Shyteria Dunlap, a Bartlett senior communications major, was part of the 2007 University of Tennessee at Martin homecoming court. She was recognized during halftime of the UT-Martin vs. Samford football game, Oct. 13, at Hardy M. Graham Stadium. She was escorted by Calen Sutton of Bay City, Mich. Katie Beasley of Lawrenceburg was crowned queen. Other members of the court were Monica Collins, Greenfield, and Kristen Keys and Ebonie Reed, both of Shelby County.

Snapshots
Bartlett resident is part of the University of Tennessee at Martin homecoming court. | B5

A group of 10 students in the University of Tennessee at Martin's ROTC program placed fourth in the annual Ranger Challenge Division I competition. The event consisted of a written map reading and patrolling test, weapons disassembly and reassembly event, hand grenade assault course, stress shoot, full-combat load runs and obstacle courses, and weapons marksmanship. Members of the team are Travis Payne (front, left), Cristine Manning, Robert Gallimore, Jonathan McAnally, MSG John Buckley, military science instructor; Christopher Winchester (back, left), Daniel Wilson of Bartlett, Rich Casada, Nicholas D'Acquisto, Steven Shopher and Joseph Graham.
Dr. Gibson receives Neil Miner Award

Dr. Michael Gibson, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of geology, recently received the Neil Miner Award at the annual Geological Society of America meeting in Denver, Colo.

The Neil Miner Award, established in 1953 by the National Association of Geoscience Teachers, recognizes those who have made exceptional contributions to the stimulation of interest in the earth sciences. Gibson, along with other award recipients, was honored with a luncheon and was listed on a plaque in the GSA Hall of Fame display at the conference.

Gibson's current research projects include the following: paleoecology, depositional environments and biotic interactions of Devonian strata of West Tennessee; Cretaceous Coon Creek Formation; Pennsylvanian Morris Shale in Alabama; plant fossils from the Eocene clay deposits of West Tennessee; History of Tennessee Geology and Earth Science Education in Tennessee; and Geology of Belize, Central America.

"Dr. Gibson is a model teacher scholar," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. "His passion for teaching and focus on applied research are a perfect match for our campus."

Gibson was named Distinguished Educator of the Year for 2006 by the Tennessee Science Teachers Association. It was his second from TSTA, having been named Distinguished Science Teacher for 2003 in the higher education division.

Other recognitions of Gibson's efforts through the years include the Tennessee Earth Science Teaching Perito Award in 2001. He was a UT Martin Featured Scholar and received the Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Award in 1998; was selected for the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher Scholar Award in 1995-96. Gibson received the

Business consultant to be at Reed Center Dec. 13

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in December at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (reed) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9-4 p.m., Dec. 13.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 587-REED(7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin.

For additional services offered by the REED Center go to www.utm.edu/reed.

Santa's Village marks 23rd year

MARTIN, Tenn. - Santa's Village will celebrate its 23rd year of being a true Santa's helper this year and continues to set records in donations of food, toys and attendance. The holiday fantasyland, which provides the sights, sounds and fun of Christmas, is staged each year at the Nee McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The event is slated for 6-9 p.m., Dec. 6-7; 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 8; and 1-5 p.m., Dec. 9. Opening ceremony is set for 5:45 p.m., Dec. 6. Co-sponsors for the event are Martin Parks and Recreation, the C. E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin. Admission is a suggested donation of $5 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys.
Santa's Village brings in holiday

Santa's Village will celebrate its 23rd year of being a true Santa's helper this year and continues to set records in donations of food, toys and attendance. The holiday fantasyland, which provides the sights, sounds and fun of Christmas, is staged each year at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event is slated for 6-9 p.m., Dec. 6-7; 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 8; and 1-5 p.m., Dec. 9. Opening ceremony is set for 5:45 p.m., Dec. 6. Co-sponsors for the event are Martin Parks and Recreation, the C. E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin. Admission is a suggested donation of $5 worth of non-perishable foods and/or toys. Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa's Village this year include: Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa's Helpers and Chimes for Charity. UTM student Jake Dunavant is one of the many volunteers working to decorate for the event.

Tuba recital slated for Sunday

Lantonio Jackson, a senior music education major from Jackson, will perform his senior tuba recital at 3 p.m. Sunday in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building.

The event is free and open to the public.
UT Martin Wildlife Society receives donation

For the first time, the University of Tennessee at Martin will be the host school for the Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave. The Southeastern Wildlife Student Conclave is an annual meeting of the approximately 2 dozen college and university wildlife biology programs throughout the Southeastern United States. This event is attended by several hundred students who represent our future wildlife profession: biologists, managers, and law-enforcement officers. Conclave is typified by 2 days of field trips, competitions, speakers, and socials, and is instrumental in helping wildlife biology majors make contacts and solidify career plans. This year’s conclave will be held at Paris Landing State Park March 13-15.

Farm Credit Services of Mid-America (FCS) is helping to sponsor the conclave. FCS is a $12 billion financial services cooperative serving over 72,500 farmers, agribusinesses and rural residents in Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Tennessee.

The association, which celebrated its 90th anniversary serving rural America in 2006, provides loans for all farm and rural living purposes including real estate, operating, equipment and housing and related services such as crop and life insurance and vehicle, equipment and building leases.

For more information about Farm Credit or the nearest FCS office, call 1-800-444-FARM (3276) or visit them on the web at www.e-farmcredit.com

--

Dresden Enterprise,

Wednesday, December 5, 2007

Life-size bronze statues unveiled at UT Martin

The first life-size bronze statues were unveiled on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus Saturday during Homecoming 2007. The statues were made possible by a leadership gift from Dr. Paul Blaylock, of Portland, Oregon, originally from South Fulton and a 1968 graduate of UT Martin, and through private gifts that honored Dr. Phil Watkins, longtime vice chancellor for student affairs. The statues symbolize the mentoring between students and faculty. Pictured, from left, are UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, Dr. Watkins and his wife, Pat Watkins, Dr. Blaylock and his wife, Gaynelle Nolf, and Student Government Association President Erin Chambers.
UT Martin link between people, government

A recent reception marked the 50-year anniversary of the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Paul Meek Library as a federal depository library.

The Federal Depository Library Program was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its government’s information. There are about 1,300 libraries in the program.

Ania Lasota, UT Martin government documents librarian, said UT Martin accepted the mandate “to serve as a gateway to government information.” She added, “Access to information is access to knowledge, too.”

Ms. Lasota said information was rigidly controlled in her native Poland, but added, “Access to information is people’s basic and fundamental right.” She praised the event “to celebrate Paul Meek (Library) being a link between ‘we the people’ and the government.”

Eighth District Congressman John Tanner attended the reception and praised the university for being “one of the crown jewels of education and higher learning.”

“In this new age of technology, I know we can go online and get some of the information, but there’s nothing like looking at documents,” Tanner said.

Reflecting on comments by Thomas Jefferson about freedom of information, Tanner added, “As long as there is the ability of the citizens of our country to actively know and participate in what’s happening with their government, then he felt reason would prevail and the republic would be safe.”

“Thank you all for being a 50-year designated federal depository of government documents,” Tanner said. “It speaks to the university’s standing here in West Tennessee ... not only in our state, but in this entire region. A lot of people have made that possible through the years and you all are continuing that proud tradition here at UT Martin.”

Ms. Lasota was joined in hosting the event by Mary Carpenter, UT Martin director of library services, and the library staff. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed those attending, commended the library staff for continued commitment to free and open access of government information, and introduced Tanner.

Student ensemble concert scheduled for 7:30 tonight

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present its second student chamber ensembles concert of the fall semester at 7:30 tonight in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

The event will feature chamber music by a variety of student ensembles.

The concert is free and open to the public.

For more information, call the Department of Music at (731) 881-7402.

LINKED — Eighth District Congressman John Tanner and his wife, Betty Ann (right), recently attended a reception honoring the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Paul Meek Library as a 50-year federal depository library. Joining them were (from left) Ania Lasota, UT Martin government documents librarian, and Mary Carpenter, UT Martin director of library services.
Dr. Levy to give address

Dr. Robert A. Levy, vice president for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, will deliver the fall commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m. Dec. 15 in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. About 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pa., and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky.

For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT.

In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy interacts with UT campuses in a variety of ways. He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in British literature.

He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie-Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees at UT Martin.

Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harris, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, Faculty Senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.

Chesteen endowment to highlight dinner

University of Tennessee at Martin professor of political science Dr. Richard Chesteen — whose teaching career has spanned 45 years — will be honored Dec. 15 with a retirement dinner highlighted by the launch of the Richard Chesteen Endowment for Government Internships.

The evening will begin with a reception for current students, alumni and community residents at 6 p.m. in the lobby of Duncan Ballroom at Boling University Center on campus. The dinner will follow at 7 p.m. and will include comments from some of Tennessee's current and former leaders.

Chesteen has dedicated his life to public service and the education of college students about the workings of the American government and political systems. In his lectures, he often refers to real-life experiences from his previous political and government careers. He stresses the importance of students earning on-the-job experience and taking advantage of the internship programs available to them.

Upon making the decision to retire, Chesteen wanted to continue providing opportunities for tomorrow’s leaders to obtain that real-world experience he stressed in classes. In collaboration with UT Martin, the Richard Chesteen Endowment for Government Internships was formed to continue those goals.

The Chesteen Endowment will focus on subsidizing governmental internships for students in multiple disciplines, with the goal of increasing internship opportunities in Washington, D.C. The endowment will be supported by contributions from corporations, alumni and the university community.

For more information about the endowment, contact the UT Martin Office of Development at (731) 881-7620.

To make reservations for the dinner, contact Lisha Tuck, assistant director of development, at (731) 881-7634.
Area student receives UTNAA Scholarship

University of Tennessee at Martin student Ryan Delaney, of Dresden, received the Chapter Scholarship. This award is a one-year scholarship of $1,000 for students who have a minimum 3.0 GPA and ACT score of 24. UTNAA was established in 1836 as a tradition of service of alumni from the Chattanooga, Knoxville, Martin, Memphis and Tullahoma campuses. Delaney is pictured with UT Martin chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes.

Business consultant at REED Center, December 13

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in December at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9-4 p.m., December 13.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED (7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, TN 38237.

For additional services offered by the REED Center go to www.utm.edu/reed.

UT Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success to speak at Fall Commencement

Dr. Robert A. Levy

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, Dr. Robert A. Levy, will deliver the fall commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m., December 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Approximately 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pa., and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky. For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT. In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy interacts with UT campuses in a variety of ways. He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in British literature. He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie-Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the procession marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harris, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, Faculty Senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will present its second student chamber ensembles concert of the fall semester at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus.

The event will feature chamber music by a variety of student ensembles.

For more information, call the Department of Music at 731-881-7402.

UTM's gospel choir will perform at 3 p.m., Dec. 4, in the Harriet Fulton Theatre of the Fine Arts Building. This event is free and open to the public.

The University of Tennessee at Martin wind ensemble will perform "A Celebration of American Composers" at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 3, in the Fine Arts Building. The event is free and open to the public.


"We wanted to include a variety of musical styles and compositions, all by American composers," said Dr. Nola Jones, assistant professor of music. "Everyone is so busy during this time of year. We want to perform a concert that is both musically inspiring and appealing. We hope people who attend the concert will be glad that they took the time to do so and will want to come to future concerts given by the UT Martin wind ensemble."

For more information, contact Jones at 731-881-7403.

All events are open to the public.

---

Dr. Richard Chesteen, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of political science, whose teaching career has spanned 45 years, will be honored, Dec. 15, with a retirement dinner highlighted by the launch of the Richard Chesteen Endowment for Government Internships. The evening will begin with a reception for current students, alumni and community residents at 6 p.m., in the lobby of Duncan Ballroom at Boling University Center on campus. The dinner will follow at 7 p.m. and include comments from some of Tennessee's current and former leaders.

Chesteen has dedicated his life to public service and the education of college students about the workings of the American government and political systems. In his lectures, he often refers to real-life experiences from his previous political and government careers. He stresses the importance of students earning on-the-job experience and taking advantage of the internship programs available to them.

Upon making the decision to retire, Chesteen wanted to continue providing opportunities for tomorrow's leaders to obtain that real-world experience he stressed in classes. In collaboration with UT Martin, the Richard Chesteen Endowment for Government Internships was formed to continue those goals.

The Chesteen Endowment will focus on subsidizing governmental internships for students in multiple disciplines, with the goal of increasing internship opportunities in Washington, D.C. The endowment will be supported by contributions from corporations, alumni and the university community.

For more information about the endowment, contact the UT Martin Office of Development, at 881-7620. To make reservations for the dinner, contact Lisha Tuck, assistant director of development, at 881-7634.

---

Benefit concert

set for this Friday

Phi Mu Alpha will present a Christmas benefit concert at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Harriet Fulton Fine Arts Theatre on the UT Martin campus. All proceeds will go to the South Fulton High School music program. Special guest will be Santa Claus.
UTM is link between 'we the people' and government

A reception, Nov. 27, marked the 50-year anniversary of the University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek as a federal depository library. The Federal Depository Library Program was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its government's information. There are approximately 1,300 libraries in the program.

Ania Lasota, UT Martin government documents librarian, said UT Martin accepted the mandate "to serve as a gateway to government information." She added, "Access to information is access to knowledge, too." Lasota said information was rigidly controlled in her native Poland, but added, "Access to information is people's basic and fundamental right." She praised the event "to celebrate Paul Meek [Library] being a link between 'we the people' and the government."

Eighth District Congressman John Tanner attended the reception and praised the university for being "one of the crown jewels of education and higher learning." He added, "In this new age of technology, I know we can go online and get some of the information, but there's nothing like looking at documents," said Tanner. Reflecting on comments by Thomas Jefferson about freedom of information, Tanner added, "As long as there is the ability of the citizens of our country to actively know and participate in what's happening with their government, then he felt reason would prevail and the republic would be safe.

"Thank you all for being a 50-year designated federal depository of government documents," he said. "It speaks to the university's standing here in West Tennessee, ... not only in our state, but in this entire region. A lot of people have made that possible through the years, and you all are continuing that proud tradition here at UT Martin."

Lasota was joined in hosting the event by Mary Carpenter, UT Martin director of library services, and library staff. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed those attending,commended the library staff for the continued commitment to free and open access of government information and introduced Congressman Tanner.

STUDENT ELVES - Students, Austin Kendall, Martin freshman, and Lydia Mudd, Union City sophomore, were among the many University of Tennessee at Martin students who donated time to help with Santa's Village setup. The holiday fantasyland, in its 23rd year of providing the sights, sounds and fun of Christmas, is staged each year at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at UT Martin. The event is slated for 6-9 p.m., Dec. 6-7; 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 8; and 1-5 p.m., Dec. 9. Co-sponsors for the event are Martin Parks and Recreation, the C. E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin. Admission is a suggested donation of $5 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys. Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa's Village this year include: Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa's Helpers and Chimes for Charity. They are working on Snow Mountain, one of the Santa's Village scenes this year. Kendall is an agriculture business major, and Mudd is an animal science major.
UT Martin graduation set for Dec. 15

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, Dr. Robert A. Levy, will deliver the fall commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Approximately 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pa., and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky. For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT. In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy inter-

See UT Martin, Page 4

UT Martin

From Page 1

acts with UT campuses in a variety of ways.

He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in British literature. He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie-Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harriss, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, Faculty Senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.

$49,927 funds expansion of REED Center

Rural Development State Director Mary Ruth Tackett and University of Tennessee Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes today announced a Rural Development investment of $49,927 for the expansion of business-education resources at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center. The announcement took place at the REED Center in Martin.

"Education is at the heart of economic development and small-business development, which is why UT Martin and the REED Center are so important to the economic vitality of this Region," said Tackett. "Thanks to the support of our congressional delegation Rural Development has the financial resources necessary to help expand educational opportunities for the entrepreneurs who will be creating good new jobs."

