Above: Seated from left to right: Chestney Jones, Education major from Henderson; Mariah Higgins, Social Work major from Linden; Ashby Reed, Education major from Camden; Kristina Arnold, Education major from Camden; Back row: Jessica Brownyard, Nursing and Psychology from Parsons; Shelby Bingham, Nursing major from Lexington; Cary Bivens, Education major from Parsons; Cierra Walker, Nursing major from Huntingdon; Ronnie Yeiser, Education major from Hohenwald; and Shelby French, Social Work major from Lexington. This year's cost to attend UTM Parsons for one semester is $4,163. Students that attend UTM Parsons as freshman this year receive a $500 Kickstart Scholarship if they receive the Hope Lottery Scholarship. Students save between $7,000-$9,000 per year by staying close to home.
Innovation competition added to Soybean Festival events

By MADILYN PEAY
Special to The Press

The Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center (NTEC) and the UTM College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences are partnering with the Tennessee Soybean Festival to sponsor inaugural Soybean Innovation Competition. This contest is meant to invite teams of undergraduate and graduate students to develop new products, techniques, and social ideas using soybeans. Teams from nearby universities such as UTM, Murray State, MTSU, and Southeast Missouri State have been invited to compete in the Competition scheduled for September 9th in the UTM University Center. The winning team receives a prize of $750 and the experience of presenting a new business idea. The prize is furnished by the Tennessee Soybean Association.

The contest is an extension of the related Student Innovation Contest that has been going on for the past two years; this one is unique in that all of the ideas must be related to soybeans in order to match the theme of the Soybean Festival. The contest is also related to NextFarm Agricultural Innovation Accelerator, a program through NTEC meant to encourage agricultural innovation by allowing entrepreneurs to collaborate.

"Some of the major motivations for holding the contest are to bring people in to think about entrepreneurship and new ideas. University students are not always sure what to do after graduation, but a lot of new creative ideas tend to come out of a college campus," says Carol Reed, who supervises the event and is Director of the Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center.

The contest encourages students to cooperate and develop those ideas and provides students with an opportunity to pitch the completed project to professional.

"Participants will receive on the spot feedback from business people," says Reed.

Some of the teams are even invited to work with NTEC to develop the team’s new product into a business. NTEC offers a variety of educational programs to support entrepreneurs as they build a new business. Programs include information about marketing, accounting, branding products, and raising start up capital among others. One of the Student Innovation contest participants

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will introduce a “flex roller crimper” that allows farmers to remove cover crops and plant new crops at the same time, without the use of the herbicides typically used to remove cover crops. Someone has also developed a product called VQ, a vegetarian BBQ sauce using soybeans, which will could one day be a staple of a vegetarian restaurant menu.

The Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center is a nonprofit organization meant to support small businesses in the community.

"I enjoy watching and helping people live out their dream to build a business. It is exciting and fun helping all these people wanting to make a difference in the world," says Reed.

Hopefully the next world changing idea will come out of West Tennessee.
Effective advocacy essential for UT

By Joe DiPietro
Special to Viewpoint

More than 60 officials from 35 universities came to Nashville in July for a national conference hosted by the University of Tennessee. All oversee grass-roots political advocacy on behalf of their institutions, all of which are public sector and facing a rapidly changing landscape.

 meaningful, effective advocacy is critical to a public university in enabling speaking with one voice to elected officials and in delivering advocacy messages. UT's advocacy network is built on a strong core of passionate alumni and friends who insisted on more opportunities to advocate for the university in political circles.

Passionate, energetic alumni are a gift. Effective engagement helps achieve good outcomes. That engagement involves a few vital ingredients UT is fortunate to have:

University leadership support, strong government relations team, strong alumni relations, and training and regular communication with advocates.

At UT, we embrace our alumni and friends' energy and passion. Advocacy is addressed in one of our five strategic goals — making it intentional, measurable, and a priority for our entire statewide system. This focus led to creation of our UT Advocacy Network, run out of our government relations office in partnership with our alumni association.

Our government relations team is empowered and encouraged to speak frankly with advocates, which establishes credibility with alumni and friends. If a call to action on key political issues is necessary, our advocates understand it's an urgent matter for the University.

Higher ed doesn't commonly engage supporters so visibly and actively on political issues, but I believe we must. It's necessary to put public higher ed on even footing with special interests or competing government priorities.

While it also risks your university getting caught in a political battle, sometimes, that's where the biggest impact is made. That doesn't mean we race to join the fight on every issue, but on the ones that matter — at the core of who we are or in the best interests of the university — we shouldn't shy away.

I'm proud of how we're engaging advocates at UT, including one of our boldest and most visible efforts: re-evaluating our entire business model.

2014 brought my fourth year as UT president and a comprehensive performance review, the outcome of which included future direction for me in two options: rest on my laurels or invest good will in tackling some significant challenges. UT faces plenty, but one that easily overshadows the rest is finding sustainable, long-term funding.

Midway through 2014, I outlined our broken business model and projected 10-year funding gap of $377 million. To avert that gap, we're maximizing effectiveness, efficiency and excellence, and being more entrepreneurial. To keep tuition increases at 30-year record lows like this year, we must either cut costs or increase revenue outside annual tuition increases. Solving the problem should secure affordability of a public higher education at our campuses.

Beyond change within UT, there has to be culture change involving state support for public higher education. The latter couldn't happen without our advocates. Tough choices and hard decisions will be part of the process, and informed advocates will help us make our case.

As the Public Higher Education Legislative Advocacy Professionals we hosted know: Tennessee's same funding challenges are happening nationwide. Higher education's business model is at a crossroads. There's rapid turnover in elected officials in state governments. Out-of-state interests are growing, along with PACs and super PACs. Lawmakers more frequently dive into matters traditionally left to universities.

As times change, so must we. University presidents must be bold and unabashed in embracing advocacy. Failure to do so puts public higher education at a competitive disadvantage. Fortunately, UT has a clear, strong, positive impact on the lives of Tennesseans, and when the university's best interests call for engaging advocates, we can find them in every political district of the state.

Joe DiPietro is president of the statewide University of Tennessee System.
UTM offers new dual enrollment program

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer eligible high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to take up to two dual enrollment courses at no additional cost in the 2015-16 academic year. Students must qualify for the Dual Enrollment Grant offered through the Tennessee Student Assistance Program.

TSAC provides high school juniors with two $500 Dual Enrollment Grants for the first two courses and one $200 grant for a third course. Tuition for juniors will be $500 for two courses, providing the courses are the first two dual enrollment courses taken during the 2015-2016 school year.

Senior students can receive $300 per course for four courses within the guidelines of the Dual Enrollment Grant. UT Martin tuition for seniors will be $300 for two courses. Tuition above these courses will be charged at the regular dual enrollment rate.

UT Martin offers high-quality dual enrollment courses that prepare students for rigorous college classes. General education courses offered for dual enrollment students include English, mathematics, agriculture, economics, geology, personal finance and information systems. Students can take courses in a traditional classroom setting, online, at the main campus, or at one of the four UT Martin centers located Jackson, Parsons, Selmer and Ripley.

For more information about the UT Martin Dual Enrollment Program, call Jackie Johnson at 731-881-3089 or email dualenrollment@utm.edu.

DUAL ENROLLMENT – UT Martin will offer eligible high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to take up to two dual enrollment courses at no additional cost during the 2015-16 academic year. Students must qualify for the Dual Enrollment Grant offered through the Tennessee Student Assistance Program. For more information about the UT Martin Dual Enrollment Program, call Jackie Johnson at 731-881-3089 or email dualenrollment@utm.edu. Pictured is Tim Hacker, UT Martin English instructor, who teaches dual enrollment English for the university.
At the college level

An Obion County student has been awarded scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Chelsea Deanna Southerland, daughter of Gary and Danah Southerland of Obion, received the Culley Pre-Dental Scholarship and the Chancellor’s Award Year 4. She will be a senior.

UTM students visit Japan to learn innovative skills

Five senior students from the University of Tennessee at Martin traveled to Japan recently as part of an international experience with the Ned Ray McWherter Institute of Collaboration and Innovation.

Summer Bradley, an art education major from Medina; Chase Haynes, a chemistry major from Columbia; Maryanna McClure, an animal science major from Dyersburg; Caroline Parish, a political science major from Huntingdon; and John Sellers, a psychology student from Henderson, participated in the experience.

The McWherter Institute seeks to foster a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurism among UT Martin students and residents of northwest Tennessee. Student “innovators” participate in travel opportunities through the institute to strengthen their ability to adapt to unfamiliar situations and widen their perspective of the global marketplace. This was the group’s first international trip, following a domestic experience in New York City in March.

“The overall purpose of the trip was to put us in situations which were unfamiliar and to teach us to overcome such obstacles. Every situation we were placed in was relatable to some type of business-related problem,” Haynes said.

While on the trip, the students were “expected to gain knowledge about how other countries, such as Japan, participate in business, how they use innovation in their daily lives and how our cultures differ,” Ms. Parish said.

They were able to visit significant tourist sites as well as meet with local business leaders and ambassadors, including Caroline Kennedy, U.S. ambassador to Japan.

