Q&A SESSION — Selected speakers participated in an expert panel question-and-answer session during the 2015 Mid-South Agricultural Finance Conference. Among them were (from left) Richard Brock, Brock Associates; Bruce Williams, The Andersons; Dr. Steve Isaacs, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture; Dr. Freddie Barnard, Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics; and Dr. David Kohl, Virginia Tech.

Ag finance conference Wednesday at UT Martin

The 16th annual Mid-South Agricultural Finance Conference will be held from 8 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Wednesday in the University of Tennessee at Martin Boling University Center.

Seats are still available, so submit registration materials as soon as possible.

The conference, a service of the UT Martin Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking, is designed to serve the lender/producer team by providing the most up-to-date and relevant information needed to grow farm operations’ bottom lines.

Agricultural lenders, farmers, producers and farm-related business owners are encouraged to attend.

The 2016 conference will begin with check-in and a continental breakfast at 8 a.m., with the official welcome at 8:20. Four speaker sessions will focus on success in the economic reset, traits of top managers, agricultural policy issues and commodity prices and marketing trends. A luncheon is included in the price of registration.

Richard Brock, owner and president, Brock Associates, will serve as session speakers.

Registration is $150 for lenders and agricultural service providers, $75 for farmers and producers and $25 for students and spouses.

Registration forms are available online and should be faxed to (731) 881-7323. Payment will be taken at the door.

For more information or help with registration, contact Jennifer Schlicht, Office of the Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking, at jschlicht@utm.edu or call (731) 881-7324.
UTM surpasses fundraising goal

The University of Tennessee at Martin has the generosity of new and recurring donors to thank for helping the university surpass its $4.1 million fundraising goal in fiscal year 2015-16.

Private donations, personal and corporate pledges, and estate plans brought the UT Martin fundraising total to just over $4.2 million.

The second annual "Captain’s Challenge," held in April, raised almost $258,000 in five days.

The University received gifts from 6.1 percent of its alumni during the year, which exceeds the national average of 4-percent alumni giving at similar institutions.

"It is amazing how generous people are toward the work of the university," said Andy Wilson, vice chancellor of university advancement. "The loyalty and support have been tremendous, and we will need everyone again to help the university as we look toward building a new science and engineering building, adding a performance hall, increasing scholarship support and renovating buildings to improve the UT Martin student experience."

Funded initiatives in this fiscal year include the renovations to Hardy M. Graham Stadium, the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, academic scholarships and other initiatives to directly support the five university colleges and their various programs.

For additional information on the university’s fundraising campaigns, or to make a contribution, contact the Office of University Advancement at 731-881-7626.

STADIUM RENOVATED — The University of Tennessee at Martin’s newly renovated Hardy M. Graham Stadium is set to open before the Skyhawk’s first home football game Sept. 17. The stadium initiative was one of many funded in the 2015-16 fiscal year.
FINANCE FOCUS — Selected speakers participated in an expert panel Q&A during the 2015 Mid-South Agricultural Finance Conference. Pictured are (from left) Richard Brock, Brock Associates; Bruce Williams, The Andersons; Dr. Steve Isaacs, University of Kentucky College of Agriculture; Dr. Freddie Barnard, Purdue University Department of Agricultural Economics; and Dr. David Kohl, Virginia Tech.

Agricultural finance conference slated

The 16th annual Mid-South Agricultural Finance Conference will be held from 8 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. Wednesday in the University of Tennessee at Martin Boling University Center. Seats are still available, so submit registration materials as soon as possible.

The conference, a service of the UT Martin Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking, is designed to serve the lender/producer team by providing the most up-to-date and relevant information needed to grow farm operations' bottom lines. Agricultural lenders, farmers, producers and farm-related business owners are encouraged to attend.

The 2016 conference will begin with check-in and a continental breakfast at 8 a.m., with the official welcome at 8:20 a.m. Four speaker sessions will focus on success in the economic reset, traits of top managers, agricultural policy issues, and commodity prices and marketing trends. A luncheon is included in the price of registration.

Dr. David Kohl, professor emeritus, Virginia Tech; Dr. Matthew Roberts, associate professor, Ohio State; Dr. Bob Young, chief economist, American Farm Bureau; and Richard Brock, owner and president, Brock Associates, will serve as session speakers.

Registration is $150 for lenders and agricultural service providers, $75 for farmers and producers, and $25 for students and spouses. Registration forms can be found online at utm.edu/departments/cgba/ag-conference/registration.php and should be faxed to 731-881-7323. Payment will be taken at the door.

For more information or help with registration, contact Jennifer Schlicht, Office of the Dunagan Chair of Excellence in Banking, at jschlicht@utm.edu or call 731-881-7324.
YOUNG ARTISTS — Junior Art League students pose with one of their pieces that will be featured in the Secret Lives of Colored People art exhibition at the UTM Fine Arts Gallery through Aug. 26. The opening reception will be on Aug. 19 at the Gallery from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information call the UTM Fine Arts Gallery. Pictured are (from left) Parish Mosley, Robert Nunley, Chris Mann and Lakelynn Noonan. For more on the exhibit, see Page 2.
TIME TO SOAR — Incoming freshmen who plan to take courses at the University of Tennessee at Martin beginning with the fall 2016 semester have one final opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration on Aug. 12. SOAR will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Boling University Center. Registration is $45 per student and $20 for additional attendees (parents, siblings, etc.). Tuition will not be charged until the start of the semester. SOAR is mandatory for all incoming freshmen. To register, visit utm.edu/soar. Students who have not yet registered for classes, but are unable to attend the Aug. 12 date, must contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements. Fall semester classes begin Aug. 22.

Genex Services, a provider of managed care clinical services, has awarded the Department of Nursing at the University of Tennessee at Martin $20,000 in scholarship funding through its fifth annual Case Manager Scholarship Program.

Each year, Genex Services asks case managers, supervisors and branch managers within the company to nominate nursing programs at colleges and universities which they believe deserve additional funding. Susie Moore, a 1987 UT Martin alumna, nominated the UT Martin program.

“The Department of Nursing at UT Martin has a proud and successful history in nursing education,” Moore wrote in her nomination letter. “I am very proud of my alma mater.”

Five programs are selected each year, and the funds are intended to recognize program alumni, strengthen awareness of the case management profession and invest in a new generation of graduates to fulfill a growing industry need. The Department of Nursing’s scholarship award committee will accept student applications in the fall semester, and awards will be announced in the spring for the upcoming 2017-18 academic year. Award criteria and amounts have yet to be determined.

“All college students can benefit from financial aid, of course, but nursing majors have the added expenses of uniforms, shoes, stethoscopes and other equipment, as well as travel to various clinical sites. This gift will be very beneficial in helping them cover these costs in addition to tuition and books,” said Dr. Mary Radford, department chair.

Bellarmine University in Louisville, Kentucky; University of San Diego in San Diego; University of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City; and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia also received awards from Genex Services this year.

For more information on scholarships or to inquire about applications, contact Radford at marye@utm.edu or (731) 881-7140.
New faces at middle schools, OR High

Monday was the first day of school for Oak Ridge students and many of them saw new teachers and administrators.

By Donna Smith
Oak Ridger news editor

Posted Aug. 3, 2016 at 2:35 PM

http://www.oakridger.com/

- William "Chad" Hodge will teach science. His hometown is Bruceton and he has taught 13 years as a secondary science teacher in Tennessee schools. He has a B.S. in chemistry and an M.S. in education from UT at Martin.

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DRESDEN ENTERPRISE • AUGUST 3, 2016

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UT Martin
Final Fall Registration Scheduled For Aug. 12

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SOAR will be held from 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Boling University Center. Registration is $45 per student and $20 for additional attendees (parents, siblings, etc.). Tuition will not be charged until the start of the semester.

SOAR is mandatory for all incoming freshmen. Students who have not yet registered for classes, but are unable to attend the Aug. 12 date, must contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements.

To register, visit utm.edu/soar.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.

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Wortham Receives Scholarship

Jared Wortham, Martin, has received the 2016 Kiwanis Scholarship from the Martin Kiwanis Club. He is pictured here with Anita Bell (right), president of the Kiwanis Club of Martin, and Vickie Hazlewood, vice president. Wortham, 2016 graduate of Westview High School, he will begin attending UT Martin this fall. He plans to major in Health and Human Resources.
Gov. Bill Haslam Presents Check to UT Martin Somerville

By: Erin Chestnut
UT Martin Staff Writer

Gov. Bill Haslam visited the former Methodist Fayette Hospital on July 26 to present the University of Tennessee at Martin with $1.125 million from the Tennessee General Assembly to establish the new UT Martin Somerville Center in that location. The amount matches $825,000 raised by Methodist Fayette Hospital, the city of Somerville, Fayette County and the University of Tennessee Foundation and includes an additional $250,000 in recurring funding added to the state's 2016-17 budget.

The governor emphasized the importance of his Drive to 55 Initiative, which seeks to help 55 percent of Tennesseans earn a degree or certificate by 2025, and cited the new UT Martin center as an important component to enhance access to higher education in Southwest Tennessee.

"Not everybody has a chance to go take four years off their life and move and be a resident on campus somewhere," he said. "Higher education looks different to everybody now. One of the keys is to make certain that it's convenient for people who have other things going on in their lives. This campus is a real effort to do that."

Ronnie Neill, interim mayor for the city of Somerville, emceed the event and thanked, among others, the city's board of aldermen, the Fayette County leadership and Sen. Dolores Gresham (R-Somerville) for their efforts to make the project a reality.

"(This project) means everything. We'll have a local outlet for higher education... It can change the whole area for everybody," he said.

Kara Tapp, director of the UT Martin Somerville Center, is excited to see the facility become a one-stop-shop for educational needs in the area.

"This has been a long process, and it's been something that our county has dreamed about for almost 10 years. It's finally happening for us. Not only is this site going to be UT Martin, but I believe it's going to be a site for people to come to have any type of educational need met," she said. "Anybody that walks in my door, no matter what their ACT score or their GPA, I want to be able to help that person achieve their goals for where they want to go for their future, no matter what. That's what I believe this facility will be."

The UT Martin Somerville Center is currently operating from the Somerville Career Center, but, administrators plan to move into the new facility in the fall of 2017 following extensive renovations. According to Bob Turner, Somerville city administrator, the building will be occupied by several potential tenants, including UT Extension and Fayette Literacy.

On July 25, the State Building Commission approved a lease between the University of Tennessee and the city of Somerville to house the UT Martin Somerville Center in the former hospital building.

UT Martin currently offers degree programs in social work, psychology and criminal justice in the area, with other programs projected to follow. Also available is the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree, designed specifically to reach adults seeking to complete their degrees or make a career change. The center will also concentrate on job-skill training and meeting the immediate needs of existing and prospective regional employers.

A previous gathering to celebrate state funding for the center was held June 15, but the governor was unable to attend due to inclement weather in the Nashville area.

More information about the UT Martin Somerville Center and its course offerings is available online at utm.edu/departments/somerville or by calling the center at 901-465-7313.
Gov. Bill Haslam Presents UT Martin Somerville Center with $1.25 Million Check

On Wednesday, July 26th Governor Bill Haslam came to the old Methodist Hospital building, now to be renovated for UT Martin, to present a $1.25 million dollar check from the state. Methodist Hospital donated the building to the Town of Somerville and $250,000 cash which was matched by Somerville and also by the Fayette County Commission for a total of $1.25 million. Pictured accepting the check are, left to right, Somerville Alderman Mike French and Sandra Myers, Somerville Innestim Mayor Ronnie Neill, Gov. Bill Haslam, Somerville Alderman Judy Accaqui, Senator Dolores Gresham (R-Somerville), Senator Mark Norris (R-Collierville), and Somerville Alderman John David Douglas. (Additional photo on Page 5A)

Attorney Tom Minor and Senator Mark Norris

Rossville Mayor Judy Watters and David Gichner

Mayor Ronnie Neill with Gov. Haslam at the left and Senator Dolores Gresham at the right.

Somerville Alderman Mike French and Fayette County Commissioner Chuck Dacus at the event.
Check Presentation

Kara Tapp, Director of the UT Martin Somerville Center, is pictured with Governor Bill Haslam and the check for $1.25 million that he brought for the center last week. A reception was held at the location for the center, the old Methodist Hospital in Somerville.
Local students honored at UT Martin

A number of students from Obion County were named to the Chancellor’s Honor Roll for the spring semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin. 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 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 (3.2-3.49), high honors (3.5-3.79) or highest honors (3.8-4.0).

Among those from Obion County, or with ties to the county, who earned recognition were:

Hornbeak — Rebecca A. Bloodworth, highest honors; Christopher A. Douglas, highest honors; William M. Hayes, honors; Jessica D. LaMastus, honors; and Daniel H. Short, honors.

Kenton — Kacey D. Baker, honors; Taylor M. Gansert, honors; Adam T. Mayhall, honors; Trevor D. Mayhall, honors; and Maelyn B. Ray, honors.

Martin — Ashleigh M. Burton, high honors; McKayla M. Cunningham, honors; Connor D. Ricker, honors; Kaitlyn R. Scott, highest honors; Jessica G. Tejeda, high honors; and Tori E. York, high honors.

Obion — Amber L. Cunningham, highest honors; Trezton J. Mann, high honors; Natalie T. McCulloch, highest honors; Ashton E. Priest, highest honors; Lindsey T. Ray, high honors; Amanda J. Sanders, high honors; and Chelsea D. Southernland, highest honors.

Rives — Jake R. Blakely, high honors; Matthew L. Brooks, highest honors; Kaleb P. Byars, highest honors; Marissa H. Howard, honors; Meagan E. Morrow, high honors; Taylor B. Morrow, honors; and Rebecca M. Wisdom, high honors.

South Fulton — Austin L. Akers, highest honors; Taylor H. Allen, high honors; Suralynn Eaves, highest honors; John P. Fowler, honors; Mikaela M. Hardy, highest honors; Whitney H. Johnson, highest honors; Macy T. Maxwell, highest honors; Morgan E. Maxwell, honors; Destinee B. Mayo, honors; Caitlyn A. McClain, honors; James R. Moore, highest honors; Brianna A. Rinker, honors; Kimberly D. Schwartz, high honors; Ali R. Taylor, highest honors; and Rachel J. White, high honors.

