In this Issue
See student scholarship opportunities on pages 2& 3
Learn about a recently promoted student-
mentored in the State of the
Union Address on page 4

Meet Grayson Student Veteran: Benjamin Colt Floyd
By Benjamin Colt Floyd, Student

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Although known best by his Grayson College writing students, his professional portfolio includes numerous novels, short stories, and non-fiction essays. John Moody has also been a lifelong geologist and paleontologist. While studying fossils in England, he discovered a sample of the Squalicorax moodyi, a shark species from the Cretaceous period, 145-66 million years ago, and Amapaulia moodyi, a Devonian fossil plant from 419-358 million years ago, named in his honor.

Grayson College screening to be held on January 23. The Grayson College Board of Trustees approved the addition of both men’s and women’s basketball programs in addition to other programs. “The men’s and women’s basketball programs will begin playing in the fall, and excitement may be an understatement,” said GC Athletic Director Michael McBrayer.

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Meet Grayson Student Veteran: Benjamin Colt Floyd

By Benjamin Colt Floyd, Student

I joined the Oklahoma National Guard and reported for boot camp in April 2001. After playing high school sports all through high school, I was drafted to the University of Oklahoma and played football. My status and served as an instructor/trainer with the Modern Army Combatives Program (MACP). This assignment required that I provide specialized combat training to other soldiers around the country, including overseas. During one visit, Chris Berry, a doctoral student, expressed to me his excitement over a piece of the Squalicorax moodyi (from the Cretaceous period, 145-66 million years ago) and the Amapaulia moodyi (Devonian period, 419-358 million years ago). Both fossils were named after him.

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Music Club
Every other Friday 12 - 2 p.m. Band Hall, Arts & Communications

Phi Theta Kappa
February 10 - 1 p.m. CPRS 213

Psychology Club
February 22 - 7:30 p.m. CIS 202

Radio/Television Tech Club
The 1st of every month 10:15 - 11 a.m. HS 205

Rotaract
Wednesday 12:15 - 1 p.m. Viking Room, Life Center

Science Club
Every other Monday 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. S 106, Science Building

Student Government
First Mondays 12 - 1:30 p.m. Viking Room, Life Center
Next Meeting: February 6th

Sigma Kappa Delta & Writers Unlimited
Every other Thursday 9 - 10:30 p.m. Study Room 3, Library

Sisters of Destiny
1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 6 p.m. Conference Room, Life Center

Student Ambassadors
Third Mondays, 12 - 1:30 p.m. Viking Room, Life Center

Student Veterans
Association (IVA)
1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 6 - 7 p.m. Room 106, Science Building

Veterans’ Hub (2nd floor of Life Center) 12 - 1:00 p.m.