The group also participated in a city-wide activity in Tokyo designed by trip leaders Tom Hyde, UT Martin alum and president of Mr. Japanese Bilingual Recruiters, and Ashton Jennings, interim director of the McWherter Institute.

The students were given a list of locations and specific items to find and photograph without the use of electronic resources.

The group also climbed Mt. Fuji and attended a reception for UT Martin alumni living in Japan. Hyde estimates there are close to 2,000 alumni in the country, including those who participated in an international exchange program.

Ten UT Martin students are selected each year to participate in the McWherter Institute, which hopes to incorporate further international travel into the program’s curriculum. For more information or how to apply, contact Jennings at (731) 881-3620.
A large crowd of people came to Watkins Auditorium on the UT-Martin campus Tuesday afternoon, to hear the status of athletics at the university.

Athletic Director Julio Freire addressed those attending on various subjects, which included revenue generation, student fees, athletic facilities and recent coaching changes.

During the nearly one hour presentation, which included audience participation, Freire highlighted in detail how UT-Martin has lagged financially behind other schools within the Ohio Valley Conference.

When presenting a graph of other conference universities, and their total spending on athletic programs, Freire showed where UT-Martin was actually ranked at the bottom of the chart.

The AD told those attending that work is continuing to improve the economy of athletics, and said a big step to financial parity would come with a larger enrollment of students.
to account for enrollment decreases in recent years.

UTM's 2014-15 budget was a bit over $10 million, over half of which comes from a university subsidy. Its budget three years ago was lowest among football-playing OVC schools.

UTM currently spends about $1.9 million on "sports operations," the tasks necessarily to field teams competitively, so it's an area toward which Freire is eager to direct future revenue.

"I promise you that's not enough, not in this conference," Freire said.

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**UT Martin student award renamed in honor of retired faculty member**

AWARD RENAMED — Jenna Wright (right), associate professor and chair, Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages at the University of Tennessee at Martin, retired earlier this summer. Dr. David Carithers (left), associate professor and incoming department chair, presented her with a framed proclamation during a reception held in June. The proclamation officially renames the departmental student literary award in short fiction, now called the Jenna S. Wright Literary Award in the Short Story, to honor Wright's leadership in the department and at the university. Wright has been involved with the English program at UT Martin for 37 years and served as department chair since 2010. She also co-coordinated the Hortense Parrish Writing Center and held many university-wide and UT System-wide leadership roles. "I would like to personally thank Jenna for her leadership in our department," said Carithers. "We will miss her. Her excellent work sets the mark quite high for me." Carithers assumed his new duties as department chair July 1.
State proclamation honors UTM's Oelrich for GRAMMY nomination

GRAMMY QUARTERFINALIST — State Rep. Andy Holt (right) recently visited the University of Tennessee at Martin to recognize Dr. John Oelrich, assistant professor of music, for his status as a quarterfinalist for the 2016 Music Educator Award, given by the GRAMMY Foundation and The Recording Academy. Oelrich is one of 213 music teachers from 42 states to advance to the quarterfinals; finalists will be notified by the end of the year. Holt presented Oelrich with an official proclamation in honor of this achievement.

Benton County student receives scholarship to attend UT Martin

A Benton County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2015-2016 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Brandy Cartmell, Interim Executive Director, Student Engagement.

Devin Love, daughter of Michael and Dena Love, of Camden, will be a sophomore. She received the Elam Transfer Scholarship.
Three UTM teams earn OVC Academic Achievement Awards

UT-Martin has produced three different athletic programs who brought home the OVC Team Academic Achievement Awards.

The Skyhawk rifle, softball and volleyball programs each won the prestigious award, which is presented annually in each Conference-sponsored sport to the member institution’s team with the greatest percentage of its eligible student-athletes who achieved a 3.25 Grade Point Average or higher.

UTM’s three sport winners tied for the second-most in the league with Belmont. Eastern Illinois claimed an OVC-best four awards.

The Skyhawk rifle team boasted a 3.20 team GPA and tallied 14 out of a possible 20 members on the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll this past season.

The UT Martin softball program recorded a 3.58 team GPA and landed 15 out of a possible 19 student-athletes on the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll in 2014-15.

The Skyhawk volleyball team posted a 3.70 team GPA and saw all 13 of its members on the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll this past season.
Several Henry County residents attended the End of Summer Bash at the University of Tennessee at Martin on July 31. High school students were able to tour the campus and participate in an academic fair and student recreation rampage to introduce them to student life at UT Martin. Pictured (from left) are Michael St. Claire, a senior at Henry County High School; Rob Pennington, a sophomore homeschool student; Elijah Bruce, elementary school; Jenny Bruce, mother; Samuel Bruce, elementary school; Donna Pennington, mother; and Stephanie Pennington, a senior homeschool student. Information about UT Martin is available at www.utm.edu or by calling the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020.
Sendoff Planned for Miss Tennessee on Sunday

Hannah Robison, a native of Henry County, will be honored with a send-off party Sunday, August 16, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Buchanan Resort on the Kentucky Lake.

The event is scheduled at the Annabel Room, 785 Buchanan Resort Road, Springville. The public is invited to attend the event and offer well wishes.

Robison is the 21-year-old daughter of Rusty and Pam Robison. Rusty is a Gleason native and the manager of Buchanan Resort. She is the granddaughter of the late Buddy Robison, a pharmacist at Gleason City Drugs, and Bobbye Robison, a long-time associate of the Bank of Gleason. Mr. Robison was a 1953 graduate of McKenzie High School.

Hannah resides at the family-owned Buchanan Resort. She has two older sisters, Leah of Nashville, and Rachel, a recent UT-Martin graduate.

She is related to Tom and Kim Wilson. Kim is a cousin to Hannah’s mom, Pam. Tom and his brother, Andy, operate the family-owned Carroll County Lumber Company in McKenzie.

Robison will advance to the Miss America Pageant, held Sept. 13 in Atlantic City, New Jersey.
UT Martin online MBA Program ranked 11th nationally

By Erin Chesnut
University of Tennessee - Martin

Onlinecourserreport.com has ranked the University of Tennessee at Martin's online Master of Business Administration program 11th nationally on its most recent top-50 list. UT Martin is the highest-ranked program in Tennessee.

Onlinecourserreport.com used three factors to determine each institution's rank. Each school was evaluated for affordability (average cost per course hour), flexibility (program design) and academic prestige (based on other prominent rankings). The University of Memphis was the closest Tennessee university, coming in at number 16.

This recognition follows others earned earlier this year, including a tie for 18th place for best online programs overall and a 16th-place ranking for best online programs for veterans, both from U.S. News & World Report. The program is also ranked 15th in the South, 33rd among public schools and 39th overall by onlinembaireport.com.

"UT Martin's online MBA program is highly regarded and surprisingly affordable," said Dr. Ross Dickens, professor and dean, College of Business and Global Affairs. "It is an excellent combination of quality and value."

The UT Martin program is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB).

For more information, contact the College of Business and Global Affairs at 731-881-7208 or bagrad@utm.edu.
Steam Education Grant

UT Martin receives grant for scholarships

The National Science Foundation has awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin a $586,000 grant to fund scholarships and academic support for students studying in science, technology, engineering and mathematics-based areas. The five-year grant is funded through the Division of Undergraduate Education: Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Program.

"I am excited about the opportunities this grant will create for our students, and I certainly appreciate the work of Dr. (Robbie) Montgomery and her faculty colleagues who prepared this winning proposal," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "These innovative programs will mean better-prepared students graduating with less debt, and I am pleased the NSF evaluators agreed this would be a smart investment in our nation’s future."

The funds will be used to help students lighten the burden of educational loans and outside jobs and allow them to focus on their studies. Incoming freshmen planning to major specifically in chemistry, engineering, geology, computer science and mathematics can apply for the grant scholarships beginning in the spring 2016 semester. The first awards will be distributed the following fall.

"One of our main goals is to increase retention," said Montgomery, associate professor of chemistry and one of five faculty members listed on the grant proposal. "We’re implementing a STEM Academy over the summer — a two-week period where students will get extra help in coursework to fill any gaps in the academic areas. ... We’re trying to create a cohort of students to go through together so they have the support not only of faculty but of other students. We want to make sure they are prepared to be successful in a STEM field."

Students will also have increased opportunities to participate in undergraduate research and field-specific internships.

Interested students must submit two letters of recommendation from high school teachers, one of which is from a STEM area; an essay outlining their interest and career plans in a STEM area; a minimum ACT score of 24 and a minimum high school grade point average of 3.0. Students must also have taken high school biology, chemistry, and algebra I and II; those who have completed calculus are preferred.

Transfer students will also be considered if they have enough college credits to qualify for junior class status.

For more information, contact Montgomery at 731-881-7445 or by email at rmontgomery@utm.edu.