Troy — Hailey S. Adkins, honors; Brittany M. Barnett, high honors; Haley M. Cook, honors; William C. Courser, honors; Mason N. Hoffman, high honors; Leah D. Hutchison, highest honors; Jessica B. Jennings, highest honors; Jonathan S. Kelly, high honors; Benjamin C. Kendall, highest honors; Thomas W. Kendall, high honors; Charles R. Marshall, honors; Jessica L. Parnell, high honors; Andrea D. Pickard, highest honors; Morgan C. Quinton, high honors; Rebecca L. Robb, honors; Laina L. Roberson, highest honors; Ashlynn M. Runions, honors; Lyndsa D. Smith, honors; Stephan T. Smith, high honors; Josh A. Van Valkenburg, high honors; James B. Warner, highest honors; and Nicholas K. Wilson, highest honors.

Union City — Victoria P. Abrigo, high honors; Mitchell B. Arnett, high honors; Carter G. Arnold, highest honors; Walker L. Barnes, honors; Jake A. Bell, honors; Tiffany J. Bogle, highest honors; Madison L. Brenkens, high honors; Ronald A. Brewer, honors; Dylan G. Brown, high honors; Courtney B. Carroll, high honors; Ashlynn L. Chism, honors; Carly A. Coleman, honors; Travis L. Crum, high honors; Leonard E. Davis, highest honors; Mary H. Driver, high honors; Joshua T. Dyer, highest honors; Taylor M. Edwards, honors; Kayla A. Ford, highest honors; Lauren B. Futhey, honors; Morgan E. Grisham, honors; Maria G. Guerrero, highest honors; Dallas C. Gurney, honors; Michael A. Harrison, honors; Lynsynd N. Hayeslett, honors; and Richard L. Hempel, highest honors; Paul M. Houston, highest honors; Jonathan M. Hurtado, highest honors; Caitlin A. Jones, honors; Darcey H. Jones, high honors; Lacie A. Jones, honors; Laken D. Kirk, high honors; Danielle A. Leggett, highest honors; Timothy C. Long, highest honors; Makayla Lynn, high honors; Taylor S. Martin, honors; Kaycee L. Mathenia, highest honors; Timothy M. McClain, highest honors; Jon A. McReynolds, honors; Makayla N. Miller, honors; Lydia A. Mudd, high honors; Mason S. Parker, honors; Victoria L. Reedy, highest honors; Cody A. Robertson, high honors; Payton A. Robertson, honors; Imelda Rodriguez Olivera, highest honors; Barbara P. Russell, highest honors; Nancy Sanchez, highest honors; Linden G. Scarbrough, high honors; Holly A. Seng, highest honors; Victoria L. Seng, highest honors; Colton N. Simbeck, honors; Leah A. Simmons, highest honors; Whitney D. Smith, high honors; Savannah N. Sneed, highest honors; Julie E. Spencer, high honors; William T. Tankersley, high honors; Robert A. Terrell, honors; William E. Tomlinson, high honors; John A. Warner, highest honors; Mason R. Warren, honors; Brandon A. Weber, honors; Brenna M. Wilkins, high honors; and Colton A. Woodward, high honors.

Fulton, Ky. — Terrence L. Bishop, honors.

Cordova — Brie A. Cobb, honors.

Glencoe, Ala. — Emily D. McCartney, highest honors.

One chance remains to register for fall

Incoming freshmen who plan to take courses at the University of Tennessee at Martin beginning with the fall 2016 semester have one final opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration on Aug. 12.

SOAR will be held from 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Boling University Center. Registration is $45 per student and $20 for additional attendees (parents, siblings, etc.). Tuition will not be charged until the start of the semester.

SOAR is mandatory for all incoming freshmen. Students who have not yet registered for classes, but are unable to attend the Aug. 12 date, must contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020 as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrange-ments. To register, visit utm.edu/soar. For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020 or email admittme@utm.edu.
STUDENT LAUDED – Stella Preuett of Union City received an Outstanding Freshman in Family and Consumer Sciences Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester. She was among several Obion County residents who received college and department-level awards.

JENKINS HONORED – Asha Jenkins of Rives received a Faculty Scholar Award from the College of Business and Global Affairs during the spring semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She was one of several Obion County residents who received college and department-level awards.
At the college level

Several Obion County residents received college and department-level awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring 2016 semester.

Among those recognized were:

* Laribeth Bondurant of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Courtney Carroll of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Maria Guerrero of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Kameron Jackson of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Benjamin Kendall of Troy, who received the Outstanding Upper Division Engineering Award.
* Timothy Long of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Taylor Martin of Union City, who received the Outstanding Upper Division Management, Marketing and Information Systems Student Award and was inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Imelda Rodriguez-Olvera of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.
* Nancy Sanchez of Union City, who received a Dean's Scholar Award in information systems from the College of Business and Global Affairs.
* Julie Spencer of Union City, inducted into the business honor society Beta Gamma Sigma.

SCHOLARSHIPS GIVEN — The Obion County Education Association recently awarded five $400 scholarships to 2016 graduates of local high schools. The recipients were (from left, seated) Kiernan Coursey, Sarah Kate McMinn, (standing) Kathryn Kerr and Anna Logan. Not pictured was recipient Avery Partin. An OCEA spokesman said Ms. Coursey, Ms. Kerr, Ms. Logan and Ms. Partin all plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin, while Ms. McMinn plans to attend UT-Knoxville.
Former resident named to 4-H Hall of Fame

Dr. Jim Byford, of Martin, is one of 16 individuals selected to join the national 4-H Hall of Fame for his service and dedication to the organization. Byford is dean emeritus of the University of Tennessee at Martin's College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

Dr. Byford is a former resident of Trenton and is a graduate of Peabody High School.

Before beginning his career with UT Martin in 1987, Byford spent more than 20 years serving as an extension wildlife specialist in both Georgia and Tennessee. A certified wildlife biologist, he received a doctoral degree in wildlife from Auburn University and began working with the Georgia Extension soon after graduation.

Byford's involvement with the national 4-H program, which in Tennessee teaches leadership, citizenship and life skills to more than 168,600 youth in grades 4-12, goes far beyond classroom instruction. During his 18-year tenure with UT Extension, Byford initiated the Tennessee 4-H Wildlife Project, which enrolls more than 30,000 members annually; the Tennessee 4-H Wildlife Judging Contest, which became a national event in 1988 and has been recognized as a national program of distinction; and the Tennessee 4-H FACE (Food and Cover Establishment) Contest, which allows members to grow a wildlife food plot.

He also started the Tennessee 4-H Wildlife Conference, which lasted more than 35 years and was the longest-running conservation camp in the nation, and initiated the first Southern Region 4-H Wildlife Volunteer Leader Conference.

He has participated in more than 20 other state, regional and national 4-H conferences and was awarded the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents' Distinguished Service Award in 1979.

During his 23-year tenure with UT Martin, Byford worked to ensure that 4-H members and organization events were always welcome at the university. He served as adviser and mentor to the UT Martin chapter of the Collegiate 4-H Club and often assisted with State 4-H Roundup events.

Byford received the prestigious State Friend of 4-H Award in 2011 during the 64th annual Tennessee 4-H Congress.

Byford has given more than 60 invited presentations in 28 states, Ecuador and Japan over the past three decades, and is the author of a book titled "Close to the Land," published by UT Press in 1999.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is scheduled to take place Oct. 7 at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

For more information on this recognition, contact Byford directly at jbyford@utm.edu.

Final opportunity to register at UTM

Incoming freshmen who plan to take courses at the University of Tennessee at Martin beginning with the fall 2016 semester have one final opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration on August 12.

SOAR will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Boling University Center.

Registration is $45 per student and $20 for additional attendees (parents, siblings, etc.). Tuition will not be charged until the start of the semester.

To register, visit utm.edu/soar. For more info, contact the Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.
Final opportunity to register for UT Martin fall semester

Incoming freshmen who plan to take courses at the University of Tennessee at Martin beginning with the fall 2016 semester have one final opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration on Aug. 12. SOAR will be held from 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Boling University Center. Registration fee is per student and a small additional fee for attendees (parents, siblings, etc.). Tuition will not be charged until the start of the semester.

SOAR is mandatory for all incoming freshmen. Students who have not yet registered for classes, but are unable to attend the Aug. 12 date, must contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements. To register, visit utm.edu/soar. For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.

UT Martin offers final opportunity to register for fall semester

All incoming freshman must complete SOAR

Incoming freshmen planning to take courses at UT-Martin in the fall 2016 semester have one final opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) on Friday, Aug. 12. SOAR will be held from 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Boling University Center. Registration is $45 per student and $20 for additional attendees (parents, siblings, etc.). Tuition will not be charged until the start of the semester.

SOAR is mandatory for all incoming freshmen. Students who have not yet registered for classes, but are unable to attend the Aug. 12 date, must contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements.

To register, visit utm.edu/soar. For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or email admitme@utm.edu.
New veteran service officer familiar with leadership role

A Westview and UTM graduate has been named the new veteran service officer for Weakley County.

Rick McKenzie graduated from Westview High School and enlisted into the Tennessee Army National Guard (ARNG) in 1981. He graduated with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture/natural resource management from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1987 and was a member of the Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity.

He began his career at the 913th Engineer Co. in Union City. While there, he served as the unit clerk and later at Camden TN Element Forward 68. He served as base first sergeant at Camp Stone in Herat.

MCKENZIE, From Page 1

Afghanistan, while on the selected Logistics NCOIC Regional Support Team West — NATO Training Mission in Afghanistan. After his deployment, he served as ARNG Recruiting and Retention Sergeant Major stationed at Knoxville and completed his career as final operations sergeant major with the 194th ENGR BDE in Jackson.

During his 35 years of service, McKenzie received the following decorations and awards: Bronze Star Medal, The Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak leaf cluster, the Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal with two Oak leaf clusters, Army Good Conduct Medal, 7th Award, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with Oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with star device, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with star device, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with silver hourglass and M device, NCO Professional Development Ribbon with number 4, Army Service Ribbon, Armed Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, NATO Medal, Combat Action Badge, The Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal, Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal, and Dresden before becoming the non-commissioned officer for recruiting and retention for the West Tennessee region. He then became the Army National Guard Senior Guidance Counselor at the Knoxville Military Entrance Processing Center.

Afterwards, he served as the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Northwest Tennessee ARNG Recruiting Area in Dyersburg. He then became infantry sergeant, Joint Force Headquarters, Arkansas.

Rick and his wife Nancy have been married 29 years. They reside in Martin and have two children, Katharine and Nicholson. While serving as the ARNG Recruiting and Retention Sergeant Major in 2013, Rick was shot at the Millington Naval Base. This injury forced him to retirement. He says he is now eager to continue serving by representing and assisting the veterans of Weakley County.
SOMERVILLE FUNDED — Pictured during the check presentation ceremony are (from left) Dr. Brian Donavant, interim executive director, UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach; Charley Deal, UT Martin associate vice chancellor for annual giving and alumni affairs; Steve Reeves, Fayette County commissioner; Ronnie Neill, interim mayor, city of Somerville; Dr. Jerald Ogg, UT Martin provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Sen. Dolores Gresham (R-Somerville); Gov. Bill Haslam; Sen. Mark Norris, (R-Collierville); William Kenley, chief executive officer, Methodist Le Bonheur Germantown Hospital; and Skip Taylor, Fayette County mayor.

UTM Somerville Center receives $1.125 million check from state

Gov. Bill Haslam visited the former Methodist Fayette Hospital on July 26 to present the University of Tennessee at Martin with $1.125 million from the Tennessee General Assembly to establish the new UT Martin Somerville Center in that location.

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The governor emphasized the importance of his Drive to 55 Initiative, which seeks to help 55 percent of Tennesseans earn a degree or certificate by 2025, and cited the new UT Martin center as an important component to enhance access to higher education in Southwest Tennessee.

"Not everybody has a chance to go take four years off their life and move and be a resident on campus somewhere," he said. "Higher education looks different to everybody now. One of the keys is to make certain that it's convenient for people who have other things going on in their lives. This campus is a real effort to do that."

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"(This project) means everything. We'll have a local outlet for higher education.... It can change the whole area for everybody," he said.

Kara Tapp, director of the UT Martin Somerville Center, is excited to see the facility become a one-stop-shop for educational needs in the area.

"This has been a long process, and it's been something that our county has dreamed about for almost 10 years. It's finally happening for us. Not only is this site going to be UT Martin, but I believe it's going to be a site for people to come to have any type of educational need met," she said.
UTM's Percussion Ensemble heading to international competition  

August 8, 2016 by WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff

MARTIN, Tenn. - The University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble has won the Percussive Arts Society's International World Percussion Competition in the university showcase category for the first time in school history.

The ensemble will perform at 2 p.m., Nov. 10, during the Percussive Arts Society International Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana. A reception for area UT Martin alumni will be held from 9-11 p.m. that evening.

The ensemble's performance will present music from Brazil, Zimbabwe, West Africa and Trinidad, among other countries.

Local residents are invited to attend a preview concert at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 6, in the UT Martin Fulton Theatre. Tickets will be sold at this event to offset convention travel costs.

For additional information on the UT Martin Percussion Ensemble or the Percussive Arts Society, contact Dr. Julie Hill at (731) 881-7418 or email jhill@utm.edu.

UT Martin Percussion Ensemble wins international university showcase competition

Published: Monday, August 8th, 2016, 1:24 pm CDT
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Written by David Horn, Production Assistant

TENNESSEE (KFVS) - The University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble won the Percussive Arts Society's International World Percussion Competition in the university showcase category.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for both the teachers and the students. My students work exceptionally hard, and I demand so much of them," said Dr. Julie Hill, professor of music and director of the UT Martin percussion program. "For them to be recognized like this on an international stage in front of their peers and percussion heroes from around the world is something none of us will ever forget."

