UTM GRADS — Among those who participated in commencement exercises recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin were (from left) Will Norvell of Memphis, Jeff Price of Clarksville and Barrett Tanner of Union City. Norvell received a degree in natural resources management, Price received a degree in health and human performance and Tanner received a degree in business management. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT — Johnathan Nolan (left) of Union City recently participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He was a secondary math major at UT Martin. He was joined by his parents, Donna Nolan (center) and Paul Nolan. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony.
UT Martin receives grant

The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced that the University of Tennessee at Martin is one of 40 institutions nationally to receive a Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention Grant in the amount of $242,201 from 2012-2015.

The grant will be used to finance UT Martin’s Project Safety-Networking Education and Training (Safety-NET), which is designed to help create prevention-prepared communities where individuals, families, schools, workplaces and communities take action to prevent and reduce mental illness and substance abuse across the lifespan, according to a SAMHSA initiative.

The project focuses on identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the current response mechanisms and resources for students at risk and seeks to bridge any identified gaps. This requires coordination among campus organizations, law enforcement, health-care providers and mental health care providers to be successful.

Shannon Deal, director of Project Safety-NET and director of the UT Martin Student Health and Counseling Center, cites Martin’s rural area as a primary need for the program.

“The funds from this grant will allow us to enhance our relationship with community mental health providers and facilities and bridge the gap between on-campus and community resources,” Deal said. “A collaborative relationship between the campus and the community is critical to ensuring our students have access to on- and off-campus resources before, during and after a mental health crisis.”

Project Safety-NET provides training to campus organizations and officials regarding available resources, as well as educates faculty, staff, students and others about how to detect warning signs and make mental health referrals for those at risk. The program also works to promote crisis hotlines for those in need.

Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the external funds will be used “to increase suicide awareness and to equip the campus community with the necessary tools to help prevent suicide.”

“There is a strong movement within the sponsored suicide prevention programs nationally to create multifaceted, collaborative relationships between college campuses and their surrounding communities.”

For more information on the grant, contact UT Martin Student Health and Counseling Services at 731-881-7750.

Proud Graduate — Angela Johnson of Union City recently participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Ms. Johnson earned her master of elementary education degree. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony.
By SUZANNE PECKHAM
Press staff

Student members of the University of Tennessee at Martin's League of Striving Artists recently lent their time and knowledge to help local Girl Scouts earn their visual arts patch.

The collegiate art group, led by club president Marah Vogt, met with Leah Bumett of AmeriCorps Vista and Girl Scouts Heart of the South at the Tom and Ann Stuart Community Center to teach the Girl Scouts from Troop 43001 a variety of basic art concepts.

Members of the League of Striving Artists first presented the troop with a collection of their own artwork. The pieces reflected concepts that the students came prepared to teach the Girl Scouts.

Club members then separated into smaller groups and led a series of lessons, covering basic concepts and techniques. Each lesson was combined with a hands-on activity, in which the girls completed individual art projects to exhibit what they had learned.

The first group of instructors taught the Girl Scouts about the color wheel, explaining primary and complementary colors. Participants were instructed to mix primary colors and paint a picture using the unique shades they had created.

A second group of instructors taught a lesson about monochromatic color schemes, followed by an activity in which the Girl Scouts made their own suncatchers, using one color to match an emotion they wished to portray.

Next, the girls learned how to make flat shapes appear three-dimensional by using hatching, cross hatching, and stippling techniques.

The final group of instructors taught a lesson on perspective. The Girl Scouts learned how to add depth to pictures, and then applied the technique to their own drawings.

After all of the lessons were complete, Vogt instructed the girls to choose two pieces of their own art to display in a mock art show. Each girl proudly presented her artwork to her fellow Troop members, explaining the technique used in each piece.

Troop 43001 was very appreciative of the visit from the League of Striving Artists, and look forward to using their newly acquired skills in future art projects.
Two pageants to be held this month at UT Martin

Plans are under way for the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival pageants to be staged at 7 p.m. Jan. 23 in the Student Life Center at UT Martin.

Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the 2013 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson. The winner of the Miss Tennessee pageant will represent the state in the Miss America pageant.

The combined pageants are co-sponsored by the city of Martin and UT Martin and are open to single women, ages 17 to 24, who are residents of or students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students. The competition will include talent, evening gown, swimsuit and interview categories.

"The Miss America organization provides a great opportunity for women to earn scholar-ship money to continue and further their education," said Hollie Holt, executive director of the pageants, in a news release. "Not only do these young women win money for school, they learn important interview skills, the importance of being physically fit and volunteering, they become self-confident, and they learn how to utilize the talents they have been given."

The deadline to register is Jan. 18. The pageant application form is available at www.utm.edu/missutm or www.facebook.com/missutm, and applications may be emailed to Holt at hholt@utm.edu.

General admission tickets for the Miss UT Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival pageants will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will cost $10 at the door with proper ID.

For more information, contact Holt at (731) 514-3556 or hholt@utm.edu.
UT Martin gets suicide prevention grant

The Jackson Sun

The U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration recently announced that the University of Tennessee at Martin is one of 40 institutions nationally to receive a Garrett Lee Smith Campus Suicide Prevention Grant in the amount of $242,201 from 2012-2015.

The grant will be used to finance UT Martin’s Project Safety-Networking Education and Training (Safety-NET), which is designed to help “create prevention-prepared communities where individuals, families, schools, workplaces and communities take action to prevent and reduce mental illness and substance abuse across the lifespan,” according to an administration initiative.

The project focuses on identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the current response mechanisms and resources for students at risk and seeks to bridge any identified gaps. This requires coordination among campus organizations, law enforcement, health-care providers and mental health-care providers to be successful.

Shannon Deal, director of Project Safety-NET and director of the UT Martin Student Health and Counseling Center, cites Martin’s rural area as a primary need for the program.

“The funds from this grant will allow us to enhance our relationship with community mental health providers and facilities and bridge the gap between on-campus and community resources,” Deal said in a news release. “A collaborative relationship between the campus and the community is critical to ensuring our students have access to on- and off-campus resources before, during and after a mental health crisis.”

The release said Project Safety-NET provides training to campus organizations and officials regarding available resources, as well as educates faculty, staff, students and others about how to detect warning signs and make mental health referrals for those at risk. The program also works to promote crisis hotlines for those in need.

Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs, said the external funds will be used “to increase suicide awareness and to equip the campus community with the necessary tools to help prevent suicide.”

The release said there is a strong movement within the sponsored suicide prevention programs nationally to create multifaceted, collaborative relationships between college campuses and their surrounding communities.

Joan West, director of research, grants and contracts at UT Martin, said, “Project Safety-NET is a prime example of how UT Martin will engage broad and diverse groups who represent relevant campus and community stakeholders to reduce the rate of suicide, suicide attempts and suicidal behaviors on campus.”

Suicide is the second-leading cause of death among college-aged students, according to the American College Health Association.

For more information on the grant, contact UT Martin Student Health and Counseling Services at 731-881-7750.

WHAT TO KNOW

Local residents among UTM grads

The Fulton Leader, January 2, 2013

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

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were Brenna Lea Coffey, Aaron LaMonte Ferrell, and David Forrest Whitesell, all of Fulton.

The student receiving a graduate degree was Courtney Janette Hamrick, also of Fulton.

For more information on the grant, contact UT Martin Student Health and Counseling Services at 731-881-7750.
Celebrating Achievement

Jacqueline Beauchamp, of Martin, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on December 15. Beauchamp was a geology major at UT Martin. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony.

Jacqueline Beauchamp

SUPPORT FOOD BANK — The University of Tennessee at Martin Skyhawk Veterans Association, with help from faculty and the local community, recently raised $235 in Obion, Henry and Weakley counties to assist the We Care food bank in Martin. The SVA, a UT Martin student veterans group, was created in fall 2011 and approved as an official student organization in February 2012. Among those on hand at the Save-A-Lot grocery store in Martin to mark the donation were (from left) Anthony Bond of Paris, SVA public relations officer; Virgil Ware, Save-A-Lot assistant manager; Teresa Rowlett, food bank coordinator for We Care; David Crum of Kenton, SVA president; and Russell Whitlow of Greenfield, SVA treasurer.

UTM among safest colleges

The University of Tennessee at Martin is among the safest of the four-year public institutions in Tennessee, according to the Safest Schools ranking recently released by StateUniversity.com.

UT Martin was the highest ranked public four-year institution in the state of Tennessee, according to the report.

It ranked fifth overall in the state with a safety rating of 94.84 and, of the 450 ranked colleges in the nation, UT Martin placed at 128.

“Campus safety remains a top priority and our public safety officers, faculty and staff as well as alert students make a safe environment an ongoing focus for us all,” UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes said.

As part of the Safest Schools ranking, StateUniversity.com analyzed crime statistics for 450 colleges and universities and assigned a safety rating to each school.

Safety ratings are determined based on the number of occurrences of aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, theft/larceny, motor vehicle theft, forcible rape and murder on campus, and then are weighted based on the probability of each incident.

Violent crime is given more weight in the ranking system and has a greater effect on the safety rating than non-violent crime such as theft.

The ranking system of U.S. public and private educational institutions is statistical and based on U.S. government surveys and reports provided by the schools themselves.
Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

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

The students receiving undergraduate degrees are:
Humboldt – Kiara Sharae Champion, Lisa Marie Cook, Kayla Camille Crook, Katelyn Nicole Hamilton, William Jeffery Hartin and Melody Page Sain
Medina – Kirsten Nichole Nicely and Megan Marie Rowan

Childress is keynote speaker at UT Martin commencement

The power failed temporarily, but graduates, family members and friends remained energized for December commencement exercises Saturday morning in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

A local power outage occurred about 30 minutes before the scheduled 11 a.m. start time, leaving the arena and a gathering crowd mostly in the dark. Flashlights, cell phones and emergency lighting allowed family and friends to finish filling the arena as the event was delayed until power returned and processional music began around 11:15.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the crowd for the late start and congratulated degree candidates from 53 counties, 19 states and 11 nations. More than 600 students completed requirements to receive degrees this fall.

“Looking forward to doing this again next year,” Rakes said. “Remember that you’re soon to be part of an alumni group numbering in excess of 40,000 alumni around the world.”

Cheri Childress, UT Martin graduate and businesswoman from Milan, wasted little time adding more energy to the event after she was introduced by Rakes as commencement speaker. She opened with a story about her family’s recent Thanksgiving dinner where text messages initially replaced verbal requests to pass the food. This prompted her brother-in-law to begin collecting electronic devices and say, “There will be no more texting at this Thanksgiving dinner.”

Her family then laughed at what had happened, but the brief story made her point. “You see, the truth is that we build more computers, more iPads, more smartphones, to hold more and more information, to answer more questions. But, we communicate less and less,” Childress said.

She proceeded to “just talk” with the audience, admitting that nothing she told them couldn’t be found with help from Google or Siri, Apple’s intelligent personal assistant. So, she posed questions that could be answered by each individual in the audience, starting with, “When is your birthday? When were you born?”
Birthdays, Childress said, mark important milestones in life. “Did you notice that with every year came just a few more responsibilities?” she asked, adding, “It (your birthday) was given to you, but this day (commencement) … you earned. No one gave it to you.” Commencement day adds responsibilities and expectations, she said. “As you completed your required courses to achieve your degree, in the words of Robert Kennedy, ‘Some of you saw things as they were, and you asked, ‘Why?’ Some of you saw things as they should be, and you asked, ‘Why not?’ And that’s OK, because this class of 2012 at UTM is graduating great leaders and great followers.”

She added, “Followers find leaders. Leaders find vision. History is filled with visionaries and followers. Ladies and gentlemen, it takes both working together.” She named Walt Disney, Oprah Winfrey, Bill Gates and other successful people who had visions for success. “But all of these leaders required followers, followers for their success to become a reality.”

“And you will hear people to tell you to ‘follow your dream.’ Don’t you dare follow your dream,” she emphasized. “You go get your dream. You didn’t get here today by following your dream. You got here today by working and achieving and persevering (to achieve) your dream.”

She recalled Fred DeLuca, co-founder of Subway, who opened his first restaurant in 1965. The restaurant failed, and instead of giving up, he opened a second restaurant. “You see, Fred believed in himself, his vision, he was patient, and he persevered,” she said, noting that today 37,000 Subway locations can be found in 98 countries.

Childress remembered when she and her business partners opened their first Subway store 25 years ago. They encountered many doubts, but “twenty five years later and a few restaurants, a small investment, and a belief in your dream and ourselves, and patiently persevering became big business.”

“Graduates, we live in a time of instant gratification,” she said, adding, “Life isn’t that way. You do not build a business, you do not build a career instantly. It takes patience.” She used the example of a Chinese bamboo tree, as told by the late Zig Ziegler, famed author and motivational speaker. He explained how you plant, water and fertilize the bamboo tree seed and have to wait until it finally sprouts sometime during the fifth year, suddenly growing 90 feet in six weeks. “You can do all the right things at all the right times, but success takes patience and perseverance,” she said.

She closed with a story about how a work crew can demolish in a short time what skilled builders toil years to construct. She then asked the graduates to look in the audience and spot families and friends.

“As you look around, graduates, and you look at this crowd that is here for you, I want you to know that we all – faculty, your family, your friends – we are all here for you. And we all, all of us, collectively believe that you will be a builder with a vision, patiently persevering. We all are counting on you.”

Rakes conferred the degrees, and Dr. Keith Carver, West Tennessee native and executive assistant to the University of Tennessee president, brought greetings on behalf of UT President Joe DiPietro.
UTM artists teach local Girl Scouts

Posted: Wednesday, January 2, 2013 12:00 pm
By SUZANNE HICKRICK

Press staff

Student members of the University of Tennessee at Martin's League of Striving Artists recently used their time and knowledge to help local Girl Scouts earn a visual arts patch. The collegiate art group, led by club president Marah Vogt, met with Leah Burnett of AmeriCorps Vista and Girl Scouts Heart of the South at the Tom and Ann Stuart Community Center to teach the Girl Scouts from Troop 43061 a variety of basic art concepts.

Members of the League of Striving Artists first presented the troop with a collection of their own artwork. The pieces reflected concepts that the students came prepared to teach the Girl Scouts. Club members then separated into smaller groups and led a series of lessons, covering basic concepts and techniques. Each lesson was combined with a hands-on activity, in which the girls completed individual art projects to exhibit what they had learned.

The first group of instructors taught the Girl Scouts about the color wheel, explaining primary and complementary colors. Participants were instructed to mix primary colors and paint a picture using the unique shades they had created.

A second group of instructors taught a lesson about monochromatic color schemes, followed by an activity in which the Girl Scouts made their own sun catchers, using one color to match an emotion they wished to portray.

Next, the girls learned how to make flat shapes appear three-dimensional by using hatching, cross hatching, and stippling techniques.

The final group of instructors taught a lesson on perspective. The Girl Scouts learned how to add depth to pictures, and then applied the technique to their own drawings. After all of the lessons were complete, Vogt instructed the girls to choose two pieces of their own art to display in a mock art show. Each girl proudly presented her artwork to her fellow Troop members, explaining the technique used in each piece.

Troop 43061 was very appreciative of the visit from the League of Striving Artists, and look forward to using their newly acquired skills in future art projects.