Soybean Talent Show set for September 7

On September 7, 2015 the annual Soybean Talent Show sponsored by WCMT and the Westview High School Key Club begins at 5PM with the 8 and under age Division, and the Junior Division for 9 to 12 age Division. At 7PM the Mid-South Preliminary Division begins for contestants between the ages of 13 and 21 years of age, followed by the 22 and older age category. Entry forms are available either on line at the Soybean Festival website (www.tnsoybeanfestival.org) or from Linda Ramsey, Show Coordinator, at lramsey@utm.edu. The Soybean Talent Show will be located at the Big Stage downtown. If it rains, it will be at the Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin. There will be a Keyboard available. The entry fee is $25 per act, and anyone can enter the solo, group, or variety categories. There will be awards given to the 1st and 2nd place in each division, and in the Mid-South Division there will be an Over-All Winner, a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winner. The Over-all Winner of the Mid-South Division is invited to participate in the Mid-South Fair Talent Show in September. The deadline for entries is September 5, 2015. Please send completed entry forms either via email by scanning the form and attaching it to an email to lramsey@utm.edu or by mailing the form to Linda Ramsey, 986 Adams Road, Martin, TN 38239 by the deadline, September 5, 2015.

All proceeds will benefit leadership training and service projects of the Westview Key Club. For more information or if you have any questions, please email or call Linda Ramsey, 731-225-7729.
Robison getting big sendoff

Friends and family will have an opportunity to say farewell and good luck to Miss Tennessee 2015, Hannah Robison of Henry County, before her trip to the Miss America pageant. There's a sendoff planned for Robison from 2-4 p.m. Sunday at Buchanan Resort on Kentucky Lake.

She's about to leave for Atlantic City, N.J., to begin preparing to compete in next month's Miss America Pageant, which will be televised at 8 p.m. Sept. 13 on ABC.

Robison won her crown June 18 at the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in the Jackson Civic Center.

A contestant in the Miss Tennessee pageant for the past three years, she previously won the swimsuit preliminary award and was placed as second runner-up overall in 2013.

Her platform is "Campaign Against Pain: Arthritis Awareness." Robison hosted a fish fry fundraiser for her arthritis awareness campaign June 23 at the Henry County Fairgrounds.

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Wednesday, August 12, 2015

UT Martin receives grant to fund STEM education

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UT Martin Online MBA program ranked 11th nationally

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For more information, contact the College of Business and Global Affairs at 731-881-7208 or bagrad@utm.edu.

The American Volleyball Coaches Association has announced that the UT Martin volleyball team earned a Team Academic Award for its 3.70 team Grade Point Average in 2014-15.

This announcement comes just two days after the Skyhawk volleyball team was recognized with the 2014-15 Ohio Valley Conference Team Academic Achievement Award for the highest percentage of student-athletes with at least a 3.25 GPA.

All 13 of UT Martin’s volleyball student-athletes achieved the impressive feat last season.

In all, 148 NCAA Division I women’s volleyball teams achieved an AVCA Team Academic Award, which was initiated during the 1992-93 academic year. The award honors collegiate and high school volleyball teams that displayed excellence in the classroom during the school year by maintaining at least a 3.30 cumulative team GPA on a 4.0 scale.

This marks the fifth consecutive season that the Skyhawk volleyball program has been recognized by the AVCA for its academic prowess.

Chelsea Bowles and Lael Ceriani each earned an OVC Medal of Honor for a perfect 4.0 GPA throughout the 2014-15 academic year. Emily Keaton, Colleen Larson, Madison Wessling, Allie Whimpey and Madison Bergren each earned 4.0 GPA’s in the 2015 spring semester.

UT Martin officially opens the 2015 campaign with a two-day, four-match tournament at Georgia Tech on Aug. 28-29. That tournament will mark the Skyhawk debut of head coach Jaclynn Yocum, who took over as the seventh head coach in program history on May 11.
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For more information, contact Montgomery at 731-881-7445 or by email at rmontgomery@utm.edu.

HANDS ON—Dr. Robbie Montgomery, associate professor of chemistry, teaches her students through hands-on learning. A recent grant from the National Science Foundation will allow students at UT Martin to focus on their studies in STEM areas and alleviate the stress of educational loans.
New ROTC Leader for UT-Martin

The U.S. Army has assigned a new leader for the ROTC program at UT-Martin.

Lt. Col. Lowell Howard Jr. will serve as the professor of military science, and will lead the Reserve Corps Training program as commanding officer for the Skyhawk Battalion.

Howard holds a BA in communications from Washington State University, a Master of Science in logistics from Florida Tech and a Master's degree in military art and science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

During his career, Howard has served in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan, and has been awarded numerous medals, including the Bronze Star and the Meritorious Service Medal.

An ROTC unit was first established at UT-Martin in 1952, with a four year program established in 1964.

Applications accepted for Soybean Talent Show in Martin, TN

MARTIN, TN (KFVS) - Do you have a special talent? Show it off at the Soybean Talent Show at the Tennessee Soybean Festival in Martin, Tenn.

The annual Soybean Talent Show sponsored by WCMT and the Westview High School Key Club begins at 5 p.m. on Sept. 7 with the 8 and under age division and the junior division for 9 to 12 age division.

At 7 p.m., the Mid-South Preliminary Division begins for contestants between the ages of thirteen and twenty-one years of age followed by the twenty-two and older age category.

Entry forms are available either online at the Soybean Festival Website or from Linda Ramsey, Show Coordinator, at lramsey@utm.edu.

The Soybean Talent Show will be located at the Big Stage downtown. If it rains, it will be in the Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center at The University of Tennessee at Martin. There will be a keyboard available.

The entry fee is $25 per act, and anyone can enter the solo, group, or variety categories. The deadline for entries is Sept. 5.

Please send completed entry forms either via email or by scanning the form and attaching it to an email to lramsey@utm.edu or by mailing the form to Linda Ramsey, 986 Adams Road, Martin TN 38237 by the deadline, September 5, 2015.

All contestants should check-in an hour before the show begins. All proceeds will benefit leadership training and service projects of the Westview Key Club and the Martin Kiwanis Club.

Battalion.

Howard completed the ROTC program at Washington State University and was commissioned in 1995 as a transportation corps officer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in communication, a Master of Science in logistics management, and a master's degree in military art and science.

Howard has served international assignments in Germany, the Balkans, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq, and held multiple domestic posts, including South Carolina, Texas, Kansas and Virginia. He holds a variety of personal and unit-level awards, including the Bronze Star, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Merito-

http://www.thunderboltradio.com/

UTM on “Best in the Southeast” list by Princeton Review

The Princeton Review has named UT-Martin one of the “Best in the Southeast” among its 2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region list.

The Southeast list includes 140 “regional best” institutions. In total, 649 schools are included in the feature, representing only 25-percent of the nation’s four-year colleges and universities. Institutions receive ratings based on six categories: academics, admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety, quality of life and environmental awareness.

"UT-Martin is an affordable regional school with smaller classes, a significant selection of online courses and a down-home atmosphere," wrote editors at The Princeton Review. The institution’s inclusion in the listing is based on a variety of factors, including student-professor ratios, campus life activities, availability of scholarship funding and the average test scores of the entering freshman class.
Roger Williams named Pride of Obion County

By GLENDA CAUDLE
Special Features Editor

When Roger Williams tackles a job he goes about it with skill, commitment and intelligence. But it's the warm smile on his face and the friendly way he interacts with both friends and strangers that makes him noticeable first.

The 2015 Pride of Obion County grew up here, the son of Hazel (McDaniel) Williams and the late Harold Lloyd Williams. He graduated from Obion County Central High School in 1977 and earned a degree in accounting, with magna cum laude attached, from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In 1982, he obtained the Certified Public Accountant license and started work in the company business, Williams Country Sausage, that his father had built from scratch. By 1992, he had assumed the role of president. The company, under his leadership, has almost tripled the number of employees to more than 550 and has significantly added to the company's bottom line by acquisitions that include two other respected and related companies.

Williams' brother, David, is chief operating officer of the family-centered enterprise that markets 56 million pounds of good eating a year. The 2015 Pride of Obion County is a committed family man.

He married the former Julie Jones in that busy year of 1982 and they "faithfully raised their family of three children — Lesley Williams (Anderson), Emily (Williams) Billingsley and Bret Williams — at Antioch Union Church in the Crystal community. Williams is a lifelong member of the congregation and is a Sunday school teacher and member of the church session.

They now have a delightful year-old granddaughter, Maris Claire Anderson, to add to the family mix.

A few years ago, this year's Pride winner, whose faith undergirds all the commitments that made him an obvious choice for this year's award, found his status as a father, an alumnus of OCCHS and a savvy businessman with an eye on the future local workforce, led him to a major service commitment. He ran for a spot on the county school board and served from 1993 to 2010, using his leadership skills to lead the board as chairman for seven years.

Roger... (/Continued from Page 1)

Several years of that time and presiding over an ongoing series of accomplishments that continue to affect the lives of students and their families.

Other Obion Countians who saw his interest in the county's future and recognized his commitment to preparing its young people to assume positive roles there sought his wise counsel for projects such as Obion County Reading Railroad and Promethean Foundation. He has served on these boards, along with the Commercial Bank Community Bank Board and the advisory council of the 27th Judicial District Recovery/Drug Court, for some time.

Williams has also been chairman of United Way and has helped raise funds for the local Boys & Girls Club as a "Celebrity Waiter.

