



ABOVE: Sisters Brandi Malsy, left, and Dana Burns pose with their caps and gowns at Germania Springs.



The  
Tassel  
is worth the  
hassle

INSIDE

- 2A : Jacksonville Christian
- 4A : Jacksonville High
- 8A : Pleasant Valley High
- 2B : Piedmont High
- 7B : Spring Garden High

Sisters give their mom 'perfect' Mother's Day gift



Submitted photo

ABOVE: The Loman sisters pose with their parents, Bobby and Cyndi Lowman, at Auburn University after graduation. From left, Dana Burns, Bobby Loman, Brandi Malsy and Cyndi Loman.

Loman siblings are now nurse practitioners

BY MARGARET ANDERSON  
NEWS EDITOR

Ask Cyndi Loman what's the best Mother's Day gift she's ever received and she doesn't hesitate to say that it came from her daughters, Brandi Malsy and Dana Burns, this Mother's Day.

Both received their nurse practitioners degrees May 10 from Auburn University. As a bonus gift to their mother, both graduated with a 4.0 GPA.

Cyndi and the girls' father, Bobby, along with the graduates' husbands and children, were present.

Brandi said when she was a teenager, she knew this is what she wanted to do.

"Even when I was 18 I knew that my ultimate career goal was to become a nurse practitioner," she said.

Both sisters graduated from Pleasant Valley High School.

During high school and after graduation, Dana worked at Green's Store in the Williams community for a total of 13 years. She started working there the day after she turned 16. She received a degree in exercise science and wellness from Jacksonville State University in 2003.

She graduated from JSU again in 2009, this time with a bachelor's in nursing.

Brandi attended JSU two semesters. She received a licensed practical nurse degree from Southern Union in 1999, after she and her husband, Kevin, moved to Opelika. She returned to Southern Union to study in the LPN-RN mobility program in 2004.

She and her family moved back to Jacksonville in 2004 and she began working in the emergency room at Regional Medical Center. She returned to JSU where she earned a bachelor's in nursing in 2006.

"We'd talked about doing this," said Dana. "We'd mentioned it several times, but then we were both always so busy with children and our jobs. Then, one day we just decided we were going to do it."

She and Dana started their master's program at Auburn in 2013. Both continued to work at their jobs, Brandi in the emergency room and Dana in the intensive care unit at RMC.

"I love the emergency room," said Brandi. "I've worked in pediatrics and quality improvement, but

I love being an ER nurse. I like the atmosphere

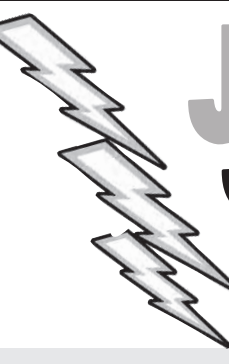
“

... one day we just decided we were going to do it.”

Dana Burns

■ See SISTERS, page 10A

COVER PHOTO BY ANITA KILGORE



# Jacksonville Christian Academy

Class of 2015 • Class of 2015 • Class of 2015 • Class of 2015



Kris Armprester Jordan Barnes Daylon Brackett Ashlyn Giles Joise Howell Dalton Hughes Kayla Jackson Gabrielle Peevy Spencer Perry Rachel Russaw



Elizabeth Scull Hailee Shell Keith Trantham

*The future lies before you  
Like a field of driven snow,  
Be careful how you tread it,  
For every step will show.  
~Author Unknown*

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE

STORIES BY LORI TIPPETS



## Jacksonville Christian Academy to graduate 13

A small but very close class of 13 seniors will receive their diplomas from Jacksonville Christian Academy on Tuesday, May 19 at 7 PM.

Eleven of the graduates plan on attending college, either at JSU, Gadsden State, Wallace State or the University of Alabama. One of the graduates will be joining the Marines.

"That is one thing about this class," said senior advisor Tomya Hancock, "they all have their future plans decided."

Hancock stated that the seniors don't have any "drama." "They get along well with each other. That says a lot about them.

"Our seniors have participated in the SGA canned food drive for JCOC. Those in the National Honor Society helped with Grandparents Day, serving and cleaning up. Those on the basketball team were the elementary school basketball coaches.

"The seniors have a lot of influence in the school. Their leadership matters. They set the example for the younger students."

### JCA Class of 2015



### Scholarship winners

LEFT: Jacksonville Christian Academy seniors receiving scholarships are, from left, Kayla Jackson, faculty; Daylon Brackett, leadership; Ashlyn Giles, Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hill; Spencer Perry, AOD, GSU and JSU; and Hailee Shell, Jacksonville Exchange Club.

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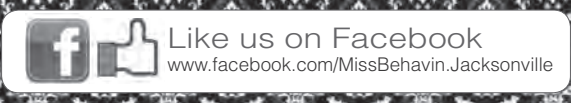
*Hitch your wagon to a star.*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

Congratulations to the Class of 2015! from the



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# JCA TOP THREE

## Valedictorian Kayla Jackson

Jacksonville Christian's Kayla Jackson is this year's Valedictorian. She is the daughter of Brian and Vickey Jackson.

Scholarship accepted-JSU Faculty Scholarship

Awards-English Award, Spanish Award, Jacksonville Exchange Club Student of the Month, Perfect Attendance, 11<sup>th</sup> grade, Who's Who Most Likely to Become President, All A's 9-12 grades

Honors-Highest GPA 9-11, National Society for High School Scholars, Youth Leadership of Calhoun County, Teen of the Week

Clubs-National Honor Society, 4-H, JCA Choir

Church-Providence Baptist Church

Kayla loves to write and read books, so its no surprise that her chosen major at college will be English, and that she hopes to one day be a book editor.

At JCA Kayla has enjoyed the Christmas plays and playing percussion in chapel every week. She has also enjoyed being on the volleyball team for the past five years.

Kayla's words of advice to the younger students is, "Be patient. You will have the tendency to rush it and try to get out as quick as you can. You're going to be busy enough as it is; give yourself time."

## Salutatorian Daylon Brackett

*Salutatorian* for the class is Daylon Brackett, son of Joel and Michelle Brackett.

Scholarship accepted-JSU Leadership Scholarship

Awards-Two time All-State football, four-time All-County football, two-time All-County basketball, Region MVP football and basketball

Honors-Exchange Club Student of the Month, Anniston Star Teen of the Week, Senior High Science Award, Who's Who Mr. JCA and Most Athletic, Elementary Head basketball coach

Clubs-4-H Vice-President, National Honor Society President, Student Government Association, Choir

Church-Eagle Point Church

While Daylon has wowed fans with his performances on the football field, he lists as one of the things that he likes to do most as spending time with his family and eating out with his family during the week. He also enjoys fishing with his dad.

Love of his family and wanting to stay close to them is why Daylon selected JSU as his choice of college, where he expects to play football. Daylon selected JSU over other football offers that he had.

Daylon plans on majoring in biology with a minor in chemistry and hopes to eventually do something in the medical field.

Having been at JCA since he was three years old and in day care, Daylon says he knows every inch of the building.

Daylon's words of advice to the younger students are, "Enjoy it while it lasts. It just flew by. Be sure you realize when you are a freshman thru senior what these years really mean.

"Make the grades, that's a big part of your future and it starts in the ninth grade.

"Stay close to God. He's the Lord of your life and you have to have Him involved in your life and He'll help you through the year."

## Historian Hailee Shell

*Historian* Hailee Shell, daughter of Curtis and Wendy Fleming

Scholarship accepted-GEM of the Hills, Jacksonville Exchange Club

Awards-Miss JCA, Homecoming Court, "A" Honor Roll

Honors-Exchange Club Student of the Month, Youth Leadership of Calhoun County, Anniston Star Teen of the Week

Clubs-4-H Vice-President, SGA Vice-President, National Honor Society

Church-Wellington First Baptist Church

Hailee plans on majoring in Elementary Education at JSU. One of the reasons she has selected education is because of the example of her mother who has taught for over 20 years. Hailee has also been a teacher's aide several times. "For as long as I can remember, I've wanted to be a teacher," said Hailee.

Hailee is also working at a daycare in the infant room, something she refers to as "enjoyable" rather than as work.

Hailee has enjoyed being on the volleyball team and cheerleading and playing some basketball while at JCA.

Hailee tells the younger students, "Enjoy high school. Don't rush it, it goes by quick and rushing it won't make time go by any faster. Live in the moment and enjoy it."

## MR. AND MISS JCA



CLASS  
OF  
**2015**



Jacksonville Christian Academy's top three seniors are Kayla Jackson, valedictorian, center, Daylon Brackett, salutatorian and Hailee Shell, historian.

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE  
STORIES BY LORI TIPPETS

## SPOTLIGHT STUDENT Spencer Perry



ABOVE: Spencer Perry has enjoyed playing basketball and also drums and guitar while at JCA.

*Spotlight Student* - Spencer Perry, son of James and Susan Perry

Scholarship accepted-AOD Federal Credit Union

Awards-A/B Honor Roll 9-12, Perfect Attendance 10th grade, Who's Who Best All-Around

Honors-Exchange Club Student of the Month

Clubs-National Honor Society, 4-H, Choir, Teacher's aide

Church-Harvest Church of God

Spencer will be attending Gadsden State University where he plans on getting a degree in Radiology to become an x-ray technician.

Spencer has enjoyed playing basketball and also drums and guitar while at JCA.

Senior advisor Tomya Hancock said that while he has been at JCA Spencer has been very dedicated. "He has helped wherever he has been needed and has gone the extra mile to do things and do them right," said Hancock.