"Winning this competition is a testament to the work we put in and what we learn here at UT Martin," said Nathaniel O'Neal, an ensemble member from Smyrna. "We spend hours rehearsing and practicing our parts for just one or two performances a semester. Now, I am able to stand with my fellow percussionists and perform with them on one of the largest stages at PASIC."

The ensemble will perform at 2 p.m. on Nov. 10, during the Percussive Arts Society International Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana. A reception for area UT Martin alumni will be held from 9 to 11 p.m.

The performance will feature music from Brazil, Zimbabwe, West Africa and Trinidad, among other countries.

There will be a preview concert November 6 at 7:30 p.m., in the UT Martin Fulton Theatre.

Tickets will be sold at this event to offset convention travel costs.
Volunteers needed for Martin cleanup

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapters of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. will host a city clean-up day from 6:45 a.m. to noon Aug. 27. Individuals and groups interested in participating in the community service project are welcome to attend and should report to Weldon Park behind the post office to receive assignments.

The project’s four clean-up phases will focus on Weldon Park and the Welcome to Martin sign, the grounds of city hall, and the areas surrounding the police station and C.E. Weldon Library.

Volunteers will be asked to collect litter and complete basic gardening activities, such as raking and moving small limbs.

The project is co-sponsored by Martin Beautiful and the Soybean Committee. The City of Martin will supply protective gloves and trash bags for volunteer use.

UT Martin is home to both a graduate and an undergraduate chapter of Zeta Phi Beta, which is dedicated to scholarship, service and sisterhood.

Contact Marsha Davis, chapter adviser, at marshad@utm.edu to register intent to participate in the project.

STORM DAMAGE — The chimney of Brehm Hall on the campus of the University of Tennessee at Martin sustained storm damage Friday about 8 a.m., apparently caused by lightning. The building is also known as the Agriculture/Biology Library. No further information was available at press time.

Photo by Josh Lemons
UT Martin Nursing Class Has 100% NCLEX Pass Rate
By West Kentucky Star Staff

MARTIN, TN - One hundred percent of nursing graduates from the University of Tennessee at Martin's 2016 class passed their National Council Licensing Examinations this year as first-time test-takers. The NCLEX is a mandatory examination to receive licensure as a registered nurse.

"Our goal is always excellence, and I am extremely proud of these students and their hard work and perseverance," said Dr. Mary Radford, associate professor of nursing and department chair. "This achievement is particularly notable due to the challenging nature of the NCLEX-RN. In addition to our signature three years of clinical rotations, we have rigorous instruction in place that prepares students to approach the licensure exam with confidence."

UT Martin has educated nurses for more than 40 years, so it's no surprise that program graduates go on to hold leadership positions in the health-care field and make a difference in the lives of their patients.

Students who leave UT Martin with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree complete more than 900 clinical hours in hospitals and health-care facilities across the state and gain experience in surgical, intensive care, maternity, pediatric, geriatric, mental health and emergency units, among others. Classes are also provided on topics such as leadership skills and community-based nursing in addition to clinical learning opportunities.

For more information on the UT Martin Department of Nursing, contact the department directly at 731-881-7080 or email Radford at marye@utm.edu.

UTM economic impact near half-billion dollars for West Tennessee

Based on an economic impact study during the 2014-15 fiscal year, UT Martin generated over $481 million dollars in added income for West Tennessee.

The study assesses the impact of university, student, visitor and alumni spending on the region and calculates the benefits generated by the university for students, taxpayers and society as a whole.

The results of the study show the added regional income generated by the university is equivalent to creating over 8,000 new jobs.
Study: UT Martin Generated $481M for Local Economy in 2015

By ROB CANNING - AUG 10, 2016

The University of Tennessee at Martin generated more than $481 million for the northwest Tennessee regional economy last year.

That's according to a study by Idaho-based Economic Modeling Specialists International examining the impact the university, student, visitor and alumni spending had on the surrounding communities.

University student spending last year generated approximately $8 million, the equivalent of 221 new jobs, while out-of-town visitors to university events netted an additional $3.3 million. Tennessee taxpayers receive an average of $5.10 in return over students' working lives for each dollar invested in their education at UT Martin.

Overall, regional income generated by university activity is equivalent to created 8,074 new jobs.

UT Martin surpasses fundraising goal

The University of Tennessee at Martin has the generosity of new and recurring donors to thank for helping the university surpass its $4.1 million fundraising goal in fiscal year 2015-16.

Private donations, personal and corporate pledges, and estate plans brought the UT Martin fundraising total to just over $4.2 million.

The second annual "Captain's Challenge," held in April, raised almost $258,000 in five days.

The university received gifts from 6.1 percent of its alumni during the year, which exceeds the national average of 4 percent alumni giving at similar institutions.

"It is amazing how generous people are toward the work of the university," said Andy Wilson, vice chancellor of university advancement. "The loyalty and support have been tremendous, and we will need everyone again to help the university as we look toward building a new science and engineering building, adding a performance hall, increasing scholarship support and renovating buildings to improve the UT Martin student experience."

Funded initiatives in this fiscal year include the renovations to Hardy M. Graham Stadium, the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, academic scholarships and other initiatives to directly support the five university colleges and their various programs.

For additional information on the university's fundraising campaigns, or to make a contribution, contact the Office of University Advancement at (731) 881-7626.

THE FAYETTE FALCON

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

The Town of Somerville
Board of Mayor and Aldermen met on Tuesday, August 2, 2016, for their monthly workshop. First a special called meeting was held to discuss the amended agreement between UT and the town for the UT Martin Somerville Center.

There were a few adjustments such as the actual number of square footage in the building and a change in the way some items were listed. The only big change is that UT Martin will make their payments monthly instead of annually as in the original agreement. The board voted to approve and the meeting adjourned.
New scholarships available at the UTM Parsons Center

The Parsons/Decatur County Higher Education Foundation will finance a variety of new scholarships for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin Parsons Center in the upcoming academic year.

All new freshmen who qualify to receive the Tennessee Hope Lottery Scholarship will also receive the new Kickstart Scholarship, an additional $500 over the course of the year, if they maintain a 2.75 GPA.

The Parsons Reconnect Scholarship will be awarded to all new students over 25 years of age who begin a degree program at the UT Martin Parsons Center in the fall. Students receive $600 over the course of the year as part of this award.

Students who are already enrolled at the UT Martin Parsons Center and have served at least one year as a student ambassador can be considered for a Dr. Kelli Deere Leadership Scholarship. Students must have a 3.0 GPA to qualify. Two $5,000 scholarships will be awarded in the 2016-17 academic year.

Interested students need not submit an application; all those who qualify will be automatically considered for these awards.

For more information, contact Dr. Kellie Deere, director, UT Martin Parsons Center, at 731-847-3880 or by email at kdeere@utm.edu.

Local students attend UTM end of summer bash

Peyton Weatherford (left) and Owen Bartholomew, both juniors at Riverside High School, participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin's End of Summer Bash on July 29. The afternoon started with an academic fair and campus tour and ended with a recreation rampage party with other potential students.
UT Martin nursing class achieves 100 percent NCLEX pass rate

One hundred percent of nursing graduates from the University of Tennessee at Martin's 2016 class passed their National Council Licensing Examinations this year as first-time test-takers. The NCLEX is a mandatory examination to receive licensure as a registered nurse.

"Our goal is always excellence, and I am extremely proud of these students and their hard work and perseverance," said Dr. Mary Radford, associate professor of nursing and department chair. "This achievement is particularly notable due to the challenging nature of the NCLEX-RN. In addition to our signature three years of clinical rotations, we have rigorous instruction in place that prepares students to approach the licensure exam with confidence."

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Students who leave UT Martin with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree complete more than 900 clinical hours in hospitals and health-care facilities across the state and gain experience in surgical, intensive care, maternity, pediatric, geriatric, mental health and emergency units, among others. Classes are also provided on topics such as leadership skills and community-based nursing in addition to clinical learning opportunities.

"I was definitely prepared through nursing school," said Paige Brown, a member of the 2016 class. "It's a different environment there at UT Martin. The teachers and instructors really prepared us well to take on whatever we might encounter throughout our nursing careers."

Brown, a Memphis native, secured a position as a registered nurse in the progressive cardiology unit at Methodist South Hospital in Memphis before walking the commencement stage in May of this year.

Classmate Marci Petty of Savannah is working as a registered nurse in Corinth, Miss. "I am so thankful that I chose UT Martin because I felt much more prepared to be a nurse," she said. "I feel confident in my nursing and critical thinking skills. I was able to have great clinical experiences in many different places. UT Martin definitely helped prepare me for my career."

Students can earn a UT Martin nursing degree on the main campus in Martin and at the UT Martin Parsons Center. The RN-BSN bridge program for currently licensed nurses is also available through the UT Martin Ripley Center.

For more information on the UT Martin Department of Nursing, contact the department directly at 731-881-7080 or email Radford at marye@utm.edu.

UTM sorority chapters to host clean-up project

The University of Tennessee at Martin chapters of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. will host a city clean-up day Aug. 27 from 6:45 a.m. to noon.

Individuals and groups interested in participating in the community service project are welcome to attend and should report to Weldon Park behind the post office to receive assignments.

The project's four clean-up phases will focus on Weldon Park and the "welcome to Martin sign," the grounds of City Hall and the areas surrounding the police station and C.E. Weldon Library. Volunteers will be asked to collect litter and complete basic gardening activities, such as raking and moving small limbs.

The project is co-sponsored by Martin Beautiful and the Soybean Committee.

The City of Martin will supply protective gloves and trash bags for volunteer use.

UT Martin is home to both a graduate and an undergraduate chapter of Zeta Phi Beta, which is dedicated to scholarship, service and sisterhood.

Contact Marsha Davis, chapter adviser, by email at marshad@utm.edu to register intent to participate in the project.
OC HONOREE —
Mason Warren (right) of Union City recently received the German Outstanding Minor Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester. He was congratulated by Dr. Charles Hammond, associate professor of German. Warren was one of several Obion County residents who received college and department-level awards.

ATTENDS BASH —
Katelyn Kincead (left), a senior at Obion County Central High School, participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s End of Summer Bash recently. She was joined by her mother, Rhonda Richie. The afternoon started with an academic fair and campus tour and ended with a recreation rampage party with other potential students. High school students interested in learning more about UTM Martin can schedule a campus visit at any time by visiting utm.edu/tour.
STUDENT LAUDED — Josh Dyer of Union City received a Faculty Scholar Award from the College of Business and Global Affairs recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester. He was among several Obion County residents who received college and department-level awards.

SUCCESSFUL STUDENT — Brittany Twilbeck of Rives received the Outstanding Graduate Family and Consumer Sciences Student Award, as well as was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester. Several Obion County residents received college and department-level awards.
Leandra Moore of Troy recently received an Outstanding Freshman in Family and Consumer Sciences Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester. Several Obion County residents received college and department-level awards.
Percussion Ensemble wins world competition

The University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble has won the Percussive Arts Society’s International World Percussion Competition in the university showcase category for the first time in school history.

"The ensemble will perform at 2 p.m., Nov. 10, during the Percussive Arts Society International Convention held in Indianapolis.

A reception for area UT Martin alumni will be held from 9 to 11 p.m. that evening.

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for both the teachers and the students. My students work exceptionally hard, and I demand so much of them," said Dr. Julie Hill, professor of music and director of the UT Martin percussion program. "For them to be recognized like this on an international stage in front of their peers and percussion heroes from around the world is something none of us will ever forget."

"Winning this competition is a testament to the work we put in and what we learn here at UT Martin," said Nathaniel O’Neal, an ensemble member from Smyrna. "We spend hours rehearsing and practicing our parts for just one or two performances a semester. Now, I am able to stand with my fellow percussionists and perform with them on one of the largest stages at PASIC."

The UT Martin percussion program is different from those at many other institutions, and Hill believes that difference is part of what makes her students stand out from those in other ensembles.

"Many groups focus on one area and have a separate world music ensemble from their traditional percussion group. At UT Martin, we are all the same group, so students here experience everything from contemporary percussion music to historic and world music," she said. "I try to make their experience as diverse as possible... so we present a very unique and diverse program executed at a very high level. I think this diversity is something they [competition judges] rarely see, and they recognized and rewarded that."

"In the UT Martin percussion studio, you really get to hone your craft and learn everything there is to know so that you are completely ready and prepared to join the workforce," said Hohner Porter of Trenton. "We strive to not only be the best musicians we can be, but also to be the best people and educators that we can."

The ensemble’s performance will present music from Brazil, Zimbabwe, West Africa and Trinidad, among other countries.

The concert will also include interdisciplinary elements featuring an appearance by the UT Martin Dance Ensemble, directed by Sarah McCormick, UT Martin associate professor of dance, and background artwork by Lane Last, UT Martin professor of art, and his students.

Local residents are invited to attend a preview concert at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 6, in the UT Martin Fulton Theatre.

Tickets will be sold at this event to offset convention travel costs.

UT Martin students and alumni have a significant presence in the Percussive Arts Society, which recently elected members from around the world to serve in various capacities.

Several UT Martin alumni were appointed to serve in the organization, including two current students. Hill is the current society president.

For additional information on the UT Martin Percussion Ensemble or the Percussive Arts Society, contact Hill at 731-881-7418 or email jhill@utm.edu.
CHECKING OUT UTM — CHS student Tori Redlund (right), accompanied by her Father Eric (left), participated in the UT Martin End of Summer Bash on Friday, July 29. The afternoon included an academic fair, campus tour, and recreation rampage party with other potential UTM students.
Wilson Central students, Sabrina Roberts and Preston George (Mt. Juliet), stand with Kailey Orrand-Hill of Lebanon. These Wilson County students participated in State Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences that were held by UT-Martin. They were chosen to attend the school in June as a part of the application process. Qualified students earned six hours of college credit in Ag Science.
UT Martin fuels northwest Tenn. economy, study shows

August 12, 2016 by Brittany Hardaway (http://www.wbbjtv.com/boho/Brittany-Hardaway)

MARTIN, Tenn. — University of Tennessee at Martin students may not be ready to head back to school, but business owners around campus definitely are.