The Rural Development Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) of $49,927 will be used to expand the REED Center's service area and increase the number and range-of-expertise of small business consultants working with the Center. New expertise will be added in the fields of eCommerce, business software, market research, and basic financial literacy. Based on past performance, Center staff expects these additional resources to ultimately assist small businesses create 100 new jobs in northwest Tennessee and southwest Kentucky.

See Reed, Page 4

Reed

From Page 1

"This is an important investment as we continue building on the economic development and job growth of northwest Tennessee. The partnerships between our community, business owners and UT-Martin help the business leaders of today and tomorrow learn to utilize the tools that are necessary to succeed." Rep. Tanner said in a statement.

Rural Development rural business enterprise grants provide assistance to public or not-for-profit organizations to support economic development projects that assist small businesses, expand local business infrastructure, provide job training, conduct feasibility studies or provide technical assistance to businesses and community leaders.

Others participating in the events included Sen. Lamar Alexander's field representative Matt Varino, Sen. Bob Corker's field representative Jane Jolley, Rep. John Tanner's field representative Brad Thompson, Weakley County Mayor Houston Patrick, Martin Mayor Randy Brundige, REED Center Coordinator Hollie Holt, RD Area Director Bobby Goode and Area Specialist Van Wylie.
SCHOOLS

Science bowl team wins runner-up in competition

BY STEVE O'DELL
Special to My Life

The Hutchison School Science Bowl Team was composed of seniors Meredith Franklin, Amanda Noa, Brittany Trimble and Emily Woodbury; juniors Rachna Dave and Rachel Ness; and sophomores Elaine Dellinger, Sarah Helton and Amanda Jones.

The team earned the Runner-Up trophy in the recent Science Bowl competition at the University of Tennessee-Martin.

Competition involved a 90-minute test covering biology, chemistry and general science. The team participated in a chemistry demonstration while the results were compiled.

Hutchison was among the top eight schools chosen to compete in a series of buzzer elimination rounds. Hutchison’s buzzer-round team (Jones, Ness, Woodbury and Franklin) won the first two elimination rounds, gaining a spot in the final round.

Two Hutchison students, Jones and Ness, placed in the top 10 scorers of all students present, with Jones placing third among all competitors at the Science Bowl.

Steve O'Dell is the community relations coordinator for Hutchison School.

The Hutchison Science Bowl Team included (front, from left) Rachna Dave, Rachel Ness, Brittany Trimble and Elaine Dellinger; (back) Hutchison Science Department Chairwoman Faunne Brown, Sarah Helton, Meredith Franklin, Emily Woodbury, Amanda Jones, Amanda Noa and Upper School Science Instructor Melanie Rosebrock.
Start Your Own Business’ course
to be offered online through ECCE

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2Go to offer a new online course, “Start Your Own Small Business.”

Owning a successful small business is one of the fastest ways to build personal wealth. In fact, all of the top 25 people on the Forbes list of richest Americans amassed their fortunes through the starting of a business.

The challenge is that to succeed, new entrepreneurs need to know proven, time-tested techniques that enable them to start and run their businesses efficiently. And proven techniques are just what students will learn in the new, credit-free online course.

Author of the course, Kris Solie-Johnson, is the chancellor and president of the American Institute of Small Business. She’s also a best-selling author, educator, speaker and entrepreneur.

“Success leaves clues,” Solie-Johnson said. “What people often don’t realize is that there are some basics to running a successful business-proven methods that have rarely been taught, until now.”

The course includes a classroom that is open day and night. Students can interact with the instructor and their fellow students in Web-based discussion areas, where they can ask as many course-related questions as they'd like. A response is usually promised within one business day and often arrives much sooner. Students can take “Start Your Own Small Business” from the convenience of home or office and at any time of the day or night.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go.

Consultant available at REED Center

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in December at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin.

He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9-4 p.m. Thursday.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues.

Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree has knowledge of state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The TUT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at (731) 587-REED (7333).

The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin. For additional services offered by the REED Center, visit the Web site www.utm.edu/reed.

Stokes joins First State organization

Justin Stokes has been hired as a loan review assistant with First State Bank.

He will be working at the First State Operations Center, located at 221 Harrison St.

Prior to joining First State, Stokes attended the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he received a bachelor of science in business administration with an emphasis in economics and finance. While enrolled in school, he also worked part time selling life and health insurance for Raymond James Financial Services.

Stokes will graduate from the University of Tennessee at Martin in December of 2007.

“First State is honored to welcome Justin to the First State family,” said John Liggett, loan review manager and assistant vice president at First State. “I have the utmost confidence that Justin will quickly become a valuable part of First State and its ability to serve its loan customers. With his educational background, he should be an asset to the loan review staff and our ability to provide greater support to First State’s lending division. Justin brings a positive attitude to First State and I believe he will be diligent in providing service to our lending staff and management.”

“I am excited to have the opportunity to join a company with the reputation of a true community bank,” Stokes said. “First State is an organization that is focused on providing excellent financial services to its customers while offering a diverse range of products. It is a dynamic, growing organization with a high quality team of professionals meeting a variety of financial needs. I look forward to helping First State strengthen its relationships with current customers, develop new business opportunities and impact local communities in a positive way.”

First State Bank has 28 full-service banking locations in 22 communities throughout West and Middle Tennessee. It is owned by Community First Bancshares.
SCIENCE BOWL WORKSHOP – A recent workshop on Safety in the Chemistry Workplace was sponsored by the Kentucky Lake Section under auspices of an Innovative Projects Grant from the American Chemical Society and in conjunction with the 28th annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Resource persons and presenters included a past chair of the ACS Safety Committee, Dr. Al Hazari of UT Knoxville, academic support specialist Gary W. Mansfield of UT Martin, laboratory safety and waste coordinator of Murray State University and Larry Stewart of Stewart Environmental Services. Twenty high school teachers and other personnel from area schools participated in the workshop. Compliance with EPA and OSHA regulations and prudent laboratory safe practices were discussed and sparked interaction among those in attendance. Among participants and resource persons are, left to right, row one, Keith Butler (KLS president), Betty Jackson (Gleason High School), Mandy Hopper (Union City High School), Marion Pitts (Westview), Rosalyn Croce (Memphis University School), Analise Sowell (Memphis University School), Malea Mullins (University School of Jackson), Judy Sanderson (University School of Jackson) and Martha Gunn Poole (Houston High School); row two, Dr. S.K. Airee (Science Bowl coordinator and KLS councilor), Melanie Rosebrock (Hutchison School, Memphis), Terry Tyree (Bradford High School), Faune Brown (Hutchison School, Memphis), Kenny Crowell (Waverly Central High School), Gary Mansfield (UT Martin), Larry Stewart (Stewart Environmental Services, Jackson), Dr. Michael Schwartz (Memphis University School), Willie Chandler (Madison Academic, Jackson), Jane Ramer (University School of Jackson), Bob Roberts (Houston High School) and Kelly Shanks (Trinity Christian Academy).

Imperial cities travel study set for spring

University of Tennessee at Martin students and the public will have the opportunity to travel this spring to see the imperial cities of the great dynastic families of Europe, the Habsburgs, who ruled the Austro-Hungarian Empire from 1279-1918. The trip is planned from May 11-25.

Participants will travel to the imperial cities of Budapest, Prague and Vienna to see the grandeur of their reign.

Budapest was originally two separate cities, Buda and Pest, separated by the River Danube.

In Buda, students will visit the Habsburg Royal Palace on Castle Hill and walk across the famous Chain Bridge to Pest and see Heroes Square, St. Stephens Basilica and the Great Synagogue.

In Prague, the cultural center of Europe for more than 1000 years, participants will visit the Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, the oldest synagogue in Europe, walk across the Charles Bridge and admire the wealth of historic architecture of different styles.

Finally in Vienna, students will visit The Hofburg, the Habsburg winter residence; Schönbrunn, the sprawling summer palace with its magnificent gardens; several museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts, which is worth a visit just to see the marble interior décor; the music of Mozart and sample Wiener Schnitzel and Apfelstrudel.

The estimated travel cost is $3,550 per person. This includes airfare from Memphis to Budapest and from Vienna back to Memphis, double occupancy hotels with a daily breakfast buffet, a first-class rail pass from Budapest to Prague and Prague to Vienna, admissions to all scheduled activities as well as transfers between the airports and hotels.

For complete information contact either Dr. Phil Young, UT Martin professor of finance, at 881-7228 or pyoung@utm.edu, or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at 881-7470 or ssieber@utm.edu.
UTM commencement set Dec. 15

MARTIN, Tenn. -- Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success at the University of Tennessee, Dr. Robert A. Levy, will deliver the fall commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Approximately 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pa., and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky. For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT. In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy interacts with UT campuses in a variety of ways. He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in British literature. He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the procession marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harriss, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, Faculty Senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2007

ECCE offers 'Start your own business'

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2Go to offer, "Start Your Own Small Business."

Owning a successful small business is one of the fastest ways to build personal wealth.

The challenge is that to succeed, new entrepreneurs need to know proven, time-tested techniques that enable them to start and run their businesses efficiently. And proven techniques are just what students will learn in the new, credit-free online course.

The course includes a classroom that is open day and night. Students can interact with the instructor and their fellow students in Web-based discussion areas, where they can ask as many course-related questions as they'd like. A response is usually promised within one business day and often arrives much sooner. Students can take "Start Your Own Small Business" from the convenience of home or office.

To register, visit www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go.

JODI WOODS MEMORIAL AWARD ESTABLISHED, RECIPIENT SELECTED -- The Jodi Woods Memorial Award recently was established at the University of Tennessee at Martin in memory of the late Jodi Woods, a special education major, who died June 24, 2006. The award is given each semester to one graduating special education major who excels in student teaching by including and building self-esteem in students with special needs. The award was established to typify the warm and caring demeanor that Woods exemplified.

Charli Smith of Brighton is the fall semester recipient of the Jodi Woods Memorial Award. The funds from the award are given to assist the graduating teacher in stocking his/her new classroom. Pictured are (from left) Charli Smith, Jodi Woods Memorial Award recipient, and Dr. Crystal Whitlow, instructor of special education at UT Martin.
ZIMMERMAN RECEIVES CARL SEALLE STUDENT TEACHER AWARD – The recipient of the University of Tennessee at Martin Carl Seale Student Teacher Award for fall semester 2007 is Andy Zimmerman of Martin. The Carl Seale Student Teacher Award is given in memory of Dr. Carl Seale, who served the university from 1971 to 1992 in numerous capacities. The recipients are chosen by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Scholarship Selection Committee from students with a major in education/teacher licensure, who have been nominated for exhibiting exceptional classroom instruction, excellence in classroom management, professionalism and potential for leadership in the teaching profession. The presentation of the award was made at the recent student teacher recognition reception held at the Boiling University Center on the UT Martin campus. Pictured are (from left) Marcia Stokes of Union City Middle School, cooperating teacher; Zimmerman, Carl Seale Student Teaching Award recipient; Pam Kangelos of Obion County Central High School, cooperating teacher, and Dr. Robert Hartshorn, university supervisor.

GOING GREEN – University of Tennessee at Martin students and faculty recently sponsored a recycling event on campus. Area residents were asked to take recyclables to the site and learn how to make West Tennessee more eco-friendly. The materials accepted included plastic containers, scrap metal of any kind, all paper and cardboard, aluminum cans being collected for local Boy Scouts, eyeglasses for the Lion’s Club, used clothing in good shape for area charities, cell phones for an area domestic violence shelter and ink cartridges for the Carroll County Humane Society. The event was sponsored by the UT Martin Recycling Club, the American Democracy Project, Sodexo, UT Martin Physical Plant, the Saturday Morning Cleanup Crew, Second Nature, Tri-Beta, Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society and Go Green. UT Martin students, Caitlin Womack, left, Smyrna, Rhonda Beaugard, Memphis, and Briana Osborne, Atoka, helped staff the event and sort materials.

SENIOR WALK – The University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its fall graduates at the Grand Finale Celebration and Senior Walk, hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse. More than 120 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff. Chase Elliott, of South Fulton, joined the classmates at the event. (Photo submitted)
ROSAURO PRESENTS PERCUSSION MASTERCLASS - Dr. Ney Rosauro, second from left, Brazilian percussionist and University of Miami director of percussion studies, recently was in residency with the UT Martin percussion studio under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music. Rosauro presented master classes to the UT Martin percussionists on the topics of Brazilian percussion and vibraphone techniques. In addition, he performed a concert of all Brazilian music with the UT Martin percussion ensemble and wind ensemble (Dr. Nola Jones, director). The closing selection on the program was a world premiere composed by Hill titled, “Lembrancas,” featuring Hill and Rosauro as soloists. Also, Rosauro, Hill and the 13 members of the percussion ensemble performed a “tour of schools” in the Jackson area presenting Brazilian percussion workshops to regional high school and middle school students. This was done in association with the Jackson Symphony, co-sponsors of the tour. Pictured, from left, are Scottie Somerville, of Kenton, Richard Henson, of Gibson and Jacob Abbott, of Rutherford.

'BOWL'ED OVER — Union City High School recently participated in the 28th annual High School Science Bowl hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin and student Adam Moon made the highest score for the school. A total of 108 students from 11 schools participated and took the written test. Local participants included (from left, front row) Kayla Poindexter, Student Affiliate of the American Chemical Society member; UCHS students Taylor Bruff, Maddy Harris, Desirae Caldwell and Tracey Taylor; Heather Housel, SAACS member; (back row) Shaun Smith, SAACS member; UCHS students Adam Moon, Ben Woods and Sarah Reese; UCHS teacher Mandy Hopper, and Robert Mitchell, SAACS member.
Santa's Village sets record, raises $60,685

Food and toy donations at the recent 23rd annual Santa's Village event at Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin set a record with a value of $60,685.

Attendance at the three-day event last weekend was 12,837, the fourth largest in Santa's Village history.

Co-sponsored by the Martin Department of Parks and Recreation, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin, the event featured 26,000 square feet of lights, holiday displays and continuous entertainment. Admission was the donation of $5 of food items or toys.

Exceeding the $60,000 donations mark for the first time, the event raised a total of $750,000. Overall attendance now has exceeded 200,000.

Santa's Village gets off to a good start each year with food provided by Weakley County schools, via the WCMT can caravans. WCMT and Santa's Village visitors donated a total of 33,662 food items this year, an increase of 3,000 over last year.

"On behalf of the City of Martin Parks and Recreation Department, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and the University of Tennessee at Martin, we extend our deepest appreciation for the outpouring of support beginning with all the volunteers who help to make Santa's Village possible to the visitors who continue to open their hearts to help those who are in need," said Dennis Siuter, Martin Parks and Recreation Department director.

Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa's Village this year include Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa's Helpers and Chimes for Charity, which receives a significant amount of canned goods from the effort.

RECEIVES AWARD — The recipient of the University of Tennessee at Martin Carl Seale Student Teacher Award for fall semester is Andy Zimmerman (second from left) of Martin. The Carl Seale Student Teacher Award is given in memory of Dr. Carl Seale, who served the university from 1971-92 in numerous capacities. The recipients are chosen by the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences Scholarship Selection Committee from students with a major in education/teacher licensure, who have been nominated for exhibiting exceptional classroom instruction, excellence in classroom management, professionalism and potential for leadership in the teaching profession. The presentation of the award was made at the recent student teacher recognition reception held at the Boling University Center on the UT Martin campus. Among those on hand were (from left) Marsha Stokes of Union City Middle School, cooperating teacher; Zimmerman; Pam Kangelos of Obion County Central High School, cooperating teacher; and Dr. Robert Harbison, university supervisor.

