Imagine being a mother to a residence hall full of college students, making sure they don't have alcohol in their rooms and asking them to be quiet when they get rowdy. Now imagine being a peer to these students and having to do the same thing.

Megan Keeler, a 21-year-old UTM elementary education major from Ashland City, has experienced the struggles that come along with working as a UTM resident adviser.

"We definitely have to put up with a lot. I've had guys yell at me when I asked them not to be so rowdy. We also have to deal with bizarre and embarrassing things," said Keeler, who has been an RA for three years.

"One time a girl came to my room in the middle of the night because a girl sleepwalked into her room. We ended up having to call the police because none of us could wake her up," she said.

Keeler signed up to be an RA during the second semester of her freshman year, originally working in Cooper Hall. She has since worked on the first floor in Browning Hall.

"I was really nervous because I was the youngest of all the other RAs, but in the end I decided that age is just a number and that I could do it just as well as the others," Keeler said.

Keeler is responsible for changing bulletin boards on her floor, working at the Browning desk and being on call certain days in the event that students lock themselves out of their rooms.

On top of work duties, RAs are still students and have to juggle job responsibilities with heavy course loads. Although Keeler is well acclimated to this juggling act, it is still a struggle, she said.

"I'm taking 20 hours and this is my first semester of school. I also have to teach pre-K and kindergarten classes every week. If I didn't have a set schedule that I stuck to religiously, I'd probably go insane," Keeler said.

Regardless of the difficulties, RAs are compensated for their efforts with free room and board.

"We get a private bedroom and bathroom, which is paid for," Keeler said.

"We also get paid biweekly and make really good friends with the other RAs and Browning employees."

To qualify for a RA position at UTM, students must have a GPA of at least 2.3, have lived on campus for at least one semester, have no disciplinary marks on their record and take a semester-long class on being an RA.

Keeler doesn't regret being an RA.

"I don't think I would still be going to Martin if it weren't for me being an RA. I've met some of my closest friends through being one, so they're part of the reason why I stayed. This job is a great job to have while in college because they work around your schedule and are very understanding. It is also a great addition to a resume because it is considered a great form of leadership."

Amanda Caudle writes for the student newspaper at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
Barber to discuss the coming economic crisis

Dr. David Barber, associate professor of history and recipient of the 2010 Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will deliver an address titled “The Coming Economic Crisis” at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 11, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

The presentation is part of the Academic Speaker Series and is co-sponsored by Honors Programs and the Department of History and Philosophy.

Barber is the product of an interesting life journey. Born and raised on Long Island, he dropped out of college after one year and spent the next nearly 25 years working a series of blue-collar jobs. In 1993, he returned to school and earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history from San Francisco State University.

He received a doctorate in history from the University of California at Davis in 2003 and joined the faculty of the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2005.

His combination of solid teaching, strong research and effective service at the university, college and department level earned him the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award in 2008 and the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award in 2010.

He has been active in several areas on campus and has been part of the annual UT Martin Civil Rights Conference since his arrival on campus, and has served as the coordinator for the conference since 2008.

His book, “A Hard Rain Fell: SDS and Why It Failed,” was published to strong reviews by the University of Mississippi Press in 2008.

“David Barber is an outstanding faculty member, one who is visible and active on campus in a variety of functions,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director.

“As a member of the history faculty, I greatly admire the manner in which David is able to manage his time in being so effective in his many campus activities, while maintaining an active publication record.”

“David Barber is a devoted teacher and driven scholar, known for his passion in the classroom and his unwavering commitment to social justice,” said Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy chair.

“He’s a wonderful colleague and a true asset to UT Martin.”

For more information, call McDonough at 731-881-7436.
UT president-elect visits Martin

University of Tennessee President-elect Joe DiPietro, center, was in Martin, Oct. 28, as part of a two-day system tour following his election last week by the UT Board of Trustees as the 24th president. With him are Dr. Jan Simek, left, interim president, and UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes.

DiPietro made his first official visit to the University of Tennessee at Martin last Thursday and talked about his vision and first steps as the university’s 24th president. Currently serving as the UT Institute of Agriculture chancellor, he will begin his new role on Jan. 1, 2011.

“When I look at this university, and I’ve gotten to know it very well, ... our mission is to educate, to discover and to connect,” DiPietro said. “So, you do that very well here in Martin in many ways. You educate your students. Your enrollment is growing. It’s a vibrant campus,” he said.

He also talked about UT Martin's “connected nature” with initiatives such as the off-campus centers that joined today’s event by webcast from the Martin campus and the WestStar Leadership Program that has been developing leaders across West Tennessee for 22 years. These connections, he said, “are key to our success and the bright future that we have together.”

As he establishes his new administration, DiPietro said he will continue what he has always done – build teams. “... I can’t tell you how humble I am about that opportunity, but excited. He also will continue to foster relationships with the new governor and other elected officials in Nashville and Washington. Finally, DiPietro said he will push the Complete College Tennessee Act to increase the number of young adults in Tennessee who receive a baccalaureate degree and also support and promote the new UT Foundation, “because fund raising has become more critical for us.”

DiPietro said he wants to be aware of what’s happening and will spend time on the campuses. “I think that’s the best way I’ll be equipped to realize what challenges you have, what things you need and how I can best help you as the 24th president of this university.

“People are what make this work and make us great. It’s no one individual in a university that makes that happen. It’s all of us collectively together. And the university needs to be the centerpiece, not the president.”

DiPietro said the university owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Jan Simek, interim president, and to the board of trustees members, such as Betty Ann Tanner and Crawford Gallimore, “for what they’ve done in developing a structure that I think will send us to the next level.”

Simek also spoke and discussed the presidential search that culminated last See Visit, Page 4
Preview Day set for Nov. 13

The second fall preview day is set for Nov. 13 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Preview days are opportunities for high school students and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answers to students' questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid, college and housing costs, and the various university academic programs.

Registration will be from noon-12:30 p.m. in the Elam Center and will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university's academic fair, which also will take place in the Elam Center, academic department visits and campus tours.

Each student will receive a complimentary ticket for the UT Martin Skyhawk vs. Tennessee State football game at 6 p.m.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at 1-800-829-UTMI or 731-881-7020.

UTM Recycles! to host super shredder day

The University of Tennessee at Martin UTM Recycles! group is hosting its first campus/community cleanup and super-shredder day of the 2010-11 school year.

Individuals, families, campus and community organizations, church and civic groups are urged to adopt a street, highway, park and/or neighborhood in and around the Martin area to collect trash and recyclables from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Nov. 6.

Bags, gloves and water will be available from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the UTM Martin Recycling Facility at the corner of Moody Street and volunteers will be available to weigh and sort recyclables until 2 p.m.

Each group will be asked to take one bag for trash and one bag for recycling.

Recyclable products include #1 and #2 plastics, aluminum and tin cans, scrap metal, glass, batteries, paper and cardboard.

See RECYCLES, Page 4

RECYCLES FROM PAGE 1

Styrofoam, drinking straws and lids and plastic bags are included in trash. Total pounds collected will be posted on the UTM Recycles! Facebook page. In addition, the UT Martin Recycling Facility has a large shredder for destroying personal/confidential documents.

Residents may take items to be shredded to the facility from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday.

They can watch as staff members shred them.

DRESDEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee, November 3, 2010

UT Martin percussion ensemble to perform fall concert

The University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble will perform its fall concert at 3:00 p.m., November 7, in Room 112, Boling University Center.

The ensemble will perform several new works that feature the marimba and vibraphone. Works include “Song to the Moon” with Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music; a premiere by Dr. Scott Roberts, professor of music; “The Swan,” arranged by student conductor Zachary McCoy; “Forward Together Forward,” by Ben Wahlund; featured marimba soloist Stephen Hughes; “Omphalo Centric Lecture,” and a tango from Argentina. The ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Julie Hill, associate professor of music.

For more information, contact Hill at 731-881-7418 or jhill@utm.edu.

20th Century Jazz Piano Concert slated November 9

University of Tennessee at Martin students from the piano studio of Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, will present a program of jazz piano pieces from the 20th century at 7:30 p.m., November 9, in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.

The selections represent some of the most important jazz styles of the past century. Pieces to be performed include “Twelfth Street Rag,” by Eudy Bowman; “Elite Syncopations,” by Scott Joplin; “Boogie Woogie,” by Pine Top Smith; “Palm Garden,” by Fats Waller; a “Don’t Blame Me” stylization, by Thelonious Monk; “I Got Rhythm” and “Blue Lullaby,” by George Gershwin; “Take Five,” by Dave Brubeck and Paul Desmond; and Hoagy Carmichael’s “Georgia,” popularized by Ray Charles.

Students performing include Andrew Moore, of South Fulton; Michael Yandell, of Union City; Harold Johnson, of Memphis; Brandon Whaley, of Dresden; Victoria Morgan, of Cordova; Kyle Carter, of Troy; Michael Singleton, of Dyersburg; Katie Snider, of Glesen; Ciera Bessels, of Clarksville; and Will Sliger, of Martin. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Harriss at 731-881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.
Certified Lead Renovator and Lead Dust Sampling Technician courses planned

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies (ECOS) is offering a Certified Lead Renovator Course and a Lead Dust Sampling Technician Course that comply with the Environmental Protection Agency Renovation, Repair and Paint Rule.

The Certified Lead Renovator Course is scheduled from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break, on three dates: November 6 and 20, both at UT Martin, and December 4, at Union University in Jackson. The $250 fee includes: the textbook, Certified Renovator certificate from the National Center for Healthy Housing (NCHH) and EPA materials.

The eight-hour course will begin with “Why is lead a problem during renovations?” The following topics are also included: regulations, before beginning work, contain lead dust during work, during the work, cleaning activities and checking work, disposing of lead waste safely and documenting work.

This class meets EPA and Department of Housing and Urban Development requirements. Successful completion earns EPA Certified Renovator status for five years. Students will learn what EPAHUD requires of certified firms and renovators, and how to work in a lead-safe manner while complying with the EPA RRP Rule.

The EPA will begin enforcing the lead paint law, known as the RRP Rule, on October 1. Anyone who renovates, repairs or paints any building built before 1978 must comply with the Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule. If a project will disturb more than two-six square feet of interior paint surface, then a certified professional must perform a lead test. Violators of the EPA RRP Rule can be fined up to $37,500 per day.

The Lead Dust Sampling Technician Course is scheduled from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., with a one-hour lunch break, on two dates: November 13, at UT Martin, and December 11, at Union University. The $250 fee includes: the textbook, LDST certificate from the NCHH and EPA materials.

The eight-hour course will teach participants how to become a lead dust sampling technician, conduct visual inspections and documentation, collect dust samples for lab analysis, interpret lab results and write a lead dust clearance test report.

After renovation work, the EPA RRP rules require either a lead safety certification or a clearance test by a Certified Dust Sampling Technician. Successful completion of this training course completes certification process with a LDST certificate from NCHH.

Painting and Excel classes begin in November

Fall non-credit classes planned by the University of Tennessee at Martin offer area residents the opportunity to learn new skills. The courses get under way in November. Advance registration is required.

Painting for Beginners will be offered from 6:30-8:30 p.m., Thursdays, November 4-December 2. The registration fee is $75 plus an additional $25 supply fee paid to the instructor the first night of class.

Participants will learn different approaches to start and develop a painting and will look at composition and different styles of painting and brushwork. Students will also explore some of the qualities and techniques of acrylic paints and mediums, and basic color theory. The instructor of the course is Sherry Moore, a recent graduate of UT Martin with a BFA in studio art.

Intermediate Excel will be offered from 6:30-8:30 p.m., November 16 and 18. The registration fee is $85.

Participants will expand their knowledge of spreadsheets, work through complex functions and formulas, use statements and conditional formatting and customize graphs. Students will also learn about using relative and absolute referencing; create detailed examples and executive summaries; import data into a spreadsheet from an external source and integrate spreadsheets into word processing documents. This course will also help participants practice planning and design skills. The instructor is Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin analyst and programmer.

To register for these courses, call the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7082. Register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

Preview Day set for November 13 at UT Martin

The second fall preview day is set for November 13 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Preview days are opportunities for high school students and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answer to students’ questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid, college and housing costs, and the various university academic programs.

Registration will be from noon-12:30 p.m. in the Elam Center and will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university’s academic fair, which also will take place in the Elam Center, academic department visits and campus tours.

Each student will receive a complimentary ticket for the UT Martin Skyhawk vs. Tennessee State football game at 6 p.m.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at 1-800-829-UTM1 or 731-881-7020.
UTM preview day set Nov. 13

The second fall preview day is set for November 13 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Preview days provide opportunities for high school students and their families to visit and learn about the university. Each event is designed to enable future college students to become familiar with the Martin campus and to get that all-important first impression of university life.

Representatives of UT Martin will provide information and answer students' questions on a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid, college and housing costs, and various university academic programs.

Registration will be from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Elam Center and will be followed by a welcome and general information session, the university's academic fair, which also will take place in the Elam Center, academic department visits and campus tours. Each student will receive a complimentary ticket for the UT Martin Skyhawk vs. Tennessee State football game at 6 p.m.

For more information about Preview Day activities and events, call the UT Martin admissions office at 1-800-829-UTMI or 731-881-7020.

Vanguard Theatre presents 'Lady Audley's Secret'

The University of Tennessee at Martin Vanguard Theatre will present "Lady Audley's Secret," at 8 p.m., November 10, in the Student Life Center. Additional performances will be at 8 p.m., November 11-12, and 3 p.m., November 14. Tickets are $5 for students and children and $10 for adults. There will be no Saturday night performance.

Written by Douglas Sothern, this musical comedy melodrama is adapted from the 1860 novel by Mary Elizabeth Braddon. In the story, Lady Audley resorts to desperate measures to keep the truth concealed, including deceit, arson and cold-blooded murder, all while trying to maintain poise.

UT Martin cast members include: Jade Johnson, of Paris; Matthew Maitland, of Bradford; Caitlyn Geier, of Cape Cod, Mass.; Tyler Fitzgerald, of Pulaski; Courtney Countess, of Dyersburg; Clifton Smith, of Brownsville, and Mark Lassiter, of Memphis.

Other cast members include: Aston Clark, of Jackson; Todd Hill, of Charlotte; Megan Hollis, of Martin; Troy McDonald, of Munford; Hilary Mead, of Pocahontas; Susan Merryman, of Dyersburg; Ashley Totty, of Martin; Mary Ellen Wortham, of Drummonds; Ana Walker, of Brownsville; Garrett Causey, of Humboldt, and Eric Stagg, of Waynesboro. The student stage manager for the production is Lizzie Wouters, of Knoxville.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7090.
SKYHAWK MARCHING BAND

INVITATIONAL

The percussion captain of the band is pictured here with Katie McClain, Hamilton Moore and Daniel Houston, Skyhawk Band percussion captains, and Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

MARTIN, Tenn., Nov. 1, 2010 — Adamsville High School, of Adamsville, and McNairy Central High School, of Selmer, were among the 23 marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky that competed before a panel of experts at the University of Tennessee Martin’s Graham Stadium.

The Adamsville band received the 1st place trophy in Class A.

A Blue, the 3rd place trophy in Small Division, and the 1st place trophy in Small Division Percussion. The McNairy Central band received the 3rd place trophy in Class AAA. Dr. Andrew Bliss, assistant professor of music, served as the administrator for these events, which featured more than 1,500 high school students performing various musical styles.

Members of the band are pictured here with Dr. Lynn Alexander, left, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; Cindy Morris, second from left, and Joe Davis, second from right, Skyhawk Band section leaders, and Dr. Nola Jones, right, assistant professor of music.

Members of the band are pictured here with Cody Watkins, left, Skyhawk Band section leader; and Dr. Nola Jones, second from left, assistant professor of music.

A member of the band is pictured with Tia Pollard, left, Skyhawk Band field commander captain; Dr. Lynn Alexander, second from left, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Rory Anderson, right, Skyhawk Band section leader.
Fisheries science, aquaculture get new looks at UT Martin

Students at the University of Tennessee at Martin are studying one of the fastest-growing food production industries while they receive training in alternative agriculture and natural resources management.

In response to the need for fisheries studies and research on aquaculture practices, UT Martin has recently revamped the natural resources management major/wildlife and fisheries biology concentration offered by the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources.

New equipment has been installed at the Aquaculture Teaching and Research Center.

"Fish are an important source of protein for most of the world's population; however, the world fish stocks have been declining," said Dr. Bradley Ray, assistant professor of fisheries science. "Approximately 80 percent of wild-caught fisheries are either fully exploited or being overfished; therefore, aquaculture needs to be able to produce food for the growing human population. With the facilities we have on campus, we can do our small part in increasing productivity of aquaculture while decreasing the negative effects of overfishing."

