

The Comet

Volume 4, Issue 27

South Gwinnett High School

April, 13 2012

Gateway Score to Count in Classes

By Alex McGrady and Brandon Chesser
Staff Writers

The Gateway is one of the most important tests students take in Gwinnett County, and students must pass all sections to earn a regular Gwinnett County high school diploma. Students new to Gwinnett are required to take and pass the test before earning a regular high school diploma, even if they enter in their senior year.

A new arrangement is being made for the Gateway to be counted as a class grade. The goal for doing this is to motivate students to take the test more seriously and to work harder.

Dr. Booher said, "It is a way to for students to help their grades by working hard on the test, and it is a way to help their school by working hard on the test." She also emphasized that if students took the Gateway more seriously, it could tremendously help the school's reputation and help South Gwinnett better compete with the other schools.

The Gateway grade "will replace a major grade as long as it is higher than that grade." She explained that "Mr. Jacobazzi will be sharing a conversion chart

Gateway Topics

Science

Adaptations and Ecosystems
Solutions
Ecological Changes
Genetics
Energy Transformation

Social Studies

Religious Conflict
Class Structure
Ancient Civilizations and
Renaissance
Technological Advances

to move the large scale Gateway score to a 1-100 score."

On the test, students have to write two essays—one on a science topic and one on a social studies topic. In writing a response, students must use their own knowledge about the topic and incorporate information from documents that are provided.

For South students, "the science will count for a science grade. The social studies will count for social studies. Language arts will use the highest of the two grades." Therefore, all South students taking the test have even more motivation to do their best this year.

South Dance Alliance presents: Live, Life, LIVE!

By Brianna Thompson
Staff Writer

The South Gwinnett Dance Alliance would like to present to you their Spring Show: Live, Life, LIVE!

The show will take place on Thursday April 19, 2012 at 7:30 and Friday April 20, 2012 at 3:30 and 7:30. Admission is free to all. The 3:30 show on Friday April 20, 2012 is a student invite only.

To get your invitations see Mrs. Collins in B Hall. The show includes performances by In Conjunction with Clog-



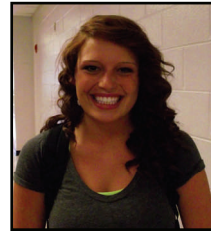
ging Connection @ City Center Dance, featuring Southern Belles Company member Tara Faith (Friday Night Only) and SGHS Alumni Dancers Jorge Castillo and T'ka Martin, Art In Motion.

South Dance Director Mrs. Collins will be dancing with her crew TJS Express as well as with Art in Motion.

For more information, see Mrs. Collins, and then come check it out.

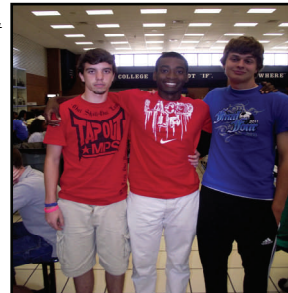
What did you do for Spring Break?

"I went to Panama City; I party hard."
Ashlyn Mealer



"I went on the college trip; it as actually fun." Ariana Q.

"We got kicked out of Six Flags."
Chris Cutter;
Shaun Edwards; Omar Mandingo



"I moved my nursing business to another location"
Colonel Flegler

"I played baseball."
Zolton Nash



Entrepre

By John Gayden and Aliy
Staff Writers

The entrepreneur alliance in a very weird way. The idea was created by the City of Snellville who reached out to South. They asked South to join an alliance partnership that would provide services to students. It also helped to provide jobs in Snellville.

Mr. Hunter then brought in a partner who very enthusiastically joined the Entrepreneur Alliance Class.

Mr. Allen loves to work hard and take on the responsibility.

Will There

February 26, 2012 - A young man by the name of Trayvon Martin was shot and killed. He was a male, (George Zimmerman) was the point of where he had to run.

Zimmerman kept trailing him. Shots were fired and when police arrived, Zimmerman was arrested.

This case spread across the country. High schools. Young men and women. Justice has not been served. We need someone who felt the exact same way. I hope someone tried about it happening to him.

Teens Find Ways

By Vanessa Okechuku and Sh...
Staff Writers

People all know that drugs are bad, but many may not be able to resist them. The drug statistics of Georgia show that reality drugs are inevitable. The government needs to do more to prevent this.

When asked if they thought they would do drugs, students said, yes. Timara... to do drugs. Aulivia Kels...

Entrepreneurship Connects City, School

and Aliyah Norman

Our alliance class came about in a... The idea came to South from the... who approached Mr. Hunter... to join with an economic part... d provide opportunities for stud... ed to provide potential for others

en brought the idea to Mr. Allen, ... astically agreed to head up the ... nce Class.

es to work with students who can understand ... responsibility of owning a business. He likes it



when he sees a student “Get it” as he puts it. He said he feels this way because “it gives young adults a chance to employ themselves and helps to generate their own income.”

He also feels as if it creates opportunity to create employment in Snellville. Then he followed up with “entrepreneurs in high school become entrepreneurs in real life.”

He said he loves all his classes but his favorite one is 3rd period. He feels this way because it has the highest number of real businesses that have already made a profit. It has also had students that have surprised him with their focus.

Where Ever Be Justice for Trayvon Martin ?

2012 - A young African-American male by the name of Trayvon Martin was shot and killed by an Hispanic man (George Zimmerman), who had been following Trayvon to the store and to run.

