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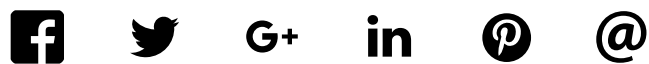
FEATURED

WKU-Glasgow holds Spring 2019 Graduand Ceremony

BY WILL PERKINS wperkins@glasgowdailytimes.com May 10, 2019

Laura Croghan, of Hart County, receives a graduation stole from Anne Patterson, site instructor for elementary education at Western Kentucky University-Glasgow, during WKU-Glasgow's Spring 2019 Graduand Ceremony on Thursday evening at the T.J. Health Pavilion Community Center.

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GLASGOW — When Laura Croghan first began student teaching at North Jackson Elementary, she knew within a week that becoming an educator was her calling.

“That’s exactly where I was supposed to be,” she said. “Going home and saying, ‘this is what I was meant to do.’”

Croghan, 21, of Hart County, said she looks forward to inspiring her future students to become lifelong learners “and to reach their highest potential.”

On Thursday night, Croghan celebrated the completion of her degree in elementary education during Western Kentucky University-Glasgow’s Spring 2019 Graduand Ceremony at the T.J. Health Pavilion Community Center.

“WKU-Glasgow has been, and will always be, an essential part of our lives,” Croghan said during the ceremony. “It has blessed us with knowledge and strength, which we will use as we begin the new time in our life.”



Laura Croghan, of Hart County, speaks during Western Kentucky University-Glasgow's Spring 2019 Graduation Ceremony on Thursday evening at the T.J. Health Pavilion Community Center.

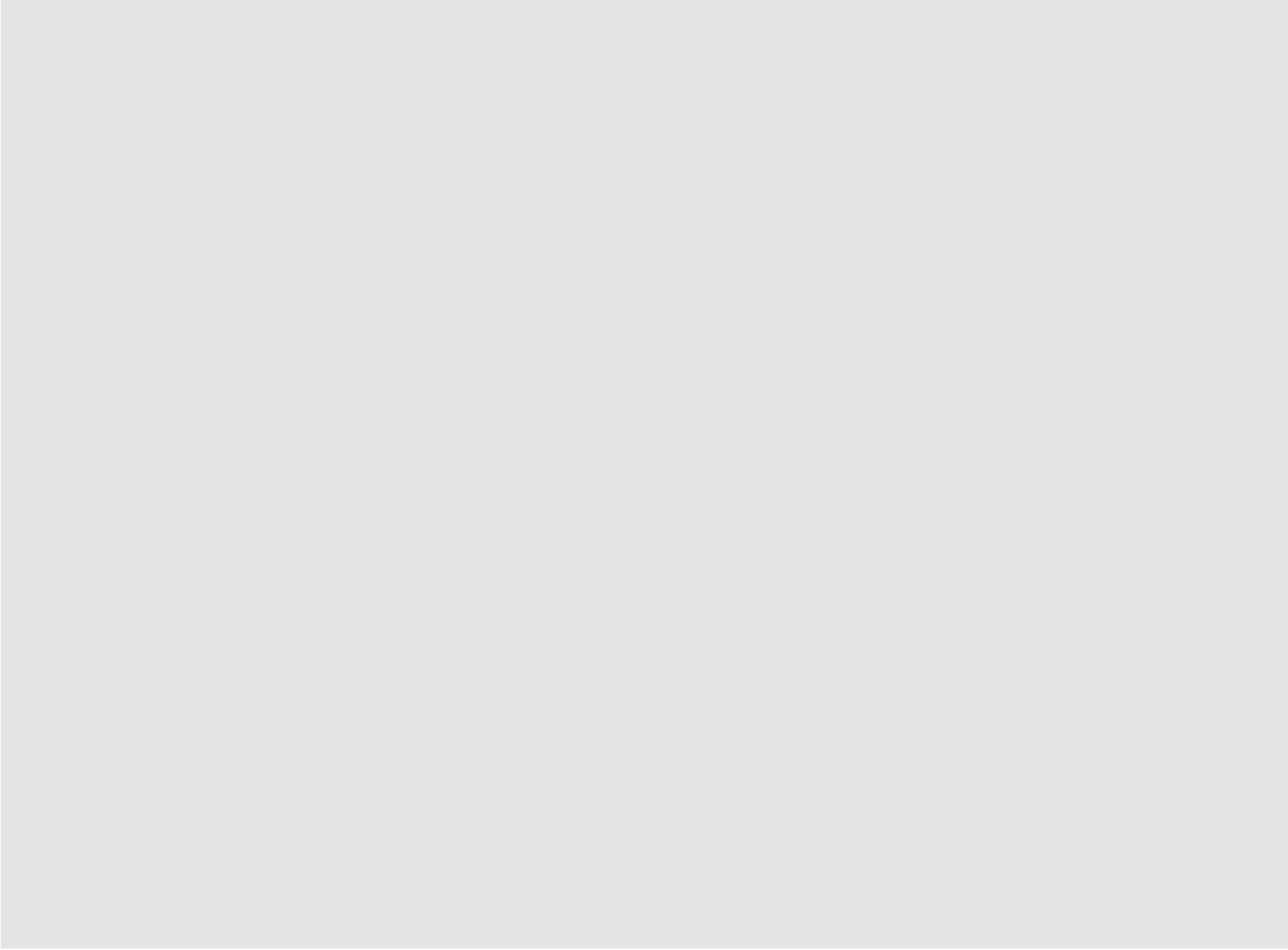
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Sara Wilson, another graduate who spoke during the event, said WKU-Glasgow has taught them “a lot about balance,” since many of its students work full-time jobs while taking classes.