Published in The WCP 1.1.13

THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS
THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 2013

CHEMISTRY PROGRAM — The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) recently hosted the Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society (KLS-ACS) program for the National Chemistry Program. Chemical demonstrations were presented by students from Bethel University, Dresden Middle School, Murray State University, Union University, UT Martin and West Kentucky Community and Technical College in the Boling University Center Duncan Ballroom. UT Martin students and faculty were (front row, from left) Priya Patel, Krishna Patel, Christy Lee, Kaitlyn Wilcox, Heather Vacovsky, Sarah Mumey, Chelsea Peeler, KLS-ACS chair Dr. Kate Stumpo, Dr. Phillip Davis, Chelsea Johnson and Amber Watson; (back row) Gilbert Forgays, SMACS faculty advisor Dr. S.K. Airee, Matthew Abbott, Steven Stewart, Saurin Patel, Charles Fowlkes, Elizabeth DeVlieger, Corey Jones, Lee Elliott and Johnathan Travis.
Cheri Childress, a UT Martin graduate and businesswoman from Milan, served as the guest speaker during commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

From left: Kyle Williams, of Dyersburg; Kyle Garcia, of Milan; Eric Davidson, of Greenfield; and Cody McGee, of Lobelville, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. All four were engineering majors at UT Martin. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
Kayla Key, left, a biology major from Jackson, and Melody Sain, a biology major from Medina, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony and conferred the degrees, and Dr. Keith Carver, a West Tennessee native and executive assistant to UT President Joe DiPietro, brought greetings on DiPietro's behalf. Rakes congratulated degree candidates from 53 counties, 19 states and 11 nations. More than 600 students completed requirements to receive degrees in the fall. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

From left: Susan Privett, a child and family studies major from Trenton; Rebecca Carroll, a family and consumer science education major from Linden; and Robyn Hayes, a family and consumer science education major from Nashville, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Alan Dupree, of Brueton, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. Dupree was a management and information systems major at UT Martin. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Shandi Thomas, of Jackson, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. Thomas was a secondary education major at UT Martin. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN

Leigh Foster, of Lexington, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. Foster was a K-6 education major at UT Martin. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
**Campus group encourages participation in Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service project**

MARTIN, Tenn. - The University of Tennessee at Martin Institute for Civic Engagement (ICE) invites UT Martin students, staff, faculty, administrators and members of the Martin community to participate in an experiential project in honor of the national Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service on Jan. 21.

In addition to spending time volunteering on or around Martin Luther King Jr. Day, participants are asked to spend no more than $4 per day (the average food stamp budget) for food, as many days before and after Martin Luther King Jr. Day as they can or would like to, said Dr. Mike McCullough, director of ICE.

Individuals are then encouraged to join a conversation on their experience at noon on Jan. 23 in room 125 of the Skyhawk Dining Room. The discussion will be part of the weekly Times Talk meeting.

"We will be suggesting that they write a poem or essay and read it at the Times Talk, especially pertaining to eating on the equivalent of food stamps, or $4 per day," McCullough said. "The idea is to try to empathize with those who are struggling financially at a time when over 45 million people in the U.S. get food stamps."

For more information on the project, contact McCullough at 731-881-3375 or utmartinic@utm.edu.

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**UTM scholarship deadline nears, application for admission encouraged**

Those interested in attending the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to apply for admission. Interested persons may apply online at www.utm.edu<http://www.utm.edu> by clicking the "Apply Now" link.

First-time freshmen must have a copy of ACT scores forwarded to the Office of Admissions, but ACT scores are not required if the applicant has been out of high school for at least three years. They must also have a high school transcript forwarded to the Office of Admissions. There is also a $30 non-refundable application fee.

The deadline to apply for university scholarships is Feb. 1.

To apply for financial aid and scholarships applicants should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as possible.


UT Martin will waive out-of-state tuition for any applicant with an ACT score of 25 or above and a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Students who qualify must participate in the university's Honors Programs. Potential students may also attend Spring Preview Day at UT Martin where faculty and staff will be available to answer questions about academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing and student life. Spring Preview Day is scheduled for March 16.

For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020, or register online at www.utm.edu<http://www.utm.edu>.
UTM names local students to fall semester honor roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2012 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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

Students can make the Chancellor's Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

Devin D. Hardige, Highest Honors; Brecona A. Berry, High Honors; James T. Adkins, High Honors; Haley A. Austin, High Honors; Riley A. Avenershine, Highest Honors; James T. Barber, High Honors; Miranda M. Barker, Honors; Lisa C. Baskette, Honors; Monica R. Bell, High Honors; Katherine N. Blaylock, Highest Honors; Marianne J. Brook, Highest Honors; Sherie L. Crowell, Honors; Wyster L. Crowell, Honors; Misty L. Evans, Honors; Cynthia J. Farrar, Honors; Shanton E. Fisher, Honors; Danielle N. Gallimore, Highest Honors; Jeffrey T. Goodlow, High Honors; Danielle K. Harris, Highest Honors; Matthew T. Heiderson, Honors; Kelsie N. Hendrix, High Honors; Brooke A. Hickman, High Honors; Angela S. Kelly, High Honors; Moniesa M. King, Honors; Carri J. Moore, Honors; Brittany D. Morgan, Highest Honors; Christopher D. Patterson, Honors; Colleen E. Perkins, Honors; Jessica M. Peele, High Honors; Adam L. Reddick, Highest Honors; Hircie D. Rickman, Highest Honors; Ashlee C. Smith, Honors; Jennifer R. Sommerville, Highest Honors; Timothy M. Spence, Honors; Abbie G. Turbeville, High Honors; Andrew S. Turbeville, Honors; Ben M. Walker, Highest Honors; David A. Walker, Honors; Erin L. Bivens, High Honors; Jennifer M. Mansfield, Honors; Zachary S. Roberts, Honors; Michael W. Singleton, High Honors; Jason W. Titus, Highest Honors; Chandler N. Beasley, Honors; Ryan W. Clark, Highest Honors; Preston D. Frazier, Highest Honors; Kelly L. Hatley, Highest Honors; Payton M. Lee, Honors; Leah N. Mebane, Honors; Riley E. Moran, Honors; Evan J. Orr, Honors; Billy F. Reeves, Highest Honors; Haley A. Swofford, Highest Honors; Elizabeth D. Terrell, Highest Honors; Trevor C. Torre, Honors; Tysa M. Ture, Glastonbury, TN 38229, Honors; Holly L. Townes, Highest Honors; Jennifer L. Wilbanks, Honors; John M. Wilson Highest Honors; Morgan J. Alexander, Honors; Dustin T. Allen, High Honors; Dakota R. Betts, Honors; Karsen N. Cook, High Honors; Laura E. Crox, Honors; Eric M. Davidson, Honors; Pannayotta E. Edmonston, Highest Honors; Kelby C. Gaines, Highest Honors; Lea J. Galey, Honors; Benjamin C. Garner, High Honors; April V. Hazelwood, Highest Honors; Katelin B. McCall, Highest Honors; Abbey T. McDaniel, High Honors; Natalie L. McDill, Highest Honors; Adam P. Mitchell, Highest Honors; James A. Morris, Honors; Payton M. Page, High Honors; Dalton L. Potts, High Honors; Hannah G. Rawls, Honors; Stephanie D. Sellers, Highest Honors; Kaitlyn P. Simmons, Highest Honors; Mary A. Straley, Highest Honors; Michael Thompson, Highest Honors; Emily D. Waddell, Highest Honors; Jessica L. Williams, Honors; Cody L. Worley, Highest Honors; Taylor N. Hatcher, Honors; Catherine M. Young, High Honors; Mariana N. Zaburashima, Honors; Rhonda C. Abdul, Honors; Highest Honors; Olivia G. Balz, Highest Honors; Megan L. Beard, High Honors; Travis W. Bearden, Highest Honors; Allison M. Beddington, Honors; Sabrina D. Black, Honors; Cody D. Blake, Honors; Matthew D. Borden, High Honors; Catherine K. Bortoff, Highest Honors; Sylvester Boyd, Highest Honors; Chelsea D. Breeden, Honors; Kelsey B. Breland, Highest Honors; Caitlin M. Brown, Honors; Chantay B. Brown, Honors; Elizabeth R. Baker, Highest Honors; Jamie L. Burgess, Highest Honors; Diedrie E. Butler, Honors; Ashley E. Bynum, Honors; Chase H. Cartmell, Honors; Eric Chism, Honors; Logan S. Cotes, Highest Honors; Kyle A. Coleman, Honors; Joseph D. Copeland, High Honors; Carole F. Craner, Honors; Amanda L. Crowe, Honors; Gregory R. Overman, High Honors; Steven W. Dalton, High Honors; Bradley C. Davis, Honors; Jeffrey S. Davis, High Honors; Jurea-R. Davis, Honors; Robert L. Devore, High Honors; Jordon P. Dortch, High Honors; Lauren B. Dowdy, Highest Honors; Bryant J. Fisher, High Honors; Brandon S. Fletcher, Honors; Layla R. Gargus, High Honors; Travis W. Garner, Honors; Brandon M. Gibson, High Honors; Stephanie Gourley, Highest Honors; Matthew J. Grant, High Honors; Ashley M. Gross, Highest Honors; Cynthia A. Hahn, Highest Honors; Kristen D. Harrold, Honors; Brent T. Harris, Honors; Kelsey E. Haube, Highest Honors; Zeick H. Hicks, Honors; Ashley L. Holland, High Honors; James R. Holland, High Honors; Kristin M. Howes, High Honors; Lenetta L. Humphrey, Highest Honors; Melissa M. Hunt, High Honors; Miesha K. Hutcheson, Honors; Jennifer K. Johnson, Highest Honors; Joshua T. Johnson, Honors; Kyeongmee Kim, High Honors; Sierra L. Kirk, High Honors; Caitlyn P. Landry, Honors; Christy L. Lee, Highest Honors; Jason D. Maness, Honors; Chase G. Manley, Highest Honors; Dillon T. Matlock, Honors; Brittany N. McClelland, Honors; Sydney E. McClure, Honors; Katherine A. Meekel, Honors; Matthew W. Melton, High Honors; Samantha L. Mobley, Honors; James P. Morgan, High Honors; Chase A. Moss, High Honors; Whitney B. Mount, Highest Honors; Ezra F. Narce, Highest Honors; Ashley N. Newton, High Honors; Jesi L. Oglesby, High Honors; Orren P. Oglesby, Highest Honors; Andrew
UT Martin awarded grant focused on suicide prevention

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Suicide is the second leading cause of death among college-aged students, according to the American College Health Association.

For more information, contact UT Martin Student Health and Counseling Services at (731) 881-7720.
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The students from Hendersonville to make the list were: Jonah L. Boggess (Highest Honors), Christy A. Chicás (Highest Honors), Kori D. Ellis (Highest Honors), William D. Gregory (Highest Honors), Alan Jones (Highest Honors), Lucy E. Martin (Highest Honors), Jarod C. Neel (Highest Honors), Samantha J. Owen (Highest Honors), Angel B. Ross (Highest Honors), Jennifer L. Tate (Highest Honors) and Austin K. Thomas (Highest Honors).

From Goodlettsville were: Robyn R. Hayes (Highest Honors), Jessica L. Hunt (Highest Honors), Kelsey A. Johnson (Highest Honors) and Leanna K. Rudolph (Highest Honors).

Other Sumner County students included were: Andrew N. Carr (Bethpage, Highest Honors), Kelsey Gregory (Bethpage, Highest Honors), Chelsea C. Rittenberry (Bethpage, Highest Honors), Tiffany D. Gann (Cottontown, Highest Honors), Stephanie L. Brookes (Highest Honors), Kayla M. Elrod (Gallatin, Highest Honors), Gene Lester (Gallatin, High Honors), James D. Satterfield (Gallatin, Honors), Theresa M. Schulz (Gallatin, High Honors), Seth D. Tennant (Gallatin, Honors), Elizabeth A. Devlieger (Portland, Highest Honors), Elizabeth C. Grael (Portland, Highest Honors), Alyson P. Martin (Portland, Highest Honors), Rachael E. Carter (Westmoreland, Honors), Hailey D. Lambert (Westmoreland, Highest Honors), Daniel J. Guilt (White House, Honors) and Justin T. Sonu (White House, Honors).

UT Martin is a comprehensive public university that maintains an excellent reputation for its high-quality undergraduate programs, its beautiful campus and caring professors.
UT Martin names local students to fall semester chancellor's honor roll

Written by btnews
Wednesday, January 09, 2013 6:04 AM

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2012 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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Students from Bolivar

Desiree S. Bills, Honors
Brooke S. Crisp, Honors
Matthew D. Gammel, Honors
Sara Gatlin, Highest Honors
Kristin L. George, High Honors
Jennifer L. Hertweck, High Honors
Felisha D. Jones, Honors
Duncan W. McKinnie, Highest Honors
Mackenzie C. Moore, Highest Honors
Mallory T. Moore, Highest Honors
Brandy S. Polk, Highest Honors
Amber L. Simpson, Honors
Tamber L. Simpson, High Honors
Lynn R. Weaver, High Honors
Henry A. Wilhite, Honors.
Several undergraduate students from Obion County are among those honored for outstanding academic achievements at the University of Tennessee at Martin with publication of the fall Chancellor’s Honor Roll.

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

Among those honored from Obion County are:

Alton R. Alexander, honors; Jeffrey A. Alexander, highest honors; Jacob R. Bloodworth, high honors; Christopher A. Douglas, high honors; Amber N. Hall, highest honors; Billie J. Kirk, high honors; Mollie J. Scott, high honors; and Terri D. Whitmore, highest honors.

Kenton — James K. Hardin, high honors; and Marion E. Reed, high honors.

Obion — Andrew P. Berry, highest honors; Amanda L. Coree, honors; Rachael C. Holloway, high honors; William B. Randolph, honors; Maria D. Rodriguez, highest honors; Chelsea D. Southerland, highest honors; and Jennifer A. Webber, highest honors.

Rives — Jennifer L. Brooks, highest honors; Tabitha P. Brown, high honors; Jenna A. Land, high honors; Brittany N. Lyell, highest honors; Christopher L. Palmer, honors; Juan Jose Mora Rivas, highest honors; Krista N. Tate, highest honors; Jeriann Webster, highest honors.

South Fulton — Jessica A. Baker, high honors; Marina G. Barclay, honors; Reid E. Barker, high honors; Katherine R. Biven, honors; Andrea K. Coffman, honors; Maghan M. Eaves, honors; Jonathan L. French, honors; Seth D. Frields, high honors; Summer D. Frields, honors; Sarah N. Gammon, highest honors; Andrew P. Greer, highest honors; Kassie L. Hughes, honors; Mark S. Maloney, honors; Cayce E. Martin, high honors; Melissa L. McCartney, highest honors; Holly R. McClanahan, highest honors; Zachary K. Nabors, highest honors; Kristen N. Prince, highest honors; William B. Sisson, highest honors; Jacob P. Southander, highest honors; Adam D. Tolley, highest honors; and Amanda J. Wall, highest honors.

Troy — Bradley J. Barbour, honors; Terry G. Chapman, high honors; Barbara J. Cox, high honors; Laurie B. Craddock, honors; Ricky C. Dotson, high honors; Kacee L. Eaves, highest honors; Lucy R. Eaves, high honors; Alexandra M. Eddington, honors; Josh C. Hart, honors; Jackquelyn K. Hopkins, high honors; Jonathan S. Kelly, honors; Kisha D. Kelly, high honors; Reuben W. Kendall, highest honors; Thomas W. Kendall, highest honors; Cory A. Luther, high honors; Morgan T. Maimder, honors; Radford K. McDavid, highest honors; Kaitlyn E. O’Keily, honors; Justin D. Pequet, high honors; Lucy A. Simpson, honors; and Amber L. Victory, honors.