"He has a great attitude, and one of service. He's a great reflection of JCA."

To the younger students Spencer says, "Don't wish your high school years away. Have fun. Try your hardest in school and keep your grades up. Be respectful."

LEFT: Mr. and Miss JCA are Daylon Brackett and Hailee Shell.



CONGRATULATIONS, SENIORS



# Jacksonville High School

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Samuel Robert Hermann Austel

Class of 2015



Regina Marie Barnard



Joshua Glenn Barnes



Ashley Elizabeth Barry



Ryan George Berry



Payton Elizabeth Bonds



Matthew Blake Butler



Taylor Alaina Carter



Tyler Alan Carter



Zachary David Casey



Adam Clark Clibrey



Ashley Elizabeth Clingan



Christine Allyce Cole



Michelle Katherine Crow



John Daniel Dempsey



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Destiny LaShaun Easley



Alexander Spencer East



Ryan Daniel Fragoso

Class of 2015



Matthew Jordan Frankum

Class of 2015



Ashton Leigh Gaddy



Rashad Juwon Gamble



Caitlin Sue Gilbert

Class of 2015



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Logan Michael Guy



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Braden Norris Hearn



John Robert Heintzelman



Andre Geordan Hill



Robert Eric Holmes, Jr.



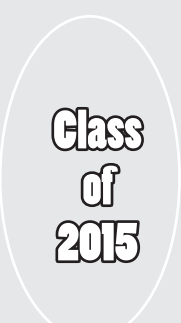
Brooklyn Taylor Hosch



Kadeem Lamar Jenkins



Kyra Jahne' Jenkins



Jamiesha Brooke Johnson

Class of 2015



Quintoria Kwanece Johnson



Te'Aira DaShay Johnson



Rick Allen Jones



Sarah Elizabeth Chun-Yu Keefer



Angel Brianna Kidd



Alexander Loudon King



Kira Milin Kingston



Jordan Fisher Kittrell



John Cole Landers



Brandy Shalaina Lee



Cassidy Nicole Lee



Johnny Lin

Class of 2015



Christian Raul Lopez



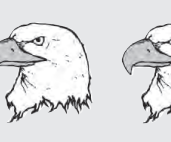
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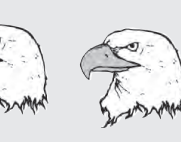
Tamarina Malika Mays



Samantha Gene McClurg



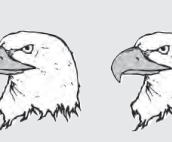
Michelle Catherine Megill



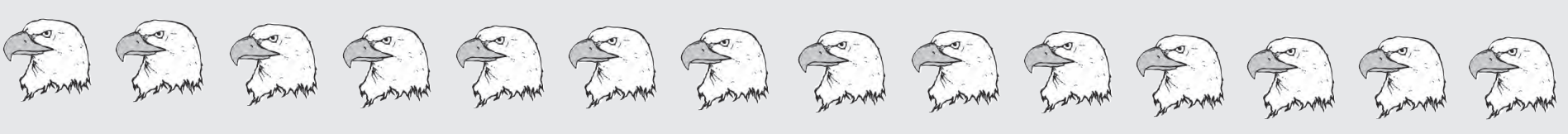
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Quanteeria Shondranique Mooney



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# Jacksonville High School



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Christopher Nicholas Muir



Joshua Cole Nelson



Jose Ricardo Villatoro Ortiz



Savon Emanu Parker



Lydia Marie Pass



Mallory Claire Patterson

Class of 2015



Ryan William Phillips



Tanner Logan Davis Polak



Cole Evan Pollard



Chanel Marie Reali



William Alan Renfroe



Samantha Clare Roberson



Kale Glen Rowan



Dakota James Rowe



Charles Connor Ryan



William Malick Salter



Kenya Dionne Satcher



Anna Rachel Sides



Elizabeth Alexandra Smith



Justin Tyler Smith



Lawrence Allen Smith



Andrew James Staples



Savannah Rae Staton



Samantha Paige Stewart



Vanessa Cassandra Stuckmann



ShaCoya Knicole Teague



Emma Kathleen Thayer



Ashley Nicole Thomas



Dylan Joseph Thompson



Brett Roland Thornburg



Maxwell Sidney-George Thurmond, Jr.



Hannah Aeryanne Trull

Class of 2015



Christian Alexander Turner



Hannah Jane Underhill



Virginia Noelle Veasey



Kasey Logan Vice



Jacob Tyler Waugh



Sara Marie Welch



Charlsie Ashton Wells



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Hannah Moriah Williams



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*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. —Proverbs 22:6 (KJV)*

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# JHS scholarship recipients



PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE

**Christopher Abernathy** - Auburn University The Spirit of Auburn University Scholarship  
**Regina Barnard** - Spring Hill College Gautrelet Award  
**Ashley Barry** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Ashley Clingan** - Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hills Scholarship  
**Allyce Cole** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Michelle Crow** - Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hills Scholarship  
**Daniel Dempsey** - National Merit Scholarship, Calhoun County Honor Band Regina King Memorial Scholarship, Appalachian State University Chancellor's Scholarship and Hayes Endowment for Musical Excellence Scholarship, The University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship and Engineering Scholarship, Utah State University National Merit Semifinalist Scholarship, Utah State University Honors House Scholarship, Utah State University Nonresident Presidential Scholarship, The University of Kentucky College of Engineering Lester Scholarship and Kentucky Heritage Scholarship for Non-Residents  
**Blessing Dunn** - The University of New Orleans Athletic (Volleyball)  
**Ryan Fragoso** - Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hills Scholarship  
**Matthew Frankum** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship, Louisiana State University of Alexandria LSU Alexandria Scholarship, The University of South Alabama Presidential Scholarship

**Ashton Gaddy** - The University of North Alabama Vanguard Scholarship, Wallace State Community College Leadership Scholarship  
**Chances Grey** - The University of Alabama at Birmingham Academic Achievement Scholarship  
**Braden Hearn** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Brooklyn Hosch** - Jacksonville State University Gamecock Scholarship, Mississippi State University Non-Resident Academic Excellence Scholarship  
**Kyra Jenkins** - Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Scholarship, Tuskegee University Alabama Incentive Award  
**Elizabeth Keefer** - Auburn University Spirit of Auburn Presidential Scholarship and Dexter E. Fearing Endowed Scholarship  
**Angel Kidd** - Gadsden State Community College Athletic (Basketball)  
**Alex King** - Auburn University Spirit of Auburn University Scholarship, Spring Hill College Portier Leader Award, College of Wooster Dean's Scholarship, The University of Alabama in Huntsville Charger Scholar Merit Tuition Scholarship, LaGrange College Fellows Scholarship, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Collegiate Honors Scholarship  
**Kira Kingston** - Auburn University Spirit of Auburn University Scholarship, Elks National Foundation "Most Valuable Student" Scholarship, Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Collegiate Honors Scholarship and UAB Engineering Excellence Scholarship, Alabama Power

Academic Excellence Program Minority Annual Scholarship  
**Jordan Kittrell** - The University of Montevallo Presidential Honors  
**John Cole Landers** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Tamaria Mays** - Gadsden State Community College Athletic (Volleyball)  
**Michelle Megill** - Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hills Scholarship  
**Quenteeria Mooney** - Judson College Judson Achievement Grant, Judson College Athletic (Soccer)  
**Ricardo Ortiz** - Faulkner University Athletic (Soccer)  
**Savon Parker** - The University of West Alabama Athletic (Football)  
**Lydia Pass** - Jacksonville State University Leadership Scholarship  
**Mallory Patterson** - Wallace State Community College Athletic (Volleyball)  
**Virginia Poe** - Furman University Furman Scholar, Furman University Achiever Scholarship, Furman University Athletic (Soccer), Georgia Southern University Athletic (Soccer), Mercer University (Soccer)  
**Chanel Reali** - Auburn University Dudley University Scholarship  
**William Renfroe** - Jacksonville State University Gamecock Scholars  
**Kale Rowan** - Auburn University Board of Trustees Endowed Scholarship  
**Charles Connor Ryan** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Lawrence Smith** - Auburn University Spirit of Auburn Presidential Scholarship, The University of Alabama Presidential Scholarship and Engineering Scholarship,

The University of Alabama at Birmingham Engineering Excellence Scholarship, The University of Alabama in Huntsville Charger Distinction Merit Tuition Scholarship  
**Savannah Staton** - Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hills Scholarship  
**Samantha Stewart** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship, The University of Montevallo Freshman Leadership Scholarship and Kilgore/Elledge Scholarship  
**Vanessa Stuckmann** - The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts Talent-Based Scholarship  
**Emma Thayer** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Ashley Thomas** - Jacksonville State University Gamecock Scholarship  
**Brett Thornburg** - Jacksonville State University Faculty Scholars Scholarship  
**Maxwell Thurmond** - The University of West Alabama Athletic (Football)  
**Hannah Underhill** - The University of Alabama in Huntsville Charger Scholar Merit Tuition Scholarship  
**Virginia Veasey** - Auburn University Spirit of Auburn Founders Scholarship, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Golden Excellence Scholarship  
**Tyler Waugh** - Andrew College Andrew Tiger Grant, Belhaven University Scholarship, Jacksonville State University Gem of the Hills Scholarship  
**Charlsie Wells** - Auburn University Achievement Scholarship, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Collegiate Honors Scholarship, The University of South Alabama Presidential Scholarship

# Jacksonville High 109 grads to walk across stage

Jacksonville High School will be graduating one of its largest classes in recent memory, as 109 students will accept their graduation diploma. Graduation will take place May 21 at 8 PM in the Golden Eagle Stadium. Of the graduates, at least 65 percent will be going on to college. There are three that have decided on joining the military. This year's class boasts a National Merit Scholarship winner in Daniel Dempsey. Marcia Stallings, senior class advisor, says that these seniors are very focused. "They are quiet, one of the more reserved classes that I've seen come through here," said Stallings.

