

THE WEST GEORGIAN 1934

BORDERS REAL AND IMAGINED

Matthew Harvey

Editor-In-Chief

Ingram Library will be displaying an exhibit titled *Borders Real and Imagined: Georgia Immigration Politics in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries* to allow the community to listen to professionals discuss local and national immigration issues.

Borders Real and Imagined will display in the Thomas B. Murphy Reading Room of Ingram Library from Jan. 24 to May 10, 2019, with a panel discussion on Feb. 26. The featured speakers for the panel are Steve Goodson, Professor of History at UWG, J. Salvador Peralta, Associate Professor of Political Science at UWG and Priyanka Bhatt, staff attorney for Project South. After the panel discussion, there will be a tour of the exhibit.

Steve Goodson will be using his expertise to help provide an overview of the history of immigration in the U.S. and in the hopes of providing context and perspective for those who attend.

“The university is a calm and reasonable place to have a conversation about something that is not being treated calmly or reasonably,” said Goodson. “The university is supposed to be a place where people share ideas. We have a lot of people with different areas of expertise who have done high-quality work in it, so students are here to learn.”

Borders Real and Imagined is addressing something that is heavy on the mind of many Americans. With the government recently shutting down over the issue of immigration it is an excellent time to help those in the community better understand what is happening today and also what has happened in the past.

“Immigration is such a huge issue right now,” said Goodson. “The government recently shut down over an argument over extending the wall at the Mexican border. So, it is one of the main political issues right now in addition to being a social, cultural and economic issue. All of this heat and anger viciousness on both sides is not new. It has been going on for a couple hundred years now. We romanticize early generations of immigrants but at the time there was a lot of hostility. This is the latest chapter in a long book.”

The panel will be a good opportunity for locals to expand their knowledge through calm and unbiased discussion, provided by professionals in their respective fields. Those who attend will be provided with historical context on what is happening with immigration in Georgia as well as the nation as a whole.

“The thing about immigration is if you want to make decisions about it you really need to understand it,” said Goodson. “You don’t need sound bites from politicians. You need to study the history, the context and be informed to make reasonable decisions.”

It is important for those who do want to understand the situation better to come and be informed. Listening to the opinions of politics does no good as they are only trying to sell their own ideas. Being provided the facts of the situations is the most beneficial way for individuals to build their own thoughts and ideas on the matter.

KA'ILI BY NARA

Jasmine Dwamena
Contributing Writer

To make anything successful, all you need is patience, perseverance and most importantly, hard work. To achieve success it requires constant trial and error until finally finding what works to get the recognition that is deserved.

That is true for Kenara Hamm, an undergraduate mass communication student at UWG. On campus, there are many different entrepreneurs that range in different talents and skills. Some, like Hamm, just chose to make a business about what their passion is -- for her it is skincare.

"I think skincare is very important during this age because it helps prevent wrinkles," said Hamm. "It makes you look younger, and it's just more appealing."

Besides being a full-time student, Hamm also works at the campus Starbucks as a barista. However, as soon as she is done for the day and goes home then the real work begins. Her skin care products are all organic and homemade. The list of products includes lip scrubs, face and body oils, stretch mark creams and for men there are beard oils and scrubs.

Hamm's business originally started just by her making products for a few friends that knew about her skincare obsession from there she decided to expand her reach and wanted to share her products with anyone who was willing to make a purchase.

Creating a business is challenging. There are the responsibilities of being a student and having to keep up with assignments and then there are the demands of work. Business priorities, which can happen last minute, sometimes lead to stress, sleepless nights and sacrifices.

"The hardest thing about this is having money, making money, keeping money," said Hamm. "What they don't tell you about starting a business is you do not really see money until months, or even years."

Any funds Hamm has lost as in the business she sees as an investment in her future. She acts as the founder, manufacturer, distribution, sales representative and customer service representative of her business, with help from family and friends from time to time.

With her public relations concentration, Hamm explains how what she has studied has helped her in her business especially when it comes to growing her brand and reaching her customers. Though it is mainly through word of mouth, she also reaches a lot of people through social media. This makes it easier to meet new people.

