



PTK brings home the gold pg. 2

GC Presents: "An Educated Evening" pg. 5



Friday, April 4, 2014

Volume IV, Issue VII

Grayson Lady Vikings secure two victories over Ranger College Saturday

Get Involved

Sweet Treats Stop

First Wednesdays
9:00-10:00 a.m.
Student Life Center, 2nd Floor

April First-Friday Connection Breakfast

Friday, 4 April
7:00-9:00 a.m.
Life Center Community Room
Employees: please register when you arrive. Sponsored by GC and hosted by Student Life.

April First-Tuesday Connection Breakfast

Tuesday, 1 April
8:00-9:00 a.m.
Main foyer, South Campus

SGA/Student Clubs Community Service Project-"Litter Pickup"

Thursday, 17 April
12:00-1:00 p.m.
FM 691 and Main Campus
Calling all GC student club and organization members to participate in this roadside and campus clean up! Meet in front of the BSM. Transportation and safety vests will be provided.

Spring Table Games Tournament

Including: ping pong, 8-ball, foosball and video games.
Tournament registration: 18 February - 1 March
Play begins 18 March.
Tournament ends 5 April.
Personalized shirts are given to each winner. Students and employees are encouraged to participate!

Veteran Registration

Thursday, 10 April
8 a.m.-4 p.m.
Life Center Second Floor and the Bridge
Contact the Veterans office for details.

Spring 2014 Student Leadership Series

Monday, 22 April
12:15-12:45 p.m.
LA 107
April speaker:
Ms. Andrea Brenn
Chief Nursing Officer,
Texoma Medical Center
Business leaders share their leadership philosophy in today's competitive environment. Students and employees are invited. Sponsors: CWL Advisory Board, SGA and Student Life.

April "Late Night Food Event"

Thursday, 17 April
9:00-10:00 p.m.
Life Center Food Court
Spaghetti, sides, dessert and drink available. Meal provided by Great Western Dining Service. Sponsored by Student Life. FREE to students and employees.

Evening of Excellence

Monday, 21 April
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Life Center Second Floor, the Bridge and the HUB
This event recognizes GC students for their academic and service excellence. Family, friends and the community are invited. Sponsored by the Honors and Awards Committee.

Recruit-Back Party

Tuesday, 22 April
Life Center Second Floor, the HUB and the Life Center East Patio
This event encourages current students to get registered for the minimester, summer sessions and/or the fall semester. Advising and payment services will be available as well. Contact Counseling services for additional information.



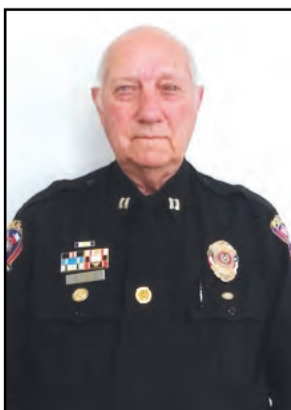
Christina Guckes found an opening in left field to score a double for the Lady Vikings in the bottom of the fourth inning, putting the score at 7-0. The team would finish the game 7-1 and their second match 4-2. *Continued on page 2.*

After 64 years, one officer is still wearing a badge at 86

Ann Smajstrla
Reprinted with permission from the Herald Democrat

It is hard to know where to begin when describing the ongoing career of 86-year-old Grayson College Police Capt. B.F. Wade.

At the beginning of the interview for this article Wade gave a run-down of his accomplishments, all the while exhibiting humility. He has worked in law enforcement for 64 years for four different departments and still works to this day.



He earned the rarely-given "dinosaur award" from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement. The local Travis Masonic Lodge awarded Wade a 60-year pin. The Sons of the American Revolution bestowed upon Wade their highest lifetime achievement honor. He has been married to his wife,

Marie, for nearly 67 years. The two have four children, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Wade has seen law enforcement evolve from the days when police officer training lasted one day and squad cars did not have seat belts or air conditioning, to modern times. Wade made it clear during the interview that that he genuinely enjoys helping people. It is that enjoyment that has kept him working all these years.

Wade was born and raised in Savoy and graduated from Savoy High School in 1944. In 1945 at the age of 17, Wade enlisted in the U.S. Navy. During his 15-month service he spent time on the USS White Plains in the Pacific Theater.

"I am honored to know that I served in World War II. There's not a lot of people left that served in it," he said.

After discharge from the Navy, Wade returned to Sherman and began working delivering groceries. He wanted a full-time job that offered more stability. Then Sherman Police Chief Johnny Burleson knew Wade was looking for work and suggested he apply to be a police officer. Wade followed Burleson's suggestion and,

on Sept. 1, 1949, began what would become a lifetime career in law enforcement.

"My training as a police officer was one day on the street with an old detective, Bevo Atnip," Wade said.

Wade worked as a Sherman police officer until 1951. Atnip advised Wade that he may have better opportunity for promotion by working for the Texas Highway Patrol. Wade began training for the Texas Highway Patrol in January of 1951.

For 34 years, Wade worked as a State Trooper in the Highway Patrol. He spent about 20 years of that time working in Grayson and Fannin counties. He was then commissioned as a special Texas Ranger and worked as a special deputy marshal in the Sherman U.S. Marshall's office.

"It was a job that was highly recognized as one of the best police organizations in the country. And me being a part of that made me more dedicated to it and made me enjoy the fact that I belonged to that organization," Wade said.