Senior Walk held at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its fall graduates at the Grand Finale Celebration and Senior Walk, hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse. More than 120 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff. Carrie Joyner, of Gleason, joined the classmates at the event.
PRESENTS MASTER CLASS — Dr. Ney Rosauro (second from left) Brazilian percussionist and University of Miami director of percussion studies, was recently in residency with the UT Martin percussion studio under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, assistant professor of music. Rosauro presented master classes to the UT Martin percussionists on the topics of Brazilian percussion and vibraphone techniques. In addition, he performed a concert of all Brazilian music with the UT Martin percussion ensemble and wind ensemble, which is directed by Dr. Nola Jones. The closing selection on the program was a world premiere composed by Hill entitled, “Lembrancas,” featuring Hill and Rosauro as soloists. Plus, Rosauro, Hill and the 13 members of the percussion ensemble performed a “tour of schools” in the Jackson area, presenting Brazilian percussion workshops to regional high school and middle school students. This was done in association with the Jackson Symphony, co-sponsors of the tour. Among those who worked with Rosauro were (from left) Scottie Somerville of Kenton, Richard Henson of Gibson and Jacob Abbott of Rutherford.

The Gazette, Trenton, Tennessee  Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Commencement ceremony slated at University of Tennessee, Martin Saturday, December 15, 11 a.m.

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, Dr. Robert A. Levy, will deliver the commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m., December 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Approximately 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky. For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT. In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy interacts with UT campuses in a variety of ways. He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in British literature. He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie-Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the procession of marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harriss, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, Faculty Senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.
Santa’s Village, now in its 23rd year, never fails to enchant all who visit the Christmas extravaganza, which celebrates all things Christmas with a winter wonderland of holiday scenes, rides for the kids, a visit to see jolly old Santa Claus, live entertainment, arts and craft booths, and a host of other exciting events enjoyed by the whole family. Most importantly, the donations of food and toys collected for those less fortunate creates a win-win situation for everyone. (See additional photos on page 16.)

Rose Brawner of Gleason sings a holiday song for the enjoyment of visitors to Santa’s Village. She also served as a pianist during the four day event.

A mother oversees her children as they play on this Giant Bug bouncy toy during Santa’s Village. A Giant Slide and a bouncy Castle were also set up for the children to play on.

Madison Johnson, daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth Johnson of Martin, gets a closer look at this holiday display.

Jordan Bell, son of Buddy and Carol of Dresden checks out the Giant Teddy Bear.
Santa's Village celebrates 23rd season

Large numbers of visitors turned out to experience the sights and sounds of the 23rd annual Santa's Village during December 6-9, which is staged each year at the Ned McWhertor Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin to provide entertainment and enjoyment to all of those who attend, while accepting donations of food and toys for those less fortunate, in order to make Christmas a little brighter for everyone.

According to Martin Parks & Recreation Director Dennis Suit, there were 12,837 visitors at the event, which is 650 above the average for the past seven years. Suit said that a total of 33,661 food items were collected, which is 3,141 more than last year’s total.

This year’s theme for the holiday fantasyland, “Very Beary Christmas” was inspired by the ever-popular teddy bear toy. And as usual, admission... Continued On Page 16

Santa's Village

...Continued from page 1

to Santa’s Village was a suggested donation of 55 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys.

Santa’s Village featured “enchanted forest” scenes, including Santa in a hunting lodge. Also featured was a display made with 2,008 canned foods, a giant Christmas tree, horse-drawn wagon rides, MTD model train display, children's inflatables and 54 arts and crafts booths.

Live entertainment was also a big part of the annual event, with performers providing 20 hours of continuous entertainment, including winners and finalists in several area talent contests. The lineup also featured entertainers from a five-state area ranging in age from 4 to 75.

Finalists from the Memphis Mid-South Youth Talent Show and the Kentucky Opry Talent Contest, as well as winners of the Soybean Festival Talent Show and the Dresden Iris Festival Talent Show were among the entertainers featured this year. Also appearing was youth and adults playing guitars, violins, accordions, trumpets, saxophones and piano. The Memory Makers, with members from Martin, Union City, Bradford and Fulton and Mayfield, Ky., provided big-band era music.

Reba Wade, of Reba Wade Music Studio in Martin, has volunteered as entertainment coordinator of Santa’s Village for 19 of the 23 years.

“We all enjoy doing this,” said Wade. “It is something we feel we can share to help people.”

Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa’s Village this year include: Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa’s Helpers and Chimes for Charity.

Co-sponsors for the event are Martin Parks and Recreation, the C. E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin. Additional confirmed sponsors of the event include: Volunteer Community Hospital, University Plaza, Hamilton-Ryker, First State Bank, Greenball, Inc., MTD Products, Tyson Foods, Southern Source, Office Products Companies and Suit’s Clean and Shine.

For more information about Santa’s Village, contact Martin Parks and Recreation Department at 731-587-6784.

Maddi Cash (left), daughter of Billy and Angela Cash, and Carly Cash (right), daughter of Tiffany Cash - all of Greenfield, stop by Santa’s workshop to tell him what they want for Christmas. Santa’s helpers - Melissa Adams (left) and Erin Miles (right) of the Westview Anchor Club were also on hand to assist the children and to take their photos with Santa.

Tommy Mount and another gentleman stop by the information booth at Santa’s Village and speak with Kim Kirby (left) and Charlotte Calseraro of the Martin Parks & Recreation Dept.
Paul and Claudia Chandler at the ‘Crafts and Sports Collectables’ booth peddle a wide assortment of handmade sports plaques, necklaces and earrings.

Visitors to Santa’s Village view one of the many colorful holiday displays in the Enchanted Forest.

An artist plys his trade, capturing the likeness of a youngster at this artist’s booth on the upper level of Santa’s Village.

An animated penguin pops out the top of an igloo in this holiday display in the Enchanted Forest at Santa’s Village.

Martin Parks & Recreation Director Dennis Sulter and Niki Harrison watch as a student volunteer signs in.

Young children pet and feed the animals at the Petting Zoo, which featured a buffalo, llama, pony, sheep, goats, ducks, etc.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music presented its second student chamber ensembles concert of the fall semester at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 5, in the Harriet Fulton Performing Arts Theatre in the Fine Arts Building on the UT Martin campus. The event featured chamber music by a variety of student ensembles.
UT-Martin is link between ‘we the people’ and government

A reception, November 27, marked the 50-year anniversary of the University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library as a federal depository library. The Federal Depository Library Program was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its government’s information. There are approximately 1,300 libraries in the program.

Ania Lasota, UT Martin government documents librarian, said UT Martin accepted the mandate “to serve as a gateway to government information.” She added, “Access to information is access to knowledge, too.” Lasota said information was rigidly controlled in her native Poland, but added, “Access to information is people’s basic and fundamental right.” She praised the event “to celebrate Paul Meek (Library) being a link between ‘we the people’ and the government.”

Eighth District Congressman John Tanner attended the reception and praised the university for being “one of the crown jewels of education and higher learning.” He added, “In this new age of technology, I know we can go online and get some of the information, but there’s nothing like looking at documents,” said Tanner. Reflecting on comments by Thomas Jefferson about freedom of information, Tanner added, “As long as there is the ability of the citizens of our country to actively know and participate in what’s happening with their government, then he felt reason would prevail and the republic would be safe.

“Thank you all for being a 50-year designated federal depository of government documents,” he said. “It speaks to the university’s standing here in West Tennessee, not only in our state, but in this entire region. A lot of people have made that possible through the years, and you all are continuing that proud tradition here at UT Martin.”

Lasota was joined in hosting the event by Mary Carpenter, UT Martin director of library services, and library staff. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, welcomed those attending, commended the library staff for the continued commitment to free and open access of government information and introduced Congressman Tanner.
UT Martin vice president to speak

Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, Dr. Robert A. Levy, will deliver the fall commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Approximately 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pa., and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky. For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT. In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy interacts with UT campuses in a variety of ways. He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in British literature. He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie-Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees.

Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Hariss, faculty senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, faculty senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.

UTM library marks 50 years as federal depository

A reception, Nov. 27, marked the 50-year anniversary of the University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek library as a federal depository library. The Federal Depository Library Program was established by Congress to ensure that the American public has access to its government's information.

Ania Lasota, UT Martin government documents librarian, said UT Martin accepted the mandate "to serve as a gateway to government information." She added, "Access to information is access to knowledge, too."

Lasota said information was rigidly controlled in her native Poland, but added, "Access to information is people's basic and fundamental right." She praised the event "to celebrate Paul Meek (Library) being a link between 'we the people' and the government."

Eighth District Congressman John Tanner attended the reception and praised the university for being "one of the crown jewels of education and higher learning." He added, "In this new age of technology, I know we can go online and get some of the information, but there's nothing like looking at documents," said Tanner. Reflecting on comments by Thomas Jefferson about freedom of information, Tanner added, "As long as there is the ability of the citizens of our country to actively know and participate in what's happening with their government, then he felt reason would prevail and the republic would be safe."

"Thank you all for being a 50-year designated federal depository of government documents," he said. "It speaks to the university's standing here in West Tennessee, . . . not only in our state, but in this entire region. A lot of people have made that possible through the years, and you all are continuing that proud tradition here at UT Martin."

Lasota was joined in hosting the event by Mary Carpenter, UT Martin director of library services, and library staff. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed those attending, commended the library staff for the continued commitment to free and open access of government information and introduced Congressman Tanner.
UTM among 100 best college buys

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among America’s 100 Best College Buys, a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc., in Rome, Ga.

“The University of Tennessee at Martin is among a very select group of colleges and universities across the country – both large and small, public and private – that offer students an academically superior educational environment yet charge the lowest possible cost," said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president. “UT Martin provides an exceptional opportunity to the residents of Tennessee and to students from across the United States.”

“We are honored to be recognized again as a best buy. This type of national recognition is an indicator of the value a UT Martin education offers," said UT Martin chancellor Tom Rakes.

The listing among America’s 100 Best College Buys is the third major recognition for UT Martin in the 2007-08 academic year. In August, UT Martin continued its top-tier ranking for master’s level public universities in the South in the 2008 edition of America’s Best Colleges, compiled by U.S. News & World Report – tied for 20th place among public universities in the South that grant bachelor’s and master’s degrees.

Also, in August, UT Martin was named a “Best Southeastern College” for 2008 by The Princeton Review.


“We wanted to include a variety of musical styles and compositions, all by American composers," said Dr. Nola Jones, assistant professor of music.
News From UT Martin

‘MEDICAL CODING’ TOPIC FOR NEW ECCE COURSE

MARTIN, Tenn. – The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2Go to offer “Medical Coding.”

There’s a lot of talk about the medical insurance industry these days. Ever wonder how doctors and insurance companies communicate about the medical care that doctors provide for their patients? They rely almost exclusively on medical coders, and that’s why professional medical coders are in demand in the workforce.

The medical community has a growing need for thorough, precise professionals who can find their way through a patient’s medical files, locate the appropriate medical codes and bill insurance companies accordingly. The new online course, “Medical Coding,” will provide anyone interested in a career in medical coding with a big first step toward a lucrative career.

Professional coder and author of the course, Jennifer Della’Zanna, said, “The knowledge students gain from this course will help prepare them to work almost anywhere in the medical field — doctors’ offices, clinics, public health facilities, hospitals, labs, nursing homes, insurance agencies, or even the comfort of their own homes.”

Students will begin the course by reviewing the history of medical insurance and then learn what it means to handle medical insurance claims today. After that, they’ll learn how to use the standardized forms that medical coders use, and take detailed tours through the two primary resources medical coders use: The CPT manual, which lists codes for thousands of treatments and procedures that doctors use to treat their patients; and the ICD-9-CM, which lists thousands of diseases, conditions, and symptoms.

“We’ll go through lots of real-world examples and coding exercises along the way,” added Della’Zanna. “The goal is to get students using their coding tools in conjunction with their analytical skills to come up with just the right codes to describe any medical situation.” In the process, students will get all the hands-on experience they need to code medical insurance claims with confidence.

The course includes a classroom that is open day and night. Students can interact with the instructor and their fellow students in Web-based discussion areas, where they can ask as many course-related questions as they’d like. A response is usually promised within one business day, and often arrives sooner.

Students can take “Medical Coding” from the convenience of home or office, and at any time of the day or night. For more information about this course — part of a growing catalog of more than 300 instructor-facilitated online courses — contact UT Martin at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082 or visit the online instruction center at: www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php. Select Education To Go.

IMPERIAL CITIES TRAVEL STUDY SET FOR SPRING SEMESTER

MARTIN, Tenn. – University of Tennessee at Martin students and the public will have the opportunity to travel this spring to see the imperial cities of the great dynastic families of Europe, the Habsburgs, who ruled the Austro-Hungarian Empire from 1279-1918. The trip is planned from May 11-25.

Participants will travel to the imperial cities of Budapest, Prague and Vienna to see the grandeur of their reign. Budapest was originally two separate cities, Buda and Pest, separated
by the River Danube. In Buda, students will visit the Habsburg Royal Palace on Castle Hill and walk across the famous Chain Bridge to Pest and see Heroes Square, St. Stephens Basilica and the Great Synagogue. In Prague, the cultural center of Europe for more than 1000 years, participants will visit the Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, the oldest synagogue in Europe, walk across the Charles Bridge and admire the wealth of historic architecture of different styles.

Finally in Vienna, students will visit The Hofburg, the Habsburg winter residence; Schönbrunn, the sprawling summer palace with its magnificent gardens; several museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts, which is worth a visit just to see the marble interior décor; the music of Mozart and sample Wiener Schnitzel and Apfelstrudel. The estimated travel cost is $3,550 per person. This includes airfare from Memphis to Budapest and from Vienna back to Memphis, double occupancy hotels with a daily breakfast buffet, a first-class rail pass from Budapest to Prague and Prague to Vienna, admissions to all scheduled activities as well as transfers between the airports and hotels. For complete information contact either Dr. Phil Young, UT Martin professor of finance, at 731-881-7228 or pyoung@utm.edu, or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at 731-881-7470 or ssieber@utm.edu.

UT Vice President for academic affairs and student success to speak at fall commencement

MARTIN, Tenn. – Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, Dr. Robert A. Levy, will deliver the fall commencement address at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ceremonies will be held at 11 a.m., Dec. 15, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. Approximately 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Levy taught junior high school in Philadelphia, Pa., and later taught English, creative writing and interdisciplinary humanities at Transylvania University in Kentucky. For more than 30 years, he has been an academic affairs administrator at UT. In addition to being an active consultant, writer and presenter, he has dealt with such diverse issues as academic leadership training, library organization and automation, performance funding, intellectual property, desegregation, assessment of academic programs, accreditation, international education, continuing education and distance learning, development of new academic programs, Centers and Chairs of Excellence, strategic planning, student information systems and development of faculty personnel policies.

For the UT system, Levy interacts with UT campuses in a variety of ways. He also works with external groups such as the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Levy also serves on boards including the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and Knoxville Project GRAD.

Levy holds bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in British literature. He and his wife, Dr. Karen D. Levy, French professor at UT, are the parents of Leslie-Anne, an employee of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C.

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will preside over the exercises and confer degrees. Dr. Jerry Gresham, University of Tennessee National Alumni Association Alumni Distinguished Service Professor, will be the mace bearer, and the processional marshals will be Dr. Elaine Harriss, Faculty Senate president; Dr. Kathy Evans, Faculty Senate vice president; Dr. Jerald Ogg, interim vice chancellor of academic affairs and professor of communications; and Steve Vantrease, interim vice chancellor for student affairs.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the commencement ceremony.
IN TUNE — The fall semester Piano Technology class at UT Martin recently helped tune two pianos at the Boys & Girls Club of Northwest Tennessee in Union City. Observing the Rev. Elwood Doss (seated) tune one of the pianos are (standing, from left) Denise Alston, director of education and choir director at the Boys & Girls Club; and class members the Rev. Steve Douglas, Michael Yandell, the Rev. Scott Penick, Heather Cheatham, Jorge Cardena, Shawn Campbell and Patricia Hernandez.

