

## College Welcomes Students

## Technology: The Real Eradicator

Dalton R. Stewart  
Student

The digital world is wreaking havoc with our lives, but it seems no one has been informed about what it's causing. We are so connected to our iPhones, Macs, and iPads that the last thing we want to hear is the lengthy list of negative effects it has .on us (Continued on page 4)

Logan Beauchamp  
Editor

This fall kicked off with a bang as we celebrated the beginning of yet another semester in the never ending cycle of education and self-improvement. The students, both newcomers and veterans, were welcomed with a grand celebration hosted by Grayson College. Grayson College wants all students to feel as if the campus was a home



Photos by Logan Beauchamp

## Fun in the Sun to Begin a New Semester

away from home and works proactively to nurture an atmosphere of openness and support for both staff and students alike. This year is no exception. Grayson rolled out the red carpet for all at this Fall's welcome back picnic; hosting caricature artists, a magician, a bounce course, a rock wall, as well as several college clubs and organizations. The Great Western Dining service was also generous in providing free meals to all who attended. I look



forward to this year and hope that personal growth and academic excellence are spread far and wide amongst all involved here at Grayson College. Best of luck to all and have a great semester



### RECRUITING ALL COLLEGE MEN

Men of Distinction is a Grayson College club open to all college men

Our focus is

Grades: We help men with study skills that set you on a path to be successful

Giving Back: We doing mentoring in the local community and in Sherman ISD schools

Graduation: We want all of our men to finish what you have started

We meet Every Thursday: Time 12- 1 p m

In CIS building Room 205

Come be a M.O.D. Man

## TEXOMA VETERAN BENEFITS EXPO

ALL VETERANS, DEPENDENTS, AND SURVIVORS WELCOME

TUESDAY, SEPT. 20TH, 2016

OPENING REMARKS BY ROXANN GRIFFITH

REGIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT COORDINATOR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

9:30 A.M.- 10 A.M.



EXPO OPEN FOR VETERANS

10 A.M.- 2 P.M.



LOOKING FOR A JOB? BUSINESSES WITH JOB OPENINGS WILL BE ON SITE SEEKING APPLICANTS.

PLEASE REGISTER PRIOR TO THE EXPO AT

WWW.WORKINTEXAS.COM

BRING YOUR RESUME AND A COPY OF YOUR DD214.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE A CURRENT RESUME, PLEASE

CALL FOR ASSISTANCE.

### LOCATION & CONTACT INFO

Grayson College

6101 Grayson Dr. (Hwy 691) Denison, Texas 75020

2nd Floor - Student Life Building - "The Bridge"

For information about the 2016 Texoma Veteran Benefits EXPO, please contact:

Tommy Ellis, Project Coordinator, 903-415-2632 or [ellist@grayson.edu](mailto:ellist@grayson.edu)

Michael Ribble, Veterans Career Advisor, 903-463-9997, ext. 654

or [michael.ribbon@tvc.texas.gov](mailto:michael.ribbon@tvc.texas.gov)

# Anne's Journal: Self-Branding

Anne Dering  
I-Lab Instructor



Imagine it's the last night in December. The clock is ticking closer and closer to midnight. You're watching, waiting, giddy with excitement for the second hand to scoot ever closer to the twelve. The air buzzes with anticipation. Tick. Tock. Tick. Tock. 10. 9. 8. 7. 6. 5. 4. 3. 2. 1. HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! Fireworks shoot up, burst with a boom, and light up the night sky. Joy and champagne bubble over. It's a New Year! It's a blank canvas of opportunities, goals, and ambitions.

Most of us see the beginning of every new year as a reason to actively decide to change an aspect of our lives for the better. We strive to use the new year to create a better version of ourselves.

Even though we're not yet ringing in 2017, we can be just as excited to start our new school year here at Grayson College. I'm excited to be back; aren't you? The new school supplies, heavy textbooks, sharpened pencils, and friendly faces are an open door to all the potential that this school year holds for us. . . for you! What will you do this year? What will you accomplish in this new chapter of your college career? You can build on your best qualities or even reinvent yourself. A new school year is a great opportunity to brand ourselves.