"They are a joy. They have great personalities. They are serious about their goals and they are motivated. They are refined in their great sense of humor." Stallings went on to describe the class as being planners. With a class that has had many successes in athletics, there are many students that will be going on to college on athletic scholarships, in addition to the many that have accepted academic scholarships. Stallings feels that while there are some that may go into the medical profession, there are many diverse majors that the students are looking at like engineering, computer science, and astrophysics. Just as diverse as the fields they will be going into,

the class will be going to many diverse colleges as well. Auburn University, Gadsden State Community College, JSU, Appalachian State University, Huntington College, Wallace State Community College, Chicago State University, Tuskegee University, Alabama A&M University, The University of West Alabama, Furman University, Southern Union State Community College, The New York Conservatory for Dramatic Arts, The University of Alabama at Birmingham and The University of Alabama in Huntsville will all become home to JHS students. The graduation class has earned nearly \$2,600,000 in scholarships as of press time.

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE • STORIES BY LORI TIPPETS

## Honors Diploma Graduates



Not in order: Christine Allyce Cole, John Daniel Dempsey, Brooklyn Taylor Hosch, Sarah Elizabeth Chun-Yu Keefer, Alexander Loudon King, Kira Mili Kingston, Tamaria Malika Mays, Quenteeria Shondranique Mooney, Lydia Marie Pass, Virginia Grace Poe, Charles Connor Ryan, Lawrence Allen Smith, Andrew James Staples, Savannah Rae Staton, Emma Kathleen Thayer, Brett Roland Thornburg, Hannah Jane Underhill, Virginia Noelle Veasey, Jacob Tyler Waugh and Charlsie Ashton Wells.

## SPOTLIGHT STUDENT

### Virginia Poe is a gifted athlete

By Lori Tippetts



The Spotlight Student is a young woman who is very used to being in the spotlight. Virginia Poe, daughter of Mike and Mindy Poe, has thrilled sports fans with her exploits on the soccer field, basketball court and most recently on the Mountain Bike Trail. Virginia has been named All-County, All-Region and All-State basketball and soccer and played in the North/South All-Star soccer game. She has played in the state finals of basketball twice, winning once. Academically Virginia has been in Academic Honors 7-12<sup>th</sup> grades, the Jr. National Honor Society, has been the Exchange Club Student of the Month twice, and belonged to Mu Alpha Theta. Virginia has accepted an academic and athletic scholarship to Furman University where she plans on playing soccer. The gifted athlete chose Furman over other schools because, "It is called the Ivy League of the South, said Virginia, "it has great academics and a great Christian environment." While Virginia is undecided about her college major, she is thinking about either polit-

Virginia Poe

See POE, page 7A



## Top of the class

From left: Lawrence Smith and Daniel Dempsey

### Smith heads to Auburn

Jacksonville High School Valedictorian Lawrence Smith will be heading to college to study engineering. Smith is the son of Dr. Bebe and Steve Smith. Scholarship accepting-Presidential scholarship from Auburn University Awards-Spanish Award, Excellence in Scholarships Awards Honors-National Honor Society, Emerging Leaders Conference at JSU, Junior National Honor Society Clubs-VEX Robotics Team 2013-2015 Lawrence looked at both Auburn and UAH deciding on Auburn for their engineering program. He is planning on a chemical engineering major. "I took chemistry in the tenth grade and AP Chemistry in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and just found it really interesting," said Lawrence of his decision to major in chemical engineering. "Engineering interests me because it's all about solving problems which is one of my favorite things to do," explained Lawrence. Lawrence continued that chemical engineering is such a broad field that there are many opportunities and jobs available in the profession. Lawrence had these words of advice to the younger students, "Do your best. Don't worry about it so much; you don't have to get straight A's. Just do your very best. "The worst thing is to have the potential to do something great and not do anything at all."



## JHS Class Officers

JHS Class of 2015 Senior Class Officers officers are Brett Thornburg, president; Tyler Waugh, vice-president; Quanteeria Mooney, treasurer and Ashton Gaddy, historian.

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE • STORIES BY LORI TIPPETS

## Salutatorian Daniel Dempsey is National Merit Scholarship finalist

Salutatorian and National Merit Scholarship winner Daniel Dempsey will be attending Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina. Daniel is the son of Drs. David Dempsey and Heidi L. Dempsey. Scholarship accepted-Chancellor's Scholarship, Appalachian State University, National Merit Scholarship, Regina King Memorial Scholarship Awards-National Merit Scholar, Honorable Mention at AMTA state piano competition, All-state band, All-district band Honors-JHS Ambassador, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha

Theta, Youth Leadership Calhoun County Clubs- JHS band, Boy Scouts of America, Etowah Youth Orchestra, Robotics Club, Piano study Daniel chose Appalachian State University because he has always loved North Carolina. "When I was a kid my grandparents took us to church conferences there every summer," said Daniel. "After I toured Appalachian State and spoke to some of the faculty I knew it was somewhere that I really wanted to be," said Daniel. "They have continued to impress me more and more with the things they offer, the research opportuni-

ties and how personable their faculty and administration are." Daniel is planning a double major of computer science and music. After college Daniel says he would, "just love to play music for the rest of my life but that job market isn't great" so he hopes to work for some company in computer science or teach at a university. Daniel has the following advice to younger students, "Take classes as advanced as you can. Whatever you are doing make sure you care about it, put effort into it and put a piece of yourself into the work. That's what sets people apart, put yourself into what you do."

## POE: Virginia is ranked sixth in class of 2015

From page 6A

ical science or communications with a minor in religion. Marcia Stallings, senior class advisor says that Virginia was selected as the spotlight student because of her athletic accomplishments, her academic accomplishments and because of the example she sets for other students. "Throughout high school Virginia has maintained consistently high grades while taking the most rigorous coursework we have to offer," said Stallings.

"She is ranked sixth in the Class of 2015. She has achieved academic excellence while fulfilling the grueling demands of high school and club athletics. "All the while Virginia has never used the athletic demands, the travel, the schedule associated with being a high school athlete as an excuse. She maintains high grades, strong school attendance and class participation and a positive attitude. "Virginia is an excellent role model for other students in the expectations she holds for herself and the character she exhibits."

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Tyler Justin Cefaly



Kirklin Ryan Childs



Taylor Michelle Cochran



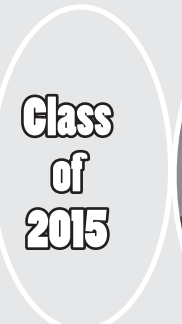
Anna Katherine Craven



River Richard Lee DeVoe



Andrew Thomas Epperson



Class of 2015  
Kristopher Wayne Emerson Jr.



Dylan Scott Fair



Lacy Elizabeth Frintner



Phillip Grayson Fulmer



Class of 2015  
Saxon Anastasia Heidara Garrett



Melina Louise Greenwood



Abby Nicole Hedgepath



Christopher John Hensel



Harrison Gregory Hightower



Kalya Brylea Holden



Katlynn Dawn Jeanne Ivey



Jonathan Tyler William Jenkins



Andrew Levi Johnson



Chase Logan Johnson



Emily Deanna Ruby Johnson



Lainey Nichole King



Seth Russell Kirk



Derek Wayne Langston



Andrew Powell Lewiski IV



Sebastian Robert Lee Lucas



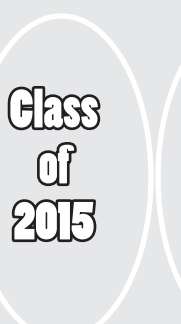
Christa Brienna Lynn



Brittney Nicole McAllister



Matthew Seth McAllister



Class of 2015  
Alyssa Hope McGinnis



Class of 2015  
Dylan Ray Minton



Walter Scott Moore



Jordan Leann Moorer



Nicholas Cole O'Dell



Matthew Scott Parker



Bridget Nicole Payne



Troy Carl Mitchel Payne



Tyler Anthony Peck



Dylan Mark Percival



Ally Elizabeth Ponder



James Bradley Pritchett



Liam Ryan Alvin Roosma



Dezirae LeAnne Roy



Dillan Zackardee Rudd



Jacob Austin Sanderson



Daulton Thomas Satterfield



Baily Jean Scott



Timothy Allen Sharp



Emily Brooke Simpson



Randall Joseph Simpson



Andrew Kyle Sims



Bradley Wayland Smith



Dixie Lynn Smith



Kaitlyn Nicole Strickland



Dustin Tyler Templeton



Kevin Ray Thompson



Megan Brooke Tillison



Bailey Keaton Turner



Bailey Taylor Underwood



Catherine Layn Waites



Harold Jarek Daniel Ward



Colton Jack Alan Whisenant



Tiffany Rozell Williams



Layla Cathleen Woodward



Calen Daniel Wright



Brittany Lee Yancey



## TOP TEN

Pleasant Valley's top 10 students are, from left, Harrison Gregory Hightower, Ally Elizabeth Ponder, Walter Scott Moore, Derek Wayne Langston, Brittney Lee Yancey, Tiffany Roszell Williams, Kirklin Ryan Childs, Matthew Scott Parker, Bailey Keaton Turner and Abby Nichole Hedgepath.