Piano tuning class helps club

Most teachers would agree the practical experience is by far the best learning environment. That is certainly true when it comes to piano tuning and the opportunity for the University of Tennessee at Martin Piano Technology class instructor, the Rev. Elwood Doss Jr., RPT, to provide that practical “real world” experience was one that he relished. The opportunity came when Boys & Girls Club of Northwest Tennessee Director Sherri Puckett contacted him about tuning two pianos that had been donated to the club located in Union City. He discussed the possibility with the class members, and they jumped at the opportunity to tune the pianos. Doss teaches the piano tuning technique of aural tuning, or tuning “by ear.”

According to Doss, “the ‘in the field’ tuning differs greatly from tuning the pianos in the UTM Fine Arts Building that are tuned on a regular basis.” The class is studying the theory, history and technique of piano tuning this semester and meets at the Fine Arts Building.

Doss first demonstrated the “rough tuning” technique of pulling, up to the correct pitch a piano in which its pitch is flat, then turned the pianos over to the class to “fine tune” the instruments.

The group will also be tuning the piano at Martin’s Weldon Public Library as a part of this class project. Danielle Alston, Boys & Girls Club director of education and choir director, will use the pianos for her choir rehearsals and to give piano lessons to the club members.

The Piano Technology class will study piano repairs and regulating of grand and upright pianos beginning in January 2008.

Will they use the two pianos to practice on?

“Well,” said Doss, “I haven’t asked permission yet, but it would be a good project for the second semester class.” Anyone can register for the class by enrolling through UTM. Call 881-7402 for more information.
Blanding is Tennessee Counselor Educator of the Year

Dr. Linda Blanding, UT Martin assistant professor in the Department of Educational Studies, recently was selected as the Tennessee Counselor Educator of the Year for 2007 at the Tennessee School Counseling Association annual conference. Blanding was chosen to receive this honor as the result of her extensive contributions and service to the organization and the profession in furthering counselor education while serving as TSCA vice president for post-secondary.

Presenting the award were Christie Maupin, president, Paulette Crews, past president of TSCA and Sharon Fiddler, past president of the Martha Pope Chapter of the Tennessee Counseling Association, who expressed their appreciation for Blanding’s contributions to the association and her leadership in counselor education throughout Tennessee.

“I feel honored and humbled to be this year’s award recipient,” said Blanding. “It has been my pleasure to teach graduate counseling students at UT Martin and to work with so many fine colleagues throughout the state of Tennessee. I am delighted to be recognized by my professional peers.”

Blanding teaches graduate education and counseling courses at UT Martin. She is also president of the Tennessee Coalition for Public Policy for the Alzheimer’s Association and served as president of the board of directors of the Mid South Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association for 2005-07. She earned her bachelor’s degree at Michigan State University, a master’s degree in community counseling at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga and a doctorate in family studies at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Blanding is also a national certified counselor by the National Board for Certified Counseling. She is married to Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, and is the mother of three grown children. She has two grandsons.

Santa’s Village sets $60,685 record

Food and toy donations at the recent 23rd annual Santa’s Village event at Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin set a record with a value of $60,685. Attendance at the three-day event was 12,837, fourth largest in Santa’s Village history.

Co-sponsored by the Martin Department of Parks and Recreation, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin, the event featured 26,000 square feet of lights, holiday displays and continuous entertainment. Admission was the donation of $5 of food items or toys.

Exceeding the $60,000 donations mark for the first time, allowed the total value for 23 years to top $750,000. Overall attendance now has exceeded 200,000.

Santa’s Village gets off to a good start each year with food provided by Weakley County schools, via the WCMT can caravan. WCMT and Santa’s Village visitors donated a total of 33,662 food items this year, an increase of 3,000 over last year.

“On behalf of the City of Martin Parks and Recreation Department, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and the University of Tennessee at Martin, we extend our deepest appreciation for the outpouring support beginning with all the volunteers who help to make Santa’s Village possible to the visitors who continue to open their hearts to help those who are in need,” said Dennis Suiter, Martin Parks and Recreation Department director. Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa’s Village this year include: Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa’s Helpers and Chimes for Charity.

See Santa’s, Page 4
Medical Coding' is topic for ECCE course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2Go to offer "Medical Coding."

There's a lot of talk about the medical insurance industry these days. Ever wonder how doctors and insurance companies communicate about the medical care that doctors provide for their patients? They rely almost exclusively on medical coders, and that's why professional medical coders are in demand in the workforce.

The medical community has a growing need for thorough, precise professionals who can find their way through a patient's medical files, locate the appropriate medical codes and billing insurance companies accordingly. The new online course, "Medical Coding," will provide anyone interested in a career in medical coding with a big first big step toward a lucrative career.

Professional coder and author of the course, Jennifer DellaZanna, said, "The knowledge students gain from this course will help prepare them to work almost anywhere in the medical field - doctors' offices, clinics, public health facilities, hospitals, labs, nursing homes, insurance agencies or even the comfort of their own homes."

Students will begin the course by reviewing the history of medical insurance and then learn what it means to handle medical insurance claims today. After that, they'll learn how to use the standardized forms that medical coders use, and take detailed tours through the two primary resources medical coders use: The CPT manual, which lists codes for thousands of treatments and procedures that doctors use to treat their patients; and the ICD-9-CM, which lists thousands of diseases, conditions and symptoms.

"We'll go through a lot of real-world examples and coding exercises along the way," said DellaZanna. "The goal is to get students using their coding tools in conjunction with their analytical skills to come up with just the right codes to describe any medical situation." In the process, students will get all the hands-on experience they need to code medical insurance claims with confidence.

The course includes a classroom that is open day and night. Students can interact with the instructor and their fellow students in Web-based discussion areas, where they can ask as many course-related questions as they'd like. A response is usually promised within one business day, and often arrives sooner.

Students can take "Medical Coding" from the convenience of their own home or office, and at any time of the day or night. For more information about this course - part of a growing catalog of more than 300 instructor-facilitated online courses - contact UT Martin at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082 or visit the online instruction center at: www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/online-courses.php. Select Education To Go.

UTM, JSCC to work together

By TAJUANA CHESHER

Beginning in January, the University of Tennessee Martin Jackson Center administration offices and classrooms will be relocated to the McWherter Center on the campus of Jackson State Community College. UT Martin and Jackson State officials announced their cooperative agreement during a press conference Wednesday.

UT Martin faculty and students have been housed at the Tennessee Technology Center in Jackson near McKellar-Sipes Regional Airport. The new arrangement will give Jackson State students and potential new students access to additional degree programs on campus.

UT Martin will be offering classes for a master of science in education focused on counseling, a bachelor of science in management, a program for registered nurses to get a bachelor of science in nursing, and ROTT classes.

UTM will have nine offices in the McWherter Center and will offer 23 classes on Jackson State's campus. About 200 students will begin using the JSCC campus in January.

JSCC President Bruce Blanding and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes expressed excitement about the new venture.

"We're willing to work together and share resources," Blanding said.

"These are the types of partnerships that should be going on across the state," Rakes said.

Both schools are involved in outside partnerships with other institutions of higher education.

"When we work together we can do so much more," said Rakes, who expects UTM's off-campus population to grow from 14 percent to 20 percent in the next five to 10 years.

Colleges have long been in discussions to make education more accessible to students.

"Our common goal is to improve the level of education of the people in West Tennessee," Blanding said. "If we improve the level of education, then more people will be involved in the voting process and the area will be more attractive to businesses."

William Duffy II is executive director of UT Martin's extended campus and continuing education. Duffy said a major benefit of the partnership is that it gives JSCC students access to UTM course offerings.

"A student in Jackson State's two-year nursing program can continue an additional two years with UTM's registered nurse to bachelor of science in nursing," Duffy said.

Officials said they would not offer any courses that duplicate those currently offered by Jackson State.

Visit jacksunsun.com and share your thoughts.
— Tajuana Chessier, 425-9643

What to know

For more information about UT Martin Jackson Center classes beginning in January, call 425-9277 or (888) 886-4723.

Local

CHANGING LOCATIONS: UT Martin's Jackson Center will be moving to the Jackson State Community College campus in January. 1B
Local chemistry teachers attend UT workshop

A recent workshop on Chemistry in the Workplace was sponsored by the Kentucky Lake Section under auspices of an Innovative Projects Grant from the American Chemical Society and in conjunction with the 28th annual Science Bowl at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Resource persons and presenters included a past chair of the ACS Safety Committee, Dr. Al Hazari of UT Knoxville, academic support specialist Gary W. Mansfield of UT Martin, laboratory safety and waste coordinator of Murray State University and Larry Stewart of Stewart Environmental Services.

Twenty high school teachers and other personnel from area schools participated in the workshop.

Among participants in the chemistry workshop were: Keith Butler (front, left), Betty Jackson (Gleason High School), Mandy Hopper (Union City High School), Marion Pitts (Westview), Rosalyn Croce (Memphis University School), Analice Sowell (Memphis University School), Malea Mullins (University School of Jackson), Judy Sanderson (University School of Jackson) and Martha Gunn Poole (Houston High School); Dr. S.K. Airee (back row, left), Melanie Rosebrock (Hutchison School), Terry Tyree (Bradford High School), Faunne Brown (Hutchison School, Memphis), Kenny Crowell (Waverly Central High School), Gary Mansfield (UT Martin), Larry Stewart (Stewart Environmental Services, Jackson), Dr. Michael Schwartz (Memphis University School), Willie Chandler (Madison Academy, Jackson), Jane Ramer (University School of Jackson), Bob Roberts (Houston High School) and Kelly Shanks (Trinity Christian Academy).

SENIOR WALK — Chase Elliott of South Fulton recently joined classmates at the University of Tennessee at Martin to celebrate the accomplishments of fall graduates at the Grand Finale Celebration and Senior Walk, hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse. More than 120 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff.
Imperial cities travel study slated for spring semester

University of Tennessee at Martin students and the public will have the opportunity to travel this spring to see the imperial cities of the great dynastic families of Europe, the Habsburgs, who ruled the Austro-Hungarian Empire from 1279-1918.

The trip is planned from May 11-25.

Participants will travel to the imperial cities of Budapest, Prague and Vienna to see the grandeur of their reign. The estimated travel cost is $3,550 per person. This includes airfare from Memphis to Budapest and from Vienna back to Memphis, double occupancy hotels with a daily breakfast buffet, a first-class rail pass from Budapest to Prague and Prague to Vienna, admissions to all scheduled activities as well as transfers between the airports and hotels.

For complete information, contact either Dr. Phil Young, UT Martin professor of finance, at (731) 881-7228 or pyoung@utm.edu; or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at (731) 881-7470 or ssieber@utm.edu.
West Tennessee colleges hold fall commencements

The Jackson Sun

More than 100 Freed-Hardeman University students walked the stage in Loyd Auditorium on Friday night to receive their degrees at the fall commencement ceremony.

One other West Tennessee college held its fall graduation earlier this month, and two more are scheduled for today.

According to a Freed-Hardeman press release, 44 graduates were to receive master's degrees and the remaining 63 were to receive undergraduate degrees. The guest speaker was Jerry Elder, a 1983 graduate of FHU. He serves as the youth minister for the West Seventh Street Church of Christ in Columbus, a position he has held for 25 years.

Today about 280 students will get degrees from Union University Dec. 15 during commencement exercises at 11 a.m. at West Jackson Baptist Church.

Deborah Wilks, president and chief operating officer of the College Success Foundation, will be the keynote speaker, according to a press release. The foundation is an organization that provides scholarships and mentoring to low-income, high-potential students.

As part of the ceremony, Union will present the Robert E. Craig Service Award to Thad and Alicia Smotherman, from Arlington, Texas. The award is named after Union's 13th president, who led the university for more than two decades and was responsible for re-establishing Union with the churches of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

The Smothermans serve on Union's Board of Regents, and for the past 10 years have hosted and supported Union's alumni work in Texas. Alicia, a 1963 Union graduate, is a physician. Thad is an investor who is a leader in several business and health care-related operations.

Union also will present an honorary doctor of humanities degree to Stephen C. Reynolds, president and CEO of Baptist Memorial Health Care of Memphis. In September, Baptist Memorial Health Care made a $1 million donation to the health care programs at Union.

Fall commencement ceremonies also will be held at 11 a.m. today in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the University of Tennessee Martin campus. About 400 degrees are expected to be awarded.

Dr. Robert A. Levy, vice president for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, will deliver the commencement address.

Dr. Levy, president for Academic Affairs and Student Success of the University of Tennessee, will deliver the commencement address.

A reception will be hosted in Skyhawk Fieldhouse immediately following the ceremony.

---

UTM receives $50K grant to advise rural businesses

The Jackson Sun

A business education program in Martin is receiving nearly $50,000 to expand its outreach.

U.S. Department of Agriculture state director Mary Ruth Tackett and University of Tennessee Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes announced the $49,927 investment in the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development last week at the REED Center in Martin.

"Education is at the heart of economic development and small-business development, which is why UT Martin and the REED Center are so important to the economic vitality of this region," Tackett said in a news release.

"UT Martin is proud to gain this vital support to extend economic development outreach through the REED Center," Rakes said in the news release.

"We are fortunate to have a staff that is involved and interested in partnership efforts combining local, state and federal agencies." The grant will be used to expand the center's service area and increase the number and experience level of small business consultants working with the center, the release said. The center will be looking for consultants with expertise in e-commerce, business software, market research and basic financial literacy.

"This is an important investment as we continue building on the economic development and job growth of Northwest Tennessee," U.S. Rep. John Tanner, D-Union City, said in a news release. "The partnerships between our community, business owners and UT Martin help the business leaders of today and tomorrow learn to utilize the tools that are necessary to succeed."

Visit jacksonsun.com and share your thoughts.
Rural Development investment allows REED Center expansion

Rural Development state director Mary Ruth Tackett and University of Tennessee Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes recently announced an investment of $49,927 for the expansion of business-education resources at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center.

The announcement took place at the REED Center in Martin.

"Education is at the heart of economic development and small-business development, which is why UT Martin and the REED Center are so important to the economic vitality of this region," Tackett said. "Thanks to the support of our congressional delegation, Rural Development has the financial resources necessary to help expand educational opportunities for the entrepreneurs who will be creating good jobs."

"UT Martin is proud to gain this vital support to extend economic development outreach through the REED Center," UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes said. "We are fortunate to have a staff that is involved and interested in partnership efforts combining local, state and federal agencies."

The Rural Development Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) will be used to expand the REED Center’s service area and increase the number and range-of-expertise of small business consultants working with the center. New expertise will be added in the fields of e-commerce, business software, market research and basic financial literacy.

Based on performance, center staff expects these additional resources to ultimately assist small businesses create 100 new jobs in northwest Tennessee and southwest Kentucky.

"This is an important investment as we continue building on the economic development and job growth of northwest Tennessee. The partnerships between our community, business owners and UT Martin help the business leaders of today and tomorrow learn to utilize the tools that are necessary to succeed," Congressman John Tanner said in a statement.

Rural Development rural business enterprise grants provide assistance to public or not-for-profit organizations to support economic development projects that assist small businesses, expand local business infrastructure, provide job training, conduct feasibility studies or provide technical assistance to businesses and community leaders.

Others participating in the event included Sen. Lamar Alexander’s field representative, Matt Varino; Sen. Bob Corker’s field representative, Jane Jolley; Tanner’s field representative, Brad Thompson; Weakley County Mayor Houston Patrick; Martin Mayor Randy Brundige; REED Center coordinator Hollie Holt; Rural Development area director Bobby Goode; and area specialist Van Wylie.

USDA Rural Development is committed to the future of rural communities in Tennessee by investing financial and technical assistance through housing, community and business development programs.

In fiscal year 2007, Rural Development assisted more than 448,504 Tennessee families and businesses with more than $308 million in financial assistance through loans, loan guarantees and grants.

For more information on business development, affordable housing or community facilities programs available in the Weakley County area, contact the Rural Development area office in Union City at (731) 885-6480, Ext. 4, or toll free at 1-800-342-3149, Ext.1497, or online at www.rurdev.usda.gov/tn.

