When opportunity knocks, students take a 'gap year'

Written by
Nicole Young | The Tennessean
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McKenzie Andrews didn't plan on taking a year off between high school and college, but the recent University School of Nashville graduate changed her mind once she found out she was chosen to study abroad.

Andrews, who deferred her admission to Stanford University, will leave home in about two weeks to spend a year in Taiwan studying Chinese at a college there. After an application process that took months, she learned in the spring that she was one of 650 students selected from a pool of more than 2,000 to receive a full scholarship for the program through the National Security Language Initiative.

"I thought it would be an opportunity that I'd never have again," said Andrews, who took four years of Chinese in high school. "I thought if it happens, it would be a really cool experience, and I'm not sacrificing anything. It's almost selfish because it's all about learning."

In the United States, the practice of taking a gap year is on the rise, but today's high school graduates commonly go into it with a detailed plan — learning a language, volunteering or exploring a career — and with the goal of deciding on a major.

Gap years were popular in the 1960s and '70s, when students would drop out of school and travel the world as a way to escape from family and the educational system, said Robin Pendoley, CEO of Thinking Beyond Borders, a Connecticut-based educational nonprofit.

"Today, students and parents are looking for something more substantive," Pendoley said. "They want to learn. They want to experience the world, but most of all, they want to go back to school. It's not simply about roaming the world anymore."

Pendoley's 4-year-old organization, which offers travel-based gap-year experiences starting at $16,000 — considered among the most expensive in the country — is seeing an increase in student participants. Enrollment doubled this year, and it is
expected to double again in the coming year, he said.

There are about 40 gap-year organizations in the United States.

There are even more organizations overseas, including the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand, countries where gap years are more common.

"About 300,000 students a year take a gap year in the U.K," said Pendoley, who has a master's degree in education from Harvard University. "That's roughly half of the country's graduates."

Other benefits

Travel is just one of the reasons a student might take a gap year.

Some may use a gap year to volunteer with a specific project or do an internship to learn about a specific job field before deciding on a major, said Lisa Sohmer, a member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling.

"I don't like students to take a year off without having a plan," she said. "It can sometimes derail you if you do it without focus. Gap years are the time to explore your passions. People should have a reason for wanting to gap."

Other students take the time off to get a job and work as a way to save for college.

That's what Steve Simms did. He took a gap year at the University of Tennessee at Martin before graduating in 1974. Back then, the university was on a quarter system, with three quarters to a year.

Simms worked as a door-to-door book salesman during one quarter and sold stationery to college fraternity and sorority houses across the western United States during another.

"I did things that added so much to my life," said Simms, who works for the Salvation Army in Nashville. "It is good to get experiences in the real world or workplace. College is pretty much surrealistic, it's not the way life is."

Still Hope

In Tennessee, students can take up to 16 months off between high school graduation and college and still receive a Hope Scholarship, no questions asked, said Tim Felts, associate executive director for grants and scholarships with the Tennessee
Student Assistance Corporation.

If a student takes longer than 16 months, he or she can appeal to the college of choice for an extension, providing a reason to officials for why the extra time was needed.

Last year, about 750 students with Hope Scholarships started college after taking a year off, Tennessee Higher Education Commission records show. More than 100,000 students, the highest number ever seen, received awards last year.

Today, most colleges and universities allow deferred admission, said Sohmer. But it's important for students to go through the college admission process with their class even if they're sure they're taking a year off, she added.

"It's the only chance they have to have this much support through the application process," she said. "If they decide a year later, their high school counselor may be able to help, but it's not the same as going through the process step-by-step."

Saines visit UT Martin for orientation

MARTIN, Tenn. – Ryan Saine and his father, Ken Saine, both of Franklin, recently attended Summer Orientation and Registration (S.O.A.R.) at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Saine, a Franklin High School graduate, will attend UT Martin in the fall.

Students met with academic advisers and registered for classes; toured the campus and residence halls; received information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and heard detailed information about First-Year Initiative, an orientation for first-year students the week before classes.
UTM's Burcham, Melhorn named interim chairs of departments

Dr. Tim Burcham, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of agricultural engineering and holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence, has been named interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, effective July 1. Dr. Joey Melhorn, professor of agricultural economics, will be the interim holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence.

"I am delighted to be serving as the interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources (AGN). It is an honor to represent the outstanding faculty, staff and students in our program," said Burcham.

"This department has a proud heritage that is built on exemplary classroom academics combined with real-world experiential learning activities. My goals are simple: to continue to seek every opportunity for the advancement of all our programs and to build on the experiential learning heritage that has become the trademark of AGN graduates."

Burcham joined the UT Martin faculty in 2002 after earning his doctorate in agricultural engineering from Clemson University. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees, both in agricultural engineering, from Mississippi State University.

**Burcham**

He is a registered professional engineer and has been president of Innovative Biosystems Engineering, PLLC, since 2001. Burcham is also the 2011 Tennessee Onsite Wastewater Association president-elect.

"I am thrilled Dr. Burcham has agreed to serve as interim chair," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"Tim brings a unique background to one of our signature academic units, and I am looking forward to the same innovative and hard-working approach he employed in fulfillment of his responsibilities as the holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence."

"We're also fortunate to have Dr. Melhorn to step into the Parker Chair," Ogg continued.

"I've worked particularly closely with Joey in his role as director of the Tennessee Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences and he is an outstanding representative of our campus' student-centered culture." Melhorn joined the UT Martin faculty in 2003 after serving as an assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University.

He received his doctorate in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University.
Giles truly proud of role with UTM

Before Bettye Giles began her career as a health and physical education teacher and as an athletic administrator, she was active — always participating in some type of fitness class or taking part in a learned physical activity such as badminton, tennis, golf, volleyball or tennis.

Her tennis serve was tougher to return than her backhand, but it was her work as graduate assistant at Tennessee for the golf team that helped the first UT Martin women's athletics director earn her master’s degree.

Unlike many female athletic administrators, Giles did not play intercollegiate athletics. It's not because she didn't want to or because she couldn't handle the strenuous activity. She didn't play because collegiate conference level women's athletics did not exist.

“I remember seeing the AAPIPERD (American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance) Code of Ethics on all the bulletin boards,” said Giles, who is now 82 years old. “That code said college-age females should participate in health and fitness activities — intramural type activities. That code of ethics also stated we should discourage varsity athletics because they were too strenuous (during prime child-bearing years), they were too stressful, and it took time away from academics.”

What the code did not state, but what Giles said the implied message was, “varsity athletics was probably not lady-like.”

“Before the 1960s they pacified me and once I became a teacher we pacified people with good extramural teams,” Giles said, noting an extramural team was a squad made up of above-average intramural players, from whatever the sport, who were allowed to go to other schools and compete. “We, the physical education teachers, took them in our own cars.

“The players bought their own food and, if we stayed overnight, we slept on the floor in our sleeping bags in the opponents’ locker rooms. I can remember we would stop at the grocery store and buy bologna, bread and Cokes.”

UT Martin would travel to sport days or play days across the state. If UT Martin wasn’t traveling, they were hosting.

“We would invite a school here and they would bring their basketball team, the volleyball team, whatever they had,” Giles said. “We would start playing at 9 o’clock in the morning and that evening we would all get together for a picnic.”

“The people in the community would have a cookout for us. It was a social occasion,” she said with a smile on her face and another story to tell with her next breath.

“You kept score!”

In October 1968, during the annual meeting of the Tennessee College Physical Education Association held at Montgomery Bell State Park in Dickson, Giles and other female physical education teachers, coaches of extramural teams and graduate students met to consider forming an organization to promote intercollegiate competition and provide state championships in a variety of sports for women.

The pacifying was about to stop. Specific policies of this new organization were not defined because of time limitations, but it was unanimous, this new organization was a go. Giles acted as the spokesman and was asked to publicize and plan another meeting.

At the Southern District Association of Health, Physical Education, and Recreation Convention on Feb. 22, 1969, in Memphis, the Tennessee College Women’s Sports Federation (TCWSF) was formed. Among the organization’s earlier leaders were Carol Roane, Jane Hooker, Patricia Bonner, Jo Holston, Anna Ley Ingham, Carolyn Landreth, Nancy McIntosh and Giles.

This new group of leaders had to come up with a constitution and by-laws and survey the status of intercollegiate sports for women in Tennessee colleges. The group was also asked to address the future needs of women’s athletics.

On May 9, 1969, a brief meeting was held in Nashville and the results of the survey were discussed.

State tennis and volleyball tournaments were planned. Final revisions of the constitution were made and approved and the Tennessee College Women’s Sports Federation was officially born on Jan. 31, 1970, in Cookeville.

Giles was the first chairman.

Sports policies in volleyball, tennis, badminton and basketball were drawn up.

The TCWSF went from 18 to 31 colleges and universities in 12 years.

During the 1970-71 year, women’s basketball had a $500 budget, Giles said.

Even back then, the budget didn’t go far.

“UT Martin was one of the top 16 teams chosen to play in the first national collegiate basketball tournament and we didn’t have any warm-ups,” Giles said.

“We wore our PE uniforms, just a T-shirt and shorts. I remember Nadine Gearin, the first basketball coach went out and bought some orange felt. Each player got a hunk of that felt and was told to cut out their number and sew it on the back of their shirt.”

Giles said the budget went from $300 to $4,000 after that first year because “talk surfaced about the Educational Amendment Act (which included Title IX).”

UT Martin awarded its first women’s basketball scholarship to Amy Underwood in 1976.

“It’s been a long haul,” Giles said. “It was a learning experience. I am proud of UT Martin and our involvement.”
Dr. Mary Radford, University of Tennessee at Martin assistant professor of nursing, has been named interim chair of the Department of Nursing, effective Monday.

Radford earned a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's degree in nursing education at Union University in Jackson. She also earned a doctorate in education in higher education administration from Union University and has been a member of the UT Martin nursing faculty since 2002.

"I am excited about the opportunity that has been presented to me, and I consider it a privilege to work alongside the nursing faculty as interim department chair," said Radford.

She has an extensive list of scholarly and community activities, including graduating from Leadership Weakley County in 2003 and being a member of the Association of Operating Room Nurses.

"Given this month's transition of the Department of Nursing to the College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences, Dr. Radford's acceptance of the position of interim department chair is particularly critical," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"Mary has a record of classroom excellence, and she combines that with a rich appreciation for both our region and the challenges our nursing graduates face in a rapidly evolving health care environment."
Burcham named Interim Chair, Mehlhorn named Interim Holder of Parker Chair

Dr. Tim Burcham, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of agricultural engineering and holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence, has been named interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources, effective July 1. Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor of agricultural economics, will be the interim holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence.

“I am delighted to be serving as the interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources (AGN). It is an honor to represent the outstanding faculty, staff and students in our program,” said Burcham. “This department has a proud heritage that is built on exemplary classroom academics combined with real-world experiential learning activities. My goals are simple: to continue to seek every opportunity for the advancement of all our programs and to build on the experiential learning heritage that has become the trademark of AGN graduates.”

Burcham joined the UT Martin faculty in 2002 after earning his doctorate in agricultural engineering from Clemson University. He received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees, both in agricultural engineering, from Mississippi State University. He is a registered professional engineer and has been president of Innovative Biosystems Engineering, PLLC, since 2001. Burcham is also the 2011 Tennessee Onsite Wastewater Association president-elect.

“I am thrilled Dr. Burcham has agreed to serve as interim chair,” said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs. “Tim brings a unique background to one of our signature academic units, and I am looking forward to the same innovative and hard-working approach he employed in fulfillment of his responsibilities as the holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence.”