In this new year, I challenge you to find your brand. If you don't think you have one, create it. Decide now what kind of student you want to be. Look ahead to the end of the semester. Visualize those high grades that you know you can achieve. Believe in yourself that you can get there and then plot the course to that destination.

Have you ever looked at a logo and considered the details that went into creating the brand? Does the logo match the name of the business? Think about the bold, red bull's eye for Target. Does that design make sense? Some logos aren't as obvious, though. The subtle arrow in the FedEx name is a clever way to send a hidden message to the masses. The truck that wanders around our town not only delivers packages, but that hidden

arrow delivers the message that FedEx is on the move.

When companies construct their logos, they consider so many details. What color will the logo be? What font will best represent the mission of the company? What is the message that will be shared with those who see this logo?

Consider taking that same attention to details and applying it to yourself. What is YOUR brand? How do you want others to see you? What is your message that you want to share with the people you meet or even the people you already know?

Are you a student who plans each day, paying careful attention to every detail? Do you plot out each class, each activity, and then prepare accordingly? Do you pack a lunch on the days when you have to eat on the run, and you bring a change of clothes on the days you work after class?

Or do you wing it? Are you a student who comes flying into class, breathless and a few minutes late, leaving a trail of crumpled papers in your wake? Do you take out assignments from the deep recesses of your backpack, smooth them out with your hands, and then turn them in, shoving them in the middle of the other students' assignments in hopes that the wrinkled paper will magically become perfect again?

Consider your brand. If the purpose of higher education is to find a higher place in your community, a way to learn how to be someone better, then what is your brand? What version of yourself do you want to present to your teachers, to your classmates, to the person you see in the mirror?

You can learn something new each day. You can attend class every day and be prepared and punctual. You can turn in your work on time. You can write those essays. You can solve those math problems. You can practice what you've learned. You can be more organized. You can study harder, study better, study smarter. You can succeed!

How do I know that all of this potential to excel is in your future? I know because you've already begun to brand yourself by choosing Grayson College. You are a Viking.

Happy New Year!

# Phi Theta Kappa Your Key to Success

Mary Linder  
Phi Theta Kappa

During the first week of classes, you may have seen people handing out bottles of water and welcoming students to the start of a wonderful fall term. Our



Phi Theta Kappa chapter at Grayson College not only wanted to use this opportunity to greet new and re

turning students, but also wanted to remind students to begin with the end in mind. In this case, Phi Theta Kappa wants everyone to keep their college completion goals in the forefront of their minds.

One thing that will help students successfully complete their college credential or transfer to a four-year institution is joining Phi Theta Kappa. Boasting a 92% completion rate, studies indicate that students who join Phi Theta Kappa are nearly twice as likely to complete college as compared to students with similar grade point averages. Phi Theta Kappa membership gives students the tools and support needed to be successful. The question remaining is – how can you join?

The fall enrollment period is now open. Eligible students will receive letters in the mail with information on how to accept membership. Current GC students who have completed 12 semester credit hours and who have a 3.5 GPA or higher will receive invitations; however, students who do not yet qualify for membership do not have to wait to become involved. Phi Theta Kappa meetings and activities are open to all GC students so there is no reason to delay. Join the chapter for their weekly meetings each Wednesday from 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM in the Viking Room on the second floor of the Life Center. Your key to success is waiting – take part in Phi Theta Kappa today!

## Making the Transition from Home School to College More Smoothly

La Toya Hart  
Student

It's the beginning of the school year. Hundreds of new students will be attending Grayson College this fall. Students will have come from high school. Others will have come from working on jobs. Some of them will have been homeschooled and attending their first year of college.

Homeschooled students who enter college at an early age have an advantage over the rest of their peers. They are motivated and less likely to underperform in studies in their first year. However, moving from learning at home to a college requires some adjustment.

My sixteen-year-old son was frightened and worried when I told him about signing him up for college in the fall," said Wendy Klenn, a homeschooling mom of five. "He isn't quite sure if he is ready," she went on to say.