**CONGRATULATIONS**



# Top of the class

## Pleasant Valley Class of 2015; Raiders to graduate 74

Pleasant Valley will see 74 graduates march across the grass at Pleasant Valley Raider Stadium on Thursday, May 21, at 7 p.m.

Of the 74 graduates, 15 are expected to attend colleges out-of-state. Thirty-seven students will be on scholarship. Pleasant Valley graduates will be attending University of Alabama at Huntsville, University of Alabama Birmingham, JSU, Gadsden State, Auburn, Southern Union, Samford, and LaGrange.

Five students will be on athletic scholarships. Twelve of the graduates are planning on joining a branch of the military. At least 45 are expected to attend some form of college, either four year, two year or technical college. Pleasant Valley students racked up \$1,526,000 in scholarship money.

Senior advisor Cerilla Roe describes this graduation class as being very diverse. "They are a very spiritual group," said Roe, "that would describe them best of all. They are very mature and focused on what they want to do in the future. They are very motivated to want to succeed, as a result they are hard workers."

Roe explained that the class had done many senior projects that were very community oriented.

The graduating class is also very close-knit, especially after the death of a classmate, Steven Huddleston, which brought the class even closer together. "They organized a candlelight ceremony," said Roe, "even if it was students that normally don't hang out together, you can tell that they were affected in a very strong way. They have learned not to take things for granted and to care more about each other."

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE ■ STORIES BY LORI TIPPETS



ABOVE: Valedictorian Harrison Hightower, Salutatorian Ally Ponder and Historian Walter Scott Moore.

### Valedictorian Harrison Hightower

Leading the Raider Senior Class is Valedictorian Harrison Hightower, son of Greg and Susan Hightower.

Scholarships offered-Full tuition JSU and Auburn and several from other colleges

Scholarship Accepted-Spirit of Auburn Presidential Scholarship

Awards given-Ninth grade Honors English Award, 10<sup>th</sup> grade Honors English Award, Physical Science Award

Clubs-Beta Club

Honors-Summa Cum Laude, Sr. Beta Club Vice-president, attended Rotary Youth Leadership Award conference junior year, JSU Emerging Leader, Jacksonville Exchange Club, scored 32 on ACT

Church-Eagle Point Church

Harrison plans on majoring in Chemistry or pre/med or pre/[pharmacy at Auburn University where he plans on graduating in pharmacy. "I've always been interested in math, chemistry and physics and I want to do something in the medical field," said Harrison.

"I shadowed a pharmacist and really liked the environment, what they do, what they are responsible for, and they make good money and have good benefits."

Harrison lists his biggest accomplishment as scoring a 32 on the ACT, which enabled him to be offered the Spirit of Auburn Presidential Scholarship.

His advice to younger students is, "Set your goals high and work hard and do what it takes to reach your goals."

### Salutatorian Ally Ponder

Salutatorian Ally Ponder, daughter of Tyler and Wendy Ponder also hopes to become a pharmacist.

Scholarships offered- Academic and leadership Scholarship from Samford University, JSU Faculty Scholarship

Scholarship accepted-Samford Academic and Leadership Awards Given-American History Award, Algebra II w/trig award, Chemistry Award, Volleyball Raider Award, Basketball Most Improved, Exchange Student of the Month, George Smith Student of the Week

Clubs-FCA Captain, FBLA, President of the Beta Club, Math team

Honors-Summa Cum Laude, Microsoft Office Specialist: PowerPoint, Word, and Excel, Advanced Diploma with honors, JSU Emerging Leader, Passport Honor Camper.

Church-First Baptist Church of Williams

Abby knew that she wanted to be a pharmacist when she went last summer to the Christian Light School in Port Au Prince, Haiti. "I worked a couple of days in the infirmary," said Ally, "I saw a lot of needs for the children. I was shocked at the limited resources they had and how many problems.

"I would really like to work for Doctors Without Borders."

Ally's words of advice to younger classmates, "Define yourself. A lot of times we have different views and different ways of seeing things. We don't always see things the ways others see things but that doesn't necessarily mean we're wrong or they're wrong.

"Make your own opinions and form your own beliefs, not just what you've always been told. Think for yourself and have an open mind."

### Historian Walter Scott Moore

Historian Walter Scott Moore, son of Anne and Michael Moore.

Scholarship accepted-Electric Cooperative Foundation Scholarship

Awards Given-Class Historian, varsity letter basketball, Chaplain SCA, Secretary FCA, Beta Club, FBLA

Honors-Summa Cum Laude

Church- Hope Community Church

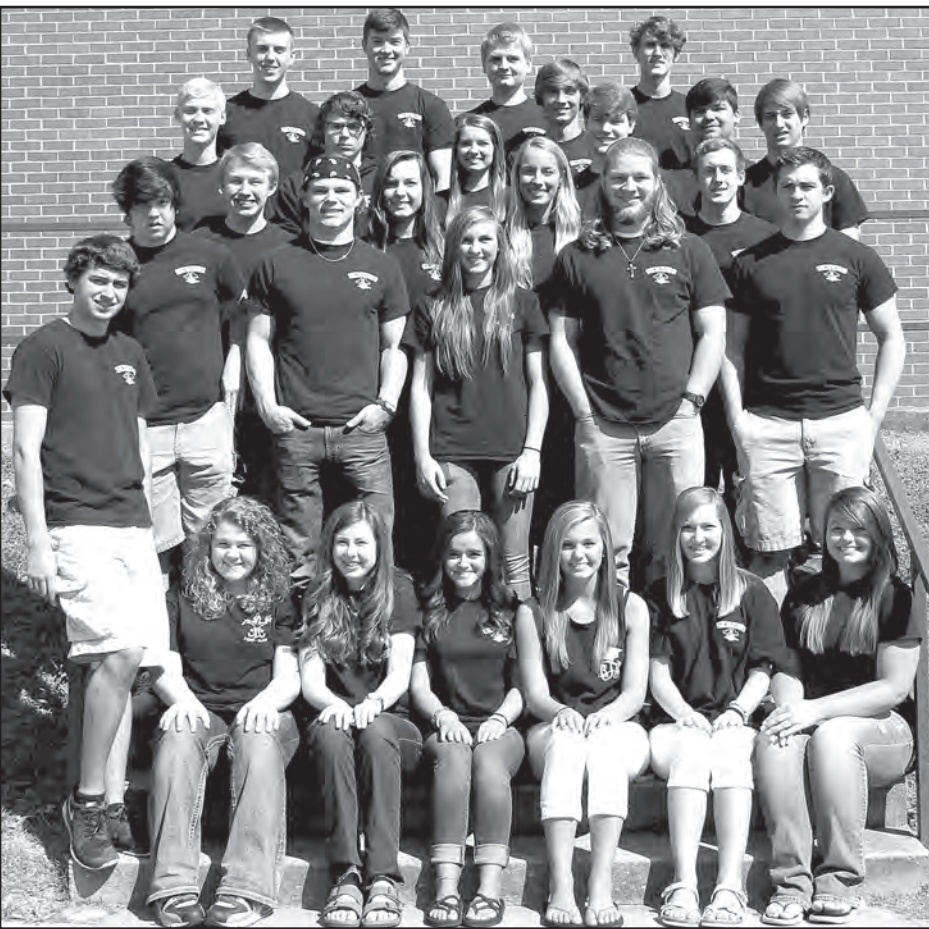
Walter will be attending the University of Alabama in Huntsville majoring in communications and minoring in Psychology and seminary He plans on obtaining a Masters in Divinity or Theology.

Walter hopes to one day be a minister and already plans on being an under-study to one of the pastors in Huntsville.

However, Walter didn't wait until college to begin his training to be a minister. While at Pleasant Valley Walter started the Pleasant Valley Discipleship, a Friday night study for male students.

"I teach different lessons out of different scriptures," explains Walter. As many as 30 guys show up."

Walter says to the younger students, "ACT prep all the time! If you can get into the 30's do it!"



## Scholarship winners

LEFT: Pleasant Valley scholarship recipients are, not in order, Destiny Barthel, Brittany Yancey, Abby Hedgepath, Calen Wright, Tiffany Williams, River DeVoe, Bradley Pritchett, Andrew Epperson, Seth McAllister, Allie Battles, Drew Lewiski, Katlynn Ivey, Liam Roosma, Tyler Cefaly, Kirklain Childs, Colton Whisenant, Tyler Peck, Bailey Turner, Baily Scott, Jordan Moorer, Ally Ponder, Andy Brannon, Dalton Bean, Derek Langston, Harrison Hightower, Matthew Parker and Scott Moore.



## Class officers

Pleasant Valley 2015 officers are, from left, Destiny Barthel, president; River DeVoe, vice president; Bailey Turner, secretary; and Abby Hedgepath, treasurer.

## SPOTLIGHT STUDENT

### Abby Hedgepath is motivated

Spotlight student Abby Hedgepath, daughter of David and Tara Hedgepath.

Senior advisor Cerilla Roe says that Abby was selected as Pleasant Valley's feature student because, "she epitomizes what someone at Pleasant Valley should be like."

Roe went on to say that Abby is extremely gregarious. "She is meticulous to a tee about everything she does. She cares deeply about her classmates. She is motivated and has great grades."

