

# UCHS Class of 2019...from Page 1A



The Union County High Class of 2019 is the largest graduating class in county history. Photo by Jarrett Whitener

and I know that everyone is going to go out and do some amazing things. So, it's been an honor to share these past four years in the school with them."

Salutatorian Rogers will be joining Chambers at the University of Georgia, where she will major in mathematics with a pre-med intent.

"I think that everybody in our class deserved recognition,

but it is an honor and a privilege to be named salutatorian," said Rogers. "I grew up with this class, and it's great to see them grow and change over the years.

"It's been a transforming experience for us all, and it's been really fun being with them, and I can't wait to see what they do."

Following the award ceremony, Principal Hussion

showed a video of the 2018-2019 school year, allowing seniors and parents to reflect on the times they had during their final year of high school.

The next step for these students is graduation, which will take place on Friday, May 24, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Mike Colwell Memorial Stadium, with an inclement weather contingency in the Fine Arts Center.

## Woody Gap...from Page 1A

prepare for anything," Mott said jokingly.

With a future in the Marine Corps right out of high school, Mott will be thrust into adulthood a little quicker than some of his senior classmates, but there are some memories from Woody Gap School that he'll cherish for the rest of his life.

"Just coming here every day and working in the shop and playing basketball with my friends are some of the things that I'll probably miss the most about this place," Mott said.

Aponte, who plans to attend Young Harris College, will miss the small-town atmosphere and the closeness that develops with classmates and faculty at a school like Woody Gap.

"I'm going to miss the consistency you get from being in such a small place," she said. "I'll miss the security of knowing that everything will essentially stay the same."

As for her impending valedictory address that she will be delivering to a packed gymnasium on Saturday morning, that's one objective that might take a little more time to develop that same sense of security.

"Oh no, I forgot about that. I have no idea what I'm going to say," a surprised Aponte said when asked about her graduation

speech. When informed that Mott planned on "winging" his speech, Aponte quickly ruled out any possibility of speaking off the cuff.

"If I wing it, that's going to be terrible. I'll probably just cry and tell them I don't want to do it," she joked, unable to keep a straight face and finally bursting into laughter.

Woody Gap will host its graduation exercises this Saturday, May 25, at 10 a.m. on campus in Suches.

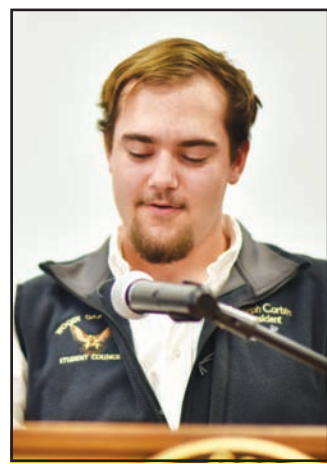
Also on Thursday, May 16, Woody Gap honored its best and brightest in academics with its annual awards ceremony.

Althea Cantrell recognized the Student Council, then presented mathematics awards to Logan Disser, Grant Disser and Ernest Waldroup. Cantrell's Local Studies award went to Matthew Woody.

Rebecca Ganley's Social Studies awards were given to Waldroup and Aponte. Robert Hill's Science awards to Aponte and Waldroup, as well.

Lisa Sweet's Literature and Yearbook awards were presented to Waldroup, Aponte, Woody, Logan Disser, Kelli Tripp and Duncan Lee.

Gary Butler's Construction and Agriculture awards went to



Woody Gap Student Council President Joseph Corbin welcomes everyone to the May 16 Honors Day program. Photo by Todd Forrest

Lee, Waldroup, Mott, Etheridge, Ivre Cantrell and Kirsten Ledford.

Doug Roberts presented the Band awards to Aponte and Kelli Tripp.

The Athletic Awards were presented by Robert Hill and Chad Shook, with recipients of the award being Mott, Lee, Aponte and Wes Ponder.

The final award of the afternoon, the Student Appreciation Award presented by 2018-2019 Student Council President Joseph Corbin and Vice President Etheridge, went to Construction and Agriculture teacher Gary Butler.

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