TIPPS (Culinary Arts)
February 2nd - 9:00 p.m. 601 Restaurant, Culinary Arts

Contact:
Viking Room, Life Center (214) 378-4633

Wrestling
Every other Friday 9:00 - 10:00 p.m. Weight Room

Volleyball
First and third Tuesdays, 6 - 7 p.m. Viking Room, Life Center

Welding Technologies
March 1st and 3rd, 12 - 1:30 p.m. South Campus Skills Lab

Writing Unlimited
Every other Monday 12:15 - 12:45 p.m. Study Room

Address:
Morgan Bright Inventory
Mollbyrant@vikings.grayson.edu

Continued from Page 1, Meet Grayson Student Veteran: Benjamin Colt Floyd

The movie, Citizen Soldier, was developed from this raw military combat footage from the soldiers of my unit, including me, were recruited to be filmed in the war and aid in its production and ultimately in its marketing. I am proud to say the movie has been very successful in its purpose to deliver to the viewer a true picture of combat in Afghanistan and what the American soldier had to deal with in combat and still deal with here at home, the after-effects of combat. The award-winning movie has been nominated and selected for many other countries including my hometown of Clarendon, here at Grayson College and many other New York and California theaters. It even won at the Sundance Film Festival for best Independent Documentary in 2015. Currently, I am employed at Kelso Technologies, a company with facilities in Bonham. As a materials manager for the company, I am engaged in welding, fabrication and assembling our products that are used worldwide by the train industry. Because I have to stay with this fantastic company, I am studying Business Administration at Grayson College so that I, too, can progress and grow within the company. My format orientation class at Grayson is financed by VA Chapter 31 and will be followed by the loan process and loans at either SOSU or Texas A & M/Commerce. I definitely plan to earn my Bachelor’s Degree and politics of content at a Master’s Degree. While a student here at Grayson, I am a member of the Student Veterans Association and assisted and offered in the club that helped me get through school before the fall semester. Last November, I was even honored as the month’s Texasoma Hero recipient. Currently, I am working fulltime for Kelso Technologies and going to college, all while being involved with various aspects of promoting Citizen Soldier. In fact, plans are currently underway to do another movie screening at Grayson College’s South Campuses in conjunction with a scholarship fundraiser later this spring. Additionally, I am active with several other veteran-related organizations. I am affiliated with the Giving Back Foundation, where wounded veterans are offered no-cost fishing equipment and buck and fishing experiences to aid in their recovery and rehabilitation efforts. I am a member of the local American Legion, Post 23, the VFW in Clarendon, and the local chapter of the Order of the Purple Heart Foundation.

Even though I extremely busy with school, work and Citizen Soldier, I was recently married and I am now helping raise four kids. Regardless of how busy I am, I will always have the time, energy and desire to provide whatever help and assistance I can to my veteran brothers and sisters.

HELPING STUDENTS FIND SCHOLARSHIPS

When many students hear the word “scholarship,” they mistakenly think it’s something reserved only for a select few. Here’s how students can find and obtain millions of dollars in scholarships available for individuals just like them.

1. Complete the FAFSA
Like many other types of aid, a lot of scholarships require a completed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as part of their application requirements. Visit FAFSA.gov to get the process started. For Spring and Summer 2018 you must complete the 2017-18 FAFSA. For Fall 2018 you must complete the 2018-19 FAFSA.

2. Secure Letters of Recommendation
Getting a word from the right people can go a long way in helping students stand out from the crowd when applying for scholarships. Approach teachers, counselors, employers, and advisors for a letter of recommendation. A personal letter—heartfelt and detailed—can go a long way in clearing instructions on what’s required.

3. Write a Unique Essay
A traditional part of the scholarship application, a written essay is a chance to show why you are the person that scholarships are directed at. Take some time to make sure your writing is interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motivated by an interesting from your background and make it stand out. For example, have you had to overcome adversity in their life? Were you motiva...
**Remembering A King**

By Kassandra Garcia, The Viking Assistant Editor

On January 15, 2018, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day was celebrated nationwide. For Austin College, an incredible breakfast was held at Ma
tin Luther King Jr. Honors and, those of us from Grayson College were invited along for the ride.

Homecoming of Austin College himself, Steven O’Day, welcomed us to 
the breakfast, which was followed by the Pledge and 4-Way Test pre
sented by Grayson College Rotaract Vice President, Cheyenne Connor;
The Rotary sponsors; Dr. Jean Sorenson; and Austin College Rotaract Of
ficer, Megan Chui.

Soon after, student speaker James Wyche delivered a very touching
speech about Dr. King’s life and all that he faced. Many attendees found
Mr. Wyche’s words to be extremely informative, as we were taught the
life story of the man we would never get to personally know. Afterwards,
the Sherman Federated Choir stirred the attendees’ emotions further with
two very powerful songs, which made way for keynote speaker, Kim An

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Dr. Marlea Treviño, TreviñoM@grayson.edu (Main Campus, LA105C)

We meet every other Tuesday, Study Room 5 in the library, 12:15-
12:45 p.m., starting Tuesday, January 30

**Contact:**

Dr. Richard Davis, DavisRe@grayson.edu (South Campus, SA113)

“A story is in you, it has to come out.” —William Faulkner

**Are You an Aspiring Writer?**

- Want to read and discuss literature—old and new?
- Want to workshop your own writing with others?
- Want to contribute to our college newspaper, The Viking?
- Want to participate in adult literacy service projects?
- Want to attend author lectures, plays, and the Dallas Poetry Slam?