Throughout his careers in law enforcement, Wade said

Continued on page 6

Lady Viking Softball

Head Coach: Theresa Barnett
Asst. Coach: Mandi Corbin



Brooklin Olson
Outfield

Started 12/18 games,
Stolen Bases: 1/2, Runs: 3



Apryl Weber
Shortstop

Started 30/30 games,
POs: 31, Double Plays: 6



Alicia Weber
Second Base

Batting Avg: 0.300, Triples: 2,
Runs: 29, Double Plays: 3



Mckala Walls
Shortstop

No Stats Available



Christina Guckes
Catcher/Third Base

Started 12/20 games, Batting
Avg: 0.366, Doubles: 4



Jordan Gunderson
Pitcher/Outfield

Batting Avg: 0.372,
Shutouts: 1, Strikeouts: 48



Lady Viking Softball



Nina Castillo

Third Base
Batting Avg: 0.384, Home Runs: 6, Bases Stolen: 4/4



Kaitlynn Callier

Utility
Started 10/10 games, POs: 61, Double Plays: 4



Rachel Sutton

First Base
Started 18/26 games, POs: 96, Double Plays: 3



Courtney Ford

Outfield
Started 7/12 games, Batting Avg: 0.400, POs: 3



Courtnee Jones

Pitcher/First Base
Batting Avg: 0.313, POs: 117, Strikeouts: 47, Shutouts: 2



Lexes Wilson

Pitcher/Third Base
Assists: 3, Strikeouts: 1



Raven Gutierrez

Outfield
Runs: 2, Stolen Bases: 2/2

PTK and the Texas Regional Convention

Andy McDaniel
PTK PR Officer

A group of twelve Grayson Phi Theta Kappa members traveled to Houston on 27 February to attend the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Regional Convention. Texas is a large enough state that it has a region all its own so with the exception of one industrious Kansas boy, we rallied with approximately 500 Texans from all across the state.

The convention was a chance to elect new Regional officers and say 'goodbye' to those who were leaving office, as well as induct new alumni into the Alumni Association. Our Grayson attendees shared some of their favorite moments of the convention:

Omicron Psi President April Tocci: "My favorite part of regionals was our chapter running for office. We were able to learn so much about the process, how other chapters do things on a day-to-day basis, as well as about ourselves. We were able to reach out and meet new people, sometimes even stepping outside our comfort zones. What an awesome chance for person-

al growth!"

Member Cheyene Guedea: "My favorite moment was when Ms. Linder got Most

ers, I was giving myself an out. I could say that I could have had a good time and danced if I wanted to, but I

full name was called and she was looking around all confused when we were cheering for her."

Leadership Development Officer Katie Jo Turner: "Spending time with an amazing group of people."

Including Chapter and individual awards, Omicron Psi brought home fourteen awards! As mentioned, Professor Mary Linder was recognized as the Most Distinguished Chapter Advisor. Three officers were awarded Texas Hall of Honor medals and the chapter earned a College Project Award.

The chapter travelled back home 2 and 3 March after being detained by the ice storm. Everyone is glad to be back home and eager for Nerd Nation in April!

The Chapter Awards will soon be in the display case in the Liberal Arts Building so that we can share our success with all of Grayson!

Did you get an invitation from Phi Theta Kappa? Why haven't you joined? Visit www.ptk.org or see Professor Mary Linder in LA 106F today and join us at the next convention!



The Omicron Psi team brought home fourteen awards: the Gold Star Award, the College Project and Honors in Action Participation Award, the Communication Award of Merit, the Friend of Texas Award to Chase Machen, the College Project Award of Merit, three Hall of Honor Awards for Outstanding Members, Most Distinguished Advisor to Mary Linder and five District II Hall of Honor Awards.

Distinguished Chapter Advisor!"

Secretary Laura McMeley: "[The] motivational speech by Shannon Pickard. His advice to do something that makes you feel foolish to boost your confidence inspired me to finally get out on the dance floor and dance. He made me realize that by standing on the sidelines and joining in a group of people jeering at the danc-

was too cool. I was avoiding facing the possibility of failure. This time, I actually got out on the floor and didn't hold back. Even though I felt a bit foolish at times, and I didn't know any of the steps, I had a great time and was able to encourage some of my fellow chapter members to join me and increase their confidence level as well."

Alumni Jesus Sosa: "My favorite was when Andy's

Veteran achievement in higher ed: Million Records Project

Gary Starr
VA Coordinator

The Million Records Project (MRP) was planned and implemented by Student Veterans of America (SVA) to address gaps in knowledge and ultimately determine best practices and policies that foster student veteran success.

Until MRP, accurate data for academic outcomes of student veterans has been marred with inconsistent methods that create confusion about student veteran completion rates. The result of a public-private partnership among SVA, the National Student Clearinghouse and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), MRP explores the postsecondary academic

outcomes of nearly one million student veterans who initially used Montgomery and Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits between 2002 and 2010.

The facets explored in phase one of MRP include student veteran postsecondary completion rates, time-to-completion, level of education and degree fields.

These nontraditional students face many challenges that can delay graduation including deployments, delayed enrollment due to service and full time jobs. Like other nontraditional student populations, they tend to be older, have families to support and juggle employment and school. Student veterans are unique in that they may delay their enrollment or have multiple breaks in enrollment due to military

obligations or service-connected disabilities.

Initial results show strong success rates for student veterans in higher education. A majority (51.7 percent) of student veterans in this sample earned a postsecondary degree or certificate, despite the challenges they face.

As we welcome home Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation New Dawn (OND) combat veterans, they will need established and continued support within the postsecondary arena. This takes time, energy and resources. Above all, it takes a commitment from the top down and from the bottom up!

Let's increase the success rate of our Grayson College student veterans. At the very

minimum we can honor their service through empowerment and advocacy.

Veterans Registration Day

Thursday, 10 April, 2014
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Student Life Center Bridge/ Veterans Affairs Office

Vets can take advantage of this date to register early and get the classes, time and instructor that works best for them.

Veterans Staff will be providing the following:

- Academic Advising, Registration and Certification!
- Dallas VA Benefit Specialists, Health Specialists and VA Advisors on site!
- Professional Networking Opportunities!
- Gas Card Giveaways and Free Prizes!