“We can use this balance as we begin our careers,” she said. “Being a student on the Glasgow campus has taught us how to maintain the work-life balance and find fulfillment in every aspect of life.

“As we graduate, entering the workforce or pursuing further educational opportunities, we need to be good stewards of the lessons that we learned at the Glasgow campus.

“We should be thankful as we begin this new path in our lives. ... As we become WKU graduates this weekend, we know that we have summoned the will to make our dreams now become inevitable.”



Dr. Corinne Murphy, dean for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at Western Kentucky University, speaks during WKU-Glasgow's Spring 2019 Graduation Ceremony on Thursday evening at the T.J. Health Pavilion Community Center. Murphy was the keynote speaker at the event.

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The keynote speaker at the event was Corinne Murphy, dean for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences at WKU.

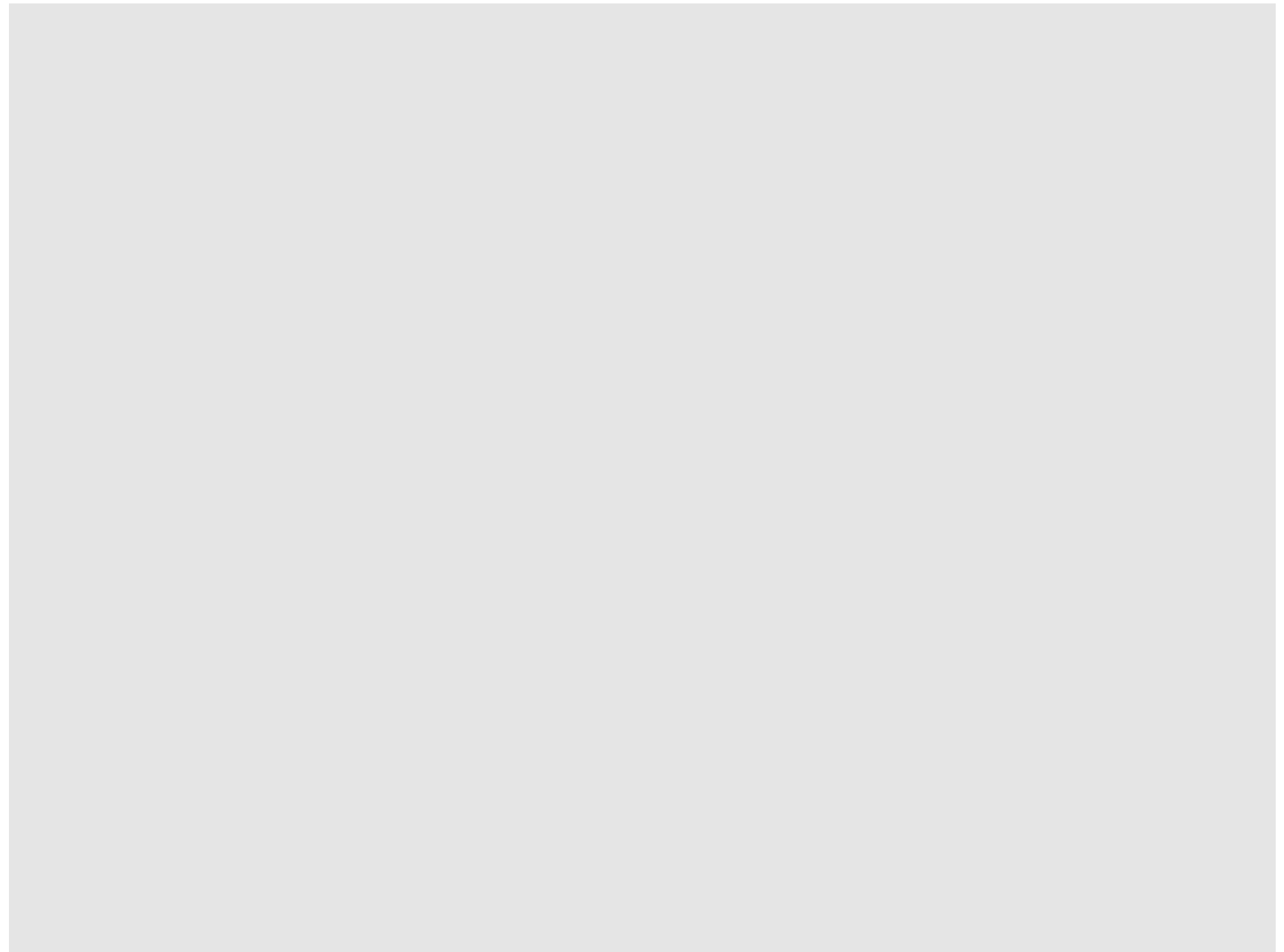
“Education is critical and it’s the reason why we’re here today,” Murphy said. “Nelson Mandela — a name we may be familiar with — he tells us that education is the most powerful weapon with which you can use to change the world. He identified education as the great engine of personal development.