"We're a $481 million economic impact for this entire region," Interim Chancellor Bob Smith said.

The study showed during the 2014-15 school year, UT Martin and its 7,000 students fueled the economy of northwest Tennessee.

"The typical student coming to UTM is going to have $10,000, actually $10,026, annual impact here, so for the businesses in this immediate area, that is very important," Smith said.

Smith said in addition to the students, on average tourists, families and campus events generate an additional $3.3 million a year.

"We're talking about people that are out of the region, people from Middle Tennessee, surrounding states, that come in and help grow the West Tennessee economy," Smith said.

UTM's economic growth not only benefits the university but also helps people and businesses in the area. The manager at a local Martin restaurant, La Cabana, said they feel the impact when students go home for the summer.

"When the students are here, it really makes a difference because when they leave our business slows down probably about 30 percent, and when they come back it goes back to normal," manager Jesus Aguilar said.

Smith said his school has proven to be a good investment. "For every dollar that is contributed by the taxpayers to UTM, there is a $5 and 10 cent return to the taxpayers."

Interim Chancellor Smith also said an engineering and science building the university hopes to add could help generate even more dollars.
KNOXVILLE — University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro’s executive assistant is among the four finalists to become chancellor of the system’s Martin campus.

Keith Carver, who has been at UT for 19 years and in his current role since 2011, has served in various leadership positions at three of the school’s five campuses. Among those roles is a four-year stint as assistant vice chancellor for development at UT Martin.

He is joined in the running by Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles; Jay Morgan, the chief academic officer at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Interviews for the job will begin Aug. 29. Each candidate will visit the Martin campus in northwest Tennessee, where they will meet with campus leaders, faculty, staff, students, alumni and the community. A public forum with each finalist will be webcast live and archived on the UT website.

"My priority is on selecting the highest-caliber leadership possible to help advance the campus' mission, and I'm confident that we're on track to do that," DiPietro said in a statement. "All four candidates have extensive higher education experience and excellent qualifications."

More details as they develop online and in Tuesday’s News Sentinel.
Finalists Named in Search for Next UT Martin Chancellor

KNOXVILLE - Four career higher education leaders have been selected as finalists in the search for the next University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor. Interviews will begin Aug. 29.

The finalists will visit Martin to meet with campus leaders and key faculty, staff, student, alumni and community members. While in Martin, the finalists will also speak at public forums. Each forum will be webcast live and archived for later viewing. The job description and resumes for finalists are available on the search website. Links to webcasts of the public forums will be added soon.

'UT Martin serves a distinctive and vital role within the University of Tennessee System and for the students, families and communities it serves in West Tennessee and beyond,' UT President Joe DiPietro said. 'My priority is on selecting the highest-caliber leadership possible to help advance the campus' mission, and I'm confident that we're on track to do that. All four candidates have extensive higher education experience and excellent qualifications.'

The finalists are:

**Keith Carver**
Executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee since 2011. Carver's 19-year career at UT also includes various leadership positions at three of the University's campuses. He served as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis in 2010. Prior to that, he spent four years at UT Martin as assistant vice chancellor for development. He also served for more than 10 years in various positions at UT Knoxville, including as director of development and alumni affairs for the College of Law. Carver earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Memphis State University and master's and doctoral degrees from UT Knoxville in college student personnel and educational leadership and philosophy.

**Mary Holz-Clause**
Dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles, California, since 2014. Previously, she served as vice president for economic development at the University of Connecticut. Her career in higher education also includes 25 years at Iowa State University, where among other positions, she served as associate vice president of extension and outreach. Prior to beginning her career in higher education, she spent about 8 years with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Holz-Clause earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture business, a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate in college education and extension—all from Iowa State University.

**Jay Morgan**
Chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success at the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education since 2015. Previously, he spent almost 20 years in leadership roles at Murray State University in Kentucky, including serving as provost and vice president for academic affairs and as associate provost for graduate education and research. Prior to beginning his career in higher education, he served as program director for the Agriculture Leadership Development Program in Kentucky for 10 years. Morgan earned bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture science from Murray State and a doctorate in philosophy from Oklahoma State University.

**Jerald Woolfolk**
Vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego since 2014. She also serves as the interim chief diversity officer and inclusion officer. Previously, she spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where among other positions, she served as vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity from 2011 to 2013. Additionally, she served as vice president for student affairs at the College of Staten Island and as the dean of students at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Woolfolk earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a doctorate in urban higher education from Jackson State University in Mississippi. She earned a master's degree in counselor education from Iowa State University.

The successful candidate will serve as a member of the UT System leadership team, reporting directly to the University president, and as chief executive officer of the Martin campus. The chancellor is responsible for promoting continued development of the campus and its academic, research and service programs—while maintaining a commitment to access and diversity and striving to build a national reputation of excellence.
Finalists named in search for new UTM chancellor

Posted on August 15, 2016 by Steve James in Local News

Four finalists have been named in the search for the next UT Martin chancellor, with on-campus interviews set for August 29.

UT spokesperson Gina Stafford says the finalists will visit Martin and meet with campus leaders and key faculty, staff, students, alumni, and community members.

The finalists also will speak at public forums while on the UTM campus.

The finalists are:

Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee

Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California
The selected candidate will serve as a member of the UT System leadership team, reporting directly to the UT System president, and as chief executive officer of the Martin campus.
Finalists named in chancellor search

On campus interviews will begin on Aug. 29 at UTM

TYLER WHETSTONE
TWETSTONE@JACKSONSUN.COM

Four higher education leaders have been selected as finalists in the search for the next University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, university officials announced Monday.

The finalists are Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee; Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California; Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and Dr. Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego.

"UT Martin serves a distinctive and vital role within the University of Tennessee System and for the students, families and communities it serves in West Tennessee and beyond," UT President Joe DiPietro said in a news release. "My priority is on selecting the highest-caliber leadership possible to help advance the campus' mission, and I'm confident that we're on track to do that. All four candidates have extensive higher educa-

See Search, Page 6A
DiPietro and Smith appeared unaware of the verity of UTM's accreditation problems until September 2015, more than four months after Rakes' departure as chancellor.

DiPietro has said he expects to hire a new chancellor sometime this fall. The four finalists come from a variety of leadership roles from across the country.

Carver has served as executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee since 2011. Carver's 19-year career at UT also includes various leadership positions at three of the system's campuses. He served as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis in 2010 after spending four years at UT Martin as assistant vice chancellor for development.

He also served more than 10 years in various positions at UT Knoxville, including as director of development and alumni affairs for the College of Law. Carver earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Memphis State University and master's and doctoral degrees from UT Knoxville in college student personnel and educational leadership and philosophy.

Holz-Clause has been dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona since 2014. She previously served as vice president for economic development at the University of Connecticut. Her career in higher education also includes 25 years at Iowa State University, where she served in several positions including associate vice president of extension and outreach.

Prior to beginning her career in higher education, she spent almost eight years with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Holz-Clause earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture business, a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate in agricultural education and extension—all from Iowa State University.

Morgan has served as chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education since 2015. He previously spent almost 20 years in leadership roles at Murray State University in Kentucky, including serving as provost and vice president for academic affairs and as associate provost for graduate education and research.

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Woolfolk has been vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego since 2015. She also serves as the interim chief diversity officer and inclusion officer. She previously spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where she served in several positions including vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity.

She has also served as vice president for student affairs at the College of Staten Island and as the dean of students at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Woolfolk earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a doctorate in urban higher education from Jackson State University in Mississippi. She earned a master's degree in counselor education from Iowa State University.

The new chancellor will serve as a member of the UT System leadership team, reporting directly to the UT System president, and as chief executive officer of the Martin campus. The chancellor is responsible for promoting continued development of the campus and its academic, research and service programs—while maintaining a commitment to access and diversity and striving to build a national reputation of excellence, the release said.

The chancellor could also further a proposed engineering and science building. The building will cost approximately $60 million and house most of the university's STEM courses, chemistry, physics, engineering and mathematics. Earlier this year, Smith and DiPietro told The Jackson Sun that the school was seeking funding for the building, which could be completed by 2021.
All UT Martin nursing students pass exams

One hundred percent of nursing graduates from the University of Tennessee at Martin's 2016 class passed their National Council Licensing Examinations this year as first-time test-takers. The NCLEX is a mandatory examination to receive licensure as a registered nurse.

"Our goal is always excellence, and I am extremely proud of these students and their hard work and perseverance," said Dr. Mary Radford, associate professor of nursing and department chair. "This achievement is particularly notable due to the challenging nature of the NCLEX-RN. In addition to our signature three years of clinical rotations, we have rigorous instruction in place that prepares students to approach the licensure exam with confidence."

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"I was definitely prepared through nursing school," said Paige Brown, a member of the 2016 class. "It's a different environment there at UT Martin. The teachers and instructors really prepared us well to take on whatever we might encounter throughout our nursing careers."

Brown, a Memphis native, secured a position as a registered nurse in the progressive cardiology unit at Methodist South Hospital in Memphis before walking the commencement stage in May of this year.

Classmate Marci Petty of Savannah is working as a registered nurse in Corinth, Miss. "I am so thankful that I chose UT Martin because I felt much more prepared to be a nurse," she said. "I feel confident in my nursing and critical thinking skills. I was able to have great clinical experiences in many different places. UT Martin definitely helped prepare me for my career."

Students can earn a UT Martin nursing degree on the main campus in Martin and at the UT Martin Parsons Center. The RN-BSN bridge program for currently licensed nurses is also available through the UT Martin Ripley Center.

For more information on the UT Martin Department of Nursing, contact the department directly at 731-881-7080 or email Radford at marye@utm.edu.

100% SUCCESS RATE — Paige Brown of Memphis is a member of the 2016 nursing class at the University of Tennessee at Martin. All students passed their nursing exams.
Four higher education leaders have been selected as finalists in the search for the next University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor.

On-campus interviews will begin Aug. 29. The finalists are:

- Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee.
- Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, Calif.
- Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.
- Dr. Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego.

The finalists will visit Martin to meet with campus leaders and key faculty, staff, student, alumni and community members. The finalists also will speak at public forums while on the UT Martin campus. Each forum will be webcast live and archived for later viewing.

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He served as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis in 2010 after spending four years at UT Martin as assistant vice chancellor for development.

He also served more than 10 years in various positions at UT Knoxville, including as director of development and alumni affairs for the College of Law. Dr. Holz-Clause served as dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles since 2014.

Prior to beginning her career in higher education, she spent almost eight years with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Dr. Holz-Clause earned a bachelor’s degree in agriculture business, a master’s degree in public administration and a doctorate in agriculture education and extension, all from Iowa State University.

Dr. Morgan has served as chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education since 2015. He previously spent almost 20 years in leadership roles at Murray State University in Kentucky, including serving as provost and vice president for academic affairs and as associate provost for graduate education and research.

Before beginning his career in higher education, he served as program director for the Agriculture Leadership Development Program in Kentucky for 10 years. Morgan earned both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in agriculture science from Murray State and a doctorate in philosophy from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Woolfolk has been vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego since 2014. She also serves as the interim chief diversity officer and inclusion officer. She previously spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where she served in several positions including vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity.

She has also served as vice president for student affairs at the College of Staten Island and as the dean of students at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Dr. Woolfolk earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology and a doctorate in urban higher education from Jackson State University in Mississippi. She earned a master’s degree in counselor education from Iowa State University.

The job description and résumés for finalists are available at tennessee.edu/execsearch/utm-chancellor. Links to webcasts of the public forums will be added soon.

“UT Martin serves a distinctive and vital role within the University of Tennessee System and for the students, families and communities it serves in West Tennessee and beyond,” UT President Joe DiPietro said. “My priority is on selecting the highest-caliber leadership possible to help advance the campus’ mission, and I’m confident that we’re on track to do that. All four candidates have extensive higher education experience and excellent qualifications.”
Finalists Announced In Search For UT Martin Chancellor

Four higher education leaders have been selected as finalists in the search for the next University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor. On-campus interviews will begin Aug. 29.

The finalists will visit Martin to meet with campus leaders and key faculty, staff, student, alumni and community members. The finalists will also speak at public forums while on the UT Martin campus. Each forum will be webcast live and archived for later viewing.

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The finalists are Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee; Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, Calif.; Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success at Murray State University; and Dr. Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego since 2014. She also serves as the interim chief diversity officer and inclusion officer. She previously spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where she served in several positions including vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity.

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The selected candidate will serve as a member of the UT System leadership team, reporting directly to the UT System president, and as chief executive officer of the Martin campus. The chancellor is responsible for promoting continued development of the campus and its academic, research and service programs—while maintaining a commitment to access and diversity and striving to build a national reputation of excellence.
STUDENT SUCCESS — Brittany Barnett of Troy received the Outstanding Non-Traditional Student Award recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring 2016 semester. Several Obion County students received college and department-level awards.

RECONNECTS — Ashley Bullion of Rives attended a Tennessee Reconnect event recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin and was admitted to begin online classes this fall. Adults seeking to finish their degrees were able to gain same-day admission and register for fall semester classes.

CLAIMS TWO AWARDS — Ashleigh Burton of South Fulton received the Jim Burdette Memorial Award and the Stewart Byars Excellence in Radio Production Award recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester. She was among several local honorees.

STUDENT HONOURED — Amber Cunningham of Obion recently received the Outstanding Lower Division Management, Marketing, and Information Systems Student Award and was inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring semester.

UC HONOREE — Chance Farmer of Union City received the Wilson Hall Memorial News Writing Competition Award and the Chairman’s Outstanding Senior Award in news-editorial from the Department of Communications recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

LAUDED — Mikaela Hardy of South Fulton received the Outstanding Biology Student Award recently for the spring 2016 semester at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She was among several Obion County residents who received college and department-level awards.

DOUBLE HONOREE — Lyndsey Hayslett of Union City received the M. Sue Kahle Excellence in Leadership Award and the Gail McCutchen Smith Editing Award at the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring semester. Several local students were lauded.