“We’re also fortunate to have Dr. Mehlhorn to step into the Parker Chair,” Ogg continued. “I’ve worked particularly closely with Joey in his role as director of the Tennessee Governor’s School for Agricultural Sciences, and he is an outstanding representative of our campus’ student-centered culture.”

Mehlhorn joined the UT Martin faculty in 2003 after serving as an assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University. He received his doctorate in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University. He earned his bachelor’s degree from Tennessee Tech University and his master’s from Mississippi State University. During his time at UT Martin, he has received the 2009 Hardy M. Graham Distinguished Professorship and was a 2008 Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award finalist.

“I am very excited to provide leadership in the Parker Chair of Excellence position at the University of Tennessee at Martin. It is a great opportunity to build on the past successes of the chair and continue working to deliver a high-quality graduate program,” said Mehlhorn. “I am very excited about our new graduate concentration in agricultural and risk management. This program will complement our existing programs as well as reach out to an entire new market of agribusiness professionals in the region.”

Get business advice August 4

Erik Markin, University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center/Tennessee Small Business Development Center consultant, will help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners with business advice from 9:00 a.m. to noon, August 4, at the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce in Dresden. Appointments can be made by contacting the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce in Dresden at 731-364-3189 or by contacting Markin at 731-587-7333. For additional services offered by TSBDC, go to www.tsbdc.org.
Local students attend Young Scholars Academy

A select group of area high school students got a taste of college life during the recent eighth annual Young Scholars Academy at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event was sponsored by the UT Martin Division of Student Affairs. Students attended this competitive weeklong summer residential program, designed for upcoming high school juniors and seniors. The non-credit program introduced students to the college experience by focusing on three learning environments: special aptitude development; personal and social development; and college/major exploration. Attending from Weakley County, from left to right, front row, were Tiana Winstead and Elizabeth Taylor; back row, De'Quan Williams, Hunter Seymour and Damiar Taylor.

Soybean Festival features free musical entertainment

Uncle Kracker, Kansas and Diamond Rio will headline the 18th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, September 3-11, in Martin. A mix of free musical entertainment, along with a carnival, disc golf tournament, pageants, talent contest, parade, 18th annual barbecue cook-off and 15th annual car and bicycle show, also highlight this year’s event.

“There are so many positive ways the soybean impacts our lives. The products made from soybeans are so numerous and diverse that the bean has become known as the ‘magic bean.’ The magic found in the soybean personifies itself during the Tennessee Soybean Festival, said David Belote, festival chair. “The bean is responsible for bringing thousands of people together for a week that is fun, engaging and exciting. The Tennessee Soybean Festival is about building community and enhancing community spirit. Our home is the ‘Crossroads of Good Living,’ and the Tennessee Soybean Festival is a celebration of those things we hold near and dear, our families, our friends, and the ongoing positive development of Northwest Tennessee.”

The 2011 festival will include the festival parade at 6:30 p.m. as the Tuesday night feature; the seventh annual Faith and Community Night, with Mark Schultz as the Wednesday night entertainment; and Uncle Kracker performing Thursday night. On Friday, Kansas is slated to perform. Diamond Rio is the Saturday night concert. All concerts are free.

Uncle Kracker, of Detroit, Mich., hit No. 1 with “Drift Away” and “Follow Me.” Kansas released hit singles such as “Carry on Wayward Son” and “Dust in the Wind.” Diamond Rio, from Nashville, hit No. 1 with “Meet in the Middle.” “How Your Love Makes Me Feel” “One More Day,” “Beautiful Mess” and “I Believe.”

Traditional festival events will include the Mayor’s Kickoff Luncheon, the Soybean Farmer’s Breakfast, Prayer Breakfast, Salute to Our Heroes’ dinner for the Martin police and fire departments and School Children’s Street Fair and lunch for the children. Also included in the lineup are the “Singing Bee” live game show, golf tournament, 5K run, health fair, bicycle rodeo and Putt, Pass and Kick competition.

Among other activities planned are the Crossroads Lunch/Celebration of Civic Organizations, bingo, an art exhibit and competition, Bikers for Books Poker Run, Cancer Crash Car Bash, book sale, city-wide merchant sidewalk sale, musical performances by Reba Wade music studio High Variety, along with Rock in the Park, a sidewalk chalk art contest, pet show, quilt show, youth soccer matches, several other breakfasts and a Sunday brunch.

For festival information, the schedule and sponsors are posted at www.tnsoybeanfestiva.org. For additional information, call Kimberly Craddock, at 731-588-2507, or email med@martintennessee.org.
Student is advocate for Governor's School spirit

By Isabella Bonco, In My Own Words

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

In November, I applied for a spot in Governor's School for the Humanities at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The humanities facility is just one school out of nine offered by Tennessee that provides summer programs to help enrich the minds of the most talented and gifted of the state. To my excitement, I found out I was accepted into the school along with 67 other students across Tennessee.

That sleepless night before my hour-long trip to Martin was the four-month bubble of anticipation that had been building up inside of me since I had been handed that acceptance letter. But I don't believe four months could really be enough to predict the experience I would be lucky enough to share.

The whole month of June was a whirlwind of homework, immediate friendships and activities. This summer, I hung out with students whom I wished and still wish to emulate. I had never met so many people who were so inspiring, who played various instruments, started their own charities and wrote original songs. Some were student council presidents, newspaper editors and soccer captains.

But what really defined my Governor's School experience were the lessons I learned. Among my classes were religious studies and world music. In religion, I had to read the whole Quran and was even challenged to start visiting other churches besides my own. In world music, I learned different drumming techniques from Asia, Africa and Brazil. I also got to be the managing editor for the Governor's School newspaper.

If I could sum up my experience this summer, I would say that it opened my world, which is why I want to stress the importance of keeping these programs alive.

In January, Gov. Bill Haslam announced that Governor's Schools were among the list of educational programs that were in consideration of being cut because of extensive costs. If these camps are cut from the state, we will be losing curriculums that not only help to promote the friendly social camaraderie of the brightest in Tennessee, but more importantly enrich the lives of the future leaders of America.

Spencer Ware, a fellow senior and attendee of the Governor's School for the International Studies at the University of Memphis insists, "The most important thing for
students of Tennessee to receive is the ability to combine fellowship and critical thinking to develop friendships while also working to solve problems and answer questions that bug us today."

In my view, these goals cannot be attained without the help of Governor's Schools. I have been so blessed to have attended this school before legislation fully considers the possibility of closing the programs. It will break my heart, as it might with so many other parents and students, if that decision is made.

If you are against the closing of the Governor's School Programs, I encourage you to write to your state representatives and senators, as well as Gov. Haslam.

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**Carter Mansion Celebration scheduled for this weekend**

The annual Carter Mansion Celebration will be held Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 6-7.

The yearly celebration is sponsored by the Washington County Regiment of North Carolina Militia.

Visitors will get the chance to travel back to the 1700s when the American colonies had declared independence, but the outcome of that bitter struggle remained in question. Hardy frontiersmen crossed the mountains in defiance of British law and carved out homes in the wilderness. As a result, conflict is rising between American Patriots, Loyalists who support the Crown and native Indians who struggle to retain their way of life. But the people of this time still must choose: for celebration, Merriment, music and the arts, so come out and see it all come together at the oldest frame house in Tennessee.

The Washington County Regiment of North Carolina Militia will be celebrating its two-year anniversary during this exciting celebration.

The Militia will be encamped on the grounds of the Carter Mansion and will present demonstrations of the daily lives of 18th century backwoods settlers. As part of the activities, a re-enactment of a small battle between patriots and Tories will be presented each day.

Local craftsmen and artisans will include Slovenia Hylar and Mary Proctor as they demonstrate 18th century basket making. James Garland will showcase gourd instruments and artwork. Bob Esker will demonstrate primitive flint knapping. Jennifer Bauer will showcase the art of natural dyeing. Sarah Hedden will be making corn shuck dolls, and Chris Taylor will exhibit the centuries old art of flax processing.

Other activities throughout the weekend will include tours of the Carter Mansion. Other activities will include militia drill, musket and rifle demonstrations. 18th century surveying techniques, performances of traditional and old time music storytelling. Colonial military music by the Watauga Valley Fife and Drums, and much more. Come enjoy a weekend of history, entertainment and family fun!

The Carter Mansion is located on the Broad Street Extension in Elizabethton. For more information or directions to the Carter Mansion, call 545-5500.
Annual Soybean Festival
slated Sept. 3-11

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“Meet in the Middle,” “How Your Love Makes Me Feel,” “One More Day,” “Beautiful Mess” and “I Believe.”

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For festival information, the schedule and sponsors are posted at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org. For additional information, call Kimberly Craddock, at 731-588-2507, or email med@martintennessee.org.
Accentuate the positive
Friday, August 5, 2011

The Princeton Review, which publishes an annual guide to the nation's colleges and universities, offers a decidedly mixed view of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville in its, "The Best 376 Colleges: 2012 Edition." The positives, though, heavily outweigh the negative.

The publication names the state's flagship institution of higher learning as one of the 50 "best values" among the nation's public universities. It also ranks the school as one of the top 135 in the Southeast. Those certainly are positive recommendations.

But the Review's ranking of the Knoxville campus as one of the "least beautiful" in the nation, the 11th ugliest. Unfortunately, the latter has prompted far more public comment than the acknowledgment the university is one of the most affordable and accessible of its type.

Tens of thousands of men and women who have matriculated in Knoxville likely have a more charitable view of the place they once called home than the one produced by the relative handful of students whose opinions are the basis of the current review. Besides, there's probably some truth to the rating.

Even the most loyal Volunteer has to agree that the mix of buildings in various architectural styles and parking lots on the cramped Knoxville campus leaves a lot to be desired. University officials, in fact, admit as much.

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees recently approved a new master plan for the campus in the heart of Knoxville. When completed, it will provide expanded green space, more courtyards and student and environment-friendly walkways and bike lanes. The plan is welcome, and its implementation as funds become available should bring positive change to the look and feel of the campus.

It should be noted, as well, that the campus is not bereft of attractive sites. Ayres Hall on The Hill, which has been renovated recently, is certainly pleasing to the eye.

UT is the only public school in Tennessee to be ranked among the nation's best values, but other schools were highly ranked in other categories. The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga's College of Business graduate program is included in the list of best business schools in the Southeast. Sewanee, The University of the South, the University of Tennessee at Martin, Carson-Newman College, East Tennessee State University and Maryville College also received acclaim.

Guides like the Princeton Review provide information and some advice, but they are not definitive. It is far better to remember state schools that rank highly because of their positive values than to focus on a negative -- an ugly campus -- that has nothing to do with the vital work of educating Tennessee students.

The Commercial Appeal
Saturday, August 6, 2011

Eleven teachers earned six hours of graduate credit in English at the University of Tennessee at Martin by participating in the 19th Invitational Summer Institute of the West Tennessee Writing Project May 7 and June 6-30.

Teachers shared demonstrations on using writing across the curriculum, learned how to incorporate more technology in their teaching and honed their writing skills in small peer groups. Memphis area participating teachers include Anne Faulks (left), Appleton Middle School; David Carithers, WTWP director; and Adrian Albrook, Immaculate Conception Cathedral School. For more information on WTWP, visit utm.edu/wtwp.
Jackson building up

While national lawmakers continue to debate ways to create jobs, local entrepreneurs and national companies are building restaurants, satellite schools, car lots and credit unions in Jackson that will put people to work. Here are just a few of the projects.

UT Martin recognized by Princeton Review

The Princeton Review has named the University of Tennessee-Martin as one of the best colleges in the Southeast.

UT Martin is one of 135 institutions the Princeton Review recommends in its “Best in the Southeast” section of its website feature, “2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region,” which was posted last week on PrincetonReview.com. The university has been named to the “Best in the Southeast” listing for nine consecutive years.