Lady Vikings devastate Ranger College at home

Aaron Kaiserman

Our Lady Vikings are 11-5 in Conference play riding a two-game winning streak. The big bats of Freshmen Jordan Gunderson and Nina Castillo are leading the way. Sophomores Diana Rodriguez and Alicia Weber have made a splash as well.

These Conference stats put Grayson in a three-way tie for third place. The top six teams make it to the regional tournament 2-4 May, which will be held at TWU in Denton.

I highly suggest more support at the home games, where our Lady Vikings are 10-6. They deserve a lot more attention, as they are giving Grayson County a good name in the softball community. I see parents making the trip from Flower Mound as well other communities; we have to make a better effort of attending and showing love to a very talented team. As the Lady Vikings prepare to finish the season strong in route to Regionals, I got ask a few of the ladies some questions:

What are your goals for the season?

"To go far in Regionals." -Courtney Ford

"To make it to Regionals." -Rachel Monfries

"Take it one game at a time and focus on the whole pic-

ture." -Kiersten Gunderson

Who is your favorite professor on campus?

"It's got to be between Ms. Linder and Ms. Robinson." -Courtnee Jones

Who do you consider your role model?

"I would have to say my dad." -Nina Castillo

If you could live anywhere in world, where would it be?

"Hawaii, I love the water!" -Diana Rodriguez

What music do you listen to on Gameday?

"Twerk it Radio' on Pandora." -Christina Guckes

"Krunk Music!" -Raven Gutierrez

How do you feel about softball being dropped from the Olympics?

"I feel like it shouldn't have been [dropped]." -Mallory Smith

What is the key to managing athletics and academics?

"Just taking it one day at a time, don't make it overwhelming." -Jordan Gunderson

Does the baseball team present you a challenge?

"No challenge at all! I wish!" -Mckala Wall

I personally want to wish the rest of the squad good luck and let you know I appreciate you ladies putting on that Grayson uniform.

Give the other teams hell the rest of the way! ♥



Triple threat Jordan Gunderson claims one of the highest batting averages on the team, with 35 hits, two doubles and five homeruns. As pitcher, she has nine total wins under her belt and one shutout victory, meaning that she threw the whole game without letting the opponent score.

New policy on electronic cigarette usage

The GC Board approved a revised tobacco policy at their meeting on Tuesday, 25 March.

The new policy states: To promote a healthy campus environment, Grayson College does not allow the use of tobacco products or any electronic smoking devices in college buildings or vehicles. Tobacco products and electronic smoking devices are permitted only in designated areas or parking lots.



The Student Veteran Program has arrived at GC



- Are you looking for academic assistance?
- Do you need career counseling?
- Having trouble transitioning?
- Do you need to connect with veteran peers?
- Want options for mental health counseling?

Stop by the Veterans Affairs office, we are here to help!

Student Veteran Program (SVP)
Monday & Wednesday, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Bridge, Second Floor Student Life Center

Sallie Mae to separate into two companies

Michelle Flores
Financial Aid Counselor

Sallie Mae, a member of our federal loan servicer team, has announced that it will separate into two distinct companies—Navient and Sallie Mae—later this year.

The new company, Navient, will assume all the responsibilities previously performed by Sallie Mae as a federal loan servicer. A loan servicer is a company that handles the billing and other services on your federal student loan. The loan servicer works with you on repayment plans and loan consolidation and assists you with other tasks related to your federal student loan.

If Sallie Mae is the loan servicer for your William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program loans owned by the U.S. Department of Education (ED), Navient will manage those loans beginning in fall 2014. Your loans will not be transferred. This is a name change, and it will not impact the existing terms, conditions, interest rate or available repayment plans of your federal student loans.

Note: If you have FFEL Program loans not owned by ED but serviced by Sallie Mae today, Navient will manage those loans later this fall. If you have private education loans serviced by Sallie Mae, you will receive information in the coming months with information about those loans.

If your federal loan servicer is Sallie Mae, there is no action you need to take at this time. Over the next several months, Sallie Mae and ED will contact you and provide details of the name change and any actions you may need to take.

We encourage you to review the frequently asked questions below to understand how this change may impact you in the future. If you have questions, contact Sallie Mae directly at 1-800-722-1300.

FAQs

Do I need to take any action if Sallie Mae is not my federal loan servicer?

No. If Sallie Mae is not your federal loan servicer, you will not be impacted by this change.

Is there an immediate change for me if Sallie Mae is not my federal loan servicer?

No. There's nothing you need to do now, and you'll know about the changes well in advance. There will be only a couple of mi-

nor changes that will affect you—the name of your loan servicer and the servicer's website—and the changes won't be implemented until fall 2014. Over the next several months, Sallie Mae and ED will contact you about the name change to Navient.

Will the terms and conditions of my federal student loans be impacted by this change?

No. This change in servicer name will not impact the existing terms, conditions, interest rate or available repayment plans of your federal student loans.

Will I need to use a different phone number to reach Navient in fall 2014?

No. The phone number you use today to contact Sallie Mae for assistance with your federal student loans will be the phone number you'll use to contact Navient after the name change occurs in the fall.

Will I need to use a different mailing address after the name change to Navient in fall 2014?

No. With the exception of including the new company's name, the mailing address you use today to contact Sallie Mae will be the mailing address you'll use to contact Navient after the name change occurs in the fall.

Will I need to use a different website after the name change to Navient in fall 2014?

Yes. Navient will have a new website for you to use, but all of the same information about your federal student loans will be there. Sallie Mae will tell you more about the new website in its e-mails over the next several months. During the transition period, Sallie Mae will link to the new website from its existing site. Until the name change occurs, you'll continue to use the existing website.

Will I need to redo actions related to the current status of my federal student loan account (for example, reapply for a deferment or forbearance) after the name change to Navient in fall 2014?