Union City — Victoria P. Abrego, high honors; Emma C. Adams, highest honors; Jessica L. Andrews, high honors; William H. Arnold, highest honors; Patricia L. Avery, honors; Ashley R. Baker, honors; Garrison B. Barnes, honors; Brittany M. Barnett, highest honors; John K. Bay, high honors; Denise N. Bell, highest honors; Terrence L. Bishop, honors; Tiffany J. Bogle, high honors; Chelsea E. Boyd, highest honors; Eric R. Brann, honors; Britton M. Bugg, high honors; Jerrie C. Carrington, high honors; Audrey E. Casey, high honors; Carl B. Cash, honors; John C. Castellaw, honors; Mary A. Crews, honors; Dayna L. Cox, high honors; Mary C. Davis, honors; and Jackson R. Donnell, highest honors; Johnny T. Dyer, highest honors; Kayla M. Eaton, honors; Taylor M. Edwards, high honors; Joshua B. Ferrell, high honors; Sarah L. Foraker, honors; Felicia F. Freeman, high honors; Amber L. Gardiner, honors; Derek H. Griffin, highest honors; Steven G. Gosses, honors; Cameron T. Graham, highest honors; Larry B. Greer, highest honors; Cameron P. Grisham, highest honors; Kailey J. Hagan, honors; Brian A. Halford, high honors; Caitlin D. Hall, highest honors; Mark C. Hall, highest honors; Jon T. Hamil, highest honors; Kaitie L. Hawkins, highest honors; Andrew J. Henderson, highest honors; Courtney L. House, high honors; Shenisha R. Huff, honors; Henry D. Hutchins, honors; Kameron L. Jackson, honors; Jamie M. Janusz, honors; Seth L. Johnson, high honors; Treyman D. Johnson, highest honors; Matthew R. Keathley, high honors; Sherrif M. Langford, honors; Tiffany R. Logan, honors; Craig E. Lowrance, high honors; Ashley N. Marshall, highest honors; Mallory A. Martin, honors; and Lucia Martinez, high honors; Victoria D. Mitchell, high honors; Joseph D. Morgan, high honors; Kristin R. Moss, high honors; Andy Nelson, highest honors; Johnathan C. Nolan, highest honors; Alex M. O’Neill, highest honors; Melissa A. Pollock, highest honors; Kelsey M. Reed, highest honors; Will J. Regan, highest honors; Lauren D. Richards, high honors; Michael G. Rudd, highest honors; Nancy Sanchez, high honors; Linden G. Scarborough, honors; Landon C. Sowell, highest honors; Joseph C. Speed, highest honors; Michelle R. Stanley, high honors; Kristin E. Storey, honors; Samantha D. Storey, honors; William B. Tanner, honors; Chelsea J. Thomas, high honors; TeAnna M. Thomas, highest honors; Kandace F. Tomlinson, high honors; Sarah C. Triplett, highest honors; William Philip Wesner, highest honors; David B. Wharton, highest honors; John-David O. Wheeler, honors; Chelsea D. White, high honors; Katelyn L. Williams, honors; and Johnathan B. Wright, highest honors.
Humboldt Chronicle, Wednesday, January 9, 2013

Humboldt area students named to UTM honor roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Fall 2012 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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Area students on the list include:
Humboldt - Jason W. Barker, high honors; Charles C. Brasher, honors; Luke H. Brittian, honors; Tabitha J. Causey, honors; Kenisha K. Champion, high honors; Kiara S. Champion, highest honors; Kayla C. Crook, honors; Robert L. Fish, honors; Douglass G. Hundenup, honors; Amanda K. Hunley, highest honors; Jordan R. King, honors; Jonathan A. Rice, high honors; Kali R. Sharp, highest honors; Annalyn E. Smith, high honors; Spencer G. Walker, honors; Medina - Kyle H. Beasley, high honors; Kimberly A. Boswell, highest honors; Anthony C. Brown, highest honors; Dylan W. Brown, honors; Dalton C. Cook, honors; Donnie M. Cook, honors; Katherine A. Estes, high honors; Kirsten N. Nicely, highest honors; Tyler C. Ray, high honors; Katy Reynolds, honors; Melody P. Sain, high honors; Anna B. Santaniello, honors; Rebekah D. Smith, highest honors; Katelyn D. Watt, highest honors; Peter M. Wood, high honors; Justin L. Woods, high honors; Cadsden - Logan M. Cummarrata, high honors.

UT Martin will waive out-of-state tuition for any applicant with an ACT score of 25 or above and a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Students who qualify must participate in the university’s honors programs.

Potential students may also attend Spring Preview Day at UT Martin where faculty and staff will be available to answer questions about academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing and student life. Spring Preview Day is scheduled for March 16.

For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at 731-881-7020 or register online at www.utm.edu.

UT Martin scholarship deadline approaching

Those interested in attending the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to apply for admission. Interested persons may apply online at www.utm.edu by clicking the “Apply Now” link.

First-time freshmen must have a copy of ACT scores forwarded to the Office of Admissions, but ACT scores are not required if the applicant has been out of high school for at least three years. They must also have a high school transcript forwarded to the Office of Admissions. There is also a non-refundable application fee.

The deadline to apply for university scholarships is February 1.

To apply for financial aid and scholarships applicants should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as possible.

To view available university scholarships visit http://www.utm.edu/departments/financialaid/utm Scholarships.php.

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**UTM students to serve as interns**

The University of Tennessee at Martin has several students gaining experience in the state legislature.

Three students, Garrett Cole, of Clarksville, Drew Greer, of South Fulton, and Greg Frye, of Newbern, will serve as interns in the state legislature in Nashville in the coming spring.

Cole is a junior political science major who is the president of the UT Martin Pre-Law Club. He is also active in the social fraternity Sigma Chi and plans to attend law school after graduating from UT Martin. Later, he hopes to run for congressman.

Greer is a senior political science major who is active in the Pre-Law Club on campus. He is also a member of the social fraternity Kappa Alpha Order and plans to attend law school upon graduation.

Frye is a senior in the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies program with a focus on business law and international marketing. He is active in the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, Lumina Foundation, Student Government Association and Skyhawk Veterans Association. He served as a PEP leader for UT Martin's First-Year Initiative program and is a member of the social fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Greer will be working under Tennessee state representative Andy Holt. Cole and Frye are expected to receive specific assignments in January.

UT Martin has participated in the Tennessee Legislative Internship program every year since it began in 1973.

For more information, contact Dr. Chris Baxter, associate professor of political science, at 731-881-7567.

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**UT Martin among safest four-year public institutions**

The University of Tennessee at Martin is among the safest of the four-year public institutions in Tennessee according to the Safest Schools ranking recently released by StateUniversity.com.

UT Martin was the highest ranked public four-year institution in the state of Tennessee according to the report. It ranked fifth overall in the state with a safety rating of 94.84, and of the 450 ranked colleges in the nation, UT Martin placed at 128.

"Campus safety remains a top priority and our public safety officers, faculty and staff as well as alert students make a safe environment an on-going focus for us all," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes.

As part of the Safest Schools ranking, StateUniversity.com analyzed crime statistics for 450 colleges and universities, and assigned a safety rating to each school. Safety ratings are determined based on the number of occurrences of aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, theft/larceny, motor vehicle theft, forcible rape and murder on campus, and then are weighed based on the probability of each incident. Violent crime is given more weight in the ranking system, and has a greater effect on the safety rating than non-violent crime such as theft.

The ranking system of U.S. public and private educational institutions is statistical and based on U.S. government surveys and reports provided by the schools themselves.

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**Local students attend RisingStar Leadership Summit**

A group of Obion and Weakley County high school students attended the RisingStar Leadership Summit held on November 29-30 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. A total of 26 high school juniors and seniors from 13 counties attended the event, which taught students leadership skills through team-building exercises. The summit was sponsored by the WestStar Leadership Program, Ayers Foundation and UT Martin. The next summit will be held November 21-22, 2013. Pictured, left to right, Kendal Cook (Weakley), Ben Jones (Obion) and Elizabeth Francisco (Weakley).
Local students named to Chancellor's Honor Roll

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Local students achieving Honor Roll recognition include:
- **Dukedon**: Erin L. Bivens, Jennifer M. Mansfield, Zachary S. Roberts.
- **McKenzie**: Elaine C. Haw, Matthew C. Moore.
- **Obion**: Kelly A. White.
- **Palmersville**: Thomas G. Bell, Jamie E. Reed.
- **Paris**: Rex N. Hughes.
- **Sharon**: Jason Ballard.
SMACS Tours Agrileum Plant in Memphis

Ten members of the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) and two faculty members recently toured the Agrileum Biodiesel plant in Memphis. Pictured left to right - Matthew Roberson, Sauril Patel, Gilbert Forgays, Larry Lu, Heather Vacovsky, Matthew Abbott, Heather Strecker, plant manager Brandon Sheley, Priya Patel, Chelsea Peeler, Dr. S. K. Airee and Meagan Eason.

SMACS Tours Agrileum Plant in Memphis

Ten members of the University of Tennessee at Martin Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) and two faculty members recently toured the Agrileum biodiesel plant in Memphis.

The plant is owned in part and operated by former UT Martin student Brandon Sheley. The 17-acre project site is owned by Agrileum and has an operational 40-million-gallon-per-year biodiesel plant and 10-million-gallon-per-year feedstock pre-treatment facility. The plant also has two 250,000-gallon finished biodiesel storage tanks and three 80,000-gallon multi-feedstock storage tanks on site.

Biodiesel is a clean-burning alternative to hydrocarbon-based diesel fuel. It is manufactured from renewable, non-petroleum feedstock through the transesterification of high-grade feedstock (primarily soybean oil) or other lower-grade materials largely comprised of triglycerides, such as animal fats or used cooking oils. The process leaves behind two products -- methyl esters (ME, the chemical name for biodiesel) and glycerin. In its pure 100 percent form (B100), biodiesel can be blended up to 20 percent with petroleum diesel to create a biodiesel blend that can be used in diesel engines without modification.
TDOT commissioner addresses status of Tennessee’s highway system

By David Fisher
Staff Reporter

Tennessee Department of Transportation Commissioner John C. Schroer, who was the featured speaker at the January 3 luncheon meeting of the Martin Rotary Club, held in the Bowling Center on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin, discussed the status of Tennessee’s highway system.

Numerous state, county and local officials, as well as members of the Rotary Club and Weakley County Chamber of Commerce, attended the meeting to hear the latest report concerning the progress on various state construction projects.

Retiring State Senator Roy Herron; State Representative Andy Holt; Weakley County Mayor Houston Patrick; Obion County Mayor Bennie McGuire; Weakley County commissioners - James Westbrook, Jr., John Salmon, Eric Owen, Dale Overton and Jack Vincent; Weakley County Economic Development Director Ronnie Price; Weakley County Finance Director Shawn Francisco; Weakley County Sheriff Mike Wilson; Weakley County Highway Supervisor Kermit Hopper; Northwest Tennessee

...Continued On Page 2
“It is one of five states in the country to have no debt for roads,” Schroer said. He stated TDOT has worked on some construction projects for 10-15 years, as funds are available, and environmental studies have been underway for as long as 18 years at some locations and must be completed before construction begins.

According to Schroer, the current funding mechanism for roads is inadequate. He stated, due to the way TDOT is funded, the amount of money available for the state’s highway system is shrinking each year.

Schroer says federal and state gas taxes pay for road construction and maintenance. But, because today’s vehicles are more gas efficient and the number of miles by motorists traveled remains pretty much the same, revenues are falling.

Since electric vehicles pay no gas tax, some states are implementing a tax on electric vehicles based on an annual flat rate. Washington State is charging its electric vehicle owners $100 per year. Another possible way to generate revenue from owners of hybrid or all-electric vehicles is to charge a tax based on the number of miles traveled each year.

“Our national infrastructure is not being maintained the way it should, and there is not enough new infrastructure,” Schroer said. “Our roads are 50 years old and in a state of disrepair.”

He stressed it is important the nation pass a new bill revamping the way roads are funded, but noted it is difficult to get anything done in the U.S. Congress these days, due to partisan bickering.

Schroer stated, although Tennessee spends less per capita than any other state on roads, it is rated as having the third best roads in the nation, exceeded only by Florida and Georgia. Additionally, Tennessee has the 14th lowest tax rate in the nation.

He states there has been a hiring freeze at TDOT for the past eight years, and his department strives to do more with less.

According to Schroer, downsizing, merging construction and maintenance divisions, and cross-training of state employees is saving money while increasing production. Additionally, he notes employees are encouraged to increase their training and educational levels and are offered incentives to do so.

Schroer says construction jobs are competitively bid to construction companies, but TDOT inspectors must make sure the work is done right. He states TDOT spends approximately $64 million annually to pay inspectors’ salaries.

In closing, Schroer said, “The Tennessee Department of Transportation is the only department that touches everybody everyday.” He explained that everyone travels on the state’s highway system, or uses goods or services transported over state highways.

Tennessee Department of Transportation Commissioner John C. Schroer discusses the status of highway projects at the Martin Rotary Club meeting last Thursday.

Schroer said he has provided approximately $200 million for Tennessee’s segment of I-69. About $37 million of that has been spent in Obion County.

Because of the nation’s fiscal crisis, the I-69 project has been placed on hold. Federal funding for the project is not currently available and the state does not have the money to take on such an incredibly expensive project, which is estimated at $1.5 billion to $2 billion, Schroer said it would take TDOT’s entire construction budget for two years to fund such an undertaking, which is not feasible, because there would be no money left for other projects or even essential routine maintenance.

He said the I-69 bridge over the Mississippi River would cost another $1.5 billion.

Schroer explained Tennessee is a pay-as-you-go state, and does not borrow money for road construction or maintenance.
MLK Jr. Day events plentiful next week

Slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will be remembered next week with several local events.

The observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day is set for Jan. 21. The federal holiday marks King’s birthday and is observed the third Monday of January each year, around the time of King’s birthday, Jan. 15. Classes will not be in session in the Obion County and Union City school systems and government offices will be closed.

So far, events are scheduled in Fulton. Martin and Dyersburg, according to information provided to The Messenger.

The Twin Cities’ annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day service will be held Jan. 21 at 6 p.m. at Greater Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Fulton.

The Rev. Buster Johnson, pastor of New Beginnings Ministry in Water Valley, Ky., will be the speaker and the Twin City Mass Choir will provide the music.

An essay contest is also under way for junior high and high school students. The theme is “How to Achieve My Dreams and Goals to Make a Difference” and essays must be at least 500 words and double-spaced. Deadline for entry is Thursday. Essays may be submitted to Helen Lee at Fulton City Hall or submitted Wednesday from 6-7 p.m. at Greater Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Fulton.

At the University of Tennessee at Martin, the Institute for Civic Engagement (ICE) is inviting UT Martin students, staff, faculty, administrators and the community to participate in an experiential project in honor of the national Martin Luther King Day Jr. of Service on Jan. 21.

In addition to spending time volunteering on or around Martin Luther King Jr. Day, participants are asked to spend no more than $4 per day — the average food stamp budget — for food on as many days before and after Martin Luther King Jr. Day as they can or would like to, according to ICE director Dr. Mike McCullough.

Participants are then encouraged to join a conversation on their experience at noon Jan. 23 in Room 125 of the Skyhawk Dining Room. The discussion will be part of the weekly Times Talk meeting.

“We will be suggesting that they write a poem or essay and read it at the Times Talk, especially pertaining to eating on the equivalent of food stamps, or $4 per day,” McCullough said. “The idea is to try to empathize with those who are struggling financially at a time when over 45 million people in the U.S. get food stamps.”

For more information on the project, contact (See Page 2, Col. 4).

MLK Jr. Day events plentiful next week

(Continued from Page 1)

The annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. luncheon hosted by Dyersburg State Community College and Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce will be held at noon Friday in the DSCC Student Center.

This year’s speaker will be Col. Corwin K. Robinson, who has been named superintendent of the Lake County School System.

Robinson holds a master’s degree in adult and continuing education. Before accepting the Lake County position, he served as the commanding officer of the U.S. Army’s 533rd Engineer Unit, which was stationed at Fort Knox, Ky., and deployed to Afghanistan. As the unit’s commanding officer, Robinson designed, managed and provided quality control and quality assurance of more than $250 million of construction and engineering projects.

Before being called to active duty, he was assistant principal for the Clarksville Montgomery County School System. Prior to this, he worked as district discipline coordinator for Nashville Public Schools.

Prior to moving to Tennessee, Robinson held a number of positions in the New Orleans Public School System, including assistant principal, instructional behavioral interventionist, special education teacher and department chair. He also worked for the Department of Defense Youth Challenge program.