He has been a 4-H camp counselor and has supported such local efforts as youth sporting teams, Taste of Ken-Tenn CornFest, scholarship funding, Obion County Fair Youth Livestock program, Habitat for Humanity, Helping Hand Ministry, Agape House, Junior Auxiliary of Obion County, Fellowship of Christian Athletes of Northwest Tennessee, Union City J.Cettes and Jaycees, Obion County's adult and youth leadership programs, Obion County Adult Literacy, Obion County Distinguished Speaker program, Chimes for Charity, Obion County Chamber of Commerce and the Union City High School and OCCHS band programs.

Many of the programs and causes Williams has an interest in come to his attention because of his years as a Union City Rotary Club member. In that capacity, he has had ample opportunity to discover his home community's needs and to become familiar with efforts to meet them. His fellow Rotarians have made it clear they value his interest and his skill and commitment in responding to many of those needs by electing him president of the organization and naming him a Paul Harris Fellow — Rotary's highest honor.

As a Rotarian, he has invested countless hours in one of the local group's most important and praiseworthy programs: the securing of funding for and the annual awarding of hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships to local students ready to pursue higher education goals. As chairman of the committee selecting the students who will benefit, Williams has set high standards and had the opportunity to influence young lives not only with the funding he has recommended but also with the example he has set and the encouragement he has provided on a personal level.

Recently, Williams found himself in the forefront of another group of fellow Obion Countians who are bound by a common goal — the curing of cancer. As a grateful cancer survivor, he was able to join many others on that important lap at the annual Hometown Walk of Hope fundraiser in 2014.

Fellow Rotarian and former Pride of Obion County honoree Clay Woods was delighted to learn of his friend's selection for this year's CornFest honor.

"I can attest to his worthiness to be the next Pride of Obion County. I would not have tapped him to succeed me as chairman of the Rotary Scholarship Committee or asked him to join the board of directors of the Promethean Foundation if I had not had the utmost confidence in his ability as a leader. He did not disappoint."

Williams will be honored as the 2015 CornFest Pride of Obion County at the annual luncheon at noon Sept. 16 at Center Point Business Building at 1413 South Home St. in Union City.

Tickets are $15 and must be purchased in advance between Wednesday and Sept. 4 at the Obion County Public Library. Tickets will not be available at the door.

"It is always a delight to be able to show a dedicated Obion Countian how much they mean to their fellow citizens," says a CornFest spokesman. "Roger Williams' selection should fill us all with special pride and we are looking for a full house to show him and his wonderful family what they mean to us."
Skyhawk Battalion has new commander

Lt. Col. Howard to lead ROTC program at UTM

The United States Department of the Army has assigned Lt. Col. Lowell E. Howard Jr. to serve as professor of military science at UT Martin. Howard began his duties July and will lead the UT Martin Reserve Officers Training Corps program as commanding officer for the Skyhawk Battalion.

Howard completed the ROTC program at Washington State University in Pullman, Wash., and was commissioned in 1995 as a transportation corps officer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in communication from Washington State University; a Master of Science in logistics management from Florida Tech University; and a master’s degree in military art and science from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.

Howard has served international assignments in Germany, the Balkans, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Iraq and held multiple domestic posts, including South Carolina, Texas, Kansas and Virginia. He holds a variety of personal and unit-level awards, including the Bronze Star; the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

An ROTC unit was first established at UT Martin in 1952, followed by the start of a four-year ROTC program in 1964. The program has commissioned 671 cadets as second lieutenants in the regular Army, U.S. Army Reserve and Tennessee Army National Guard since its beginnings.

The UT Martin military science program, of which ROTC is a part, includes Bethel University in McKenzie; Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson; and Jackson State Community College, Lane College and Union University in Jackson. A recent agreement also adds Murray State University in Murray, Ky., to the program, strengthening the relationship between these institutions and allowing Skyhawk Battalion to recruit the best and brightest cadets from these areas.

The UT Martin program was recently retained by the U.S. Department of the Army after being notified in 2013 of possible closure during the fall 2015 semester.
Local UTM students receive honors

Four Henry County students attending the University of Tennessee in Martin were listed on the summer semester Chancellor's Honor Roll.

To be eligible, students must take at least 12 hours of credit (pass-fail not included), and achieve a 3.2 (B) or higher grade-point average, based on a 4.0 scale.

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

Cody A. Marshall and Christopher D. Owen, both of Paris, and Margaret E. Fuson of Springville all received highest honors, while Bradley A. Owens of Paris received honors.

Miss America pageant has online voting opportunity

Supporters of Miss Tennessee Hannah Robison are asking Henry Countians — and everyone else — to vote for her now as "America's Choice" for Miss America.

The Miss America Competition, established in 1921, has developed a voting strategy for the public on social media through Facebook and Twitter. Fans can vote once a day for their choice in the pageant, with those votes counting toward "America's Choice."

To vote for Robison, the Henry County woman who is Miss Tennessee, type "Tennessee #MissAmericaVote" once a day on either a Facebook or Twitter account to make the vote count.

Public voting began Aug. 10 and will continue until 11:59 p.m. Sept. 10. Voting for her will give Robison the opportunity to be "America's Choice" for Miss America 2016, and help her reach the semi-finals.
UT GIVES COUNSELORS A LOOK AT PROGRAMS

KATHERINE BURGESS
kburgess@jacksontsun.com

High school guidance counselors took notes and gathered college “swag” at the Jackson Chamber Tuesday morning. Later, they will take those notes back to their students, sharing information about the University of Tennessee campuses.

“Every year, schools make changes, and so we try to get those out as soon as possible so students can start their preparations,” said Carol Ryan, a counselor at University School of Jackson.

The Conference for Counselors is held throughout the state by the University of Tennessee. Employees come from the three UT campuses to present reports on changes at their schools and give general information. This year, the conference also focused on the honors programs.

Ryan said she has attended the conference before. Last year, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville changed the way they provide scholarships — information she learned at the conference, she said.

The conference provided counselors with bags, coffee mugs, flash drives and more with school logos and mascots. Ryan said she will keep this “swag” in a drawer at USJ. The first student who applies to the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga might get a Chattanooga Mocs item, she said, or she may hold a raffle for the coffee mug.

She also plans to email parents, juniors and seniors the information she learns.

Missy Jenkins, administrative coordinator for the vice president of academic affairs and student success at UT, said the information shared makes counselors’ jobs easier when speaking with students interested in UT campuses.

Jason Lyon, associate director of admissions and systems at UTC, spoke about his campus, explaining that a new online application is being worked on. The application will include an inquiry card and the ability to pay an application fee after closing the window.

Admissions counselor Miyoshi Brooks spoke for the University of Tennessee at Martin. She went over details about life on campus — including the costs of housing and meals — and spoke about new and unique majors ranging from dance education to meteorology.

Tom Broadhead, director of undergraduate academic advancement at UTK, spoke about the new SAT, which will come out in March. He said the new test will be more curricular based.

For 2016 applicants who may take both the old and new SATs, UTK will look at the best subscore overall, creating a new composite score.

“You’re not always going to have your best work all on the same day,” Broadhead said. “That’s a high expectation.”

Emily Pierce, a counselor at Big Sandy School, had a legal pad filled with notes halfway through the morning. She said she could name specific students who have benefited from information she learned at the conference in the past. “Our students typically want to stay in state, and they like those UT schools,” she said.

Reach Katherine at (731) 425-9748. Follow her on Twitter: @kathsburgess
Reading clinics set for grades 2-12

The University of Tennessee at Martin Reading Clinic will again offer reading support for students in grades 2-12 on the UT Martin main campus. Students meet twice per week for one hour each day on a pre-determined schedule. Sessions are open from Aug. 31-Sept. 28; Sept. 29-Nov. 4; and Nov. 5-Dec. 7. Experienced reading professionals provide sequential, intensive instruction for students who need extra support and practice in reading. Students will be individually tested to determine specific needs in phonics and reading comprehension before being placed into a course of study to build skills and fill gaps.

Advance registration is required. The course fee is $100 per session (not per meeting), plus an additional $25 to purchase a course workbook.

For more information or to register, call the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082.

The registrant's name will be provided to the program director, who will then schedule a testing appointment.

UTM names military science professor

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The UT Martin military science program, of which ROTC is a part, includes Bethel University in McKenzie; Freed-Hardeman University in Henderson; and Jackson State Community College, Lane College and Union University, all in Jackson. A recent agreement also adds Murray (Ky.) State University to the program, strengthening the relationship between these institutions and allowing Skyhawk Battalion to recruit the best and brightest cadets from these areas.

The UT Martin program was recently retained by the U.S. Department of the Army after being notified in 2013 of possible closure during the fall 2015 semester.

For more information, contact the Department of Military Science and Leadership at (731) 881-7682 or by email at armyrotc@utm.edu.
Korean language
focus of UTM class

Students and community members interested in Korean language and culture are encouraged to attend a course offered on Mondays from Aug. 31 to Dec. 7 on the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

Classes are available for beginning, intermediate and advanced-level students.

The course for beginners will be held from 5:30-6:30 p.m.; intermediate students will meet from 6:30-7:30 p.m.; and advanced students will have class from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

All classes will focus on writing, speaking, listening and reading skills in modern Korean. Students will also learn cultural background and experience cultural traditions. Jisun Collier, UT Martin teaching associate, will instruct the course.

Advanced registration is required and the course fee is $30 per person, which includes a textbook.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/non-degree.php.