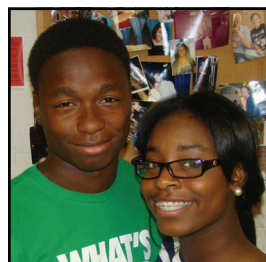
Trayvon was trailing him even though authorities told him to stop. When police arrived, Martin was dead.

Across the country and racial tensions grew, especially in the South. Young men and women around the age of Trayvon felt as if they were being targeted. We talked to several students at South Gwinnett High School. Ray Mobley stated that although he isn't worried about himself, he feels as if the government or even just

someone could have done something. In his opinion the government doesn't care about the lives of the citizens. How many people have to be killed before the government see that there is a killer sitting in his house doing nothing and just got away with murder?

Until it happens to them, what will we have to do to stop this? Should young black men now feel threatened now that they know people can get away with murder? You answer.

Editor's Note - on Wednesday, second degree murder charges were brought against Zimmerman.



Josh Boyd and Amber Nash
Opinion

Ways to Cope with Drug Pressure

by Timara Brooks and Shelby Spivey

Now that drugs are bad for you, but some students still choose to resist the sudden urges or peers influences. The statistics of Georgian Teenagers are alarming, but in our opinion it is inevitably a component of a teenager's development.

When they think our school has a drug problem most students are confused. Timara Brooks says that she has felt pressure from her friends. Mia Kelsavany says that drugs have not affected

her life. A student who wishes to remain anonymous said that drugs have gotten her in trouble with police and kicked out of her own home.

When asked if she thought our school had a drug problem, Ms. Thompson said, “I think it's not particularly our school. I think it's a pressure for experimentation.” When asked how drugs have affected her life she said, “It affected the people I know. It has a ripple effect. Nothing is done in isolation.” When asked what she thinks should be done about drug problems she said, “The greatest impact comes from peer to peer. Peer influence is greater.”

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South Thespians Can't Wait Until Dark

By Idil Hussein and Jennifer Dinh

Editor and Art Director

The thrilling murder mystery *Wait Until Dark* will grace the stage of SGHS in May. The play is starring Paris Wims, Jareyl Slate, Tempest Jinx, Joseph Johnson, William Bates, Ezekial Pedro, Enkose Plummer, and Lexxi Moore.

Based on a play which opened in 1966 and later adapted into a movie, it focuses on a blind housewife who is targeted by conmen in search of a doll filled with drugs.



The conmen deceive the 'helpless' blind woman, leading her on for a while. But before they get their hands on

the doll, the woman figures out their identities. The ending is filled with suspense, and you won't want to miss it. The cast and crew are very enthusiastic about this upcoming event, but mums the word when it comes to the end.

"You'll just have to come and see it," Director Davida Clay said with a smile.

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Love is Stronger than Race

By Aiesha Rankin and Tatiana Rojas

Staff Writers

As you know there was a time when people couldn't date outside of their own race or religion. Now society seems to accept this more and more each day. Although this still seems to be a controversial topic to some; many have learned to accept it. Right here in South Gwinnett, there are many students dating outside their race, and each one defines interracial in their own way.

An example of such a couple is Rachel and Pedro, in which Pedro is Mexican and Rachel is Caucasian. Pedro and Rachel have been dating for two years and met in the 7th grade. The first thing that caught Rachel's eye was Pedro's smile. When asked whether or not their parents approve of their relationship, they answered yes. This is was also not the first time Rachel has dated someone out of her race.

Marquis (Polo) Calhoun and Lannye Stewart are another example of an interracial couple. Polo, being African American, and Lannye, being African American and Spanish, have been dating for five months. Besides being racially different, Lannye is obviously also distinct height wise. Polo states that the thing that mostly attracted him to Lannye is her hair; commenting that "It's long and silky." As he explained, "Well, I mean...I just love girls. It doesn't matter what their racial background is."

To conclude, as society grows so do our tastes.



Lannye Stewart and Marquis "Polo" Calhaun

South Gets Green!

By Maria McFarland

Staff Writer

Today's average teen knows little about their food or where it comes from, but Ms. Thomas' Compost Club looks to change that!

This new afterschool activity hopes to "make us aware of the resources that we waste every day, that we could be using to benefit ourselves," so any students wanting to reduce their 'carbon-footprint' or

help the environment should take a look.

The club itself is simple, "probably one of the easiest things is to compost." The basis of the club will consist of collecting foliage and excess foods around the school and depositing the greens in compost bins to be turned every two weeks.

Eventually, this compost will be utilized in a garden, and "develop a way for some [students] who don't have the opportunity to go get jobs to have something to do... and be able to make some money," since the club will be selling the produce.

Prom Preparations Commence as Excitement Builds

By Brianna Fresh and Kayla Larsen

Staff Writers

As we know, prom is drawing closer and closer. Dresses are being bought, tuxes are being rented, and nice dinner reservations are being made.

To most people, prom is a really big deal and for those who didn't go while they were in high school, they regret it because prom is such a significant part of your high school memories.

Initially prom dress shopping is a big part of the

experience. Girls have to find the perfect dress that fits the season trend, and your personality! Bright colors and open back dresses are the trend for now!

Brandon Matics said "I am really excited for prom because I have a beautiful date!" Danyelle Wilson said she's excited, "Because it is a chance to dress up and have fun!"

So get your shoes, dresses, dates, tuxes and head on over to Fernbank on April 28th!