RECOGNIZED — Jonathan Hurtado of Union City received the David S. Loebbaka Award recently from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the spring 2016 semester. He was among several Obion County students who received college or department-level awards.
HIGH ACHIEVER — Holly Seng of Union City received the George and Ruth Horton Curricula Award, the Women in Communications Award, the Dorotha Norton Scholarship, the Swafford Public Relations Scholarship and a junior scholarship from the Department of Communications at the University of Tennessee at Martin recently. Several local students earned honors for the spring semester.

HONORED AT UTM — Tori Seng of Union City recently received the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters Award, the Communications Academic Excellence Award and a senior scholarship from the Department of Communications at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She was also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Reading clinic sessions available at UT Martin

Every student has different reading abilities, and some need a little extra assistance that may not be provided during a normal school day.

The University of Tennessee at Martin Reading Center offers personalized reading clinic sessions for students in grades 2-12 who have difficulty reading or are falling behind grade level reading standards.

Students may enroll in one of three sessions this fall: Aug. 24-Sept. 21; Sept. 22-Oct. 31; or Nov. 1-30. Each session will meet twice per week for one hour each on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule.

The registration cost is $100 per session (not per meeting), plus $25 for a required workbook.

Students are individually tested to determine specific needs in phonics and reading comprehension before being placed into a course of study designed to fill gaps in their skills and strategies. All lessons are taught by experienced reading professionals from the UT Martin Reading Center.

No meetings will be held Sept. 5, Oct. 10-13, Oct. 17-18 or Nov. 23-34.

Contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at (731) 881-7082 to schedule a testing appointment.
Paris native finalist for UTM post

A Paris native is one of four finalists for chancellor at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Joseph "Jay" Morgan, the son of former Paris residents Joe and Gayle Morgan, was announced as a finalist this week.

The other three are Keith Carver, Mary Holz-Clause and Jerald Woolfolk.

Morgan is a 1989 graduate of Henry County High School. He went on to earn his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural science at Murray State University and his doctorate in agricultural education at Oklahoma State University.

He spent two years teaching at Martin Westview High School before joining Murray State's Hutson School of Agriculture faculty in 1997. He also spent 10 years as program director for the Agriculture Leadership Development Program in Kentucky. In 2010, Morgan was named MSU's associate provost for graduate education and research. He has served as chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education since 2015.

Morgan and the other finalists will visit the UT Martin campus to meet with campus leaders, as well as faculty, staff, students, alumni and community members. They will also speak at public forums while on campus. Each forum will be webcast live and archived for later viewings.

The selected candidate will be a member of the UT System leadership team, reporting directly to the UT System president, and as chief executive officer of the Martin campus.

"UT Martin serves a distinctive and vital role within the University of Tennessee system and for the students, families and communities it serves in West Tennessee and beyond," UT President Joe DiPietro said.

UTM Parsons Center to host one-day ACT prep course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Parsons Center will host a one-day prep course for high school students hoping to take or retake the ACT college entrance exam. The class, held from 8 a.m.-noon, Aug. 27, at the UT Martin Parsons Center, is designed to help students improve performance and boost exam scores.

Rosemary Livingston, course instructor, is a veteran teacher from Riverside High School who has helped students understand the exam for almost 10 years. This course will help prepare first-time test-takers to achieve the best possible score, and repeating test-takers can learn strategies to improve upon previous results.

Students taking this course are encouraged, but not required, to purchase "The Real ACT," third edition, and should bring it to class. Registration is $45 per student, which does not include the optional textbook.

For more information or to register, visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs or contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach (formerly the Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies) at 731-881-7080.
Economic study shows UT Martin impact on West Tennessee

MARTIN – The University of Tennessee at Martin had a tremendous impact on the West Tennessee economy during the 2014-15 fiscal year, generating $481.1 million in added income for the region. These results, based on a contracted study conducted by Economic Modeling Specialists International in Moscow, Idaho, illustrate the importance of maintaining a vibrant four-year university in northwest Tennessee.

Released in March 2016, the study assesses the impact of university, student, visitor and alumni spending on the region and calculates the benefits generated by the university for students, taxpayers and society as a whole. The results of this study show that the added regional income generated by the university is equivalent to creating 8,074 new jobs.

University students, 23 percent of whom come from outside the region, generated approximately $8 million in added income (the equivalent of creating 221 new jobs). Each student enrolled at UT Martin adds approximately $10,026 in new income to the regional economy each year. Visitors to university-related events created an additional $3.3 million in West Tennessee revenue throughout the year (81 new jobs).

Thousands of former UT Martin students are currently employed in West Tennessee, and the accumulated financial impact of these alumni on the region’s economy amounted to $374.9 million in added income (6,301 new jobs).

The proposed construction of a new science, technology, engineering and mathematics building on the main UT Martin campus will ignite new economic activity and add a total of $21.6 million to the regional economy (406 new jobs), and the finished building’s operational expenses will later add an estimated $812.8 thousand in annual regional income.

UT Martin creates a positive return on investments made by students, taxpayers and society as a whole.

Students who invest in an education from UT Martin earn an estimated $3.40 for every dollar spent on their degree. This means the 2014-15 student body is estimated to earn a collective $465.1 million in increased income over their working lives as compared to what they would have earned had they not invested in a UT Martin degree.

Because of higher earnings, these graduates will also contribute approximately $204.1 million to state and local tax revenues over their lifetimes, which earns the state a profit on the $43.4 million in taxpayer funding provided to UT Martin during the analysis period. There will also be a decreased demand for government-funded social services in West Tennessee stemming from a better-educated workforce, which in turn saves the public sector an additional $54.1 million in government costs.

Because of these factors, taxpayers receive an average of $5.10 in return over these students’ working lives for each dollar originally invested in their education at UT Martin. In return, the state will receive an estimated $1.9 billion in added revenue over the course of the students’ working lives.

The EMSI report was financed by the city of Martin mayor’s office, the Weakley County mayor’s office, Weakley County Economic Development, USDA Rural Development, the Northwest Tennessee Development District and the Southwest Tennessee Development District.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble has won the Percussive Arts Society's International World Percussion Competition in the university showcase category for the first time in school history. CJ Barrow of White House is a member of the ensemble.

The ensemble will perform at 2 p.m., Nov. 10, during the Percussive Arts Society International Convention held in Indianapolis, Ind. A reception for area UT Martin alumni will be held from 9-11 p.m. that evening.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for both the teachers and the students. My students work exceptionally hard, and I demand so much of them,” said Dr. Julie Hill, professor of music and director of the UT Martin percussion program. “For them to be recognized like this on an international stage in front of their peers and percussion heroes from around the world is something none of us will ever forget.”

The UT Martin percussion program is different from those at many other institutions, and Hill believes that difference is part of what makes her students stand out from those in other ensembles.

“Many groups focus on one area and have a separate world music ensemble from their traditional percussion group. At UT Martin, we are all the same group, so students here experience everything from contemporary percussion music to historic and world music,” she said. “I try to make their experience as diverse as possible, so we present a very unique and diverse program executed at a very high level. I think this diversity is something they (competition judges) rarely see, and they recognized and rewarded that.”

The ensemble’s performance will present music from Brazil, Zimbabwe, West Africa and Trinidad, among other countries. The concert will also include interdisciplinary elements featuring an appearance by the UT Martin Dance Ensemble, directed by Sarah McCormick, UT Martin associate professor of dance, and background artwork by Lane Last, UT Martin professor of art, and his students.

Local residents are invited to attend a preview concert at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 6, in the UT Martin Fulton Theatre. Tickets will be sold at this event to offset convention travel costs.

UT Martin students and alumni have a significant presence in the Percussive Arts Society, which recently elected members from around the world to serve in various capacities. Several UT Martin alumni were appointed to serve in the organization, including two current students. Hill is the current society president.

For additional information on the UT Martin Percussion Ensemble or the Percussive Arts Society, contact Hill at 731-881-7418 or email jhill@utm.edu.
Chancellor candidates narrowed to field of four

Four higher education leaders have been selected as finalists in the search for the next University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor. On-campus interviews will begin Aug. 29.

The finalists will visit Martin to meet with campus leaders and key faculty, staff, student, alumni and community members. The finalists also will speak at public forums while on the UT Martin campus. Each forum will be webcast live and archived for later viewing. The job description and resumes for finalists are available at tennessee.edu/execsearch/utm-chancellor. Links to webcasts of the public forums will be added soon.

"UT Martin serves a distinctive and vital role within the University of Tennessee System and for the students, families and communities it serves in West Tennessee and beyond," UT President Joe DiPietro said. "My priority is on selecting the highest-caliber leadership possible to help advance the campus' mission, and I'm confident that we're on track to do that. All four candidates have extensive higher education experience and excellent qualifications."

The finalists are Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee; Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, Calif.; Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and Dr. Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Carver has served as executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee since 2011. Carver's 19-year career at UT also includes various leadership positions at three of the system's campuses. He served as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis in 2010 after spending four years at UT Martin as assistant vice chancellor for development.

He also served more than years in various positions at UT Knoxville, including as director of development and alumni affairs for the College of Law. Carver earned a bachelor's degree in sociology from Memphis State University and master's and doctoral degrees from UT Knoxville in college student personnel and educational leadership and philosophy.

Holz-Clause has been

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dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles, California, since 2014. She previously served as vice president for economic development at the University of Connecticut. Her career in higher education also includes 25 years at Iowa State University, where she served in several positions including associate vice president of extension and outreach.

Prior to beginning her career in higher education, she spent almost 8 years with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Holz-Clause earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture business, a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate in agriculture education and extension—all from Iowa State University.

Morgan has served as chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education since 2015. He previously spent almost 20 years in leadership roles at Murray State University in Kentucky, including serving as provost and vice president for academic affairs and as associate provost for graduate education and research.

Before beginning his career in higher education, he served as program director for the Agriculture Leadership Development Program in Kentucky for 10 years. Morgan earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture science from Murray State and a doctorate in philosophy from Oklahoma State University.

Woolfolk has been vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego since 2014. She also serves as the interim chief diversity officer and inclusion officer. She previously spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where she served in several positions including vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity.

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To learn more about the search, read more about the finalists and download their photos, visit tennessee.edu/execsearch/utm-chancellor/finalists/.
ACT prep

The University of Tennessee at Martin Parsons Center will host a one-day prep course for high school students hoping to take or retake the ACT college entrance exam. This course will help prepare first-time test-takers to achieve the best possible score. Repeat test-takers can learn strategies to improve upon previous results.

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Students taking this course are encouraged, but not required, to purchase The Real ACT, third edition, and should bring it to class. Registration is $45 per student, not including the optional textbook. For more information or to register, visit utm.edu/connect or contact UTM at 731-881-7080.
Smith gives update on UT Martin

University of Tennessee at Martin Interim Chancellor Bob Smith presented his “State of the University” address during the annual fall faculty meeting Aug. 17 to update the campus community on where major university initiatives stand in the coming academic year, according to a press release.

Smith thanked the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees for their support over the past year in implementing dramatic changes in tuition rates for out-of-state students and instating the Soar in Four program.

“The Board of Trustees approved a restructuring of our out-of-state tuition to make us competitive nationally and open new markets,” he said. “We now have a foundation to expand our market that was previously not feasible.”

The tuition change, approved April 1, cuts UT Martin’s out-of-state tuition rate by 33 percent, with an additional opportunity for qualifying scholarship students to increase their savings up to 56 percent as compared to previous years.

The Soar in Four program, which begins with the fall 2016 semester, was supported by students to fill areas of need in their UT Martin educational experience.

The program seeks to increase four-year graduation rates and improve career and professional skills to help graduates find profitable employment.

As part of the new program, seven full-time faculty members have been hired to

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address bottleneck issues in gateway courses, and the Student Success Center has been expanded to four staff members. Living Learning Communities have also been established in Cooper Hall to help students develop relationships with others from the same academic area and improve student retention.

The program also funds a new Career Services Center, located on the second floor of the Boling University Center, to provide career development and internship placement services for students and alumni.

Smith also addressed the campus response to accreditation concerns. UT Martin received verbal notice in December 2015 that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges had placed the university on a 12-month probation pending corrective actions requested by the commission.

“In January 2016, we met together under dark circumstances to acknowledge that we were not where we wanted to be and declare that we can prove we are better than we were being portrayed,” he said. “The singular key to our success has been the unified commitment made across this campus to get the necessary work done.”

The Third Monitoring Report, required by the SACS COC, is ready for submission, and outside reviewers are confident UT Martin has met the criteria to be removed from probationary status.

“This report builds on the work completed over the past two years and makes a quantum leap in how we express who we are and what we seek to be,” said Smith. The 196-page document is the precursor to the committee’s campus visit, scheduled for Oct. 4-6, and includes links to 7,165 pages of supporting documents.

Smith also pointed toward the future and the impending arrival of four candidates for the chancellor’s position later this month and in early September. He urged members of the campus and local communities to attend the open forum presenta-
MPD, UTM police increase patrol with new school year

August 22, 2016 by Bethany Thompson

MARTIN, Tenn. — With the first day of college in the books for UT Martin students, police are stepping up their game to keep everyone safe.

“We have a town that normally has 10,000 to 11,000 people in it, and then when school starts back we gain another 4,000 to 5,000,” Martin Police Department Capt. Phillip Fuqua said. “We change our focus on places that we run radar, we watch speeds, that kind of thing, especially on University Street and the area of the admin building, all the student crosswalks.”

MPD said they ramp up when the college comes alive in the fall to prevent students from becoming victims of crime, particularly car and apartment burglaries.

“A lot of people may misinterpret the students coming to town as where we have a lot more trouble with the students, but in actuality what it is it creates a massive amount of potential victims,” Capt. Fuqua said.

Officers say 95 percent of their car burglaries happen because of unlocked doors or valuables out in the open, and they say with school back in session they want to remind everyone to keep their valuables with them and lock their doors.

Police are also warning people about the increase in foot traffic.

“We really like the people to slow down that are riding the streets adjacent to campus,” UTM Police Lt. Jerry Garcia said. “We have a new flashing light system that’s really been beneficial.”