UT Martin ranks among the best in the Southeast

The Princeton Review has named the University of Tennessee at Martin one of the “Best in the Southeast” as part of the company’s website feature “2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region,” published online Aug. 5.

"For 13 consecutive years, UT Martin students surveyed by The Princeton Review have placed us among the elite public universities in the Southeast," said Dr. Robert Smith, interim UT Martin chancellor. "Having that testimony from our students about the quality of their education is indeed an honor. As we look to the 2016-17 year, we are promising our students an even better living-learning experience."

The Southeast list includes 140 “regional best” institutions. In total, 649 schools are included in the feature, representing only 25 percent of the nation’s four-year colleges and universities.

Institutions receive ratings based on six categories: academics, admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety, quality of life and environmental awareness.

“UT Martin is an affordable regional school with smaller classes, a significant selection of online courses and a down-home atmosphere,” wrote editors at The Princeton Review. The institution’s inclusion in the listing is based on a variety of factors, including student-professor ratios, campus life activities, availability of scholarship funding and the average test scores of the entering freshman class.

The complete list may be viewed online at http://www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings.
Lawson makes honor roll at UT Martin

http://www.thedailytimes.com/

Lawson makes honor roll at UT Martin

Sarah L. Lawson, of Maryville, has made the chancellor's honor roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin for summer semester. To be eligible, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit and achieve a 3.2 grade point average based on a 4.0 scale.

Students can make the chancellor's honor roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Lawson earned highest honors.

Laquinta Davis makes UTM honor roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2015 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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Laquinta S. Davis of Henning received High Honors.

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.
UT Martin Receives Grant To Fund STEM Education Scholarships

The National Science Foundation has awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin a $586,000 grant to fund scholarships and academic support for students studying in science, technology, engineering and mathematics-based areas. The five-year grant is funded through the Division of Undergraduate Education: Scholarships in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Program.

"I am excited about the opportunities this grant will create for our students, and I certainly appreciate the work of Dr. (Robbie) Montgomery and her faculty colleagues who prepared this winning proposal," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "These innovative programs will mean better-prepared students graduating with less debt, and I am pleased the NSF evaluators agreed this would be a smart investment in our nation's future."

The funds will be used to help students lighten the burden of educational loans and outside jobs and allow them to focus on their studies. Incoming freshmen planning to major specifically in chemistry, engineering, geology, computer science and mathematics can apply for the grant scholarships beginning in the spring 2016 semester. The first awards will be distributed the following fall.

"One of our main goals is to increase retention," said Montgomery, associate professor of chemistry and one of five faculty members listed on the grant proposal. "We're implementing a STEM Academy over the summer - a two-week period where students will get extra help in coursework to fill any gaps in the academic areas. ... We're trying to create a cohort of students to go through together so they have the support not only of faculty but of other students. We want to make sure they are prepared to be successful in a STEM field."

Students will also have increased opportunities to participate in undergraduate research and field-specific internships.

Interested students must submit two letters of recommendation from high school teachers, one of which is from a STEM area; an essay outlining their interest and career plans in a STEM area; a minimum ACT score of 24 and a minimum high school grade point average of 3.0. Students must also have taken high school biology, chemistry, and algebra I and II; those who have completed calculus are preferred.

Transfer students will also be considered if they have enough college credits to qualify for junior class status.

For more information, contact Montgomery at 731-881-7445 or by email at rmontgomery@utm.edu.
MARTIN, Tenn., July 14, 2015 – HELPING STUDENTS – A new scholarship established by UT Martin alum and Obion County native Martha Edinger honors her parents, Carolyn and Kenneth Coleman (center). The scholarship is for agriculture students who come from family farm backgrounds. Jameson Smith (left), senior agriculture business major from Crockett County, and Zac Morgan (right), sophomore agriculture business major from Weakley County, are the first to receive the Kenneth and Carolyn Coleman Scholarship.
Edinger Gives Back
To Benefit Ag Students

MARTIN, Tenn. — Martha Edinger remembers the challenges of working her way through the University of Tennessee at Martin and law school. The retired attorney and Obion County native now helps ease the financial burden of college for agriculture students who come from family farm backgrounds.

Jameson Smith, senior agriculture business major from Crockett County, and Zac Morgan, sophomore agriculture business major from Weakley County, are the first to receive the Kenneth and Carolyn Coleman Scholarship, which is named for Martha's parents.

Kenneth and Carolyn were raised in Tennessee and Missouri respectively and met near Detroit. He wanted to return to Tennessee and farm, and after losing his job in Michigan, the couple bought a farm in Obion County where they lived, worked and raised four children over 57 years. The home place is bordered by this year's corn crop and includes neatly maintained buildings that house an antique tractor collection, advertising memorabilia, antique toys and other museum-worthy treasures gathered over the years.

Martha attended Obion Central High School, graduated in 1984 with a history degree from UT Martin and then earned her law degree in 1987 from the University of Tulsa. Now retired from family law practice, Martha's upbringing and path to success inspired her to help today's UT Martin students. "I got my degree from UTM and promised myself that if I was ever in a position to start a scholarship in my parents' honor, I would do so," she said. She and her husband, Sandy, also started a scholarship in his parents' honor at Stetson University in Florida.

"When I went to school, I worked and paid my way through and took out student loans," she remembered. "I want to help some of these younger people so they don't have to worry so much and that they can enjoy college more by not having to be so worried about money all the time, because I stayed worried about money a lot when I was in school." She laughs now about the financial challenges, but she and her husband are serious about helping students.

Sandy is a retired banker whose father was in the military. The Stetson University scholarship benefits members of the military who want to attend college. "It was really a fulfilling thing for us to do this (set up scholarships) for both schools, so we're pretty happy about it," he said.

Jameson Smith was not raised on a farm but helped a relative farm, which included everything from cutting and hauling hay to tending different row crops. The scholarship comes at an important time for the Crockett County native. "It allows me to continue my education," he said. "Any other student in school, they know the financial load can be hard at times to continue to go through school, just with all the tuition and books and all that, and it just allows me to continue my dream of getting a degree at UT Martin." His career goals include working for a company that allows him to pursue sales or marketing.

Zac Morgan's family owns a farm where they raise a few hogs but mostly grow soybeans, wheat and corn. "Coming from a farm background, I know that some years, especially if you're putting somebody through college, your income isn't necessarily guaranteed, depending on crop prices and whether or not your crop gets damaged in the field, or so many variables going into it," he said. "The fact that somebody wants to give students money who want to pursue a degree ... means a lot to me." Zac is interested in agricultural sales but has also considered becoming an agriculture loan officer at a bank.

Martha and Sandy now split their time living in Nashville and Sarasota, Fla. They also share their generosity with two universities to help students like Jameson and Zac concentrate more on college and spend a little less time worrying about paying for a college education.
UTM grant to fun STEM scholarships

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Local students named to UTM Honor Roll

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Included are:
- Trenton: Logan E. Bates, High Honors, and Bethany L. Cobb, Honors;
- Humboldt: Mallory E. Blake, Honors;
- Medina: Heather L. Morris, High Honors;
- Milan: Lauren N. Hughes, Highest Honors.

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.
Wilson Named Interim Director of UT Martin Somerville Operations

Dr. Adam Wilson, of Arlington, has been named interim director of the University of Tennessee at Martin Somerville operations, effective Aug. 17. Wilson joins the Somerville operation in its second full year of programming, which includes face-to-face courses, distance learning and high school dual enrollment opportunities in the Fayette County area.

"Dr. Wilson has four years of experience teaching and advising UT Martin students and was a UT Martin student himself, so he understands the challenges facing students today," said Dr. Tommy Cates, executive director, UT Martin Extended Campus and Online Studies. "He lives in Arlington and has taught classes through the Somerville operation already, so he is a good fit for the program and the area."

Continued on Page 3A

Wilson Named
Continued from Page 1A

Wilson, a Martin native, received a Bachelor of Science degree in history from UT Martin in 2005 and a Master of Arts and doctoral degree in history from the University of Mississippi in 2007 and 2012, respectively. He specializes in 20th century American history, the Civil War and Reconstruction and African-American history. His first book, "African-American Army Officers of World War I: A Vanguard of Equality in War and Beyond," was published this past June.

Wilson joined the UT Martin faculty in 2011 and has since taught classes at the UT Martin centers in Jackson, Ripley, Parsons and Selmer. He began teaching night classes at the Somerville operation this past spring.

The UT Martin operations in Somerville and Fayette County provide students the opportunity to complete bachelor's degrees in several majors, including criminal justice, education, history, psychology, social work and interdisciplinary studies. The operation also offers non-degree classes for individuals interested in continuing their education without completing full degree requirements. All classes are also available for audit attendance without grade- and Tennessee residents over the age of 60 may audit any course free of charge.

"UT Martin's vision for Somerville is to provide educational opportunities to a wide range of individuals in Southwest Tennessee, from recent high school graduates and individuals seeking to complete degrees started at a community college or other institution, to people interested in expanding their knowledge of a particular subject or achieving a certification," said Cates.
High school juniors and seniors at Fayette-Ware Comprehensive High School, Fayette Academy and Rossville Christian Academy also have new opportunities to participate in dual enrollment courses and earn university credit before high school graduation. These courses challenge students to perform at the university level while providing an early start on a baccalaureate degree. Students register for these courses through UT Martin and receive the same benefits as traditional college students. Students may then choose to continue their education at UT Martin or transfer earned credits to another institution after high school graduation.