U.S. Rep. John Tanner of the 8th Congressional District attended the Nov. 27 reception honoring University of Tennessee-Martin’s Paul Meek Library as a 50-year federal depository library. With Tanner is Erin Chambers of Bartlett, UT-Martin’s Student Government Association president.
University of Tennessee-Martin students and faculty recently sponsored a recycling event on campus. Area residents were asked to take recyclables to the site and learn how to make West Tennessee more eco-friendly. The materials accepted included plastic containers, scrap metal, paper, cardboard, aluminum cans being collected for local Boy Scouts, eyeglasses for the Lion's Club, used clothing in good shape for area charities, cell phones for an area domestic violence shelter and ink cartridges for the Carroll County Humane Society. The event was sponsored by the UT-Martin Recycling Club, the American Democracy Project, Sodexo, UT-Martin Physical Plant, the Saturday Morning Cleanup Crew, Second Nature, Tri-Beta, Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society and Go Green. Here, UT-Martin students Caitlin Womack (left), Rhonda Beaugard of Memphis and Briana Osborne of Atoka help sort materials.

Resources

SMART RESOURCES

Brass Quintet Fall 2007 Tour at Arlington International Leadership School

The Jackson Symphony Brass Quintet presented their Fall 2007 Tour Concert at Arlington International Leadership School on October 15, 2007.

The Brass Quintet presented the thrilling sound of brass in a program spanning four centuries of music. Selections ranging from the Renaissance battle music to Sousa Marches and Jazz were presented along with an informative discussion of music's relationship to physics, history and the arts.

The Brass Quintet has been playing together for 15 years. In addition to playing in the quintet and the Jackson Symphony, members of the group are active as teachers at area schools. Trumpeter Lee Weimer teaches at Lambuth University, Tom Grant at Bethel College and University School of Jackson, horn player Gail Page at Forest Heights Preschool. Trombonist Jeremy Kolwinski is Chairman of the Music Department and teaches at the University of Tennessee-Martin and Tubist Charles Huffman is retired from Union University. All together the members of the Jackson Symphony Quintet have almost 200 years of brass playing experience.

The Brass Quintet is an educational project of The Jackson Symphony. This project is funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts and is sponsored by AMRO Music.
Monday's News Summary is ready for viewing at:

User name - webnews
Password - utnews

Today's Headlines
Knoxnews: Cheers for 2,700, UT graduation
Jackson Sun: West Tennessee colleges hold fall commencements
WDEF.com: UTC Graduates 700 Students
AP (Tennessean): UT says going bigger will make it better
Knoxnews: UT's flagship campus to expand
Knoxnews: Nov. 7 memo from Chancellor Loren Crabtree regarding growth of UT-Knoxville
Inside Higher Ed: Tennessee Reconsiders Tilt to Merit Aid, UT mentioned
Knoxnews: Job prospects for new grads looking good, UT director quoted
Knoxnews: Uniting growers, UT mentioned
Knoxnews: Heart patient at zoo continues to improve, UT mentioned
Knoxnews: A look at recent events in the news that pleased us, UT mentioned
Knoxnews: On the trail of a legend, UT alum mentioned
Knoxnews: Physical territory, eye for detail drew in McCarthy expert, UT expert mentioned
WATE: Committee studies Knoxville energy use, UT mentioned
Tennessee Journalist: Knoxville Place to become on-campus housing
Tennessee Journalist: Student safety in question
The New Yorker: A Death in the Forest, UT mentioned
Business Facilities: Extreme Technology Sites, UT mentioned
Baltimore Sun: Amazon gets help it doesn't need, UT experts mentioned
Jackson Sun: UTM expands rural development center
Jackson Sun: UTM receives $50K grant to advise rural businesses
Jackson Sun: UTM, JSCC partnership will benefit our region
Chattanooga Times Free Press: 'Green' transformation in progress at UTC
Chattanoogan.com: Major University, Major City – And Replies, UTC mentioned
Chattanoogan.com: UT Student-Athletes Deliver 'Touchdown For Turkeys' To Food Bank

If you have comments or forget your password or user name, call the University of Tennessee Public Relations Office at 865-974-2225, or e-mail us
RECEIVES FUNDING — Among those attending the recent announcement of a Rural Development investment of $49,927 for the expansion of business-education resources at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center were (from left, front row) state Rep. Mark Maddox; Mitzie Hailey, USDA rural business technician; Bobby Goode, USDA area manager; Ruth Tackett, USDA state director; Hollie Holt, REED Center coordinator; Jane Jolley, field representative for Sen. Bob Corker; Dr. Tom Payne, chairholder, UT Martin Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking; Kelly Murray, REED Center graduate assistant; (back row) Barbara Virgin, Weakley County Chamber of Commerce director; Landy Fuqua, REED Center assistant; Holly Elliott, Weakley County Economic Development assistant; Jamie Frakes, Dyer County Economic Development Center director; Tom Seratt, First Citizens National Bank Community Bank president; Van Wylie, USDA rural business specialist; UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes; Brad Thompson, field representative for Congressman John Tanner; state Rep. Roy Herron; Dr. Phil Young, chairholder, UT Martin Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise; Matt Varino, field representative for Sen. Lamar Alexander; Dr. Ernie Moser, dean of the UT Martin College of Business and Public Affairs; Josh McFarland, Reelfoot Bank loan officer; and Martin Mayor Randy Brundige.

Seventh Youth Leadership Summit urges participants to take the next step

For three days, Feb. 21-23, youth involved in leadership programs throughout the state will converge on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin for the seventh annual Tennessee Youth Leadership Summit.

The event, "The Next Step," sponsored by the UT Martin Student Government Association, will help participants hone their leadership skills.

The Tennessee Youth Leadership Summit is an intensive leadership development conference, designed for college-bound high school juniors and seniors who are leaders within their student organizations.

The conference features interactive workshops, keynote addresses, social activities, banquets and a number of networking opportunities.

This year's conference keynote speaker will be Kelly Barnes. Barnes is a professional speaker, leadership coach and an associate speaker for YourNextSpeaker, LLC. His material draws from his numerous leadership roles and life experiences. Born and raised on his family farm in rural Oklahoma, Barnes has traveled across many states sharing his message of leadership.

Conference fee is $50, not including accommodations. The fee covers meals, campus entertainment, materials and a T-shirt. On-campus accommodations on campus are limited, so participants requesting to stay on campus should make arrangements via the Web site as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to accommodate as many participants as possible in campus housing. Visit the conference Web site, www.utm.edu/youthleadershipsummit, for more information, including conference registration and housing information. The conference registration deadline is Feb. 18.

Check-in for the summit is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m., on Feb. 21, in Boling University Center, just outside of Watkins Auditorium. The summit will officially begin at 5:30 p.m., and will conclude just before lunch on Feb. 23. All activities will be chaperoned by a UT Martin staff member or student leader.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at 881-7710.
**UT Martin Jackson Center relocates to Jackson State Community College campus**

University of Tennessee at Martin and Jackson State Community College continued recent partnership efforts with the relocation of the UT Martin Jackson Center to the JSCC campus. A press conference was held today at JSCC to announce the cooperative agreement.

Beginning in January 2008, the UT Martin Jackson Center administrative offices and classrooms, previously located at the Tennessee Technology Center in Jackson, will be housed in the McWherter Center building at JSCC.

"We are proud to again partner with Jackson State Community College," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. "This joint effort is a specific example of UT uniting with a partner institution to provide access and quality upper division programs in the Jackson area."

"We are excited that UT Martin is coming to our campus," added Dr. Bruce Blanding, JSCC president. "This will give students in Jackson and surrounding counties the opportunity to complete a wide range of educational degrees from associate's to master's all right here in the same location. This joint use of facilities ensures that we are using our resources wisely while at the same time providing increased opportunities for our students."

Classes offered at the UT Martin Jackson Center include master of science in education (counseling), bachelor of science in management, registered nurse to bachelor of science in nursing and ROTC classes. Additional courses/programs may be offered as needed. As part of the agreement, UT Martin will not offer any credit or non-credit courses on the JSCC campus that substantially duplicate JSCC offerings. However, UT Martin will continue to explore possibilities of expanding upper division course offerings and degree program offerings.

"The UT Martin and JSCC leadership, staff and faculty are to be commended for their continued commitment to educating our citizens and supporting partnerships such as this that will enhance both access to education and economic development throughout West Tennessee and beyond," said Bill Duffy, Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education executive director.

Today's announcement follows an agreement in August 2006, when the two schools partnered to provide courses for an associate degree in agriculture at Jackson State. The arrangement provided a full range of agriculture courses leading to the associate degree that transfers seamlessly to UT Martin for the completion of a bachelor's degree.

For more information about UT Martin Jackson Center classes beginning in January, call (731) 425-9277 or (888) UTM-GRAD, toll free.

---

**Northwest TN photography club forms**

Dr. Tom Gallien of the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education recently organized the Northwest Tennessee Photography Club.

The core membership will be graduates of the UT Martin courses, and they will officially kick off with a first monthly meeting in January. Although they are an autonomous organization, they have partnered with the Jackson Photography Club to exchange programs and resources.

"This is an exciting result of the ECCE's courses, and I am proud of all the excitement it has produced in the multi-county area," said Gallien.

Gallien will also instruct two courses in the spring. The first is a basic course for Photoshop Elements. It is slated from 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Feb. 5-26. The fee for the course is $85. "Introduction to Digital Photography" will be taught Thursdays, from 6:30-9 p.m., March 6-27. The fee is $75. "Intermediate/Advanced Digital Photography" will be offered Tuesdays, from 6:30-9 p.m., April 8-29.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go.
Rakes tell graduates to stay focused, accept responsibility

Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed one last opportunity Saturday to speak to University of Tennessee at Martin graduates before they joined more than 35,000 alumni worldwide. The chancellor offered a brief commencement address and conveyed University of Tennessee Pres. John Petersen's congratulations to the graduates, their families and friends.

Commencement speaker, Dr. Robert A. Levy, University of Tennessee vice president for academic affairs and student success, was unable to attend because of poor travel conditions.

Rakes drew his comments from a book by Dr. Lee J. Colan, “7 Moments that Define Excellent Leaders.” He told the graduates to stay focused, listen more than talk and remember that they are responsible for the decisions they make.

“How we spend our time defines how we live our lives,” he said of being focused. “We tend to become what we focus on.” He added, “Listening, when done well, is very, very important.

Studies have found that top performers spend at least 50 percent of their interactive time with others listening.” Finally, he related an American Indian story that compared good and evil to two wolves and added, “The winner is the one you feed.”

Graduates represented 48

See Graduation, Page 4

SHADDEN AMONG UT MARTIN GRADUATES — University of Tennessee at Martin graduate, Richard Carl Shadden Jr., of Martin, is congratulated by his father, Richard Shadden, UT Martin professor of agricultural engineering, following commencement Saturday. Shadden received a bachelor of arts. Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes addressed graduates, presided over the commencement exercises and conferred degrees to graduates.

Graduation
From Page 1

Tennessee counties and 13 other states, including Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Ohio and Texas. Graduates also hailed from Japan, Jordan, South Korea, Turkey and Vietnam.

After conferring degrees, Rakes directed his final comments to the newest group of UT Martin alumni.

“Maintain your contact with your alma mater, give us your advice and support and, finally, be supportive of higher education as you move forward. Post-secondary education has become an essential element for a successful future. Invest in others by sending us other good students like you. With an average family income level below $32,000 in Tennessee, a college education is now essential.” He added, “Graduates, we are proud of you. Now it is your time to make great things happen.”
Trooper with local links pulled teenager from fiery auto crash

Wednesday, December 19, 2007
The state's only third-generation Tennessee Highway Patrol trooper is credited with pulling a teenager from a fiery wreck seconds before it exploded.

Trooper Michael Marvin is the son of THP officer John Marvin and grandson of retired trooper Grady Marvin of Lake County.

According to THP reports, Michael Marvin saved the life of a 13-year-old boy who was trapped in a burning SUV on I-24 near Murfreesboro on Sunday, Dec. 9. The accident occurred at 2:20 a.m., when a Ford Explorer driven by another 13-year-old lost control and swerved into the path of a vehicle driven by Earl James Draine, 43, of Shelbyville. Draine died in the accident.

The teenage driver was able to get out of Explorer after it wrecked and caught fire, but another teen with him was trapped inside the blazing vehicle, according to Tennessee Highway Patrol Sgt. James Gunn.

"Trooper Michael Marvin arrived at the scene of the wreck almost immediately and pulled the teen out of the vehicle. "Trooper Marvin did a good job getting that boy out of the vehicle," Gunn said, noting Marvin was THP's CrimeStoppers Officer of the Year. "He never fails to go beyond the call when it's needed of him."

Michael Marvin joined the force in July 2002 with a degree in criminal justice from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2000.
Northwest Tennessee Photography Club Forms

MARTIN, Tenn. - Dr. Tom Gallien of the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education recently organized the Northwest Tennessee Photography Club. The core membership will be graduates of the UT Martin courses, and they will officially kick off with a first monthly meeting in January. Although they are an autonomous organization, they have partnered with the Jackson Photography Club to exchange programs and resources.

"This is an exciting result of the ECCE’s courses, and I am proud of all the excitement it has produced in the multi-county area," said Gallien.

Gallien will also instruct two courses in the spring. The first is a basic course for Photoshop Elements. It is slated from 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Feb. 5-26. The fee for the course is $85. "Introduction to Digital Photography" will be taught Thursdays, from 6:30-9 p.m., March 5-27. The fee is $75. "Intermediate/Advanced Digital Photography" will be offered Tuesdays, from 6:30-9 p.m., April 8-29.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinenocourses.php and select Education To Go.

Donations to Santa’s Village top past record

Food and toy donations at the recent 23rd annual Santa’s Village event at Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin set a record with a value of $60,685. Attendance at the three-day event was 12,837, the fourth largest in Santa’s Village history.

Co-sponsored by the Martin Department of Parks and Recreation, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin, the event featured 26,000 square feet of lights, holiday displays and continuous entertainment. Admission was the donation of $5 of food items or toys.

Exceeding the $60,000 donations mark for the first time, allowed the total value for 23 years to top $750,000. Overall attendance this year has exceeded 200,000.

Santa’s Village gets off to a good start each year with food provided by Weakley County schools, via the WCMT can caravan. WCMT and Santa’s Village visitors donated a total of 33,662 food items this year, an increase of 3,000 over last year.

"On behalf of the City of Martin Parks and Recreation Department, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and the University of Tennessee at Martin, we extend our deepest appreciation for the outpouring support beginning with all the volunteers who help to make Santa’s Village possible to the visitors who continue to open their hearts to help those who are in need," said Dennis Suiter, Martin Parks and Recreation Department director.

UTM student earns GC Retired Teachers scholarship

Three years ago, the Gibson County Retired Teachers Association established a scholarship to be awarded to a Gibson County resident who has committed to receiving a Tennessee Teachers Certificate, is attending an accredited post-secondary institution, and has completed their sophomore year.

Rebecca Taylor, daughter of Frank and Cindy Taylor of 615 S. College St., Trenton, is this year's recipient of the $500 scholarship. She is currently a junior at UTM. After receiving her bachelor's degree, she plans to continue her studies to earn a master's degree and teach in the Gibson County area.

Making the presentation, Thursday was Vickie Sorrells, president of GCRTA and Ronnie Parks, Scholarship Committee chairman.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT - Rebecca Taylor, (center) a 2005 graduate of Peabody High School who is attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, is the recipient of the Gibson County Retired Teachers Association Scholarship. Presenting her with a $500 check is GCRTA President Vickie Sorrells, and Ronnie Parks, Scholarship Committee chairman.

The scholarship is awarded to encourage and support persons in pursuit of a career in teaching. It may be given to any GCRTA member or sent to: Ronnie Parks, 62 Hughes Loop, Milan, TN 38358 or William S. Flowers, 872 Harrison Road, Martin, TN 38237.
UTM graduates represent 13 states at recent commencement

Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed one last opportunity Saturday to speak to University of Tennessee at Martin graduates before they joined more than 35,000 alumni worldwide. The chancellor offered a brief commencement address and conveyed University of Tennessee President John Petersen’s congratulations to the graduates, their families and friends.