No. Your federal student loan account status will not change after the name change to Navient occurs in the fall. In addition, if you have a request in process when the name change occurs, it will be completed by Navient.

Will I need to reestablish my preferred payment method for my federal student loans after the name change to Navient in fall 2014?

No. You'll continue on the same payment method for

your federal student loans that you've been on with Sallie Mae and won't need to reestablish that payment method with Navient after the name change occurs in the fall.

As an example, if your payment method with Sallie Mae is automatic debit, your payment method will be automatic debit with Navient. You'll need to take action only if you decide to change payment methods later.

If I make federal student loan payments by check or through a bank or bill paying service, will I need to take any action after the name change to Navient in fall 2014?

Yes. If you make federal student loan payments by check or use a bank or bill paying service to make your federal student loan payments, you'll need to begin using Navient's name after the name change occurs in the fall. Until that time, you'll continue to use Sallie Mae's name.

Although you'll need to use Navient's name when instructed, the payment address that you use today with Sallie Mae to make federal student loan payments by check or through a bank or bill paying service will be the payment address used by Navient. ♥

Provided by: Federal Student Aid

“Flash” Classes

Marc Akibode

Beginning 17 March, 2014, the Grayson College Writing Center (Library 110) is offering special training classes covering information literacy, source citation and integrating source information. This is a three weeks program; each covers a specific aspect of writing assignments that require academic research.

These classes are free and opened to every student on campus. The first sessions of these particular classes were about information literacy: how to find what is necessary for the assignment, what information to use and how to relate information and subject. For four weekdays in a row, Monday through Thursday at lunch, Writing Center Coordinator Kay Dishner addresses some critical writing issues like how to get access to information and integrate it into an essay using our library database resources.

The week after, the class focused on how to adequately write citations; it referred to parenthetical citations and works cited pages. The Little Brown Book: Brief, Easybib.com and Citationmachine.net are fabulous utilities that students could use.

Learning how to formally write an essay is basic for college students. These classes are really valuable not just only for the available knowledge but also for the teaching of precious skills required to succeed in life.

“Flash Classes” are held for twenty minutes. How much information could we digest in twenty minutes? It is all about how focused and prepared we are. Again, these classes are practical; they offer one more opportunity to master tools with the assistance of writing professionals.

The Writing Center abounds with resources for today and tomorrow. Once set, these skills would broadly help students: from English essays to History research papers and also report writing. ♥

Lady Viking Softball



Diana Rodriguez
Utility

Started 28/28 games, Runs: 25, Doubles: 5, Stolen Bases: 5/5



Kelsie Finch
Catcher

Started 22/23 games, POs: 72, Doubles: 4



Rachel Monfries
Utility

No Stats Available



Kaitlyn Mosley
Pitcher/Outfield

Strikeouts: 22, Assists: 3



Kiersten Gunderson
Catcher

Started 9/14 games, POs: 35, Doubles: 2



Sara Smith
Utility

Started 11/18 games, Runs: 5, Doubles: 1, POs: 10



Mallory Smith
Third Base

No Stats Available

COMING SUMMER 2014

GRAYSON

SUMMERYOUTHPROGRAM & COLLEGE FOR KIDS

COLLEGE

For ages 5-13 years old

Contact the CWL for more information 903-463-8765

“Every Scholar has a goal, a determination and a drive that sets them apart.”

Amber Manie, Tillman Military Scholar 2012

PRE-POST 9/11 VETERANS & VETERAN SPOUSES!

APPLY NOW for the **Tillman Military Scholars Program**

The scholarship covers educational expenses, including tuition and fees, books and living stipend.

Contact the **Veteran Affairs Office** for **More Information**

veterans@grayson.edu • 903-415-2615

Editorial Information: The Viking is published by Writers Unlimited and Sigma Kappa Delta as an ongoing service project to the college. Participation in the production of The Viking is open to all students, faculty and staff at Grayson College. The newspaper is provided as a forum for public opinion, and views expressed in The Viking do not necessarily reflect the policy of Sigma Kappa Delta, the Board of Trustees, the administration or the faculty and staff at Grayson College.

Tocci receives Coca Cola's Bronze Scholar award

Shelle Cassell
Director, Market & Public Information

Grayson College sophomore April Tocci is one of only 50 students nationally who was named a 2014 Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Bronze Scholar. She will receive a \$1,000 scholarship and a commemorative bronze medallion.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation sponsors the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team program by recognizing 50 gold, 50 silver and 50 bronze scholars, and providing nearly \$200,000 in scholarships annually. Scholars were chosen from more than

1,700 nominees across the country who were selected to represent their community colleges.

Tocci was selected by an independent panel of judges that considered outstanding academic rigor, grade point average, academic and leadership awards and engagement in college and community service. In addition to exemplary academic record, Tocci is president of Omicron Psi, Grayson College's Phi Theta Kappa chapter.

PTK is an honor society that administers the Coca-Cola Community College Academic Team Program and recognizes Coca-Cola Academic Team scholars during All-State Community College Academic

Team Recognition ceremonies held in 38 states. Student scholars also receive recognition locally during ceremonies held on campus and internationally for those who attend PTK's Annual Convention 24-26 April in Orlando, Fla.

"We thank the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation for their vote of confidence in community college students by investing in their futures," said Dr. Rod Risley, executive director of Phi Theta Kappa. "Their support is especially welcome during this challenging economic climate, as more and more community college students need additional resources to help them complete their degrees."

J. Mark Davis, president of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, says the foundation has a long history of providing financial assistance to outstanding community college students. "We are proud to partner with Phi Theta Kappa and make it possible for deserving students to achieve their educational goals," he said.

Led by Tocci as president, Grayson College's Phi Theta Kappa chapter recently received the organization's Five Star Award for the fifth straight year. The award recognizes top performing chapters based on completion of specific projects designed to meet hallmarks of scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship. She

also was named to the society's Hall of Honor and to the District II Hall of Honor for her service and contributions to PTK.