"UT Martin currently offers both face-to-face classes and distance-learning courses from its operations in the Career Center on West Court Square," said Cates. "Recently the Methodist Fayette hospital was given to the town of Somerville, and future plans state that the building will be converted into a multipurpose facility and provide UT Martin with a physical presence in Fayette County for years to come."

The UT Martin Somerville operations are currently located at 121 West Court Square. Wilson's office will be housed inside Somerville City Hall until renovations to the Methodist Fayette hospital building are complete. For more information, contact Wilson at 901-465-7313 or by email at awilson9@utm.edu.

UT Martin names local students to summer semester Chancellor's Honor Roll

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- Jessica A. Crowe, Bethel Springs, TN, Highest Honors
- China L. Horton, Michie, TN, High Honors
- Hannah D. Johnson, Selmer, TN, Highest Honors
- Hunter J. Steele, Selmer, TN, Honors
- Elizabeth P. Beene, Starkville, MS, Honors
- China L. Horton, Michie, TN, High Honors
- Hannah D. Johnson, Selmer, TN, Highest Honors
- Hunter J. Steele, Selmer, TN, Honors
- Elizabeth P. Beene, Starkville, MS, Honors

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Students Study DNA

Students of the University of Tennessee at Martin, including Alan Friend, a junior from Memphis; Jessica Hargrove, a junior from Waynesboro; Joe Hudgins, a senior from Sardis; Jason Klutts, a junior from Halls; Christian McAlister, a junior from Greenfield; Dustin Menzies, a senior from Parsons; and Ashley Neumair, a junior from Paris, spend the month of July processing fingerprints, blood spatter patterns, DNA evidence and ballistic data as part of the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program held in Oak Ridge. All the students are criminal justice majors except Klutts, who is an integrated studies major.

The three-week program, established in 2012, is an abbreviated version of the 10-week National Forensic Academy for current law enforcement professionals. Both programs are conducted by the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center. Eighty-five students have participated over the last four years, representing all three University of Tennessee campuses and 18 colleges and universities from 10 other states, as well as Australia.

“The program was developed in response to the increasing demand for higher education to produce graduates with real workforce skills,” said Dr. Brian Donavant, associate professor of criminal justice at UT Martin and instructor of record for the collegiate academy. “Historically, students have often needed to major in chemistry and then work for several years in law enforcement just to get their foot in the door. This program enables us to provide an unparalleled practical experience for our students that will make them more competitive as they seek jobs in this growing area.”

Donavant coordinates the program's academic components, including course design, delivery, assignments and assessment. All students participating in the program must enroll at UT Martin for the summer semester and will earn nine course hours in return for their involvement. “This is the only higher education program endorsed by the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, and all member agencies give hiring preference to our graduates,” Donavant explained. All academy instructors are law enforcement professionals and some of the most renowned experts in their respective fields. According to Donavant, 84 percent of program graduates are employed full-time within their first year.

The 2015 program session concluded with a graduation ceremony July 31 recognizing 18 students for their participation. Nine UT Martin students attended this session, alongside two students each from UT Chattanooga and Tennessee Technological University, and one student each from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Dyersburg State Community College; Eureka College in Illinois; Campbell University in North Carolina; and the University of Western Sydney in Australia.
DONATION

MARK BOWERS, left, owner of Ripley Drugs, presented the weekly donation to Texas Culver, for the UT Martin Ripley Center as part of the “52 Weeks of Giving” program. The UT Martin Ripley Center began offering programs to students primarily from Lauderdale, Dyer, Tipton, Haywood and Crockett Counties in 2005. It offers many degree and non-degree programs, as well as a variety of general education undergraduate courses. Ripley and Lauderdale County communities and local businesses provide more than $50,000 in scholarships to students. “This Center is truly a great asset for us here in Lauderdale County,” said Bowers. For more information about the Center, call 731-221-8778.
FORENSICS ACADEMY — An instructor at the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program (center) demonstrates a processing technique for the 2015 collegiate program class. Nine students from the University of Tennessee at Martin attended this summer’s session. Participating students were Kaylee Cook, a senior from Cornersville; Alan Friend, a junior from Memphis; Jessica Hargrove, a junior from Waynesboro; Joe Hudgins, a senior from Sardis; Jason Klutts, a junior from Halls; Danielle Mansfield, a senior from Arlington; Christian McAlister, a junior from Greenfield; Dustin Menzies, a senior from Parsons; and Ashley Neumair, a junior from Paris. Attendees spent the month of July processing fingerprints, blood spatter patterns, DNA evidence and ballistic data as part of the annual program, held in Oak Ridge.
UT Martin students attend National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program

Nine students from the University of Tennessee at Martin spent the month of July processing fingerprints, blood spatter patterns, DNA evidence and ballistic data as part of the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program held in Oak Ridge.

The three-week program, established in 2012, is an abbreviated version of the 10-week National Forensic Academy for current law enforcement professionals. Both programs are conducted by the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center. Eighty-five students have participated over the last four years, representing all three University of Tennessee campuses and 18 colleges and universities from 10 other states, as well as Australia.

"The program was developed in response to the increasing demand for higher education to produce graduates with real workforce skills," said Dr. Brian Donavant, associate professor of criminal justice at UT Martin and instructor of record for the collegiate academy. "Historically, students have often needed to major in chemistry and then work for several years in law enforcement just to get their foot in the door. This program enables us to provide an unparalleled practical experience for our students that will make them more competitive as they seek jobs in this growing area."

Donavant coordinates the program's academic components, including course design, delivery, assignments and assessment. All students participating in the program must enroll at UT Martin for the summer semester and will earn nine course hours in return for their involvement. "This is the only higher education program endorsed by the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, and all member agencies give hiring preference to our graduates," Donavant explained. All academy instructors are law enforcement professionals and some of the most renowned experts in their respective fields. According to Donavant, 84 percent of program graduates are employed full-time within their first year.

The 2015 program session concluded with a graduation ceremony July 31 recognizing 18 students for their participation. Nine UT Martin students attended this session, alongside two students each from UT Chattanooga and Tennessee Technological University, and one student each from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Dyersburg State Community College; Eureka College in Illinois; Campbell University in North Carolina; and the University of Western Sydney in Australia.

Kaylee Cook, a senior from Cornersville, found a new passion while at the academy, and hopes the experience will set her apart from other job applicants. "My favorite portion was the latent fingerprint labs. ... The instructors we had were great and taught me more than I could have imagined. I loved the hands-on labs; we were actually dusting and lifting prints," she said. "I feel that the experience and information I learned will set me apart from other potential candidates. I learned so much and made so many great connections there to help me with my job hunt."

"I'm a senior this year and wanted to prove to myself that I can do all the things that this course offered," said Danielle Mansfield, a senior from Arlington. Mansfield benefitted most from the opportunity to attend an autopsy at the Knoxville Regional Forensic Center, where she learned how to approach the gritty details of forensic work with an objective viewpoint. "This experience tested my ability to separate myself from the situation. You have to be able to take yourself out of a situation emotionally in order to examine the details with an open, unbiased mind," she explained.

"This program sets me apart from the thousands of criminal justice majors out there. It provides the students the hands-on experience that agencies are looking for during the interview process," Mansfield said. "Instead of coming out of college without any real experience, this program allows us to get our hands dirty and to use some of the equipment and techniques that we will utilize in the field."

Mansfield plans to pursue a career in blood spatter or fingerprint analysis and ultimately work for the FBI. Cook hopes to experience a little of everything by working her way through basic patrol, K-9 and SWAT units, eventually becoming a special investigator for the TBI.

Other UT Martin students participating this year were Alan Friend, a junior from Memphis; Jessica Hargrove, a junior from Waynesboro; Joe Hudgins, a senior from Sardis; Jason Klutts, a junior from Halls; Christian McAlister, a junior from Greenfield; Dustin Menzie, a senior from Parsons; and Ashley Neumair, a junior from Paris. All the students are criminal justice majors except Klutts, who is an integrated studies major.
Prenatal and newborn services offered through Child and Family Grant

By YOULANDA ALLEN
Special to the Press

The first months and years of a child’s development are crucial to his/her health and happiness. Keeping this in mind, Tennessee has several programs to ensure that the children here can have a healthy start.

“There are three programs right here in Martin, and the service is volunteer and free of charge,” said Sharon Waterfield, director of Child and Family Grant Program. “We have the Healthy Start, Healthy Beginnings, and Infant Stimulation Program available to serve families right here in Weakley County as well as other surrounding counties in the state of Tennessee.”

Healthy Start serves first time parents and moms under the age of 21 with multiple children. This program provides once-a-week home visits to provide support for prenatal mothers or mothers with babies three months or younger. Counselors from the program assist expecting mothers with issues such as: proper prenatal care, getting to doctor’s visits, and providing necessities that baby may need before its arrival. If the parents are not able to afford these necessities, then the program will help provide them at no cost. They also teach the parents about proper bedding, stuffed animals, the correct way to lay a baby down for bed, and measures that can be taken to prevent Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Once a child is born, the counselor makes sure that the baby has a doctor, gets immunizations, and gets check-ups until three years of age. After three years of age, they help transition the children into daycare or pre-school programs.