MPD also received highway safety grants to add extra patrols at night to keep an eye on those drinking.

“It allows us to have a couple guys come in and work four-hour blocks to deter underage drinking, and so that program picks itself back up as soon as the students come back,” Capt. Fuqua said.

Officers also encourage those walking around campus to be aware of their surroundings, avoiding headphones and texting while crossing major roads.
Carroll County Students Receive Scholarships to Attend UT-Martin

MARTIN — Two Carroll County students have been awarded a scholarship to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Kaylie M. Grant, daughter of Chad and Tina Grant of Yuma, will be a freshman. She received the Elam Alumni Legacy Scholarship.

Mackenzie Marlow of McKenzie, daughter of Jenni Marlow and Scott Marlow, will be a freshman. She received the Achieve Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.

Belleville East grad wins scholarship

Donald J. Ducheny Jr., a graduate of Belleville East, has earned the Explorer Out-of-State Transfer Scholarship to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin. UT Martin is a four-year university that is part of the University of Tennessee System.
RECENT GRADUATES — Landy Fuqua of Martin was among those recently graduating from the Delta Leadership Institute. Pictured are (from left) Brookie Carlton of the Department of Economic and Community Development, Dennis Henderson of Jackson, Travis Martin of Jackson, Rodger Jowers of Jackson, Landy Fuqua of Martin, Mayor William Rawls Jr. of Brownsville, Mayor Allan Sterbinsky of Stanton, Jimmie Tucker of Memphis, Nichole Saulsberry-Scarboro of Memphis, and Chris Masingill and Mike Marshall of the Delta Regional Authority.

Fuqua nominated for DLI fellowship

Fifty community leaders, including one from Martin, have successfully completed the year-long Delta Leadership Institute Executive Academy, a program of the Delta Regional Authority. The Executive Academy is a training program that brings together business and community leaders from each of the eight states of the Mississippi River Delta and Alabama Black Belt regions for a collaborative leadership development experience, emphasizing regional approaches to growing local economies and creating opportunities for the people of the Delta region.

Each graduate completed leadership development coursework and field studies in the year-long program that included five sessions in Delta communities and one session in Washington, DC.

Eight DLI fellows, nominated by Gov. Bill Haslam and DRA Federal Co-Chairman Chris Masingill, represented the State of Tennessee this year: Landy Fuqua of Martin, Dennis Henderson of Jackson, Rodger Jowers of Jackson, Travis Martin of Jackson, Mayor William Rawls Jr. of Brownsville, Nichole Saulsberry-Scarboro of Memphis, Mayor Allan Sterbinsky of Stanton and Jimmie Tucker of Memphis.

"For our communities to grow and support strong economies that create opportunities for Delta residents, we need local leaders that understand the local and regional challenges that we face as well as the networks and resources that can help identify solutions and address these challenges," Chairman Masingill said. "The Delta Leadership Institute’s dynamic programming and ever-growing alumni network are helping to meet this need and empower our region’s leaders to make the Delta a better place to live and work."

In addition to the program certificate, participants graduate with an industry-recognized certification in Crucial Conversations. Present for the ceremony were Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, DRA Federal Co-Chairman Chris Masingill, Alternate Federal Co-Chairman Mike Marshall, and Ted Townsend, chief of staff for the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and Governor Haslam’s designee to the DRA Board.

"The Tennessee DLI delegates selected by Governor Haslam exemplify the spirit of local leadership, and I’m thrilled to celebrate their completion of this noble pursuit," said Townsend. "We are thankful to the Delta Regional Authority’s Board and especially Chairman Masingill for their support of the DLI program. West Tennessee gets stronger every year that these talented, passionate community leaders take what they learn back to the communities they serve."

The DRA is a federal-state partnership created by Congress in 2000 to help create jobs, build communities, and improve lives through strategic investments in economic development in 252 counties and parishes across eight states.

Through the Rural Communities Advancement Program, the DRA has provided leadership development to more than 400 community leaders over 10 years and strengthened regional collaboration with its Delta Leadership Institute.
Weakley County students awarded scholarships

Several Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

- Jaquelynn Blackmon of Martin, daughter of Phillip Blackmon and Diane and Michael Rea, will be a senior. She received the Nancy Eckert Scholarship.
- Taylor James Brundige, son of Raymond and Julie Walker of Gleason, will be a freshman. He received the Achieve Scholarship.
- Will Erwin, son of John and Teresa Erwin of Sharon, will be a freshman. He received the Dean Scholarship.
- Alexis Brooke Grady, daughter of Michael and Amy Grady of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Excellence Scholarship.
- Jason Hicks, son of Rob Hicks and Kristy and Chris Vincent of Martin, will be a freshman. He received the Achieve Scholarship.
- Jarrett Snider, son of Jennifer Snider of Martin, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

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Smith to serve on executive council

Dr. Clinton Smith, assistant professor of special education at the University of Tennessee at Martin, was recently elected to serve a two-year term on the executive council for the Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education.

Kappa Delta Pi was established in 1911 to recognize and promote excellence in education and link communities of educators. Smith has been active in the organization since 2006 and has served on several standing committees since his induction.

Dr. Clinton Smith

Smith, a former middle school behavior intervention specialist, teaches in UT Martin’s special education program and serves as faculty sponsor for the UT Martin chapter of Kappa Delta Pi. He is also area director for Special Olympics of Upper West Tennessee.

Smith hopes to use his years of executive service with Kappa Delta Pi to encourage his fellow society members to make an impact on educational policies through personal outreach and political advocacy.

For more information, contact Smith at 731-881-7167 or email csmitt279@utm.edu.
State of the University: Smith delivers positive message

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Smith also pointed toward the future and the impending arrival of four candidates for the chancellor's position later this month and in early September. He urged members of the campus and local communities to attend the open forum presentations, ask thoughtful questions and be engaged in the selection process.

"This is your university," he said. "You have equity in UT Martin, and candidates need to know where you want their investment of time and resources. You need to come away believing they can deliver."

Smith ended his presentation by congratulating UT Martin faculty, staff and students on their accomplishments in the last year.

"We've faced more challenges than we thought we would, but we also created more opportunities than we though possible," he said. "We can overcome anything together. I believe we have moved back to a place where we are capable of being among the best student-centered higher education institutions in the nation."

University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro also offered remarks during the meeting.

"The enterprise you're engaged in is very important to the University of Tennessee System," he said. "We really appreciate what you do here at UT Martin."

To view an archived webcast of the meeting, visit webcast2012.utm.edu and select "Fall Opening Meeting" under the general tab on the left-hand side. It is best to use the Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome browsers, and Microsoft Silverlight must be installed on the computer to view the content.
MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS — Dr. Bob Smith, University of Tennessee at Martin interim chancellor, shown delivering his 2016 "State of the University" address Aug. 17. He focused on improvements such as the reduction in out-of-state tuition and the new Soar in Four program.

Students Receive UTM Scholarships

Several Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement. Jaquelynn Blackmon, of Martin, daughter of Phillip Blackmon and Diane and Michael Rea, will be a senior. She received the Nancy Eckert Scholarship. Taylor James Brundige, son of Raymond and Julie Walker, of Gleason, will be a freshman. He received the Achieve Scholarship. Will Erwin, son of John and Teresa Erwin, of Sharon, will be a freshman. He received the Dean Scholarship. Alexis Brooke Grady, daughter of Michael and Amy Grady, of Martin, will be a freshman. She received the Excellence Scholarship. Jason Hicks, son of Rob Hicks and Kristy and Chris Vincent, of Martin, will be a freshman. He received the Achieve Scholarship. Jarrett Snider, son of Jennifer Snider, of Martin, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

Fuqua Graduates From Delta Leadership Executive Academy

Landy Fuqua, of Martin

Landy Fuqua, of Martin, has graduated from the 2015-16 Delta Leadership Institute Executive Academy, hosted by the Delta Regional Authority. Participants in this yearlong leadership training program are nominated by their respective state governors, and Fuqua was one of eight individuals representing the state of Tennessee.

Fuqua is director of the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneur and Economic Development Center and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center. She received a Bachelor of Science in agriculture and a Master of Business Administration from UT Martin and has worked with the university since 2007. She is also a certified small business counselor, a 2009 graduate of the Weakley County Leadership program and a 2014 graduate of the WestStar Leadership Program. She and her husband, Bill, own and operate Old Salem Farms in Martin.

The executive academy includes six sessions across the Delta region and in Washington, D.C., which cover advocacy training, case study discussions and field studies of priority issues for the region, including workforce training and education, small business and entrepreneurship, public health, transportation and basic public infrastructure.

“The Tennessee DLI delegates selected by Governor Haslam exemplify the spirit of local leadership, and I’m thrilled to celebrate their completion of this noble pursuit,” said Ted Townsend, chief of staff for the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and Gov. Bill Haslam’s designee to the Delta Regional Authority board. “We are thankful to the Delta Regional Authority’s board, and especially Chairman Masingill, for their support of the DLI program. West Tennessee gets stronger each year that these talented, passionate community leaders take what they learn back to the communities they serve.”

Since 2005, DLI has worked to improve the decisions made by community leaders across the delta region by broadening their understanding of regional issues, building a corps of alumni with regional and national perspectives, developing a toolkit of resources to address issues facing local communities, and providing the training and professional development needed to expand skilled local leadership.

The DRA is a federal-state partnership created by Congress in 2000 to help create jobs, build communities and improve lives through strategic investments in economic development in 252 counties and parishes across eight states.
Interim Chancellor Smith Presents UT 'State of the University' Address

University of Tennessee at Martin Interim Chancellor Bob Smith presented his “State of the University” address during the annual fall faculty meeting Aug. 17 to update the campus community on where major university initiatives stand in the coming academic year.

Smith thanked the University of Tennessee Board of Trustees for their support over the past year in implementing dramatic changes in tuition rates for out-of-state students and instating the Soar in Four program.

"The Board of Trustees approved a restructuring of our out-of-state tuition to make us competitive nationally and open new markets," he said. "We now have a foundation to expand our market that was previously not feasible."

The tuition change, approved April 1, cuts UT Martin’s out-of-state tuition rate by 33 percent, with an additional opportunity for qualifying scholarship students to increase their savings up to 56 percent as compared to previous years.

The Soar in Four program, which begins with the fall 2016 semester, was supported by students to fill areas of need in their UT Martin educational experience. The program seeks to increase four-year graduation rates and improve career and professional skills to help graduates find profitable employment.

As part of the new program, seven full-time faculty members have been hired to address bottleneck issues in gateway courses, and the Student Success Center has been expanded to four staff members. Living Learning Communities have also been established in Cooper Hall to help students develop relationships with others from the same academic area and improve student retention.

The program also funds a new Career Services Center, located on the second floor of the Boling University Center, to provide career development and internship placement services for students and alumni.

Smith also addressed the campus response to accreditation concerns. UT Martin received verbal notice in December 2015 that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges had placed the university on a 12-month probation pending corrective actions requested by the commission.

In January 2016, we met together under dark circumstances to acknowledge that we were not where we wanted to be and declare that we can prove we are better than we were being portrayed," he said. "The singular key to our success has been the unified commitment made across this campus to get the necessary work done."

The Third Monitoring Report, required by the SACSCOC, is ready for submission, and outside reviewers are confident UT Martin has met the criteria to be removed from probationary status.

"This report builds on the work completed over the past two years and makes a quantum leap in how we express who we are and what we seek to be," said Smith. The 196-page document is the precursor to the committee's campus visit, scheduled for Oct. 4-6, and includes links to 7,165 pages of supporting documents.

Smith also pointed toward the future and the impending arrival of four candidates for the chancellor's position later this month and in early September. He urged members of the campus and local communities to attend the open forum presentations, ask thoughtful questions and be engaged in the selection process.

"This is your university," he said. "You have equity in UT Martin, and candidates need to know where you want their investment of time and resources. You need to come away believing they can deliver."

Smith ended his presentation by congratulating UT Martin faculty, staff and students on their accomplishments in the last year.

"We've faced more challenges than we thought we would, but we also created more opportunities than we thought possible," he said. "We can overcome anything together. I believe we have moved back to a place where we are capable of being among the best student-centered higher education institutions in the nation."

University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro also offered remarks during the meeting.

"The enterprise you're engaged in is very important to the University of Tennessee System," he said. "We really appreciate what you do here at UT Martin."

To view an archived webcast of the meeting, visit webcast2012.utm.edu and select "Fall Opening Meeting" under the general tab on the left-hand side. It is best to use the Mozilla Firefox or Google Chrome browsers, and Microsoft Silverlight must be installed on the computer to view the content.
The Lauderdale Voice, Wednesday, August 24, 2016

**UTM-Ripley offers pharmacy tech class**

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 50-hour training course for future pharmacy technicians from 5:30-8:30 p.m., Thursdays, Sept. 8 through Jan. 19 at the UT Martin Ripley Center. Student tuition for the course is $1,199, which includes textbooks and supplies.

This program prepares students to enter the pharmacy field and take the certification exam. Pharmacy technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs.

**Pharmacy Tech certification program at UTM Parsons**

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 50-hour training course for future pharmacy technicians from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 10-Dec. 10, at the UT Martin Parsons Center. Student tuition for the course is $1,199, which includes textbooks and supplies.

This program prepares students to enter the pharmacy field and take the certification exam. Pharmacy technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings.

Course content includes reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will also learn dosage calculations, IV flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control, and billing and reimbursement.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs.

Humboldt Chronicle, Wednesday, August 24, 2016

**Students earn UT Martin scholarships**

These area students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Hunter Farley, son of Chris and Darla Farley, of Humboldt, will be a freshman. He received the Achieve Scholarship.

Shaelyn Horner, of Medina, daughter of Theresa Horner and Anthony Horner, will be a freshman. She received the Dean Scholarship.

Keaton Wilson, of Humboldt, son of Susan Wilson and the late James Wilson, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.
Several Gibson County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Included are:

- Shaelyn Homer, daughter of Theresa Homer and Anthony Homer, will be a freshman. She received the Dean Scholarship.
- Calle Walker Hughes, daughter of Amybeth and Jim Hughes, will be a freshman. She received the Martha and Andy Holt Award.
- Keaton Wilson, son of Susan Wilson and the late James Wilson, will be a freshman. He received the Excellence Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.