Tickets for the luncheon, which must be purchased in advance, are $10 each. They are on sale until 4:30 p.m. Tuesday at the DSCC business office located in the Eller Building on the Dyersburg campus, and at the Dyersburg/Dyer County Chamber of Commerce.

For more information about the luncheon or the speaker, contact Beverlee Weatherly at (731) 286-3300 or weatherly@dssc.edu.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Selects Blackboard Mobile

College finds Blackboard Superior for Campus Information and Mobile Learning

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- The University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) has selected Blackboard Mobile™ to replace its current mobile app with an app that will offer access to campus services, information, and courses, Blackboard Inc. announced today.

The deciding factor in the change to Blackboard Mobile was that UTM officials wanted to have a single, integrated app for all elements of the campus experience in order to simplify things for users and increase engagement. With Blackboard, UTM will have an app for campus life and services that will also integrate with the latest release of the Blackboard Learn™ platform, the college's learning management system (LMS), so its 7,750 students have the easiest and most convenient solution to stay connected to the college and their courses.

"We didn't just want to 'check the box' of having a mobile application," said Craig Ingram, interim director of UTM's Information and Technology Center and Web Services. "Blackboard Mobile offers the full spectrum of capabilities we were looking to bring to our students, and we look forward to working with Blackboard to continue to build on and enhance our mobile platform."

Components of the new app include a complete campus telephone directory, athletics schedule and news updates, the complete UTM library catalog, and a maps feature that enables the users to find their exact location on campus, search for a building and pinpoint its address. Academic and social calendars provide a list of upcoming events such as concerts, lectures, and exhibits and alert users to activities near their current locations.

UT Martin students will also be able to access their course content with Blackboard Mobile Learn, allowing them to view grades, participate in online course discussion boards and access course assignments.

"Our goal is to strengthen institutional traditions and to create lifelong affiliations with our university," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. "The new mobile app will help us achieve this by enhancing students' connection with our university through the technology available with today's mobile devices."

For more information about the Blackboard Mobile platform, please visit www.blackboard.com/mobile or follow @Bb_Mobile on Twitter.

About Blackboard Inc.

Blackboard Inc. is a global leader in enterprise technology and innovative solutions that improve the experience of millions of students and learners around the world every day. Blackboard's solutions allow thousands of higher education, K-12, professional, corporate, and government organizations to extend teaching and learning online, facilitate campus commerce and security, and communicate more effectively with their communities. Founded in 1997, Blackboard is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Any statements in this press release about future expectations, plans and prospects for Blackboard represent the Company's views as of the date of this press release. Actual results may differ materially as a result of various important factors. The Company anticipates that subsequent events and developments will cause the Company's views to change. However, while the Company may elect to update these statements at some point in the future, the Company specifically disclaims any obligation to do so.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Selects Blackboard Mobile

January 15, 2013 9:00 AM ET

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About Blackboard Inc.

Blackboard Inc. is a global leader in enterprise technology and innovative solutions that improve the experience of millions of students and learners around the world every day. Blackboard’s solutions allow thousands of higher education, K-12, professional, corporate, and government organizations to extend teaching and learning online, facilitate campus commerce and security, and communicate more effectively with their communities. Founded in 1997, Blackboard is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with offices in North America, Europe, Asia and Australia.
Quintet to perform at UTM

The University of Mississippi Faculty Woodwind Quintet will present a recital as guests of the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music.

The concert will take place tonight at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin.

The concert is free and open to the public and will feature works for winds by American composers Samuel Barber and George Rochberg, as well as a Mozart piano quartet arranged for winds by Robert G. Patterson, a Memphis-based composer who also plays horn in the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

“We are excited to travel to Martin to present these pieces,” said Michael Rowlett, a clarinet player in the quintet. “We’ve played several of Robert Patterson’s compositions and arrangements before, and they have been very well received by our audiences. The rest of the program is very colorful, including “Summer Music” by Samuel Barber, one of the masterworks of the woodwind quintet repertoire.”

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jacksonsun.com 1/15/2013

UTM hosts Ole Miss Faculty Woodwind Quintet in concert

The University of Mississippi Faculty Woodwind Quintet will present a recital on Tuesday as guests of the University of Tennessee Martin Department of Music.

The concert, which is free and open to the public, will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin. According to a news release, the recital will feature works for winds by American composers Samuel Barber and George Rochberg, as well as a Mozart piano quartet arranged for winds by Robert G. Patterson, a Memphis-based composer who plays horn in the Memphis Symphony Orchestra.

“We are excited to travel to Martin to present these pieces,” Michael Rowlett, a clarinet player in the quintet, said in the release. “We’ve played several of Robert Patterson’s compositions and arrangements before, and they have been very well received by our audiences. The rest of the program is very colorful, including “Summer Music” by Samuel Barber, one of the masterworks of the woodwind quintet repertoire.”

Trinity Presbyterian Church is located at 145 Hannings Lane in Martin.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Selects Blackboard Mobile

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SOURCE Blackboard Inc.

College finds Blackboard Superior for Campus Information and Mobile Learning

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15, 2013 /PRNewswire/ — The University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) has selected Blackboard Mobile™ to replace its current mobile app with an app that will offer access to campus services, information, and courses, Blackboard Inc. announced today.

The deciding factor in the change to Blackboard Mobile was that UTM officials wanted to have a single, integrated app for all elements of the campus experience in order to simplify things for users and increase engagement. With Blackboard, UTM will have an app for campus life and services that will also integrate with the latest release of the Blackboard Learn™ platform, the college’s learning management system (LMS), so its 7,750 students have the easiest and most convenient solution to stay connected to the college and their courses.

“We didn’t just want to ‘check the box’ of having a mobile application,” said Craig Ingram, interim director of UTM’s Information and Technology Center and Web Services. “Blackboard Mobile offers the full spectrum of capabilities we were looking to bring to our students, and we look forward to working with Blackboard to continue to build on and enhance our mobile platform.”

Components of the new app include a complete campus telephone directory, athletics schedule and news updates, the complete UTM library catalog, and a map feature that enables the users to find their exact location on campus, search for a building and pinpoint its address. Academic and social calendars provide a list of upcoming events such as concerts, lectures, and exhibits and alert users to activities near their current locations.

UT Martin students will also be able to access their course content with Blackboard Mobile Learn, allowing them to view grades, participate in online course discussion boards and access course assignments.

“Our goal is to strengthen institutional traditions and to create lifelong affiliations with our university,” said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor. “The new mobile app will help us achieve this by enhancing students’ connection with our university through the technology available with today’s mobile devices.”

UT Martin wins $270K to prevent sexual assault

Jan 16, 2013 | 0 Comments

MARTIN (AP) — The University of Tennessee at Martin has won a $270,000 grant for its Personal Safety Empowerment Project.

According to the school, the project aims to prevent sexual assault, especially through the creation of a bystander intervention program.

Margaret Toston, UT Martin vice chancellor for student affairs, said bystander intervention involves teaching students to respond to questionable situations.

The three-year grant is from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office on Violence Against Women

It is one of several grants nationwide distributed through the Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program.
LEADERSHIP — Members of UT Martin's 2013 WestStar Leadership Program class attended the program's opening session Jan. 3-4 in Weakley and Obion counties. This was WestStar's first-ever visit to Obion County and included a stop at Discovery Park of America, marking the first time a group has toured the construction site. Class participants are chosen to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. WestStar class members selected from Weakley County for the 2013 class are Jake Bynum of First State Bank and Carol Reed of the Entrepreneur Center Northwest Tennessee. WestStar's next session is Jan. 24-25 in Haywood and Tipton counties.

STATE GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2013

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The U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women recently awarded UT Martin the grant to establish the Personal Safety Empowerment Project — Count Me, which is geared toward education regarding violence against women and the improvement of victim services.

The grant is a continuation award that will allow PSEPP-CMN to refine both internal and external protocols to define violence against women as serious offenses, thus increasing the reach of victim services. The grant will also provide for the establishment of programs to prioritize victim safety, offender accountability and violence prevention.

Shannon Deal, director of student health and counseling services, will serve as director of the project. "The continuation grant will allow us to build upon the foundation laid by our first award and provide the UT Martin campus community the tools and resources needed to play an active role in preventing sexual assault-related incidents," Ms. Deal said.

Prevention and awareness are key aspects of the improved program and PSEPP-CMN will pay particular attention to empowering students through the creation of a bystander intervention program.

"Training for bystanders is designed to teach students to respond to questionable situations and to..." (See Page 6, Col. 6)

**UT Martin...**
(Continued from Page 1)
access available resources for assistance," said Dr. Margaret Toston, UT Martin vice chancellor for student affairs. "Being prepared when these situations arise is the key to appropriate action. This training is a valuable part of the total educational experience that our students receive here at UT Martin."

The three-year award is one of several nationwide, distributed through the "Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program."

This project is supported by Grant No. 2009-WA-0032 awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

**UTM donates toys to We Care group**

The UT Martin Department of Intercollegiate Athletics donated more than $2,000 worth of toys to We Care Ministries in Martin after two recent basketball games against Southern Miss and Samford in the Elam Center.

In conjunction with the Toy Drive, UT Martin gave away two iPad minis to fans who donated toys.

"We appreciated the community's help," said Betty Baker, the director of We Care Ministries. "In order to help more than 500 children and youth it takes the whole community."

Baker said toys from UT Martin will serve as the kickoff for next year's We Care Christmas store. "That is our biggest event of the year and we have to start collecting toys in January."

In addition to the Christmas Store, Baker said We Care gets requests for toys throughout the year.

"We are thankful for the overwhelming support of the community and our Skyhawk fans," said Marty Shisler, director of UT Martin's Skyhawk Club.

**At the college level**

Several Obion County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.

They include:
- Matthew Adams, son of Jason and Jamie Adams of Union City, who received a Chancellor's Award.
- Walker Barnes, son of Rance and Patti Barnes of Union City, who received a Chancellor's Award.
- Alexander Darnall, son of David and Bridgette Darnall of Union City, who received a Dean's Scholarship.
- Nancy Davis, daughter of Doug and Jennifer Davis of Kenton, who received a Chancellor's Award.
- Mikaela Hardy, daughter of Ben and Barbie Hardy of South Fulton, who received a Chancellor's Award.
- Benjamin Kendall, son of Steve and Camille Kendall of Troy, who received a Dean's Scholarship.
- Martha Kendall, daughter of Steve and Camille Kendall of Troy, who received a Dean's Scholarship.
Local Students Participate in Chemistry Program

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) recently hosted the Kentucky Lake Section of the American Chemical Society (KLS-ACS) program for the National Chemistry Program. Chemical demonstrations were presented by students from Bethel University, Dresden Middle School, Murray State University, Union University, UT Martin and West Kentucky Community and Technical College in the University Center ballroom. Visiting Dresden Middle School students are pictured left to right - Dryer Finch, Kaleb Dillard, Divers Lockhart, Grant Roberts, Emma Winstead, Brooke Parker, and Dresden Middle School teacher Erin Warrillow.

UT Martin to host 33rd Annual Honor Band Festival

More than 350 wind and percussion students from middle and west Tennessee, representing approximately 75 middle and high schools, will participate in the 33rd Annual Honor Band Festival, held at the University of Tennessee at Martin on January 24-26.

All participating students have been recommended by their school directors as "outstanding instrumentalists capable of reading and performing advanced [music] literature at his/her individual grade level."

The three-day festival also includes performances by the UT Martin chamber ensemble, wind ensemble, jazz band, percussion ensemble and several faculty soloists, as well as special clinicians and workshops for attending music directors on January 25.

The 2013 honor band conductors are Dr. John Oelrich, UT Martin; Dr. Russell Mikkelson, Ohio State University; Dr. Barry Ellis, University of Wisconsin-Platteville; and Susan Waters, Oliver Middle School in Nashville, Tennessee.

The honor band performances are scheduled to begin at 3:15 p.m., January 26, in the Duncan Ballroom of the Student Union Center. The public is invited to attend.

For more information about the honor band festival or UT Martin band activities, contact Oelrich, director of bands, at 731-881-7403 or by email at joelrich@utm.edu.

UT Martin Toy Drive serves as a kickoff for We Care Ministries

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Intercollegiate Athletics donated more than $2,000 worth of Toys to We Care Ministries in Martin after two recent basketball games against Southern Miss and Samford in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

In conjunction with the Toy Drive, UT Martin gave away two iPad minis to fans who donated toys. “We appreciated the community’s help,” said Betty Baker, the director of We Care Ministries. “In order to help more than 500 children and youth it takes the whole community.” Baker said toys from UT Martin will serve as the kickoff for next year’s We Care Christmas Store. “That is our biggest event of the year and we have to start collecting toys in January,” Baker added.

In addition to the Christmas Store, Baker said We Care gets requests for toys throughout the year.
Family members all UTM graduates

Sylvester Boyd, II recently became the fifth member of his family to graduate from the University of Tennessee at Martin after the fall 2012 commencement exercises. The Boyd family is pictured (left to right): Sylvester Boyd, Sr. ('76), Patrice Boyd ('03, '06), Deborah Boyd ('78, '80), Sylvester Boyd, II ('12), and Kobie Boyd ('98, '99). The Boyd family members are from Martin, Tennessee.

Beau Scott (left), of Knoxville, and Erica Bell, of Martin, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on December 15. Both received their Master of Business Administration degrees through the online program. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony.
WestStar Leadership Class visits Discovery Park

Members of UT Martin’s 2013 WestStar Leadership Program class attended the program’s opening session January 3-4 in Weakley and Obion counties. This was WestStar’s first-ever visit to Obion County and included a stop at Discovery Park of America, marking the first time a group has toured the construction site. Jim Rippey, park CEO, and Larry Snider, the park’s director of communications and development, were among those leading the tour. The park is scheduled to open in the fall. WestStar alumni number 649 in the program’s 24th year. Class participants are chosen to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Dawn Tittle, president of Center Point Business Solutions, was selected from Obion County as a member of this year’s class. WestStar alumni from Obion County attending the session were John Warner, attorney; Lindsay Frilling, Obion County Joint Economic Development Corp.; and Phyllis Rauchle, Main Street Union City, Inc. WestStar class members selected from Weakley County for the 2013 class are Jake Bynum, First State Bank, and Carol Reed, Entrepreneur Center Northwest Tennessee. WestStar’s next session is January 24-25 in Haywood and Tipton counties.

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The 15th annual Working Women's Conference has been scheduled for Feb. 15 at the University of Tennessee at Martin in the Boling University Center. The conference theme this year is “Queen for the Day.”

This dynamic conference is filled with tips for battling the challenges working women face every day and will be excellent for assistants, executives, women in management, elected officials or the CEOs of companies.

Tips to be offered include those on how to:
- Be a successful business woman in a team environment while working with different personalities;
- Be more aware of personal health issues;
- Be in control of stress;
- Be more aware of how to give back;
- Be more health conscience while cooking in the kitchen.

The cost is $35 per person and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Seating is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants can register and pay online at https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dDBJvWqW0W9vQXQ9s0ZS02cXVxExWEF6MQ, by going online and following the event links at www.utm.edu/weststar; by calling the WestStar office at (731) 871-3298 and providing a credit card number; by emailing ygrimes@utm.edu, providing name, business and a complete address and phone number; or by mail at WestStar, UT Martin, 321 Administration Building, Martin, TN 38238. Checks should be made payable to WestStar. The deadline to register and pay is Feb. 8.

The event is being sponsored by UT Martin and WestStar. This conference is made possible by the WestStar Leadership in partnership with the Tcm E. Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise. Conference committee members include Ann Banks, Jan Board, Mary Gail Elam, Katie Chandler, Dee Henderson, Brenda Horner, Diane Abbott, Judy Renshaw, Mary Kate Ridgeway, Cheri Childress, Andrea Hughes, Mary McVay, Sylvia Palmer, Teresa Sanders and Phyllis Rauchle.

For more information about the conference or registration process, contact Virginia Grimes at (731) 871-7298.