The 135 colleges the Princeton Review chose for its “Best in the Southeast” designations are located in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated colleges in the Northeast, Midwest and West as best in their locales. Collectively, the 629 colleges named “regional best” constitute about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges.

UT Martin also set an all-time record this year for undergraduates attending summer sessions with 2,042, a 6.1 percent increase over 2010. The total summer enrollment of 2,403 undergraduate and graduate students was a 3.5 percent increase over last summer. The increase includes students who enrolled in “Maymester,” a three-week mini-term, and two summer sessions.

Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 22. For more information about UT Martin, call (800) 829-UTMI or visit utm.edu.

UT Martin

The University of Tennessee-Martin will have classes in this building when it opens Aug. 22.

The building is at 3031 U.S. 45 bypass (Frontage Road) and has five classrooms; one will be a biology/laboratory room for science classes while another will be dedicated to computer science.

A total of 22 classes will be held in the building, including classes in accounting, criminal justice, English composition, psychology and social work. For more information, call (731) 425-9277.
UT MARTIN CONTINUES ‘BEST IN THE SOUTHEAST’ DESIGNATION

MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin is one of the best colleges in the Southeast according to the nationally known education services company, The Princeton Review. UT Martin is one of 135 institutions The Princeton Review recommends in its "Best in the Southeast" section of its website feature, "2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region," that was posted this week on PrincetonReview.com. The university has been named to the "Best in the Southeast" listing for nine consecutive years.

"I am proud that The Princeton Review has again recognized UT Martin for providing a high-quality learning environment," said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor. "Student input helped make this recognition possible through comments and feedback based on their experiences at the university. Receiving this designation for nine consecutive years is a compliment to faculty and staff who work hard to provide solid academic programming and outstanding student support."

"From hundreds of institutions we reviewed in each region, we selected these colleges and universities primarily for their excellent academic programs," said Robert Franek, Princeton Review's senior vice president/publishing. "We also took into account what students attending the schools reported to us about their campus experiences at them on our student survey for this project. Our 'regional best' colleges constitute only 25 percent of the nation's four-year colleges — a select group, indeed." He added, "We believe our choices offer applicants and their parents a wide range of fine schools to consider."

The 135 colleges The Princeton Review chose for its "Best in the Southeast" designations are located in 12 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated colleges in the Northeast, Midwest and West as best in their locales. Collectively, the 629 colleges named "regional best(s)" constitute about 25 percent of the nation's 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review does not rank the 629 colleges in its "2011 Best Colleges:

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Wednesday, August 10, 2011

Krysten Harris of Union City and Brett Cash of Troy have each been awarded $1,200 scholarships from the Tennessee Grocers Education Foundation. Miss Harris received the E.W. James Memorial Award, while Cash received the TGCSA Award.

Miss Harris will be a freshman at the University of Tennessee at Martin and plans to pursue a degree in chemistry. Cash will be a freshman at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and plans to pursue a degree in sports medicine. TGCSA scholarship recipients were recognized at the Tennessee Grocers and Convenience Store Association's recent annual convention at Sevierville Events Center.

This year, TGCSA awarded 146 scholarships worth $164,250. Since its inception, the foundation has awarded over $2.8 million in scholarships. Graduating high school seniors and college students who are employed by a TGCSA member company are eligible for scholarships.
Soybean Festival pageants set for Sept. 3

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in the upcoming festival pageants sponsored by the University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union.

Girls 0-21 years of age are eligible to participate in the pageants Sept. 3 beginning at 10 a.m. in the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Life Center, located at 199 Moody St. The deadline to register is Aug. 29.

The pageant lineup includes the following: Baby Miss Soybean (0-1 year old), 10 a.m.; Tiny Miss Soybean (2-3 years old), 10:45 a.m.; Petite Miss Soybean (4-5 years old), 11:30 a.m.; Little Miss Soybean (6-9 years old), 1 p.m.; Junior Miss Soybean (10-12 years old), 2:30 p.m.; Teen Miss Soybean (13-15 years old), 3:30 p.m.; and Miss Soybean (16-21 years old), 4:30 p.m. All pageants will have one queen and four alternates.

A $35 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make check payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Mail fee and application to: Tennessee Soybean Pageant, P.O. Box 713, Martin, TN 38237 or deliver to the Martin City Hall. There will be no registration at the door. For more information, call 587-9845.

Applications for pageants are available at these locations: Martin – UT Federal Credit Union, Lana's Boutique & Bridal, Sugar and Spice, Martin City Hall; Union City – JoAnn's; and Milan – Special Occasions. To get an application online, go to www.tissoybeanfestival.org.

UT Martin summer enrollment sets all-time record for undergraduates

MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin set an all-time record for undergraduates attending summer sessions with 2,042, a 6.1 percent increase over 2010. Total summer enrollment of 2,403 undergraduate and graduate students was a 3.5 percent increase over last summer. The increase includes students who enrolled in "Maymester," a three-week mini-term, and two summer sessions.

Summer enrollment also reflected that students are taking more hours than in the past, with a 10.6 percent credit-hour increase for undergraduates compared to summer 2010.

"The record-setting enrollment for summer 2011 is primarily the result of an increase in the number of returning undergraduate students," said Dr. Thomas Rakes, university chancellor. "More returning students reflect a campus focus on student success and an emphasis on meeting student graduation goals. Early enrollment numbers for fall 2011 suggest that undergraduate returners will again be a positive factor in our enrollment figures."

Rakes added, "It is important to realize that future first-time student enrollment levels are likely to decrease in response to outcomes established by the Complete College Tennessee Act."

All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university’s Office of Institutional Research.

Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 22. Information about UT Martin is available by calling 1-800-829-UTM1.
Georgetown, MA (PRWEB) August 08, 2011

LA Kelley Communications, Inc. announces the winners of the second annual Alex Lieber Memorial Scholarship Award.

This scholarship was established to provide financial assistance for people living with hemophilia or Von Willebrand disease to support their higher education. Each student will receive $500 to use for education-related expenses.

In less than a month, the winners will be heading back to school. Rex Cliker III, from Tennessee, will be a sophomore at the University of Tennessee at Martin studying engineering with a minor in agriculture; Ethan Jansen, from Florida, will be a sophomore at the University of Central Florida and is studying mechanical engineering; Christian Mund, from Massachusetts, will be a freshman at Syracuse University and is studying film production and cinematography at the College of Visual and Performing Arts, School of Art and Design, art video program; and Nicholas Popp, from Illinois, will be a junior studying biochemistry and biology at the University of Chicago.

All four winners have demonstrated a strong commitment to volunteer work and community service, and have been positive role models within the hemophilia community.

The Alex Lieber Scholarship Award was established in memory of Alexander Scott Lieber, of Florida, who was born in 1986 with severe hemophilia A. Alex passed away on December 21, 2003, at age sixteen, after a brief bout with bacterial meningitis. He is greatly missed, but through this scholarship, his inquisitive and caring spirit lives on.

“We were honored to take part in the selection process of these wonderful scholarships that have been awarded in Alex’s memory. Best of luck to each and every one of the applicants in this coming school year,” commented Tammy and Jim Lieber, Alex’s parents.

To apply for the 2012 Alex Lieber Memorial Scholarship Award, please visit the LA Kelley Communications website after January 1 for more details: http://www.kelleycom.com

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THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011

UT Martin sets enrollment records

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All enrollment numbers are compiled and reported by the university’s Office of Institutional Research.

Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 22. Information about UT Martin is available by calling 1-800-829-UTMI.
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UT Martin joins with Dresden in promoting recycling program

The UT Martin Recycling program is 20 years old this year. When the program was started by Dennis Kosta in 1991, approximately 52 tons of recycling was produced. Now, as Kosta reports, in 2011, due to great campus and community support, UT Martin is recycling around 600 tons per year.

UTM Recycles! began around 2005, as an all-volunteer advocacy organization promoting recycling and sustainability on campus and in the local community. Their first “community recycling day” was held in the Graham Stadium parking lot and was originally repeated one Saturday three to four times per year. Now the UT Martin Recycling Facility is busy with campus and community recyclers seven days a week. The Weakley County area has actively responded to UT Martin’s recycling message.

According to Kosta, recycling just one aluminum can saves energy equivalent to three hours of running a television; recycling just all newspaper could save over 200 million trees; and recycling just one glass bottle could save the energy it would take to run a 100-watt light bulb for up to four hours.

“UT Martin is proud to partner with the cities of Sharon and now Dresden to encourage recycling,” Kosta said.

To make recycling accessible to the Dresden community, UT Martin has provided a “Do Your Part” recycling trailer near the Dresden Senior Center, where local residents can drop off the following recyclable materials: cardboard, small scrap metal and tin/pet food cans; all paper; all plastics, and aluminum cans. Those dropping off items are asked to put all aluminum cans, plastics, and paper in bags to keep these lighter-weight materials from blowing away. And to rinse all cans, cartons, and bottles. Breakables should be stored in containers and placed adjacent to the recycling trailer.

UTM recycling staff members will place these breakable items in the trailer when they come to pick it up, to prevent injuries.

Clear, green, or brown glass; electronics (except TVs), and large or heavy scrap metals should be taken to the recycling facility located behind the Weakley County Highway Department. The recycling station is open 8 a.m. until noon on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Or these items may be dropped off at the UT Martin Recycling Facility at the end of Moody Street in Martin (the street that runs behind the UT Martin football stadium).

“We do not take furniture, paint cans, food scraps, hazardous materials, or trash,” Kosta said.

The Recycling Facility is open Monday-Sunday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. If anyone has any questions, they are asked to contact Dennis Kosta at 881-7640 or email UTM Recycles! at recycle@utm.edu. Interested parties may also visit the UTM Recycles! Facebook page or their web page at www.utm.edu/recycle.
UT Martin joins with Dresden in promoting recycling program

UT Martin in cooperation with the city of Dresden set up a recycling trailer behind the Harmon and Lucile McWherter Civic Center in Dresden last week for local citizens to drop off their plastic, paper, metal, cardboard and aluminum. A drop-off site for old electronics, such as computers, keyboards and other similar items, is located behind the Weakley County Highway Department. The recycling station is open 8 a.m. until noon on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. (See story on page 14.)

High school bands ‘tune up’ for marching season at UT Martin

Several area high school bands will receive hands-on instruction to help prepare their fall marching percussion music at drumline “Tuneup Day” at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Dr. Julie Hill, UT Martin associate professor of music and director of percussion studies, will be the instructor for the session that is slated August 27, in Room 112, Boling University Center.

Guest artist will be Julie Davila, a member of the chamber percussion ensemble, Caixa Trio, and founder and executive director of the honors student percussion group, Percussion XS. South Gibson County High School is one of the high schools registered to participate.
UT Martin continues ‘Best in the Southeast’ designation

The University of Tennessee at Martin is one of the best colleges in the Southeast according to the nationally known education services company, The Princeton Review. UT Martin is one of 135 institutions The Princeton Review recommends in its “Best in the Southeast” section of its website feature, “2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region,” that was posted this week on PrincetonReview.com. The university has been named to the “Best in the Southeast” listing for nine consecutive years.

“I am proud that The Princeton Review has again recognized UT Martin for providing a high-quality learning environment,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor. “Student input helped make this recognition possible through comments and feedback based on their experiences at the university. Receiving this designation for nine consecutive years is a compliment to faculty and staff who work hard to provide solid academic programming and outstanding student support.”

“From hundreds of institutions we reviewed in each region, we selected these colleges and universities primarily for their excellent academic programs,” said Robert Franek, Princeton Review’s senior vice president/publishing. “We also took into account what students attending the schools reported to us about their campus experiences at them on our student survey for this project. Our ‘regional best’ colleges constitute only 25 percent of the nation’s four-year colleges - a select group, indeed.”