Funded by the Tennessee Department of Health, Healthy Start also provides assessments and screenings for mom’s health, depression, home environment, and safety after the baby is born.

Another grant offered through the grant program, Healthy Beginnings was instituted in 2012 and is very similar to the Healthy Start program. Also funded by the department of health, the program offers home visits up to six months for once a week after baby is born. After six months, the visits go down to twice a month. Counties serviced by this program are: Lake, Lauderdale, and Dyer. This program along with Healthy Start, use a curriculum called growing great kids. This curriculum goes over early childhood product demonstrations by using what families have in the home to help develop early motor skills and other developmental functions.

The third program funded under the grant program is the Infant Stimulation Program. This program, funded by the department of education, offers home visits to children from infants up to three years old with special needs, such as diagnostic conditions and developmental delays. Three months before the child turns three years of age, developmental therapist begins to transition the children into the school system. This program serves families in Weakley, Lake, Obion, Carroll, Benton, and Henry County.

In 2014, the Infant Stimulation Program became a first time recipient of the Lion’s Club Telethon and will receive funding from the telethon in November of 2015, also.

If you or anyone that you know is interested in receiving assistance through the Child and Family grant program, you may contact Sharon Waterfield at: 731-881-7915.
UT MARTIN NAMES ALLEN TO SUMMER SEMESTER CHANCELLOR'S HONOR ROLL
Fri, 08/21/2015 - 14:19 Bolivar

Judy B. Allen, Bolivar, High Honors was named to UT Martin's summer Chancellor's Honor Roll. The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2015 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for Chancellor's Honor Roll 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 Chancellor's Honor Roll 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.
Local Students Attend UTM

UT MARTIN FALL CLASSES BEGIN - MARTIN (August 24) - Alexis Reynolds, of Bruce toen, and Daniel Calderon, of McKenzie, pause on campus during the first day of fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Reynolds is a freshman planning to major in veterinary science and Calderon is a freshman planning to study business management. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving August 21 to participate in the university's First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.
UTM faculty member co-authored book

Timothy T. (Ty) Perry, a UT-Martin faculty member in the College of Business and Global Affairs, has co-authored a children's book, "What Do Kids Need to Know About Finance?" Illustrations for the book were created by Nathan Dunnavant, a senior special education major at UTM who is currently student teaching and will graduate in December, 2015. The paperback book is available on Amazon.com.

This book provides a concise and informative introduction to finance for children. It focuses on relevant and timely topics such as: spending money, needs and wants, saving money, banks, interest, checks and debit cards, credit cards, investing, money problems, and financial health.

A glossary with 30 well-selected entries extends and enhances the book's content.

Dr. Perry has worked in the field of finance—first as a student, then as a faculty member at universities in North Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Mississippi, and Minnesota. Currently, he is an assistant professor of finance in the College of Business and Global Affairs at the UTM.


Dr. Leslie Anne Perry, a former elementary teacher, is a professor emerita in the Clemmer College of Education at East Tennessee State University, where she taught children's literature and language arts classes for twenty years. She is the author or co-author of four traditionally published print books, nine self-published e-books, two tests, and sixty-eight articles in fifty-eight different journals and magazines.

Nathan Dunnavant is a native of Pulaski. Interested in art since childhood, he is a 2015 honors graduate of the University of Tennessee Martin where he took art classes and also prepared for a career as a teacher of special needs children. "What Do Kids Need to Know About Finance?" is his first children's book.

He took numerous art classes at UTM and had this to say about incorporating art in his future classroom, "Art is crucial in education, especially Special Education. I plan to have my students use art in some way during each lesson. By incorporating art in the classroom we are able to enhance our students' imaginations and creativity while heightening their interest in other subjects. I think it is something we desperately need more of in the classroom."
UT Martin Included On List, "Best In The Southeast"

The Princeton Review has named the University of Tennessee at Martin one of the "Best in the Southeast" as part of the company's website feature "2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region," published online Aug. 5.

"For 13 consecutive years, UT Martin students surveyed by The Princeton Review have placed us among the elite public universities in the Southeast," said Dr. Robert Smith, interim UT Martin chancellor.

"Having that testimony from our students about the quality of their education is indeed an honor. As we look to the 2016-17 year, we are promising our students an even better living-learning experience."

The Southeast list includes 140 "regional best" institutions. In total, 649 schools are included in the feature, representing only 25 percent of the nation's four-year colleges and universities. Institutions receive ratings based on six categories: academics, admissions selectivity, financial aid, fire safety, quality of life and environmental awareness.

"UT Martin is an affordable regional school with smaller classes, a significant selection of online courses and a down-home atmosphere," wrote editors at The Princeton Review. "The institution's inclusion in the listing is based on a variety of factors, including student-professor ratios, campus life activities, availability of scholarship funding and the average test scores of the entering freshman class.

Clinical Medical Assistant Certification Training Now Available At UT Martin

A clinical medical assistant training program is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin. The 140-hour course will be held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 12-Feb. 27. The enrollment fee is $2,599 per person and includes all laboratory supplies and textbooks.

Students will be instructed in patient preparation, routine laboratory procedures and diagnostic testing. Participants will also cover the cardiac life cycle, technical aspects of phlebotomy and pharmacology, the proper use and administration of medications, documentation of vital signs, the legal aspects of health care, and workplace behavior and ethics.

The program includes 140 hours of classroom lecture and hands-on laboratory experience, as well as a clinical externship opportunity with a local health-care provider. Students must successfully complete the program and submit a background check and drug screening to qualify for clinical rotations.

Students who complete this program will be eligible to sit for the National Healthcareer Association certified clinical medical assistant national examination.

UT Martin Reed Center Offers Small Business Boot Camp

A four-week small business boot camp for aspiring entrepreneurs and new small business owners will be offered from 6-8 p.m., Tuesdays in September, at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center. Course participation is $25 per person. There will be no class Sept. 8.

Participants will be introduced to a variety of topics, including how to write a business plan, business financing, how to pitch an idea to a lender and small business marketing strategies. Class members will also have the opportunity to speak with current small business owners about their personal experiences and receive legal and accounting information from licensed professionals.

"The small business boot camp was a very informative and enjoyable four-week experience," said Paula Boucher, camp attendee. "It has given me even more motivation to begin my adventure into owning my own business."

Registration is available on a first-come, first-served basis up until the first session. For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin REED Center at 731-587-7333 or register online at www.tsbdc.org/training.

The UT Martin REED Center is located at 406 South Lindell Street in Martin. The small business boot camp is co-sponsored by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center.
Class begins at UT Martin

After enjoying summer break, University of Tennessee at Martin students returned to their classes this week. These two individuals give one another a high-five to show their support for the Skyhawks sports team, which is gearing up for another exciting season on the gridiron.

All about credit card chips

Brandy Mitchell (right) of the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at UT Martin answers a question from Polly Gallamore (not seen) following Tuesday’s seminar on credit card chips. About two dozen people attended.
The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the summer 2015 chancellor’s honor rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

To be eligible for chancellor’s honor roll 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 chancellor’s honor roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

- Mallory E. Blake, Humboldt, Tenn., honors
- Heather L. Morris, Medina, Tenn., high honors

Local students achieve UTM honor roll status

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2015 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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Those locally included on the Chancellor’s Honor Roll included, Lindsey C. Breeden, of Rives, Tenn., High Honors; Summer D. Frields, of South Fulton, Highest Honors; Angela N. Mathina, of Union City, Tenn., Honors; Alyxandra B. Nunnelee, of Union City, Tenn., High Honors; and Whitney D. Smith, of Union City, Tenn., High Honors.

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

College life

WELCOME BACK — Karen Elmore (right), senior library assistant for special collections at the University of Tennessee at Martin, high-fives a student outside the Paul Meek Library on Monday. Ms. Elmore and others from the library staff greeted students and faculty as they began the first day of the fall semester. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving last week to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday at UT Martin. Several students from Obion County are enrolled.

CLASSES BEGIN — Day and evening classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin began Monday. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students — including a number from neighboring Obion County — began arriving Friday to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment.
ARRIVING — Megan Jones (left) of Memphis and Casey Callins of Kenton pause on campus Monday during the first day of fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Ms. Jones is a junior studying biology and Ms. Callins is a freshman planning to major in nursing. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving Friday to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.

ON CAMPUS — Lindy Hood of Obion pauses on campus during the first day of fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin Monday. She is a freshman planning to major in engineering. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving Friday to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.
LISTENING & LEARNING — Connor Rinker, a sophomore accounting major from Union City, attends an art history class with professor Diane Shaw during the first day of classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin Monday. A number of students from Obion County began classes this week at UT Martin.

