mrs. Hoag played the piano and organ during her studies at YHC, and was also involved in the Music Club as a student. In 1975, alumni established the “Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag Concert Series” to honor her commitment to the arts and devotion to the College.

In 1971, Mrs. Hoag went on to marry Dr. Merritt E. “Scotty” Hoag, who had previously served as president of the University of North Georgia and became mayor of Young Harris. Throughout her life, she remained fond of her stepson, John “Randy” Hoag, who currently resides in Brussels, Belgium.

Until recently, Mrs. Hoag remained around the corner from the YHC campus in her home on Maple Street and was affectionately referred to as “Mama Clegg” by students, faculty and friends. When asked by her friends why she stayed in the area, she always simply replied, “Because I like it here.”

Mrs. Hoag was awarded YHC's first honorary bachelor of arts degree on her 96th birthday at the College's 2009 Commencement ceremony. She also received the Susan B. Harris Award at Homecoming in 2005 and the Young Harris College Medallion in 1986.

“Mrs. Fay kept up with every activity, every faculty and staff event, and all of the progress on this campus for more than 80 years,” said President Cox. “She was a wonderful friend and advisor to me, and willingly shared her insights on the rich history of YHC and what has made it the great place it is today. She touched so many lives, both at YHC and beyond, and she will be deeply missed.”

Mrs. Hoag peacefully died on Feb. 20 of natural causes in Dahlonega.



Angelina Rosales Gaspar Remembered

Angelina Rosales Gaspar, of Chatsworth, was known for her beautiful smile and gentle demeanor. This shining young member of the Young Harris College family passed away on Feb. 28, 2013, after suffering a ruptured brain aneurysm.

Rosales came to YHC in 2012 after graduating from Murray County High School. A freshman art major with a minor in psychology, she was involved

in many campus activities, including serving as a Police Cadet and a member of the *Enotah* yearbook staff.

“Angelina was loved and will continue to be loved by those who knew her,” said her classmate and friend David Nieto, of Hendersonville, N.C.

“She managed to teach us, even those who did not know her that well, a very valuable lesson—to always smile and enjoy life.”

On March 21, members of the campus community gathered at the Susan B. Harris Chapel for a special service to honor Rosales' memory and celebrate her life.

Friends unveiled a butterfly bush that was later planted in a courtyard of the YHC Fine Arts Annex next to a plaque featuring Rosales' artwork, paying tribute to one of her primary creative inspirations. Prayers and personal messages were written on balloons that were released into the sky to conclude the service, as all in attendance reflected on special memories.