He added, “We believe our choices offer applicants and their parents a wide range of fine schools to consider.”

The 135 colleges The Princeton Review chose for its “Best in the Southeast” designations are located in 12 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated colleges in the Northeast, Midwest and West as best in their locales. Collectively, the 629 colleges named “regional best(s)” constitute about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review does not rank the 629 colleges in its “2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region” list hierarchically or by region or in various categories.

For more information about UT Martin, go to www.utm.edu.

UT Martin claims Best in Southeast title again

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UT Martin offers two non-credit courses

Two non-credit courses, Beginning Microsoft and iPad Bootcamp, are planned in September on campus by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

iPad Bootcamp will be offered from 5:45-8 p.m. Sept. 6.

Jessica Crews Garcia, UT Martin Instructional Technology Center IT specialist, will be the instructor. The course fee is $65.

iPad Bootcamp will show participants everything from the basics of setup, all the way to using the iPad to run a business. They will learn tips and tricks to get the most out of the iPad, plus find out the best apps for organizing, communicating, educating, reading, writing and having fun. Not all the apps that will be demonstrated are free, so participants should provide a notepad to take notes or have money available in an Apple account to purchase the apps. Participants must also have an Apple ID and password that was created when the iPad was purchased.

Beginning Microsoft Access is planned for 6-9 p.m. Sept. 20 and 22 with instructor Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin analyst and programmer. The fee is $95.

Participants will learn how to design and create a database and what relational databases can do. They will design and set up tables and relationships, edit data, sort and filter, learn how queries can give answers, create quick forms for data entry, create quick reports that can be customized to specific needs and work with Access 2010 and Windows 7.

Advance registration is required.

To register, contact the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non-degree/healthcare.php.
Special interest classes offered

Several special-interest non-credit courses will be offered on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus by the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

R.A.D. – Rape Aggression Defense/Self Defense Program for Women, a free course, is slated for 8 a.m.–2 p.m. Sept. 12-13. The instructor will be Terry Guthrie, certified instructor in R.A.D. Basic Physical Defense. The cornerstone of R.A.D. Systems, this course has its foundations in education and awareness. The course includes lecture, discussion and self-defense techniques, suitable for women (only) of all ages and abilities. This course requires two days for basic level self-defense. Each student will receive a certificate of completion. The class is being offered to the general public along with UT Martin students or staff interested in learning more about personal self-defense.

The Making Sense of the ACT – ACT Prep Course will be offered from 9 a.m.–noon Saturdays from Sept. 24–Oct. 15. The instructor will be Ron Ramage and the fee will be $75, plus the cost of the book, “The Real ACT Prep Guide,” which can be purchased at the campus bookstore.

Advance registration is required. To register, contact UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 881-7082.

Floral arranging offered at UT Martin

Lauren Ambroster will teach the Floral Arranging class with two focuses – a wreath on Sept. 13 and table arrangement on Sept. 27. Each class will be from 6:30–8:30 p.m. and the fee will be $45 per class.

There will also be a supply fee for each class $37–$43 for the wreath and $44 for the arrangement. Participants will explore the basic concepts and techniques of floral arranging while developing personal flair and creativity.

They will leave with a completed project. The supply fee is paid directly to the instructor on the night of the class.

UTM sets record summer enrollment

The University of Tennessee at Martin set an all-time record for undergraduates attending summer sessions with 2,042 – a 6.1 percent increase over 2010.

Total summer enrollment of 2,403 undergraduate and graduate students was a 3.5 percent increase over last summer. The increase includes students who enrolled in “Maymester,” a three-week mini-term, and two summer sessions.

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(See Page 5, Col. 5)

UTM...

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Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 22. Information about UT Martin is available by calling 1-800-829-UTMI.
UT-Martin has record summer enrollment

Posted: Aug 12, 2011 10:20 AM

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The school reports the figure at 2,042, up 6.1% over 2010.

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The enrollment was in a three-week mini-term in May and two summer sessions.

University Chancellor Thomas Rakes said early enrollment figures for this fall look positive.

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WHNT

UT-Martin reports record undergraduate enrollment for summer sessions

By Associated Press

3:02 AM CDT, August 12, 2011

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University Chancellor Thomas Rakes said early enrollment figures for this fall look positive.
UT Martin offers phlebotomy technician course

The phlebotomy technician class is planned from 6-9:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays Sept. 10-Dec. 7. There will be no class on Nov. 23. It also will be offered from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays Oct. 8, 22 and Nov. 19. The registration fee is $1,599, which includes books and supplies.

This 90-hour program prepares professionals to collect blood specimens from clients for the purpose of laboratory analysis. Students will become familiar with all aspects related to blood collection and develop comprehensive skills to perform venipunctures completely and safely. Classroom and lab work includes terminology, anatomy and physiology; blood collection procedures; specimen handling; practice; and training in skills and techniques to perform puncture methods.

There is no outside externship rotation included with this program. The NHA Certification Exam is given at the end of class. The cost of the exam is an additional $103 (as of April 2011) and is paid directly to NHA. The instructor will arrange for the registration and payment of the exam. NHA is accredited through the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

Advance registration is required. To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082 or register online at: http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree-healthcare.php.

Ogg is FCS scholarship winner

Louisville, Ky. – Jesi Ogg, daughter of Sammy and Cheryl Ogg of Martin, is the recipient of a $1500 academic scholarship awarded by ag lender Farm Credit Services of Mid-America.

Ogg is one of over 40 recipients of the FCS scholarship, a program created to address the cooperative's desire to return greater value to rural America by increasing the association's investment in education and youth activities. She is attending the University of Tennessee at Martin.

One of Ogg's earliest memories on the farm is bottle-feeding calves in the winter, rain or shine.

Joining 4-H at a young age, Ogg showed dairy and beef heifers. By taking care of a hog and sheep of her own, she acquired a love and respect for the industry. Ogg also works with her father's cattle helping with feeding and daily maintenance as well as pulling calves and administering vaccinations.

Staying close to her roots, Ogg plans to attend UT Martin in the fall to pursue a career in agricultural education so she can share her love and passion for agriculture with the next generation.

"We are proud to welcome these scholars to the Farm Credit family. They represent the best in terms of academic record and leadership qualities as well as community and school involvement," said Ed Yanos, chair of the board of directors.

"Even more gratifying is the passion they exhibit for agriculture. In reading their stories, there's a common thread.

"From witnessing the birth of a calf to being humbled by support of their community after seeing the family farm flattened by a tornado, they want – and have every reason – to make agriculture stronger and better than ever. I'm proud that Farm Credit can be a part of their journey."

FCS scholarships are offered to students of customer-members of Farm Credit Services of Mid-America. In addition to the students honored through Farm Credit's scholarship program, the financial lending cooperative also awards over $60,000 in scholarships through land grant universities and the state offices of the 4-H and FFA throughout their four-state territory.

In total, FCS contributes over $100,000 annually to educational endeavors at the college level.

Additional information about this year's scholarship recipients can be found online at www.efarmcredit.com. Click on Community, then Scholarships. Information about the 2012 Scholarship program will also be available on the FCS website in late November.
WUTM earns ‘platinum’ ranking

WUTM, the University of Tennessee at Martin student-operated radio station, has been awarded a “Platinum” rating by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS), a 70-year-old national organization of more than 1,000 college and university radio stations.

Platinum is the highest ranking a member radio station can achieve each year. It is given annually for outstanding radio station operation in the areas of management, programming, education and training, engineering, news, sports, underwriting and faculty advisement. The IBS also has awards of bronze, silver and gold designations.

“Our student station continues to be recognized for broadcast excellence, and I couldn’t be more pleased,” said Dr. Robert Namney, UT Martin Department of Communications chair.

“I am so proud that the students’ hard work is being recognized on a national level. Our broadcast faculty has built a culture of excellence for WUTM. I especially appreciate the vision and hard work of Dr. Richard Robinson, the faculty advisor, assisted by Harold Cochran, our senior broadcast engineer. What WUTM has accomplished this year is truly remarkable.”

During this past year, the Southeast Journalism Conference named WUTM “Best College Radio Station in the South” for the second consecutive year. In addition, broadcast students have won individual awards from the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation, the IBS and the SEJC.

“Our students put forth every effort and strive for excellence. This hard work is paying off with recognition in both regional and national competitions. WUTM is truly a team effort, and I’m proud of the station and the students who work there,” said Robinson.

For five of the past six years, the SEJC has consistently ranked WUTM in the top three for “Best College Radio Station in the South.” The station has been ranked number one by the SEJC in 2007, 2009 and 2010.

WUTM broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 90.3 FM, and also streams its signal via the World Wide Web.

It is operated by the UT Martin Department of Communications.

This project is funded under an agreement with the state of Tennessee, Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Criminal Justice Programs and is supported by Award # 2010-DJ-BX-0016 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, USDJ.
Free times three at Soybean Festival in Martin

By BILL McCUTCHEON
P-J Staff Writer

What do such divergent music artists as Uncle Kracker, Kansas and Diamond Rio have in common besides their ability to make music?

The answer: All three will be performing just 30 miles west of Paris on successive nights in early September.

The three are the headliners for this year's Tennessee Soybean Festival, Sept. 3-11 in Martin. Best of all, the concerts are all free — held in downtown Martin's Festival Park.

It's a mix of free musical entertainment, along with a carnival, disc golf tournament, pageants, talent contests, parade, barbecue cookoff as well as a car and bicycle show.

It seems also to be — to those of us outside Weakley County — a mix of an annual festival (i.e., World's Biggest Fish Fry or the Strawberry Festival) and a county or regional fair.

The first Soybean Festival was held in 1994 so this year marks the 18th event. A pageant for ages from birth to 19 years of age kicks things off Sept. 3, but the festival really kicks into high gear the next week with a talent contest the night of Sept. 5 and the festival parade the next night, Sept. 6, down University Street in Martin.

Stinger/songwriter Mark Schultz performs at 5:30 p.m. Sept. 7 as part of Faith and Community Night in Festival Park downtown. For more information on Schultz, visit www.markschultzmusic.com or http://worldlabelgroup.com.

At 9 p.m. Sept. 8, the UTM Student Activities Council sponsors the concert by Uncle Kracker, who hit No. 1 with his version of Debby Gray's "Drift Away." His latest album, "Happy Hour," is produced by multiple Grammy-Award winner Rob Cavallo. It's described as a breezy blend of country-flavored pop and rock and roll that showcases not only the Detroit native's natural appeal but also his considerable songwriting gifts. A big one he co-wrote was Kid Rock's "All Summer Long."

He also was featured on Kenny Chesney's big summertime hit of a few years ago, "When the Sun Goes Down," as well as three other Kid Rock blockbuster hits.

"I've learned a lot from Kenny Chesney, like how to have a more positive outlook on things," Uncle Kracker said. "He taught me how to care a little less and not sweat the small stuff."

That influence can clearly be heard on "Happy Hour," his most upbeat record yet. "It's definitely a departure from what I was doing," he said.

By the way, Uncle Kracker's real name is Matt Shafer.

The next night, Sept. 9, iconic 1970s rock band Kansas takes the stage at 9 p.m. Fusing the complexity of British progressive rock with an American heartland sound representative of the name, Kansas was among the most popular bands of the late 1970s.

Although typically dismissed by critics, many of the group's hits remain staples of adult-oriented rock radio playlists to this day.

The band's first big hit was "Carry On Wayward Son" which then spawned the monster hit "Dust in the Wind."

Only three original members are in this group which reformed in 1986.

The final free concert is set for 9 p.m. Sept. 10 when Diamond Rio takes the Festival Park stage.