The conference will open at 8:30 a.m. with registration and continental breakfast, followed by the welcome at 9 by UT Martin chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes and WestStar executive director Charley Deal. Henry County UT Extension agent and WestStar Class of 2001 member Mary Kate Ridgeway will serve as the conference emcee.

Miss Tennessee 1986 and Miss America 1987 Kelly Cash-Sheppard is the keynote speaker. Following her reign as Miss America, she toured with Bob Hope's USO Show and has appeared on The David Letterman Show, The Today Show and Good Morning America, among others. She has performed with numerous musical artists, including Vince Gill, Lee Greenwood and Billy Joel and has appeared in many regional theatrical productions around the country.

Mrs. Cash-Sheppard was chosen for the lead part of country music legend Patsy Cline, in “Always...Patsy Cline” and has performed the musical on numerous occasions. In 2003, from April to December, she played the pivotal role of Narrator in “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat” at the Mansion American theatre in Branson, Mo.

She has hosted and performed at several pageants over the years, as well as other events, such as for the finals of 2007’s “Star Search.”

After a short break, Dr. Bonnie Daniel, with research, grants and contracts at UT Martin, will address the leadership/personality styles profile at 11, followed by a lunch buffet.

Miss Tennessee Chandler Lawson, 22, of Tullahoma will be speaking on “5 Loves Four Kids” at 12:30 p.m.

Lawson

She recently graduated summa cum laude from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga with a degree in political science. She was named Miss Tennessee in June. At UTC, she was a member of the University Honors program, and she plans to attend the University of Tennessee School of Law after her Miss Tennessee reign.

Miss Lawson said she doesn’t think she fits the mold of the stereotypical “beauty queen” image.

“That’s something I love about Miss Tennessee. A girl like me who is self-proclaimed fisherman and lover of bluegrass music can be Miss Tennessee and wear the crown and be relatable,” she said. “I think that’s one of the strengths I bring to the crown is that I can get down with children, play outside with them and hopefully can make an impact on their lives.”

Dr. Eldridge is board certified with the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She has memberships with the American Medical Association, Tennessee Medical Association Junior Fellow and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. She graduated from the University of Tennessee in Jackson and performed her residency and was chief medical resident through the University of Tennessee, Obstetrics and Gynecology, in Memphis.
The University of Tennessee at Martin
01/17/2013 | Press release

Chemistry expert to speak on campus, Feb. 4
distributed by noodles on 01/17/2013 17:43

Chemistry expert to speak on campus, Feb. 4

Contact: Casey Scarbrough, Office of University Relations

MARTIN, Tenn. - Dr. Robin Rogers, research professor and director of the Center for Green Manufacturing at the University of Alabama, will give a lecture titled "Green Chemistry, Technology and Innovation" at 7:30 p.m., Feb. 4, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His presentation will be held in Watkins Auditorium of the Foyle University Center.

Rogers holds 12 issued patents and has published over 685 papers on a diverse array of topics. His research interests cover the use of ionic liquids and green chemistry for sustainable technology through innovation. He has had an influential role in the expansion of interest and research in ionic liquid systems. His initial paper on ionic liquid/aqueous partitioning effectively kick-started interest in applying ionic liquids to clean separations.

Rogers is the founding editor-in-chief of the American Chemical Society journal "Crystal Growth & Design." He has co-organized a variety of meetings and symposia on industrial applications of ionic liquids, and he started the company 525 Solutions to enhance the commercial viability of new technologies. He was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and was also named a Chinese Academy of Sciences Visiting Senior Scientist for the Institute for Process Engineering in Beijing, China.

"We are honored to partner with SMAC to bring such a distinguished scientist to UT Martin," said Dr. Lionel Crews, director of Honors Programs. "Developing ways to interact more intelligently with our environment is of paramount importance to our way of life, and Dr. Rogers is one who is making that happen."

The lecture is co-sponsored by the UT Martin Student Members of the American Chemical Society and Honors Program.

For more information, contact Crews at 731-581-7440 or lcrews@utm.edu.

www.local8now.com 1/17/2013

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It is one of several grants nationwide distributed through the Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program.

Will Norvell of Millington, Jeff Price of Clarksville, and Barrett Tanner of Union City, participated in commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin on Dec. 15. Norvell received a degree in natural resources management. Price received a degree in health and human performance and Tanner received a degree in business management. Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony.
Scholarship deadline nears for UT Martin

Those interested in attending the University of Tennessee Martin are encouraged to apply for admission soon. Prospective students may apply online at www.utm.edu by clicking the “Apply Now” link.

First-time freshmen must have a copy of ACT scores forwarded to the Office of Admissions, but ACT scores are not required if the applicant has been out of high school for at least three years, according to a news release from the school. They also must have a high school transcript forwarded to the Office of Admissions. There is a $30 non-refundable application fee.

The deadline to apply for university scholarships is Feb. 1. To view available university scholarships, visit um.edu/departments/final/utm_scholarships.php.

To apply for financial aid and scholarships, applicants should fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as possible.

UT Martin will waive out-of-state tuition for any applicant with an ACT score of 25 or above and a 3.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale, according to the release. Students who qualify must participate in the university’s Honors Programs.

Potential students also may attend Spring Preview Day on March 16 at UT Martin, where faculty and staff will be available to answer questions about academic programs, financial aid, scholarships, housing and student life.

For more information, contact the Office of Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or visit www.utm.edu.

UT Martin to host meeting of state intramural group

The Tennessee Intramural Recreational Sports Association will meet for an event titled “Celebrating Our Profession” on Thursday and Friday in the University of Tennessee Martin Student Recreation Center.

Intramural representatives from colleges and universities across the state are expected to attend, including those from Vanderbilt, Austin Peay State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Lipscomb, Belmont, the University of Tennessee and many others, according to a UT Martin news release. UT Martin intramural staff members expect 100 participants to attend.

The event will include a banquet, as well as meetings and workshops focusing on topics such as diversity in aquatics instruction, university bicycle programs, leadership development, equipment maintenance and the impact of recreational programs on student satisfaction.

TIRSA is a state branch of the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association, whose mission is to become “a leader in higher education and the advocate for the advancement of recreation, sport and wellness by providing educational and developmental opportunities, generating and sharing knowledge, and promoting networking and growth for its members,” the release stated.

The meeting is not open to the public.

For more information, contact Gina McClure, director of campus recreation, at (731) 881-7745 or
Pageants scheduled for UTM on Saturday

The combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant will be staged at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Student Life Center at UT Martin.

Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this summer.

The combined pageant is co-sponsored by the City of Martin and UT Martin and is open to single women, ages 17-24, who are residents of or are students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students.

The event will feature interview, talent, evening gown and swimsuit competitions.

General admission tickets will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be $10 at the door with student ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive director Hollie Holt at (731) 514-3556 or hholt@utm.edu.

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He was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and was also named a Chinese Academy of Sciences Visiting Senior Scientist for the Institute for Process Engineering in Beijing, China.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the UT Martin Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) and Honors Programs.

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For more information, contact Crews at (731) 881-7440 or lcrews@utm.edu.

WESTSTAR TOURS DPA — Members of the 2013 WestStar Leadership Program class recently toured the Discovery Park of America as part of the program’s opening session. This was WestStar’s first-ever visit in Obion County. The tour of the facility was led by park CEO Jim Rippy and Larry Snider, the park’s director of communications and development. Discovery Park is scheduled to open this fall. WestStar class participants are chosen to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for helping communities solve problems and maximize their potential. Dawn Tittie, president of Center Point Business Solutions, was selected from Obion County as a member of this year’s class. WestStar alumni from Obion County attending the session included John Wamer, Lindsay Frilling and Phyllis Rauchle. WestStar’s next session is planned for Thursday and Friday in Haywood and Tipton counties.
City, UT Martin host inaugural MLK Jr. breakfast

By BRAD GASKINS
News Editor

About 150 people gathered Monday morning at the University of Tennessee at Martin to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. At an inaugural breakfast in his honor presented by UTM's Black Student Association and the city of Martin.

"It is refreshing and rewarding to see so many individuals out this morning," UTM Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes said. "It's also particularly appropriate that it's a diverse group of individuals who are here, because that's really what we're celebrating today."

Those in attendance enjoyed a catered breakfast and messages from several speakers.

"The dream of doing something this morning to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. remained out of our office of minority affairs," said David Belote, the assistant vice chancellor for student affairs who is also a Martin alderman.

Belote credited Dr. Andy Jones with coming up with the idea for the breakfast. Reid Chandler, a seventh-grader at Martin Middle School, gave a speech about the Tuskegee airmen and their service to the country.

"They completed over 1,600 missions," said Chandler, who turned 13 on Monday. "They deserve the utmost reverence, honor and respect, because they embodied the idea and hope that dreams can become reality."

Keynote speeches were delivered by UTM senior LaQuita Johnson and Rev. Alvin Summers, pastor of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Johnson reflected on her upbringing as a child growing up in a home where she said her mother was a drug user and her father was a drug dealer. She shared advice on overcoming adversity and succeeding.

"Throughout your life, many mistakes are made and many lessons are learned," she said. "But the ability to choose a path and to make decisions to be made prosperous is solely based upon you."

Johnson stressed confidence in oneself, no matter the odds.

"On behalf of the Black Student Association and the city of Martin, we want you to know that it is extremely important that we dream with a vision but live our lives with a purpose," she said in closing her speech. "So to each of you present in this room today, I ask you: Who are you, and who will you become?"

In his speech, Summers discussed King's famous "I have a dream" speech. Summers said some believe King was referring only to those of African descent.

"But I believe, given the messages of his life, who was talking about us, an American people," Summers said.

While strides have been made toward racial equality, Summers said there's still room for improvement.

"Weakley County is by and large a decent, wonderful place to live," Summers said. "It's far from what it could be."

According to Summers, there are not enough minority teachers, government officials and workers or bank workers in Weakley County. There are not enough opportunities for kids to join sports leagues without paying a sign-up fee, he said.

"Though we have a college in the town, the education perspective of our county is a high school diploma, which means our people can only work certain kinds of jobs, which leads into economic despair," he said. "I know I am not the only one who recognized these social disparities, but I know I am one of the few who will say them out loud."

Johnson and Summers each received standing ovations at the end of their speeches.

Entertainment was provided by the UTM Gospel Choir, and several awards honoring minority individuals who have made lasting contributions were given out.

Award-winners will appear in Thursday's paper.
UTM awarded safety grant

The U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women recently awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin a $270,000 grant for the Personal Safety Empowerment Project—Count Me (PSEPP-CMN), which is geared toward education regarding violence against women and the improvement of victim services.

The grant is a continuation award that will allow PSEPP-CMN to refine both internal and external protocols to define violence against women as serious offenses, thus increasing the reach of victim services. The grant will also provide for the establishment of programs to prioritize victim safety, offender accountability and violence prevention.

Shannon Deal, director of student health and counseling services, will serve as director of the project.

Prevention and awareness are key aspects of the improved program, and PSEPP-CMN will pay particular attention to empowering students through the creation of a bystander intervention program.

The three-year award is one of several nationwide, distributed through the “Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program.”

Preliminary pageants Jan. 26: The combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant will be staged at 7 p.m., Jan. 26, in the Student Life Center at UT Martin. Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this summer.

The combined pageant is co-sponsored by the City of Martin and UT Martin and is open to single women, ages 17-24, who are residents of or are students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students.

The event will feature beauty, talent, evening gown and swimsuit competitions.

General admission tickets will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be $10 at the door with student ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive director Holly Holt at 731-541-3556 or hholt@utm.edu.

Online graduate business program ranked in Top 10: UTM’s online graduate business program has received a national ranking, being named one of the top 10 best online graduate business programs in 2013 by the U.S. News & World Report.

The ranking is determined by the results of a U.S. News & World Report survey administered during the 2011-12 academic year, which evaluated 22 “ranking indicators,” including graduation rate, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, accessibility technology and overall cost.

“We are proud of the quality of the students who have graduated from this program (the online master of business administration),” said Dr. Kevin Hammond, coordinator of graduate programs in business. Hammond goes on to call the distinction “a well-deserved tribute to our faculty and administration for their foresight in the design, support and implementation of this unique program.”

This national recognition for the online MBA joins three others in the past two years, including a top-20 “best buy” ranking by GetEducated.com and special recognition from The Princeton Review in 2012, as well as being named one of the top-30 Rising Star MBA Programs by findyourmba.com in 2011.

Reading course offered for grades 2-12: A reading course for students grades 2-12 will be offered on UTM’s main campus.

The course is aimed at students needing extra practice and reading support. Students are individually tested to determine the level of phonics and comprehension.

The course is $100, plus $25 for a workbook, and groups will meet twice per week for one hour each. Classes of Mon./Wed. or Tues./Thur. will be offered.

Courses are offered on the following dates: Feb. 12-March 18, March 25-April 25 and June 3-27.

To register, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/none-degree/home.php.

ACT prep course offered: An ACT preparation course for students will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays Feb. 9-April 6 at UTM.

Instruction, taught by UTM adjust faculty member Ron Ramage, will be
focused on test-taking strategies for math, English, reading and science sections.

The course utilizes materials from Cambridge Educational Services. Cambridge has developed the most comprehensive, scientific and accountable method of preparing for high-stakes standardized tests. Cambridge textbooks include extensive basic skills review for all sections of each test. Students learn how to complete test problems based on question frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test-taking strategies.

Students will be given an official, retired test at the first course meeting. After reviewing the math, English, reading, and science sections, students take a second official, retired test under real test conditions, guaranteeing a valid pre- and post-test comparison.

Students will also receive a copy of their assessment report. The instructors will then use the assessment reports from the post-test to provide students with a one-week personal study plan for the last few days before the exam. The instructors schedule one-on-one meetings with students to discuss their personal study plan.

The registration fee to attend is $225. Included in the fee are two ACT Tests and diagnostic reports and two textbooks: ACT Cambridge Textbook 11th Edition and The Big Book of Skills Textbook 11th Edition. There will be no class March 2, 9 or 30.

To register, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non-degree/home.php.

**Free workshop for area teachers:** West Tennessee teachers and school personnel are invited to attend LifeLines for Educators, a free workshop sponsored by area universities, on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 3:15 p.m. at Union University’s Continuing Studies campus on Emporium Drive in Jackson.

Registration will begin at 7:45 a.m. on Saturday and continue until sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. There is no pre-registration required, however sessions will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Professional education faculty in grades P-12 will present sessions on a variety of topics, including approaching the Common Core curriculum, integrating group work, trials in teaching, and applying literature and the arts in a classroom setting.

Attendees will receive a 1.5-hour, 3-hour or 6-hour certificate of attendance as verification toward required in-service hours.

LifeLines for Educators is sponsored by UTM, Bethel University, Freed-Hardeman University, Union University, the University of Memphis at Lambuth and the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, including a schedule and description of sessions, visit http://www.uu.edu/programs/tcp/lifelines.cfm.
UT Martin to host meeting of state intramural group

The Tennessee Intramural Recreational Sports Association will meet for an event titled “Celebrating Our Profession” on Thursday and Friday in the University of Tennessee Martin Student Recreation Center.

Intramural representatives from colleges and universities across the state are expected to attend, including those from Vanderbilt, Austin Peay State University, Middle Tennessee State University, Lipscomb, Belmont, the University of Tennessee and many others, according to a UT Martin news release. UT Martin intramural staff members expect 100 participants to attend.

The event will include a banquet, as well as meetings and workshops focusing on topics such as diversity in aquatics instruction, university bicycle programs, leadership development, equipment maintenance and the impact of recreational programs on student satisfaction.

TIRSA is a state branch of the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association, whose mission is to become “a leader in higher education and the advocate for the advancement of recreation, sport and wellness by providing educational and developmental opportunities, generating and sharing knowledge, and promoting networking and growth for (its) members,” the release stated.

The meeting is not open to the public.

For more information, contact Gina McClure, director of campus recreation, at (731) 881-7745 or gmcclure@utm.edu

ACT prep course offered

An ACT preparation course for students will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays Feb 9 - April 6 at UT-Martin.