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, aquaculture has a 6.9 percent annual growth rate since 1970 and is on pace to outproduce beef production this year. Currently, aquacultured species account for 47 percent of all fish consumed in the world.

As part of the recent UT Martin initiative, an experimental indoor aquaculture facility was created with four 1,500-gallon recirculating systems, for a total of 6,000 gallons. These four systems will be used in conjunction with the sixteenth-acre ponds on campus to conduct research and class demonstrations.

Currently, tilapia are housed in an indoor facility for trial purposes. In January, 6,000 tilapia will be grown in the indoor facility until April, when they will be moved outdoors for the final grow out. Tilapia are among the easiest and most profitable fish to farm.

The facility will allow for numerous undergraduate research opportunities, which may include eight-week feeding trials to seven-month replicated experiments to examine different water sources, feeding rates and feed ingredients.

During the fall semester each year, students in the principles of aquaculture course will be involved in the daily feeding and water quality assessments as part of course requirements to better prepare them for careers in aquaculture and animal science.

"Having this facility will also allow supervised independent research for undergraduate students," Ray said. "Faculty members in the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, along with faculty from the Department of Biological Sciences, will have access to the facility and the animals that are kept within the facility."

Kaleb Stratton, a Springfield senior, is enrolled in the wildlife and fisheries biology concentration.

"Aquaculture is a rising industry in our economy. In this class, we have been able to not only study aquaculture in the classroom, but in our own facility and other aquaculture facilities as well," Stratton said. "I am interested in wildlife and fisheries law enforcement, and within aquaculture you must have the proper permits and allowed species in your facility. Enforcement of rules and regulations in aquaculture is crucial to the environment and populations, as with any type of fish and wildlife regulations. The neatest part of the class is having hands-on experience raising tilapia in our own facility."

Travel-study set for May

The University of Tennessee at Martin is planning a travel-study program to Germany and Switzerland May 16-26, focusing on the events and people of the Protestant Reformation.

The trip is open to the public.

Dr. Arthur Hunt, associate professor of communications, and Stan Sieber, professor of history, will lead the group in retracing the steps of Martin Luther, John Calvin and Ulrich Zwingli. The group will explore old towns, historic churches and the rivers and alpine forests of Central Europe.

The tour includes visiting the cities of Wittenberg, Erfurt, Weimar, Bamberg, Rothenburg, Heidelberg, Worms, Mainz, Zurich and Geneva.

The cost of the trip is $3,875 and includes all transportation, double occupancy hotel accommodations, admission to all planned events and daily breakfast buffets. For those interested, the university will offer academic credit in accordance with the trip under the Departments of History and Philosophy and Communications.

The university is currently accepting applications for the tour. For more information, contact Lorrie Jackson at the UT Martin Center for International Education at (731) 881-3882 or e-mail ljackson@utm.edu.

‘Lady Audley’s Secret’ to be presented

The University of Tennessee at Martin Vanguard Theatre will present its opening performance of "Lady Audley’s Secret" at 8 p.m. Nov. 10 in the Student Life Center.

Tickets are $5 for students and children and $10 for adults. There will be no Saturday night performance.

Written by Douglas Seale, the musical comedy melodrama is adapted from the 1860 novel by Mary Elizabeth Braddon. In the story, Lady Audley resorts to desperate measures to keep the truth concealed, including deceit, arson and cold-blooded murder, while trying to maintain poise.

For information, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7090.
Achievement TMTA math competition is a big plus
By Bill Austin, Special to My Life
Posted November 3, 2010 at 10:20 a.m.

Approximately 350 mathematics teachers at all levels, from preschool to the university, attended the 55th annual conference of the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association on Sept. 24-25, at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The featured speaker was Colin Mulcahy of Spelman College in Atlanta. His research interests include quadratic forms and number theory. Mulcahy writes a bimonthly column titled "Card Colm" for the Mathematical Association of America in which he explores the mathematical principals behind card tricks. He performed his mixture of math and magic as the after-dinner speaker at the awards banquet.

In addition to Mulcahy's presentations, more than 100 other sessions and workshops were presented by mathematics teachers and educators from across the nation.

Eddie Keel, president of the Tennessee Mathematics Teachers Association, Desiree McIlwraith, president of Mathematics Teachers of Tennessee Northwest, and the faculty of the department of mathematics and statistics at UTM Martin arranged the program and managed the facilities for the conference.

Each year, TMTA administers mathematics contests in algebra 1, algebra 2, geometry, statistics, precalculus, and calculus and advanced topics across the state. In the spring of 2010, more than 5,000 of the top mathematics students in Tennessee participated in the contests. Students with the top 10 scores in each of the contests were invited to the annual conference and recognized at an awards banquet Sept. 24 in the University Center.

The top three finishers in each of the TMTA contests and the schools they represented received plaques. The student with the top score also received a cash award.
Vanguard Theatre to present ‘Lady Audley’s Secret’

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Tickets are $5 for students and children and $10 for adults.

There will be no Saturday night performance. Written by Douglas Keane, this musical comedy melodrama is adapted from the 1860 novel by Mary Elizabeth Braddon.

In the story, Lady Audley resorts to desperate measures to keep the truth concealed, including deceit, arson and cold-blooded murder, all while trying to maintain poise.

UT Martin cast members include: Jade Johnson, of Paris; Matthew Mainland, of Bradford; Caitlyn Geiler, of Cape Cod, Mass.; Tyler Fitzgerald, of Pulaski; Courtney Countess, of Dyersburg; Clifton Smith, of Brownsville; and Mark Lassiter, of Memphis.

Other cast members include: Aston Clark, of Jackson; Todd Hill, of Charlotte; Megan Hollis, of Martin; Troy McDonald, of Munford; Hillary Mead, of Pocahontas; Susan Merryman, of Dyersburg; Ashley Totty, of Martin; Mary Ellen Wortham, of Drummonds; Ana Waller, of Brownsville; Garrett Causey, of Humboldt; and Eric Staggs, of Waynesboro.

The student stage manager for the production is Lizzie Wouters, of Knoxville. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7090.

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The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Friday, November 5, 2010

UT Martin to host preview day

A fall preview day is set for Nov. 13 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Preview days allow high school students and their families to visit and learn about the university.

Registration will be noon-12:30 p.m. in Elam Center and will be followed by a welcome and general information session, an academic fair, academic department visits and campus tours.

Each student will receive a ticket for the UT Martin Skyhawk-Tennessee State football game at 6 p.m.

For more information, call the admissions office at 1-800-829-UTMI.
November 04, 2010 09:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

Educators Tackle Tightening Budgets with the Release of PerfectForms for Education

K-12 and Higher Education Institutions Simplify Common Tasks – from Admissions Applications to Absentee Notices – for as Little as $30 per Month

CARLSBAD, Calif. — PerfectForms, a company that enables anyone to create custom workflow applications online, today announced the launch of PerfectForms for Education to provide a simple and cost-effective way for educators to move traditionally paper-based processes online. PerfectForms' simple point-and-click tools enable anyone to build applications and begin using them in days, versus the weeks or months it would take to develop similar applications using traditional methods.

Designed for both K-12 and higher education environments, PerfectForms for Education enables schools to create custom workflows that suit their specific needs, or choose from 60 pre-built templates to address common tasks quickly. Educators can customize any of the templates to reflect their school colors, logos or typeface.

Higher education templates include:
- Admission Application
- Scholarship Application
- Change of Major Request
- Parking Sticker Application
- Transcript Request

K-12 templates include:
- Absence Notice
- School Safety Checklist
- School Vandalism/Theft Report
- Student Accident Report
- Request for Budget Transfer

PerfectForms' versatility, reasonable price-point and ease of use make it the ideal solution for educators under pressure to do more with less. By eliminating paperwork, improving communication and keeping critical information from getting lost in the shuffle, schools that use PerfectForms have increased efficiency and significantly reduced administrative costs.

"Next to email, our process automation system, based on PerfectForms, is expected to be the most important means of communication in the district," said Al Foytek, director of business information systems at Visalia Unified School District. Under pressure to reduce costs without making any large IT investments, Visalia identified 100 administrative processes that could be replaced with online, form-based processes. One process alone, which handles work order requests for the district's print shop, is expected to save $10,000 per year in the cost of forms and many times that figure in related labor savings.

Mike Abney, process improvement facilitator at the University of Tennessee at Martin says, "PerfectForms is the most user-friendly process implementation tool I've come across." Abney and other UT Martin PerfectForms users have used PerfectForms to address a number of processes from admissions and registration to student vaccination forms. In one of its most impactful implementations, UT Martin created and automated an online student ID request form. Doing so eliminated the process-heavy orientation system where freshmen students would stand in line to have their pictures taken on move-in day and then wait for an ID to be created. Instead, new students can now upload a picture of themselves online while registering
for summer orientation and their ID cards will be waiting for them when they arrive on campus.

"By introducing an environment that's built specifically for educators, already stocked with dozens of applicable templates to work with, we're trying to make life easier for administrators, teachers, IT professionals, students and parents at schools around the country," said Tom Allanson, CEO of PerfectForms. "The beauty of our software is that it can handle the heavy lifting that an IT pro might require, but it's built for the average person to use. With PerfectForms, anyone can take control of the processes they own by automating them online."

**ESCUE RECEIVES AWARD**

Molly Escue of Halls High School received the '2010 Howard Hyuck Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher Award.' The award was presented at the National Chemistry Week celebration of the Kentucky Lake section of the American Chemical Society on Oct. 18 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Escue was nominated by former student Nathan Smith for her efforts to make chemistry interesting and exciting to her students. Her innovative approach to teaching and use of laboratory exercises makes her class one that students look forward to. This recognition includes an award plaque and stipend. She is also eligible for nomination for the ACS Southeast Regional High School Chemistry Teacher Award.
Republicans leading every level of state government

BY TRACIE SIMER
TSIMER@JACKSONSUN.COM

Tuesday's elections made for many historical moments in Tennessee and across the country. One thing both share is a growth of the Republican presence in the halls of government, according to political experts.

Chris Devaney, chairman of the Tennessee Republican Party, said this year marks a few firsts for the state. "For the first time, Republicans will be leading at every level of government," he said. "This is the first time the governor and the state legislature are Republican, with a majority in the congressional delegation. We're ready to lead. We think it was good for Tennessee."

Stephen Fincher's victory in the 8th Congressional District race was historic as well, Devaney said.

"We won in the state house for the first time in seats held traditionally by Democrats," he said. "Fincher won a seat never once won by a Republican. The closest was Davy Crockett, who was with the Whig Party. ... The party is growing in West Tennessee. We've had wins where Democratic candidates have been entrenched."

SEE GOP, PAGE A2

GOVERNMENT
FROM PAGE 1

"I think the people spoke," he said. "Folks were very concerned about the direction of our country. They saw that in Tennessee and in our country. They were not happy with the policies of Barack Obama."

Voter turnout in Madison County showed 28,634 of the 63,313 registered voters in the county cast ballots. That is a 45 percent turnout, said Kim Buckley, administrator of elections for Madison County. About 14,093 voters cast their ballots in early and absentee voting, which was 49 percent of those who voted, she said.

Bryan Parsons, assistant professor of political science at University of Tennessee Martin, said the fact that Republicans had a successful election year comes as no surprise.

What is surprising is the size of that success. "What is very significant, and shouldn't be minimized, is that in nearly every election cycle the president's party loses seats," he said. The only years this didn't happen were 1934, 1998 and 2002. "Even when seats were gained, they were very marginal gains. The fact Democrats would lose was not unexpected. The question was how many? This number—which is approaching the mid-60s—is certainly one of the more significant losses by a president's party in midterm elections."

This new shift in power will be especially significant when restructuring the voting districts begins next year with new census data, Parsons said.

"What that means for the next several election cycles is the Republican Legislature and the governor will be in charge of redrawing some district lines based on census data," he said. "We can say from past evidence—what we often see is that states draw district lines to keep some of their own party's representatives safe."

Sean Evans, chair of the political science department at Union University, said Tuesday was a great night for Republicans across the country and catalytic for Democrats in Tennessee. Republicans made major gains in the U.S. House by picking up more than 60 seats, 20 state legislative bodies, six governorships and at least six U.S. Senate seats, he said.

"This was a wave election where the public exhibited or released its frustration with Democratic governments," he said. "They were upset about the economy and were holding Democrats accountable for not doing enough to improve it. They are holding them accountable for passing health care when the primary issue was the economy."

Democrats misread the mandate given them in 2008, when Obama was elected, Evans said.

"They saw that election as a vote for going in a progressive direction when it was a rejection of the Republicans," he said. "Republicans need to learn this lesson. Voters are not embracing conservative values but are disapproving what the Democrats were doing."

Chip Forrester, chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party, agreed that losses in a mid-term election are expected in historic cycles. An influx of anonymous money spent on campaigns and voter frustration also contributed to this year's outcome, he said.

"The national mood is a frustration in part of the American people at the slow progress we are making as a nation to pull ourselves out of the ditch that we were put into after eight years of Republican control," he said. "Republicans in Tennessee firmly have their hand on the pillar of government. We as Democrats look forward to the kind of solutions, common sense solutions, that will help the working Tennessee men and women find jobs, create economic development and opportunity and provide for a healthy Tennessee."

The exceptions to a Republican sweep in Tennes-
The show is more than ratatat-tat drums and clashing cymbals. Percussion includes many different instruments and many, such as the marimba and vibraphone, can be played in very melodic and beautiful ways.

Julie Hill, UTM associate professor of music, said this Sunday's concert will feature many beautiful works by those two instruments.

"But," Hill admits, "it will also include, as always, some bombastic percussive selections as well."

Soprano Amy Yeung will be the featured soloist Sunday and the ensemble will also premiere "Spiral Dance," a work by Scott Roberts. Both Yeung and Roberts are UTM faculty members.

Other works include a tango from Argentina and a Serbian-flavored work featuring senior percussion major Stephen Hughes. Hill said. Also, first-year percussion major Zachery McCoy has arranged a transcription of "Le Cygne" ("The Swan") by Camille Saint-Saens, she said.

The program will close with a dynamic piece titled "Forward Together Forward" by Ben Wahlund. It was composed as a tribute to the courage of Northern Illinois University students after the multiple-fatality campus shooting in February of 2008.

For more information contact Hill at jhill@utm.edu.

Above, the University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble poses outside the school's Boling Center with instructor Julie Hill, (seated third from left). Below, the Murray State University Jazz Orchestra has one Paris member, Jon Nash (back row, second from left). Photos are courtesy of each university's music department.
Sometimes an artist paints about what they see and sometimes an artist paints about what they imagine, but for Courtney Robertson, the Parma artist whose work is currently displayed in the entry of the Dunklin County Library branch at Malden, she often finds herself painting about what she believes.

While studying art as an undergrad at University of Tennessee-Martin and as a grad student at Ole Miss, Robertson learned to make her painting have meaning. Her professors encouraged her to define her art with depth and present it with professionalism.

During her time at Ole Miss, classes required her to speak about her art, discuss what she was feeling and how that was portrayed within her pieces. Often she would find that how she believed and how she felt about life and art did not coordinate with others in the room. Many of her pieces present positive Biblical themes as well as a pro-life stand. According to Robertson, many who claimed to be open-minded, would not accept her opinion and were actually close-minded concerning the conservative and Christian position she presented. She learned to present her ideas and beliefs without using a condescending or offensive manner. Having to present her beliefs in such a way, caused her to gain confidence in them.

Robertson states that pursuing a Bachelor's degree opened her eyes, "You have ideas that you leave home with and that is when I started figuring out my own person," This time also allowed her to understand something that she considers highly important. Though she is an advocate for education, she says she realizes that "education is good, but it is not an end unto itself." A lesson she learned from some highly educated instructors is that character and integrity are both more important. She feels that throughout her years in school, everyone she came into contact with influenced her, either negatively or positively, but she tried to learn something from each person.

Those years also assisted in an increase of confidence in her art. Dozens of assignments were required each week and that frequency allowed her to become more comfortable with her work.

Growing up on a farm, Robertson always thought she would study agriculture and continue driving a tractor. Life took her a different direction and she spent many years in the study of art, as an interior decorator, and as an artist for a high-end furniture company. She does believe that her love for art began at an early age and crayons were occasionally found being melted on her family's stove. Robertson sees this same interest with her four sons.

Recently, Robertson submitted some of her pieces in a display at the train depot in Sikeston. She was given the people's choice award at that showing. Her art has also been accepted to an exhibit in Cape Girardeau which is sponsored by the Drury Corporation and is open for area artists.