Homeschooled students entering college can be intimidated and overwhelmed. Fears of new surroundings and work over load can have them feeling inadequate. Students who are sixteen can enroll in two college classes a semester. "We were not comfortable dropping off our grandson up at the college by himself," said Linda Graham, a grandparent who homeschooled her grandson. "We take him up there and wait till he gets out of class," she explained. Having not been exposed to adult content in learning was something they were not comfortable with.

If you are attending Grayson College this fall, having someone there with you for emotional support is the number one key to being successful. Your support can come from any number of sources--your parents, older siblings who have gone through the process, and new friends you meet at school. Such support is especially important for homeschooled students.

I had my fiancé and got to meet his friends," said Krystina Burns, a theatre major who was homeschooled and attended Grayson College. She said that theatrical department held meetings to which one could go and meet other students in that major and get to know them. There are other groups on campus where homeschooled students can connect, such as The Baptist Student Ministry, The Clay Club, and the Cultural Diversity Club to name just a few.

If homeschooled students aren't going to the physical college but are instead taking online classes, there is still an opportunity

to have receive that support they need to succeed. Their family is there with them, and being at home, working on assignments, is what they are already used to. This is another opportunity to achieve their college education. Grayson offers many of the same classes online that it offers in a face-to-face class format. However, by earning a degree online, one will miss out on some of the social interactions with one's instructors and class mates.

A support team doesn't just have to be family and friends. The faculty at Grayson is the best there is in helping one achieve his or her goals and to ensure the process of going through college is uncomplicated. Burns said that discussing her future with the advisors and talking with them helped in this area.

Burns also gushed about the most helpful resources at Grayson. She had this to say: "It would have to be a tie between the Math Hub and advising. I have never been great at math, and the people who work in the Math Hub are so patient and willing to really make sure you are learning. Advising [is

also a helpful source] because since I was a homeschooled student, they made the enrollment process easy and were always there to help me get into the classes I needed to graduate." Knowing where these two places

are is key in being a successful first-year Grayson student. The Math Hub is there for Grayson students who need extra help in math. The tutors take their time with students and will sit with them, working out problems. They all hold at least a bachelor's degree in math. It is open late, so students have time to get there. It is also another place to meet new people. The Math Hub is located in the Center for Work Place Learning.

The advisors are there to make sure students are going in the right direction toward earning their degree. They advisors will help students pick out classes and will guide them where they need to go for their next step toward earning their degree at Grayson and their next goal after that. The advisors are located in the Admissions building.

There is a big difference between being in college and being homeschooled, but not so big as to be unsurmountable. Homeschooled students have started something wonderful for their future. Having a support group will help make it much less complicated.



## Concealed Handguns on College Campuses

Cody Lang  
Student

Concealed handguns are always a controversial topic anywhere one goes it seems. Some people believe it's our right as citizens to carry concealed handguns, some people believe it's more dangerous than having an unarmed population, and some do not even know the laws of carrying a concealed handgun due to apathy. However starting this fall, any student 21 years of age with a Concealed Handgun License (CHL) will be able to carry their handgun on a university campus. (Students cannot carry concealed handguns on community college campuses until next fall.) CHL classes give people hands-on training in carrying handguns, but some citizens believe that training may not be enough. Some believe CHL instructors do not give the students in their classes the amount of training they need to really understand how to properly handle the firearm.

Andy MacPherson, Police Chief of Grayson College for 13 years, believes there are "pros and cons" to the law. "It's dangerous for those that may not be familiar with carrying weapons. Those who do carry concealed handguns will try to respond and go look for the bad guys themselves

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## Grayson Honors College Hosts 3rd Annual "Run For Your Lives" 5k/Fun Run

Dr. Brandy Fair  
Grayson Honors College

On Saturday, October 22nd, the Grayson Honors College will host the third annual 5K and Fun Run event at 5 p.m. on campus starting at the gym. Proceeds from the race will benefit the Officer Down Memorial Page (odmp.org) which benefits the families of fallen police officers, works to buy bullet proof vests for agencies that cannot provide them, etc