It is true that if you do what you love you never work a day in your life and there is nothing better than being your own boss. Hamm expresses the best thing about being her own boss is the fact that she gets to meet new people and make her customers happy.

"I just want everyone to have the skin of their dreams," said Hamm.



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American Sign Language Comes to UWG

Aurie Johnson

Contributing Writer

An American Sign Language (ASL) class is offered once a semester by UWG. The ASL course is a five-week series that caters not only to UWG students but also faculty and community members alike.

The course is made possible through UWG’s Department of Continuing Education which holds several classes, seminars, and workshops that are not available for academic credit but are meant to enrich personal development. This course is exclusive to the Carrollton community.

“One semester we’ll have it at UWG Carrollton and then one semester we’ll have it at UWG Newnan,” said Tiffany Powers, a Program Coordinator in the Department of Continuing Education.

The ASL class comes in twos. First, there is ASL I followed by a second course, ASL II. The Department of Continuing Education also offers other classes such as English as a second language among others. These classes vary in price, ranging anywhere from \$35 to \$500, but are usually inexpensive.

The class in Carrollton is taught by Aleah Brock, M.Ed. who has been instructing students in this program for the past three years. Brock is also an instructor at UWG in the Communication Sciences and Disorders Program. She teaches Intro to Manual Communication.

Even though this class is not an official UWG course, it is similar to the University’s foreign language courses because it teaches students not only

the language but also teaches them the culture of that language. In this case, students learn about deaf culture.

“Aleah teaches manual communications, and that includes the signs that we all think we understand ASL, but then also grammar structure and then some etiquette, and then a good bit about deaf culture,” said Powers.

With the exception of there not being any grades or any formalities, the class can seem very similar to any other course. Although there is no required text for the course, students are encouraged to pick up a copy of the 3rd Edition of The American Sign Language Phrase Book to help them learn. Brock also incorporates the use of slide show presentations and online resources into her class.

The cost to take the class is \$99. But according to Powers, the cost is more than reasonable.

“We pay Aleah for her valuable time... that is kind of how continuing education works; so we’re a revenue-generating entity and part of the University, so all of our classes come with some sort of fee.” Powers expressed why this course might be a great opportunity for students.

“Maybe we’re not always like, proficient or fluent to interpret but, good to have like a basis where you can do some basic communication with someone,” Powers said. “It’s just a good component of diversity and inclusion.”

TECHNOLOGY

Skip the Line: New DDS App Saves Time and Money

Amir Sports

Contributing Writer

The Georgia Department of Driver Services (DDS) has launched a brand new full service app called DDS 2 GO. It is available for free from the App Store or Google Play and can save students valuable time and money and that dreaded trip to the DMV.

DDS 2 GO -- the official DDS mobile app for driver licensing and testing services – was officially launched in September of last year.

“The app is like having a licensing center in your pocket as customers can meet many of their licensing needs from their iPhone or Android device,” said DDS Information Officer, Susan Sports.

College students are the perfect customer for DDS 2 GO. They typically need to replace a lost license and change an address multiple times each year.

“As technology becomes more widespread in just about every aspect of life, state government and our policies must adjust accordingly,” said DDS Communications Director Ross Potts. “The launch of the DDS 2 GO app is yet another testament to our ongoing efforts to keep pace with these constant developments, as well as the willingness to embrace mobile technology to benefit our citizens. We know that Georgia’s college students are very busy, and this new app will offer a more convenient method for addressing drivers’ licensing concerns without visiting a DDS facility. I look forward to announcing more innovations of this sort in the future to better

serve those who call Georgia home.”

One important feature of using DDS 2 GO is that most users get a five-dollar discount per transaction. It is also a gas saver by eliminating the drive to a brick and mortar facility. Also, a student may choose to have their parents address remain on their driver’s license but may also have the card delivered to their university address.

Since the launch of the app, there have been over 50,000 downloads for the service. With over 200,000 logins, DDS 2 GO has emerged as a popular option for the busy citizen.

DDS Commissioner Spencer R. Moore urges all students to download DDS 2 GO and “opt in” to receive personalized push alerts from DDS.

“You will always be notified of a change in your license,” said Commissioner Moore. “We hear from customers who were not aware that their license was suspended, and unfortunately, that can result in fines and/or jail time. DDS 2 GO will eliminate that surprise.”