Some of Robertson's favorite mediums to work with are charcoal and acrylic. Recently she has began working in mixed media such as water colors, charcoal and ink.

In 1998, Robertson graduated from Gideon High School, began her bachelor's degree the following autumn and in 2001, she married Nick Robertson who is currently the pastor of Kimball Baptist Church in Malden. He is also a farmer and horse trainer for 7 Horse Training. The family has lived in Mississippi, Kentucky and New Mexico and has been back in Missouri for about one year.

To commission pieces by Robertson, she can be reached at mazarinegirl@sbcglobal.com or through her website which is courtneyrobertson7.com.

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Around Town

Brandi Petty received certification in July as an Athletic Trainer by completing a nationally accredited athletic training education program and passing the national exam administered by the Board of Certification, Inc.

The BOC is the only accredited certifying body for ATs in the United States. Upon becoming nationally certified, Brandi received her state license from the State of Tennessee in August granting her privileges to practice as an ATC in Tennessee.

Brandi graduated in 2006 from Spring Hill High School where she played volleyball for four years. After completing a rigorous four-year athletic training program at the University of Tennessee at Martin, she graduated cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in health and human performance on May 15, 2010. She worked as an AT student with the university’s football, baseball, volleyball, tennis and soccer teams.

Brandi is the daughter of Tommy and Cyndi Petty and has a brother, Heath, who is a student athlete at Spring Hill High School. She is the granddaughter of Bill and Nancy Bohannon, Glenn Petty and the late Joyce Petty, all of Spring Hill.

Brandi is employed by Star Physical Therapy in Franklin. She performs clinical work and provides athletic training coverage for schools and other sporting events in the Middle Tennessee area.

Story created Nov 07, 2010 - 16:46:27 EST.
Sept. 11 photo exhibit on display at UTM

The J. Houston Gordon Museum at the University of Tennessee at Martin is hosting "New York, September 11th" by Magnum Photographers," an exhibition of 39 large-format photographs from the photographic cooperative, Magnum Photos.

The exhibition — previously shown at the New York Historical Society in New York — will be on view locally today through Dec. 15. This exhibition began a national tour in 2005 on the five-year anniversary of the terrorist attacks. Since then, certain images have filled the media as well as the minds of Americans. However, the ability of Magnum photographers to capture images as they happened, many from an intimate, street-level perspective, provides an entirely new series of imagery.

The majority of the photographs were taken the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. While many photographers in the exhibit focused on the actual buildings under attack and other forms of destruction that occurred, others chose to capture the raw emotions of New Yorkers, providing the exhibit with a rich visual diversity under this central theme.

"New York, September 11th by Magnum Photographers" includes several beautiful photographs of the World Trade Center twin towers before their fall. These nostalgic images pay respect to the buildings and establish, along with all the other images, the importance of this exhibition as one that will help viewers learn about, process and remember a tragic day in U.S. history.

The exhibition is organized under the curatorial direction of Magnum Photos, New York, and the tour is administered by International Arts & Artists of Washington, D.C. It appears in West Tennessee with the support of the J. Houston Gordon Museum Endowment.

The J. Houston Gordon Museum is open to the public 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The gallery is located off the Paul Meek Library lobby, through the Corbett Special Collections reading room. Public parking is available in the student lot on the west side of Mount Pelia Road.

Magnum Photos is a photographic cooperative owned by its photographer-members. Magnum photographers chronicle the world and interpret its people, events, issues and personalities. Through its four editorial offices in New York, London, Paris and Tokyo, and a network of 15 subagents, Magnum Photos provides some of the century's great photographs to the press, publishers, advertising, television, galleries and museums around the world.

International Arts & Artists in Washington, D.C., is a non-profit arts service organization dedicated to increasing cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally, through exhibitions, programs and services to artists, arts institutions and the public.

Political commentator to take stage at UTM

Nationally renowned political commentator Jonathan Alter will speak at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 18, in the Elam Center. He will speak on "President Obama and American Politics in Light of the November Elections." His talk will be sponsored by Honors Programs, the Division of Student Affairs, Student Activities Council, First-Year Initiative, the College of Business and Global Affairs, Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science and Department of Communications.

A native of Chicago, Alter graduated with honors from Harvard University with a degree in history. He served as an editor of The Washington Monthly before joining Newsweek as an associate editor in the Nation section in 1983. He became Newsweek's media critic the following year, a senior writer in 1987 and senior editor in 1991. At Newsweek, he developed the popular "Conventional Wisdom Watch" and, as senior editor, shapes the magazine's overall news coverage, as well as contributing columns and articles.

He has been a contributing correspondent to NBC News since 1996, appearing regularly on such broadcasts as "Today," NBC Nightly News," "Meet the Press," CNBC and MSNBC, where he appears twice weekly on "Countdown with Keith Olbermann."

Alter is the author of three books: "The Promise: President Obama, Year One" (Simon and Schuster, 2010); "The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope" (Simon and Schuster, 2006); and "Between the Lines: A View Inside American Politics, People, and Culture" (2008), a book that includes not only a compilation of some of his best stories and columns, but also discusses his recent battle with cancer.

Alter has received numerous awards for his work, including multiple National Headliner Awards, American Bar Association Awards, Women in Communications Awards and the Gerald Loeb Award for Distinguished Business Reporting. In addition, Alter has served as a Fellow of the Japan Society in Tokyo (1993), as Ferris Visiting Professor of Press and Politics at Princeton University (1997) and held the John Rhodes Chair at Arizona State University (2009).

"Jonathan Alter is among the most prominent political commentators in the United States today," said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "Writing with wit and humanity, along with a clear view of the issues, trends, and personalities that are dominating American politics and culture, Alter's assessments are often noted for their accuracy. There is none better to guide us on the meaning of the November elections for President Obama and public policy as a whole."

For more information, contact McDonough at 731-881-7436.
Alumni Center named for Nick and Cathy Dunagan

Chancellor Emeritus Nick Dunagan served the University of Tennessee at Martin in a number of leadership roles through the years, capping his career as chancellor from 2001-2007. On Friday, Dr. Dunagan and his wife, Cathy, were honored with the naming of the Nick and Cathy Dunagan Alumni Center.

Constructed in 1969 as the Chancellor’s Residence, the structure was repurposed in 2008 to accommodate the Chancellor’s Suite and the Office of Alumni Relations.

“The Dunagan family has a connection with UT Martin that spans more than 50 years,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, at the dedication ceremony. “The family legacy began with Horace and Sara Dunagan, who first came to UT Junior College after WWII.” Rakes went on to say that through the years, the Dunagan family has supported business, honors, agriculture, education and student travel, among other programs. Their support included the Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking. Rakes also recognized all the Dunagan family members in attendance, many of whom are UT Martin alumni.

“It’s hard to welcome them back because they never really left,” said Rakes about Nick and Cathy Dunagan and their service to the university, community and county. He noted that Cathy is serving on the UT Development Council, and Nick currently chairs the Weakley County Economic Development Board and served on the Ned Ray McWherter Monument Commission. “We talk about servant leadership; it’s right in front of us.”

“It’s also fitting that the alumni center be named in honor of Nick and Cathy for their service, not only to the university, but their commitment to the students and alumni for several decades,” Rakes said.

Dunagan thanked Chancellor Rakes and the UT Board of Trustees for making the dedication possible. “It’s been a wonderful day, and we are very appreciative of this honor.” Dunagan added that this year marks the 42nd UT Martin homecoming he and Cathy have attended. “Homecoming 2010 will be very, very special in our hearts for a long, long time.

“None of us get to where we are on our own merits,” said Dunagan, who thanked his wife and family for their support of the university. “A day like today makes you appreciate the people who helped you along the way.” Reflecting on his UT Martin career, he said, “I really never felt like I had a job.” He said he got up each morning and the “best purpose was to go out and make a better world for the students.”

Dunagan began his work at UT Martin in 1973 as director of development. Some of his job assignments while at the university included executive vice chancellor, vice chancellor for development and administration and vice chancellor for student affairs.

Before being named the eighth chancellor in April 2001, he also served as interim chancellor three times (1985-86, 1997-98, 2000-01) and as executive director of WestStar, the university’s regional leadership program for West Tennessee. Dunagan retired from his position as chancellor in June 2007 and was named chancellor emeritus of UT Martin in September 2007.

Dunagan is also chair of the Volunteer Hospital Board of Trustees and was selected as the 2006 Weakley County Attorney of the Year by the Weakley County Chamber of Commerce. He also received the 2006 Otis L. Floyd Award for Excellence in Administration, presented by the Tennessee College Public Relations Association.

A native of Caruthersville, Missouri, Dunagan is a 1968 UT Martin graduate, a 1971 graduate of the University of Missouri School of Law and received a doctorate in higher education administration in 1990 from Vanderbilt University. He is a retired colonel in the Tennessee Army National Guard and is an active member in the Martin First United Methodist Church. Cathy Porter Dunagan, a Humboldt native, also is a UT Martin graduate. They have four grown children and six grandchildren. Three children and their spouses all graduated from UT Martin. Drs. Stan (UT Martin assistant professor of geology) and Stephanie Dunagan live in Paris and work in Martin and Paris, respectively; Cody and Glenna Dunagan live in Florence, Alabama, and Brett and Tracy VanderMeeden live and work in Madison, Mississippi. The fourth, Casey, and his wife, Elizabeth, live and work in Washington, D.C.
New York, September 11th exhibition at UT Martin

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Law enforcement roundtable Monday

A law enforcement roundtable is planned at the University of Tennessee at Martin, 7-8:30 p.m. Monday in Watkins Auditorium, Boling University Center.

The event, sponsored by the UT Martin Department of Behavioral Sciences and UT Martin Criminal Justice Program, is free and open to the public. The format will be a question-and-answer forum for concerned or interested individuals to ask questions of their law enforcement officials. Panel participants include representatives of the Martin, Union City, Jackson and Dyersburg police departments, UT Martin Department of Public Safety, Weakley County Sheriff's Department, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes will welcome participants and the community. Ray Stevenson, Martin Police Department chaplain, will be the moderator, and Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean, will close the program. For more information, contact the Department of Behavioral Sciences at 731-881-7520 or e-mail Donna Massey, associate professor of criminal justice, at dmassey@utm.edu.
‘The Coming Economic Crisis’
Barber’s topic on November 11

Dr. David Barber, associate professor of history and recipient of the 2010 Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will deliver an address titled “The Coming Economic Crisis” at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 11, in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center. The presentation is part of the Academic Speaker Series and is co-sponsored by Honors Programs and the Department of History and Philosophy.

Barber is the product of an interesting life journey. Born and raised on Long Island, he dropped out of college after one year and spent the next nearly 25 years working a series of blue-collar jobs. In 1993, he returned to school and earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history from San Francisco State University. He received a doctorate in history from the University of California at Davis in 2003 and joined the faculty of the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2005. His combination of solid teaching, strong research and effective service at the university, college and departmental level earned him the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award in 2008 and the Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award in 2010.

He has been active in several areas on campus and has been part of the annual UT Martin Civil Rights Conference since his arrival on campus, and has served as the coordinator for the conference since 2008. His book, “A Hard Rain Fell: SDS and Why it Failed,” was published to strong reviews by the University of Mississippi Press in 2008.

“David Barber is an outstanding faculty member, one who is visible and active on campus in a variety of functions,” said Dr. Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. “As a member of the history faculty, I greatly admire the manner in which David is able to manage his time in being so effective in his many campus activities, while maintaining an active publication record.”

“David Barber is a devoted teacher and driven scholar, known for his passion in the classroom and his unyielding commitment to social justice,” said Dr. David Coffey, UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy chair. “He’s a wonderful colleague and a true asset to UT Martin.”

For more information, call McDonough at 731-881-7436.

Dr. David Barber

VTA Annual Faculty Art Exhibition

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present the VTA Annual Faculty Art Exhibition beginning with an opening reception, slated from 5-7 p.m., November 16, on the second floor of the Paul Meek Library. Exhibitions sponsored by the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will be located in the Paul Meek Library while the Fine Arts Building undergoes renovations.

The exhibition features the latest works from the UT Martin Visual Arts faculty. Contributing faculty members include David McBeth, Lane Last, Dr. Carol Eckert, Diane Shaw, Jason Stot and Grace Eckert.

The exhibition will continue through the end of classes, December 10. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

Social Media Presentation - Lee Wetherington, director of strategic insight for ProfitStars, a division of Jack Henry & Associates, Inc., spoke on “SoMe, SoWhat? Social Media & What To Do Now” as part of the University of Tennessee Martin Academic Speaker Series. The presentation was sponsored by Honors Programs, Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and West Tennessee Technology Symposium. Prior to his presentation, he met with Honors Programs students to discuss his work. With Wetherington, left, is Amanda Wall, sophomore criminal justice major from South Fulton. (Photo submitted)
Outstanding Chapter

The University of Tennessee at Martin Student Members of the American Chemical Society Chapter recently won an Outstanding Rating and the Green Chemistry chapter award and leads the nation for the number of outstanding ratings (30) and Green Chapter designations (9). Thirty-six chapters received the outstanding ratings this year, and 52 were designated Green Chapters. There are more than 1,000 chapters nationwide. Pictured with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes are, left to right, executive committee members, Lee A. Elliott and Jhalak Patel, from Martin; secretary, Gilbert J. Forgy; from Clarksville; treasurer, Ashish J. Patel, from Columbia; faculty adviser, Dr. S.K. Arees; president, Kayla A. Polindexter, from Murfreesboro; vice president, Kayla M. Baker, from Troy; and executive committee member, Dahlia M. Haddad, from Martin.
SOCIAL MEDIA — Lee Wetherington, director of strategic insight for ProfitStars, a division of Jack Henry & Associates Inc., recently spoke on “SoMe, SoWhat? Social Media & What To Do Now” as part of the University of Tennessee at Martin Academic Speaker Series. The presentation was sponsored by Honors Programs, Horace and Sara Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking and West Tennessee Technology Symposium. Prior to his presentation, he met with Honors Programs students to discuss his work. Among them was Amanda Wall, a sophomore criminal justice major from South Fulton.

The Paris Post-Intelligencer, Paris, Tenn., Wednesday, November 10, 2010

Johnson among cast in new production

Jade Johnson, a Henry County High School graduate, has the female lead in the new UT Martin Vanguard Theatre production “Lady Audley’s Secret.” Shown from left are Tyler Fitzgerald as Capt. Robert Audley; Johnson as Lady Audley; and Matthew Maitland as Sir Michael. The play will be presented at 8 each of the next three nights, starting tonight and at 3 p.m. Sunday. For more information or to purchase tickets, contact the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7090.
UTM fisheries science, aquaculture get new looks with course changes, lab experiences

Students at the University of Tennessee at Martin are studying one of the fastest-growing food production industries while they receive training in alternative agriculture and natural resources management.

In response to the need for fisheries studies and research on aquaculture practices, UT Martin has recently revamped the natural resources management major/wildlife and fisheries biology concentration offered by the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources. New equipment has been installed at the Aquaculture Teaching and Research Center.

"Fish are an important source of protein for most of the world's population; however, the world fish stocks have been declining," said Dr. Bradley Ray, assistant professor of fisheries science. "Approximately 80-percent of wild-caught fisheries are either fully exploited or being overfished; therefore, aquaculture needs to be able to produce food for the growing human population. With the facilities we have on campus, we can do our small part in increasing productivity of aquaculture while decreasing the negative effects of overfishing."

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization, aquaculture has a 6.9-percent annual growth rate since 1970 and is on pace to out produce beef production this year. Currently, aquacultured species account for 47-percent of all fish consumed in the world.

As part of the recent UT Martin initiative, an experimental indoor aquaculture facility was created with four 1,500-gal recirculating systems, for a total of 6,000 gals. These four systems will be used in conjunction with the six one-tenth-acre ponds on campus to conduct research and as class demonstrations. Currently, tilapia are housed in an indoor facility for trial purposes. In January, 6,000 tilapia will be grown in the indoor facility until April, when they will be moved outdoors for the final growout. Tilapia are among the easiest and most profitable fish to farm.

The facility will allow for numerous undergraduate research opportunities, which may include eight-week feeding trials to seven-month replicated experiments to examine different water sources, feeding rates and feed ingredients.

During the fall semester, each year, students in the principles of aquaculture course will be involved in the daily feeding and water quality assessments as part of course requirements to better prepare them for careers in aquaculture and animal science.

"Having this facility will also allow supervised independent research for undergraduate students," said Ray. "Faculty members in the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources, along with faculty from the Department of Biological Sciences, will also have access to the facility and the animals that are kept within the facility."