Instruction, taught by UT-Martin adjunct faculty member Ron Ramage, will be focused on test-taking strategies for math, English, reading and science sections.

The course utilizes materials from Cambridge Educational Services. Cambridge has developed the most comprehensive, scientific and accountable method of preparing for high-stakes standardized tests.

Cambridge textbooks include extensive basic-skills review for all sections of each test. Students learn how to complete test problems based on question frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test-taking strategies.

Students will be given an official, retired test at the first course meeting. After reviewing the math, English, reading, and science sections, students take a second official, retired test under real test conditions, guaranteeing a valid pre- and post-test comparison.

Students will also receive a copy of their assessment report. The instructors will then use the assessment reports from the post-test to provide students with a one-week personal study plan for the last few days before the exam. The instructors schedule one-on-one meetings with students to discuss their personal study plan.

The registration fee to attend is $225. Included in the fee are two ACT Tests and diagnostic reports and two textbooks: ACT Cambridge Textbook 11th Edition and The Big Book of Skills Textbook 11th Edition.

There will be no class March 2, 9 or 30.

To register, contact FCOS at 731-881-7982, or register online at http://www.utc.edu/departments/ecce/ndegree/home.php.
Free workshop for area educators slated for January 26

West Tennessee teachers and school personnel are invited to attend LifeLines for Educators, a free workshop sponsored by area universities, on January 26 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. at Union University's Continuing Studies campus on Emporium Drive in Jackson.

Registration will begin at 7:45 a.m. on January 26 and continue until sessions begin at 8:30 a.m. There is no pre-registration required, however sessions will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Professional education faculty in grades P-12 will present sessions on a variety of topics, including approaching the Common Core curriculum, integrating group work, trials in teaching, and applying literature and the arts in a classroom setting.

Attendees will receive a 1.5-hour, 4-hour or 6-hour certificate of attendance as verification toward required in-service hours.

LifeLines for Educators is sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin, Bethel University, Freed Hardeman University, Union University, the University of Memphis at Lambuth and the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information, including a schedule and description of sessions, visit http://www.utm.edu/programs/tep/lifelines.cfm.

Beginning Knitting Course Offered

An introductory knitting course will be offered from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, starting January 31-February 28 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Sharyn Studstill will teach the course.

Participants will be taught the basic knitting stitches and will conclude with a finished knitted product.

The registration fee to attend the course is $50 per person.

ACT Prep Course offered through UT Martin

An ACT preparation course for students will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, February 9-April 6, on the main campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Ron Ramage, UTM adjunct faculty member, will instruct the course.

Instruction will be focused on test-taking strategies for math, English, reading and science sections.

The course utilizes materials from Cambridge Educational Services. Cambridge has developed the most comprehensive, scientific and accountable method of preparing for high-stakes standardized tests. Cambridge textbooks include extensive basic-skills review for all sections of each test. Students learn how to complete test problems based on questions frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test-taking strategies.

Students will be given a review, retreat test at the first course meeting. After reviewing the math, English, reading, and science sections, students take a second official, retirement test under real test conditions, guaranteeing a valid pre- and post test comparison.

Students will also receive a copy of their assessment report. The instructors will then use the assessment reports from the post-test to provide students with a one-week personal study plan for the last few days before the exam. The instructors schedule one-on-one meetings with students to discuss their personal study plan.

The registration fee to attend is $225. Included in the fee are two ACT Tests and diagnostic reports and two textbooks: ACT Cambridge Textbook 11th Edition and The Big Book of Skills Textbook 11th Edition. There will be no class in March 2, 9, or 30.

The course is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. An exact location for the course will be given upon registration.

To register, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.
UTM Online Graduate Business Program Ranked in Top 10

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s online graduate business program has received a national ranking, being named one of the top-10 best online graduate business programs in 2013 by the U.S. News & World Report.

The ranking is determined by the results of a U.S. News & World Report survey administered during the 2011-2012 academic year which evaluated 22 “ranking indicators,” including graduation rate, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, accessible technology, and overall cost.

“We are proud of the quality of the students who have graduated from this program (the online master of business administration),” said Dr. Kevin Hammond, coordinator of graduate programs in business. Hammond goes on to call the distinction “a well-deserved tribute to our faculty and administration for their foresight in the design, support and implementation of this unique program.”

This national recognition for the online MBA joins three others in the past two years, including a top-20 “best buy” ranking by GetEducated.com and special recognition from The Princeton Review in 2012, as well as being named one of the top-30 Rising Star MBA Programs by findyourmba.com in 2011.

Faculty Scholar Honored

UT Martin associate professor of plant science Dr. Wesley Totten was recently named Featured Faculty Scholar for fall 2012. Pictured (left to right) are: Dr. Tim Burcham, professor and interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources; Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Totten; Brook Totten, wife of Totten; and Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.
UT Martin receives $270,000 grant to curb sexual assault

The University of Tennessee at Martin was recently awarded a $270,000 grant for its Personal Safety Empowerment Project, which is intended to prevent sexual assault.

The U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women recently awarded UT Martin the grant for the Personal Safety Empowerment Project—Count Me (FSEPP-CMN), which is geared toward education regarding violence against women and the improvement of victim services.

The grant is a continuation award that will allow PSEPP-CMN to refine both internal and external protocols to define violence against women as serious offenses, thus increasing the reach of victim services. The grant will also provide for the establishment of programs to prioritize victim safety, offender accountability and violence prevention.

Shannon Deal, director of student health and counseling services, will serve as director of the project.

"The continuation grant will allow us to build upon the foundation laid by our first award and provide the UT Martin campus community the tools and resources needed to play an active role in preventing sexual assault-related incidents," said Deal.

Prevention and awareness are key aspects of the improved program, and PSEPP-CMN will pay particular attention to empowering students through the creation of a bystander intervention program.

"Training for bystanders is designed to teach students to respond to questionable situations and to access available resources for assistance," said Dr. Margaret Toston, UT Martin vice chancellor for student affairs. "Being prepared when these situations arise is the key to appropriate action. This training is a valuable part of the total educational experience that our students receive here at UT Martin."

The three-year award is one of several nationwide, distributed through the "Reduce Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence and Stalking on Campus Program."

This project is supported by Grant No. 2009-WA-AX-0032 awarded by the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women. The opinions, findings, conclusions and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

Two Miss Tennessee Preliminary Pageants January 26 at UTM

The combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant will be staged at 7:00 p.m., January 26, in the Student Life Center at UT Martin. Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this summer.

The combined pageant is co-sponsored by the City of Martin and UT Martin and is open to single women, ages 17-24, who are residents of or are students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students.

The event will feature interview, talent, evening gown, and swimsuit competitions.

General admission tickets will be available at the door for $15.00. UT Martin student tickets will be $10.00 at the door with student ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive director, Hollie Holt, at 731-584-3556 or hholt@utm.edu.

UT Martin student-athletes earn better than a 3.00 GPA for second straight semester

For the second consecutive semester, student-athletes at The University of Tennessee at Martin earned at least a 3.0 or better. One semester removed from a school-best 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA), the student-athletes earned a 3.05 GPA for the Fall 2012 semester.

"I'm so proud of our student-athletes for achieving a 3.0 GPA for two consecutive semesters," said Phil Dane, UT Martin director of intercollegiate athletics. "And after drilling down into the details it's obvious to me that we can move the overall GPA even higher. "We are continuing to work with the Faculty and Staff Relations Committee of the Athletics Board and Dr. John Schommer, our Faculty Athletics Representative, to identify more strategies to help our student-athletes excel academically," said Dane.

More than 150 student-athletes made the Dean's list while 32 made a perfect 4.0.

"The common denominator is a culture that we have established that expects academic excellence and extra effort," Dane said.
Chemistry expert to speak at UT Martin, February 4

Dr. Robin Rogers, research professor and director of the Center for Green Manufacturing at the University of Alabama, will give a lecture titled “Green Chemistry, Technology and Innovation” at 7:30 p.m., February 4, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His presentation will be held in Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center.

Rogers holds 12 issued patents and has published over 685 papers on a diverse array of topics. His research interests cover the use of ionic liquids and green chemistry for sustainable technology through innovation. He has had an influential role in the expansion of interest and research in ionic liquid systems. His initial paper on ionic liquid/aqueous partitioning effectively kick-started interest in applying ionic liquids to clean separations.

Rogers is the founding editor-in-chief of the American Chemical Society journal “Crystal Growth & Design.” He has co-organized a variety of meetings and symposia on industrial applications of ionic liquids, and he started the company 525 Solutions to enhance the commercial viability of new technologies. He was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry and was also named a Chinese Academy of Sciences Visiting Senior Scientist for the Institute for Process Engineering in Beijing, China.

The lecture is co-sponsored by the UT Martin Student Members of the American Chemical Society (SMACS) and Honors Programs.

“We are honored to partner with SMACS to bring such a distinguished scientist to UT Martin,” said Dr. Lionel Crews, director of Honors Programs. “Developing ways to interact more intelligently with our environment is of paramount importance to our way of life, and Dr. Rogers is one who is making that happen.”

For more information, contact Crews at 731-881-7440 or lcrewes@utm.edu.

Reading course offered for students grades 2-12

A reading course for students grades 2-12 will be offered on the main campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The course is aimed at students needing extra practice and reading support. Students are individually tested to determine the level of phonics and comprehension.

The course is $100, plus $25 for a workbook, and groups will meet twice per week for one hour each. Classes of Mon./Wed. or Tues./Thurs. will be offered.

Courses are offered on the following dates: February 12-March 18; March 25-April 25; and June 3-27.

In the event that UTM is closed for inclement weather, class will be made up on Friday.

The course is sponsored by the UT Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. An exact location for the course will be given upon registration.

To register, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nonegree/home.php.
CHEMISTRY EXPERT TO SPEAK AT UT MARTIN, FEB. 4

By Casey Cuffin Scarbrough, UTM Office of University Relations
Posted: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 3:10 pm

Dr. Robin Rogers, research professor and director of the Center for Green Manufacturing at the University of Alabama, will give a lecture titled "Green Chemistry, Technology and Innovation" at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. His presentation will be held in Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center.

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For more information, contact Crews at 731-881-7440 or lcrews@utm.edu.

City, UT Martin host inaugural MLK Jr. breakfast

Posted: Wednesday, January 23, 2013 12:00 pm
By BRAD GASKINS
News Editor

About 150 people gathered Monday morning at the University of Tennessee at Martin to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at an inaugural breakfast in his honor presented by UT Martin's Black Student Association and the city of Martin.

"It is refreshing and rewarding to see so many individuals out this morning," UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes said. "It's also particularly appropriate that it's a diverse group of individuals who are here, because that's really what we're celebrating today."

In attendance enjoyed a catered breakfast and messages from several speakers.

"The dream of doing something this morning to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.," said Dr. Lionel Crews, director of Honors Programs. "They completed over 1,500 missions," said Chandler, who turned 10 on Monday. "They deserve the upmost reverence, honor and respect, because they embodied the idea and hope that dreams can become reality."

Keynote speeches were delivered by UT Martin senior Laquita Johnson and Rev. Alvin Summers, pastor of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Johnson reflected on her upbringing as a child growing up in a home where, she said, her mother was a drug user and her father was a drug dealer. She shared advice on overcoming adversity and succeeding.

"Throughout your life, many mistakes are made and many lessons are learned," she said. "But the ability to choose a path and to make decisions to be made prosperous is solely based upon you.

Johnson stressed confidence in oneself, no matter the odds.

"On behalf of the Black Student Association and the city of Martin, we want you to know that it is extremely important that we dream with a vision but live our lives with a purpose," she said in closing her speech.

"So to each of present in this room today, I ask you: who are you, and who will you become?"

In his speech, Summers discussed King's famous "I have a dream speech." Summers said there some people who believe King was referring only to those of African descent.

"But I believe given the messages of his life, he was talking about us, an American people," Summers said.

While strides have been made toward racial equality, Summers said there's still room for improvement.

"Weakly County is by and large a decent, wonderful place to live," Sumner said. "It's far from what it could be."

According to Summers, there are not enough minority teachers, government officials and workers or bank workers in Weakly County. There are not enough opportunities for kids to join sports leagues without paying a sign-up fee, he said.

"We have a college in the town, the education perspective of our county is a high school diploma, which means our people can participate in only certain kinds of jobs, which leads into economic despair," he said.

"I know I am not the only one who recognized these social disparities, but I know I am one of the few who will say them out loud."

Johnson and Summers each received standing ovations at the end of their speeches.

Entertainment was provided by the UT Martin Gospel Choir, and several awards honoring minority individuals who have made lasting contributions were given out.

Photos of award winners will appear in Thursday's paper.

Published in The WCP 1.23.13
The University of Tennessee at Martin
01/24/2013 | Press release
Historian Gene Smith to discuss new book during Black History Month event
distributed by noodls on 01/24/2013 16:04

MARTIN, Tenn. - Gene Allen Smith, a professor of history at Texas Christian University, will discuss his new book, The Slave's Gamble: Choosing Sides in the War of 1812, at 2 p.m., Feb. 8, in Watkins Auditorium, located on the first floor of the Boling University Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

The discussion is a special Black History Month event, sponsored by the UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy and supported by the Tom Elam History Endowment.

Smith's new book, released Jan. 22, deals with "the often impossible choices African American slaves had forced upon them as a result of the War of 1812," said Dr. David Coffey, professor of history and department chair. "We are exceptionally fortunate that Dr. Smith made himself available for this event," he continued.

The presentation is free and open to the public. Smith will be available after the lecture to sign copies of his new book, which is on sale in the university bookstore and will also be available for purchase after the lecture.

Smith's appearance serves as an introduction to other Black History Month events, including the Conference on Civil Rights, which is hosted annually by the Department of History and Philosophy and scheduled for Feb. 18-22.

For more information, contact Coffey by phone at 731-881-7342 or by email at dcoffey@utm.edu.

The University of Tennessee at Martin
01/25/2013 | Press release
UT Martin hosts Tennessee Association of Residence Halls conference
distributed by noodls on 01/25/2013 13:20

UT Martin hosts Tennessee Association of Residence Halls conference

MARTIN, Tenn. - On Feb. 8-10 the University of Tennessee at Martin will accommodate students from numerous universities throughout the state as it hosts the Tennessee Association of Residence Halls (TARH) 2013 Conference.

TARH serves as a catalyst for universities to share ideas on how to improve campuses and programs in the state of Tennessee. Students from Austin Peay State University, Belmont University, East Tennessee State University, Fisk University, Lincoln Memorial University, Maryville College, Middle Tennessee State University, Tennessee Technological University, Trevecca Nazarene, the University of Memphis, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and the University of Tennessee at Martin will participate in the conference, which will include guest speakers and programming sessions on residence hall issues.

"We concentrate on the sharing of ideas that will benefit those who live on campus including social programming, academic development, forming Residence Hall Associations, environmental solutions, diversity and social justice and more," said Ryan Martin, UT Martin assistant director of housing.

Schools will present programs on the various issues and will utilize opportunities to network during the conference.

"The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Housing is excited to be hosting this year's conference and looks forward to welcoming these 13 universities to UTM," Martin said.

For more information contact Martin at 731-881-7731 or rmartin@utm.edu.
Pageants scheduled for UTM on Saturday

The combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant will be staged at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Student Life Center at UT Martin.

Winners of each crown will gain the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this summer.

The combined pageant is co-sponsored by the City of Martin and UT Martin and is open to single women, ages 17-24, who are residents of or are students in Tennessee. The Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival pageant is open statewide, while the Miss UT Martin event is open only to UT Martin students.

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General admission tickets will be available at the door for $15. UT Martin student tickets will be $10 at the door with student ID.

For more information, contact pageant executive director Hollie Holt at (731) 514-5559 or hholt@utm.edu.