The customized alerts will push customers to check DDS 2 GO for any new citations, fees, expiration dates or any other changes that affect their license status.



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Cute & COCKY

Matthew Harvey

Editor-In-Chief

UWG alumni, Nikkita Gordon, will be launching her business Cute & Cocky Feb. 26.

Cute & Cocky designs firearm accessories and apparel for gun owners. Right now it has a patent pending sew-in retention system and its patent pending hoodie. The idea came to Gordon when she was followed by a man on the way home from work one night.

“One night this man followed me home from work,” said Gordon. “I didn’t have nothing on me and I was like ‘dang what do other women carry?’ I was so young and didn’t get to this stage thinking about that.”

After the experience, Gordon decided to research where she was able to have guns in the area and designed her own retention system. This system is discrete and is nothing more than an altercation to one’s clothes. This makes it easy and safe for users to carry.

“After I did the research about where we can carry and how we can carry I found out you can carry anywhere,” said Gordon. “I’m always wearing business wear and needed it on me at all times. So, I designed a retention system for my blazers. it is undetectable and you wouldn’t even know.”

Gordon also decided to design her own hoodie so she, and other women, can feel safe while in business wear and also while dressing comfortably or out on a run.

“It allows me to feel safe when I am out running or on campus at night,” said Gordon. “I felt that the hoodie was the best option. If you’re not in business attire then you are in something comfortable.”

After Gordon had formed a product that made her feel safe she saw a need to turn it into a business. With sexual assault cases on and off of

campus, she decided she was going to try and push her product so she could potentially help other women.

“I feel like women are more vulnerable to sexual assault on campus,” said Gordon. “I am a woman myself so I most definitely want to put women into a situation where they can defend themselves and be prepared to prevent any crime against themselves.”

While the product’s initial design is for women, it can be used by anyone. It is able to hold firearms, stun guns and pepper spray. Her product is still in the early days but it has already gotten some notoriety.

Cute & Cocky has been working with local gun range Shot Spot and has been in contact with the local police force even having criminal investigator wear the product on the job. The biggest accomplishment for Cute & Cocky though is its invitation to Shot Show in Las Vegas, one of the biggest gun shows in the country.

“I was introduced to kinda everyone in the industry related to gun holsters, guns, and ammo,” said Gordon. “I got to meet the people that would technically be my competitors in the industry. Their response was that they loved the brand name. They love what I’m doing.”

Cute & Cocky’s launch will take place at the Burson Center but will primarily run online.



Photo Credits: Nikkita Gordon

ONE MAN'S SCRAP IS ANOTHER MAN'S SCULPTURE

Tiffany Maynard

Feature Editor

Gordon Chandler, sculptor and Carrollton resident, makes four-dimensional art out of repurposed and recycled materials.

"It comes together with sort of my curiosity about random order, and found art," said Chandler. "Not so much found material, but found art. Where the art is found in natural materials."

Chandler draws inspiration from his "inventory," rusted stacks of metal objects surrounding his studio.

"It's like pulling color off of a palette," said Chandler. "The new paint is much less interesting than the old ... disturbed and rusted are much more interesting."

Chandler's pieces are made of a variety of objects found in his inventory. Some, he has acquired along the way, but much of his inventory comes from local supporters.

"I say, jokingly, that once I use this all up I'll quit," said Chandler. "But someone left a package up on my gate this morning, so it might be a while."

Chandler's studio is not only where he creates his art and stores his inventory, he also has a gallery there of his own. His art is displayed inside his studio and throughout the property. Some of his work is seen as functional, like the Mother and Child chairs and the gate securing the property.

"There's the whole concept of where the craft ends and the one starts. How one is partly the other," said Chandler. "That's a long drawn out debate ... but I think it's truly sculpture more than furniture."

"I did start with furniture back in the '80s," continued Chandler. "I put a show together, and that actually got me some recognition in Atlanta."

Now, Chandler's art is mostly subjective. Much of his work is made of twisted pieces of metal, slightly resembling something familiar, but the final decision on the subject being up to the interpreter.