Kaleb Stratton, a Springfield senior is enrolled in the wildlife and fisheries biology concentration. "Aquaculture is a rising industry in our economy. In this class we have been able to not only study aquaculture in the classroom, but in our own facility and other aquaculture facilities, as well," said Stratton. "I am interested in wildlife and fisheries law enforcement, and within aquaculture you must have the proper permits and allowed species in your facility. Enforcement of rules and regulations in aquaculture is crucial to the environment and populations, as with any type of fish and wildlife regulations. The newest part of the class is having hands-on experience raising tilapia in our own facility."

For more information, contact Ray at bray@utm.edu.

UT MARTIN PREVIEW DAY - Colton Beasley, student at Gibson County High School, attended the recent University of Tennessee at Martin Preview Day. More than 175 students were in attendance and received information about a variety of topics, including scholarships and financial aid, college and housing costs and various university academic programs. Beasley, of Humboldt, is pictured with his mother, Tanya Sanderson.
Crews takes helm of UTM Honors Program

Dr. Lionel Crews, associate director of University of Tennessee at Martin Honors Programs, recently was appointed director. Crews, associate professor of physics, succeeds Dr. Dan McDonough, who returns to a full-time history professor position at the end of the semester after five years as director.

"Dr. Crews is an engaging teacher and dedicated scholar who has been an outstanding associate director," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "He has some innovative ideas, and I look forward to working with him and the Honors Council to strengthen what is already one of UT Martin's signature programs."

Crews joined UT Martin in 2000 and became Honors Programs associate director in 2005. He received bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Vanderbilt University. He serves as associate curator of the Pink Palace Family of Museums in Memphis and is chairman of the science and technology committee for the upcoming Discovery Park of America museum in Union City. He has compiled an extensive list of scholarly activity, faculty teaching and development activities, has served on a number of university and departmental committees, and also has been involved in public service and consulting. He is a member of Tennessee Academy of Sciences, Tennessee Science Teachers Association, Sigma Xi UT Martin chapter, Tennessee Earth Science Teachers and the American Astronomical Society.

"I am very excited about this opportunity to take the helm of Honors Programs from the outstanding leadership of Dr. McDonough," said Crews. "During my tenure as director, I wish to emphasize collaborative efforts between Honors Programs and the various departments and colleges of UT Martin. We can take this program to the next level by increasing the relevance of Honors Programs to each and every discipline on campus."

For more information about Honors Programs, call 731-881-7436.

Trooper Moore promoted to assistant special agent

LOCAL TROOPER IS PROMOTED – Dan Moore (left) of Sharon is congratulated by Col. Tracy Trott on his recent promotion to assistant special agent.

A Tennessee Highway Patrolman from Sharon who has spent 15 years of service to the agency was among 10 officers receiving promotions statewide. Dan Moore has been promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge with the Criminal Investigation Division in Region 4 (West Tennessee).

He has worked with CID since 2007 and is currently assigned to the Department of Homeland Security ICE Division 287 (g) task force; the United States Secret Service task force (Memphis) and the financial crimes task force to the U.S. Attorney’s office in the state’s West District. Moore has also served as a special deputy United States Marshal since 2008.

Assistant SAC Moore worked as a uniformed trooper in both Shelby and Weakly County from 1995.

SEE MOORE, PAGE 4

Moore from Page 1

to 2007. Moore is a certified DUI and Radar Instructor; a reconstructionist, a K-9 handler, and a member of the 8th district Criminal Interdiction Team.

He is a graduate of the American International Institute of Polygraph and the National Forensic Academy Class #23, and received his degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Moore lives in Sharon, with his wife and two children.
VTA annual faculty art exhibition beginning Nov. 16

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For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

Alsop awarded citation

Rebecca Alsop, president of the University of Tennessee at Martin’s chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America, was awarded the National President’s Citation at the PRSSA Convention in Washington, D.C., Oct. 15-18. Alsop, of Prospect, is a senior communications major.

The National President’s Citation is awarded to chapter presidents who have met criteria that distinguish them as having demonstrated outstanding leadership to a local chapter. Out of more than 300 chapters across the country, 13 individuals received the award this year.

“I’m very pleased that Rebecca received this honor. Without question, her active involvement and leadership have made our chapter an extremely active and involved PRSSA chapter, and she deserves the recognition that should come along with such actions,” said Dr. Jeff Hoyer, associate professor of communications and PRSSA adviser. During the convention, Hoyer received a service award for his 12 years of continuous service as UT Martin’s PRSSA chapter adviser. Hoyer and UT Martin public relations students, Amy Dyssinger, of Bon Aqua, and Lori Winters, of Summertown, accepted the award on Alsop’s behalf.

Tour of London and Paris scheduled for spring 2011 UT Martin travel study

The University of Tennessee at Martin will conduct a spring travel study to London and Paris on March 9-21. Among the highlights of the travel study in London will be the Tower of London, St. Paul’s Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, the British Museum and the changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace. While in Paris, the group will see the Arc De Triomphe, Sacre Coeur, Notre-Dame, the Louvre, Napoleon’s Tomb and the Eiffel Tower.

In addition to the tours of London and Paris, a day trip has been planned to Stonehenge and Bath, and another to the Palace of Versailles. Also, the group will take the Eurostar train from London to Paris.

The cost is $3,425 per person. This includes roundtrip transportation from Martin to the airport; roundtrip airfare from Memphis to London and back from Paris; 11 nights hotel accommodations; daily breakfast; admissions to all scheduled events; day trips to Stonehenge and Versailles; and the Eurostar train from London to Paris.

Barber to speak at UT Martin

David Barber, recipient of the 2010 Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will deliver an address titled “The Coming Economic Crisis” at 7:30 p.m., today, in Watkins Auditorium of Boiling University Center.

The presentation is part of the Academic Speaker Series and is co-sponsored by Honors Programs and the Department of History and Philosophy, according to a news release. Barber is an associate professor of history.

He is the product of an interesting life journey. Born and raised on Long Island, he dropped out of college after one year and spent the next nearly 25 years working a series of blue-collar jobs. In 1993, he returned to school and earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in history from San Francisco State University.

Barber received a doctorate in history from the University of California at Davis in 2003 and joined the faculty of the University of Tennessee at Martin in 2005.

His combination of solid teaching, strong research and effective service at the university, college and departmental level earned him the UT Martin College of Humanities and Fine Arts Outstanding Junior Faculty Teaching Award in 2008.
University concerts offer holiday cheer

BY ASHLEY EDWARDS WALKER
JHILLMAN@JACKSONSUN.COM

West Tennessee universities will celebrate the holidays with concerts perfect for getting into the Christmas spirit.

Jazz, choral performances and more are open to the community.

Barber to speak at UT Martin

David Barber, recipient of the 2010 Cunningham Outstanding Teacher/Scholar Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will speak on "The Coming Economic Crisis" at 7:30 p.m. today in Watkins Auditorium of Boling University Center.

The presentation is part of the Academic Speaker Series and is co-sponsored by Honors Programs and the Department of History and Philosophy. Barber is an associate professor of history.
Soldier speaks on Veterans Day

BY STANLEY DUNLAP
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HUMBOLDT — The last tour in Iraq was the most emotional for a Medina resident as he left behind his wife of nine years and, for the first time, his 7-year-old son.

“We want to thank our brave men and women who've fought to protect and serve not only our nation’s freedom but for basic rights for men, women and children across the world,” she said.

The nation’s veterans fight to protect families and preserve its freedom and liberties, Hebel said.

“One thing I’ve learned during my deployment is soldiers always need something to keep them motivated,” he said. “This usually includes family, friends and religion.”

Hebel said he doesn’t share some of what he’s experienced during combat unless it’s with others who’ve been in battle.

“It’s hard to explain to someone that’s not been in the same position,” he said. “And for family, you may not want them to understand. At the same time I’ve seen some great things. I’ve seen us bring happiness to two nations. I’ve seen us lose a country ruled by a tyrant and another ruled by militia.”

Army Maj. Donnie Hebel, who returned from Iraq in July, said it was difficult to leave his family. On Thursday, Hebel thanked veterans and their families and those “patriots” who’ve supported the nation’s values. The 11-year military veteran spoke at the Veterans Day Program presented by the Humboldt Exchange Club and Gibson County Carl Perkins Center.

Hebel said his wife sacrificed and was able to handle family issues and still support him while he was overseas.

“I chose my profession,” he said during the event at Humboldt First Baptist Church. “I knew what raising my right hand would do, and I was prepared to take that obligation. But my wife did not. Those are the real unsung heroes, most of our spouses, our loved ones and our families.”

Since the Clarksville native joined the Army in 1999, he has held jobs such as being a company commander and ROTC instructor at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Hebel has received numerous awards including three Bronze Stars and been deployed twice in Iraq and once in Afghanistan.

“Some would say I’m experienced in combat and possibly culture,” he said. “I would say that I’ve learned much about our brothers when we fight.”

The holiday is important but the appreciation for the nation’s military extends year-round, said Humboldt Exchange Club President Ellis Blankenship.

Munford High School was among the 23 marching bands from Tennessee, Mississippi and Kentucky, that recently competed before a panel of experts at the University of Tennessee Martin’s Graham Stadium during the Skyhawk Marching Band Invitational. The Munford band received the first-place trophy in Class AAAA. Dr. Andrew Bliss, assistant professor of music, served as the administrator for this event, which featured more than 1,500 high school students performing various musical styles.
HOME REPAIRS CONTINUE
SIX MONTHS
AFTER THE FLOOD

The Clark family gathers with members of Lambuth United Methodist Church to sing and pray during the blessing of their home on Nov. 6.
Every part of the house but the outer walls was damaged.

Every item that was on the floor or a shelf less than 5 feet high — everything material — was lost.

Six months later, what has been found is a stronger, deeper love for family and a ceaseless gratitude for friends.

On May 1, Jeff and Laurie Clark, their daughter Claire and son Will were forced to evacuate their Lambuth Boulevard home in chest-deep floodwater. The couple and their daughter have lived in a Henderson rental home owned by a friend ever since. Will has lived in a dorm room at the University of Tennessee Martin since August. He is studying to be an Army chaplain.

"We had everything taken away in an instant," said Laurie Clark, "except ourselves. That is why we are stronger now because we have each other."

SEE FLOOD, PAGE A6

In Haywood County, "There are some people who are in their homes and still working and making improvements, and there are a few families that have not gotten back in yet," said Robert Parks, director of the Haywood County Emergency Management Agency.

Marty Clements said last week that there still were several Madison County residents repairing their flood-damaged homes. Clements is the director of the Madison County Emergency Management Agency. He said he did not know of anyone who was unable to return home except one resident on Dyer Creek Lane.

The Clark family, from left, Claire, 14, Laurie, Will, 18, and Jeff.

The Clarks' 12-room home was one of more than 80 Madison County homes and businesses damaged or destroyed that weekend. Floodwaters caused an estimated $2.3 million in damages to Madison County residential property and another $7.4 million in damages to commercial property, according to county records. Floodwaters also destroyed millions of dollars worth of vehicles that day. The Clarks lost three cars: a Pathfinder, a Jeep and a Ford Edge.

Madison County received a total of 10.67 inches of rain on May 1 and 2, according to the National Weather Service website. Some West Tennessee counties received 17 inches.

Widespread damage

Floodwaters hit historic highs May 1, destroying hundreds of millions of dollars in railroad tracks, farmland and crops, business equipment and buildings and residential real estate. Extensive damage was reported in nearly every county in West Tennessee.

Thirteen dams in the region either failed or were damaged. Seven of those were in Madison County, including three in the Springbrook area, of which two have yet to be repaired. Levees in Trenton, Rutherford, Kenton and Humboldt also were damaged, said Rickey Graves, director of the Gibson County Emergency Management Agency. About 150 Gibson County homes totaling more than $1.2 million were damaged or destroyed. Another $1.8 million in damage occurred to Gibson County businesses.

Madison, Gibson and Haywood were among the hardest-hit counties. Six months after the flood, some residents in these and other counties continue to make repairs to their homes in a final effort to recover.
From left: Claire, 14, Laurie, Will, 18, and Jeff Clark sing with members of their church, Lambuth United Methodist, during the blessing of their home Nov. 6.

"We had people show up we didn't even know," he said. "They came from my daughter's school, even though they didn't have a kid in my daughter's grade. They just knew and came and helped. I don't even know where half our stuff is. People just showed up and took it with them and stored it for us."

Clark said he put a note in the church bulletin a few weeks ago saying: "Hey, we are moving back home, come help us, and please bring our stuff."

Two weeks ago, construction workers hurried to put the final touches on the Clarks' back patio. They cleaned kitchen tiles and sealed the family room's wood floors for their return.

The Clarks had to refinance the house with a low-interest loan from the Small Business Administration, the lending arm of FEMA, to save it. The couple declined to say how much they owed on the house before the flood, the amount of the new mortgage, or the cost of building an entirely new home. County emergency management officials, however, estimated the Clarks' loss amounted to an estimated $251,594.

Jeff Clark said FEMA assistance paid for about 20 percent of all repairs. He said previously that the five-bedroom, three-bathroom home had been appraised for $190,000.

Clark, 47, is a 30-year sales veteran. Laurie Clark works at the radiation oncology desk at Jackson Madison County General Hospital. Jeff Clark said the biggest obstacle to returning home was the nearly three-month battle with his mortgage company. He said it took him that long to get the bank to send him the needed paperwork so the SBA could re-finance his mortgage.

"At one point," he said, "a person laughed at me and said, 'Well, I guess you should have had flood insurance.'"

He admitted there was a time when he nearly walked away from the house and let the bank foreclose on the empty shell.

"I thought about it," he said, "but it's where my kids grew up, and they wanted to come back here."

Laurie said being out of their home was hardest on their daughter, Claire. Living in Henderson added an additional 30-minute drive to Jackson Preparatory School, where she is in the eighth grade. The additional distance forced Claire to rise at 5:45 each morning to arrive at school on time.

Friends and church members from Lambuth Memorial United Methodist assist in cleanup of Laurie and Jeff Clark's home May 2 on Lambuth Boulevard.
"It's been the hardest six months ever," Claire said.

Her mom said the drive is a perfect example of how hardship has brought her family closer.

"Actually," Laurie said, "that is the one thing I will miss because that is our time together. We have had a lot of good talks."

On Nov. 6, Claire anxiously awaited the opportunity to return to her home, sit alone on her bedroom floor, and play her Fender acoustic guitar.

The 14-year-old said the flood has changed the way she looks at life.

"I know now that you don't have to sweat the little stuff," she said, "and you worry more about the big, what you can do something about, and how you can help people."

Laurie looks forward to the night of Nov. 24, when she will start cooking her family a Thanksgiving dinner of turkey and dressing, green beans, mashed potatoes and banana pudding.

The family's kitchen now has a stainless steel stove, gray slate floor and granite countertops.

Jeff said he just wants to eat with real silverware again.

"We have been using salad forks and the long, skinny teaspoons to eat with all this time," he said laughing, "because all the real silverware ended up packed away somewhere."

Jeff might not have laughed at his silverware predicament before the flood. But he said dealing with the additional daily drive and the mortgage company, coordinating construction work and doing his own job each day taught him a lesson about handling life.

"I have got a lot of patience out the wazoo now," he said, "and I was not a patient person before this."

The family's kitchen is still being finished. The hallways leading to the bedrooms and bathrooms are lemon. There is still some finishing work to be done. None of it was important enough to keep the Clarks from moving home.

Laurie and Jeff weren't sure how to thank the flood of people who came with food and their belongings and friendship.

"I am the happiest person in the world right now," Laurie said.

- Ned Hunter, 425-9641

First State donates to UTM Turf Club

First State in Sharon recently made a donation to the University of Tennessee at Martin Turf Club. Pictured (left to right) are: Chris Reavis, UTM golf club president, and Joe Brasher, community bank president for First State in Sharon.
Governor's School is for high school sophomores, juniors

BY TAJUANA CHESHER • TCHESHER@JACKSONSUN.COM • NOVEMBER 15, 2010

The deadline is near for high school sophomores and juniors to submit an application for the summer 2011 session of Tennessee Governor's School.

Governor's School offers programs for high school students interested in the arts, humanities, international studies, engineering, science, teaching, scientific exploration of Tennessee's heritage, information technology, leadership and agricultural science.

Many of the programs have application deadlines of Nov. 24 or Dec. 15.

The deadline for international studies is Dec. 6, and the deadline for the arts program has already passed, according to the state's website.

All Governor's School students have the opportunity to earn three to eight university credit hours. Students who complete the program will be awarded a certificate of merit signed by the governor.