GETTING INVOLVED — Holly Seng (center), a junior communications and business marketing student from Union City, talks with fellow members of the Public Relations Student Society of America during the Student Activities Council and City of Martin Student Organization Fair at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Monday. She was joined by (from left) Kathy Pfefferman, a junior from Nashville; Toshia Leonard, a senior from Jonesboro, Ark.; and Chelsea Monroe, a senior from Culleoka and PRSSA president.
FALL FRIENDS — University of Tennessee at Martin students (from left) Hannah Houck, a sophomore from Gibson, and Alexandra Dalton and Hilary Whitten, freshmen from South Fulton, pause on campus Monday during the first day of fall classes at UT Martin. A freshman class of more than 1,000 participate in the Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.

SUPPORT AREA GIRL — Local residents can support Miss Tennessee Hannah Robison of Henry County by helping her become “America’s Choice” for Miss America and reaching the semi-finals in the competition. The Miss America organization is offering the public a way to support their favorite beauty queens on social media through Facebook and Twitter. To help select the University of Tennessee at Martin student, fans can vote once a day for their choice in the pageant, with those votes counting toward “America’s Choice.” To vote for Miss Robison, type “Tennessee #MissAmericaVote” once a day on either a Facebook or Twitter account to make the vote count. Public voting continues through 11:59 p.m. Sept. 10.

Clinic medical assistant training available

A clinical medical assistant training program is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin. The 140-hour course will be held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturdays from Sept. 12 through Feb. 27, 2016.

The enrollment fee is $2,599 per person and includes all laboratory supplies and textbooks. Students will be instructed in patient preparation, routine laboratory procedures and diagnostic testing. Participants will also cover the cardiac life cycle, technical aspects of phlebotomy and pharmacology, the proper use and administration of medications, documentation of vital signs, the legal aspects of health care and workplace behavior and ethics.

The program includes 140 hours of classroom lecture and hands-on laboratory experience, as well as a clinical externship opportunity with a local healthcare provider. Students must successfully complete the program and submit a background check and drug screening to qualify for clinical rotations.

Students who complete the program will be eligible to sit for the National Healthcareer Association certified clinical medical assistant national exam. There will be no classes Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Dec. 26, Jan. 2 and Jan. 16, 2016.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/eco/non-degree.php.
Phlebotomy course tech offered at UT Martin

A 90-hour training course is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin for those interested in becoming phlebotomy technicians. The course will meet from 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays from Sept. 9 through Dec. 14 on the main UT Martin campus. There will be no class on Oct. 25.

The course costs $1,799 per person, which includes all textbooks and supplies. This course is designed to prepare professionals to collect blood specimen for laboratory analysis. Students will become familiar with all aspects of blood collection and develop the skills to perform venipunctures safely. Classroom and lab work includes specimen practice, terminology, anatomy and physiology.

The National Healthcare Association certification exam is given at the end of the course. The exam costs an additional $105 and is paid directly to the NHA. The course instructor will arrange exam registration and payment.

There is no outside externship rotation included in this program.

For more information or to register, call the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/courses/healthcare/phlebotomy.php.

Digital photography class planned

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a digital photography course on basic digital camera operation from 6:30-9 p.m. on Tuesdays Sept. 1, 8 and 15 on the main UT Martin campus.

Photographers of all skill levels are encouraged to apply, either for a first introduction or a refresher of the basics.

Participants will learn to use the camera's various features and functions as well as a few key strategies for successful photos. Attendees must bring a digital camera and the associated owner's manual to class for reference.

Dr. Tom Gallien, photography instructor, will direct the course. To view examples of Gallien's photography work, visit his website at www.molliebiscuit.com.

Pre-registration is required. The course fee is $99 per person.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082 or visit www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/nondegree.php.

Phlebotomy Technician course offered through UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer

A 90-hour training course is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer for those interested in becoming phlebotomy technicians. The course will meet from 6-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 10-Dec. 17. There will be no class on Oct. 20 or Nov. 26. The course costs $1,799 per person, which includes all textbooks and supplies.

This course is designed to prepare professionals to collect blood specimen for laboratory analysis. Students will become familiar with all aspects of blood collection and develop the skills to perform venipunctures safely. Classroom and lab work includes specimen practice, terminology, anatomy and physiology.

The National Healthcare Association certification exam is given at the end of the course. The exam costs an additional $105 and is paid directly to the NHA. The course instructor will arrange exam registration and payment.

There is no outside externship rotation included in this program.

The UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer is located at 1269 Tennessee Ave. in Selmer. For more information or to register, call the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/courses/healthcare/phlebotomy.php.
UT-M names locals to Chancellor’s Honor roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2015 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. To be eligible for Chancellor’s Honor Roll 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 Chancellor’s Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

- Mary B. Markham, Camden, Honors
- Melanie M. Patterson, Camden, Highest Honors
- Holly N. Cannady, Holladay, Highest Honors
- Amanda N. Mason, Springville, Highest Honors
- Ariel I. Vines, Big Sandy, High Honors
- UT-MARTIN FALL CLASSES BEGIN - From left, Lael Kittle, a senior from Franklin; Kenneth White, a sophomore from Camden; Ray Jinkins, a junior from Paris; and Russ Williams, a sophomore from Greenfield, pause on campus during the first day of fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Aug. 24. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving Aug. 21 to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.

UTM implements hiring freeze

Due to possible budget reductions, UT-Martin Interim Chancellor Dr. Robert Smith has implemented a hiring freeze at the university.

Bud Grimes from the UTM Public Relations office says the freeze is a temporary precaution until the fall semester numbers are totaled.

Total enrollment numbers and total employment numbers won’t be available until mid-September.

Grimes says once the latest figures are available, the university can move forward with hiring.

The 2014-15 employment numbers for UT-Martin were 312 faculty and 833 total employees at the university.
The organization fair was a huge success once again on the first day of classes at UTM yesterday. Student organizations, local civic groups, churches, and local businesses set up rows upon rows of booths to showcase themselves for the new students in Martin this fall. Students and community members enjoyed unique prizes, displays, free give-a-ways, and food during the event. Information and merchandise were displayed at the diverse array of booths to show our new community members what Martin has to offer.
CLASSES BEGIN —
(from left) Lael Kittle, a senior from Franklin; Kenneth White, a sophomore from Camden; Ray Jinkins, a junior from Paris; and Russ Williams, a sophomore from Greenfield, pause on campus during the first day of fall classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Monday. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving Aug. 21 to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.

Fall Classes Begin

STUDENTS, Thomas Mathey, of Munford, and Jeremy Jackson, of Ripley, paused on campus during the first day of fall classes, Monday, August 24th, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Both students are beginning freshmen planning to major in music education. A freshman class of more than 1,000 students began arriving August 21st to participate in the university’s First-Year Initiative Welcome Weekend, an orientation program that prepares students to navigate the university environment. All day and evening classes began Monday.
Final Flight earns recognition as state’s Business of the Year

It’s all about family. Final Flight Outfitters was recently recognized as the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Tennessee Family Owned Business of the Year.

Owned by brothers Jon Ed Powers, Kelley Powers and Tripp Powers, the business offers the area’s largest selection of top-quality, name-brand hunting gear.

“The word ‘family’ in this award perfectly describes our philosophy of daily business in that we consider all of our employees and customers an extended part of our family,” the brothers said in a joint statement. “We thank everyone for entrusting us for your outdoor needs and here’s to many more years of growth and enjoyable times in the outdoors.

“Without our staff and our loyal customers this couldn’t be possible.”

The business was nominated by Tennessee Small Business Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin REED Center.

Walter Perry, deputy director of the Tennessee U.S. Small Business Administration, took part in the award presentation at the store, which is located in the Midway community.

“You hard work, innovative ideas and dedication to your community have helped your small business to succeed,” he said. “The SBA is pleased to recognize your achievements and your role in driving the economic growth in the Volunteer State.

“There are over 566,000 small businesses in Tennessee, according to SBA statistics, and your business is one of the great success stories of 2015.”

The family business, which started in 1998, also has a vast selection of range guns and bows for customers to try out and test-shoot on the new shooting range.

(See Page 9, Col. 3)

Final Flight...

(Continued from Page 1)

out back that was designed for handgun and archery practice.

Final Flight is continually expanding and growing rapidly to serve hunters throughout the country.

Just recently, they expanded their retail store with an additional 8,700 square feet, creating a showroom of more than 25,000 square feet.

Always bustling with activity, Final Flight has hosted events such as the nationally televised Super Retriever Series, the HRC Grand, HRC Hunt Tests, U.S. Open Duck Calling Contest, Tennessee State Duck and Goose Calling Contests and many more.
Phlebotomy technician course at UT Martin

A 90-hour training course is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin for those interested in becoming phlebotomy technicians. The course will meet from 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, Sept. 9-Dec. 14 on the main UT Martin campus. There will be no class on Oct. 25. The course costs $1,799 per person, which includes all textbooks and supplies.

This course is designed to prepare professionals to collect blood specimen for laboratory analysis. Students will become familiar with all aspects of blood collection and develop the skills to perform venipunctures safely. Classroom and lab work includes specimen practice, terminology, anatomy and physiology. The National Healthcare Association certification exam is given at the end of the course. The exam costs an additional $105 and is paid directly to the NHA. The course instructor will arrange exam registration and payment.

There is no outside externship rotation included in this program. For more information or to register, call the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082 or register online at www.utm.edu/departments/ecos/courses/health-care/phlebotomy.php.