PTK is the largest honor society in American higher education with more than 1,285 chapters on two-year and community college campuses in all 50 of the United States, Canada, Germany, Peru, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the British Virgin Islands, the United Arab Emirates and U.S. territorial possessions. Nearly 3 million students have been inducted since its founding in 1918, with approximately 131,000 students inducted annually.

Cultural Diversity club: five years of community involvement

Emmanuel Ambendet

The Cultural Diversity Club is happy to inform that we have completed all of our presentations for this semester. 19 March was our last date on the calendar and we presented in Howe Middle School. The countries presented that day were Nigeria, Benin and the Congo.

Overall we have presented six countries during this spring semester: Gabon and India add up to the list of countries mentioned above.

Each semester we try to do at least four presentations to middle school students; during those presentations we cover cultural topics such as dances, rites, religions, food, music, clothing, language, behaviors and many more. This does not, however, refrain some of our members from presenting on other topics such as politics and health issues in general. This is added the fact that we must always remain on a level at which students from seven to eleven years old can understand and identify with.

The two schools we have presented at so far are Howe Community Library and Montessori Academy of North Texas. We have had a long-lasting relationship with both schools. This year will be our third year presenting in MANT and the fifth in Howe.

Both schools are always happy to have us. Not only is it a fun way for them to actually learn and be sensible to world cultures, but also we contribute to their school programs. Indeed, MANT students have been studying Africa this semester, so having college students from Africa come and talk to them about the continent is as valuable as class lessons.

On the other hand, Howe has requested us to be involved in their after-school program. We meet them at the Howe Community Library at least twice a semester on a Wednesday afternoon for an hour of educational entertainment.

Through such educational events, we work on bringing to the community the uniqueness of our respec-



tive cultures in an attempt to break the walls of cultural misconception. One of our club's mission statement says "Encourage students to introduce their unique culture, ethnicity and heritage to the college and the surrounding community through programs, special events and collaboration with other organizations." Doing those presentations for five years now, we believe that we have successfully respected that principle so far.

As an officer of the CDC Club, I am also very happy to have been involved in those activities. On 12 February, I had the chance to present at the Montessori Academy of

North Texas.

I realized sometime after I arrived in the USA that some people do not know that there are actually two countries called "Congo" in Central Africa. Others simply cannot tell the difference between the two. Therefore, I tried to bring light on facts that distinguish one Congo from the other, and on the similarities that bring them together. I also aimed at breaking some of the stereotypes and misconceptions that people might have on Africa and the Congo.

I contrasted both countries, talking about their respective history, art and culture, and inherited nature.

Although my presentation was not exhaustive, I still gave a good overview of the most important things to know about the two countries.

Angela Magers, MANT director, says, "The CDC brings geography alive in our classrooms! It allows our students to make important connections and provides them with fun, interactive cultural experiences."

Hopefully, the Cultural Diversity Club will stay involved in the community and keep on working to fulfill all of its mission statements for the years to come.

PTK relays for cancer relief

Andy McDaniel
PTK PR Officer

Relay For Life is an important event, not just in the Texoma community, but also across the country and around the globe. This year Relay teams are representing various countries and "Walking for a Global Cure."

Our Phi Theta Kappa chapter's team is known as The Pink Flamingos and have selected Ireland as their country of choice for this year's event theme. This will be the sixth year that the Omicron Psi Chapter has participated in Relay For Life and in recent years has been one of the top fundraising chapters.

One of the reasons that Relay For Life is near and dear to us is because of one of our chapter member's, Cheyene Guedea. Cheyene was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid

Leukemia on 9 April, 2009, when she was 15 years old. AML is a rare form of cancer that starts in cells that would normally evolve into blood cells in the bone marrow. The 'acute' part of AML means that it is aggressive, and Cheyene had a genetic mutation that made her case of AML even more problematic.

She was launched into three rounds of intense high-dose induction therapy and given a double umbilical cord blood stem cell transplant on 16 October, 2009. Cheyene was the first patient at Children's Medical Center in Dallas to undergo this kind of treatment. She battled complications, hair loss and the heavy emotional trauma of being a teenager while all of this happened to her. Now in 2014, Cheyene has been in remission

for four years and is planning her transfer to Texas Tech in 2015 to pursue her BSN (Bachelors of Science in Nursing) after she completes her last year of nursing school at Grayson College.

People Relay for myriad reasons. They Relay for parents, grandparents, friends, spouses or children. Sadly, the list goes on and on. We Relay not just for those who we have lost, but also those who survive. Join us 2 May at 7 p.m. at the Denison High School Track as we walk to end cancer. The Pink Flamingos is open to anyone who wants to walk in Relay For Life. Visit www.relayforlife.org/graysoncotx to sign up or contact Professor Mary Linder in LA 106F for additional information. ♥



Phi Theta Kappa is teaming up with local restaurants to raise money for Relay for Life. Restaurants: Cotton Patch in Denson, Tuesday 15 April from 4-close. Chick-fil-a in Sherman, Thursday 24 April all day long. Anyone who participates just needs to let them know they are there in support of Relay for Life and they will then donate a percent of their bill to the foundation. You must bring a flyer to participate. Anyone who is interested can pick a flyer up at the front desk in the library or get with Mrs. Linder.

The Viking asks: what could GC do to reduce its ecological footprint?

"From the perspective of carbon footprints, unfortunately there is very little that I think Grayson could accomplish because much of the carbon footprint comes from the cars that people are driving--so it's not exactly something that the college can control. How much do students really want to pay, in addition to tuition, on a new car with a smaller carbon footprint?"

-Patrick Schaab



"One [way] would be to install a print management system in our computer labs. Basically getting software and a set-up that would enable students to manage their own print jobs."