UTM PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE – Pictured after a performance at Discovery Park of America in Union City are UT Martin Percussion Ensemble members (front row, from left) Andie Fisher, of Franklin; Paul Zacarias, of La Vergne; Jerry Emmons, of Selmer; CJ Barrow, of White House; Trice Mayhall, of Kenton; Stephen Downing, of Hendersonville; (back row) Hohner Porter, of Trenton; Jonathan Tyree, of Nashville; Jenna Kirby, of Nashville; Jacob Hargrove, of Bartlett; Cameron Poythress, of Antioch; Peyton Scott, of Newbern; Nathaniel O'Neal, of Smyrna, Cameron Westbrook, of Nashville; Brandon Blankenstein, of Johnson City; and John Beal, of Medina.
UTM percussion ensemble wins International University Showcase

The University of Tennessee at Martin Percussion Ensemble has won the Percussive Arts Society’s International World Percussion Competition in the university showcase category for the first time in school history.

The ensemble will perform at 2 p.m., November 10, during the Percussive Arts Society International Convention held in Indianapolis, Ind. A reception for area UT Martin alumni will be held from 9-11 p.m. that evening.

“This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for both the teachers and the students. My students work exceptionally hard, and I demand so much of them,” said Dr. Julie Hill, professor of music and director of the UT Martin percussion program. “For them to be recognized like this on an international stage in front of their peers and percussion heroes from around the world is something none of us will ever forget.”

“Winning this competition is a testament to the work we put in and what we learn here at UT Martin,” said Nathaniel O’Neal, an ensemble member from Smyrna. “We spend hours rehearsing and practicing our parts for just one or two performances a semester. Now, I am able to stand with my fellow percussionists and perform with them on one of the largest stages at PASIC.”

The UT Martin percussion program is different from those at many other institutions, and Hill believes that difference is part of what makes her students stand out from those in other ensembles.

“Many groups focus on one area and have a separate world music ensemble from their traditional percussion group. At UT Martin, we are all the same group, so students here experience everything from contemporary percussion music to historic and world music,” she said. “I try to make their experience as diverse as possible, so we present a very unique and diverse program executed at a very high level. I think this diversity is something they (competition judges) rarely see, and they recognize and rewarded that.”

“In the UT Martin percussion studio, you really get to hone your craft and learn everything there is to know so that you are completely ready and prepared to join the workforce,” said Hohner Porter, of Trenton. “We strive to not only be the best musicians we can be, but also to be the best people and educators that we can.”

The ensemble’s performance will present music from Brazil, Zimbabwe, West Africa and Trinidad, among other countries. The concert will also include interdisciplinary elements featuring an appearance by the UT Martin Dance Ensemble, directed by Sarah McCormick, UT Martin associate professor of dance, and background artwork by Lane Last, UT Martin professor of art, and his students.

Local residents are invited to attend a preview concert at 7:30 p.m., November 6, in the UT Martin Fulton Theatre. Tickets will be sold at this event to offset convention travel costs.

UT Martin students and alumni have a significant presence in the Percussive Arts Society, which recently elected members from around the world to serve in various capacities. Several UT Martin alumni were appointed to serve in the organization, including two current students. Hill is the current society president.

For additional information on the UT Martin Percussion Ensemble or the Percussive Arts Society, contact Hill at 731-881-7418 or email jhill@utm.edu.

Local students receive scholarships to attend UT Martin

MARTIN - Several Dyer County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

- Jared Anderson, of Newbern, son of Rob Anderson and Michelle Anderson, will be a junior. He received the Elam Transfer Scholarship.
- April Dunevant, of Dyersburg, daughter of Darla Dunevant and Rob Dunevant, will be a junior. She received the Elam Transfer Achieve Scholarship.
- Zach McNeill, of Dyersburg, son of Sandy McNeill and James McNeill, will be a junior. He received the Elam Transfer Achieve Scholarship.
- Latisha Mitchell, of Dyersburg, daughter of Deborah Mitchell and Ronnie Mitchell Sr., will be a freshman. She received the Elam Alumni Legacy Scholarship.
- Aaron Smith, of Newbern, daughter of Tim Smith and Darcy Hunt, will be a junior. She received the Giles/Gearin Women’s Athletic Scholarship and the Explorer Scholarship.
- Russell Smith, of Dyersburg, son of the late Ted Smith and the late Shirley Smith, will be a junior. He received the Elam Transfer Scholarship.

Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, TN, 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.
UT Martin percussion ensemble wins international competition

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The UT Martin percussion program is different from those at many other institutions and Dr. Hill believes that difference is part of what makes her students stand out. "Many groups focus on one area and have a separate world music ensemble from their traditional percussion group. At UT Martin, we are all the same group, so students here experience everything from contemporary percussion music to historic and world music," she said. "I try to make their experience as diverse as possible, so we present a very unique and diverse program executed at a very high level. I think this diversity is something they (competition judges) rarely see, and they recognized and rewarded that."

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UT Martin students and alumni have a significant presence in the Percussive Arts Society, which recently elected members from around the world to serve in various capacities. Several UT Martin alumni were appointed to serve, including two current students. Dr. Hill is the current society president.
UT Martin concert season set

Dr. Doug Owens, associate professor of music, will begin the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music's fall 2016 concert season with a French horn and oboe recital at 5 p.m. Sunday in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building's Blankenship Recital Hall.

Dr. Owens will perform some of the best-known oboe and English horn solo and chamber music selections, including composer Benjamin Britten's "Six Metamorphoses After Ovid."

Pianist Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, will join Dr. Owens onstage for "Three Romances" by composer Robert Schumann. The Jackson Four String Quartet will then make an appearance to complete an arrangement of Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Six Studies in English Folk Songs" for English horn, two violins, viola and cello.

Charles Lewis, instructor of music, will later join Drs. Harriss and Owens to perform Madeline Bring's "Trio" for flute, oboe and piano. Dr. Owens will close the recital with a selection featuring Kenneth Robinson on piano, Micah Barnes on upright bass and Dr. Joshua Smith on drums for a rare piece of jazz oboe with Yusef Lateef's "Salt Water Blues."

The UT Martin Percussion Society will close the week with the first of two community drum circles at 5 p.m. Sept. 3 in Virginia Weldon Park in Martin. This "Drum Circle of Life" event will be held in conjunction with the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Instruments will be provided, but attendees are welcome to bring a lawn chair and a personal instrument, if they would prefer.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at (731) 881-7402.
Soybean fest organizers plan big week

Although the Tennessee Soybean Festival won't shift into high gear for another week, two activities will be offered as early as this weekend.

The City of Martin, University of Tennessee at Martin and many local businesses and organizations partner to bring the annual festival to Martin each year, and they promise the 2016 concert lineup will be one to remember.

The 23rd annual festival Sept. 2-11 will feature a variety of family entertainment options — including concert appearances by the Plain White T's, Vince Gill, Three Dog Night and Blood, Sweat & Tears.

The festival will also feature the traditional Tennessee Soybean Festival parade beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 6 on University Street in front of UT Martin's Hall-Moody Administration Building. The carnival midway and craft fair will also be open each night.

Prior to the official start of the festival, a Minecraft Farming Challenge for children ages 10-15 will be held Saturday in the UT Martin Paul Meek Library. Sessions (See Page 2, Col. 1)

Soybean...
(Continued from Page 1) will be open from 8 a.m. to noon or 1-5 p.m. Registration is required and space is limited. There is a $10 participation fee per child and cash prizes will be given to winners.

To register for this weekend's event, visit the website tsosoybeanfestival.org/minecraft. It is sponsored by the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and the Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center.

Also on Saturday, the Little Miss Soybean pageant will be held from 9-10 a.m. in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building's Harriet Fulton Theatre. This event is sponsored by the UT Federal Credit Union, and registration forms are available at tsosoybeanfestival.org or at Martin City Hall.

Morris Day and The Time will make the festival's first concert appearance, beginning at 9 p.m. Sept. 2 on the Festival Park main stage in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $10 per person. Any remaining tickets will be available for $15 at the Festival Park box office prior to the show.

Elsa's Magical Ice Cream Party will begin at 11 a.m. Sept. 2 in the Duncan Ballroom of the UT Martin Boling University Center. The registration fee is $25 per child and $5 for each accompanying adult. Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite "Frozen" character, princess or superhero.

Children in the fourth and fifth grades are invited to an interactive workshop, "The Bare Necessities of Making Music," from 2-3:30 p.m. Sept. 3 in room 206 of the UT Martin Boling University Center. Participants will build their own musical instruments and later play alongside the UT Martin Community Band at 6 p.m. in Virginia Weldon Park.

The School of Rock Nashville will perform at 8 p.m. Sept. 3 in Festival Park. There is no charge for this concert, which is sponsored by Hamilton-Ryker.

The third annual "Guitar as Art" contest and exhibition will begin at 2 p.m. Sept. 4 in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building gallery. The awards ceremony will begin at 3. More information and entry details are available at tsosoybeanfestival.org/guitar-as-art/.

Chris Collins and Boulder Canyon: A Tribute to John Denver will be featured at 7 p.m. Sept. 4 at the Martin Recreation Complex. The concert is sponsored by Savant Learning Systems and will be followed by a fireworks show.

The Brothers Osborne will perform at 8:30 p.m. Sept. 6 on the Festival Park main stage. Advance tickets are $7 online and remaining tickets will be available for $10 at the box office prior to the show. This concert is sponsored by Center Point Business Solutions.

Travis Cottrell and the Local Community Choir will perform for Faith and Community Night beginning at 6 on Sept. 7 on the Festival Park main stage. The concert is sponsored by the Martin Area Ministerial Alliance and there is no charge to attend.

UT Martin Student Night will feature a performance by the Plain White T's beginning at 9 p.m. Sept. 8 in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $15 online and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

Friday night's concert headliner is Vince Gill, who will perform at 9 p.m. Sept. 9 in Festival Park. Advance tickets are $15 online and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show. This concert is sponsored by Republic Services.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival West Tennessee Dairy Show will begin at 10 a.m. Sept. 10 in the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex on the UT Martin campus. Animals may arrive Sept. 9. Additional information and registration are available at tsosoybeanfestival.org/west-tennessee-dairy-show/.

Blood, Sweat & Tears will perform beginning at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 in Festival Park. Three Dog Night will end the evening with the festival's headline performance at 9. Advance tickets for each performance are $15 online and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the shows.

UT Martin will wrap up festival week with the annual Sunday brunch from 10:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m. Sept. 11 in Skyhawk Dining Hall inside Boling University Center. The cost is $10.82 per person, with children ages 10 and younger to eat for $5.08.

This is not a comprehensive list of festival events. For information on more events or to buy tickets, visit tsosoybeanfestival.org/festival-schedule/.
Martin announces 23rd annual Tennessee Soybean Festival lineup

Published: Thursday, August 25th 2016, 10:35 am CDT
Updated: Thursday, August 25th 2016, 10:35 am CDT
Written by Steve Pobst, Director

(KFVS) - The city of Martin, the University of Tennessee at Martin and many local businesses and organizations are partnering to bring the 23rd annual Tennessee Soybean Festival to Martin.

This year's festival is September 2-9 and will feature a variety of family-friendly entertainment options, including concert appearances by the Plain White T's, Vince Gill and Three Dog Night.

The festival will also feature the traditional Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade beginning at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 6, on University Street in front of UT Martin's Hall-Moody Administration Building.

The carnival midway and craft fair will also be open each night in downtown Martin.

There will be a Minecraft Farming Challenge for children ages 10-15 on Aug. 27 in the UT Martin Paul Meek Library prior to the official start of the festival.

Sessions are open from 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m.

Registration is required for this event, and space is limited. Visit tnsoybeanfestival.org/minecraft to register.

There is a $10 participation fee per child, and cash prizes will be given to challenge winners.

The Little Miss Soybean Pageant will be held from 9-10 a.m. that same day in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building's Harriet Fulton Theatre.

Registration forms are available at tnsoybeanfestival.org/ or at Martin City Hall.

Morris Day and The Time will make the festival's first concert appearance, beginning at 9 p.m., Sept. 2, on the Festival Park main stage.

Advance tickets are $10 per person. Any remaining tickets will be available for $15 at the Festival Park box office prior to the show.

Elsa's Magical Ice Cream Party will begin at 11 a.m. in the Duncan Ballroom of the UT Martin Boling University Center.

The registration fee is $25 per child and $5 for each accompanying adult.

Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite Frozen character, princess or superhero.

Children in the fourth and fifth grades are invited to an interactive workshop titled "The Bare Necessities of Making Music" from 2-3:30 p.m., Sept. 3, in room 206 of the UT Martin Boling University Center.

Participants will build their own musical instruments and later play alongside the Martin Community Band at 6 p.m. in Virginia Weldon Park.

The School of Rock Nashville will perform at 8 p.m., Sept. 3, in Festival Park. There is no charge for this concert.

The third annual "Guitar as Art" contest and exhibition will begin at 2 p.m., Sept. 4, in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building Gallery.

The awards ceremony will begin at 3 p.m. More information and entry details are available at tnsoybeanfestival.org/guitar-as-art/.

Chris Collins and Boulder Canyon: A Tribute to John Denver will perform at 7 p.m., Sept. 4, at the Martin Recreation Complex.

The concert will be followed by a fireworks show.

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Advance tickets are $7 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $10 at the box office prior to the show.

Travis Cottrell and the Local Community Choir will perform for Faith and Community Night beginning at 6 p.m., Sept. 7, on the Festival Park main stage.

The concert is free to attend.

UT Martin Student Night will feature a performance by the Plain White T's beginning at 9 p.m., Sept. 8, in downtown Martin.

Advance tickets are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

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The Tennessee Soybean Festival West Tennessee Dairy Show will begin at 10 a.m., Sept. 10, in the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex on the UT Martin campus.