"It really all came from about the mid - century," said Chandler. "The whole concept of 'Lost Art' or 'Found Art'. For me, it's less about the farm



Photo Credits: Tiffany Maynard

tools and wrenches and recognizable stuff. I prefer to use things less recognizable."

Though many of his pieces leave the audience wondering if it is a sheep or a dog, he does have works that are easily recognizable such as his John Deere deer, or his many kimonos, which he began making in around the year 2000 because of his fascination with Eastern Asia.

"Maybe there was some connection earlier on, some personal connection, I don't know. But I've been into bonsai trees, and their aesthetic," said Chandler. "So, I've been tinkering with different things like that for a long time, like their sense of beauty and nature."

Much of Chandler's works that he has displayed does reflect the Eastern Asian style he admires, but each piece is original with Chandler's artistic process behind it.

"I kind of do everything my own way. None of it's ever traditional. I like to work direct. It just takes what I got," said Chandler. "I like to use the materials at hand and not get hung up on what I don't have. I like to be immediate and adlib. That's just how I work."

Chandler's art has been displayed across the world, but Carrollton is his home.



Photo Credits: Tiffany Maynard

BRAVES SPRING TRAINING UNDERWAY

Brittany Shivers
Copy Editor

The Braves have a lot of great things in store for the upcoming season, and Spring Training is officially underway. Pitchers and catchers reported Feb. 15, while the rest of the position players arrived at ESPN’s Wide World of Sports by Feb. 20, if not earlier. Starting Feb. 23, the first week of games holds some exciting rivals including the Mets, Astros, Nationals, and Cardinals. The young Braves fanbase at UWG is extremely hopeful and enthusiastic for what the season may bring.

Aaron Gann, a freshman at UWG, is one of many fans on campus who sees the Braves potential going into the new season.

“I think the big acquisitions in Josh Donaldson and bringing back Brian McCann is huge and will pay off,” Gann said. “The Braves have the potential to not only reach the postseason again but to win it all.”

Brian McCann is definitely an old fan favorite, and many are happy that he is back. Moreover, Josh Donaldson, third baseman for the Braves, does prove to be a promising addition. Donaldson arrived early to training and received great reviews on his batting from reporters there, one of whom being sportscaster Zach Klein of WSB-TV. Klein has tweeted multiple rave reviews of Donaldson with pictures and videos that are proof of Donaldson’s amazing potential.

“I think Josh Donaldson is going to hit 100 HR’s this season,” tweeted Klein.

Fans are also excited to see Ronald Acuna Jr. in action as he was the 2018 National League Rookie of the Year. Acuna may lead off the Braves this season as he did last year. At just 21, Acuna hit 26 home runs, had 64 runs batted in (RBIs) and scored 78 runs total for last baseball season.

But, for Braves fans on the UWG campus, it is not just about the new acquisitions to the team or the statistics. Cason Greathouse, UWG baseball player, says that watching the Braves while growing up inspired him.

“Watching professionals where they are and where I want to

play one day has really impacted me,” said Greathouse. “Their love for the game and the work they put in to get that far pushes me to work harder every day on and off the field.”

To the fans, Braves baseball is about dedication, inspiration, family and lifelong memories.

“The Braves have given me something to talk about with other people, something I can relate to with almost anyone,” Gann said. “The Braves gave me an amazing hometown team that is all about family. It is always a blast to see them play.”

They do not call it Braves Country for no reason. Braves baseball is a large, diverse community of people, people who adopt Braves baseball as a home away from home. Cassie Farmer, a freshman at UWG and a longtime Braves fan, loves rooting for Atlanta teams.

“I have a lot of amazing memories with family because we would watch Braves games together. Because the team is based in Atlanta, it just feels like home. I am really hopeful for the upcoming season,” said Farmer.

Farmer is not alone. Many fans bond with their family members over the shared love of their hometown team. Extraordinary memories are being made every baseball season, memories that could even make other fans jealous.

“My favorite memory is when I went to the Braves game and got to see Chipper Jones hit his 500th home run,” said Greathouse.

It is not just baseball to the fanbase at UWG. Braves baseball is a place where a player turns into a role model, a play turns into a memory, an atmosphere turns into a community, and Spring Training turns into an amazing season.

Chop on!

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