IN MEMORIAM

Rosalyn M. Ashworth, '40
Feb. 19, 2013

Peggy Beuerlein
Friend of YHC
Jan. 1, 2013

Andrea Victoria (Vicky) Brantley, '62
Oct. 27, 2012

Mary Cave, '59
Oct. 19, 2012

Jonathan C. Clark, '87
Oct. 26, 2012

Travis R. Colwell, '92
June 27, 2012

Beatrice Cooper, '33
July 23, 2012

Donald W. Copeland, '58
Jan. 9, 2013

Ted G. Dyer, '80
Sept. 25, 2012

Margie Carlene Ethridge, '57
Dec. 27, 2012

Max Fleming, '43
Sept. 27, 2012

Tomas R. Fox, '63
Dec. 30, 2012

Margaret Garcia, '68
Nov. 22, 2012

Angelina Rosales Gaspar, '13
Feb. 28, 2013

Philip F. Greear, '39
Sept. 26, 2012

Henry Greer, '49
Sept. 6, 2012

Fay Harmon Clegg Hoag, '33
Feb. 20, 2013

William B. Hudson, '60
Sept. 30, 2012

Warren F. Huff, '60
Nov. 20, 2012

David C. Hughes, '39
Nov. 30, 2012

Elsie Johnson, '36
Sept. 25, 2012

Patsy Ruth Lee
Friend of YHC
Dec. 13, 2012

Elmeda G. Locke, '43
Nov. 15, 2012

Martha S. Logan, '56
Nov. 24, 2012

Albert M. Lord, '66
Oct. 6, 2012

A. Florence Manning, '35
Nov. 10, 2012

Albert N. "Bud" Parker
Trustee emeritus
Aug. 10, 2012

R. Lee Powell, '47
March 11, 2013

David H. Price, '56
Oct. 19, 2012

Heather R. Pullen, '93
Feb. 11, 2013

Margaret Duckworth Sewell
Friend of YHC
Jan. 3, 2013

Herb J. Sharp, '57
Oct. 23, 2012

Loman Shook
Former staff member
Sept. 29, 2012

George D. Smith
Friend of YHC
Nov. 9, 2012

Elizabeth Stanton, '39
Nov. 3, 2012

Doris Boles Warbington, '40
Jan. 29, 2013

Cal H. Watford, III, '80
Oct. 17, 2012

Daniel Pierce Wood
Friend of YHC
July 7, 2012

Martha L. Woods, '42
Dec. 10, 2012

A Tribute to Albert N. "Bud" Parker 1935-2012

Albert N. "Bud" Parker was known for encouraging others to develop a passion and then persevere until they became the best they could be. He inspired many to soar and was always behind the scenes encouraging them to even greater heights. The distinguished Young Harris College trustee emeritus died Aug. 10, 2012.

Parker graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1958 with a degree in industrial management. While at Georgia Tech, he was the captain of the tennis team and doubles champion for the Southeastern Conference. He also served as president of his senior class and was a member of the ANAK Society.

After serving as an officer in the U.S. Navy, Parker helped run the family business, Beck and Gregg Hardware, which merged with General Parts

Company in the early 1970s. With the proceeds from the sale, Parker began a second career as a private investor.

Parker was grateful and proud to be an American. He established the 507th PIR D-Day Exhibit at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins and funded the production of three films honoring veterans including *Papa said*, *"We should never forget," WWII Flying ACE: Robert L. Scott* and *D-Day: Down to Earth—Return of the 507th*. For his efforts, he received the Commander's Award for Public Service from Lt. Col. Aidia Zunde, commander of the 507th.

He focused his time and energy on raising funds for, and personally contributing to, organizations he felt demonstrated his love of God, country and his fellow man.

Parker joined the YHC Board of

Trustees in 1978 and served for 25 years on the finance and development committees before being elected a trustee emeritus in 2003.

In a letter sent in 1991, Parker expressed his belief that the College "will continue to play a significant role in positively molding young lives." Through the years, he was a strong supporter of scholarships and played a part in initiating various campus improvements.

On Nov. 9, during the fall meeting of the YHC Board of Trustees, the board unanimously passed a resolution honoring Parker for his 34 years of dedication and service as a loyal trustee and a generous, enthusiastic supporter of the College.



2000s

Jason Norton, '02, an independent financial advisor at Norton Financial, Inc., in Villa Rica, has been recognized as a top financial advisor and named to the LPL Financial Patriot's Club. This distinction is based on a ranking of all registered advisors supported by LPL Financial, the nation's largest independent broker-dealer, and is awarded to less than 10 percent of the firm's approximately 12,800 advisors nationwide. Norton joined LPL Financial in 2011 and has been a professional in the financial services industry for more than eight years. He provides access to independent financial planning services, investment advice and asset management services to more than 250 clients in the southeastern United States.



Ben Thacker, '09, and **Katlyn Price, '09**, were married on Oct. 6, 2012. The couple met during their freshman year at YHC and went on to graduate from the University of Georgia together in 2011. Ben took Katlyn back to YHC in August 2011 to propose to her where it all began. Since they met and got engaged at their alma mater, the couple decided to use purple and white as their wedding colors.



2010s

Kyle Hatley, '11, married his college sweetheart, **Ali Neese, '12**, on Sept. 1, 2012, in Temple. They were excited to have a number of classmates attend, and many fellow YHC graduates stood beside them in their wedding party including Shelli Allen, '10, Chris Heard, '11, Tyler Morris, '11, and Jill Tuttle, '11. Ali's sister and current YHC student, Erica Neese, '14, was her co-maid of



honor. The pair currently resides in Dahlonega, where Kyle is pursuing a doctorate of physical therapy from the University of North Georgia.