Abby will be attending JSU on the Gamecock Scholarship where she plans on getting a degree in counseling or special education. "There are several people in my family who are teachers," explained Abby. People here at Pleasant Valley have inspired me. I really enjoy working around other people."

Abby has been the Exchange Club Student of the Month, was All-County and All-Area in volleyball, and softball, Who's Who Most Courteous, Won the Faculty Award, Food and Nutrition Award, Raider Award in softball and volleyball, and Who's Who Sweetest.

Abby will be graduating in the top ten of her senior class, Magna Cum Laude.

She attends the First Baptist Church of Williams.



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CLASS OF 2015



Submitted photo

Brandi Malsy poses for a family photograph with her husband, Kevin, and their children, Blakely, 14 and Jake, 12.



Submitted photo

Beckett, who will be 3 in July, snuggles between his parents, Dana and Jeff Burns, on the day Dana received her degree from Auburn.

## SISTERS: Pair learned good work ethics from parents and coach

From page 1A

of it. It's very fast paced. You see a lot of medical conditions."

Dana has worked in the intensive care unit for the past five years. She's not sure if she'll remain there. She's said she's looking at options.

"The hardest part of this whole process has been keeping the kids' lives normal," said Brandi. "We had a lot going on with my husband and me working full time. Our kids are active. They play three sports each. It's really been rough on all of us."

Their children, Blakely, 14, and Jake, 12, attend Pleasant Valley School.

Dana and her husband, Jeff, have one child, Beckett, who will be 3 in July.

Brandi said she feels relieved that the hard work is behind her.

"I'm proud and excited that I've reached my goal," she said. "It's been the busiest two years of our lives, and I'm glad it's over."

She said she and Dana have always close as sisters, but she believes going

through the program together has made them closer.

"Going through the same thing, we were able to help each other," she said.

"We both wanted a stable career, and we knew that working in nursing we could always find a job," said Dana. "If we didn't like one thing, we could always change and do something else in the same field."

Brandi said the minute she learned she'd passed her test and could graduate, the first person she called was her husband. He called their children and within five minutes, both of them had texted her to congratulate her.

"We've all made sacrifices in the past

“  
Going through the same thing, we were able to help each other.”  
Brandi Malsy

two years," she said. "Kevin kept the house going. He's been a rock through this. I couldn't have done it without him."

Brandi said that, through all her family's sacrifices, she hopes it's taught her children to not give up.

"So many times I've wanted to say there's no way I could continue, but I would have never given up," she said. "I want them to understand that a lot of times reaching your goal isn't easy. There are sacrifices you're going to have to make. You have to work hard and stay committed to

their mother for all she has done for them.

"Our parents have taught us to work hard," said Brandi. "We learned our work ethics from them. We work hard in good times and bad. They're thrilled that Dana and I have done this together."

"They've always been proud of us and told us so," said Dana. "They've always been very supportive of us."

Brandi said another person she and Dana learned good work ethics from was their softball coach at Pleasant Valley, Sandy Hunter.

"Ms. Hunter had a lot of impact on the lives of everyone she coached," said Brandi. "I don't think she even realizes she's helped us all become the women we are."

Dana said she and her sister have sacrificed family time and often could have been doing something rather than going to school and studying.

"We're glad it's over," she said. "We're very glad we stuck it out."

(Call Margaret at [pollya922@gmail.com](mailto:pollya922@gmail.com))

achieve your goals." The sisters agree that this was the best Mother's Day gift they could have given



Pleasant Valley seniors form a 15 in honor of the year they are graduating.

CLASS OF 2015



Jacksonville High School



Jax Christian



CONGRATS SENIORS

CLASS OF 2015



Pleasant Valley High School

JACKSONVILLE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
7 p.m., May 19, Sanctuary, Faith Temple  
13 graduating

JACKSONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL  
8 p.m., May 21, Golden Eagle Stadium  
109 graduating

PLEASANT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
7 p.m., May 21, Raider Stadium  
74 graduating

PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL  
7 p.m. May 21, Field of Champions,  
67 graduating

SPRING GARDEN  
5 p.m., May 21, Gadsden State Cherokee Campus Arena  
34 graduating



Piedmont High School



# Piedmont High School

## CLASS OF 2015 • CLASS OF 2015 • CLASS OF 2015



Jordan Scott Adderhold



Jaden Thomas Amberson



Austin Dean Anderson



Dalton Edward Barber



Dalton Earl Bedwell



Hanna Denise Bedwell



Mitchell Douglas Bennfield



Brittnean Marie Bowen



Kayleana Lynn Bowen



Kaliyah Lavonne Braswell



Felicia Lynn Bullock



Austin Deworn Santigo Camp



Jacob Ragan Clark



Katlyn Michelle Coppock



Payten Lee Cotton



Johnnie Brianna Michelle Danford



Cody Gene Daughtry



Nikko Frank Young Dellena



Victoria Lynn Donaldson



Carlie Janel Flowers



Skylar Reese Fontaine



Class of 2015



Angelia Denise Freeman



Amber Paige Gowens



Dustin Tyler Gowens



Tatinya Brisz'hea Green



Christopher Dakota Hooper



Chase Daulton Jarrell



Kandas Leighann Jarrell



Brandon Scott Jones



Tyler Scott Kitchen



Amanda Faye Lapiere



Austin Lee Lewis



Jonathan Tyler Lucas



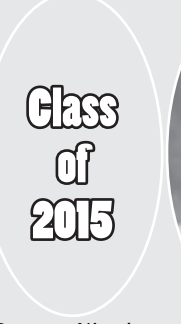
Tyler Robert Lusk



Allison Marie Majesky



Alexander Castillo Mancilla



Class of 2015



Ashlie Alysia McBryer



Preston Cale McCord



Dylan Scott McMurray



Joshua Lee Minton



Rebecca Ann Moore



Randi Leona Morgan



Hunter Tripp Morrow



Sybil Kathleen Motes



Tiffany Rebecca Murner



Madison Gabrielle Naugher



Chad Edward Nicholson Jr.



Anna Christine Parker



Cory M Patigayon



Jamison Lee Philips



Joyce Le'ann Pleze



Cheyenne Denise Poore



Laura Ann Posey



Peggy Leann Ridley



Ashlynn Kara Rivers



Devonta Marquez Savage



John Jeremiah Screven



Cameron Skyler Smith



Charles Mirrian Smith Jr.



Jada Marie Stegall



Caitlin Alexandra Tant



Riesha Latoia Thompson



Rodriqueaz Lavonte Thompson



Chasity Sue Tucker



Peyton Jeremy Whitten

### CONGRATS CLASS OF 2015

Wheresoever you go, go with all your heart.

~Kongzi



## TOP TEN STUDENTS

From left: Valedictorian Victorian Donaldson, salutatorian Katlyn Coppock, historian Skylar Fontaine, Tyler Lusk, Jeremiah Screven, Bre Green, Dalton Barber, Cody Daugherty, Ashlynn Rivers, and Paige Gowens.



# PHS seniors will receive diplomas on Field of Champions

## Seth Harbison will speak at baccalaureate

Piedmont High School principal Dr. Adam Clemons said he's proud of the 67 seniors who will receive their diplomas at 7 p.m. May 21 on the Field of Champions.

"They are some of the hardest working students I have encountered in my 14 years as an educator," he said. "Many of them work jobs, play multiple sports, play in the band, participate in drama and cheer, all while having a full load of rigorous academic courses."

Clemons said this class is the first to go through the Piedmont Promise Project (aka, 3P). All seniors had to complete career interest inventories, create a resume, get two letters of recommendation, attend the AdvantagePlus seminar, create a LinkedIn account, create a digital portfolio, do a community service project and go through an interview process with three staff members. Their completion of

3P is a requirement to walk at graduation. "I am proud to say all seniors have completed their 3P successfully," said Clemons.

Piedmont city schools superintendent Matt Akin said he's proud to say that the class of 2015 is another outstanding graduating class.

"The class has continued to set the academic mark to a high level," said Akin. "I look forward to watching their accomplishments in the future."

First Baptist Church youth minister Seth Harbison will speak at the baccalaureate at 2 p.m. May 17 at First Baptist Church.

Candidates for graduation are:

### A-F

Jordan Scott Adderhold, Jaden Thomas Amberson, Austin Dean Anderson, Dalton Edward Barber, Dalton Earl

Bedwell, Hanna Denise Bedwell, Mitchell Douglas Bennefield, Britnean Marie Bowen, Kayleana Lynn Bowen, Kaliyah Lavonne Braswell, Felicia Lynn Bullock, Austin Deworn Santiago Camp, Jacob Ragan Clark, Katlyn Michelle Coppock, Payten Lee Cotton, Johnnie Brianna Michelle Danford, Cody Gene Daughtry, Nikko Frank Young Dellena, Victoria Lynn Donaldson, Carlie Janel Flowers, Skylar Reese Fontaine, Melissa Nicole Fortenberry, Angelia Denise Freeman.

### G-L

Amber Paige Gowens, Dustin Tyler Gowens, Tatinya Briz'hea Green, Christopher Dakota Hooper, Chase Christon Jarrell, Kandas Leighann Jarrell, Brandon Scott Jones, Tyler Scott Kitchen, Amanda Faye Lapier, Austin Lee Lewis, Jonathan Tyler Lucas, Tyler Robert Lusk.