“Today, we celebrate you, the Class of 2019. Western Kentucky University graduates, you leave here with the potential — really, the obligation — to serve as leaders in your community.”

Beth Laves, associate vice president of the Division of Extending Learning and Outreach at WKU, said the graduates have “much to be proud of and much to celebrate.”

As is tradition, the graduates had stoles placed around their necks during the ceremony. Anne Patterson, site instructor for elementary education at WKU-Glasgow, placed a graduation stole on Croghan.

“It meant everything,” Croghan said. “She has been with me for two years, and she has been very inspiring.”



Laura Croghan, left, hugs Anne Patterson, site instructor for elementary education at Western Kentucky University-Glasgow, right, during WKU-Glasgow's Spring 2019 Graduation Ceremony on Thursday evening at the T.J. Health Pavilion Community Center.

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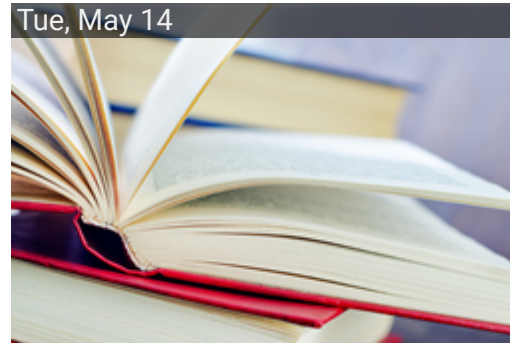
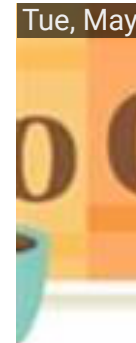
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