Commencement speaker, Dr. Robert A. Levy, University of Tennessee vice president for academic affairs and student success, was unable to attend because of poor travel conditions.

Rakes drew his comments from a book by Dr. Lee J. Colan, “7 Moments that Define Excellent Leaders.” He told the graduates to stay focused, listen more than talk and remember that they are responsible for the decisions they make.

“How we spend our time defines how we live our lives,” he said of being focused. “We tend to become what we focus on.” He added, “Listening, when done well, is very, very important. Studies have found that top performers spend at least 50 percent of their interactive time with others listening.” Finally, he related an American Indian story that compared good and evil to two wolves and added, “The winner is the one you feed.”

Graduates represented 48 Tennessee counties and 13 other states, including Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Ohio and Texas. Graduates also hailed from Japan, Jordan, South Korea, Turkey and Vietnam.

After conferring degrees, Rakes directed his final comments to the newest group of UT Martin alumni. “Maintain your contact with your alma mater, give us your advice and support and, finally, be supportive of higher education as you move forward. Post-secondary education has become an essential element for a successful future. Invest in others by sending us other good students like you. With an average family income level below $32,000 in Tennessee, a college education is now essential.” He added, “Graduates, we are proud of you. Now it is your time to make great things happen.”
Prospective small business owners offered UTM course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2Go to offer a new online course, “Start Your Own Small Business.”

Owning a successful small business is one of the fastest ways to build personal wealth. In fact, all of the top 25 people on the Forbes list of richest Americans amassed their fortunes through the starting of a business.

The challenge is that to succeed, new entrepreneurs need to know proven, time-tested techniques that enable them to start and run their businesses efficiently. And proven techniques are just what students will learn in the new, credit-free online course.

Author of the course, Kris Solie-Johnson, is the chancellor and president of the American Institute of Small Business. She’s also a best-selling author, educator, speaker and an entrepreneur.

“Success leaves clues,” said Solie-Johnson. “What people often don’t realize is that there are some basics to running a successful business-proven methods that have rarely been taught, until now.”

The course includes a classroom that is open day and night. Students can interact with the instructor and their fellow students in Web-based discussion areas, where they can ask as many course-related questions as they’d like. A response is usually promised within one business day and often arrives much sooner. Students can take “Start Your Own Small Business” from the convenience of home or office and at any time of the day or night.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ece/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go.

Partnership continues with Jackson State, UT-Martin

University of Tennessee at Martin and Jackson State Community College continued recent partnership efforts with the relocation of the UT Martin Jackson Center to the JSCC campus.

Beginning in January 2008, the UT Martin Jackson Center administrative offices and classrooms, previously located at the Tennessee Technology Center in Jackson, will be housed in the McWherter Center building at JSCC.

“We are proud to again partner with Jackson State Community College,” said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. “This joint effort is a specific example of UT uniting with a partner institution to provide access and quality upper division programs in the Jackson area.”

“We are excited that UT Martin is coming to our campus,” added Dr. Bruce Blanding, JSCC president. “This will give students in Jackson and surrounding counties the opportunity to complete a wide range of educational degrees from associate’s to master’s all right here in the same location. This joint use of facilities ensures that we are using our resources wisely while at the same time providing increased opportunities for our students.”

Classes offered at the UT Martin Jackson Center include master of science in education (counseling), bachelor of science in management, registered nurse to bachelor of science in nursing and ROTC classes. Additional courses/programs may be offered as needed. As part of the agreement, UT Martin will not offer any credit or non-credit courses on the JSCC campus that substantially duplicate JSCC offerings. However, UT Martin will continue to explore possibilities of expanding upper division course offerings and degree program offerings.

“The UT Martin and JSCC leadership, staff and faculty are to be commended for their continued commitment to educating our citizens and supporting partnerships such as this that will enhance both access to education and economic development throughout West Tennessee and beyond,” said Bill Duffy, Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education executive director.

The announcement follows an agreement in August 2006, when the two schools partnered to provide courses for an associate degree in agriculture at Jackson State.

For more information about UT Martin Jackson Center classes beginning in January, call 731-425-9277 or 1-888-UTM-GRAD, toll free.
Santa’s Village sets $60,685 record in donations

Food and toy donations at the recent 23rd annual Santa’s Village event at Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin set a record with a value of $60,685. Attendance at the three-day event was 12,837, fourth largest in Santa’s Village history.

Co-sponsored by the Martin Department of Parks and Recreation, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and UT Martin, the event featured 26,000 square feet of lights, holiday displays and continuous entertainment. Admission was the donation of $5 of food items or toys.

Exceeding the $60,000 donations mark for the first time, allowed the total value for 23 years to top $750,000. Overall attendance now has exceeded 200,000.

Santa’s Village gets off to a good start each year with food provided by Weakley County schools, via the WCMT Can-Caravan. WCMT and Santa’s Village visitors donated a total of 33,662 food items this year, an increase of 3,000 over last year.

“On behalf of the City of Martin Parks and Recreation Department, the C.E. Weldon Public Library and the University of Tennessee at Martin, we extend our deepest appreciation for the outpouring support beginning with all the volunteers who help to make Santa’s Village possible to the visitors who continue to open their hearts to help those who are in need,” said Martin Parks and Recreation Department Director Dennis Suiter.

Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa’s Village this year include: Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council, Obion County American Red Cross, We Care Ministries, Santa’s Helpers and Chimes for Charity.

Steve Lemond, left, University of Tennessee at Martin Information Technology Services IT analyst III; UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes and Charley Deal, assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations, sort cans that were donated at the recent Santa’s Village.

Bennett takes Order of the Engineer Oath

UT Martin’s Gallien organizes photo club

Dr. Tom Gallien of the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education recently organized the Northwest Tennessee Photography Club.

The core membership will be graduates of the UT Martin courses and they will officially kick off with a first monthly meeting in January. Although they are an autonomous organization, they have partnered with the Jackson Photography Club to exchange programs and resources.

“This is an exciting result of the ECCE’s courses and I am proud of all the excitement it has produced in the multi-county area,” Gallien said.

Gallien will also instruct two courses in the spring. The first is a basic course for Photoshop Elements. It is slated for 6:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays from Feb. 5-26. The fee for the course is $85.

“Introduction to Digital Photography” will be taught Thursdays from 6:30-9 p.m. from March 6-27. The fee is $75.

“Intermediate/Advanced Digital Photography” will be offered Tuesdays from 6:30-9 p.m. from April 8-29.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go.

University of Tennessee at Martin engineering graduates were inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to fall commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Among those taking the oath and receiving a ring and certificate was Michael Bennett of Gleason. Making the presentation was Dr. Doug Sterrett, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean, left.
REED Center in Martin receives $49,927 grant for business expansion

Rural Development State Director Mary Ruth Tackett and University of Tennessee Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes announced last week that a Rural Development investment of $49,927 for the expansion of business-education resources at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center has been awarded. The announcement took place at the REED Center in Martin.

"Education is at the heart of economic development and small-business development, which is why UT Martin and the REED Center are so important to the economic vitality of this Region," said Tackett. "Thanks to the support of our congressional delegation Rural Development has the financial resources necessary to help expand educational opportunities for the entrepreneurs who will be creating good new jobs."

The Rural Development Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) of $49,927 will be used to expand the REED Center’s service area and increase the number and range-of-expertise of small business consultants working with the Center. New expertise will be added in the fields of eCommerce, business software, market research, and basic financial literacy. Based on past performance, Center staff expects these additional resources to ultimately assist small businesses create 100 new jobs in northwest Tennessee and southwest Kentucky.

"This is an important investment as we continue building on the economic development and job growth of northwest Tennessee. The partnerships between our community, business owners and UT-Martin help the business leaders of today and tomorrow learn to utilize the tools that are necessary to succeed," Rep. Tanner said in a statement.

Rural Development rural business enterprise grants provide assistance to public or not-for-profit organizations to support economic development projects that assist small businesses, expand local business infrastructure, provide job training, conduct feasibility studies or provide technical assistance to businesses and community leaders.

Others participating in the events included Sen. Lamar Alexander’s field representative Matt Varino, Sen. Bob Corker’s field representative Jane Jolley, Rep. John Tanner’s field representative Brad Thompson, Weakley County Mayor Houston Patrick, Martin Mayor Randy Brundige, REED Center Coordinator Hollie Holt, RD Area Director Bobby Goode and Area Specialist Van Wylie.

Gleason High School participates in Annual Science Bowl

Gleason High School participated in the recent 28th annual High School Science Bowl hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Samuel C. Tolley made the highest overall and chemistry scores for the school. 108 students from 11 schools participated and took the written test. Pictured are, from left, row one, Samuel Tolley, Stephanie Black, Malorie James, Hunter Trevathan, Brandy Lassiter, Katie Snider and Dr. S.K. Airee (UT Martin Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society sponsor); row two, Kayla Poiniexeter (SAACS) and Dr. Nancy Hinds (UT Martin SAACS sponsor); row three, Luke Sprague (SAACS), Betty Jackson (Teacher), Trevor Torre, Candice Flowers, Jeremy Riddle, Gus Godwin and Colton Eaton.
Imperial Cities travel study set for spring semester

University of Tennessee at Martin students and the public will have the opportunity to travel this spring to see the imperial cities of the great dynastic families of Europe, the Habsburgs, who ruled the Austro-Hungarian Empire from 1279-1918. The trip is planned from May 11-25.

Participants will travel to the imperial cities of Budapest, Prague and Vienna to see the grandeur of their reign. Budapest was originally two separate cities, Buda and Pest, separated by the River Danube. In Buda, students will visit the Habsburg Royal Palace on Castle Hill and walk across the famous Chain Bridge to Pest and see Heroes Square, St. Stephen’s Basilica and the Great Synagogue.

In Prague, the cultural center of Europe for more than 1000 years, participants will visit the Prague Castle, St. Vitus Cathedral, the oldest synagogue in Europe, walk across the Charles Bridge and admire the wealth of historic architecture of different styles.

Finally in Vienna, students will visit The Hofburg, the Habsburg winter residence; Schönbrunn, the sprawling summer palace with its magnificent gardens; several museums, including the Museum of Fine Arts, which is worth a visit just to see the marble interior décor; the music of Mozart and sample Wiener Schnitzel and Apfelstrudel.

The estimated travel cost is $3,550 per person. This includes airfare from Memphis to Budapest and from Vienna back to Memphis, double occupancy hotels with a daily breakfast buffet, a first-class rail pass from Budapest to Prague and Prague to Vienna, admissions to all scheduled activities as well as transfers between the airports and hotels.

For complete information contact either Dr. Phil Young, UT-Martin professor of finance, at 731-881-7228 or pyoung@utm.edu, or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at 731-881-7470 or ssieber@utm.edu.

Seventh Youth Leadership Summit urges participants to take ‘The Next Step’

For three days, February 21-23, youth involved in leadership programs throughout the state will converge on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin for the seventh annual Tennessee Youth Leadership Summit. The event, “The Next Step,” sponsored by the UT Martin Student Government Association, will help participants hone their leadership skills.

The Tennessee Youth Leadership Summit is an intensive leadership development conference, designed for college-bound high school juniors and seniors who are leaders within their student organizations. The conference features interactive workshops, keynote addresses, social activities, banquet and a number of networking opportunities.

This year’s conference keynote speaker will be Kelly Barnes. Barnes is a professional speaker, leadership coach and an associate speaker for YourNextSpeaker, LLC. His material draws from his numerous leadership roles and life experiences. Born and raised on his family farm in rural Oklahoma, Barnes has traveled across many states sharing his message of leadership.

Conference fee is $50, not including accommodations. The fee covers meals, campus entertainment, materials and a t-shirt. On-campus accommodations on campus are limited, so participants requesting to stay on campus should make arrangements via the Web site as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to accommodate as many participants as possible in campus housing.

Visit the conference Web site, www.utm.edu/youthleadershipsummit, for more information, including conference registration and housing information. The conference registration deadline is Feb. 18.

Check-in for the summit is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m., on February 21, in Boling University Center, just outside of Watkins Auditorium. The summit will officially begin at 5:30 p.m., and will conclude just before lunch on February 23. All activities will be chaperoned by a UT Martin staff member or student leader.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at 731-881-7710.

---

ECCE offers ‘Start your own business’

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education has partnered with online course provider Ed2Go to offer a new online course, “Start Your Own Small Business.”

Owning a successful small business is one of the fastest ways to build personal wealth. In fact, all of the top 25 people on the Forbes list of richest Americans amassed their fortunes through the starting of a business.

The challenge is that to succeed, new entrepreneurs need to know proven, time-tested techniques that enable them to start and run their businesses efficiently. And proven techniques are just what students will learn in the new, credit-free online course.

Author of the course, Kris Solie-Johnson, is the chancellor and president of the American Institute of Small Business. She’s also a best-selling author, educator, speaker and an entrepreneur.

“Success leaves clues,” said Solie-Johnson. “What people often don’t realize is that there are some basics to running a successful business—proven methods that have rarely been taught, until now.”

The course includes a class-room that is open day and night. Students can interact with the instructor and their fellow students in Web-based discussion areas, where they can ask as many course-related questions as they’d like. A response is usually promised within one business day and often arrives much sooner. Students can take “Start Your Own Small Business” from the convenience of home or office and at any time of the day or night.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinesources.php and select Education To Go.
New Northwest TN Photography Club forms

Dr. Tom Gallien of the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education recently organized the Northwest Tennessee Photography Club.

The core membership will be graduates of the UT Martin courses, and they will officially kick off with a first monthly meeting in January. Although they are an autonomous organization, they have partnered with the Jackson Photography Club to exchange programs and resources.

"This is an exciting result of the ECCE's courses, and I am proud of all the excitement it has produced in the multi-county area," said Gallien.

Gallien will also instruct two courses in the spring. The first is a basic course for Photoshop Elements. It is slated from 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, February 5-26. The fee for the course is $85. "Introduction to Digital Photography" will be taught Thursdays, from 6:30-9 p.m., March 6-27. The fee is $75. "Intermediate Advanced Digital Photography" will be offered Tuesdays, from 6:30-9 p.m., April 8-29.

To register for a workshop, visit the online instruction center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/onlinecourses.php and select Education To Go.

UTM sets enrollment records

The University of Tennessee at Martin set four all-time enrollment records, based on final fall 2007 enrollment figures.

A total of 7,173 students are enrolled for the fall semester, an increase from 6,893 recorded for fall 2006.

The fall 2007 total includes all-time record fall enrollments for undergraduates, dual- credit/concurrent students, total full-time equivalent and undergraduate full-time equivalent students. Public higher education funding is based on fall semester full-time equivalency.

"We're pleased to experience another significant increase in student enrollment, which I believe is one indicator of the perceived value of a UT Martin education," said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor.

"Our faculty and staff work together to offer high-quality educational programs within an accessible, supportive learning environment."

Based on final figures, this fall's enrollment at UT Martin is a 4.1 percent increase over fall 2006. Final figures are compiled by the university's Office of Institutional Research and Planning.

The record enrollment also reflects 1,277 freshmen, the second-largest freshman class on the UT Martin campus. Fall enrollment indicates that first-time freshmen have an average 3.37 high school grade-point-average, up from 3.34 in 2006, and an average ACT score of 22.07, up from 21.82 in 2006.

Compared to last year's totals, UT Martin will have 280 more undergraduates and graduates for a 4.1 percent increase, and 118 additional dual-credit/concurrent students, a 19.2 percent increase.

Youth Leadership Summit encourages 'the next step'

For three days, Feb. 21-23, youth involved in leadership programs throughout the state will converge on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin for the seventh annual Tennessee Youth Leadership Summit.

The event, "The Next Step," sponsored by the UT Martin Student Government Association, will help participants hone their leadership skills.