### M-Q

Allison Marie Majesky, Alexander Castillo Mancilla, Breana Nicole Marlow, Ashlie Alysia McBrayer, Preston Cale McCord, Dylan Scott McMurray, Joshua Lee Minton, Rebecca Ann Moore, Randi Leona Morgan, Hunter Tripp Morrow, Sybil Kathleen Motes, Tiffany Rebecca Murner, Madison Gabrielle Naugher, Chad Edward Nicholson Jr., Anna Christine Parker, Cory M Patigayon, Jamison Lee Philips, Joyce Le'ann Pleze, Cheyenne Denise Poore, Laura Ann Posey.

### R-Z

Peggy Leann Ridley, Ashlynn Kara Rivers, Devonta Marquez Savage, John Jeremiah Screven, Cameron Skylee Smith, Charles Mirrian Smith Jr., Jada Marie Stegall, Caitlin Alexandra Tant, Riesha Latoia Thompson, Rodrigueaz Lavonte Thompson, Chasity Sue Tucker and Peyton Jeremy Whitten.

## TOP OF THE CLASS



ABOVE: From left, Valedictorian Victoria Lynn Donaldson, Salutatorian Katylyn Michelle Coppock and Historian Skylar Reece Fontaine.

### Valedictorian Victoria Lynn Donaldson

## PHS valedictorian ready to start new chapter in her life

Donaldson wants to be pharmacist

Piedmont High School valedictorian Victoria Lynn Donaldson said that for her, graduation will be bittersweet. She and many of her classmates have been in school together since kindergarten.

"I'm ready to graduate, but I won't get to see people I've been with my entire life after May 21," she said.

Donaldson is ready to open a new chapter in her life. It will start at Auburn University where she will work toward a degree in pharmacy.

"Auburn has a wonderful pharmacy program," she said. "I just love the atmosphere of the campus. It's amazing. It makes you feel at home."

She said she chose pharmacy as a career because she loves chemistry, math and the medical field.

"I thought this was the best career path for me," she said.

She said her parents are proud of her and have always supported her.

"They've pushed me to do my best in everything I'm involved in," she said. "I'll definitely miss school (PHS). It's been the most amazing experience. I've had so many opportunities.

Donaldson has maintained a 4.6 grade point average even though she's involved in many activities. She said doing so takes time and work.

"I maintained a strong work ethic and I try to do my best in everything I'm involved in," she said. "I just can't not try. I push myself to do the best in everything and put the time in it to make it pay off in the end."

Donaldson attends First Baptist Church.

She is the daughter of Brian and Tammy Donaldson and the granddaughter of Ray and Shirley Dupree and Clyde and Jean Donaldson, all of Piedmont. She has completed seven AP classes while serving as drum major, playing in the concert band and serving as the alto section leader.

She's a member of the Calhoun County Honor Band, Alabama Ambassadors of Music, National Honor Society senior officer, so-treasurer of the Technology Student Association, Mu Alpha Theta, Student Government Association, Alabama Girls State, Youth Leadership of Calhoun County and Jacksonville State University Emerging Leaders. She also attended the Hugh O'Brien Leadership Seminar.

She will attend Auburn on a Spirit of Auburn Founders Scholarship, Alabama Municipal Electric Authority Scholarship and Elks Lodge Most Valuable Student Scholarship.

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE ■ STORIES BY MARGARET ANDERSON

*I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known. ~Author Unknown*

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**TOP OF THE CLASS**

**Salutatorian  
Katlyn Michelle Coppock**

**Katlyn Michelle Coppock has interest in astrology**

PHS salutatorian likes space science



**Katlyn Coppock**

Katlyn Michelle Coppock has worked hard to be named salutatorian of this year's graduating class at Piedmont High School. She will graduate with a 4.6 grade point average. She made 28 on her ACT score.

Coppock will attend the University of Alabama at Huntsville on a Merit Scholarship. She will major in physics and pursue her dream of being an astronomer.

"When I was younger, stars just always interested me," she said. "The older I get the more I love science, particularly space science. There's so much that can still be learned."

Katlyn said she's been able to maintain a 4.6 grade point average because her parents are supportive.

"They keep me on task so I don't get lost in all the work," she said. "And my grandparents always told me that I had the potential to be whatever I wanted in life."

She is the daughter of Ann and James Coppock.

Katlyn is a member of First Baptist Church where she helps with vacation Bible school.

Her entire school life has been spent in the Piedmont school system.

"It's been good," she said. "I have people that I've always known that I can rely on. Graduation night will be sad but good because I know that we'll all go different paths and be successful."

Coppock is vice president and secretary of the Technology Student Association. She is a member of the Student Government Association, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, prom committee, yearbook staff and Senior Leadership Council. She was also a member of the theatre group at PHS and volunteered at Piedmont Middle School and Piedmont Public Library.

**Historian  
Skylar Reese Fontaine**

**Skylar Reese Fontaine wants to be architectural engineer**

Historian played on PHS tract championship team



**Skylar Fontaine**

Piedmont High School historian Skylar Reese Fontaine strives to win at everything in which he's involved.

"I don't like to get beat in things," he said. "That comes out in athletics and in school. I'm on the tract team and we've won the state championship for the last two years."

Fontaine will attend Jacksonville State University on a Gamecock Scholarship and Alabama Municipal Electric Authority Scholarship. There, his major will be pre-engineering. He plans to transfer later to complete a degree in architectural engineering.

"My cousin is an architect in Knoxville, Tenn., and I've always looked up to him and wanted to do things he does," said Fontaine.

Fontaine is a member of First Baptist Church, where he's involved in the youth group. He recalls a special trip to Panama City when he and others from his church helped Habitat for Humanity build a house and shed for a family.

Fontaine is the son of Laura Fontaine and the grandson of Felmon Jr. and Perry Ann Cromer all of Spring Garden.

He is graduating with a 4.39 grade point average, two college class credits and six AP classes. He's a member of the National Honor Society and Mu Alpha Theta. He is a Student Government Association representative and treasurer of Future Farmers of America. He was Alabama Boys State representative in 2012 and was on the 2012 state runner-up baseball team.

Fontaine moved to Piedmont from Milton Fla., which is near Pensacola, his freshman year.

"I was upset leaving my friends," he said. "As far as living in Piedmont I don't have any complaints. I've kept all my old friends and made new ones as well."

Fontaine is a peer tutor at Piedmont Middle School, where he spends his seventh period class helping younger students daily.

"It's a good way to gain community service," he said. "The interacting helps all of us. Also, I'm learning things as I teach them."

**SPOTLIGHT STUDENT**

**Best class at PHS**

Bre Green said students are like a family

Bre Green says what makes Piedmont High School's Class of 2015 special is that the students have stuck together through the good and bad times.

"This class is the best class ever at Piedmont," she said. Green was chosen Piedmont's Spotlight Student.

"We are like family. There has never been a big argument between any of the seniors.

"I believe this is the most successful class because of all the technology we

have received. I know that technology has helped me. My Mac has helped me more than textbooks."

Green is one of 2015's outstanding students. She is a member of the National Honor Society, the Senior Leadership Team and is in the youth group at First Baptist Church.

She's also quite an athlete. She played volleyball, basketball and also ran track

■ See GREEN, page 5B



**Bre Green**

**FOOD OUTLET**

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to ALL Class of 2015 Graduates

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# LEADERSHIP STUDENTS



Members of the senior leadership team are, front row, from left: Kandas Jarrell, Maddie Naugher, Victoria Donaldson, Katlyn Coppock, Riesha Thompson. Second row: Joyce Pleze, Ashlynn Rivers, Chasity Tucker, Chris Hooper, Tyler Lusk, Skylar Fontaine, Dalton Barber, Jeremiah Screven, Bre Green and Hanna Bedwell.

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE • STORIES BY MARGARET ANDERSON AND JOHN ALRED

*Graduation is only a concept. In real life every day you graduate. Graduation is a process that goes on until the last day of your life. If you can grasp that, you'll make a difference. ~Arie Pencovici*



*You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world. ~Tom Brokaw*

## GREEN: PHS senior aspires to be athletic trainer

From page 5B

for the Bulldogs.  
"I guess the most exciting moment of my high school career would be when we beat Pleasant Valley for the area basketball championship, Green said.  
During her athletic career she was chosen All-Area Most Valuable player in basketball also with an All-State honorable mention.  
She was all-county in basketball and was All-County honorable mention in volleyball.  
As for her future? Bre has that figured out. She will

attend Jacksonville State University in hopes of becoming an athletic trainer.  
"My whole life has really revolved around athletics," she said. "I want to help people and this would keep me in sports in addition to helping people."  
Green said she has no plans to play sports in college, at least not now.  
"For the first two years I want to concentrate on my studies," she said. "After that I might try to play."  
Bre is the daughter of Sam and Yolanda Green. Her grandparents are Rory and Charles Thomas and Patrick and Geraldine Stitts.