-Andrew Smith, Librarian

"We don't have a lot of recycling bins around here and that would help. And the styrofoam cups that people use, those are kind of bad for the environment."

-Chelsea Britt



"There are things that could be done that wouldn't cost anything and would take probably even less effort than what might be done right now. What happens to the food waste? How many teachers take their extra paper that would otherwise be thrown away and actually walk out into the hall to the recycle bins? To really have a good answer, more questions need to be raised."

-David Harman



"One large area for improvement would be to reduce the amount of printed documentation we generate. A printed page may only cost 1-5 cents but, when multiplying the number of pages printed to accomplish a task by the number of times we repeat these tasks each semester, reducing even a few pages per procedure would not only be great for the environment, but it could also be a substantial savings in ink, ton-



er, and paper costs for the college each year."

-John Dick, Professor



"Honestly, they have all the recycling bins around--they seem to be doing a good job."

-Cecelia Pletan

“An Educated Evening” combines food, wine and scholarship

Rebecca Jones
Editor

In its third year, Grayson College’s “An Educated Evening” program is relatively new to the Denison Arts and Wine Weekend tour but, according to Executive Chef Joanna Bryant of the GC Culinary Arts Department, is “getting better with age.”

Complete with an incredible five-course meal and wine pairings courtesy of GC’s Enology and Viticulture Department and Wine Club, the dinner benefits the Culinary Arts Department by donating the entry fee and silent auction proceeds to an endowed scholarship for Culinary Arts students.

The reception was held at the lovely Thomas Volney Munson Historic Home, a Victorian-style home built in 1887. Munson’s renowned work as a viticulturist earned him (and the city of Denison) international fame. According to the Handbook of Texas Online, “his studies were instrumental in sav-



Denison’s sister city. Donors met in the historic home to share their first glasses of wine and place bids on the many items up for auction.

All items and services offered were contributions of the North Texas community and dedicated Culinary Arts Department staff. Hot ticket items included “Wine Tasting for 10,” a set of knives with a “priceless” one-on-one lesson from Rusty Weatherly and dinner for 12 at Grayson’s student-run restaurant, 691.

Weatherly, Director of Hospitality Management and Culinary Arts at GC, says that the department sells approximately 60 tickets and earns between \$1,600 and \$1,800 annually. The young culinary program at GC was first approached by the Downtown Denison League two years ago to get involved.

The first year’s theme honored Cognac, France, while last year’s event celebrated local foods and student-created wines. The inspiration for this year’s cuisine and wine pairings was Spain; each course and its complimentary wine represented a different region.

After mingling over the appetizers, stuffed olives, prunes wrapped in bacon and stuffed Manchego cheese puffs with a sparkling Rondel Brut Cava, guests made their way across the

street to the Vinita Heritage Center to be seated for dinner.

I was lucky to find a seat next to Dallas business owner and wine connoisseur Luigi Carleo, who truly made the experience educational. Carleo explained the finer points of wine analysis with



a sense of humor that kept other guests rolling in their chairs.

During the second course, a duo of Gazpacho Soup and Blood Orange Salad with a medium-bodied Val Do Sosego (brand) Albariño (variety) Rias Baixas (region) wine, Director Weatherly conversed with my table about the progress of the Culinary Arts Department at GC. Just shy of three years old, the program has only

had eleven graduates so far, but that number is expected to more than double this year. Along with the culinary students, the meal was served by members of the college’s Wine Club.

The third mouthwatering course consisted of Bacalao Fritters with a zesty Romes-

Paella with rice, slow-cooked mussels, chicken, shrimp and spicy chorizo sausage, conversation slowed as each table dug in. The paella was served with 100% Tempranillo grape Montebuena Rioja from Cosena, Spain. Carleo explained some simple distinctions that could be made between this wine and the last. A purple tone signifies a younger wine, while swirling a shallow glass of wine and observing the droplets that form around the inside of the glass can be an indication of the beverage’s alcohol content. These droplets are referred to as ‘legs’ or ‘tears’; more discernible legs point to a higher alcohol level.

The final course, rich almond cake with butter cream frosting, was offset by a non-vintage Sherry called La Bodega de Mitchell. This appetizing alcoholic beverage was created by GC’s own Dr. Roy Mitchell, Professor Emeritus of Viticulture and Enology and winemaker at Homestead Winery. Mitchell and his wife Jane were gracious, expressing a keen interest in travel and, from the winemaker’s assay into Sherris (a tradition of southwestern Spain), communicating a vast depth of knowledge of wine across cultures.

The evening was most certainly educational and gave GC students the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and network with professionals from the area. The Denison Art and Wine Weekend showcases the best of what Denison’s creative community has to offer and



Grayson College is proud to participate. ♥



ing the European grape and wine industry from disaster during the late nineteenth century.” For this he was honored by the French Legion of Honor as Chevalier du Mérite Agricole and Cognac, France, was appointed

His Way: do not give up

Kay Dishner
Writing Center Assistant
Coordinator

“BUT WHEN JESUS HEARD IT, HE ANSWERED HIM SAYING, ‘DO NOT BE AFRAID, ONLY BELIEVE AND SHE WILL BE MADE WELL.’” (LUKE 8:50)

When Jesus spoke these words, Jairus had just been told that his only daughter had died. The thing he feared the most had happened.

Have you ever been to that place...where not only is there despair in seeing your worst fear realized, but also the relief that it is finally over and you can give up hoping? But, Jesus is right there saying “Don’t give up hope,” “If

you will not give up, I can still bring life out of death...”

Many times God allows our dreams to die in order to perform for us His way. It is when we hang on and believe, when there is no earthly reason to do so, that we are able to see the truly miraculous and supernatural hand of God work on our behalf.