Jackson Madison County School parent Faith Carrillo said her three children, all students at North Side High School, participated in the 2010 summer session. She credits the program for helping her children solidify their college plans.

"Each of them is very solid in their ideas and future plans," Carrillo said. "Since they've been back, they've been talking about their futures with rigor."

Carrillo's daughter April, a senior, was accepted to the humanities program at the University of Tennessee Martin.

"Before the program, I wanted to be a homicide detective," she said. "At the end of the program, I learned that I was more suited to being a district attorney."

When Brittany Hooper, Carrillo's adopted daughter, a senior, was accepted to the prospective teachers program at University of Tennessee Chattanooga, she wanted to teach high school drama.

"Now she wants to be an elementary school teacher," Carrillo said.

Her son, Pablo Carrillo, a junior, attended the science program at University of Tennessee Knoxville.

"But when he returned, he realized philosophy was more for him," Carrillo said.

Her children were in their programs for five weeks during the summer, and the family's only expenses were travel, laundry and phone cards.

Dan Moore promoted Assistant Special Agent in Charge with the Criminal Investigation Division

Entering his 15th year with the THP, Dan Moore has been promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge with the Criminal Investigation Division, Region 4 (West Tenn.). He has worked with CID since 2007 and is currently assigned to the Department of Homeland Security ICE Division 287(g) task force; the United States Secret Service task force (Memphis) and the financial crimes task force to the U.S. Attorney's office in the state's West District.

Moore has also served as a special deputy United States Marshal since 2008. Assistant SAC Moore worked as a uniformed trooper in both Shelby and Weakley County from 1995 to 2007. Moore is a certified DUI and Radar Instructor; a reconstructionist, a K-9 handler, and a member of the 8th district Criminal Interdiction Team.

He is a graduate of the American International Institute of Polygraph and the National Forensic Academy Class #23, and received his degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. Moore lives in Sharon, Tenn., with his wife and two children.
UTM students given glimpse into law enforcement careers

By KEVIN BOWDEN
Staff Reporter

University of Tennessee at Martin students preparing for a career in law enforcement were given a glimpse into how to break into that field during a 90-minute roundtable Monday night.

The Third Annual Law Enforcement Roundtable was held in the Boling University Center on the UTM campus. A crowd estimated at 100 listened as each of eight panelists discussed what it takes to enter the field of law enforcement.

The panel included Union City assistant police chief Perry Barfield, who was joined by representatives of other area police and sheriff's departments, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, UTM's Department of Public Safety and a representative of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

"The individuals we have here tonight have a real breadth of experience," UTM chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes said as he opened the session.

His opening remarks included praise for the panelists and the audience that turned out for the roundtable. Rakes also reminded those at the roundtable of the importance of law enforcement in today's society.

For the UTM community, the chancellor said the university is committed to providing a safe environment on campus. He said UTM recently invested more than $3 million to upgrade lighting across campus and has added external cameras to keep students safe.

Monday night's law enforcement roundtable was created by former Obion County resident and businessman Ray Stevenson. Now a resident of Martin and teaching at UTM, Stevenson continues to work closely with law enforcement agencies.

He organized Monday night's event with the UTM Department of Behavioral Sciences and Criminal Justice Program.

For Barfield and others on the panel, the roundtable provided them with an opportunity to talk with students about the requirements to enter the many different fields of law enforcement. Panelists also answered questions about starting salaries, minimum standards and qualifications.

The roundtable served as a unique career counseling session for the students in attendance.

Stevenson said he created the format of the program by design, to help students studying criminal justice and other related fields understand more clearly about what's in store for them after they graduate.

"I was really pleased with the program and the turnout," Barfield said.

(See Page 5, Col. 1)

break into the law enforcement field.

Barfield, who has 31 years of law enforcement experience, brought a wealth of knowledge to the roundtable. Like the others who participated in the panel discussion, he has made a career out of fighting crime and was able to provide the student audience with practical advice on just what it takes to be a law enforcement officer.

He told the audience that in his jurisdiction — Union City — there has been a recent significant increase in domestic abuse cases.

"I enjoyed participating in the roundtable," Barfield said today. "It was a good opportunity for students to get a grasp on what it takes to be a law enforcement officer."

Barfield missed participating in last year's roundtable, but was involved in the inaugural roundtable. He praised the event as a very direct way to inform college students about the many aspects of law enforcement.

Barfield said he felt the session was "very informative" and he described the student audience as "very attentive."

Kevin Bowden may be contacted by e-mail at kmbowden@ucmessenger.com.
ROUNDTABLE TALK — A crowd of about 100 University of Tennessee at Martin students turned out for the Third Annual Law Enforcement Roundtable held Monday night at UTM's Boling Student Center. Minutes before the opening of the roundtable, moderator Ray Stevenson (from left) looked over a law enforcement book with Union City Assistant Police Chief Perry Barfield and UTM Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes. Barfield was one of eight members of the panel who fielded questions from an audience that consisted mainly of UTM students pursuing a career in law enforcement. The roundtable is the brainchild of Stevenson, who is a former Obion County resident and businessman who has remained actively involved working with law enforcement agencies.

Cherry to perform senior voice recital

Virginia Anne Cherry, a senior vocal music education major at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will perform her senior voice recital at 3:00 p.m., November 21, at Martin First United Methodist Church.

Cherry, of Ripley, will be singing vocal works written by composers Handel, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Offenbach, Charpentier, Debussy and Beach. Delana Easley, lecturer of music, will accompany her on the piano. The recital is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Yeung, associate professor of music, at 731-881-7408.

DRESDEN ENTERPRISE, Dresden, Tennessee.

Wednesday, November 17, 2010
FALL 2010 FEATURED FACULTY SCHOLAR — Dr. Susan Buckelew, second from left, associate professor of psychology, who recently was named the Fall 2010 Featured Faculty Scholar, is pictured with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, left; Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; and Dr. Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean.

Buckelew recognized as featured faculty scholar

Dr. Susan Buckelew, University of Tennessee at Martin associate professor of psychology, was recently named the Fall 2010 Featured Faculty Scholar. Each semester, the university recognizes outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarship.

Buckelew received a Bachelor of Science degree from UT Martin and master's degree and doctorate from Auburn University. She began her career at UT Martin in 2001 as an assistant professor. In 2007, she was promoted to associate professor with tenure. She currently teaches psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences.

With a background as a researcher of physical medicine and rehabilitation, Buckelew provides her undergraduate students a unique perspective. She mentors honors students and is a supervisor for research by undergraduate psychology majors. She also supervises the fieldwork activities at HealthSouth Cane Creek Rehabilitation Hospital and other applied mental health settings.

Buckelew has been featured in peer-reviewed publications, where she is well known and well respected in her field. She was given the Distinguished Research Award for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences in 2008.

Buckelew continues research in rehabilitation psychology that she began 26 years ago, while maintaining a 12-hour teaching load each semester and advising up to 30 students per semester. She serves on various committees and belongs to several professional associations.

A sample of Buckelew's publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.

SMACS HELP BOY SCOUTS — Nineteen members of the University of Tennessee at Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) were on hand to help 24 area Boy Scouts from seven troops of five cities obtain Chemistry Merit Badges at the clinic organized by the chapter on Nov. 6. One scout from Troop 11 of Martin participated. Pictured, from left, are SMACS member Sarah Griffin, Kiran Last and SMACS member Erick Bryns.

FIRST STATE SUPPORTS CLUB — First State is a proud sponsor of the UTM Turf Club. Chris Reavis (left), UTM golf club president, receives donation from Joe Brasher, community bank president for First State in Sharon.
Empty Bowls Supper to benefit We Care

The Interfaith Student Center is teaming up with local potter David McBeth for the eighth annual Empty Bowls Soup Supper.

The event, which is held each year to raise money for the food bank at WE Care Ministries, will be held Thursday, Nov. 18, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Student Center.

For a $10 donation, individuals can enjoy an all-you-can-eat soup supper and take home a pottery bowl handcrafted by UTM art professor David McBeth and some of his students.

A $5 donation is requested for those who wish to eat only, but UTM students can eat for free. All donations will go to help feed the hungry in Weakley County.

In the last two years, the Empty Bowls Soup Supper has raised almost $5,000 for the WE Care food pantry.

Each year, Professor Mc-See Bowls, Page 4

Bowls from Page 1

Beth donates his time and the cost of materials to make the bowls.

Soup is donated by area churches and Sodexho Dining Services, while students at UT Martin volunteer their time to assist with meal preparations, serving, and clean-up.

The Interfaith Student Center is located on the eastern edge of the UTM campus at 312 Lovelace Ave.

For more information, contact the Rev. Johnnie Valentine-Downey at (731) 587-2603.

UTM enrollment sets record

The University of Tennessee at Martin has more than 8,400 students and continues to set all-time enrollment records in six categories, based on fall 2010 enrollment figures.

A total of 8,469 students are enrolled for the fall semester, an increase from 8,101 recorded for fall 2009.

The fall 2010 total includes all-time record fall enrollments for total headcount, undergraduates, graduate students, dual-enrollment students, transfer students, total credit hours and total full-time equivalent. Public higher education funding is based on fall semester full-time equivalency.

"We continue to experience increasing levels of enrollment interest. I am proud of the high quality of our faculty and staff, who serve to draw increasing numbers of great students," said Dr. Tom Raksa, university chancellor.

Based on final figures, this fall's enrollment at UT Martin is a 4.5-percent increase over fall 2009. Final figures are compiled by the university's Office of Institutional Research and Planning.

The fall enrollment also reflects 1,255 freshmen on the UT Martin campus. Fall enrollment indicates that first-time freshmen have an average 3.4 high school grade-point average, up from 3.39 in 2009. There are 360 more undergraduate students returning, which represents an 8.3-percent increase. The university also experienced growth in on-campus undergraduate students and online at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

"Our increasing numbers are encouraging, but we continue to focus on academic rigor and the importance of the overall academic and learning atmosphere our students deserve," said Raksa.

Compared to last year's totals, UT Martin has 368 more undergraduate and graduate students. There are 112 additional dual-enrollment students, a 12.1-percent increase; and 44 more transfer students, a 7.9-percent increase.

UT Martin began the 2010-11 school year with the announcement that the university advanced in the top-tier ranking for master's level public universities in the South in the 2011 edition of America's Best Colleges compiled by U.S. News & World Report. Also, it was announced in August that UT Martin again earned the designation as one of the best colleges and universities in the Southeast, according to The Princeton Review, 2011 Edition. The New York City-based educational services company selected the school as one of 133 institutions it recommends in its "Best in the Southeast" section on its website feature, "2011 Best Colleges: Region by Region."

Turkey shoot set at UTM

The UTM Rifle Club will hold its annual turkey shoot at the rifle range in the ROTC building Monday-Thursday, Nov. 15-18 from 4-6 p.m. each day. Members of the UTM Rifle Team supervise firing, and all ages from 6 to 96 can safely participate.

Participants may compete in either the luck or the skill category or both. Winners have their choice of a Domino's Pizza coupon or a turkey from E.W. James; winners last year claimed approximately 15 pizzas or turkeys. For more information call 881-7586 or 587-5547.
UTM launches All Steinway Campaign, welcomes new pianos

The event sparked a brief impromptu performance as Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, and Michael Singleton, one of her students, showed what piano enthusiasts do when they see a new piano - they play.

Harriss, University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music interim chair, and Singleton, of Dyersburg, were among the group of donors, administrators, faculty, staff and students who attended a ceremony Friday for the university's All Steinway Campaign announcement. The focus was the delivery of two grand pianos and six vertical faculty studio and student practice room pianos, part of the campaign to become an All Steinway institution that is being funded primarily by private donations.

Someone asked Harriss prior to the ceremony about the importance of the Steinway distinction. "I looked at him, and I said, 'what is the finest piano made,' and he said, 'Steinway.'" Harriss said she added that "it's the finest instrument, that's what this school wants for its students."

At the culmination of the campaign, UT Martin will become one of more than 110 conservatories, colleges and universities worldwide and the third public institution in Tennessee with the distinction as an All Steinway institution. Students in these institutions perform and are taught only on Steinway pianos.

Dr. Jerald Ogg, UT Martin vice chancellor for academic affairs, represented Chancellor Tom Rakes at the ceremony, and noted that the designation will help recruit and retain the best students and faculty. The distinction of All Steinway, he said, "is about changing students' lives."

In introducing and expressing appreciation to Bill Blankenship, who chairs the All Steinway steering committee, Ogg said, "You don't just end up as an All Steinway School." Blankenship and his wife, Roberta, of Sandestin, Fla., along with Dr. and Mrs. Robert Gibson, of Union City, attended the ceremony and signed the Steinway grand pianos they donated as part of the campaign. Other donors, including Ed Williamson, of Pensacola, Fla., and Harriss, along with additional faculty, staff and students, signed the vertical pianos.

"This university has had many great days," said Blankenship. "I put this one right up there at the top." Noting that one or two people don't make a project such as this happen, Blankenship thanked other individuals who have donated to the campaign. "These individuals have also committed to make contributions to the All Steinway school," Blankenship praised the foresight of the music department in reconditioning Steinways that positioned the school for Friday's announcement.

"Bob and I are so happy to be able to put our names on a Steinway concert grand piano," said Virginia Gibson. "We also are pleased to give this in honor of Michael Yandell, who is a senior music major at UT Martin. We have known Michael many years at Union City First Christian Church, where he has played the piano."

"I am very thankful for the investment in UT Martin's Department of Music to convert the program into an 'All Steinway' school," said Andrew Moore, a piano and chemistry double major from South Fulton. "By providing students with the finest pianos available, this shows the department's commitment to artistry and musicianship. As a piano student in the department, having top-quality pianos at my disposal will certainly enhance my musical abilities and allow me to critique my skills at the piano. Other students in the department will benefit by being accompanied by superior, well-maintained pianos. Overall, this investment will improve the quality of the UT Martin Department of Music and will allow the program to promote a higher level of artistry among the students," he added.

During the past seven years, the UT Martin Department of Music has returned nine of the university's Steinway 7-foot grand pianos to "like new" condition. A 9-foot Steinway D and a Steinway Boston were purchased during 2009-10. The Steinway D was signed by Henry E. Steinway and housed in Carnegie Hall for five years as part of the Steinway and Sons Concert and Artists Program. The replacement of 18 faculty studio and practice room uprights will need to be purchased to complete the project.

Following the arrival and assembly of the pianos Friday morning, there was an evening program with a performance of Irving Berlin's "I Love a Piano" and other pieces by Harriss and UT Martin students.

All Steinway Campaign at UTM

Dr. David Loebbaka and Dr. Allison Nelson, of Jackson, University of Tennessee at Martin professor emeriti of physics and music, respectively, recently signed the Steinway vertical piano they donated as part of the UT Martin All Steinway Campaign that is being funded primarily by private donations. At the culmination of the campaign, UT Martin will become one of more than 110 conservatories, colleges and universities worldwide and the third public institution in Tennessee with the distinction as an All Steinway institution. Students in these institutions perform and are taught only on Steinway pianos.
Students claim top awards at conference

A University of Tennessee at Martin student and a recent graduate claimed top awards at the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America 2010 International Annual Meetings, October 31-November 3, in Long Beach, California. The theme of the conference was “Green Revolution 2.0: Food + Energy and Environmental Security,” and it attracted more than 3,500 attendees.

Lindsey Slaughter, of Lyles, won first place in the undergraduate research (oral) presentation in the Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES) competition. SASES is an undergraduate student organization of the American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) and Soil Science Society of America (SSSA). Slaughter is a May 2010 graduate and is a University of Kentucky graduate student. Wes Rodgers, of Prospect, won second place in the undergraduate student research (poster) presentation. He is slated to graduate in December.

Both students presented their results from independent research projects conducted at UT Martin. Slaughter’s presentation was “Composting to Mitigate Institutional Waste Streams,” and Rodgers’ presentation title was “Geospatially Predicting Ephemeral Gullies.”

Slaughter and Rodgers were accompanied by Dr. Paula Gale, professor of soil science.

President-elect DiPietro visits UT Martin campus

University of Tennessee President-elect Joe DiPietro made his first official visit to the University of Tennessee at Martin recently and talked about his vision and first steps as the university’s 24th president. Currently serving as the UT Institute of Agriculture chancellor, he will begin his new role on January 1, 2011.

“When I look at this university, and I’ve gotten to know it very well, our mission is to educate, discover and to connect,” said DiPietro. “So, you do that very well here in Martin in many ways. You educate your students. Your enrollment is growing. It’s a vibrant campus,” he said.

He also talked about UT Martin’s “connected nature” with initiatives such as the off-campus centers that joined today’s event by webcast from the Martin campus and the WestStar Leadership Program that has been developing leaders across West Tennessee for 22 years. These connections, he said, “are key to our success and the bright future that we have together.”