Grayson Honors College is a group of highly motivated students who work to improve their community while also maintaining a high GPA. We have been fundraising all summer to find sponsors for our event as well as raffle prizes including free food, movie passes, Starbucks gifts, Buffalo Wild Wings sauces, just to name a few

People of all ages are welcome to participate in the 5k or the Fun Run. We have medals for first place male and female in several age categories, as well as a separate competition for police officers/first responders. There is a "challenge" out for local officers compete and take home bragging

rights (and an awesome prize package) to their agency. After the event, runners and their supporters will gather in the gym for race results, raffle prize giveaways, the chance to speak to local vendors, and a free dinner provided by Chipotle. Grayson Honors College would like to extend a big thank you to all of the local businesses and Grayson College employees that support this event! Register before October 5th to receive a free event performance shirt and bag! There's a discount on registration for teams, Grayson students, and Grayson employees. Go to [www.getmeregistered.com](http://www.getmeregistered.com) and search for Run for Your Lives. If you cannot attend the event but still want to participate, we also have a Virtual Run option. The Grayson Honors College worked with representatives from ODMF and US Road Running to create a virtual race option, and five dollars from each medal purchased will be a donation. You can select a 5k, 5 miler, 10k, 10 miler, or half marathon race option

For more information about the virtual race visit

<http://usroadrunning.com/Event.php?EventID=1630> to register

For more information about participating or volunteering please contact

Dr. Brandy Fair at  
[fairb@grayson.edu](mailto:fairb@grayson.edu)  
or (903) 463-8734



**3RD Annual**  
**RUN FOR YOUR LIVES**  
5k Run/Walk & Fun Run  
Join Us: **October 22, 2016**  
**When:** 5pm (packet pickup at 4pm)  
**Where:** Grayson College  
**How Much:** \$25 5K/\$10 Fun Run  
**Contact:** Dr. B. Fair 903.463.8734  
[fairb@grayson.edu](mailto:fairb@grayson.edu)  
Free dinner provided by: **Chipotle**  
**Raffle Prizes**  
Benefitting  
Register at:  
[www.getmeregistered.com](http://www.getmeregistered.com)

## Concealed Handguns on College Campuses (Continued from page 2)

he states. Giles Brown, Grayson College Vice President, agrees with MacPherson in a way. Brown sees a potential benefit to the law. "However," he states, "not handling it correctly could be a major problem." Michael Lang, proud father of two college students, is not as concerned, provided the student carrying is licensed. "It's my opinion that if someone has a license to concealed carry, they should be allowed to do so everywhere they go," Lang states. Taking precautions in enforcing the new law is something that everyone—faculty, staff, and students—is concerned about for the college. Many citizens today feel as if we should have stricter gun laws rather than letting young adults carry firearms. To protect the safety of the students, knowing that there will be firearms on campus, MacPherson states that education will be key about concealed carry on campus, including online and face-to-face classes that "will help the students prepare for the new law." A study group formed by Grayson president Jeremy McMillen will be making recommendations in October about how to implement the new law at Grayson next year. Lang says his children are already aware of the campus carry law and its provisions

All of these precautions will mean nothing, though, without a plan to put them into action. "Face-to-face education about firearms, offering classes about firearms, and doing a section on College 101 [the Grayson College orientation course]," is what MacPherson states are the campus police station plans on taking action on these precautions. Brown states that Grayson has studied how others states have implemented similar laws and has even had a concealed handgun instructor explain training options for the campus community

Making the colleges safer is the obvi-

ous intent of the law; however, some faculty, staff, students, and citizens see this law as more dangerous than anything. They see it as a way for students and others to bring unlicensed firearms onto campus and do whatever they want to do with that weapon. MacPherson does not believe the law will make colleges safer or more dangerous. Brown, though, cautions that "if handled correctly, the law could be great; if handled incorrectly, the law could be very dangerous." Lang feels the law will not be a deterrent but a definite benefit. "The law will not keep the bad guys from bringing their guns and killing people in those locations. Therefore, having students on campus with concealed weapons could help protect students and save lives," he states