The group's debut 1991 hit was "Meet in the Middle," and with that Diamond Rio became the first group in country music history to have a debut single reach No. 1.

The group placed 32 more singles on the charts, including "Norma Jean Riley," "Beautiful Mess" and "How Your Love Makes Me Feel."

Diamond Rio has sold more than 10 million albums, had nine No. 1 hits and 22 top 10 singles. They are six-time Vocal Group of the Year winners for the Country Music Association and the Academy of Country Music.

With 14 total Grammy nominations, the group was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry in

The lineup:
Sept. 8 — Uncle Kracker
Sept. 9 — Kansas
Sept. 10 — Diamond Rio
Diamond Rio is shown against the Nashville skyline in this 2008 promotional photo. The group is the Sept. 10 headliner for a free concert at the end of the Tennessee Soybean Festival, set for Sept. 3-11 in Martin. The night concert will be at Festival Park in downtown Martin.

1998,
For longtime fans who may wonder why their favorite country band decided to recently record a Christian record, the answer lies in the music.

The album is called “The Reason,” and members say it was no casual decision.

“It was no mistake that we wrote a song called ‘The Reason’ and it exactly answers the question,” Jimmy Orlander said. “It’s the reason why we’re here. It’s our story.”

They go on to say it is a cherished opportunity by a group of believers looking to share their faith and celebrate God’s grace and mercy.

Diamond Rio has released seven studio albums, two greatest hits collections and “A Diamond Rio Christmas: The Star Still Shines,” a 2007 holiday album that marked its debut with the Word label.

The group has earned three platinum albums as well as the 2010 Dove Award for “Country Album of the Year.”

There are literally dozens of other events for all age groups scheduled during the nine days of the festival.

For festival information and the complete schedule visit www.tnsoybeanfestival.org. For additional information, call Kimberley Cradock at 731-588-2507 or send email to mcd@martintennessee.org.
Health Care Courses Planned this Fall by UT-Martin

MARTIN - Career-changing health care classes are planned by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies on campus this fall.

A Pharmacy Technician Program will be offered from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 26-November 8, with a $99 fee that includes textbooks and supplies. This 30-hour course will prepare students to enter the pharmacy field and to take the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board's (PTCB) exam. Technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings - working under the supervision of a registered pharmacist. Course content includes medical terminology specific to the pharmacy, reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will learn dosage calculations, intravenous flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control and billing and reimbursement.

The Phlebotomy Technician class is planned from 5:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, September 26-December 7. There will be no class on November 20. It also will be offered from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Saturdays, from October 8, 22 and November 19. The registration fee is $1,599, which includes books and supplies.

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Advance registration is required. To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7062 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/eccco/nda/healthcare.php.

DREDSEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee, August 17, 2011

Teresa Jackson nominated Elementary Principal of the Year

By David Fisher
Staff Reporter

The Tennessee Department of Education announced nominees for 2011 principal and supervisor of the Year. A number of West Tennessee educators were nominated for Outstanding Administrator of the Year honors.

Principal Teresa Gillham Jackson from Martin Elementary was one of those who made the list. Candidates for these awards are nominated by regional study councils composed of fellow principals and supervisors representing nine regions across the state. The supervisor of the year award honors district-wide administrators who guide improvements in school programming while pursuing higher standards of student academic success.

The principal of the year award celebrates school leaders who have implemented outstanding programs resulting in significant school improvement and actively advocated for the improvement of education for Tennessee’s children.

“I am thoroughly honored to be nominated principal of the year,” Jackson said. “But, I really owe all the credit to a great faculty and staff, and a great school system.

“I have had the privilege to serve the Weakley County School System for the last 30 years.”

Martin Elementary Principal Teresa Jackson

She began her teaching career by filling in as a substitute for teachers on leave at Gleason School and Dresden Middle School.

“I was hired full-time the next year at Dresden Elementary and served there for 22 years,” Jackson said. “I have been principal at Martin Elementary School for the last eight years.

“I honestly can say I am very passionate about what I do, and I have never really felt like I was going to a job. It is truly an honor to be nominated and I want to thank the many mentors and influences that have enriched my life along the way.”

Mrs. Jackson’s educational background shows that after graduating from Greenfield High School, she attended Union University, and graduated from UT Martin with a bachelor’s degree in education, and a master’s in administration and supervision.

She resides in Martin with her husband, Ron Jackson. The couple has four children: Logan Ross of Columbia, South Carolina; Cameron Ross of Martin; Andrew Jackson of Jackson, Tennessee, and Logan Jackson of Gleason, Tennessee.

Her parents are Marvin and Shirley Gillham from the Stafford Store Community near Greenfield.
**WUTM claims Intercollegiate Broadcasting System ‘Platinum’ rating**

WUTM, the University of Tennessee at Martin student-operated radio station, has been awarded a “Platinum” rating by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS), a 70-year-old national organization of more than 1,000 college and university radio stations. Platinum is the highest ranking a member radio station can achieve each year. It is given annually for outstanding radio station operation in the areas of management, programming, education and training, engineering, news, sports, underwriting and faculty advisement. The IBS also has awards of bronze, silver and gold designations.

“Our student station continues to be recognized for broadcast excellence, and I couldn’t be more pleased,” said Dr. Robert Nanney, UT Martin Department of Communications chair.

“I am so proud that the students’ hard work is being recognized on a national level. Our broadcast faculty has built a culture of excellence for WUTM. I especially appreciate the vision and hard work of Dr. Richard Robinson, the faculty adviser, assisted by Harold Cochran, our senior broadcast engineer. What WUTM has accomplished this year is truly remarkable.”

During this past year, the Southeast Journalism Conference named WUTM “Best College Radio Station in the South” for the second consecutive year. In addition, broadcast students have won individual awards from the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation, the IBS and the SEJC.

“Our students put forth every effort and strive for excellence. This hard work is paying off with recognition in both regional and national competitions. WUTM is truly a team effort, and I’m proud of the station and the students who work here,” said Robinson.

For five of the past six years, the SEJC has consistently ranked WUTM in the top three for “Best College Radio Station in the South.” The station has been ranked number one by the SEJC in 2007, 2009 and 2010.

WUTM broadcasts 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 90.2 FM, and also streams its signal via the World Wide Web. It is operated by the UT Martin Department of Communications.

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**FCS announces recipients of Scholarship Program**

**Deondre Roberson**

A select group of area high school students got a taste of college life during the recent eighth annual Young Scholars Academy at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event was sponsored by the UT Martin Division of Student Affairs. Students attended this competitive weekend summer residential program, designed for upcoming high school juniors and seniors. The non-credit program introduced students to the college experience by focusing on three learning environments: special aptitude development; personal and social development; and college major exploration. Attending from Martin was Deondre Roberson.

**Jesi Ogg**

Jesi Ogg, daughter of Sammy and Cheryl Ogg of Martin, is the recipient of a $1,500 academic scholarship awarded by ag lender Farm Credit Services of Mid-America. Ogg is one of over 40 recipients of the FCS scholarship, a program created to address the cooperative’s desire to return greater value to rural America by increasing the association’s investment in education and youth activities. She is attending the University of Tennessee at Martin.

One of Jesi’s earliest memories on the farm is bottle-feeding calves in the winter, rain or shine. Joining 4-H at a young age, Jesi showed dairy and beef heifers. By taking care of a hog and sheep of her own, she acquired a love and respect for the industry. Jesi also works with her father’s cattle helping with feeding and daily maintenance as well as pulling calves and administering vaccinations. Staying close to her roots, Jesi plans to attend UT Martin in the fall to pursue a career in Agricultural Education so she can share her love and passion for agriculture with the next generation.
UTM sets all-time enrollment record

The University of Tennessee at Martin set an all-time record for undergraduates attending summer sessions with 2,042, a 6.1-percent increase over 2010. Total summer enrollment of 2,403 undergraduates and graduate students was a 3.5 percent increase over last summer. The increase includes students who enrolled in “Maymester,” a three-week mini-term, and two summer sessions.

Summer enrollment also reflected that students are taking more hours than in the past, with a 10.6-percent credit-hour increase for undergraduates compared to summer 2010. “The record-setting enrollment for summer 2011 is primarily the result of an increase in the number of returning undergraduate students,” said Dr. Thomas Rakes, university chancellor. “More returning students reflect a campus focus on student success and an emphasis on meeting student graduation goals. Early enrollment numbers for fall 2011 suggest that undergraduate returners will again be a positive factor in our enrollment figures.” Rakes added, “It is important to realize that future first-time student enrollment levels are likely to decrease in response to outcomes established by the Complete College Tennessee Act.”

All enrollment numbers are compiled by the Office of Institutional Research. Registration for fall semester continues with classes set to begin Aug. 22. Information is available by calling 1-800-829-UTMI.

UT Martin ranked one of the best

The University of Tennessee at Martin is one of the best colleges in the Southeast, according to the nationally known education services company The Princeton Review.

UT Martin is one of 135 institutions The Princeton Review recommends in its “Best in the Southeast” section of its website feature, “2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region” that was posted this week on PrincetonReview.com. The university has been named to the “Best in the Southeast” listing for nine consecutive years.

“I am proud that The Princeton Review has again recognized UT Martin for providing a high-quality learning environment,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor. “Student input helped make this recognition possible through comments and feedback based on their experiences at the university. Receiving this designation for nine consecutive years is a compliment to faculty and staff who work hard to provide solid academic programming and outstanding student support.”

“From hundreds of institutions we reviewed in each region, we selected these colleges and universities primarily for their excellent academic programs,” said Robert Franek, Princeton Review’s senior vice president/publishing. “We also took into account what students attending the schools reported to us about their campus experiences at them on our student survey for this project. Our ‘regional best’ colleges constitute only 25 percent of the nation’s four-year colleges – a select group, indeed.” He added, “We believe our choices offer applicants and their parents a wide range of fine schools to consider.”

The 135 colleges The Princeton Review chose for its “Best in the Southeast” designations are located in 12 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated colleges in the Northeast, Midwest and West as best in their locales. Collectively, the 629 colleges named “regional best(s)” constitute about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review does not rank the 629 colleges in its “2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region” list hierarchically or by region or in various categories. For more information about UT Martin, go to www.utm.edu.
University professor named interim chair of department

Dr. Tim Burcham, University of Tennessee at Martin professor of agricultural engineering and holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence, has been named interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources.

Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor of agricultural economics, will be the interim holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence.

"I am delighted to be serving as the interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources (AGN). It is an honor to represent the outstanding faculty, staff and students in our program," Burcham said. "This department has a proud heritage that is built on exemplary classroom academics combined with real-world experiential learning activities. My goals are simple: to continue to seek every opportunity for the advancement of all our programs and to build on the experiential learning heritage that has become the trademark of AGN graduates."

Burcham joined the UT Martin faculty in 2002 after earning his doctorate in agricultural engineering from Clemson University. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees, both in agricultural engineering, from Mississippi State University. He is a registered professional engineer and has been president of Innovative Biosystems Engineering, PLLC, since 2001. Burcham is also the 2011 Tennessee Onsite Wastewater Association president-elect.

"I am thrilled Dr. Burcham has agreed to serve as interim chair," said Dr. Jerald Coggins, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "Tim brings a unique background to one of our signature academic units, and I am looking forward to the same innovative and hard-working approach he employed in fulfillment of his responsibilities as the holder of the Parker Chair of Excellence."

"We're also fortunate to have Dr. Mehlhorn to step into the Parker Chair," Ogg continued. "I've worked particularly closely with Joey in his role as director of the Tennessee Governor's School for Agricultural Sciences, and he is an outstanding representative of our campus' student-centered culture."

