

What is the deal with the Mary Hobbs renovations? Varied student opinions voiced around campus

RENOVATIONS BOTH
QUESTIONED AND
SUPPORTED BY STUDENTS
ACROSS CAMPUS

BY JAMES ROWE
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Mary Hobbs is in desperate need of renovations. It's getting old. It would be really nice to see it look a lot better than it does now. However, there is a price. This has become a very controversial topic on the Guilford College campus, as residents of Mary Hobbs will now have to move out.

Personally, as much as I agree with making Mary Hobbs look better, I just think it is coming at the wrong time. Oct. 29 is just way too late to notify residents.

Mary Hobbs is one of the original buildings on Guilford's campus, and just like what Founders went through, this is a necessary renovation. The building is 175 years-old, so it really is about time. And the earlier you start the renovations, the better it is for the next school year.

It seems logical, right? Not exactly.

"All I have to say is that it is definitely

an awful time to be doing these renovations and that if they had done them in the fall, at least no one would sign up for Mary Hobbs and expect to live there like we did," said junior Casey Costa. "It is going to cause a lot of stress for people and is just an added hassle to how much school work we have."

The renovations are expected to begin in March and are supposed to be over by early August.

But is it really necessary to do this in the middle of the school year? Probably not and the administration should have warned the students about it before they moved in. It's pretty ridiculous to have the students move out after moving in three months ago.

"I'm going abroad next semester, but I'm concerned about Mary Hobbs residents and the Greenleaf being relocated," said junior Molly Day Cooney. "They should have notified people earlier."

It is a difficult situation to talk about as people are on both sides of the issue. However, why couldn't they have done the renovations during the summer when people won't be staying there? There should have been some notification before the school year started or before people signed up living arrangements this past spring semester.

Junior Grace Sullivan, however, had a different view on how she felt about

moving out.

"I have no problem moving out of Hobbs," said Sullivan. "It's not ideal, and it won't be a piece of cake to move in the middle of the semester, but it's so worth it

Still, recognizing the flip side of the issue, Sullivan continued.

"I understand why some Hobbs residents are upset," said Sullivan. "That makes total sense to me, but I also think that Campus

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Life has been made out to be the bad guys when the real issues and frustrations should be pointed towards the fact that institutions and organizations are constantly having to make tough decisions that effect their customers (or in this case, residents)."

Black Friday: Nothing says the holiday season like getting trampled for not-so-good deals

IT'S NOT WORTH IT TO DIE OR GET
INJURED OVER THE BIG DEALS.
INSTEAD, TRY USING THE INTERNET
FOR YOUR SHOPPING THIS YEAR

"At midnight, security made an announcement over the P.A. system. 'The Mall is opening. Happy Black Friday,' and then it came," said sophomore Avery Olearczyk, Build-A-Bear Workshop employee.

"There was a loud boom, and then mobs started running and screaming in the halls. A couple ran into the store saying, 'We're going to stay in here for the next ten minutes. Somebody just got knocked down and we're scared.' Seriously, America?"

I get it. With the holidays fast approaching, the idea of saving a buck sounds heaven sent. But, honestly, is it worth it? Look at your life. Look at your choices. You ran over an eight-year-old because you saw Shake Weights were half off. The media likes to paint the holiday season as a time of love, family and togetherness, and then this happens.

"Authorities believe a disagreement over a parking space (on Black Friday) led to two people being shot and wounded outside a Wal-mart in Tallahassee, Fla.," reported Fox News.

'Tis the season.

Want to know what I was doing on Black Friday? Nothing. Because people are freaking scary.

Can we all just cool it for a bit and actually put some brainpower into this? How about Cyber Monday? While the extent to which people are obsessed with things and toys and gadgets is as impressive as it is horrifying, and while Cyber Monday is still essentially a part of the whole manic consumerist holiday kick-off, it's a whole lot better.

I haven't been trampled by the Internet.

Well, not literally.

Have you ever heard someone say, "I had such a pleasant time shopping on Black Friday"? No. That's like saying "A bear ate my foot the other day. It was fantastic. Got an iPod out of it."

The Internet, on the other hand? The Internet is a magical land of mindless wanderlust. The closest thing to "violence" I've really seen on-line has been preteens arguing who is or is not "gay" for listening to Katy Perry. I think we can handle it.

My challenge to you is to use the Internet as a resource. The Internet has a nearly endless supply of things that

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As much as I'd like to say, "Increase security! Maintain some order!" I really don't think it would work. People can channel their savings lust through Amazon and other sites, and maybe — just maybe — people won't get shot.

No promises.

people don't actually need. With the exception of clothing, you don't need to try out most products, and, if you're buying gifts, you're probably going to get the wrong size either way. (No offense, Mom.)

So go for it, and remember to give the gift of a receipt. All in all, as scary as the bowels of the Internet are, the real world is a whole lot scarier. Just use your brain during the rest of the holiday season. With any luck, we'll all survive for next year.



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