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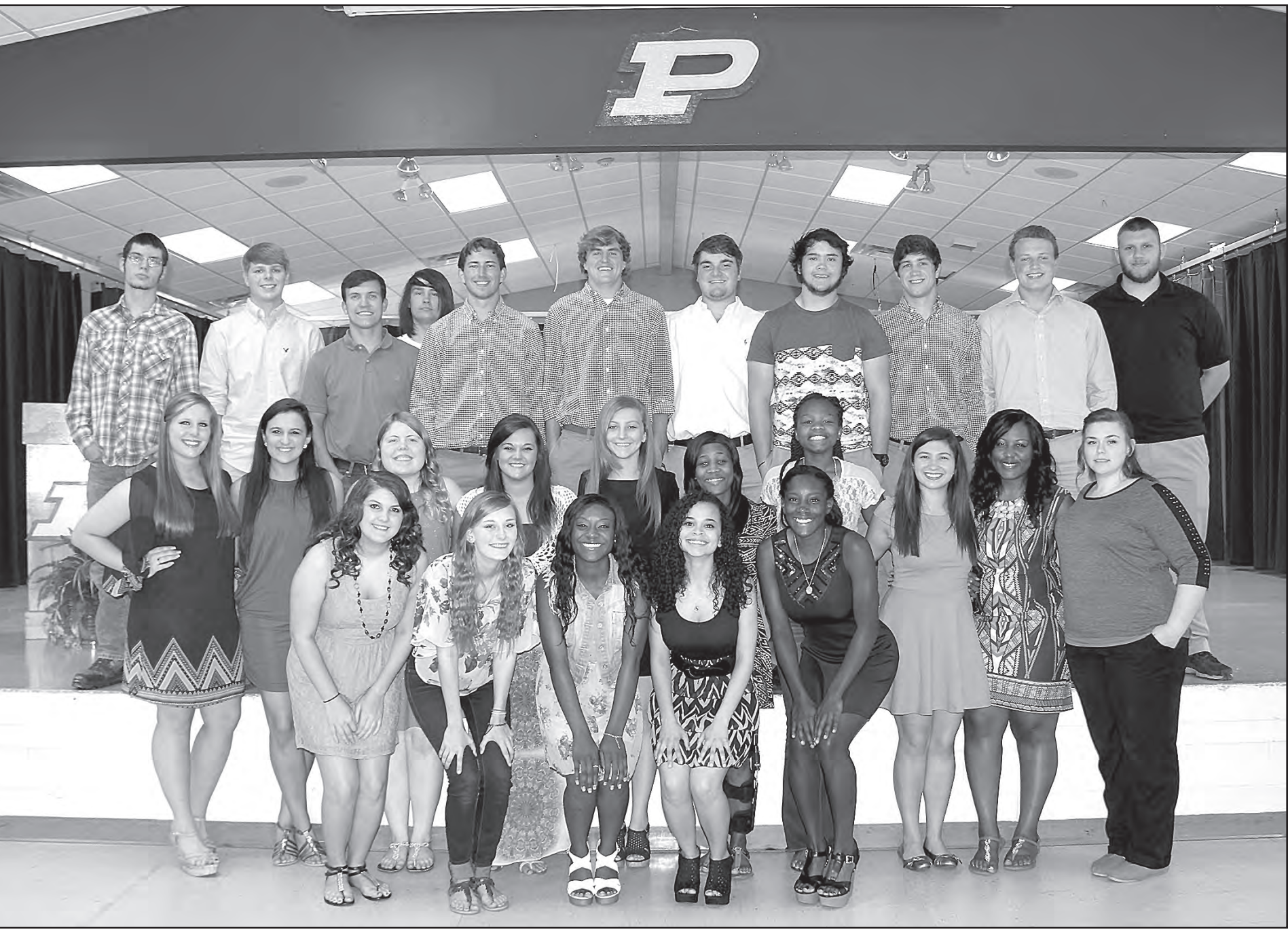
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# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



Piedmont High School seniors receiving scholarships are, front row, from left: Angelia Freeman, Allison Majesky, Joyce Pleze, Chasity Tucker and Bre Green. Second row: Ashlynn Rivers, Madison Naugher, Katlyn Coppock, Hanna Bedwell, Amber Gowens, Reisha Thompson, Carlie Flowers, Victoria Donaldson, Kaliyah Braswell, Jade Stegall. Back row: Chad Nicholson, Austin Anderson, Dalton Barber, Charlie Smith, Skylar Fontaine, Tyler Lusk, John Screven, Corey Patigayon, Mitchell Bennefield, Jacob Clark and Tyler Lucas.


## SCHOLARSHIPS AT PIEDMONT HIGH

### Total scholarships - \$615,121

**Austin Dean Anderson:** JSU Faculty, Doyce F. Hamrick Veterans of Foreign Wars, Vera and Morgan Stewart, Randy and Cynthia Harper.  
**Dalton Edward Barber:** Gadsden State Community College Honors, Weldon "Pinkie" Roberts, W. H. Kimbrough.  
**Hannah Denise Bedwell:** PHS class of 1968, Jeffrey Parker.  
**Mitchell Douglas Bennefield:** William Theodore Law.  
**Brittnean Marie Bowen:** Jeffrey Parker.  
**Kaliyah Lavonne Braswell:** Advantage Plus, Florence Bates Law.  
**Felicia Lynn Bullock:** Spring Hill College, Miranda Givens.  
**Jacob Ragan Clark:** The Savage Scholarship (Kay Webb and Perry L., MD), JSU.  
**Katlyn Michelle Coppock:** UAH Charger Scholars, Leola Roberts, Vera and Morgan Stewart, Larry and Jane Gowens.  
**Victoria Lynn Donaldson:** Spirit of Auburn Founders, University of Alabama Presidential, Granger

Latta Scholarship, Alabama Municipal Electric Authority, Elk Lodge.  
**Carlie Janel Flowers:** Christian Cantrell.  
**Skylar Reese Fontaine:** JSU Gamecock; Famers and Merchants Bank (JSU), Walter B. Thompson, McAbee/Salmon, Alabama Municipal Electric Authority.  
**Angelia Denise Freeman:** Gadsden State Community College Technical.  
**Amber Paige Gowens:** Health.  
**Tatinya Brisz'hea Green:** Lewis, Monteel and Jerry Savage.  
**Jonathan Tyler Lucas:** PHS class of 1968.  
**Tyler Robert Lusk:** Calhoun County Quarterback Club, Meagan McCain, Erin Givens.  
**Allison Marie Majesky:** Frank Watson, Alan J. Frankel Memorial.  
**Breanna Nicole Marlow:** Wingate University Merit.  
**Rebecca Ann Moore:** Jeffrey Parker.  
**Madison Gabrielle Naugher:** UAB Academic Achievement, University of Alabama Alumni Heritage Vera and Morgan Stewart, Scottish Rite of Montgomery, Grand Lodge of Alabama, KCCH Valley of Montgomery.  
**Chad Edward Nicholson, Jr.:** Gadsden State Community College Technical.

**Cory Mitchell Patigayon:** Bill Wilson.  
**Joyce Le'Ann Pleze:** Shane Donaldson, James M. Hoffman, Alabama Municipal Electric Authority.  
**Laura Ann Posey:** Vansant Family, C. R. West, Servant Leadership, Lozahatchee Masonic Lodge.  
**Ashlynn Kara Rivers:** Health, UAB Academic Achievement, the Savage Scholarship (Kay Webb and Perry L., MD, JSU), Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizenship.  
**Devonta Marquez Savage:** University of West Alabama Football.  
**John Jeremiah Screven:** Birmingham-Southern College Trustee, BSC Methodist Church, Bill Wilson, Dr. John R. Kirkpatrick, Elks Lodge, Meagan McCain, University of Alabama Tutwiler.  
**Charles Mirrian Smith Jr.:** Smith-Hughes Memorial.  
**Jada Marie Stegall:** Smith Scholarship, Jeffrey Parker.  
**Riesha Latoi Thompson:** Vera and Morgan Stewart.  
**Rodriqueaz Lavonte Thompson:** Miles College Football.  
**Chasity Sue Tucker:** Ryan Davis.  
**Peyton Jeremy Whitten:** Central Alabama Community College.



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*I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known. ~Author Unknown*

*Your families are extremely proud of you. You can't imagine the sense of relief they are experiencing. This would be a most opportune time to ask for money. ~Gary Bolding*

*Don't live down to expectations. Go out there and do something remarkable. ~Wendy Wasserstein*

*We don't stop going to school when we graduate. - Carol Burnett*







# Spring Garden High School

CLASS OF 2015 • CLASS OF 2015 • CLASS OF 2015

Ashley Brooke Armstrong	Brianna Hope Bangs	Joshua Brent Blankenship	Ashley Lauren Cherry	Megan Lee Dempsey	Hali Michelle Dickeson	Tabitha Renee Flowers	Darian Alexis Gaines	Patricia Lucyle Garrison	Molly Paige Hale	
Christopher Reece Hammontree	Hillary Allison Hicks	Jarred Kristofer Holcomb	Jared Lane Hutcheson	Taylor Lynn Johnson	Timothy Brian Jones	Dalton Wayne Kerr	Dylan Lee Kirk	Megan Lynn Kiser	Jessica Dawn Lane	
Class of 2015	Kinsey Lane McGinnis	Andrew Logan McLarty	Mckenzie Danielle Micha	Matthew David Mullinax	Candice Kaitlyn Musselman	Destiney Hope Reddish	Kyle Jacob Reece	Emory Allyson Reedy	Savannah Paige Reynolds	Rhonda Karin Nicole Roberson

## CLASS OFFICERS



ABOVE: Spring Garden's class officers are Darian Gaines, president; Emory Reedy, vice president; Lucy Garrison, secretary and Candice Musselman, reporter.

Cheyenne Marie Sanders	Baylee Abigail Spoon	Morgan Chase Twilley	James Adam Young

All that stands between the graduate and the top of the ladder is the ladder.  
~Author Unknown



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# Principal Welsh is proud of SGHS seniors

Baccalaureate will be at Goshen First United Methodist Church

Spring Garden High School principal Mike Welsh said he's been proud of all of his school's graduating seniors through the years, and this year's seniors are no exception.