Marcus McGill, '12, and **Brittany Starrett, '12**, were married on June 9, 2012, in Monroe. McGill was accepted to at least nine different institutions for seminary or divinity graduate programs. In July, the couple moved to Winston-Salem, N.C., where McGill is pursuing his master



of divinity from Wake Forest University School of Divinity. He also recently accepted a youth pastor position at Piney Grove Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, N.C.

Genevieve Rodriguez, '12, sang at the 2012 presidential inauguration in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 21 with the Lee University Festival Choir. She is currently pursuing a master's degree in music education at Lee University.

2010s

ENGAGEMENTS, MARRIAGES,
BIRTHS & ANNIVERSARIES



1990s

David Rollins, '99, and **Contessa Payne Rollins, '99**, are elated to announce the birth of their first son, Gareth Lucan, on June 27, 2012. He weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces, and was 21 inches long. His big sister, Camalai, is excited and proud to have a new sibling. The family currently resides in Powder Springs.



2000s

Marisa Wilzman Prosser, '05, and her husband, Seth Prosser, are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Briley Belle, on July 5, 2012. She weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces, and was 20.5 inches long. The family resides in Watertown, N.Y.



Brian Dale Smith, '09, and **Carrie Ann Dixon, '09**, were married on March 10, 2012. They are both from Elberton and currently reside in Athens, Ga.



YHC Trustee Inducted into CSRA Business Hall of Fame

Young Harris College trustee and chair of the endowment committee Wyck Knox was recently recognized as an exemplary business and community leader by Junior Achievement when he was inducted into the CSRA Business Hall of Fame, which recognizes and celebrates outstanding individuals whose pursuits in business and philanthropy inspire young people to become leaders and community advocates.

In 1976, Knox and partner David Zacks founded Knox & Zacks law firm in Augusta, which later merged into Kilpatrick Townsend of Atlanta. That same year, Knox became chairman and CEO of Knox Rivers Construction Company, a family road construction business he oversaw for more than 19 years. He has been active in law and business for nearly 50 years.

He is a partner of Knox Properties and president of Knox Charity Fund. He was a founding director and chairman of the board of the Georgia Lottery Corporation and a member of the Metropolitan Atlanta Olympic Games Authority. Knox serves as a director of AGL Resources and a trustee of the Ida Cason Callaway Foundation. He has served on the YHC Board of Trustees since 2007.

YHC trustee Wyck Knox and his wife, Shell, attended the CSRA Business Hall of Fame awards dinner on Jan. 31.



Current and Retired Faculty Enjoy Special Dinner

Last fall, Young Harris College's Office of Alumni Services hosted a dinner for current and retired faculty. The group shared stories of their days spent teaching at YHC and got to hear about what's going on at the College today.

Many administrators and faculty addressed the group including YHC President Cathy Cox, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Dr. Christopher Sass, Associate Professor of English Janice Moore, Professor of Music, Director of Choral and Vocal Activities, and Musical Theatre Program Co-Coordinator Jeff Bauman, and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Faculty and Professor of English and Creative Writing Dr. Gary Myers.

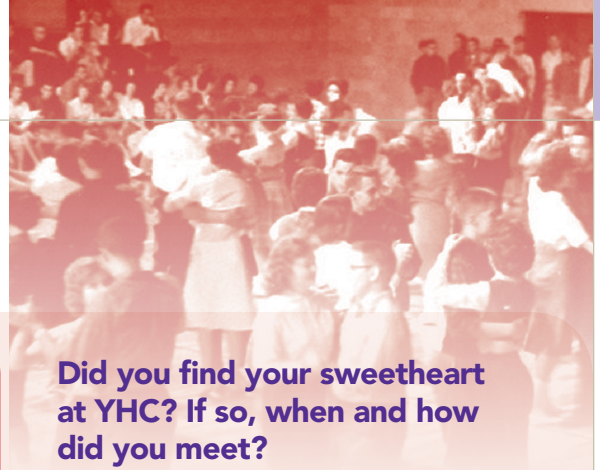
In addition to President Cox (front row, second from left), many retired faculty attended the dinner, including (front row, L-R) Dr. John Kay, '56, Barbara Hale, Rev. Katie Strals, (back row, L-R) Dick Aunspaugh, Dr. David Franklin, Dr. Clay Dotson, O.V. Lewis, Dr. Jim Hale, Tom Jeffery and Dale Cochran.