It is here, at the point of no earthly hope, that we cross over into the eternal reality of the power of God and the grace and mercy of God. After we have crossed that line, then we are never the same again. We no longer depend upon what we can see, feel, taste or touch, but rather upon what God

says. Then we truly become citizens of His kingdom and begin to walk in His way.

So, if your earthly dream has died, then “Rejoice.” There is hope beyond hope and God will “show Himself strong on your behalf.” ♥



The Inevitable: a short story (Fiction, Part 2)

Blake Burley

Shocked from seeing the decrepit state that this visitor was in, Tom responded with a sudden defensiveness, “Who are you? How do you know who we are?”

“You need not worry who I am, or how I have come upon you two. For I come and I go where I please, helping who I want to help and condemning who I want to condemn. The inability to see has given me the ability to perceive, and I have perceived death approaching you.”

“Sir, understanding of you we are not. Explain yourself please,” questioned Tom. He and his son slowly stepped backwards fearing that this man was insane.

“Your questions will not be answered, I assure you. I have limited time, but

you can choose right now whether you will heed my advice or not.”

At that moment, their slow retreat was stopped short as the loud sound of a twig snapping resounded under Timmy’s foot.

The visitor peered deeply at the father and the son and saw a desire to learn so he continued on, “What I tell you, you mustn’t question, for what I say is complete truth.”

“You can speak and we’ll listen, but to apply your advice, we will decide on our own.”

With soft yet strong eyes, the unknown visitor continued, “The man you are so thankful for is not what you think. He is a cat and you are his mouse. He is a predator.”

They were struck by his words as if they were bricks. Tom retorted immediately,

“No! You are wrong. He has done nothing but p-p-pr-provide us with food from the heavens! He gives us food and food and more food!”

The blind visitor continued on speaking and Tom, with a sweet taste on his tongue, continued on, “We are able to live as fat royalty because of his generosity! You are a liar.”

Tom was livid and he stepped forward in aggression, but upon seeing the certainty in the eyes of the small man in front of him, he stopped and decided to walk away.

“Let’s go son, this man is crazy.”

Tom turned around and began walking away with his son. But Timmy’s ears were keen to listen.

Wind blew through the path and the visitor’s voice

April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

Mickinze VanHerpen

Governor Rick Perry designated April 2014 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in Texas. Nearly 2 million Texans have been sexually assaulted. That equals 1 in 5 women and 1 in 20 men in our state. Unfortunately, fewer than 20% of sexual assaults are ever reported to police for fear they won’t be believed or that nothing will be done.

SAAPM reminds us of the importance of collective responsibility of both men and women in raising awareness, responding to reports of sexual violence, understanding the dynamics of sexual violence and improving community efforts to stop it before it starts.

GC joins our local crisis center, Grayson Crisis Center,

and other crisis centers across the state in commemorating SAAPM to promote awareness and encourage support of this issue. To find out what GC is doing this month to support SAAPM efforts, please visit and like them on Facebook or follow their daily comments through the month of April on Twitter.

For more information about Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month please visit <http://www.nsvrc.org/saam/> sexual-assault-awareness-month-home. And to find out more about Grayson Crisis Center and about how you can support their efforts to end sexual violence in Grayson County visit graysoncrisiscenter.org

The National Sexual Assault Hotline number is 1-800-656-HOPE. ♥

was amplified. The certainty and conviction in his voice was as clear and solid as concrete. It was emotionless and it chilled Timmy’s bones; chilled it not with fear, but with truth.

“Do you not hear the ignorance in your own argument? What is good to one is good to another? A happy mouse makes an even happier owl. The fat in your body will soon be the fat of his body. Now he finds you, tomorrow he fattens, and then you will not see him again because from that point on, he will stick to the shadows as the predator.”

Timmy stopped short at the sound of these words. He knew that this was true, for no creature gives to another and asks for nothing in return.

“Timmy, you will come home with me if you know

what is best for you. Do not listen to the insanity of this man. Listen to me, your father, when I tell you that the food from heaven is filling and wonderful.” Tom did not slow his stride as he spoke, his head was held high in stubbornness. “You will return home to me hungry and regretful. Do as you please.”

Tom disappeared from the light of the path back into the darkness of the forest.

Timmy was still watching his dad’s figure grow smaller and smaller as he walked away when the voice of the old visitor rose again, “The predator hunts you tomorrow as he hunts you right now. Your death is his one desire. Do not be deceived.”

“What do I do?”

To be concluded in the May issue

Viking Photo(s) of the Month

Tony Stanzo, Dean of Academic Instruction here at GC, took these photos of a lava flow from Mt. Kilauea on the big island in Hawaii. "We chartered a small Coast Guard cutter," Stanzo said, for a two-hour trip at sunset. "We are viewing the lava as it flows into the ocean at night." Stanzo describes as the most technically difficult shots he has ever achieved. Overcoming six to eight foot swells and complicated lighting in terms of contrast and detail makes these photos truly unique.



Several hundred feet of steam rose from the ocean as lava crashed into the waves. "I saw the ocean boiling feet away from the boat," he says. Stanzo used a Nikon 2Ti with a telephoto lens and 6400 ISO film. Of the hundreds of shots he took that night, he says only about 25 were legible. "A clear view," Stanzo says, "was all dependent on timing."

"Sitting Shiva": a Jewish tradition of mourning explained

Dana Wills

Being Jewish there are many traditions, rituals and customs I have come to know of. However, people tend to choose to observe the traditions which are meaningful to them and may be less traditional in the customs they decide to follow. When someone passes away a custom I have come to know is "Sitting Shiva." Now that I am older I have been able to observe the ways of preparing the house and understanding the meaning of "Sitting Shiva."