As he establishes his new administration, DiPietro said he will continue what he has always done, build teams. “...I can’t tell you how humble I am about that opportunity, but excited.” He also will continue to foster relationships with the new governor and other elected officials in Nashville and Washington. Finally, DiPietro said he will push the Complete College Tennessee Act to increase the number of young adults in Tennessee who receive a baccalaureate degree and also support and promote the new UT Foundation, “because fundraising has become more critical for us.”

DiPietro said he wants to be aware of what’s happening and will spend time on the campuses. “I think that’s the best way I’ll be equipped to realize what challenges you have, what things you need and how I can best help you as the 24th president of this university.”

“People are what make this work and make us great. It’s no one individual in a university that makes that happen. It’s all of us collectively together. And the university needs to be the centerpiece, not the president.”

DiPietro said the university owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Jan Simek, interim president, and to the board of trustees members, such as Betty Ann Tanner and Crawford Gallimore, “for what they’ve done in developing a structure that I think will send us to the next level.”

Simek also spoke and discussed the presidential search that culminated last week when the trustees elected DiPietro during the fall meeting. “We really needed somebody who understands who we are and that’s exactly what the board of trustees did,” said Simek. “He is perfect, I believe, for the future of the University of Tennessee.”

Reflecting on his time as interim president, Simek thanked the UT Martin campus community for its support. He added that getting to know and work with the UT Martin campus community “has been really one of the very greatest parts of the experience that I’ve had. This is a terrific place. You do a wonderful job.”

UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomed DiPietro and his wife, Deb, and those attending the event, including UT Trustee Betty Ann Tanner, of Union City, who was accompanied by her husband, Congressman John Tanner, UT Trustee Crawford Gallimore, of Martin, and his wife, Nancy.

A reception was hosted for the new president following the program. DiPietro departed Martin for a stop at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis to end the first day of his two-day tour of campuses.
Empty Bowls Soup Supper for We Care

The Interfaith Student Center is teaming up with local potter David McBeth for the eighth annual Empty Bowls Soup Supper.

The event, which is held each year to raise money for the food bank at WE Care Ministries, will be held Thursday, Nov. 18, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Student Center. For a $10 donation, individuals can enjoy an all-you-can-eat soup supper and take home a pottery bowl handcrafted by UTM art professor David McBeth and some of his students. A $5 donation is requested for those who wish to eat only, but UTM students can eat for free. All donations will go to help feed the hungry in Weakley County.

In the last two years, the Empty Bowls Soup Supper has raised almost $5,000 for the WE Care food pantry.

Each year, Professor McBeth donates his time and the cost of materials to make the bowls. Soup is donated by area churches and Sodexo Dining Services, while students at UT Martin volunteer their time to assist with meal preparations, serving, and clean-up. The Interfaith Student Center is located on the eastern edge of the UTM campus at 312 Lovelace Ave.

For more information, contact the Rev. Jolonne Balentine-Downey at (731) 587-2603.

Joyner to perform senior voice recital

Brittney Joyner, a senior vocal music education major at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will perform her senior voice recital at 7:30 p.m., November 21, at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin.

Joyner, of Friendship, will be singing vocal works written by composers Emanuele d’Astorga, Johannes Brahms, W.A. Mozart, Claude Debussy and Samuel Barber. The recital covers 200 years of music, four different musical time periods and four different languages. The recital is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Roberto Mancusi, assistant professor of music, at 731-881-7405.

Alter to speak at Elam Center

Nationally renowned political commentator Jonathan Alter will speak at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, in the Elam Center at the University of Tennessee Martin, according to a news release.

He will speak on "President Obama and American Politics in Light of the November Elections." His talk will be sponsored by Honors Programs, the Division of Student Affairs, Student Activities Council, First-Year Initiative, the College of Business and Global Affairs, Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science and Department of Communications.

A native of Chicago, Alter graduated with honors from Harvard University with a degree in history. He served as an editor of The Washington Monthly before joining Newsweek as an associate editor in the Nation section in 1983. Alter became Newsweek's media critic the following year, a senior writer in 1987 and senior editor in 1991. At Newsweek, he developed the popular "Conventional Wisdom Watch" and, as senior editor, shapes the magazine's overall news coverage, as well as contributing columns and articles.

He has been a contributing correspondent to NBC News since 1996, appearing regularly on such broadcasts as "Today," "NBC Nightly News," "Meet the Press," CNBC and MSNBC, where he appears twice weekly on "Countdown with Keith Olbermann."

"Jonathan Alter is among the most prominent political commentators in the United States today," said Dan McDonough, Honors Programs director. "Writing with wit and humanity, along with a clear view of the issues, trends, and personalities that are dominating American politics and culture, Alter's assessments are often noted for their accuracy. There is none better to guide us on the meaning of the November elections for President Obama and public policy as a whole."

For more information, contact McDonough at 731-881-7436.
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UTM to conduct travel study

The University of Tennessee at Martin Travel Study program is offering a tour of the old Natchez Trace from March 11-18. The cost is $825, which includes all transportation, breakfasts and admissions for planned activities. Travel study leaders are Anna Clark, instructor of English, and Brian Johnson, lecturer of psychology. The trip is open to the public.

Highlights during the trip will be Nashville and attractions along the Natchez Trace Parkway. Other highlights included in the trip are Jackson, Natchez, Clarksdale and William Faulkner’s home in Oxford, Miss. Courses available for academic credit are English 261: American Literacy Tradition and Psychology 365: Special Topics in Psychology/Psychology of Creativity.

For more information, contact Clark at 731-881-7300 or Johnson at 731-881-7536.
Dr. Susan Buckelew recognized as Featured Faculty Scholar

Dr. Susan Buckelew of Union City, University of Tennessee at Martin associate professor of psychology, was recently named the Fall 2010 Featured Faculty Scholar.

Each semester, the university recognizes outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarship.

Mrs. Buckelew received a bachelor of science degree from UT Martin and master's degree and doctorate from Auburn University.

She began her career at UT Martin in 2001 as an assistant professor. In 2007, she was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Dr. Buckelew, who currently teaches psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences, has a background as a researcher of physical medicine and rehabilitation.

Mrs. Buckelew provides her undergraduate students a unique perspective. She mentors honors students and is a supervisor for research by undergraduate psychology majors. She also supervises fieldwork activities at HealthSouth Cane Creek Rehabilitation and other applied mental health settings.

Mrs. Buckelew has been featured in peer-reviewed publications, where she is well known and respected in her field. She was given the Distinguished Research Award for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences in 2008.

Mrs. Buckelew continues research in rehabilitation psychology that she began 26 years ago, while maintaining a 12-hour teaching load each semester and advising up to 30 students per semester. She serves on various committees and belongs to several professional associations.

A sample of her publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on campus.

Travel-study to London and Paris set for spring

The University of Tennessee at Martin will conduct a spring travel study to London and Paris on March 9-21, 2011.

Among the highlights of the travel study in London will be the Tower of London, Westminster Abbey, the British Museum and the changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.

While in Paris, the group will see the Arc de Triomphe, Sacre Coeur, Notre-Dame, the Louvre, Napoleon’s Tomb and the Eiffel Tower.

In addition to the tours of London and Paris, a day trip has been planned to Stonehenge and Bath and another to the Palace of Versailles. The group will also take the Eurostar train from London to Paris.

The cost is $3,425 per person. This includes round-trip transportation from Martin to the airport, round-trip airfare from Memphis to London and back from Paris; 11 nights’ hotel accommodations; daily breakfast; admissions to all scheduled events; day trips to Stonehenge and Versailles; and the Eurostar train from London to Paris.

For a complete schedule of activities on the travel study, contact Dr. Jeff Hoyer, associate professor of communications, at (731) 514-3197 or by e-mail at jhoyer@utm.edu; or Stan Sieber, professor of history, at (731) 881-7467 or by e-mail at ssieber@utm.edu.
CHRISTMAS GIVING — The University of Tennessee at Martin Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity is working in cooperation with the Northwest Tennessee Healthy Start Program to raise money for children served within a seven-county radius. The counties served include Weakley, Obion, Henry, Gibson, Lake, Carroll and Benton. The program is currently providing services to 74 families. This fund raiser will help provide each child served with gifts and other items during the Christmas holidays. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a gift for a child or giving a donation to this project, contact Healthy Start program coordinator Lalia Hilliard at (731) 881-7863 or send a check donation to Healthy Start, 409 Clement Hall, UT-Martin, Martin, TN 38238. Among those involved in the project are (from left) fraternity member Willie Robertson of Whiteville, Healthy Start family assessment coordinator Debbie Walden, family support coordinator Cecile Buchanan, Ms. Hilliard, family support coordinator Lynda New and fraternity member Michael Lockridge of Martin.

UT Martin schedules two senior voice recitals

Posted: Thursday, November 18, 2010 12:56 pm

The Press 11/18

Virginia Anne Cherry, a senior vocal music education major at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will perform her senior voice recital at 3 p.m., Nov. 21, at Martin First United Methodist Church.

Cherry, of Ripley, will be singing vocal works written by composers Handel, Mendelssohn, Mozart, Offenbach, Chopin, Debussy and Beach. Delanna Esley, lecturer of music, will accompany her on the piano.

The recital is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Amy Young, associate professor of music, at 731-881-7408.

Britney Joyner, a senior vocal music education major at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will perform her senior voice recital at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 21, at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin.

Joyner, of Friendship, will be singing vocal works written by composers Emanuele d'Alberto, Johannes Brahms, W.A. Mozart, Claude Debussy and Samuel Barber. The recital covers 200 years of music, four different musical time periods and four different languages.

The recital is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Roberto Mancuso, assistant professor of music, at 731-881-2405.
Oklahoma State University Professor Steve Damron named 2010 Oklahoma Professor of the Year

(http://www.stwnewspress.com/local/x1284835194/Oklahoma-State-University-Professor-Steve-Damron-named-2010-Oklahoma-Professor-of-the-Year)

Stillwater NewsPress (http://www.stwnewspress.com)

STILLWATER, Okla. — Oklahoma State University's Steve Damron has been named the 2010 Oklahoma Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education.

"Dr. Damron is very much deserving of this national recognition, which honors the most outstanding undergraduate instructors in the country, those who excel at teaching and providing a positive influence in the lives and eventual careers of students," said Robert E. Whitson, vice president, dean and director of OSU's Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

Damron, a professor of animal science, was chosen for official recognition as one of 38 state award recipients, selected from more than 300 top professors in the United States.

"Steve teaches a global perspective using numerous real-world applications, integrating and weaving information and ideas together into a broader, practical picture," said Ron Kensinger, head of the OSU department of animal science. "His effective use of special projects, papers and case studies helps students develop the ability to find and seek information and develop strategic thinking skills, as well as integrate and apply information in a problem-solving context. He is truly outstanding."
Since joining the OSU faculty in 1988, Damron has developed and taught courses ranging from an introduction to animal science and agricultural animals of the world to agro-ecosystems being the basis of life, principals of nutrition, pet and companion animal management, livestock feeding and canine handling and training, including distance education classes that serve several hundred students from across the country and around the world.

His book "Introduction to Animal Science: Global, Biological, Social and Industry Perspectives" is one of the most widely used animal science texts in the world. It is in its fourth edition and is accompanied by web-based teaching and learning tools.

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

"Steve has been outstanding as the department's teaching coordinator, providing the insightful leadership so vital to ensuring our teaching programs are providing the best educational experience possible for students," Kensinger said.

Damron was honored as a 2010 recipient of the division's Sarkeys Distinguished Professor Award earlier this semester. He has received more than 20 teaching and advising awards from OSU, the University of Hawaii, the University of Wisconsin at River Falls, the National Academic Advising Association, the Alpha Zeta and Gamma Sigma Delta honor fraternities and the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture organization.

Damron earned his bachelor's degree in animal science from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1975. He earned his master's degree in animal nutrition-management and doctoral degree in animal nutrition from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville in 1978 and 1982, respectively.
Life of law enforcement highlighted at UTM

Kevin Bowden
Special to The Press

University of Tennessee at Martin students preparing for a career in law enforcement were given a glimpse into how to break into that field during a 90-minute roundtable Monday night.

The Third Annual Law Enforcement Roundtable was held in the Boling University Center on the UTM campus. A crowd estimated at 100 listened as each of eight panelists discussed what it takes to enter the field of law enforcement.

The panel included Union City assistant police chief Perry Barfield, who was joined by representatives of other area police and sheriff’s departments, the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, UTM’s Department of Public Safety and a representative of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.

“The individuals we have here tonight have a real broad spectrum of experience,” UTM chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes said as he opened the session.

His opening remarks included praise for the panelists and the audience that turned out for the roundtable. Rakes also reminded those at the roundtable of the importance of law enforcement in today’s society.

For the UTM community, the chancellor said the university is committed to providing a safe environment on campus. He said UTM recently invested more than $3 million to upgrade light...
Santa’s Village ready to kick off 26th year of helping non-profit agencies

Sara Rachels
Staff Writer

For some area children, the merrily-decorated interior of the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex is the only Christmas setting they experience from year to year.

With this fact as motivation, Santa’s Village kicked off its 26th year this past Monday morning with a breakfast in the community room of the First State Bank in Martin.

Parks and Recreation Director Brian Moore spoke before a large crowd of sponsors, local charitable organization directors and other supporters of the events and encouraged them to spread the belief that miracles can happen at Christmastime and anytime as long as the faith is kept.

“Every year at Santa’s Village, everyone asks me what’s new. We have the exotic animals petting zoo every year, we have the train that is such a large part of the event, we have the 40-foot tree, Pope’s Concessions comes in from Greenfield and there are rides. The Enchanted Forest will be bigger. It’s a unique event. We don’t charge. People donate food and toys and give back. To some kids, this is their only Christmas,” Moore explained.

John Taylor, who has acted in the role of Santa for the past four years, related some personal experiences from the event. His inspiration for playing jolly old St. Nick came from his dad’s years of playing Santa in community churches. He admitted that he’s had several experiences with children asking for items other than toys and those experiences have stuck with him.

“As long as you believe in Santa and in Christmas, you can do anything. I always look forward to seeing the people, especially the senior citizens, kids and CDS people. Once, there was a lady and son who came up to see me and the lady was in tears. The mom and dad were going through a divorce and the man had told his son that Christmas and Santa weren’t real, but the mother said, ‘But, we believe,’” Taylor related.

He spoke to the son and reminded him not to be discouraged and to keep the belief in the moment when you’re there,” Moore admitted.

“After this year, there will have been around 250,000 people and close to $900,000 donated. This is definitely a partnership between the university, city and community. It takes all three.”

Santa’s Village, located at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin, will be open from 6-9 p.m. on Dec. 9 and 10, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Dec. 11 and 1-5 p.m. on Dec. 12.

A minimum donation of $5 worth of non-perishable foods and/or toys is recommended.

More information can be obtained by calling 731-587-6784.

Students claim award

A University of Tennessee at Martin student and a recent graduate claimed top awards at the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America 2010 International Annual Meetings, Oct. 31-Nov. 3, in Long Beach, Calif. The theme of the conference was “Green Revolution 2.0: Food + Energy and Environmental Security,” and it attracted more than 3,500 attendees.

Lindsey Slaughter, of Lyles, won first place in the undergraduate research (oral) presentation in the Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES) competition. SASES is an undergraduate student organization of the American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Crop Science Society of America (CSSA) and Soil Science Society of America (SSSA). Slaughter is a May 2010 graduate and is a University of Kentucky graduate student. Wes Rodgers, of Prospect, won second place in the undergraduate student research (poster) presentation. He is slated to graduate in December.

Both students presented their results from independent research projects conducted at UT Martin. Slaughter’s presentation was “Composting to Mitigate Institutional Waste Streams,” and Rodgers’ presentation title was “Geospatially Predicting Ephemeral Gullies.”

Slaughter and Rodgers were accompanied by Dr. Paula Gale, professor of soil science.
CHRISTMAS GIVING — The University of Tennessee at Martin Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity is working in cooperation with the Northwest Tennessee Healthy Start Program to raise money for children served within a seven-county radius. The counties served include: Weakley, Obion, Henry, Gibson, Lake, Carroll and Benton. The program is currently providing services to 74 families. This fundraiser will help provide each child served with gifts and other items during the Christmas holidays. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a gift for a child or giving a donation to this project, contact: Laliana Hilliard, Healthy Start program coordinator, at 731-881-7863, or send a check donation to Healthy Start, 409 Clement Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. Among those involved in the project are, from left, Willie Robertson, of Whiteville, fraternity member; Debbie Walden, Healthy Start family assessment coordinator; Cecile Buchanan, family support coordinator; Hilliard; Lydia New, family support coordinator; and Michael Lockridge, of Martin, fraternity member.