When this law is viewed from the perspectives of different people who will be directly affected by it, one sees the variety of opinions people have. Some people cannot wait for the law to take effect, while others are terrified of it and think it is a terrible idea. For now, there is no way to tell whether the law will succeed in keeping campuses safer or not. Putting the law into effect will be the only way to find out. There is a lot riding on how this law will work, and many people are anticipating the outcome

## Music on the Main

McKenna Myers  
Student

Music on Main is an event held in downtown Denison, coordinated by the Main Street Organization, with Donna Dow as the primary overseer. This community-minded event is something to get everyone out and about and bring the city together. This means not only that the Denison community gets closer but also that surrounding local businesses benefit from this stimulation in the downtown economic activity

Music on Main originated in 2002 and has been successful from the start. Typically, Music on Main schedules local original or cover bands, a generous act that lets local artists get stage experience in front of family and friends

Within the last two years, Music on Main has decided to broaden their horizons and has scheduled bigger-name bands. Receiving the Levitt Amp. Foundation Grant, which was only awarded to 12 cities in 2015 and 20 cities in 2016, has enabled this revamp to take place. Cody Canada and The Departed was one of the bigger names to grace the Downtown Denison Inc. stage last summer, and, June 2, Whiskey Myers performed in the fun downtown venue

Concerts take place every Friday during the summer, with varying start times. Opening acts usually start around 7:30 p.m., and the main act normally starts around 8:00 p.m.. Seating is limited, so the audience should bring their own lawn chairs to set up in the barricaded street

If you go to any Music on Main production, it is guaranteed that you will see a variety of age groups. "The people are definitely fun," notes Brinton Vaughn, Music on Main attendee. "It's a fun time to listen to music with a bunch of your friends. We ate hot dogs and it was a good time," he recalls. From young families eager to spend a night enjoying the entertainment to teenagers enjoying time with their friends, Music on Main is appropriate for any age group. Don't worry about eating dinner before you go, either. Because there is such a large audience drawn to the concerts, (normally around 700 people attend, and around 1500 are projected to attend Whiskey Myers), some downtown businesses and restaurants stay open later. "[Donna Dow] coordinates vendors to come down and set up. They have food, drink, and sno-cone vendors, as well as craft vendors," notes William Myers, a volunteer who helps set up the concerts. Music on Main is the definition of a fun, easy-going Friday night. "It's a good active deal, a lot of publicity because of it. People like it and come down there and chill with their family. It's open container, so some people like being able to bring alcoholic beverages in the park and drink and listen to some music. It's real cheap entertainment for people," explains Myers. Head on down to Music on Main at Heritage Park in Denison, Texas, for some real fun, real live entertainment

# Grayson College Theatre | Technology

presents

## William Shakespeare's

# The Tempest

October 5 & 6 at 10:00am

October 7 & 8 at 7:30pm

Cruce Stark Auditorium  
 Grayson College  
 Denison Drive 6101  
 Denison, Texas 75020

Experience the Gift of Live Theatre!

All performances of the *The Tempest* are free of charge.

For more information contact: [theatre@grayson.edu](mailto:theatre@grayson.edu)



Amelia Benton as Miranda (left), Tyler Burns as Prospero (center), Luke Brown as Ferdinand (right)

Scenery by Grayson Theatre Students  
 Photography by Connor Copeland

(Left to right)  
 Jordan Curry as Stephano, Ryan Luebberke as Caliban and Alyssa Spence as Trinculo



( Left to right)

Colt Schell as Alonso, Colton Wall as Gonzalo, Connor Copeland as Sebastian, Jesse Alsup as Antonio, James Berggren as Francisco, and Luca Denton as Adrian

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“Three main objectives [in which technology is] mainly hurting us are physical health, mental health, and human interaction,” said Brenda Ruby, a retired elementary teacher. Ruby couldn’t stress enough how ridiculous our technology addiction is getting. “Students, adults, and even toddlers,” she stated, are glued to their devices and addicted to the digital world.

The technology is corrupting all ages of life, from the youngest to the oldest generations. But we aren’t realizing some of the issues that occur. Doctors, teachers, parents, and colleagues have seen direct evidence of this corruption as we grow and as our demand grows for our devices. The long-term effects of technology’s influence haven’t necessarily shown themselves yet due to the fact that digital technology really has just taken off over the last ten years, although the short-term effects have been highly visible.