After the burial, the immediate mourners return to a home called the "Shiva house," to begin a seven day period of mourning. Shiva is from the word Sheva, which means seven. This week is an emotional and spiritual healing time where the mourners sit low, dwell to-

gether and friends and loved ones come to comfort them with short visits, referred to as "Shiva calls." The only people who truly sit Shiva are the people who lost a parent, spouse, sibling or child. All other loved ones are also mourned, but the observances of Shiva do not apply.

When preparing the house there are certain rituals the mourners have to make. Such as when a mourner returns from the cemetery, those preparing the Shiva house will generally have a pitcher of water waiting outside for the mourners and visitors to wash their hands. This traditional cleansing occurs before anyone enters a Shiva house and is the ritual which distinguishes a mitzvah (worthy act) of honoring the dead from the mitzvah of comforting the bereaved.

Normally the front door is usually left unlocked to avoid the noise of doorbells or knocking and allowing visitors to enter peacefully and quietly. The mourners typically remove his or her shoes and refrain from wearing leather shoes. The process of mourning is difficult, painful and grief stricken. As part of the mourning process mourners traditionally sit on small chairs, stools or benches that are very low to the ground and noticeably uncomfortable. A visitor can sit on the furniture or other chairs made available.

The family in mourning lights a candle that burns for the traditional Shiva period of seven days. Also the family in mourning covers the mirrors, because a mourner needs to ignore his or her own physicality and vanity in order to concentrate on the reality of being a soul.

A mirror represents social acceptance through the enhancement of one's appearance. Jewish mourning is supposed to be lonely, silent, dwelling on one's personal loss. Covering the mirrors symbolizes this withdrawal from society's gaze.

The first meal served to the mourners is the condolence meal. Traditionally, foods associated with life are served such as hard boiled eggs. The family's tastes should be considered in preparing meat. Friends may bring food for the Shiva house to demonstrate care and concern for the mourners. Typically, visitors bring cakes, cookies, pastries, wine and fruits. The main reason behind the visitors bringing anything sweet is to get rid of the bitterness within the house.

After the seven days of Shiva are over everything

falls back into place for the most part. There are only a few traditions left to do, which only the mourners will do. My aunt Kim and my mother are the only two in mourning, but the family and friends are all in grieving. All of the traditions and rituals we ever did as a family were for my grandmother. We did everything we could to keep a smile on her face.

She was my motivation to graduate early, because I wanted her to be there to see it. Thankfully she was, and she also saw me begin my journey in college. Though she isn't here with us now she is watching over all of us everyday. By "Sitting Shiva" I was able to reconnect with family members I have not seen since I was a little girl, and my grandma would be proud of how everything turned out. ♥

INTERESTED IN READING, WRITING, EDITING OR PHOTOGRAPHY?

JOIN THE VIKING

TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR ALL POSITIONS

contact Rebecca Jones (jonesre@grayson.edu) or Marlea Trevino (trevinom@grayson.edu) for more info

B. F. Wade on 64 years of service: "I have no intentions of retiring"

Continued from page 1

he had several experiences that have stuck with him for their tragic nature. One of these experiences occurred a Christmas Eve while patrolling Fannin County.

"We had a man and his four children went and bought a TV for his wife and the children's mother. There's a railroad track in Trenton, and as they crossed the tracks the train hit them and killed all of them. And it was a very cold winter night," he recalled.

Over the years, Wade received several promotions and moved around the state to places like Midland and

Harlingen. Wade's last position with the Highway Patrol was as a Patrol Commander in Beaumont, from which he retired in 1984.

However, Wade's career in law enforcement was far from finished. In 1988 he began work as a bailiff for the 59th District Court.

"It was interesting because ... you'd hear the case from the beginning to the end. And then I enjoyed the fellowship with the jury. Because you bonded with them, being the only one that they could communicate with," Wade said.

After ending his full-time work as a bailiff in 1992, the chief of the Grayson College

Police approached Wade about becoming a part-time officer. Wade said he would accept the offer on the condition that he receive two to three months off each summer to travel. The chief agreed, and Wade has been at GC ever since.

The calls officers respond to at Grayson College differ from the calls Wade responded to as a police officer and trooper, Wade said. There are no high-speed chases, no major accidents and no drunken drivers. Arrests are rare. But Wade said he relishes the opportunity to help Grayson College students and staff on a daily basis.

"When you've got a dead battery, you're out of gas, you've got a flat tire, or you're locked out of your car, you're at somebody's mercy," Wade said. "And we're their mercy, because we can do those things for them."

While recounting his many years in public service, Wade said he has never once wished he had a different job, even though not every day has been pleasant.

"Three o'clock in the morning, icicles hanging off the car, get out of a warm bed and go out and wrestle someone drunk. That ain't funny. But it's still part of the day," he said.

While public service is

clearly a passion of Wade's, traveling is his favorite thing to do when he is not working. Wade and his wife have traveled via motor home to 49 states - including Alaska twice. The only state Wade has not visited is Hawaii.

"We can't get there in a motor home," he said, smiling.

Wade said he plans on continuing to work, as long as he's in good health and able to fulfill his duties.

"I have no date set to retire. I have no intentions of retiring," he said. "I'm happy that I've been able to be in law enforcement now 64 years, and I hope I can continue as long as I want to." ♥

**Are you a terrible singer?
A dismal dancer?
Just bad at everything?**



**We need YOU for Grayson's first
ever Anti-Talent Contest!**

This event will utilize your lack of talent for the greater good of the student body.

For more information: e-mail Krihholabar@gmail.com or come by the next Science Club meeting. The meeting will be Friday, April 4th at noon in the Science Building, room 107. There will be pizza!

SGA Meetings held on the first Monday of each month

student government association

"Students Leading Students"

Student club and organization members are invited as well as all students. SGA is the voice of students at GC. 12:15-12:45 p.m.—The HUB, in the Bridge.

National Library Week

Sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA)

It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use. The dates are 13-19 April and the theme this year is "Lives change @ your library."