The Tennessee Youth Leadership Summit is an intensive leadership development conference, designed for college-bound high school juniors and seniors who are leaders within their student organizations. The conference features interactive workshops, keynote addresses, social activities, banquets and a number of networking opportunities.

This year's conference keynote speaker will be Kelly Barnes, a professional speaker, leadership coach and an associate speaker for YourNextSpeaker, LLC.

His material draws from his numerous leadership roles and life experiences. Born and raised on his family farm in rural Oklahoma, Barnes has traveled across many states sharing his message of leadership.

The conference fee is $50, not including accommodations. The fee covers meals, campus entertainment, materials and a T-shirt. On-campus accommodations are limited, so participants requesting to stay on campus should make arrangements via the Web site as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to accommodate as many participants as possible in campus housing.

Visit the conference Web site — www.utm.edu/youthleaderships/summit — for more information, including conference registration and housing information. The conference registration deadline is Feb. 18.

Check-in for the summit is scheduled to begin at 3 p.m. Feb. 21 in Boling University Center, just outside of Watkins Auditorium. The summit will officially begin at 5:30 p.m. and will conclude just before lunch Feb. 23. All activities will be chaperoned by a UT Martin staff member or student leader.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at (731) 881-7710.
Former resident receives national award

Oklahoma State University’s Steve Damron has been named a 2007 recipient of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Sciences Excellence in College and University Teaching Award.

Now in its 16th year, the award program celebrates the critical role educators perform in shaping the agriculture industry, especially in regards to training future leaders who will eventually be charged with providing sustainable natural resources, a safe and abundant food supply, viable communities and other services.

Damron is a professor of animal science in OSU’s Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, which includes the college and two statewide agencies: the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station system and the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service.

Ed Miller, associate dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, said Damron possesses more than an extensive understanding of curriculum, advising, teaching and scholarship; he cares, and deeply.

"An educator can be great in every technical aspect, but if he or she doesn’t truly care about students then the individual won’t be a great teacher," Miller said. "Steve is a great teacher, and has reached and sustained that level of excellence for many years."

Since joining the OSU faculty in 1988, Damron has developed and taught courses ranging from an introduction to animal science and agricultural animals of the world to agro-ecosystems being the basis of life, principals of nutrition, pet and companion animal management, livestock feeding and canine handling and training, including distance education classes that serve several hundred students from across the country and around the world.

As an educational author, his book “Introduction to Animal Science: Global, Biological, Social and Industry Perspectives” is one of the most widely used animal science texts in the world. The book is now in its 4th edition.

He advises approximately 100 undergraduate students each year and has served as faculty adviser to Agricultural Student Council, University Crew Club, Alpha Gamma Rho, Collegiate Farm Bureau, Collegiate Dressage Team and Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences during his time at OSU.

A longtime coordinator of the OSU department of Animal Science’s scholarship program, Damron currently serves as department teaching coordinator, diversity coordinator, assessment coordinator, co-director of the Animal Science Research Scholars and as a member of OSU’s Assessment Council.

During his career, he has received 16 teaching and advising awards from OSU, the University of Hawaii, the University of Wisconsin at River Falls, the National Academic Advising Association, the Alpha Zeta and Gamma Sigma Delta honor fraternities and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture organization.

Damron earned his doctoral degree in animal nutrition and master’s degrees in animal nutrition-management from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1982 and 1978, respectively. He earned his bachelor’s degree in animal science from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1975.

Damron is a former Martin resident and a member of the first graduating class of Westview High School. He is the son of Angie Damron, brother to Dawne Damron Belote, and nephew of Bill and Martha High, all of Martin.

---

Residents earn degrees

Several Obion County and Fulton residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement held in Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Hornbeck — Samuel Ruth, Melissa S. Johnson and Anita S. Darnall;
- Kenton — Kimberly Nicole Moore, Kelia Paige Paschall and Becky Jo Griggs;
- South Fulton — Emily Lynne Clark, Michael Dean Crockett, Teresa Gayle Tibbs, Benjamin Hunter Taylor and Chase Lawrence Elliot;
- Troy — Ashleigh Carole Short, Laura Beth Griffin and Kelley Kenneth Baker;
- Union City — Justin David Stokes, Jennifer Lachelle Durham, Kelli Renee Raines, Lisa Kaye Beavers, Concha Venida Cochran, Rebecca Rose Gray, Jorge Luis Leal, Travis Paul Vanhooser, Melissa Sinclair Blackwell, Jack Lynn French, Robert Ryan Hepler, Theresa Marie Robbins and Lindsey Reid Matheny;
- Fulton — Tara Lee Rudolph and John Patrick Pate.

Among the students receiving graduate degrees were:
- South Fulton — James Kirk Paitis;
- Union City — Kristy Nicole Dowden, Jennifer J. Godwin, David Dodd Houston and Stephanie Gray Robinson.

YOUNG WRITERS’ WORKSHOP

For third- through eighth-graders, 9 a.m. Feb. 2 and April 12 at UT Martin. Cost: $30 per session, which includes a writing notebook and pen. To register for a workshop, call (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

www.utrm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.

---

Get Out! • Dec. 20, 2007
Chancellor tells graduates to stay focused and listen

Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed one last opportunity Saturday to speak to University of Tennessee at Martin graduates before they joined more than 35,000 alumni worldwide.

The chancellor offered a brief commencement address and conveyed University of Tennessee President John Petersen's congratulations to the graduates, their families and friends.

Commencement speaker Dr. Robert A. Levy, University of Tennessee vice president for academic affairs and student success, was unable to attend because of poor travel conditions.

Rakes drew his comments from a book by Dr. Lee J. Colan, "7 Moments that Define Excellent Leaders." He told the graduates to stay focused, listen more than talk and remember that they are responsible for the decisions they make.

"How we spend our time defines how we live our lives," he said of being focused. "We tend to become what we focus on."

"Listening, when done well, is very, very important. Studies have found that top performers spend at least 50 percent of their interactive time with others listening," he said.

"Finally, he related an American Indian story that compared good and evil to two wolves and added, "The winner is the one you feed."

Graduates represented 48 Tennessee counties and 13 other states, including Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, New York, Ohio and Texas. Graduates also hailed from Japan, Jordan, South Korea, Turkey and Vietnam.

After conferring degrees, Rakes directed his final comments to the newest group of UT Martin alumni.

"Maintain your contact with your alma mater, give us your advice and support and, finally, be supportive of higher education as you move forward," he said. "Post-secondary education has become an essential element for a successful future. Invest in others by sending us other good students like you. With an average family income level below $32,000 in Tennessee, a college education is now essential.

"Graduates, we are proud of you. Now it is your time to make great things happen," he added.

CAROLING, CAROLING — The Boys & Girls Club of Northwest Tennessee choir, under the direction of Danielle Alston (far right) recently performed at Paul Meek Library at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Students involved included (left) Essence Huff, Jacy Kinsey, Jacylyn Winters, Nick Crumble, Damontae Long, Qua Macklin, Peyton Mosley, Kajazmin King, Aaliyah Daniels and Mykeya Brown. Not pictured is Brandi Eaton. The choir performs at several different venues throughout the year and the busiest time of the year for the choir is the Christmas season. They also sing at churches, office parties, Christmas celebrations, schools and also carol door-to-door.

Business consultant available in January

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in January at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin.

He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 10.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping.

Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at (731) 587-REED (7333).

The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St. in Martin.

For more information about additional services offered by the REED Center, visit www.utm.edu/reed.
ECCE offering Microsoft class

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer Beginning Microsoft Access in January.

"Beginning Microsoft Access" is slated from 9 a.m.-noon Jan. 22 and 24.

The instructor will be Shannon Burgin, UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer, and the fee will be $150.

Participants will learn to design and create a database and capabilities of relational databases. They will also learn how to design and set up tables and relationships, edit data, sort and filter, create quick forms for data entry and create quick reports that can be customized.

Space is limited and advance registration is required. To register, contact ECCE at 1-800-482-5199 or (731) 881-7082.

Local Residents Receive Degrees from UT Martin

MARTIN - Several Carroll County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement held in Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- TREZEVANT: Brandi Shanta Barnes, Lacey Joe Hall

BRUCE: Tiffany Carol Ellis
HUNTINGDON: Tiffany Diane McCaslin, Amanda L. Powell, Jeremy Thomas Stines
WESPORT: Heather D. Ellis
Among students receiving graduate degrees were:
- MCKENZIE: John Brent Bradberry, Julie Ann Shell

ATWOOD: Jordan Michael Nielsen

Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and conferred degrees.

SUPPORTING REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE — Dr. Richard Cheesten, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of political science, whose teaching career has spanned 45 years, recently was honored, with a retirement dinner highlighted by the launch of the Richard Cheesten Endowment for Government Internships. The Cheesten Endowment will focus on subsidizing governmental internships for students in multiple disciplines, with the goal of increasing internship opportunities in Washington, D.C. The endowment will be supported by contributions from corporations, alumni and the university community. Pictured at the dinner are (from left) Dr. Cheesten, UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, Laura Ray, of Jackson; Eli Jones, of Bells; Walker Ferrell, of Ripley; Dr. John Overby, Department of Management, Marketing and Political Science chair, and Josh Rainey, of Huntingdon. Each of the students plans an internship in Washington, D.C., during 2008.
LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS FROM UT MARTIN — Daryl Adams, of Olive Branch, Miss., and Lacie Glover, of Martin, accept Paul and Martha Meek Awards presented at the recent commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Steve Vantrease, right, interim vice chancellor for student affairs, presented the awards, which are the only awards presented during commencement. The Meek Award is a cash award given to graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding qualities of leadership while at UT Martin. The award is made possible by the children of Paul and Martha Meek. Both recipients distinguished themselves as leaders in the ways they have served their student colleagues, the university and the community. Adams has served as a residence hall resident assistant for three years and was named RA of the Year. He has assisted international students in adapting and adjusting to life in the United States, and because of his developing expertise in finance, helped students manage their finances. He received the William H. Baker Leadership Award from the College of Business and Public Affairs, is involved in campus events, activities and diverse organizations. Glover, who was employed in the Office of Employment Information Services and also Sodexo Catering Services, has assisted her peers in seeking employment while in school and has been active in campus events, activities and organizations. She attained supervisory positions because of her work ethic and leadership qualities.

Bennett Takes Order of the Engineer Oath — University of Tennessee at Martin engineering graduates were inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to fall commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Among those taking the oath and receiving a ring and certificate was Michael Bennett of Gleason.

Locals Get Degrees from UT Martin
Several Gibson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement held in Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
Humboldt—Julia Elizabeth McKnight, Benjamin Andrew Baughman, Patrick Wayne Bunch, Zachary Kirk Luckey, Hunter Wayne Hamilton, Natasha Ann Thomas;

Trenton—Anna Claire Barker, Jennifer Renae Kirk, James E. Ferguson III, Samuel Earl Purdum;

Milan—Pamela Webb Moore, Weston W. Gentry, Coy Lee Hazelwood, Stephanie Lynn Riddle, Brandon Earl Thompson, Rachel Love Hazelwood, Jenny Lynn Dodson, Matthew J. Elsroad;

Yorkville—Christopher Michael Lowsdale;

Gibson—Ashley Michelle Lynn;


Among students receiving graduate degrees were:
Milan—Lindy Marie Johnson, Kelly Ann Carson;

Bradford—Sabra Lynn Anglin;

Dyer—Jessie May Wilson, Kevin Harold Turner;

Medina—Heather Michelle Whitt.

Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and conferred degrees.
UTM Names Local Students to Fall Semester Dean's List

MARTIN - The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2007 Dean's Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for dean's list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based onscale. Students can make the dean's list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.

ATWOOD: Breanna P. Banks, Highest Honors; Jennifer Gibson, High Honors; James R. Halford, Highest Honors; Rachael L. Slott, Honors; Ashley D. Townsend, Honors.

BRUCETON: Bethany L. Allen, Highest Honors; Tiffany C. Ellis, High Honors; Anna E. Frederick, Highest Honors; Matthew W. Roberts, High Honors; Samantha N. Stepp, High Honors.

CEDAR GROVE: Andrew L. Coffman, Honors; Isaac M. Stricklin, High Honors.

HOLLOW ROCK: Patrick A. Bishop, Highest Honors; Amanda E. Clark, Highest Honors; Whitney K. Owens, Honors.

HUNTINGDON: Diana L. Aldayturriaga, Honors; Dana M. Anderson, High Honors; Hillari E. Baker, Highest Honors; Kyle A. Bond, Honors; Timothy E. Bond, Highest Honors; Laura A. Bunn, Honors; Jessica L. Carlton, High Honors; David E. Chambless, Highest Honors; Clay A. Cunningham, Honors; Casey E. Dempsey, Honors; Phillip Dill, Honors; Jill S. Foster, Honors; David T. Hampton, Highest Honors; Hannah R. Hawkins, High Honors; Justin B. Johns, Highest Honors; Derek R. Kelley, Honors; Karen M. Massey, Highest Honors; Tiffany D. McCaslin, Highest Honors; Lauren F. Murdough, Highest Honors; Mark D. Newsome, Honors; Lesley A. Nolte, Highest Honors; Johnathan A. Parish, High Honors; Amanda L. Powell, Highest Honors; Jamie M. Pritchard, High Honors; Cody C. Rainey, High Honors; Joshua L. Rainey, High Honors; April C. Riley, High Honors; Matthew H. Spellings, High Honors; William C. Spellings, Highest Honors; Britney N. Sutton, Highest Honors; Corren M. Tippett, Highest Honors; Jacob R. Todd, High Honors.

LAVINIA: Daniel R. Istvanko, Highest Honors.

MCKENZIE: Anthony M. Anderson, Highest Honors; Julie C. Bennett, Highest Honors; Mallory B. Brandon, Highest Honors; Rachel L. Chandler, High Honors; Laken B. Comer, High Honors; Michael D. Deaton, Honors; Samantha G. Doster, Highest Honors; Brigitte N. Eubank, Highest Honors; John C. French, High Honors; Alan J. Greve, High Honors; Elaine C. Haw, Highest Honors; Matthew R. Hinton, High Honors; David K. Hochreiter, Honors; John C. Johnson, High Honors; Jackie R. Jones, Highest Honors; Christy R. Lowe, Honors; Samuel H. McDaniel, Highest Honors; Christopher P. Macdonald, Highest Honors; Oe Melton, Honors; Sherry L. Moore, Highest Honors; Almea Nolte, Honors; Kent A. Ozment, Highest Honors; Carol R. Perritt, Honors; Lauren E. Perritt, Highest Honors; Lisa R. Powell, Highest Honors; Douglas C. Rich, Honors; Brooke A. Ridley, High Honors; Amanda L. Rogers, Honors; Harold L. Russell, High Honors; Kelsey C. Schweitzer, High Honors; Judy Walsh, Highest Honors; Kristy Wiser, Honors.

TREZEVANT: Brandi S. Barnes, Highest Honors; Mary N. Wadley, High Honors; Ashley N. Wilson, High Honors.

WESTPORT: Heather D. Ellis, Honors.

YUMA: Kerri B. Foster, Highest Honors; Seth K. McDaniel, High Honors; Sharon - Joshua William McDaniel.

Among students receiving graduate degrees were:
• Martin - Jennifer Rene Futrell, Jennifer Lynn McClure, Kathy Aileen Thewatt, J. Andrew Zimmerman;
• Dresden - Andrew Hunter Holt.

Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and conferred degrees.
Blanding is Tennessee Counselor Educator of the Year

Dr. Linda Blanding, left, assistant professor in the UT-Martin Department of Educational Studies, receives the Tennessee Counselor Educator of the Year for 2007 at the Tennessee School Counseling Association annual conference from Sharon Fiddler, past president of the Martha Pope Chapter of the Tennessee Counseling Association.

Dr. Linda Blanding, UT-Martin assistant professor in the Department of Educational Studies, recently was selected as the Tennessee Counselor Educator of the Year for 2007 at the Tennessee School Counseling Association annual conference. Blanding was chosen to receive this honor as the result of her extensive contributions and service to the organization and the profession in furthering counselor education while serving as TSCA vice president for post-secondary.