Mehlhorn joined the UT Martin faculty in 2003 after serving as an assistant professor at Middle Tennessee State University. He received his doctorate in agricultural economics from Mississippi State University. He earned his bachelor's degree from Tennessee Tech University and his master's from Mississippi State University. During his time at UT Martin, he has received the 2009 Hardy M. Graham Distinguished Professorship and was a 2008 Coffey Outstanding Teaching Award finalist.

"I am very excited to provide leadership in the Parker Chair of Excellence position at the University of Tennessee at Martin. It is a great opportunity to build on the past successes of the chair and continue working to deliver a high-quality graduate program," Mehlhorn said. "I am very excited about our new graduate concentration in agribusiness and risk management. This program will complement our existing programs as well as reach out to an entire new market of agribusiness professionals in the region."

Carroll County Students Receive Scholarships to Attend UT Martin

MARTIN - Two Carroll County students have been awarded scholarships for the 2011-2012 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

* Hailee King, daughter of Kevin and Gina King of McKenzie, will be a sophomore. She received the UT Martin Transfer Scholarship.

* Brandon Sellers, son of Dennis and Linda Sellers of McKenzie, will be a junior. He received the UT Martin Transfer Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting UT Martin Office of Student Financial Assistance, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tenn. 38238. In-state residents telephone 800-829-UTMI; out-of-state residents should call (751) 881-7040.
AWARD WINNING – The University of Tennessee at Martin’s UTM Recycles! program received the 2011 Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Award for Green Schools under the higher education category. Presenting and accepting the award during a ceremony held Friday are (from left) TDEC Commissioner Bob Martineau, Jason Russell, Dennis Kosta, Angie MacKewn, Heidi Huse and Deputy Governor Claude Ramsey.

UTM Recycles! earns state award

Nashville – Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam, Deputy Governor Claude Ramsey and Environment and Conservation Commissioner Bob Martineau presented the 2011 Governor’s Environmental Stewardship Awards at the Ellington Agriculture Center campus in Nashville Friday, recognizing 15 honorees whose efforts have made a positive impact on the state’s natural resources.

“Today’s award ceremony honored groups and individuals across the state for their dedication to environmental stewardship, and I want to commend them for their commitment to keeping our communities healthy and strong,” Haslam said Friday.

In the category of “Green Schools – Higher Education,” The University of Tennessee at Martin UTM Recycles! program earned the top award.

According to a press release, UTM Recycles! community partnerships granted it high accolades. UTM Recycles! is a rural-based recycling movement supported by the University of Tennessee at Martin and is the only comprehensive recycling program of its kind in the area. Along with providing support for recycling, the program provides education in the form of talks, disseminated literature and sponsored events.

UTM Recycles is unique due to its location on the university campus and because it encourages the community and the school to use the program free of charge.

The program accepts an extensive array of products, including cardboard, paper, aluminum, scrap metal, glass, printer cartridges, plastics, books, clothes, shoes and electronics. Working with various community groups and organizations to set up and organize their sustainable efforts, the

See UTM, Page 8
school expanded its educational programs to include service learning.

Reporting over 1,100 volunteer hours last year from people of all ages at the facility, UTM recycled 40 ton of glass, 38 tons of scrap metal, 46 tons of plastic, 245 tons of cardboard, 63 tons of paper, 40 tons of compost and 10 tons of aluminum.

This classroom experience also sparked more than 15 sustainable projects, bringing students and members of the community together.

In its 25th year, the Governor's Environmental Stewardship Awards program recognizes exemplary voluntary actions that improve or protect our environment and natural resources with projects or initiatives that are not required by law or regulations.

Thirty-six professionals from various public and private organizations judged more than 100 nominations to determine the award recipients.

"The quality of our environment is so important in our daily lives and citizens continue raising the bar to ensure that Tennessee's communities are healthy places to live, work and play," said Martineau. "Covering each region of the state, this year's roster of award winners have worked extremely hard and today's event recognized their innovation and dedication."

Fourteen awards were presented to individuals, community organizations and government agencies in a number of environmental categories.

"Grow Your Business Tour" to answer marketing questions in Sept. 13 seminar at UTM

One of the biggest complaints voiced by small business owners is that they want to market their business but don't know what to do. The Tennessee Small Business Development Center can help.

The TSBDCC network is hosting the "Grow Your Business Tour," with small business coach, speaker and advocate, Robert Staub. The tour is scheduled to be at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center from 2-4 p.m., Sept. 13.

This tour will visit all of the 13 Small Business Development Centers in Tennessee.

The "Grow Your Business Tour" is a fast-paced, 90-minute workshop that will help the business owner with direction, identity, marketing and benchmarks so they will have more confidence, more prospects, more referrals and a plan and a path for more business. Although admission is free, registration is required. Visit www.tsbdc.org or call the TSBDCC at UT-Martin's REED Center, 731-587-7333.

"I will be working with small business owners who want to grow their business and be more focused on this tour, but the tour is as much about new job creation. Help the small business owner with their business growth, and jobs will follow. We just want the small business owner to put more money in their pocket at the end of the day," said Staub.

Staub serves on the TSBDCC advisory board and will help represent that board when he attends the ASBDC national conference in San Diego in September. He also recently served on the U.S. Small Business Administration National Advisory Board in Washington. The TSBDCC is a community outreach initiative.
Central alumni award scholarships

Barbara Hines (standing), president of the Central High School Alumni and Legacy Association, talks with Brianna Foss (center) and Shanice Nicole Williams earlier this month about their college plans. Brianna and Shanice were two of the students who were awarded five hundred college scholarships from the association. Ontario O'Shawn Ward (not pictured) also was awarded a scholarship from the association. All three students plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin. Shanice plans to major in biology and hopes to become a veterinarian. Brianna will enter UT Martin’s premedical program and hopes to become a forensic pathologist. The scholarships were awarded based on grade-point average.

UT Martin Names Local Student to Semester Chancellor’s Honor Roll

MARTIN — The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2011 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. John Karl Rhodes, Cum Laude, of McKenzie has been named to this list.

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.
Lanef Bethel, UT Martin welcome students for new academic year

Other area schools begin classes later this week

By Tajuana Cheshier
bchesier@jacksonsun.com

Lane College freshman LaDon Smith plans to earn a 4.0 grade point average in his first semester: “I’m going to do my best,” said Smith, 18, of St. Louis. The architectural design major sat in four of his courses on his first day of classes Monday.

“I think algebra is my favorite,” he said. Smith is settling into his on-campus room and adjusting to a new environment. “Everyone is friendly and nice here,” he said. Lane and other universities across Tennessee are starting classes this week. Monday also marked the first day of courses for Bethel University and University of Tennessee Martin.

UT Martin students returned to campus projects and changes brought by the Complete College Tennessee Act.

Among the building projects is the new UT Martin Jackson Center, 3031 U.S. 45 Bypass, which opens Oct. 4.

UT Martin officials said the center will offer undergraduate and non-credit classes and degree programs.

SEE SCHOOLS, PAGE A2

Schools

Continued from Page A1

Two programs in criminal justice and social work were cut. “We believe the new Jackson Center location will provide convenient access on the bypass and make it easier for Jackson area students to gain a UT Martin degree,” Chancellor Tom Rakes said in a university news release.

An additional capital project is the $14 million expansion of the Fine Arts Building on Martin’s campus. The project is scheduled for completion in fall 2012. During the annual fall faculty meeting last week, Rakes discussed an anticipated decrease in fall 2011 headcount enrollment after seven years of continuing enrollment increases.

“Although the incoming freshman class remains constant in the 1,250 range, the number of dual-enrollment students attending UT Martin from area high schools will decrease due to necessary adjustments to better meet indicators within the Complete College Tennessee Act,” Rakes said. On Bethel’s campus, students returned to a new student center called the Vera Low Center for Student Enrichment. The building has a spacious dining facility and flat-screen televisions and has a relaxing and comfortable atmosphere.

Bethel commemorated the new school year with an event called the “Bethel Blast” on Saturday.

The event included games, bouncy houses, food of all kinds, hot air balloon rides, an artist’s colony, a Bethel Renaissance concert and a fireworks show.

In Chester County, Freed-Hardeman University students begin classes on Thursday.

Union University students’ first day of classes is today, while Jackson State Community College and University of Memphis at Lambuth begin fall classes on Saturday.

—Tajuana Cheshier, 425-5643

Matthew Keathley, son of Bryan and Angela Keathley of Union City, has been awarded a scholarship for the 2011-12 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin. Keathley, who will be a freshman, received the UT Alumni Association Valedictorian Scholarship.
Don't forget the value college students bring to West Tennessee

11:00 PM, Aug. 24, 2011

This week marks the return of thousands of college students to West Tennessee college and university campuses. They come from near and far and enrich our communities in many ways. We welcome them back and wish them success in their schoolwork and other college activities.

College students are a relatively unsung group until they march to receive their diplomas. But they add much to our communities during their years on campus.

All across West Tennessee from Dyersburg, Jackson, Henderson, McKenzie and Martin, thousands of students live on and off campus while pursuing their college degrees. Let's consider the ways they enhance our communities:

- Their economic impact cannot be overestimated. Collectively, they will spend millions on tuition, books, food, clothing, gas, auto repairs, restaurants and general shopping in our retail establishments. Their spending helps create jobs for area residents and adds to local tax revenue.
- Their presence on campus will involve student activities that reach into local communities in community service projects, job shadowing, student teaching, internships and church activities.

- Schools with active intercollegiate athletic activities offer the public easy access to sports entertainment at reasonable cost.
- Many schools have outstanding art and theater departments that invite the public to performances and shows.
- Colleges and universities bring in speakers and entertainment venues, many of which are open to the public.
- Our colleges and universities anchor neighborhoods and even entire communities.

We are fortunate to have a significant number of higher education institutions in our area including: Jackson State Community College, Dyersburg State Community College, Lane College, University of Memphis-Lambuth, Union University, University of Tennessee Martin, Bethel University, Freed-Hardeman University and the Tennessee Technology Center at Jackson. Many of the schools also have off-campus satellite operations and distance learning programs throughout West Tennessee. Higher education is key to community economic development.
Many, perhaps most, of the students attending area schools will stay in our West Tennessee communities after they finish their studies. They will become our teachers, medical professionals, technicians and business people. Their education and professional skills will enhance the quality of the West Tennessee workforce and help attract employers and new jobs. They will build their families in West Tennessee and become participants in community activities, church activities, politics, education and many quality-of-life venues. Where else could local communities find such a sizeable annual influx of new residents? If a company brought 20,000 employees to West Tennessee, area communities would be singing their praises from the rooftops. West Tennessee colleges and universities bring at least that many students to their campuses each year. We welcome them back and are glad they have returned for another year.

Four countians receive Belcher Memorial scholarships

Four Henry County High School students who graduated in May have been awarded Peggy Perry Belcher Memorial scholarships.

Receiving funds were Andrew Bigham (not pictured), Shantice Williams, Dakota Ealey and Brea Dobbins.

Bigham was given $1,000; Williams and Ealey received $750 each; and Dobbins got $500.

Bigham, whose biographical information and photo was published earlier in The Post-Intelligencer, will be attending Murray State University where he plans to major in nursing and premed. Dobbins also will attend MSU to major in occupational therapy.

Williams will attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and begin study to become a veterinarian. Ealey is scheduled to attend the University of Mississippi in Oxford and major in exercise science.

At HCHS, Ealey was a member of the National Honor Society and History and Spanish clubs. He played on the Patriot golf team for four years and was a two-year member of Madrigals. He was chosen to the All-West Tennessee Honor Choir.

Dobbins

of the National Honor Society and History and Spanish clubs. He played on the Patriot golf team for four years and was a two-year member of Madrigals. He was chosen to the All-West Tennessee Honor Choir.