The effects of technology aren’t just on people who constantly use their digital devices. A study shows that just a couple of hours a day looking at a screen can affect a person the same as an internet addict is affected, according to Common Sense Media. Ruby claimed that she has seen her students year by year gain weight throughout the year. She said, “My kids choose to go to the computer labs on Fridays rather than outside. I don’t know if they get any exercise at home, but at school they sit. By the handbook, I was not allowed to force them on to the playground.”

Human relationships have been transformed through digital technology. Humans hardly communicate during a lunch date or through a walk in the park any more. The new preferred gadget of communication is a mobile phone. One can text, email, and even facetime over this device.

Dr. Jenifer Dockray, a family psychiatrist, claimed that face-to-face human interaction has been outdated. She said, “Technology, phones, iPods and even gaming systems have completely ruined the physical face-to-face social skills. I have seen so many patients

that aren’t getting along due to the poor social collaboration they have with each other. This is caused by their technology that they use daily.” In discussing this topic, Dr. Dockray seemed to gradually get angry; she is very upset with everyone who is constantly texting or checking email. She tried explaining how much better life would be if we took a break from the digital world now and then.

Due to the increase in communications online, relationships have taken a beat down. People show fewer emotions or feelings. Technology is ruining our personalities. “Not only is it destroying our personalities, but it is destroying our society and everything about it,” emphasized Dr. Dockray.

Technology exacerbates stress, anxiety, isolation, weight gain, carpal tunnel, strained vision and even affects relationships. Some people get so bad they need medical help separating themselves from a digital device, noted Dr. Dockery.

Digital technology isn’t the only type of technology that has negatively affected humans. Gerald Stewart, a manager of a trucking company in Florida, described the changes he has seen throughout the company due to advancements of technology, especially about the effect technology has on a corporation and real-world scenarios. He said, “Over the last 12 years, we have had an employee loss of about 25 percent.” He added that, “We still have about 3000 workers state wide, but that 25 percent of employees were laid off due to technology advancements.”

Those workers were the bread winners for their family, but now they have been “kicked to the curb” because of technology. Stewart said, “This is why poverty and the number of jobless Americans is a big deal nowadays. It’s because of the stupid technology they are bringing to corporations.”

Technology is gradually destroying us, according to Ruby, Dr. Dockray, and Stewart. Although it’s supposed to be improving our lives, with technology, the quality of our human life is slowly deteriorating.

“It’s only going to get worse,” Stewart claimed.

## The Sun in a Black Horizon

A poem by Akaysia Moore

She weeps amongst the willow that she nearly swung from in the past, thinking to herself, wondering. How did I get here? Why am I so broken inside? Life as I once knew it is tumbling down right before my eyes and I have no control over it. How could this person that was so full of euphoria be withering away with no return? Suddenly in the midst of her thoughts the wind whispers to her, “Don’t be afraid, my darling. The sun is near. You just don’t see it yet.” Frightened, but yet somewhat calm, she gazes into the darkness of the night with not even one star in sight, and she asks herself, puzzled “The sun is near? How could that be when my world is so full of all this darkness?” A tear fell from her cheek and hit the earth beneath her, and it shook like the rapid beat of a bongo drum. Frantically looking all around, a burst of wind sent her now frail and lifeless body into the abyss like the world had turned against her and gravity no longer existed. She closed her eyes and weakly said, “This is it.” As those words left her mouth, her body began to tingle. Opening her eyes one last time. She looked down at life as she once knew it. Only to realize that her whole body was glowing. It was glowing so bright that it was almost unbearable to look at. With that glow came a power within that she never felt before. The whole sky lit up with her beauty, and the winds words came to mind again. She now knew that she was the sun and all the sadness that clung to her body melted away, slowly being placed back onto earth one foot at a time. Feeling as if a new leaf had been turned, she looked up at the newly lit sky and promised herself no matter what the circumstance may be, it would never fill her heart up with sorrow like those before, and even in the darkest of .nights, there is hope