‘Green chemistry’ lecture on Feb. 4 at University of Tennessee at Martin

Dr. Robin Rogers, research professor and director of the Center for Green Manufacturing at the University of Alabama, will give a lecture titled ‘Green Chemistry, Technology and Innovation’ at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 4 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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Giving back in Guatemala

By MARY JEAN HALL
Special to the Press

Instead of bringing in the new year working out at the gym or organizing their homes, a group of students and faculty members from UTM volunteered their time and effort in Guatemala for a service-learning travel study.

Dr. Sandy Mehlihorn, assistant professor of agriculture engineering at UT Martin, organized the Guatemala travel study in cooperation with the UTM Center for International Education.

"I thought it would be great for service-learning to go down there, experience their culture and help them," Mehlihorn said. "I think the travel study experiences are great for students. It helps them get out of their comfort zone, get out in the world and see how other people live."

The group consisted of two UTM professors, seven UTM students and two Martin Middle School students. Dr. Joey Mehlihorn, agricultural economics professor and interim Gil Parker chair of excellence at UTM, attended as well.

The Mehlihorns' children, Elizabeth, 11, and Robert, 14, also went on the trip. Both are students at Martin Middle School.

"I enjoyed being able to take my family and experience that together," Sandy Mehlihorn said. "For my young children, it's a good experience to see how others live, and a lot of comforts they take for granted in other parts of the world. It was a good learning experience for them."

The team participated in a milestone for the 12x12 Love Project, the group that helped set up the program. During their time in Guatemala, they helped the project start building the 100th house.

Part of the travel-study expenses included a small amount of money donated by each person to be donated for various projects the team could work on. The major project that they funded included was a kitchen with concrete floors for just $500.

They funded and built stoves for two families in the Magdalena Milpas Altas and Buena Vista area for just $150 each, and they also funded and painted two recently built houses for just $200 each.

SEE TRIP, PAGE 7
According to the World Fact Book, there is a high mortality rate for Guatemalan children. Many problems arise from having fires burning for cooking in or right beside the home. Young children breathing in the smoke from the fire can often get respiratory illnesses that sometimes lead to death.

The stoves that were installed vent the smoke outside of the home or kitchen and essentially above where the children and their families are. The new stoves should help prevent some of the children from becoming ill.

The group hopes to raise enough money for at least 20 stoves by next January.

Sandy Mehhorn would love to see the travel-study become a yearly trip. She thinks that the trip shouldn't be limited to any certain major, just generally toward service learning.

"I don't think you can go to a country like that and it not change your perspective a little bit," Sandy Mehhorn said.

The students who participated in the travel-study felt the same way about the experience, including Chelsie Darnell.

Darnell is a junior Plant and Soil Science major at UTM. Her hometown is Union City.

"It was a great experience and I'd recommend it to just about anyone," Darnell said. "It was work but it was worth it because you're supplying those people with something that they normally wouldn't have."

"My favorite part of the trip was the one family with the key ceremony. The man started crying and it made me thankful. The most touching part was seeing all of the families' reactions and knowing we were making a difference."

For the class credit, she worked on a project with soil erosion. An area farmer in Buena Vista asked her for advice with erosion control during her time there, so she gave him a few recommendations. She hopes to do more research and send recommendations back down to Guatemala as well.

Darnell hopes to eventually come back to the Martin/Union City area to raise a family and work with soil erosion, perhaps even with the university.

"It gives you aspirations to help your community and not be so closed-minded," Darnell said. "It's an opportunity that makes you think about others more so than you normally would. It was an eye-opening experience."

"I recommend that you should find some way to participate in a travel study. I think it'll make the U.S. a better place," she continued.

Darnell would like to go back to Guatemala, especially next January with the university, if given the opportunity.

Lorrie Jackson, the Travel Study Coordinator at UTM, feels confident that this program will continue.

"This program will continue and I'd like to see it expand across other colleges on campus," Jackson said. "This is one of the most enriching experiences, being able to exercise the engineering component by installing stoves since upper respiratory illness is a main concern. The agriculture component was helping them grow crops for the local school children."

According to Jackson, this was the first Agricultural Engineering-based service-learning trip, but it's not the only service-learning trip in progress. The department is currently working on an Ecuador trip with an Education and Nursing base.

As an outreach to the community, some of the travel study trips are open to members of the community. A few of the opportunities include a trip to Washington, D.C. in May with Malcolm Koch for political science, Ireland in May with Nathan Howard and Jeff Longacre for English and New Zealand in June with Mark Simmons for Music.

Most travel-study programs offer class credit for students who participate.
By BRAD GASKINS
News Editor

MARTIN — The inaugural Martin Luther King Jr. Day breakfast on Monday was a celebration of the life of the late civil rights leader.

The city of Martin sponsored the event along with UTM's Black Student Association.

Dr. Annie Jones, UTM's director of multicultural affairs and advisor to the Black Student Association, was credited with coming up with the idea for the program, which also served as a chance to honor local students and citizens.

The theme was, "Dream with a vision, live with a purpose," and the award recipients seemingly lived up to that phrase.

Harold Conner was the first recipient of the Harold Conner/City of Martin Award.

Martin Mayor Randy Brundige praised Conner for giving back so much to the city throughout the years.

"He has been giving back in many, many ways," Brundige said. "He was here in the first days of integration. The transition was so easy it was unbelievable. It was men like him that brought this about."

Conner was the first black administrator employed by UTM after it was desegregated in 1969. He first served the university as assistant dean of students and then assistant vice chancellor for student affairs.

He was instrumental in the formation of many campus organizations and programs that still play significant roles on the UTM campus, including the Black Student Organization (BSA), Freshman Studies, the Highest Praise Gospel Choir and the Peer Enabler Program (PEP).

Conner retired from the university in 1981. The ordained minister lives in Martin and is the pastor at Dresden's Fuller Street Baptist Church.

"Without God, I couldn't do anything," Conner said as he accepted the award. "He is the strength of my life."

Conner credited his mother for his upbringing and said he only saw his dad once throughout his life.

He then issued a challenge to black students, specifically those who need working on," he said.

"It ain't nothing keeping black students from doing what these black students did here today," Conners said, referring to those honored at the breakfast.

"I challenge — mostly these black boys, black men — to do something," he said. "So you don't have a daddy? Let him go."

According to Conners, the problem with our black population today in Martin, Tennessee, is our young black men.

Conners said he sometimes hears excuses from black men claiming there aren't enough opportunities to succeed. Conners said there are plenty of chances available.

UTM student Bryce Holmes presented the Black Student Association Torch Award to David Belote, UTM's assistant vice chancellor for student affairs who is also a Martin alderman.

"My mind can only formulate positive and inspiring images whenever his (Belote's) name is mentioned," Holmes said.

Belote, who emceed the event, seemed at a loss for words over the award.

"This is another time where words are hard to come by," Belote said.

"Let me say it like this: God almighty, I'm richly blessed. Thank you."

Anthony Rewitt presented the Alpha Award to UTM student Gabrielle Mary Lewis.

"This amazing woman is somebody that I look towards for inspiration," Rewitt said of Lewis.

"She's a model student and someone who gives so much of herself to others. She particularly has given so much in the form of uplift towards young women."

Lewis said she was "speechless."

"I just want to say that without God I wouldn't be standing here before you," Lewis said. "I'm just so grateful."

Lesley Martin, a university custodian, was also given an award but was unable to attend the event.

Rewitt presented and accepted the award in her absence.

"It's always the smile that he gives or the extra hand that he lends that made us want to acknowledge the wonderful things that he does, and he does it all without expecting a 'thank you,'" Rewitt said of Martin. "He does it because he cares."
TOP — Martin Mayor Randy Brundige (standing) gives Harold Conner a pat on the back after presenting him with the Harold Conner/City of Martin Award on Monday.

SECOND FROM TOP — Martin student Bryce Holmes presents The Black Student Association Torch Award to David Belote, UTM's assistant vice chancellor for student affairs.

LEFT — Anthony Prewitt presents The Alpha Award to UTM student Gabrielle Mary Lewis. Lesley Martin, a university custodian, was also given an award but was unable to attend the event.
'Dream with a vision. Live with a purpose.'
The University of Tennessee at Martin’s online graduate business program has recently been named one of the Top 10 Online Graduate Business Programs by U.S. News & World Report in 2013.

The prestigious designation was determined by evaluating 22 “ranking indicators,” including graduation rate, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, accessible technology and overall cost.

“We are proud of the quality of the students who have graduated from this program (the online master of business administration),” said Dr. Kevin Hammond, coordinator of graduate programs in business. Hammond went on to call the distinction “a well-deserved tribute to our faculty and administration for their foresight in the design, support and implementation of this unique program.”

MEETING 21ST CENTURY DEMANDS

Learning is no longer limited to the four walls of a classroom – it can happen anywhere – and already is. According to the 2012 Survey of Online Learning conducted by the Babson Survey Research Group, the number of students taking at least one online course has now surpassed 6.7 million. The growth of online learning underscores the need for quality, flexible education programs that meet the demands of our 21st-century workforce – and UT Martin provides a first-rate online MBA program.

SOLUTIONS WORKING FOR STUDENTS

“UT Martin is quite proud of being named a top online graduate business program by U.S. News & World Report,” said UT Martin Bookstore Manager Mara Burton. “This is such a great school, with awesome students and faculty, so it’s been a pleasure supporting the online graduate students.”

Burton went on to explain how the bookstore has met the challenge of online learning. “Many of these students are juggling jobs and families, so it’s critical to make things as easy as possible for them. That’s why we offer the option of ordering textbooks in-store or online from our bookstore website. Time is in short supply for these students, so we do everything we can to make it super convenient for them.”

National recognition of its online MBA program is one of several acknowledgements UT Martin has earned over the past two years. The University also received a top-20 “Best Buy” ranking by GetEducated.com and a special recognition from The Princeton Review in 2012, as well as being named one of the Top-30 Rising Star MBA Programs by FindMyMBA.com in 2011.

For more information on the UT Martin Online MBA Program, visit utm.edu/utonline.com.
QUEENS CROWNED — Two women received Miss Tennessee qualifying titles at the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant Saturday night at the Student Life Center at UT Martin. Kristen Lackey of Savannah (left) won the 2013 Miss UT Martin crown. Madison Hardy of Nashville won the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival title. A total of $4,400 was awarded to titleholders and runners-up.
UTM, Soybean queens crowned

Kristen Lackey, of Savannah, was crowned Miss University of Tennessee at Martin at the combined Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant Saturday night at the Student Life Center on the UT Martin campus. The UT Martin student won the 2013 title and the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant this summer in Jackson.

Also headed to the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant is Madison Hardy of Nashville, who won the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival title. She is a graduate of Belmont University.

"[It feels] absolutely incredible," Lackey said, following her win. "As an athlete at the school this is something that I did not expect."

Lackey is a softball player at UT Martin, and said she decided to compete in the pageant to combat pageant stereotypes.

"I just wanted to show people that nobody can define me. I define myself," she said.

Lackey’s philanthropy is modern day slavery and human trafficking, and she said she loves to compete and is ready to go for the Miss Tennessee pageant.

"I’m still in shock. I can’t believe it," Hardy said after winning the Soybean title. "I really want to go to Miss Tennessee. That’s just a goal that I’ve set."

Hardy’s philanthropy, Tennessee: Get Up and Go is an initiative she started to encourage Tennesseans to get out and be active in their communities. She said she is looking forward to having a great time at the Miss Tennessee pageant.

Runners-up for the Miss UT Martin crown were: Jordan Gunn, of Dyersburg, first; and Jerrie Carrington, of Woodland Mills, second.

All members of the Miss UT Martin court must be UT Martin students.

Runners-up for Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival were Kendall Schulz, a student at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, first; and Sarah Gross, of Clarksburg, a student at Austin Peay State University, second.

The winners led a field of 13 contestants, and a total of $4,400 was awarded to the titleholders and runners-up. Miss UT Martin 2012, Bethary Meeks, of Jackson, crowned Lackey. Hardy was crowned by See Queens, Page 13

Queens
From Page 1

Ginny Hankins, of Ripley, 2012 Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Meeks and Hankins were hostesses for the evening and entertained the audience with piano and vocal selections. Hollie Holt, of Martin, directed the pageant.

"I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with two talented, bright and beautiful young ladies. They are both competitive and ready to start their year of service." Holt said. "They will prepare and train for the next six months for competition in fitness, talent, interview and evening gown. They will work to raise donations and awareness for the Children’s Miracle Network and children’s hospitals as well as their own personal platforms."

Dr. Cowser to speak at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Friends of the Paul Meek Library will be presenting the Third Annual Meek Library Legacy Series presentation.

The evening will feature Dr. Robert G. Cowser, professor emeritus of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

Dr. Cowser will read from his poetry chapbook, "Backtrailin’," and other poetry.

This event will take place, Feb. 7, 7 p.m. in the Humanities Auditorium.

The Meek Literary Legacy Series honors Dr. Paul Meek, for whom the university’s Meek Library is named.

The public is invited.
Schools briefs Jan. 30

Staff Reports
Tuesday, January 29, 2013

UT earns awards in architecture

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, an organization that annually honors architectural educators for exemplary work, has honored The University of Tennessee for having best practices in school-based community outreach programs and design-build projects.

Associate Professor Thomas K. Davis's community outreach program, Collaborations in Transit-Oriented Development, received a Collaborative Practice Award. The honor recognizes programs that demonstrate how faculty, students and community/civic clients work together to achieve common objectives.

The New Norris House, a sustainable home developed by students in conjunction with architecture faculty members Tricia Stuth, Robert French, Samuel Mortimer and Richard Kelso, received the Design Build Award. The honor recognized faculty for connecting curriculum with practical projects that address cultural, economic, social or environmental sustainability.

tnAchieves seniors meet mentors

Last week, high school seniors from across Knox County met their tnAchieves mentors for the first time to discuss the transition from high school to college. tnAchieves is a privately funded, nonprofit organization pairing last dollar scholarships with mentor guidance to help high school students access community college. A last dollar scholarship is one which pays the balance of tuition and fees remaining after all other grants and scholarships are paid.

Sixty-five percent of the recipients are first-generation college students. Now in its fifth class, tnAchieves has grown 20 percent over the last year.

Pellissippi hosts artists' exhibit

Pellissippi State Community College is currently hosting "Quiet Histories and Futures From the Republic," a 15-day exhibit by artist Jason Stout, at the Hardin Valley Campus in the Bagwell Center Gallery. The event will run through Feb. 6.

Stout is known for his Southern interpretation of American culture. He completed his Bachelor of Fine Arts in studio art at the University of Tennessee at Martin and earned
his Master of Fine Arts in painting at the University of Texas at San Antonio. Stout is an assistant professor of art at UT, Martin.

The exhibit can be seen from 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. The closing reception will be from 4-6 p.m. Feb. 6. Both the exhibit and reception are free and open to the public.

UT to host research presentation series

As part of the University of Tennessee's Science Forum, Samuel C. Weaver, president and CEO of Proton Power Inc., will share his research with a presentation entitled, "Back to the Future: Biomass to Cheap Hydrogen," at noon Feb. 1 in Room C-D of Thompson-Boling Arena. The event is free and open to the public.

The Science Forum is a weekly brown bag lunch series that allows professors and area scientists to share their research with the general public through a conversational presentation. Attendees can bring lunch or purchase it at the arena. Each presentation is 40 minutes long and is followed by a question-and-answer session.

Students, teachers to share digital tale

The Tennessee Educational Technology Association, in conjunction with the "Tennessee eTales" initiative, is providing an opportunity for students and teachers in the K-12 Tennessee education system to share their digital work with other Tennessee technology leaders through the MyVRSpot system. This year, TETA is looking for original digital stories centered around the theme of, "How To........"

MyVRSpot is a web-based environment that provides students with a hosted web space to upload their videos, audio files, pictures and text content. It encourages students, teachers and administrators to upload and publish content, allowing others in the district to utilize the published content for other educational purposes.