Governor’s School deadlines approaching at UT Martin

The deadline to apply for two 2011 Governor’s Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is Wednesday.

Governor’s School for the Humanities will be June 5-July 2 and successful applicants will be notified the week of Jan. 24.

Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 29-June 24 and successful applicants will be notified Feb. 15.

Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences focuses on the importance of agriculture and natural resources to the state and national economy. Emphasis on experiential learning and laboratory exercises related to the agricultural sciences will include production agriculture, agricultural business enterprises and natural resources management.

For an application or for more information, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caas/tgas/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone by contacting Suezane Speight at (731) 881-7211 by e-mail at sspeight@utm.edu; or by mail at TGSAS at University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Governor’s School for the Humanities examines the role of language, history, philosophy, politics and the arts in defining the relevance of humanities in the modern age.

Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/govschool/ for an application or for more information.

Questions may be addressed to Debbie Lamb at dlamb@utm.edu or (731) 881-7579.

Applications are also available in local high schools’ guidance offices.
Old Natchez Trace tour offered as spring travel-study program

The University of Tennessee at Martin Travel Study program is offering a tour of the old Natchez Trace from March 11-18. The cost is $825, which includes transportation, meals, and admissions for planned activities. Travel study leaders are Anna Clark, instructor of English, and Brian Johnson, lecturer of psychology. The trip is open to the public.

Highlights during the trip will be Nashville and attractions along the Natchez Trace Parkway. Other highlights included in the trip are Jackson, Natchez, Clarksdale and William Faulkner’s home in Oxford, Miss. Courses available for academic credit are English 261: American Literacy Tradition and Psychology 365: Special Topics in Psychology of Creativity.

For more information, contact Ms. Clark at (731) 881-7300 or Johnson at 881-7536.

Alter talks politics

Newsweek editor speaks at UT Martin about Obama, Congress

BY MARIANN MARTIN
MMARTIN10@JACKSONSUN.COM
* November 19, 2010

MARTIN — Barack Obama was going to be elected president in 2008, Jonathan Alter’s 13-year-old son told his father after Alter interviewed Obama for the first time in 2002.

Alter, a senior editor at Newsweek and a nationally known political commentator who had covered numerous presidential elections, told his son he had no idea what he was talking about.

“I told him maybe in 2016, but even that was a long shot,” Alter told several hundred people Thursday evening at the University of Tennessee Martin.

When Alter told that story to Obama in 2009 during a presidential interview, Obama responded, “He should have talked me out of it.”

Alter said, “He (Obama) got a little more than he bargained for and spent an awful lot of time cleaning up messes.”

Alter’s talk was sponsored by the Honors Programs, the Division of Student Affairs, Student Activities Council, First-Year Initiative, the College of Business and Global Affairs, Department of Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science and Department of Communications. It focused on Obama and American politics in the light of the recent election.

Alter told the gathered crowd he prefers to give people information so they can make their own judgments, so he told several stories about Obama.

Alter said he is more optimistic than many about what will get done by the government with a Republican House and a Democratic Senate and President.

“I think there are some advantages to divided government,” Alter said. “Now that the House is Republican, they have a stake in governing. Pure obstruction isn’t going to work for the House.”

Some of the issues he expects to see addressed in the new congressional term are education, help for small business and energy. Alter said.

In an interview before his speech, Alter declined to say who he thought had a shot at the White House in 2012.

“Things can turn around very fast — anyone who thinks they can predict things doesn’t know what they are talking about,” Alter said. “The key is unemployment. If Obama can’t bring down unemployment, he’s going to have a hard time being re-elected. If he does bring down unemployment, he has a good shot.”

During the question session, Alter was asked about his views on politics, the economy and education, among other issues.

The crowd applauded when Alter said he believes support for higher education is critical to the future of the country in response to another question.

“The best way to destroy a nation ... to bring a nation to its knees is to destroy higher education,” Alter said.

Assistant political science professor Bryan Parson said he enjoyed the opportunity to hear Alter.

“It was more than just about the elections and politics,” Parson said. “He provided an insight into the Obama presidency from behind the scenes.”
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-Mariann Martin, 4:25-9/82
Beginning Microsoft Access Course offered at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies is offering a Beginning Microsoft Access class from 9 a.m.-noon, Dec. 7 and 9. The instructor for the course is Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin analyst and programmer. The registration fee is $85.

Beginners can learn how to design and create a database and how relational databases function. Students will also learn how to design and setup tables and relationships, edit data, sort and filter, create quick reports that can be customized, create quick forms for data entry and learn how queries give answers. Participants will work with Access 2007 and Vista.

To register, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ccee/nondegree/home.php.

Italy spring travel-study program slated

The University of Tennessee at Martin will conduct a spring travel study to Italy on March 9-20. Among the highlights of the travel study will be the Grand Canal and Doge's Palace in Venice; the University of Padua (where Galileo worked); the Leaning Tower of Pisa; the Towers of the Asinelli in Bologna; Saint Peter's Basilica, the Roman Coliseum, Sistine Chapel and the Vatican in Rome; Pompeii and the Statue of David in Florence.

Travelers will fly into Venice and spend nights there and in Florence, Rome and Naples. A glass-blowing demonstration in Venice and an olive oil and cheese tasting in Florence complement the site visits.

The cost will be approximately $3,750 per person. This includes roundtrip airfare from Memphis to Venice and Naples back to Memphis; 10 nights hotel accommodations; daily breakfast; admissions to all scheduled events; and special dinners in Florence and Rome. Deadline for the deposit is Dec. 2.

For a complete schedule of activities on this travel study, contact Dr. Lionel Crews, associate professor of physics, at 731-881-7440 or e-mail lcrews@utm.edu or Beth Powell, assistant professor of English, at 731-881-7286 or e-mail bpowell@utm.edu.
Rookie Teacher of the Year: Ms. Renton

Friday, November 19, 2010 by Lily Fortich

In addition to Teacher of the Year, every year a newer teacher is given the title of "Rookie Teacher of the Year." Chosen in the 2010 recipient is Ms. Anna Renton, who started working here last year. In her spare time she is also the volleyball coach.

Originally from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Ms. Renton has known since her sophomore year of college at the University of Tennessee at Martin, where she studied Health and Human Performance. She also has a degree in Physical Education from the University of Memphis. She saw herself becoming a PE teacher in the future.

“Students claim top awards,” the article begins. "A University of Tennessee Martin student and a recent UT Martin graduate claimed top awards at the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America 2010 International annual meetings in Long Beach, Calif."

The theme of the conference was "Green Revolution 2.0: Food + Energy and Environmental Security." More than 3,500 attended.

Lindsey Slaughter of Lyles won first place in the undergraduate research oral presentation in the Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences competition. Slaughter is a May graduate of UT Martin and is a University of Kentucky graduate student.

Wes Rodgers of Prospect won second place in the undergraduate student research poster presentation. He will graduate in December.

The McKenzie Banner, McKenzie, Tennessee, Tuesday, November 23, 2010

Christmas Giving

MARTIN - The University of Tennessee at Martin Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity is working in cooperation with the Northwest Tennessee Healthy Start Program to raise money for children served within a seven-county radius. The counties served include: Weakley, Obion, Henry, Gibson, Lake, Carroll and Benton. The program is currently providing services to 74 families. This fundraiser will help provide each child served with gifts and other items during the Christmas holidays. If anyone is interested in sponsoring a gift for a child or giving a donation to this project, contact Lalania Hilliard, Healthy Start Program coordinator, at 731-981-7863, or send a check donation to Healthy Start, 409 Clement Hall, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238. Among those involved in the project are: from left, Willie Robertson of Whiteville, fraternity member; Debbie Walden, Healthy Start family assessment coordinator; Cecile Buchanan, family support coordinator; Hilliard; Lydia New, family support coordinator; and Michael Lockridge of Martin, fraternity member.
Santa’s Village continues
good work in 26th year

The tradition of holiday entertainment and food and toy collections continues for the 26th year, as Santa’s Village will be sponsored Dec. 9-12. It is staged each year at the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

To date, 226,510 people have attended Santa’s Village, with donations of $882,968 in food and toys that have been distributed to area families.

Slated for 6-9 p.m., Dec. 9; 10-11 a.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 10; and 1-5 p.m., Dec. 12, the “Enchanted Forest” theme will be depicted as part of the holiday scenes. Also featured will be a giant Christmas tree, wagon rides on Friday through Sunday, MTD model train display, children’s rides and vendor booths. Twenty hours of continuous local entertainment and a petting farm will add to the festivities. Doors open at 6 p.m., Dec. 9. Admission is a suggested donation of $5 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys.

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

Co-sponsors for the event are the City of Martin and UT Martin. Additional sponsors of the event to date include: University Plaza, First State, MTD Products, Tyson Foods, Volunteer Community Hospital, Greenbriar Frontier Communications and McDonald’s. As part of the event each year, WCMT sponsors a car caravan for canned food donations collected at the schools.

This is the 26th year for the city of Martin and the University of Tennessee at Martin to work together on this great event,” said Brian Moore, Martin Parks and Recreation Department director. “We will help approximately 1,900 families this year. So not only are we providing a fun and free holiday event for families, we are also helping to meet some of the needs of families in our community and surrounding area around the holidays.”

Moore expressed thanks to sponsors and volunteers, who contribute time and money to the annual event, and to the service agencies that use the bounty of food and toys from Santa’s Village to benefit families in the region at holiday time and, in some cases, throughout the year.

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

Santa’s Village Committee unveils plans for winter wonderland

Members of Santa’s Village planning committee met in the First State Community Room at 106 University Street in Martin, Monday, Nov. 16, for a breakfast planning session. During the meeting, Martin Parks and Recreation Department Director Brian Moore gave the group an update on the attractions planned for this year’s event. Santa’s Village offers visitors a winter wonderland of fun for the entire family, while providing needy families with donated food and toys for Christmas.
Deadline to apply for 2011 Governor’s Schools nears

The deadline to apply for two 2011 Governor’s Schools hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin is November 24. Governor’s School for the Humanities will be June 5-July 2, and successful applicants will be notified the week of January 24. Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences is slated for May 29-June 24, and successful applicants will be notified February 15.

Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences focuses on the importance of agriculture and natural resources to the state and national economy. Emphasis on experiential learning and laboratory exercises related to the agricultural sciences will include production agriculture, agricultural business enterprises and natural resources management. For an application or for more information, visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/caas/TGSAS/. Brochures are available and may be requested by telephone to Suzanne Speight at 731-881-7211, by email at sspeight@utm.edu, or requested by mail to TGSAS at University of Tennessee at Martin, 256 Brehm Hall, Martin, TN 38238.

Governor’s School for the Humanities examines the role of language, history, philosophy, politics and the arts in defining the relevance of humanities in the modern age. Visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/govschool/ for an application or for more information. Questions may be addressed to Debbie Lamb at dlamb@utm.edu or 731-881-7579.

Applications also are available in high school guidance offices.

Buckelew recognized as Featured Faculty Scholar

Dr. Susan Buckelew, University of Tennessee at Martin associate professor of psychology, was recently named the Fall 2010 Featured Faculty Scholar. Each semester, the university recognizes outstanding faculty for excellence in teaching and scholarship.

Buckelew received a Bachelor of Science degree from UT Martin and master’s degree and doctorate from Auburn University. She began her career at UT Martin in 2001 as an assistant professor. In 2007, she was promoted to associate professor with tenure. She currently teaches psychology in the Department of Behavioral Sciences.

With a background as a researcher of physical medicine and rehabilitation, Buckelew provides her undergraduate students a unique perspective. She mentors honors students and is a supervisor for research by undergraduate psychology majors. She also supervises the fieldwork activities at HealthSouth Cane Creek Rehabilitation Hospital and other applied mental health settings.

Buckelew has been featured in peer-reviewed publications, where she is well known and well respected in her field. She was given the Distinguished Research Award for the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences in 2008.

Buckelew continues research in rehabilitation psychology that she began 26 years ago, while maintaining a 12-hour teaching load each semester and advising up to 30 students per semester.

She serves on various committees and belongs to several professional associations.

A sample of Buckelew’s publications and accomplishments is on display in the Paul Meek Library on the UT Martin campus.

Fall 2010 Featured Faculty Scholar - Dr. Susan Buckelew, second from left, associate professor of psychology, who recently was named the Fall 2010 Featured Faculty Scholar, is pictured with UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes, left; Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for academic affairs; and Dr. Mary Lee Hall, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences dean.
Governor's School deadline is today

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Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences focuses on the importance of agriculture and natural resources to the state and

UT Board of Trustees approves several UT Martin projects

Several University of Tennessee at Martin capital outlay and capital maintenance priorities and self-funded projects were among those approved at the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees meeting. Also approved were two gifts of property to UT Martin and the university's master plan.

"The board meeting was very successful for the UT Martin campus in that a number of capital outlay and maintenance projects and land acquisitions were approved," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes.

Three of UT Martin's capital outlay projects will receive state funding when funds are available. Within a total request of $665 million from UT institutions, UT Martin's Fine Arts Building renovation and addition phase II project request for $11.8 million was ranked 11th; a new classroom building request for $46 million was 15th; and the Joseph E. Johnson Engineering and Physical Sciences Building addition and renovation request for $32 million was 19th.

As part of $175,680,000 in systemwide requests for capital maintenance priorities, the board approved UT Martin requests for state appropriations, the following projects, amounts and rankings: campus elevator upgrades, $3,750,000, fourth; building envelope upgrades for four buildings, $1.6 million, sixth; steam line upgrade, $1.840,000, 16th; Sociology Building heating, ventilation, air-conditioning improvements, $2.7 million, 21st; Johnson EPS building HVAC upgrades/phase I, $3,870,000, 24th; and Clement Hall HVAC and electrical improvements/phase I, $2.3 million, 26th.

Also approved were $6.5 million in proposed self-funded projects in Fiscal Year 2011-2012, including $2,800,000 for sorority lodges; $965,000 for tennis courts upgrades; $780,000 for Elam Center bleacher replacement; and $2 million for a Business Administration Building addition.

In other action, the board approved two gifts of property to UT Martin. A 44-acre parcel, located at 114 Old Fulton Road and donated by Walter and Susan Collins, is to be used for a ropes course and ROTC obstacle course. It is contiguous to UT Martin agriculture property. A total of 20 acres and a 3,492-square-foot building in Hornbeck, from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, will be used as part of the Reelfoot Lake Research and Education Initiative.

Finally, the board OK'd the UT Martin master plan that reflects placement for new buildings, expansion of existing buildings, parking, landscaping and land acquisition during the next several years. The plan was last revised in 2003.

Memphis Photos

Janet and Clark Dunphy (back row, from left), and their daughters, Amanda (front left) and Rachel of Cordova, were among those enjoying Homecoming 2010 Quad City at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Quad City featured a variety of activities for children and adults, including musical entertainment, games, concessions and reunions. Rachel is a sophomore secondary education major.
Santa's Village Dec. 9 - 12

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Doors open at 6 p.m., Dec. 9. Admission is a suggested donation of $5 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys.

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"This is the 26th year for the city of Martin and the University of Tennessee at Martin to work together on this great event," said Brian Moore, Martin Parks and Recreation Department director. "We will help approximately 1,900 families this year. So not only are we providing a fun and free holiday event for families, we are also helping to meet some of the needs of families in our community and surrounding area around the holidays."

Moore expressed thanks to sponsors and volunteers, who contribute time and money to the annual event, and the service agencies that use the bounty of food and toys from Santa's Village to benefit families in the region at holiday time and, in some cases, throughout the year.

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

Beginning Microsoft classes at UT-Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies is offering a Beginning Microsoft Access class from 9 a.m.-noon, Dec. 7 and 9. The instructor for the course is Doug Bloodworth, UT Martin analyst and programmer. The registration fee is $85.

Beginners can learn how to design and create a database and how relational databases function. Students will also learn how to design and setup tables and relationships, edit data, sort and filter, create quick reports that can be customized, create quick forms for data entry and learn how queries give answers. Participants will work with Access 2007 and Vista.

To register, call UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies at 731-881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY
UT MARTIN PIANO ENSEMBLE CONCERT
7:30 p.m. Nov. 30 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 145 Hannings Lane, in Martin. Free and open to the public.