Presenting the award were Christie Maupin, president, Paulette Crews, past president of TSCA and Sharon Fiddler, past president of the Martha Pope Chapter of the Tennessee Counseling Association, who expressed their appreciation for Blanding’s contributions to the association and her leadership in counselor education throughout Tennessee.

“I feel honored and humbled to be this year’s award recipient,” said Blanding. “It has been my pleasure to teach graduate counseling students at UT Martin and to work with so many fine colleagues throughout the state of Tennessee. I am delighted to be recognized by my professional peers.”

Blanding teaches graduate education and counseling courses at UT Martin. She is also president of the Tennessee Coalition for Public Policy for the Alzheimer’s Association and served as president of the board of directors of the Mid South Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association for 2005-2007. She earned her bachelor’s degree at Michigan State University, a master’s degree in community counseling at the University of Tennessee Chattanooga and a doctorate in family studies at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Blanding is also a national certified counselor by the National Board for Certified Counseling. She is married to Dr. Bruce Blanding, Jackson State Community College president, and is the mother of three grown children. She has two grandsons.

Cheesteen Endowment for Government Internships launched at retirement dinner

Dr. Richard Chester

Dr. Richard Chester, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of political science, whose teaching career has spanned 45 years, will be honored, December 15, with a retirement dinner highlighted by the launch of the Richard Chester Endowment for Government Internships. The evening will begin with a reception for current students, alumni and community residents at 6 p.m., in the lobby of Duncan Ballroom at Boling University Center on campus. The dinner will follow at 7:00 p.m. and include comments from some of Tennessee’s current and former leaders.

Cheesteen has dedicated his life to public service and the education of college students about the workings of the American government and political systems. In his lectures, he often refers to real-life experiences from his previous political and government careers. He stresses the importance of students earning on-the-job experience and taking advantage of the internship programs available to them.
The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2007 Dean’s List for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for dean’s list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Students can make the dean’s list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Students achieving recognition for the fall semester dean’s list in Weakley County include:


**Palmerston** - Ashley J. Donoho, Christy D. Fincher, Mancel C. Fincher

**Sharon** - Daniel W. Bartley, Amber N. Carson, Rachel E. Cooper, Barbara P. Ferrell, Amy L. Hall, Erika C. Clatts, Joshua W. McDaniel, Kristie L. Newsom, Jared L. Noyelle, Jacob D. Waterfield, Kristen B. White, Krystal A. Wood
Pinion honored by state library system

77th District Rep. Phillip Pinion recently was honored for his commitment, along with other state legislators, to the state library system and the Tennessee Electronic Library. The Tennessee General Assembly appropriated $1 million in recurring funding for TEL. Matched with federal funds and contributions from TENN-SHARE member libraries, TEL resources will double in 2008. Susan Rogers Blakely, second from right, Reelfoot Regional Library System director, representing the state regional library system presented Pinion with a plaque that read, "TENN-SHARE and the Tennessee Electronic Library Community present this award in appreciation of your support for the Tennessee Electronic Library." Others at the presentation at the University of Tennessee at Martin Paul Meek Library included, from left, Georgia Baskett, head of the Paul Meek Library Catalog Department, representing academic libraries; Cheryl Ross, Lake Road Elementary School librarian, Obion County School System, representing school library media centers; and Roberta Peacock, C.E. Weldon Library director, representing public libraries. The Tennessee Electronic Library is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and available to Tennesseans at home, school, workplace and in their local libraries. Full-text databases contain authoritative information that is used by children in grades K-12, by college and university students, by business people, and by citizens developing new career skills or seeking healthcare information. A recent study commissioned by the Urban Libraries Institute documented the many ways that library services support economic development through early literacy and school readiness, through building employment information and technology skills of an area workforce and through support for companies striving to succeed in an increasingly competitive small business sector.

Business consultant at REED Center, January 10

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in January at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., January 10.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED(7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, TN 38237.

For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.
UTM’s Jackson Center relocated to Jackson

University of Tennessee at Martin and Jackson State Community College continued recent partnership efforts with the relocation of the UT Martin Jackson Center to the JSCC campus.

A press conference was recently held at JSCC to announce the cooperative agreement.

Beginning in January, the UT Martin Jackson Center administrative offices and classrooms, previously located at the Tennessee Technology Center in Jackson, will be housed in the McWherter Center building at JSCC.

“We are proud to again partner with Jackson State Community College,” said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. “This joint effort is a specific example of UT uniting with a partner institution to provide access and quality upper division programs in the Jackson area.”

“We are excited that UT Martin is coming to our campus,” added Dr. Bruce Blanding, JSCC president. “This will give students in Jackson and surrounding counties the opportunity to complete a wide range of educational degrees from associate’s to master’s all right here in the same location. This joint use of facilities ensures that we are using our resources wisely while at the same time providing increased opportunities for our students.”

Classes offered at the UT Martin Jackson Center include master of science in education (counseling), bachelor of science in management, registered nurse to bachelor of science in nursing and ROTC classes.

Additional courses/programs may be offered as needed. As part of the agreement, UT Martin will not offer any credit or non-credit courses on the JSCC campus that substantially duplicate JSCC offerings.

However, UT Martin will continue to explore possibilities of expanding upper division course offerings and degree program offerings.

“The UT Martin and JSCC leadership, staff and faculty are to be commended for their continued commitment to educating our citizens and supporting partnerships such as this that will enhance both access to education and economic development throughout West Tennessee and beyond,” said Bill Duffy, Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education executive director.

The announcement follows an agreement in August 2006, when the two schools partnered to provide courses for an associate degree in agriculture at Jackson State.

The arrangement provided a full range of agriculture courses leading to the associate degree which transfers seamlessly to UT Martin for the completion of a bachelor’s degree.

For more information about UT Martin Jackson Center classes beginning in January, call (731) 425-9277 or toll-free 1-888-UTM-GRAD.

Tennessee makes some weird news in 2007

The new chief of police at the University of Tennessee-Martin found out quickly that his folks are on the job.

Scott Robbins reported for his first day of work Jan. 1. When he went to his car at the end of the day, a traffic citation was on the windshield. Robbins hadn’t yet registered his personal car with the university and it had no parking sticker.

ECCE offers Beginning Microsoft Access

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer Beginning Microsoft Access in January.

“Beginning Microsoft Access” is slated from 9:00 a.m. noon, January 22 and 24. The instructor is Shannon Burgin, UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer, and the fee is $150. Participants will learn to design and create a database and capabilities of relational databases. Participants also will learn how to design and set up tables and relationships, edit data, sort and filter, create quick forms for data entry and create quick reports that can be customized.

Space is limited and advanced registration is required. To register, contact ECCE at 800-482-5199 or 731-881-7082.
UT Martin announces fall dean’s list, graduates

Fifty-two Henry Countians are included on the fall 2007 semester dean’s list and three students graduated during the fall commencement at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Receiving an undergraduate degree was Emily Evans Ross of Paris, John Dallas Lankford and Linda Lee French, both of Paris, received graduate degrees during the commencement at the Elam Center on the UTM campus.

To be listed on the dean's list, students must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses not included) and achieve a grade-point average of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale.

Those listed with highest honors earned a GPA from 3.8-4.0; with high honors, 3.5-3.79; and with honors, 3.2-3.49.

Listed with highest honors are:
From Buchanan — Kayla R. Parsons and Jade N. Stearnes.
From Como — Gabrielle J. Lorbiczki.
From Henry — Summer D. Gladwin and Michelle L. Roberts.

With highest honors are:
From Buchanan — Richard I. Ellison and William A. Lewis.
From Como — Lydia K. Wofford.
From Cottage Grove — David N. Horton, Cristine L. Manning, Joshua D. Manning and Justin R. Morton.
From Henry — Emma D. Bishop and Jamie L. Page.
From Mansfield — Angela S. Ray.
From Springville — Jonathan B. Routon.

With honors:
From Buchanan — Autumn E. Arnold.
From Henry — Elizabeth A. Snead.
From Puryear — Timothy L. Allen and Ryan L. Hamlin.
From Springville — Katherine K. Hart, Holley M. Mason and Ashley R. Tyndall.

Local students receive degrees from UTM

Several local residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement held in Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UTM campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were Tara Lee Rudolph and John Patrick Pate, both of Fulton.

Several Obion County residents received degrees, as well, including Emily Lynne Clark, Michael Dean Crockett, Teresa Gayle Tibbs, Benjamin Hunter Taylor, James Kirk Paitsel, and Chase Lawrence Elliot, all from South Fulton.

Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and conferred degrees.

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2007 Dean’s Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for a dean’s list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 (B) grade point average based on a 4.0 scale.

Students can make the dean’s list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Those listed on the dean’s list include: Joshua L. Potts, highest honors; Kimberly L. Baits, highest honors; Emily L. Clark, highest honors; Chasity N. Conner, high honors; Kelly R. Crawford, honors; Michael D. Crockett, honors; Ashley N. Curlin, honors; Jaymee D. Dave, highest honors; Kyle D. Greer, high honors; Brooke D. Harris, highest honors; Tianda V. Harris, high honors; Quintin L. Haskins, highest honors; Ami N. Hewlett, honors; Margaret A. Hickman, high honors; Allison T. Jones, highest honors; Cristin S. Maloney, honors; Tammy G. Malray, honors; Melissa A. Manuel, honors; Delana J. McDaniel, highest honors; Jessica L. McKinley, highest honors; Andrew H. Moore, highest honors; Robbie A. Peoples, honors; Nikki L. Pergande, honors; Edward A. Phipps, highest honors; Tara L. Rudolph, honors; and Anna E. Williams, honors.

Local dean’s list students include: Bryan K. Black, Fulton, highest honors; Anna T. Cox, Fulton, honors; Casey A. Croll, Fulton, high honors; Karen C. Dean, Fulton, highest honors; Heather M. Pfleuger, Fulton, high honors; Natalie L. Rushing, Fulton, highest honors; Megan K. Suiter, Water Valley, high honors; Amber M. Boyd, Wingo, high honors; and Sarah E. Dublin, Wingo, highest honors.
Business consultant available in January at REED in Martin

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in January at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Jan. 10.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REED Center is a service of the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REED Center at 731-587-REED(7333). The REED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin, Tenn. 38237.

For additional services offered by the REED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.

SEIBER TAKES OATH: University of Tennessee at Martin engineering graduates were inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to fall commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. Among those taking the oath and receiving a ring and certificate was Chuck Seiber of Trimble. Making the presentation were Dr. Richard Helgeson, Department of Engineering chair, left, and Dr. Doug Sterrett, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.

Get Out! Dec. 27, 2007

YOUNG WRITERS' WORKSHOP
For third- through eighth-graders. 9 a.m., Feb. 2 and April 12 at UT Martin. Cost: $30 per session, which includes a writing notebook and pen. To register for a workshop, call (800) 492-5199 or 881-7052.
Create Web pages with upcoming online courses

"Creating Web Pages I & II" is an upcoming course offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education and partner, Ed2Go.

* "Creating Web Pages I" will allow participants to create and post their own Web site on the Internet in this intensive, hands-on, six-week workshop. Students will learn about the capabilities of the World Wide Web and the fundamentals of Web design. Then, with the instructor's guidance, they will plan the content, structure and layout of the personal Web site, create pages full of formatted text, build links between the pages and to the outside world, and add color, backgrounds, graphics, tables, hot buttons and animation. Participants also learn critical and timely information to secure the best possible location in search engine listings and no-cost or low-cost Web marketing strategies. Requirements include Internet access, e-mail, Internet Explorer, Netscape or Firefox Web browser, familiarity with the Internet and a computer of any type.

* "Creating Web Pages II" will make sure participants are using HTML to its fullest potential. In this practical, project-oriented course, students will discover how to use tables to create fresh, innovative and unconventional arrangements of text, colors and graphics. They will become skilled at incorporating audio into a site and find out how frames can improve site navigation. Also, they will learn how to make a site more interactive through the use of forms and learn how formatting pages with Cascading Style Sheets can save hours of time and effort. Requirements include completion of "Creating Web Pages I" online course (or equivalent HTML experience), Internet access, e-mail, Netscape, Firefox or Internet Explorer Web browser and a computer of any type.

Courses are project-oriented and include lessons, quizzes, hands-on assignments, discussion areas and supplementary links. Courses can be completed from home or office and at any time of the day or night.

The registration fee is $95 per course. A new section of each course starts monthly: Jan. 17, Feb. 21, March 21, April 18 and May 16. If enrolling in a series of two or more courses, be sure to space the start date for each course at least two months apart. Two lessons are released each week for the six-week duration of the course. Participants will have 24-hour access to all the released lessons until the course ends. An interactive discussion area accompanies each lesson and automatically closes two weeks after the lesson is released. To get started, visit the Online Instruction Center at www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/online-courses.php. For more information, call ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

Students receive degrees from UTM

Several Weakley County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement held in Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Gleason - Brandon R. Boone,
  Carrie Christine Joyner;
- Dresden - Lance Steven Legons, Samantha Dawn Rogers,
  Ashley Joy Cantrell;
- Greenfield - Adam Gerald Dowland, Trina Marie Turner;
- Palermville - R. Scott Crittendon Jr.;
- Sharon - Joshua William McDaniel.

Among students receiving graduate degrees were:

- Martin - Jennifer Rene Futrell, Jennifer Lynn McClure, Kathy Aileen Thweatt, J. Andrew Zimmerman;
- Dresden - Andrew Hunter Holt.

Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and conferred degrees.

Several international students were among those who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent fall commencement held in Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Amman, Jordan - Samer Alyassh;
- Osaka, Japan - Norihisa Nagai;
- Seoul, Korea - Haney Lee, Youn Kyung Cho, O-Chul Kim, Chul Woong Kim;
- The student receiving a graduate degree was:
  - Turkey - Soner Alatsas.

Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and conferred degrees.
**Business consultant to be at center**

Ron Acree, a consultant of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC), will be available in January at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REEED) Center in Martin. He will offer consulting services to local businesses and prospective entrepreneurs from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Jan. 10.

This is an opportunity for existing business owners to get advice on marketing, customer service or cash flow issues. Budding entrepreneurs may receive advice on developing a business plan, marketing and record keeping. Acree is knowledgeable about state and national resources that are available for businesses.

The UT Martin REEED Center is a service of the Honore and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and the Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Free Enterprise.

The REEED Center also offers consulting by appointment any time, any day. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free. Appointments may be made by contacting the REEED Center at 587-REEED (7333). The REEED Center is located at 406 Lindell St., Martin. For additional services offered by the REEED Center, go to www.utm.edu/reed.

---

**ECCE offers Beginning Microsoft Access**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education will offer Beginning Microsoft Access in January.

"Beginning Microsoft Access" will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, Jan. 22 and 24. The instructor is Shannon Burgin, UT Martin assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer, and the fee is $150. Participants will learn to design and create a database and capabilities of relational databases. Participants will also learn how to design and set up tables and relationships, edit data, sort and filter, create quick forms for data entry and create quick reports that can be customized.

Space is limited and advanced registration is required. To register, contact ECCE at (800) 482-5199 or 881-7082.

---

**UT Martin names local students to dean’s list**

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2007 Dean’s Lists for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Public Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for dean’s list recognition at UT Martin, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass/fail courses are not included) and achieve a 3.2 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale.

Students can make the dean’s list with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.

The students from Marshall County to make the UT Martin Fall 2007 Dean’s Lists are:

- Tyler C. Beaulieu, Chapel Hill, high honors;

---

**Patrick Chase Arnold**

Patrick Chase Arnold is a student at Waverly Central High School. He is the son of Michelle and Shane Arnold. His grandparents are Harris and Margaret Hooper. His school activities included Tiger (9) and FFA (10, 11 & 12). Chase plans on attending UT at Martin to become a Tennessee Wildlife Officer.