Williams

four years. He is a member of Birds Creek Baptist Church.

In the community, Ealey participated in Relay for Life for eight years and worked at the Ed Roberts cancer survivor dinner for 10 years.
Weakley County student receives scholarship to attend UT Martin

A Weakley County student has been awarded a scholarship for the 2011-2012 academic year to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, according to Judy Rayburn, director of admissions.

Wee Clark, son of Tim and Suzanne Clark of Gleason, will be a freshman. He received the UT Alumni Association Valdicrorian Scholarship.

UT Martin names local students to summer semester 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 2011 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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Abdullah Mahdi H. Al Brahimi, Campus Mail, TN 38238, Magna Cum Laude
Ali Almutawa, Campus Mail, TN 38238, Summa Cum Laude
Daehyun Kang, South Korea, Magna Cum Laude
Yeon Ji Kim, South Korea, Cum Laude
Chun Nung Lin, Taiwan, Cum Laude
Mancel C. Fincher Jr., Dresden, TN 38225, magna Cum Laude
Amy Lynne Bailey, Dukedom, TN 38226, magna Cum Laude
Jennifer Meagan Bethel, Greenfield, TN 38230, magna Cum Laude
Joshua B. Dye, Martin, TN 38237, Summa Cum Laude

Headliners announced for Soybean Festival

MARTIN — Uncle Kracker, Kansas and Diamond Rio will headline Martin’s 18th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival Sept. 3-11.

A mix of free musical entertainment, along with a carnival, disc golf tournament, pageant, talent contest, parade, barbecue cook-off and car and bicycle show, also highlight this year’s event.

“Tennessee is a state of people. The produce from soybeans is so numerous and diverse that the bean has become known as the ‘magic bean,’ said David Bello, festival chair. “The magic found in the soybean personifies itself during the Tennessee Soybean Festival. The bean is responsible for bringing thousands of people together for a week that is fun, engaging and exciting. The Tennessee Soybean Festival is about building community and enhancing community spirit. Our home is at the ‘Crossroads of Good Living,’ and the Tennessee Soybean Festival is a celebration of those things we hold near and dear, our families, our friends and the ongoing positive development of northwest Tennessee.’

The 2011 event will include the festival parade at 6:30 p.m. as the Tuesday night feature; the seventh annual Faith and Community Night, with Mark Schultz as the Wednesday night entertainment; and Uncle Kracker performing Thursday night. On Friday, Kansas is slated to perform. Diamond Rio is the Saturday night concert. All concerts are free.

Uncle Kracker, of Detroit, hit No. 1 with “Drift Away” and “Follow Me” and recently released the hit “Smile.” Kansas released hit singles such as “Carry on Wayward” (See Page 8, Col. 3)
Soybean Festival promises fun for kids

A talent show and musical contest, parade, street fair, pet show and carnival, all scheduled with children and youth in mind, are planned during the 18th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival Sept. 3-11 in Martin.

The seventh annual Little Miss Soybean Festival Pageant is slated for Sept. 3 at the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Life Center. The pageant begins at 10 a.m. and will include categories for ages 0 months to 19 years. Call 587-7333 for more information.

The seventh annual Soybean Festival Talent Contest, with categories for contestants ages 8 and younger, 9-12, 13-21 and 22 and older, will be Sept. 5 on the downtown stage. The junior competition will be at 6 p.m. The competition serves as a Mid-South Fair Preliminary Contest for participants ages 8-19.

The School Children’s Street Fair and lunch will take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Sept. 9, in downtown Martin. Call 587-2507 for more information.

Children and youth can participate in “The Singing Bee” live game show program at 7 p.m., Sept. 9, at Weldon Park. Call 587-9526 for more information.

Rounding out festival events and activities that will attract children include Saturday’s lineup of the Soybean Festival 5K Road Race, 1 Mile Fun Walk at 7:30 a.m. at the recreation complex; a disc golf tournament at 9 a.m. at the Harrison Road Complex; youth soccer opening day matches beginning at 9 a.m. at the recreation complex, a pet show, with registration at 12:30 p.m. and the show at 1 p.m. at Harmon Field; and a sidewalk chalk art contest, with check-in at 9 a.m. at the Arts Co-op and drawing from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., downtown (preregistration required).

Contact numbers are as follows: road race/1 mile, 587-9572; disc golf, 587-6784; soccer, 731-358-1911; pet show, 587-5319; and chalk art contest, 587-3148.

UTM students named to honor roll

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- Abdullah Mahdi H. Al Brahimi, campus resident, Magna Cum Laude
- Ali Almuawwa, campus resident, Summa Cum Laude
- Dae Hyun Kang, South Korea, Magna Cum Laude
- Yeon Ji Kim, South Korea, Cum Laude
- Chun Nung Lin, Taiwan, Cum Laude
- Marcel C. Fincher Jr., Dresden, Magna Cum Laude
- Amy Lynne Bäiley, Duke, Magna Cum Laude
- Jennifer Meagan Bethel, Greenfield, Magna Cum Laude
- Joshua B. Dye, Martin, Summa Cum Laude
UT considering 11 new tuition, fee strategies

KNOXVILLE (AP) — Trustees for the University of Tennessee are considering 11 different proposals to remake the way the system charges for a college education.

Options include several that would provide more predictable tuition so parents and students can better prepare for college costs. Among them are setting a tuition rate for freshmen that remains steady for four years or setting the rates four to five years in advance, giving families more time to save.

“Part of the confusion with tuition was there’s several different things people are trying to address,” said Don Sansberry, vice chair of the board, said at the board’s annual work session in Murfreesboro on Wednesday. “We’ve heard this concern about tuition, but how do you tell someone whose kid is in high school today what it’s going to cost to go to college tomorrow? We don’t know.”

Annual increases have more than doubled tuition and fees over the past decade as the university has turned to students to make up for decreased state funding. This fall tuition is up 12 percent for undergraduates at the Knoxville campus and 10 percent at the Chattanooga and Martin campuses.

The board discussed the proposals but took no action during its meeting, according to The Knoxville News Sentinel. President Joe DiPietro’s staff will review the ideas and prepare a final package for the board to consider.

Other options on the table include raising mandatory fees and the cost to drop or add classes, setting different tuition depending on a student’s major or grade level and charging a higher rate after a student has completed 120 hours of course work.

DiPietro said he favored another plan that would require students to take at least 15 hours to be considered full-time because it would encourage students to take more hours and graduate sooner. He hasn’t ruled out any proposal so far.

“The problem we’ve got right now is we’ve just started to roll up our sleeves and study it,” DiPietro said. “We’ll be working with chancellors early this fall to start to discuss and debate and talk to each other.”

The board might implement several strategies or none of them and the approach could be different on each campus, Sansberry said.

Part of this year’s tuition increase is going toward a 5 percent raise for university employees after four years of no pay increases. A compensation report presented at the trustee meeting showed UT pay for faculty and staff lags behind other colleges.

In Knoxville, faculty earn about 84 percent of what their peers take home in similar institutions across the country.
Talking about time

From left, Landy Fuqua, teacher for the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at the Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin, talked Friday to 11 teachers and staff members from the Adult Learning Center including Donna Winders and Marilou Vollen. Fuqua taught the group about techniques of time management to help them make the best use of their time. The class took place at the Central Community Service Center building located on Jones Bend Road Extended in Paris.

Carroll County Chamber Makes it Easy to Get Business Advice on September 13

MARTIN - Erik Markin, University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center consultant, will help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners with business advice from 1-4:30 p.m. September 13, at the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce in Huntingdon.

Markin recently joined the TSBDC after spending five years in the financial industry and owning and operating two small businesses. He will be giving advice about business planning, financing options, marketing, customer service, cash flow and other issues. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free.

Appointments can be made by contacting the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce in Huntingdon at 731-986-4664 or by contacting Markin at 731-587-7333. For additional services offered by TSBDC, go to www.tsbdc.org.
Holt named GM of Frontier

Greg Stephens, area general manager for Frontier's South markets, announced Hollie Holt accepted the position of general manager of the company's Martin market.

In her new position, Holt oversees all field operations and is responsible for customer and community relations. She manages all aspects of the business including revenue growth and expenses.

Prior to joining Frontier, Holt held the position of director at the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (REED) Center.

"Hollie is an active resident of the local community and is a great example of someone who exemplifies our local engagement policy," Stephens said.

"We are proud to have her on our team and look forward to her leadership in the Martin market."

The community organizations that benefit from Holt's participation include the Martin Pilot Club, the Martin Rotary Club board of directors, the Tennessee Soybean Festival, the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant and the Weakley County Economic Development Board. She is a graduate of the Weakley County Leadership program and a 2006 WestStar graduate.

Holt earned a bachelor of arts degree in communication with an emphasis in public relations from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

She and her husband, Steve, have four children and reside in Martin.
Cooper named banking manager

Greenfield – First State Bank promotes Aaron Cooper to bank branch manager of the Greenfield office located at 302 N. Front St.

First State offers banking and lending services through this office.

Cooper will be responsible for managing the daily operations of the branch office, in addition to developing and service client relationships with a full line of financial services.

Cooper is a graduate of Westview High School and the University of Tennessee at Martin. He joined First State in 2005 serving the special assets division as a collections representative and moved to branch manager for First State Finance in 2007. Cooper is a member of the Greenfield Rotary Club and a member of Central Baptist Church in Martin.

"Aaron has been with First State for several years and has moved into progressively more demanding positions over that time. I am confident that he will be successful as he steps into this management position for First State Bank," said Joe Brasher, community bank president of First State Bank.

"In Aaron's last position, he was very successful in working with customers to meet their financial needs. Now as he extends this to the Greenfield community, he will focus on a broader range of loan and deposit products that he can bring to his customers. He has roots in Greenfield and wants to see the community grow. He is committed to getting involved in the community so that First State can continue to grow its relationship with Greenfield."

"I am extremely excited about this new opportunity to work with First State Bank. First State is such a strong staple in Weakley and Obion County which is where I grew up."

"My mother and grandparents are from this area, and I hope that I can make a positive impact on the community through my involvement and hard work," said Cooper.

Moore, Ferrell join Westan team

Westan Insurance – Martin has recently expanded their services. "We are excited to have Leigh Ann Moore and Sandra Ferrell as life and health agents in the Martin office. They can provide life, health, disability income, long-term care, annuities, Medicare supplement, dental and vision," a spokesperson said.

Moore, a lifelong resident of Obion County and graduate of UT Martin, has served as president-elect of West Tennessee Association of Health Underwriters 2008-09 and as president 2009 to 2010 and as past president from 2010-11.

She was appointed in fall of 2010 to serve on the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for agents and brokers. The members of this group, along with members of Actuarial/underwriting TAG group, provide expertise on specific analytical questions to help in the state's insurance exchange planning process.

Moore has worked in life and health for 10 years, servicing groups in West Tennessee and Kentucky.

Ferrell a native of Ontario, Canada, has over 20 years of experience in the insurance industry. Ferrell will be focusing on individual life and health business and continuing as agency customer service representative.

"We are full service independent agency, striving to provide customers with the best coverage at a competitive price," spokesperson said. Westan Insurance – Martin is one of eight locations in West Tennessee. The Martin office is located at 298 Broadway St. Call at 587-9993 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Former University of Tennessee at Martin baseball player Albert Destrade of Plantation, Fla., will be a contestant on the CBS show Survivor: South Pacific.

The first episode of the new season is scheduled for Sept. 14.

“I have a legitimate chance to win one million dollars,” Destrade said. “Also, I can prove to myself that I can beat all in a game of strength, strategy.”

Destrade transferred to UT Martin from Lynn College for his senior season.