**Come join Writers Unlimited/Sigma Kappa Delta!**

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**Foundation Scholarships**

The Grayson College Foundation provides scholarship opportunities to Grayson College students through en

- **Admission & Aid**
- **Scholarships**
- **Go - Apply for Scholarship**

The Grayson College Foundation Office is located on the east side of the main campus. A private road access to our office in the Life Center community Room and Dun Hayes Field, home of the Viking Drum and Bugle team.

Office hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 p.m., Monday – Friday.

*Any questions related to the 2018-2019 scholarship application should be directed to Cindy at foundation@grayson.edu.*

**Apply For New Grayson Foundation Association Scholarship!**

Grayson College Faculty President, Virginia Thompson, is proud to announce that the Grayson 

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In studying the collection of fossils Moody had gifted to the university museum, one researcher, Jorge Carrillo Brizeno, discovered a species that differed from those previously known. “I have a surprise for you,” Moody recalls Brizeno telling him when he conveyed the news. The species fossils were limited to just that area but might be found in other locations.

**FOREVER GI BILL: Student Veterans Receive Good News**

By Tommy Ellis, Project Coordinator for Veteran Student Success

The fifteen-year time table of past GI Bills (use it or lose it) has now been eliminated. The Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017, also known as the “Forever GI Bill,” was recently signed by President Trump. Basically, it means that military veterans separating from the service after January 1, 2013, are allowed to use their benefits ANY TIME during their lifetimes.

A military veteran will now have the flexibility to pursue a higher education at his/her pace and on their individual time-tables. Some may choose to attend college after their children are raised or after retiring. Additionally, the new legislation has made further improvements with regards to those veterans who lost their benefits after the expiration of their 15-year time limit. The new GI Bill made it possible for veterans to return to college after 30 years, a period of time that many had not explored or heard about. With the new GI Bill, a veteran who served during the Vietnam era can now pursue a college degree and still qualify for educational benefits.

Education and training were critical to rebuilding the country and the economy after the drainage of WWII. Education and training were critical to rebuilding the country and the industrial landscape resulted in economic growth and prosperity for our nation.

After leaving the military, veterans were given 15 years to claim their benefits. The needs of the country and the industrial landscape required that veterans return to school, get trained and then get to work. This period is referred to as the “Golden Age of Capitalism” and resulted in the exploitive and unparallel economic growth and prosperity for our nation.

For additional information on how the Forever GI Bill and its changes can benefit veterans and/or their dependents, please stop by the Veteran Students Office (VSO) and speak with one of the veteran advisors on staff. The VSO is located on the 2nd Floor of the Student Life Center (next to GC Perks) on Grayson College’s Main Campus.

**Squalicorax moodyi**

Many fossils of Squalicorax moodyi found in western Venezuela were fish remains, sometimes fragmentary, but in beds with many fossils. Since sharks lose their teeth when they feed, they found many shark teeth in these same beds in the La Luna Formation.

**Discovery of a Venezuelan tar pit with fossils from Pleistocene epoch**

The petroleum industry had known about the Inciarte tar pit a long time—for at least 400 years, people had been talking about the location but hadn’t explored or reported on it. Moody found the first fossils discovered in Venezuela from this tar pit. Over 150 species of animals have been found in just 2 cubic meters. The entire tar pit is about 1 kilometer long and ½ a kilometer wide and contains millions of fossils. One of the university students working with Moody at the time went on to discover an even older tar pit and to become a renowned paleontologist for the Venezuelan government’s equivalent of the National Science Institute.

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