Let's Face It!

Young Harris College is buzzing on Facebook with great conversations between alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends. **Memory Lane Monday** was a huge hit this spring, as alumni shared fond memories about their days in the Enchanted Valley..

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



Did you find your sweetheart at YHC? If so, when and how did you meet?

Met my sweet YHC girl Amanda Phillips Bolton at a mutual friend's birthday, proposed on our brick in front of the student center, had Rev. Fred Whitley officiate. Almost a decade and two kids later, I would have to say YHC gave me the love of my life.

MARCUS BOLTON, '96

Not at YHC. I would have been one of the guys sitting in the bleachers, or standing by the door.

FREDDY LOCKMAN, '66

I met my sweetie (now my wife of 28 years) right there in that building at an EBE basketball practice!

ROBERT RESPESS, '75

My sweetheart, Alan Johnson, and I met in the lunch line. I was serving up one of Granny's wonderful cakes in 1976. We will be celebrating our 31st anniversary this year!

TRISH DREWRY JOHNSON, '78

Met there in 1972 but had another boyfriend at the time. We reconnected later at the five-year reunion and have been married almost 32 years.

KATHY GILMER, '74

Met my best friend Vicki Lovin in front of Center in 1979. She was drinking a peanut butter milkshake. Married almost 30 years.

PAUL VEST, '81

I met my husband David at YHC in the woods!

MICHELLE PARHAM GODZISZ, '00

I didn't know a soul attending YHC that August of 1983. I met a young lady in the hallway of Center who would change my life forever—Pam Rider! It was instant friendship and beyond! She is still my best friend 30 years later! So many friendships forged in those two years. All my Phi Delta sisters and so many others are still kicking today. Meeting all of those people, spending those years together and still having them in my life is one of the greatest gifts I have ever received! Thanks YHC!

CHRISTIE KIRK, '85

I met my best friend, Stephanie Igou, at YHC, and I have to say that my fondest memories are of our days in classes with Dr. Steve Harvey, Dr. Lee March and Dr. David Franklin. So many wonderful teachers and memories to choose from.

ALICIA MANDIN-HOWARD, '99

Meeting Bobby Bolton sparked my longest and most treasured friendship—traveling the roads and enjoying the friendships of our fraternity life. I have many best friends from that era, and to this day we still socialize. Young Harris is responsible for ALL my friends and I love each and every one of them!

BILL CARRIER, '76

We had great laughs over tuna and crackers in West dorm. There are six of us still in touch after all these years!

PATRICIA H. HURST, '74

My roommate at YHC was Eileen Marshall—we met at YHC in 1969 and have remained best friends. We've been through a lot together over the years. She has a summer home next door to my house in Young Harris.

DONNA L. BARRETT, '71

Did you meet your best friend at YHC and, if so, what is your favorite memory of your student days together?

After leaving YHC more than 25 years ago as a student, many of my closest relationships are still with some of my fellow classmates. It was an incredible experience during a very transformational time.

RUSTY ROYSTON, '88

I have so many wonderful friends that remain in my heart even if I don't see them much. My life was changed forever by YHC!

KATHY FLOYD, '80



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In April, Young Harris College officially broke ground on the new \$41 million, 125,000-square-foot Rollins Campus Center that is designed to catapult the student experience at YHC into the 21st century. Named for its \$22 million lead gift from the O. Wayne Rollins Foundation, the Rollins Campus Center will become the signature facility at the College—the social and intellectual heart of campus. **Find out more about the development of this new facility in the next issue of *Echoes*.**



» Scan this code to watch the progress of the Rollins Campus Center in real time!

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 faculty and more. Subscribe to *Today@YHC* now by visiting yhc.edu/alumni.

TODAY @ YHC