He played in 29 games and started in 20. Before transferring to UT Martin, he played three seasons at Lynn College, where he saw action 65 games over three seasons.

“Albert was only here a year, but from a teammate standpoint, he was well-liked,” UT Martin head baseball coach Bubba Cates said. “He was a good guy to be around. Everyone that knows Albert is excited about this opportunity for him.”

Destrade has been coaching baseball and working as a dating coach since he graduated from UT Martin.

Destrade, the nephew of former Major Leaguer Orestes Destrade, said he will be the sole survivor because he possesses a “unique combination of attributes. I’m athletic and very socially adept,” he said.

“I’m calculated and self-aware,” Destrade added. “Ultimately, if you combine my awareness, physical strength and social calibration, I bring a lot to the table.”

Survivor is a reality television game show format produced in many countries throughout the world.

In the show, contestants are isolated in the wilderness and compete for cash and other prizes.

The show uses a system of progressive elimination, allowing the contestants to vote off other tribe members until only one final contestant remains and wins the title of “Sole Survivor.”
Special interest courses to be offered through Extended Campus office, online

Several special-interest non-credit courses will be offered on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus by the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

Digital Photography I/Basic Photography Skills and Camera Operation is planned for 6:30-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 6-27. The instructor will be Dr. Tom Gallien, and the fee is $125. This course is designed to make digital photography less intimidating. It will also help participants better understand all the controls on their camera and how to make better photographs using digital technology. Proper photographic exposure, composition and use of the camera's histogram will be discussed. Participants should provide a digital camera and the camera's instruction manual, if possible. They may also want to bring a small notebook for note taking. Printed and email handouts to supplement the presentations will be provided. Even though this course is primarily for novice digital photographers, solutions and ideas for photographers with intermediate skills can also be discussed. Email evaluation and critiques of images will be utilized during the course. This introductory course is a springboard for the follow-up Intermediate/Advanced techniques course. Gallien has more than 40 years of photographic experience, including 15 years of digital camera use. He has had the opportunity to study under the personal supervision of a number of well-known professional wildlife and landscape photographers and has won a number of competitions with his images.

Water Pilates will be offered from 5:30-6:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, Sept. 7-Oct. 3, with Laura Fieser as instructor. The fee is $55 or $45 for UT Martin students, faculty and staff. Water Pilates is a low-impact aquatic conditioning workout. It uses strength and toning movements to build strong core muscles. These muscles include abs, oblique, back and leg muscles. This exercise system is focused on building strength without bulk, improving flexibility and agility, and helping to prevent injury. The outcome of Pilates training is a balanced body, which is strong and supple, with a toned stomach, stronger legs and back. Pilates can improve posture, range of motion and body awareness. This course is designed to work with people of all levels of fitness and age ranges. All exercises will be done in the shallow end of the pool. Swimsuits must be worn. Water shoes may be worn.

Ballroom Dancing I, with Fran Robinson as the instructor, is planned for 7:30-8:30 p.m., Sept. 12-Oct. 10. The fee is $100 per person or $150 per couple. This five-week course introduces participants to basic steps in the waltz, swing, foxtrot, rumba and cha-cha.

R.A.D. = Rape Aggression Defense/Self Defense Program for Women, a free course, is slated for 8 a.m.-2 p.m., Sept. 12-13. The instructor will be Terry Guthrie, certified instructor in R.A.D. Basic Physical Defense. The cornerstone of R.A.D. Systems, this course has its foundations in education and awareness. The course includes lecture, discussion and self defense techniques, suitable for women (only) of all ages and abilities. and diversification. Setting goals and budgeting will also be covered.

Lauren Armbruster will teach the Floral Arranging class with two focuses - a wreath on Sept. 13 and table arrangement on Sept. 27. Each class will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m., and the fee will be $45 per class. There will also be a supply fee for each class - $37-$43 for the wreath and $44 for the arrangement. Participants will explore the basic concepts and techniques of floral arranging while developing personal flair and creativity. They will leave with a completed project. The supply fee is paid directly to the instructor on the night of the class.

This course requires two days for basic level self-defense. Each student will receive a certificate of completion. The class is being offered to the general public along with UT Martin students or staff interested in learning more about personal self-defense.

Your Money: Opportunities, Advantages and Disadvantages will be taught by Shirley Borden, certified financial planner and UT Martin instructor, from 7-8 p.m., Mondays, Sept. 12-Oct. 3. The course fee will be $55. The course will begin with defining money and wealth. With that information, the course will progress to developing an understanding of the differences between saving, investing and speculating in conjunction with the importance of asset allocation.

Pool Care, Service, and Maintenance for Pool Owners and Professionals will be offered from 6-8 p.m., Sept. 15-Oct. 20, with Michael Alford as the instructor. The fee is $75. The course is for owners of pools and professionals wanting to further their knowledge of pool maintenance and care.

The class will be a mixture of hands-on instruction and lecture. Sessions will cover basic pool and equipment inspection before closing a pool for winter, basic repairs, chemical pool winterization, basic safety covers and poly covers on in-ground and above-ground pools and other topics. This course will be followed by Spring 2012 Pool Care, Service and Maintenance II.

The Making Sense of the ACT - ACT Prep Course will be offered from 9 a.m.-noon, Saturdays, from Sept. 24-Oct. 15. The instructor will be Ron Ramage, and the fee will be $75, plus the cost of the book. The Real ACT Prep Guide, which can be purchased at the campus bookstore.

Advance registration is required. To register, contact UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/healthcare.php.
Hunter safety course at UTM

This year's TWRA and Parks and Recreation Hunter Safety Course is scheduled for Sept. 12 at the UTM Brehm Hall Room 258 at 6 p.m. Participants are required to attend all classes, pass the written test and experience shooting at targets. The full class will be limited to the first 50 people registered. Contact the Martin Parks and Recreation Department 731-587-6784, to reserve a space, and have Social Security Number available when registering.

University of Tenn.-Martin one of best in Southeast

The University of Tennessee at Martin is one of the best colleges in the Southeast according to the nationally known education services company, The Princeton Review. UT Martin is one of 135 institutions The Princeton Review recommends in its "Best in the Southeast" section of its website feature, "2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region," that was posted this week on PrincetonReview.com. The university has been named to the "Best in the Southeast" listing for nine consecutive years.

"I am proud that The Princeton Review has again recognized UT Martin for providing a high-quality learning environment," said Dr. Tom Rakes, university chancellor. "Student input helped make this recognition possible through comments and feedback based on their experiences at the university. Receiving this designation for nine consecutive years is a compliment to faculty and staff who work hard to provide solid academic programming and outstanding student support."

"From hundreds of institutions we reviewed in each region, we selected these colleges and universities primarily for their excellent academic programs," said Robert Franek, Princeton Review's senior vice president/publishing. "We also took into account what students attending the schools reported to us about their campus experiences at them on our student survey for this project. Our 'regional best' colleges constitute only 25 percent of the nation's four-year colleges -- a select group, indeed." He added, "We believe our choices offer applicants and their parents a wide range of fine schools to consider."

The 135 colleges The Princeton Review chose for its "Best in the Southeast" designations are located in 12 states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated colleges in the Northeast, Midwest and West as best in their locales. Collectively, the 629 colleges named "regional best(s)" constitute about 25 percent of the nation's 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review does not rank the 629 colleges in its "2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region" list hierarchically or by region or in various categories.

For more information about UT Martin, go to www.utm.edu.
UT Martin among best

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“From hundreds of institutions we reviewed in each region, we selected those colleges and universities primarily for their excellent academic programs,” said Robert Franek, Princeton Review’s senior vice president/publishing. “We also took into account what students attending the schools reported to us about their campus experiences and their parents’ range of schools to consider.”

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Workforce honors Meadows as outstanding participant

The Northwest Tennessee Workforce Board recognized outstanding participants during the annual meeting held on Tuesday, August 16. Regina Meadows of Humboldt was awarded the 2010-11 Outstanding Participant for Gibson County.

Meadows received her Associate Degree in Social Work from Jackson State Community College, but quickly realized that she would need more education to pursue her dream of helping people as a social worker. The Tennessee Career Center at Humboldt awarded Meadows a Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Needs-Based Scholarship in April 2008 to enroll in the Social Work program at University of Tennessee at Martin.

As a young mother, she was determined to complete her bachelor’s degree. Meadows stated, “Things were hard at first because I was taking care of my son while going to school. My mother, my aunt, and my church family all stood by me and kept encouraging me to stick with it.”

Meadows’ WIA case manager, Maia Walters also commented, “Regina worked very hard and was very determined to finish. We are so proud of her diligence in completing the social work degree program.”

Meadows graduated in December 2010 with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. She is now the family treatment coordinator for Phoenix Homes. The Tennessee Career Center is Where People and Jobs Connect. Jobseekers can qualify for federally funded training programs. For more information contact Libby Wickersham at the Tennessee Career Center at Humboldt 784-3552 or wickersham@nwtnworks.org.
HONORED AT UTM — John Bell of Union City, head of the reference department for the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Paul Meek Library, has retired following 31 years of service. He was honored with a reception Friday at the Meek Library and was recognized for his knowledge of the library’s reference collection, bibliographic skills and keen sense of sports history. A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, he also previously worked for libraries at the University of Iowa, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Northern Illinois University. Joining him at his reception were Mary Carpenter (left), Paul Meek Library director, and Mary Hill, library associate, who worked with Bell for 25 years.

UT Martin offering photography class

People who want to get creative with digital photography can take a course offered by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Continuing Education.

Advanced Digital Photography/Creative Photography Skills is set for 6-9 p.m. Thursdays from Sept. 29-Oct. 20 at the Professional Development Center at 305 College St. in Dyersburg. The instructor is Roger Hughes and the fee is $105.

To register, contact the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at (731) 881-7082.

SOYBEAN FESTIVAL PAGEANTS

MARTIN: The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival is offering girls the opportunity to participate in the upcoming festival pageants sponsored by the University of Tennessee Federal Credit Union. Girls 0-21 years of age are eligible to participate in the pageants, September 3, beginning at 10 a.m. in the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Life Center, located at 199 Moody Street. The deadline to register is August 29. The pageant lineup includes the following: 10 a.m. - Baby Miss Soybean (0-1); 10:45 a.m. - Tiny Miss Soybean (2-3); 11:30 a.m. - Petite Miss Soybean (4-5); 1:00 p.m. - Little Miss Soybean (6-9); 2:30 p.m. - Junior Miss Soybean (10-12); 3:30 p.m. - Teen Miss Soybean (13-15); 4:30 p.m. - Miss Soybean (16-21). All pageants will have one queen and four alternates.

A $35 non-refundable entry fee is required with the application. Make check payable to the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Mail fee and application to: Tennessee Soybean Pageant, P.O. Box 713, Martin, TN 38237 or deliver to the Martin City Hall. There will be no registration at the door. For more information, call 731-587-9845.

Applications for pageants are available at: Martin – UT Federal Credit Union, Lana’s Boutique & Bridal, Sugar & Spice, Martin City Hall, Union City – Joan’s; and Milan – Special Occasions.

Online applications: www.tnsoybeanfestival.org.
Chamber offers business advice on September 1

Erik Markin, University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneur and Economic Development Center/Tennessee Small Business Development Center consultant, will help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners with business advice from 9:00 a.m. until noon, September 1, at the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce in Dresden.

Markin recently joined the TSBDC after spending five years in the financial industry and owning and operating two small businesses. He will be giving advice about business planning, financing options, marketing, customer service, cash flow, and other issues. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free.

Appointments can be made by contacting the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce in Dresden at 731-364-3189 or by contacting Markin at 731-587-7333. For additional services offered by TSBDC, go to www.tsbdc.org.