"The SGHS class of 2015 is a group of talented and skilled individuals," said Welsh. "Each member of the class has contributed to our school in his or her own way. We expect each one to find success in college or the work force, and we wish them nothing but the very best."

Graduation will be at 5 p.m. May 21 at the Gadsden-State Cherokee Arena in Centre.

Spring Garden's seniors and families will attend the baccalaureate at 3 p.m. May 17 at Goshen United

Methodist Church. Former Spring Garden assistant principal Wes Neyman will speak. Newman is currently principal at Centre Elementary School.

Along with Newman, Cassandra Lindsey, Spring Garden's new assistant principal will sit on the stage with Welsh as candidates' names are read.

### A-L

Ashley Brooke Armstrong, Brianna Hope Bangs, Joshua Brent Blankenship, Ashley Lauren Cherry, Megan Lee Dempsey, Hali Michelle Dickeson, Tabitha Renee Flowers, Darian Alexis Gaines, Patricia Lucyle Garrison, Molly Paige Hale, Christopher Reece Hammontree, Hil-

lary Allison Hicks, Jarred Kristofer Holcomb, Jared Lane Hutcheson, Taylor Lynn Johnson, Timothy Brian Jones, Dalton Wayne Kerr, Dylan Lee Kirk, Megan Lynn Kiser, Jessica Dawn Lane.

### M-Z

Kinsey Lane McGinnis, Andrew Logan McLarty, Mckenzie Danielle Micha, Matthew David Mullinax, Candice Kaitlyn Musselman, Destiney Hope Reddish, Kyle Jacob Reece, Emory Allyson Reedy, Savannah Paige Reynolds, Rhonda Karin Nicole Roberson, Cheyenne Marie Sanders, Baylee Abigail Spoon, Morgan Chase Twilley and James Adam Young.

## TOP OF THE CLASS



From left are Darian Grimes, Molly Hale and Andrew McLarty.

### Valedictorian Darian Alexis Gaines

## Valedictorian knows that grades are important

Darian Alexis Grimes has a Faculty Scholarship

Valedictorian Darian Alexis Gaines is graduating with a 4.4 grade point average from Spring Garden because she has always known that grades are important.

"It helped out in the long run to help pay for scholarships in college," she said. "I've always taken my academics seriously."

Darian is the daughter of Mark and Tammy Gaines. Her grandparents are Richard and Martha Wood, Gayle Gossett and Howard Gaines.

Darian is a member of the National Honor Society, National Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Fellowship of Christian Students and FFA. She is business manager of the yearbook, vice president of FCCLA, plays on the girls basketball team, is team captain of this year's state 1A Area 13 runner-up team, All-County, All-Area, All-Regional and All-State Tournament basketball teams. She is also a Bryant Jordan Scholar Athlete.

Darian is a member of the National High School Rodeo Association, National Barrel Horse Association and H&H Bulls and Barrels. She also competes in pole bending. She's earned several awards in barrel racing.

She began having an interest in these competitions when she was 7.

"My mom used to compete in rodeos when she was younger," said Darian. "I got better over the years, and as I got different horses I got better."

Her family has eight quarter horses. She competes with Blaze, Pepsi, Shine and Bubba.

Darian will attend Jacksonville State University on a Faculty Scholarship. She will pursue a major in physical education or sports medicine.

"I'm leaning more toward physical education because my coaches have always been a big influence on me, and I would just like to have that experience to do that for others," she said.

Darian said she feels that her life will be a lot different after high school.

"It will be a different experience," she said. "I know there is going to be a big change, but I think it will be fine."

She said she's going to compete in rodeos this summer and try to find a job.

### Salutatorian Molly Paige Crider

## Spring Garden's salutatorian likes art

Molly Hale will attend JSU

Salutatorian Molly Paige Hale, daughter of John and Ginger Hale and granddaughter of Reba and Paul Crider, said she's happy to be graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. She said probably the main reason she's graduating with a high average is that she has a good memory when it comes to taking tests.

Molly is a member of FCCLA, Mu Alpha Theta and the Beta Club. She will attend Jacksonville State University on a Gamecock scholarship. She will study computer science, animation, video game art and design and possibly special makeup effects and prosthetics.

"I'm good with art and technology, and I guess I just want to do what I do best," is what Molly said when asked why she's venturing into this field. "I've watched TV shows about it. I've never tried it before, but it would be a fun thing to take up."

Molly said she's been interested in art since she was old enough to hold a pencil.

"I guess I want to try everything that has anything to do with art."

She said she's looking forward to getting on with her life after high school. She said she's happy to be graduating but is sad at the thought of leaving her friends.

"It's a big stress reliever, but there's the other stress about having to take on new responsibilities," she said.

### Historian Andrew Logan McLarty

## Spring Garden historian wants to be a PT

Andrew Logan McLarty graduates with a 4.2 GPA

Andrew Logan McLarty, son of David and Joyce McLarty and grandson of Edith McLarty, is Spring Garden's historian. McLarty is graduating with a 4.2 grade point average.

Andrew said he's graduating with a high average because he's put in a lot of hard work and dedication to his studies.

"Not everybody plays sports," he said. "It's a lot harder when you do play sports. When you see athletes with a GPA like mine, you know that they put in a lot of extra work."

Andrew was running back, corner back and receiver on the football team and pitcher and centerfield on the baseball team.

He is a member of the National Beta Club, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, FCCLA, FFA, Fellowship of Christian Students, Youth Leadership Cherokee Graduate, All-County and All-Area football, All-District and All-Region and All-County Baseball. He is a member of New Harmony Baptist Church in Cedartown, where he is active in youth activities.

Andrew plans to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham on a Collegiate Honors Scholarship, where he will pursue a degree in physical therapy. His interest in physical therapy piqued when he was injured while playing football.

"I've actually torn both of my ACLs and both my meniscus at the same time," he said. "In my right knee, I tore them during spring football my junior year, and on the left knee, I tore them in the eighth week while we were playing Woodville."

He said he plans to take the summer off, after being in school for the past 13 years. He's looking forward to his future.

"I'm excited about trying something new and moving on with my life and striving for bigger things," he said. But I'm also going to miss my friends and all the people at Spring Garden who helped me get to where I am."

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE / STORIES BY MARGARET ANDERSON



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friends at

The Piedmont Journal

The fireworks begin today. Each diploma is a lighted match. Each one of you is a fuse.  
~Edward Koch

# SPRING GARDEN SENIOR CLASS HONOR STUDENTS



ABOVE: Spring Garden's top students are, Cheyenne Sanders, Taylor Johnson, Ashley Armstrong, Savannah Reynolds, Matt Mullinax, Candice Musselman, Emory Reedy, Molly Hale, Darian Gaines, Andrew McLarty, Baylee Spoon, Kyle Reece, Ashley Cherry, Morgan Twilley and Hali Dickeson.

## SPOTLIGHT STUDENT

### Miss Spring Garden 2015 will graduate fourth in her class with a GPA of 4.1

Senior Emory Reedy is co-editor-in-chief of Spring Garden's yearbook



Emory Reedy

PHOTOS BY ANITA KILGORE

STORY BY JOHN ALRED

Spring Garden Spotlight Student Emory Allyson Reedy has had a busy life at Spring Garden High School.

Academically, Emory has a 4.1 grade point average and is graduating fourth in her class. She is on the A honor roll. She has been a member of the National Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta honor society and Chi Alpha Mu honor society.

She was voted Miss Spring Garden 2015. She was elected senior class vice president, Most School Spirit and Most Fashionable by her classmates. Emory was selected as Prom Princess, Class Favorite of her junior class, 10<sup>th</sup> grade homecoming representative and Diamond Diva beauty pageant queen. She won first place in Garden's Got Talent and FCCLA County Rally talent competition.

In 2012, she was chosen as a delegate to the Alfa Youth Leadership Conference. In 2013, she was selected an emerging leader in Youth Leadership Cherokee. Last year, she was chosen as a delegate for the Montgomery Youth Tour. In addition, based on her interview scores, Cherokee Electric Cooperative sponsored her as a representative of the Washington Youth Tour.

She has also been one of Spring Garden's top athletes.

She played varsity basketball for three years and received All-Area tournament honors in 2013. She has played varsity volleyball for four years and was a member of the Elite Eight team in 2013 and 2014. She received All-Region Tournament team honors in 2011 and was selected All County in 2011 and 2014.

She has been a member of FCS for three years and is currently serving as Officer of Activities. She has been an FCCLA officer for six years and is the president. She worked on the Panther Yearbook staff for two years where she served as Senior Pride Editor and is currently Co-Editor-in-chief of the yearbook. She has been a member of FFA for five years.

She is also active in her community and church. Emory plans to attend Jacksonville State University with a Leadership Scholarship. She is interested in majoring in Elementary Education or specializing in Neonatal Medicine in the nursing field.

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# *Congratulations to the 2015 graduates*



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The logo for Farmers & Merchants Bank (F&M) is centered within a green ribbon banner. The banner is a wide, flat ribbon with a slight curve at the top and bottom, and it has a white background. The text "F&M" is in a large, bold, green serif font. To the right of "F&M" is the text "Farmers & Merchants Bank" in a smaller, black serif font. Below "F&M" is a horizontal line. To the left of the line is a small house icon with the word "LENDER" underneath it. To the right of the line is the text "MEMBER FDIC" in a small, black sans-serif font. Below the line is the text "Service • Solutions • Strength" in a black sans-serif font.

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