The Tennessee eTales initiative is open to any student or teacher in a K-12 Tennessee school who wants to create and submit an original digital story. Online entries can be submitted at www/myvrs.com/etales, and must be submitted by March 1.

College to host lecture series

Ruth Graham will be the featured speaker of Carson-Newman College's annual Ashe-Henderson Lectures held Jan. 29-31, Tuesday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m., and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 7 p.m. in Jefferson City's First Baptist Church sanctuary. Samford University's Dr. Eric Mathis, professor of church music and worship leadership, will head the series' music, featuring C-N's combined choirs and Wind Ensemble.

Graham, the youngest daughter of evangelist Rev. Billy and Ruth Bell Graham, speaks regularly and draws from her own life experiences to highlight the struggles of the church.
January 29th, 2013 - By Chris Stockdale

Two women received Miss Tennessee qualifying titles at the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant held Saturday night at the Student Life Center at UT Martin.

Skyhawk Softball Player Kristen Lackey of Savannah, was crowned Miss University of Tennessee at Martin and the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival crown went to Nashville resident Madison Hardy.

The pair will now compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant this summer in Jackson.

Runners-up for the Miss UT Martin crown were Jordan Gunn, of Dyersburg and Jerrie Carrington, of Woodland Mills.

Runners-up for Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival were Kendall Schulz, a student at the UT Knoxville and Sarah Gross, of Clarksburg, a student at Austin Peay State University.

The winners led a field of 13 contestants, and a total of $4,400 dollars was awarded to the titleholders and runners-up.

Humboldt Chronicle, Wednesday, January 30, 2013

Business advice offered here

Denny Sumner, University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneur and Economic Development Center and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center small business specialist, will help aspiring entrepreneurs and existing business owners with business advice from 9 a.m. until noon, Feb. 20, at the Humboldt Chamber of Commerce at 1200 Main St. Sumner recently joined the TSBDC after working more than 30 years in the banking industry as a commercial loan officer. He has taught several college classes in finance and economics and is currently teaching microeconomics at UT Martin.

Sumner's educational background includes an M.B.A. and two Bachelor of Science degrees. He will be giving advice about business planning, financing options, marketing, customer service, cash flow and other topics. The consultations are one-on-one, confidential and free.

Appointments can be made by contacting the UT Martin REED Center/TSBDC at 731-587-7333.

For additional services offered by the TSBDC, go to www.tsbdc.org.
Conference For Working
Women slated February 15

Participants attending the 15th annual Working Women's Conference on February 15 will learn how to be working women while creating legacies.

Sponsored by the WestStar Leadership Program and Tom E. Hendrix Chair of Excellence in Free Enterprise at UT Martin, the conference is designed to appeal to all working women in West Tennessee, whether they be an assistant, executive, manager, elected official or chief executive officer of a company.

The conference will take place from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., February 15, at the University of Tennessee at Martin Boling University Center Duncan Ballroom. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes and Charley Deal, WestStar executive director, will welcome participants following a continental breakfast and registration, which are scheduled for 8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

Kelly Cash-Sheppard will give the keynote address. Cash-Sheppard was Miss Tennessee 1986 and was crowned Miss America 1987, capturing preliminary honors in both the talent and swimsuit competitions. Following her reign as Miss America, Cash-Sheppard toured with Bob Hope's USO Show and appeared on The David Letterman Show, The Today Show and Good Morning America. She has performed with numerous musical artists including Vince Gill, Lee Greenwood, and Billy Joel, and appeared in many regional theatrical productions around the country. Cash-Sheppard is the great-niece of Johnny Cash.

Dr. Lolly Eldridge, M.D., will give an address titled "Long Live the Queen" on women's health issues, and Dr. Bonnie Daniel will give an address titled "Understanding Your Court," on leadership and personality styles.

Chandler Lawson, the reigning Miss Tennessee, will give an address titled "5 Loaves Four Kids," and Dr. Jennifer Johnson from the Jackson Clinic will offer a presentation titled "Take a Cue From the Court Jester" on using humor to help with stress management.

The final address of the day will be "Queen of the Kitchen: Modifying Recipes for Health" on healthy cooking given by Josh Dziedzicki, Executive Chef III at Jackson-Madison County General Hospital.

The deadline to register for the conference is February 8. Forms may be mailed to WestStar, UT Martin, 321 Administration Building, faxed to 731-881-7019 or emailed to vgirard@utm.edu. If registering via email, include name, business, complete address and phone number. If registering for two people, make sure to include all information on both registrants. Online registration is preferred at www.utm.edu/weststar. Credit cards are accepted. The fee is $35 per person and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Make checks payable to WestStar.

Historian Gene Smith to discuss new book during Black History Month event

Gene Allen Smith, a professor of history at Texas Christian University, will discuss his new book, The Slave’s Gamble: Choosing Sides in the War of 1812, at 2:00 p.m., February 8, in Watkins Auditorium, located on the first floor of the Boling University Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin campus.

The discussion is a special Black History Month event, sponsored by the UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy and supported by the Tom Elam History Endowment.

Smith’s new book, released January 22, deals with “the often impossible choices African American slaves had forced upon them as a result of the War of 1812,” said Dr. David Coffey, professor of history and department chair. “We are exceptionally fortunate that Dr. Smith made himself available for this event,” he continued.

The presentation is free and open to the public. Smith will be available after the lecture to sign copies of his new book, which is on sale in the university bookstore and will also be available for purchase after the lecture.

Smith’s appearance serves as an introduction to other Black History Month events, including the Conference on Civil Rights, which is hosted annually by the Department of History and Philosophy and scheduled for February 18-22.
Queens Crowned

Two women received Miss Tennessee qualifying titles at the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant held Saturday night at the Student Life Center at UT Martin. Kristen Luckey, of Savannah, left, won the 2013 Miss UT Martin crown. Madison Hardy, of Nashville, right, won the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival title.

www.nwintoday.com

UT Martin softball garners top player, coach honors

Posted: Wednesday, January 30, 2013 12:00 pm

Senior outfielder Leah Taylor and head coach Donley Canary from UT Martin softball team were named College Sports Madness’ 2013 Ohio Valley Preseason All-Conference Player of the Year and Coach of the Year.

Taylor led the OVC in hits (77), runs scored (61), triples (10) and stolen bases (37) while also ranking among conference leaders with a .385 batting average and a .461 on-base percentage.

Canary, who enters his 12th season as the head coach of the UTM softball program, led the Skyhawks to a 23-6 worksheet this past season in the OVC. Overall, the Skyhawks were 39-22 en route to their second regular-season title in the past three years. The Skyhawks also won their second OVC Tournament title.

Taylor and sophomore utility player Lauren Smith were named to the Madness’ first team, while sophomore left-handed pitcher Casey Vincent and junior outfielder Kayla Wade earned second team recognition.

Smith, who was also named to the All-OVC second team as well as the All-Newcomer squad, is UT Martin’s top returning run producer as she drove in 35 runs this past season. She hit .274 with 37 hits, four doubles and a team-best nine home runs.

Vincent, who was named to the OVC All-Newcomer team, was 9-5 in the circle with a 3.08 earned run average. She pitched 86.1 innings and she struck out 49 batters.

Wade, who was named to the OVC All-Tournament team, sported a .322 batting average with 19 Runs Batted In. She scored 48 runs and had 81 total bases. Wade started and played in 61 games this past season. Published in The WCP 1.29.13
NATIONAL AWARD — David and Meghan Corvin were named one of three runners-up for the Young Farmers and Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 94th annual meeting. They are pictured with daughter Molly.

UTM to host Civil Rights Conference

The University of Tennessee at Martin's 13th annual Civil Rights Conference is Feb. 17-22 and will focus on the theme: "The Civil Rights Movement and Social Change in the 21st Century."

Diane Nash, one of the main leaders of the Nashville Civil Rights Movement, will deliver the keynote address at 7 p.m. on Feb. 21.

Dr. Vincent Harding, a historian and civil rights activist, will also serve as a featured speaker, delivering his address titled "The Civil Rights Movement's Significance for Today" at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 21.

Harding and his wife, Rosemarie Freeney Harding, participated in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and co-founded Mennonite House, an inter-racial voluntary service center and gathering place in Atlanta, Ga. Harding served as an advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., drafting one of King's most famous speeches, "A Time to Break Silence."

UT Martin's conference is one of only two civil rights conferences sponsored yearly by any public university in the United States.

The week's activities will begin on Feb. 17 with the movie "Red Tails," which highlights the bravery of the Tuskegee Airmen, shown at 6 and 9 p.m. The movie is sponsored by the UT Martin Student Activities Council.

At 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 18, Florence Rosch, an actress who recently played a maid in the film, "The Help," will present a one-woman performance on the Civil Rights Movement, "She-roes."

At noon and again at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 19, Dr. Julie Hill, associate professor of music, along with her percussion students, will present "Roots of Rhythm." Designed to demonstrate the migration of rhythm through the slave trade, the performance will provide a multi-sensory experience, encouraging audience members to observe how different societies are formed and interact through music. There is a $5 admission charge for this event.

On Wednesday, Feb. 20, the Hortense Parrish Writing Center, Humanities Building, room 209, will sponsor a workshop on the work of black writers.

Harding's address will start the conference's main day, Thursday, Feb. 21, at 9:30 a.m. A group of teachers from Jackson will follow Harding with a seminar titled "Education and Race: Today - the Case of Jackson, TN." At 1 p.m., a group of students born in Africa will speak on "An African Perspective on Race in America."

Dr. Adam Wilson, lecturer of history, and Dr. David Coffey, chair of the department of history and philosophy, will then present "On the African American Military Experience and the Struggle for Civil Rights." at 2:30 p.m.

Nash will speak at 7 p.m. following a performance by the UT Martin Collegiate Gospel Choir.

On Feb. 23, interested students, faculty and community members can participate in a trip to the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis. The public is encouraged to attend. For more information, call (731) 881-7465.

UTM Rodeo Pageant to be held

The Tennessee National Guard and The University of Tennessee at Martin Rodeo Booster Club will sponsor the Miss UTM Rodeo Pageant Feb. 23 at the Watkins Auditorium inside UT Martin University Center.

The pageant is open to all girls, ages 0-20. Contestants will be judged in formal/evening gown only.

Doors open at 1 p.m. with pageants as follows: 0-12 months at 2; 1-3 years at 2:20; 4-6 years at 2:40; 7-9 years at 3; 10-12 years at 3:20; 13-15 years at 3:40; 16-20 years at 4. Registration is at the door, $25 for beauty only with side categories available for additional cost.

Winner of the 16-20 division will be required to participate in UTM Rodeo Week activities and is eligible to compete in Territorial Queens Review/Strawberry Festival.

All queens will be recognized at the Saturday performance of UTM Rodeo. For more information, contact Beth Weldon at (731) 225-1227, or Camiel Taylor at (731) 234-6454.
Dresden couple finalists for national award

David and Meghan Corvin, new to Tennessee, joined their local chapter of the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) as a way to make friends and meet others with similar interests.

They did not anticipate, years later, winning national recognition for their work.

"It quickly became something we were very passionate about — becoming involved and making sure the community understands the importance of agriculture," Meghan explained.

After winning state-level recognition for their regional leadership activities in September 2012, the Corvins were named one of three runners-up for the Young Farmers and Ranchers Excellence in Agriculture Award at the AFBF’s 94th annual meeting on Jan. 13-15 in Nashville.

This award “recognizes those young farmers and ranchers who do not derive the majority of their income from an agricultural operation, but who actively contribute and grow through their involvement in agriculture, their leadership ability and participation in Farm Bureau and other organizations,” according to an AFBF report. All the runners-up received a Case IH Farmall 45A and $3,000 in cash and STIHL merchandise.

The Dresden couple is involved in a variety of local and regional leadership activities, including volunteering with local chapters of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) and 4-H youth development organization, sponsoring a youth league girls’ softball team and hosting a variety of events to bring children in contact with agriculture. They also raise pumpkins for agritourism and sell them through Tractor Supply Company, directing a portion of the proceeds back into the Obion County 4-H program.

“Ninety-eight percent of the population lives off of a farm with only two percent raising the food that this country consumes,” said David. “So it’s important that we develop young leaders in agriculture to make sure that that is in place for future generations to raise the food,” Meghan added. “It’s a matter of national security as well. America’s got the safest food of any country, and the standards by which we raise our livestock and animals are at a higher standard than any other nation.”

The Corvins also stress community awareness “about the policies and procedures we use to raise the food, that the public knows about the procedures and practices we use, not just in a business sense, but as something that the American farmer or rancher takes pride in.”

David, a technical advisor at Tyson Food Inc. in Obion County, is highly involved in the plant’s community outreach programs, which include feeding crowds of up to 6,000 annually during community feeds at the Soybean and Corn Festivals. He is also involved in the Tennessee Poultry Association.

Meghan coaches the NCAA equestrian team at UTM and serves on the National Collegiate Equestrian Association’s executive committee to help develop the sport at the NCAA level.

David holds two associate degrees from Virginia Tech, one in agriculture business and the other in agriculture management. Meghan earned her Bachelor of Science in animal and poultry science from Virginia Tech and her Master of Science in animal science industry, with an emphasis in education, from Kansas State University.

“This wouldn’t be possible if they didn’t have programs like the Young Farmers and Ranchers Programs for individuals who want to continue on past the FFA or 4-H level,” said David. “This has been a really great program that has helped us a lot on our own farm at home as well as interacting with the community, through the public relations training and everything else we’ve had, the leadership training and the development that we’ve had through working with the Farm Bureau.”
Two crowned during pageants at UT Martin

Kristen Lackey of Savannah was crowned Miss University of Tennessee at Martin at the combined Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant Saturday night at the Student Life Center on the UT Martin campus.

The UT Martin student won the 2013 title and the opportunity to compete in the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant this summer in Jackson.

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(“It feels absolutely incredible,” Miss Lackey said following her win. “As an athlete at the school, this is something that I did not expect.”)

Miss Lackey is a softball player at UT Martin and said she decided to compete in the pageant to combat pageant stereotypes.

“I just wanted to show people that nobody can define me. I define myself,” she said.

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“I’m still in shock. I don’t believe it!” Miss Hardy said after winning the Soybean title. “I really want to go to Miss Tennessee. That’s just a goal that I’ve set.”

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Miss Meeks and Miss Hankins were hostesses for the evening and entertained the audience with piano and vocal selections.

Hallie Holt of Martin directed the pageant.

“I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work with two talented, bright and beautiful young ladies. They are both competitive and ready to start their year of service,” Miss Holt said.

“They will prepare and train for the next six months for competition in fitness, talent, interview and evening gown. They will work to raise donations and awareness for the Children’s Miracle Network and children’s hospitals as well as their own personal platforms.”

Rodeo pageant slated

The Tennessee National Guard and the University of Tennessee at Martin Rodeo Booster Club will sponsor the Miss UT Martin Rodeo Pageant Feb. 23 at the Watkins Auditorium inside UT Martin University Center.

The pageant is open to all girls from birth to age 20. Contestants will be judged in formal/evening gown only. Doors will open at 1 p.m., with pageants as follows: birth-12 months at 2, 1-3 years at 2:20, 4-6 years at 2:40, 7-9 years at 3, 10-12 years at 3:20, 13-15 years at 3:40 and 16-20 years at 4.

Registration is at the door. The cost is $25 for beauty only, with side categories available for an additional fee. The winner of the 10-20 age division is required to participate in UTM Rodeo Week activities and is eligible to compete in Territorial Queens Review/Strawberry Festival.

All queens will be recognized at the Saturday performance of UT Martin Rodeo.

For more information, contact Beth Weldon at (731) 225-1227 or Carol Taylor at (731) 234-6654.

QUEENS CROWNED - Two women received Miss Tennessee qualifying titles at the combined Miss University of Tennessee at Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Pageant held Saturday night at the Student Life Center at UT Martin. Kristen Lackey of Savannah (left) won the 2013 Miss UT Martin crown. Madison Hardy of Nashville won the Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival title.