DEC. 2
UT MARTIN DANCE ENSEMBLE PRESENTS FALL SHOWCASE
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present the annual UT Martin dance ensemble fall showcase, "Surrender," at 7 p.m.; Dec. 2-4, and at 3 p.m., Dec. 5, at Elam Center Dance Studio. Tickets are $3 for UT Martin students with ID, $5 for adults and free to children under the age of 12. This year's ensemble, under the direction of Sarah McCormick, lecturer of dance, includes new dance works from student choreographers and guest artists, Carone Tharpe and Justin Paschall. Call the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7400.
Piano ensemble to present fall concert on Nov. 30

The University of Tennessee at Martin piano ensemble will present a fall concert at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 30, at Trinity Presbyterian Church. A variety of musical selections for four and six hands will be presented.

Included in the program are two pieces for two pianos, Johannes Brahms' masterpiece, "Variations on a Theme by Haydn" and Muzio Clementi's "Sonata in B-flat Major." Book I of Franz Liszt's Christmas duets for piano, "Weihnachtsbaun," will be performed. Carl Czerny's, "Air de Chasse," arranged for one piano, six hands, and two novelty numbers, "Twelfth Street Rag" and "I Love a Piano," will conclude the program.

UT Martin students performing include Andrew Moore, of South Fulton; Michael Yandell, of Union City; Harold Johnson, of Memphis; Brandon Whaley, of Dresden; Victoria Morgan, of Cordova; Ciera Besses, of Clarksville; Kyle Carter, of Troy; Micheal Singleton, of Dyersburg; Katie Snider, of Gleason; and Will Sliger, of Martin.

The UT Martin piano ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music. The program is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Harriss at 731-881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.

Fall piano concert

The University of Tennessee at Martin piano ensemble will present a fall concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity Presbyterian Church. A variety of musical selections for four and six hands will be presented.

UT Martin students performing include Harold Johnson of Memphis; Victoria Morgan of Cordova; Andrew Moore of South Fulton; Michael Yandell of Union City; Brandon Whaley of Dresden; Ciera Besses of Clarksville; Kyle Carter of Troy; Micheal Singleton of Dyersburg; Katie Snider of Gleason; and Will Sliger of Martin.

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UT Martin plans dance showcase

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts will present the annual UT Martin dance ensemble fall showcase, "Surrender," at 7 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 3 p.m. Dec. 5 at Elam Center Dance Studio. Admission will be $3 for UT Martin students with ID, $5 for adults and free for children younger than 12.

This year's ensemble, under the direction of Sarah McCormick, lecturer of dance, includes new dance works from student choreographers and guest artists Carone Thorpe and Justin Paschall. For more information, call the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at (731) 881-7400.
One of my church friends is Thomas E. Burman, head of the History Department at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. When the new STEM magnet high school discussion first began, we quite naturally began a discussion about it during a fellowship dinner, and Burman's observation was to the point.

"It's all the talk at the university, but you know what employers tell us that they really need?" he said, his mouth set in the matter-of-fact way of a parent about to lecture their teenager. "They tell us they need people who can write."

I was immediately reminded of a conversation I had with outgoing U.S. Rep. Vic Snyder, D-Ark., about 10 years ago. "The biggest problem that we have when we hire someone for our office, no matter what they are going to do, is getting someone who can write."

Snyder had finally reached the point that he had instructed his hiring staff that once the interview was complete, the interviewee was given all the information plus a dictionary and allowed half an hour to compose a basic business letter (I would have also given them a style manual - commas can be tricky). If they could do so, they would be considered for the job. If not, it didn't matter how good their references or their resume was, they were out of consideration.

Burman liked that. He and I have had this discussion repeatedly over the years, both of us questioning how students get out of high school without being able to write. It frustrates him as he tries to teach them the substance of history while wading through poorly written essays. And he's right to bring it up in regard to STEM students. Engineers have to be able to communicate their ideas to clients in words in order to offer solutions to problems. Banks need to understand what they are financing.

But it's more basic than that. The failure to teach writing as something everyone can do leaves students unable to fill out job applications. Or if there is an accident at work, it means they are unable to write a complete and adequate explanation of what happened.

Then again, maybe they just want to write a letter to their mama telling her how much she means to them and why. If no one has ever taught them to write, they can't. Or, one of my pet peeves, they believe the way to pluralize a last name is to use an apostrophe-s.

I understand why students don't write more in K-12. Writing is time intensive to teach and to grade. It's not formulaic like math or physics. I've seen teachers make up crazy rules to make it easier on themselves, but English is a language in use daily, so it's a living, breathing thing. There are multiple otherlors and "maybes" or "it depends" in the writing process and in the teaching of writing. Without lots of writing, a student can't be comfortable with the process.

There's a fantastic program called the National Writing Program that works with teachers, showing them how to better teach writing and, thus, learning. There are three NWP programs in Tennessee. They are at Tennessee Technological University, Middle Tennessee State University and the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Unfortunately, NWP is considered an earmark. As are several other programs that many consider important to the education process, including Reading is Fundamental and Teach for America. If you don't want to see these things disappear, a call - or better yet a letter or an e-mail - to your congressman and senators is in order.
Horses need homes

UT Martin to host adoption day for wild horses, burros

BY TRACIE SIMER
TSIMER@JACKSONSUN.COM

Wild horses and burros from the western United States will be available for West Tennesseans to adopt next week. The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management will offer 40 wild horses from yearlings to 5-year-olds to potential adopters Friday and Dec. 4 at the University of Tennessee Martin.

Those interested can adopt and provide a home for a wild horse in Tennessee for a minimal fee, according to a press release from the bureau.

The Bureau of Land Management manages, protects and controls wild horses under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, said Ruth Welch, BLM-Eastern States acting state director.

SEE HORSES, PAGE B2

Wild horses feed on a range in Utah. The U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Land Management will offer 40 wild horses for adoption Dec. 3-4 at the University of Tennessee Martin.

"This law authorizes the BLM to remove excess wild horses from the ranges to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands," she said.

The adoption will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 4 on a first-come, first-served basis. The animals can be previewed from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. Friday. The adoption fee is $125 for animals less than 3 years of age and $25 for animals 3 and older. The fee for a buddy animal is $25 when any animal is adopted at the full fee of $125, the release said.

Mike Branch of Maryville has adopted more than 100 animals through the program, some for personal use and some for people who couldn't attend the public adoptions. Branch is a volunteer with the land management bureau and participates in local educational programs about mustangs.

"It's a really good program. I certainly encourage it," he said. "I want people to have a good experience with a Mustang and, after working with it, I want the Mustang to have a good experience with the people he goes home with."

This program is important because it's about preserving these animals and this country's history, Branch said.

"This is one of the last remaining American youth. We need to hold them in high regard, give respect and treat them with dignity. ... It's like owning a piece of history — helping to save a part of American history," Welch said.

7,854 in Tennessee, according to the land management bureau.

Those who wish to adopt must have sturdy corrals measuring at least 400 square feet, at least six feet high for an adult horse and five feet high for horses younger than 18 months, and they must have a shelter directly attached to the corral. Adopters must also provide a stock-type, step-up trailer, the release said.

"While the adoption process is simple and straightforward, anyone considering adoption of a wild horse should remember that the animals are wild and require gentle training," Welch said.

—Tracie Simier, 425-9629

- Applications to adopt may be submitted until Dec. 4. For more information, call (866) 468-7826 or visit wildhorseandburro.blm.gov. Information also available at facebook.com/BLMWildHorseAndBurro.
- For more information about Mike Branch's program, visit www.mikebranchhorsemanship.com.
- Directions to the adoption site: Take Tenn. 43 East into Martin. Turn left onto University Street. Go .5 miles to Dewberry Lane. Take a left on Dewberry and follow the sign to the Ray and Wilma Smith Livestock Merchandising Center.
POLITICAL COMMENTATOR AT UT MARTIN – Nationally renowned political commentator Jonathan Alter used “President Obama and American Politics in Light of the November Elections” as his topic, Nov. 18, at the University of Tennessee at Martin as part of the Academic Speaker Series. Prior to his presentation, he met with Honors Programs students to discuss his work. With Alter, is Jonah Harwell, a freshman criminal justice major from Milan, and (bottom photo) Amber Replogle, a biology major from Medina.
By GLENDA CAUDLE
Special Features Editor

Well, "Glory!"

"Southern Raisin" has moved from a weekly appearance as a good ol' boys column in southwest Tennessee newspapers to collected stories bound and offered for sale in book format at www.amazon.com and in select book stores.

Author Otis Griffin of Millington lived for a time in Union City, where he worked for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. He raised two sons in this area — Mike, who died tragically of diabetes about 10 years ago — and Mark — who played basketball at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Griffin will be in Union City to sign copies of his book at the Obion County Public Library Saturday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The newly-released book sells for $19.95, with Griffin and his wife, Glenda, donating a dollar from each sale to St. Louis Unit, Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. Copies will be available for purchase at the library.

Griffin closes each of his folksy columns with the distinctive sign-off "Glory!" His columns are about what he knows best: growing up in his beloved South, where there were greased pig contests at county fairs and Saturday matinees that were all you could hope for and a handful more, where mamas could see around corners and hear through solid walls and every day was a true interactive adventure that depended on flesh and blood people sharing the fun with you.

Griffin attended Union University in Jackson on a sports scholarship and earned his master's degree from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He has a soft spot in his heart for the Shriners, on whose behalf he has labored for years, and he wants them to share in the success of his literary endeavor. With several book signings already under his belt, the story-teller extraordinaire will bring some measure of expertise but far more genuine folksy good will to his local event.

So order your copy of "Southern Raisin" right now from Amazon or plan to pick up a copy at the signing and indulge yourself (if you share common memories) or discover a time and place that may be an unexplored part of your social heritage (if you were born post-Roy Rogers.) If you fit in neither category, prepare to find out what you've missed.

In any event, you'll find it a "Glory"ous experience.

THE WRITE STUFF — Former Union City resident Otis Griffin of Millington, a newspaper columnist with 15 years of down-home country-boy writing to his credit, will be in Union City Saturday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Obion County Public Library to sign copies of his book, "Southern Raisin." The book is a compilation of the columns which have won Griffin fans across southwest Tennessee, where his work is published. The public is invited to attend the event.
Fall piano concert

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UT Martin students performing include Harold Johnson of Memphis; Victoria Morgan of Cordova; Andrew Moore of South Fulton; Michael Yandell of Union City; Brandon Whaley of Dresden; Ciera Bessels of Clarksville; Kyle Carter of Troy; Micheal Singleton of Dyersburg; Katie Snider of Gleason; and Will Siger of Martin.

The UT Martin piano ensemble is under the direction of Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music. The program is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Harriss at 731-881-7411 or elaineh@utm.edu.

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS Tuesday, November 30, 2010

GAULT SCHOLARSHIPS — Gault Scholarships recently were presented by Clint Smith, center, Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. communications manager. Recipients included, from left, Stevie Gossett, Taylor Barnett, Chelsea Mathis and Di’Yana Fisher.

Recipients of Gault Scholarships told

The University of Tennessee at Martin has awarded the 2009-10 Stanley Gault Scholarship to four West Tennessee students. Each student will receive $500 for the academic year. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic merit, leadership and a personal essay. First preference is given to the son or daughter of a Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. associate.

This year’s recipients are Di’Yana Fisher, Stevie Gossett, Taylor Barnett and Chelsea Mathis.

• Di’Yana Fisher, daughter of Dion Fisher and Chantay Fisher of Dyersburg, is a freshman in the pre-dentistry program.
• Stevie Gossett, son of Tom Gossett and Lorraine Gossett of Union City, is a freshman majoring in accounting.
• Taylor Barnett, son of James and Traci Watson of Dresden, is a freshman in the pre-pharmacy program.
• Chelsea Mathis, daughter of Curtis and Julie Mathis of Union City, is a freshman with an undeclared major.

The scholarship was established in 1996 by former Goodyear Union City plant manager Dick Davies and his wife, Barbara, in honor of the former Goodyear chairman. It was established as an endowment; the principal is invested and only the interest is spent. Therefore, the scholarship will continue to be awarded and grow in future years.

To be considered for the Gault Scholarship, students must apply during the spring semester for the following academic year. Current or past recipients of the Gault Scholarship may be re-awarded the scholarship in following years, but must reaply each year to be eligible. Applications are available at Goodyear or the UT Martin Office of Development.

Travel Study offers trip

The University of Tennessee at Martin travel-study program is offering a three-week trip exploring the ecosystems of Australia and New Zealand from May 15 to June 5. The cost is $5,700, with the initial deposit due Dec. 1. The travel-study leader will be Dr. Bradley Ray, assistant professor of fisheries science. The trip is open to the public.

The purpose of the trip is to expose participants to agriculture and natural resources issues that occur in Australia and New Zealand. The course is designed to allow participants to engage in an in-depth study of Australia and New Zealand cultures, agricultural practices, natural resource uses and ecosystems. Participants will also get to enjoy activities such as hiking, kayaking and snorkeling while exploring the Southern Alps, the Bay of Islands, the Blue Mountains, the Daintree Rainforest and the Great Barrier Reef.

For more information, contact Ray at 731-881-7255 or at bray@utm.edu.
UTM graduate has long history of service through Santa’s Village

Calvin Elder has a history with Santa’s Village. He began helping with the event in 2003 as a freshman at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

In response to requests from two Department of Agriculture professors, Dr. Joey Mehlhorn and the late Dr. Tom Greer, Elder became a greengrocery cutter and assistant with other tasks until the Ned Ray McWherter Agricultural Complex at UT Martin was transformed into a holiday fantasyland.

This year’s event is slated for 6-9 p.m., Dec. 9-10; 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Dec. 11; and 1-5 p.m., Dec. 12. Doors open at 6 p.m., Dec. 9. Admission is a suggested donation of $5 worth of nonperishable foods and/or toys.

“They (Mehlhorn and Greer) were also offering bonus points in class, and I sure needed them at the time,” said Elder.

Elder went on to graduate with a degree in agricultural business in 2007 and is in the process of earning a master’s degree in agriculture leadership education and communication from UT Knoxville.

From 2008 until recently, he was a 4-H Youth Development Agent and Adult Agriculture Agent in Dyer County. A resident of Gates, he is now employed by Farm Service Agency.

Early on at Santa’s Village, Elder moved from greengrocery cutter to providing wagon rides for children, something he and his dad, Philip Elder, have been doing at other events for more than 20 years.

He approached Martin Department of Parks and Recreation about the idea of bringing horse-drawn wagon rides to the event “and it was a hit from day one.” He added, “The children really enjoy seeing the big horses because it is not something they get to see every day.”

He also enjoys the children who take the wagon rides. The children always ask if they can pet and sit on the horses. “I get to hear everything from Christmas songs, what they want for Christmas, Jokes and stories.”

Elder said that in addition to Martin Parks and Recreation and the agricultural complex personnel, James and Rachel Mathis always help with the Santa’s Village rides.

Elder said he and his dad spend about 300 hours a year giving rides “for a good cause,” such as Relay For Life, Buck Creek Trail Ride for St. Jude Children’s Hospital and other charitable events and fundraisers.

“I guess the biggest reason I continue to offer the wagon rides is because I enjoy doing it. I also get to see some of my old classmates and professors each year at the event, and I also get to meet new people,” said Elder.

Service agencies receiving food and toys collected at Santa’s Village this year include: Chimes for Charity, We Care Ministries, Obion County Chapter American Red Cross, Santa’s Helpers and Northwest Tennessee Economic Development Council. Co-sponsors for the event are the City of Martin and UT Martin.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE HONORED – Terry Oliver, of Gleason, Tennessee commissioner of agriculture, receives a plaque from Dr. Jerry Gresham, interim dean, UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, and chair, Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources. The plaque recognized Oliver for his service to Tennessee agriculture and the university. The commissioner was the keynote speaker for the UT Martin Fellows Research Program and 4-H Centennial Celebration Recognition Dinner held Nov. 18 in the Boling University Center. The Fellows Research Program fosters and enhances undergraduate research through a mentored relationship with a department faculty member.
HELPING HANDS – Sodexo-UTM Dining Services recently held its 5th Annual “Helping Hands Across America” Food Drive on the UT Martin Campus to help those in need within Martin and Weakley County. Together, with the help of numerous UTM departments, faculty, staff, students and student organizations, nearly 2,100 non-perishable food items were collected and donated to the local charity and food bank, We Care Ministries, just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday. UTM Housing earned the title of “Helping Hands” Champion for their generous contribution of more than 1,000 food items. On hand for the donation were (from left) Savannah Stroud, Sodexo Customer Service; Harrison Woodard, UTM Housing; Michael Freeman, UTM Housing; Coco Boone, Sodexo Marketing Coordinator; Emily Anne Sparks, Sodexo Concessions Supervisor and Betty Baker, We Care Ministries Director.