Animals may arrive Sept. 9. Additional information and registration are available at tnsoybeanfestival.org/west-tennessee-dairy-show/.

Blood Sweat and Tears will perform beginning at 7 p.m., Sept. 10, in Festival Park.

Three Dog Night will end the evening with the festival's headline performance at 9 p.m.

Advance tickets are each performance are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

UT Martin will wrap up festival week with the annual Sunday brunch from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Skyhawk Dining Hall, located inside the Boling University Center.

The charge is $10.82 per person, while children ages 10 and under eat for $5.08.

For information on additional events or to purchase tickets, visit tnsoybeanfestival.org/festival-schedule/.
Programs Offered At UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 50-hour training course for future pharmacy technicians Thursdays, September 8th through January 19th, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., at the UT Martin Ripley Center.

This program prepares students to enter the pharmacy field and take the certification exam. Pharmacy technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies and other health care settings.

Course content includes reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will also learn dosage calculations, IV flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control, and billing and reimbursement.

Also, for those wishing to prepare for a career in healthcare are invited to register for the clinical medical assistant program held on Wednesdays and Saturdays, September 7th through February 11th, at the University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center. Class will be held Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., and Saturdays, 8 a.m. until noon.

This program will train students to assist physicians by performing functions related to the clinical responsibilities of a medical office. Instruction includes preparing patients for examination and treatment, routine laboratory procedures, diagnostic testing, the cardiac lifestyle and technical aspects of phlebotomy. Students will also review important topics including phlebotomy, pharmacology, the proper use and administration of medications, taking and documenting vital signs, professional workplace behavior, ethics and the legal aspects of healthcare.

This program includes 140 hours of classroom lecture, hands-on labs and a clinical externship opportunity at a local healthcare provider. To be eligible for the clinical rotation, students must successfully complete the program and submit to a thorough background check and drug screening, among other requirements.

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be eligible to sit for the National Healthcareer Association Certified Clinical Medical Assistant national examination.

For more information or to register for either of these programs, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs.

UT SCHOLARS

Several Lauderdale County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

DaShanna Johnson, of Ripley, daughter of Meshanda Snipes, will be a freshman. She received the Explorer Out-of-State Transfer Scholarship.

Russell Smith, of Dyersburg, a graduate of Ripley High School, son of the late Ted Smith and the late Shirley Smith, will be a junior. He received the Elam Transfer Scholarship.

Allison Webb, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steve Webb, will be a freshman. She received the Elam Alumni Legacy Scholarship, the Chancellor Music Scholarship, the Music Scholarship and the Dean Scholarship.
Fuqua attends leadership academy

Landy Fuqua of Martin has graduated from the 2015-16 Delta Leadership Institute Executive Academy, hosted by the Delta Regional Authority. Participants in this yearlong leadership training program are nominated by their respective state governors, and Fuqua was one of eight individuals representing the state of Tennessee.

Fuqua is director of the University of Tennessee at Martin Regional Entrepreneur and Economic Development Center and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center. She received a bachelor of science in agriculture and a master of business administration from UT Martin and has worked with the university since 2007. She is also a certified small business counselor, a 2009 graduate of the Weakley County Leadership program and a 2014 graduate of the WestStar Leadership Program. She and her husband, Bill, own and operate Old Salem Farms in Martin.

The executive academy includes six sessions across the Delta region and in Washington D.C., which cover advocacy training, case study discussions and field studies of priority issues for the region, including workforce training and education, small business and entrepreneurship, public health, transportation and basic public infrastructure.

“The Tennessee DLI delegates selected by Governor Haslam exemplify the spirit of local leadership, and I’m thrilled to celebrate their completion of this noble pursuit,” said Ted Townsend, chief of staff for the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development and Gov. Bill Haslam’s designee to the Delta Regional Authority board. “We are thankful to the Delta Regional Authority’s board, and especially Chairman Masin-gill, for their support of the DLI program. West Tennessee gets stronger each year that these talented, passionate community leaders take what they learn back to the communities they serve.”

Since 2005, DLI has worked to improve the decisions made by community leaders across the delta region by broadening their understanding of regional issues, building a corps of alumni with regional and national perspectives, developing a toolkit of resources to address issues facing local communities, and providing the training and professional development needed to expand skilled local leadership.

The DRA is a federal-state partnership created by Congress in 2000 to help create jobs, build communities and improve lives through strategic investments in economic development in 252 counties and parishes across eight states.

For more information, contact Fuqua at 731-587-7333 or by email at lfuqua@utm.edu.

UT-Martin’s fall concert season starts 5 p.m. Sunday

Dr. Doug Owens, associate professor of music, will begin the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music’s fall 2016 concert season with a French horn and oboe recital at 5 p.m. Sunday in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building’s Blankenship Recital Hall. Owens will perform some of the best-known oboe and English horn solo and chamber music selections, including composer Benjamin Britten’s “Six Metamorphoses after Ovid.”

Pianist Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, will join Owens onstage for “Three Romances” by composer Robert Schumann.

The Jackson Four String Quartet will then make an appearance to complete an arrangement of Ralph Vaughan Williams’ “Six Studies in English Folk Songs” for English horn, two violins, viola and cello.

Charles Lewis, instructor of music, will later join Harris and Owens to perform Madeline Bring’s “Trio” for flute, oboe and piano. Owens will close the recital with a duet with Kenneth Robinson on piano, Micah Barnes on upright bass, and

Dr. Joshua Smith on drums for a rare piece of jazz oboe with Yusef Lateef’s “Salt Water Blues.”

The UT Martin Percussion Society will close the week with the first of two community drum circles at 5 p.m., Sept. 3, in Virginia Weldon Park. This “Drum Circle of Life” event is held in conjunction with the Tennessee Soybean Festival. Instruments will be provided, but attendees are welcome to bring a lawn chair and a personal instrument, if they would prefer. For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at 731-881-7402.
Faculty members from the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages facilitated a professional development workshop for local middle and high school teachers on Aug. 1. The workshop, held at Martin Middle School, was one of several conducted by various UT Martin departments throughout the day.

Thirty-three English, reading and language arts teachers from Weakley County attended the English workshop, titled "Connections, Contexts and Possibilities." Dr. David Carithers, associate professor of English; Anna Clark and Tim Hacker, instructors of English; Jisun Collier, Hortense Parrish Writing Center consultant; and Jonathan York, writing center student assistant, conducted a variety of discussion sessions, writing activities and presentations throughout the day.

Faculty members also discussed the importance of joining professional organizations, such as the National Council of Teachers of English, to keep teachers up-to-date in current instruction strategies. The presenters also gave away more than 25 free books on writing, teaching and grammar to assist attending teachers in the coming academic year.

“I am so pleased that UT Martin faculty and staff are teaming up with Weakley County teachers to work on our mutual goals to improve teaching and learning,” said Carithers. “This kind of personal connection among local education professionals is what university outreach is all about.”

Pharmacy technician program offered at UTM Parsons Center

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 50-hour training course for future pharmacy technicians from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 10-Dec. 10, at the UT Martin Parsons Center. Student tuition for the course is $1,199, which includes textbooks and supplies. This program prepares students to enter the pharmacy field and take the certification exam. Pharmacy technicians work in hospitals, home infusion pharmacies, community pharmacies, and other health care settings.

Course content includes reading and interpreting prescriptions and defining drugs by generic and brand names. Students will also learn dosage calculations, IV flow rates, drug compounding, dose conversions, dispensing of prescriptions, inventory control, and billing and reimbursement.

For more information or to register, contact UTM at 731-881-7082 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs.

LEADING THE WAY – More than 50 local leaders were on hand for the WestStar Leadership event on August 12 held at Birdsong Marina.

WestStar greets county leaders

PAMELA MIRABELLA
@thecamdenchronicle.com

WestStar Leadership held its 2016 mini session in Benton County on Friday, August 12. With approximately 50 people in attendance, representing 13 different counties, Mayor Barry Barnett kicked off the day with welcoming the group to the county and expressed how important leaders were to our community.

Following the mayor, Jenna Cole-Wilson, the Director of Tourism, gave the attendees information on the community and the attractions that are offered. The attendees were given the full tour at Birdsong Resort and Marina where Bob Keast explained the history of the park and how unique and important Benton County is to the pearl industry. The group was treated to the museum tour as well as an explanation of the mollusk shucking by the river. They were able to actually view a pearl after it had grown in the mollusk for many years. The group enjoyed lunch at Birdsong Marina, sponsored by Edward Jones and Marks Building Materials.

Donna Vick with Second Harvest Food Bank was in attendance to speak on behalf of the Western Distribution Center that will be located in Benton County and how it will benefit West Tennessee.

The WestStar group then traveled to Nathan Bedford Forrest State Park where they learned about the Park’s history from Ranger J.C. Johnsonious. According to Benton County Chamber Director Sara Kilgore, the Folk Life Museum, which is always a highlight amongst any tour, did not disappoint the group, as many were able to explore the museum’s artifacts and hold onto the museum’s mascot Kane, a Candy Cane Corn Snake.

The WestStar Leadership Program was created in 1989 and is the State’s oldest and largest regional leadership program. With 768 graduates, WestStar continues to serve West Tennessee by offering leadership development and education for selected participants. The mission of WestStar is to identify, encourage and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved, who want to help West Tennessee become a better place, and who are willing to accept assertive and dynamic leadership roles.
UT Martin named in ‘best bang for buck’ list of Southern colleges

August 30, 2016 by (http://www.wbbjtv.com/bios/WBBJ-7-Eyewitness-News-Staff/WBBJ-7-Eyewitness-News-Staff.php)

MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin makes the list of the top 20 in 2016, according to the “Washington Monthly” publication.

WASHINGTON MONTHLY” is known for ranking institutions based on price, graduation rates and post-grad earnings.

The Soybean Festival Returns in September
By West Kentuck STAR Staff

MARTIN, TN - The Tennessee Soybean Festival returns to Martin, September 2-11. Dozens of events, contests and exhibitions will take place across the city, at the UT-M campus, and predominantly at Virginia Weldon Park.

Highlights include concerts by Vince Gill, the Brothers Osborne, Hunter Hayes, Blood Sweat and Tears, Three Dog Night, Morris Day and the Time, The Plain White T’s and more. (Tickets are being sold to these shows for the area adjacent to the stage, tickets available at the link below.) There will also be many other musical events featuring local talent.

Perhaps the most unique soybean-related event is the biodiesel truck and tractor pull on Saturday Sept. 3.

Fireworks will be on display Sunday night Sept. 4 at the recreational complex.

The Soybean Festival parade will take place Tuesday Sept. 6 at 6:30 pm.

There’ll be a barbecue cookoff Friday, Sept. 9 at Weldon Park, including a bacon eating contest.

For the complete schedule of events, click on the link below.
The Jackson Sun Tuesday, August 30, 2016

Chancellor finalists visit UTM

KATHERINE BURGESS
KBURGESS@JACKSONSUN.COM

If allowed one word to describe herself, Dr. Mary Holz-Clause would choose “grower.”

“I see myself as a person who helps individuals grow and develop,” Holz-Clause said. “I want to bring some of those talents as a grower to you at the University of Tennessee Martin.”

Holz-Clause spoke and answered questions from faculty, staff and and students at a public forum Monday, which was streamed online. The forum was the first of four, one for each of the finalists in the search for the next UT Martin chancellor.

Holz-Clause is dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California. The other finalists are Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee; Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and Dr. Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Challenges to the university include increasing enrollment and helping students complete their degrees, Holz-Clause said.

If she became chancellor, she would seek to increase enrollment with competitive tuition rates, tracking high school camps held at the school, being aggressive about dual enrollment and seeking out “legacy” students, children of alumni, Holz-Clause said.

She also would use data to track students. Mandatory advising and things like counseling services, peer mentoring, clubs, sports and internships would help students not only start at UT Martin, but complete their degree, she said.

“We need to ensure that our students are getting the advice and the help that they need to be successful,” she said. Holz-Clause described both her own rural roots and success stories of students and programs at her previous universities.

Her leadership style is transparent and collaborative, she said.

“I really do believe that all of us working together are much smarter and make much better decisions than each of us working individually,” she said.

Holz-Clause has been dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona since 2014. She previously served as vice president for economic development at the University of Connecticut. Her career in higher education also includes 25 years at Iowa State University, where she served in several positions including associate vice president of extension and outreach.

Her experience has included creating global partnerships and networks, handling large budgets and doing economic development, she said.

Prior to beginning her career in higher education, she spent almost eight years with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Holz-Clause earned a bachelor’s degree in agriculture business, a master’s degree in public administration and a doctorate in agriculture education and extension—all from Iowa State University. During the public forum, faculty and staff asked questions about recruiting minority students, management style and athletics. Afterward they were directed to a website to give anonymous input about the chancellor candidates.

Woolfolk will speak at an open forum today this Tuesday. Carver will speak Sept. 7, while Morgan will speak Sept. 8. All forums start at 2 p.m. and will be streamed online at tennessee.edu/exec-

search/utm-chancellor/finalists.

Reach Katherine at (731) 425-9748. Follow her on Twitter: @kathsburgess
Murray State, UT-Martin Among Best College Values
By West Kentucky Star Staff

MURRAY, KY; MARTIN, TN - Two area universities have been ranked among the region's best values for higher education.

In Washington Monthly's 2016 College Rankings, Murray State University came in 24th and the University of Tennessee at Martin is 17th on the "Best Bang for the Buck" list.

The methodology for the "Best Bang for the Buck" rankings included specific measures such as loan repayment rank, graduation rate, net price of attendance, percentage of first-generation students and percent of Pell Grant students.

Perhaps the heaviest factor in this ranking is the social mobility of enrolled students Universities that make it a priority to help first-generation and lower or moderate-income students reach graduation and enter the workforce score well in these rankings.

Thirty-seven percent of UT Martin's spring 2016 graduating class were first-generation college graduates, and 44 percent qualified for federal PELL grants.

Earlier this summer, Murray State University received accolades as one of "America's Top Colleges" by Forbes along with being named as a "2016 Great College to Work For" by The Chronicle of Higher Education.

For more information on Murray State University, please visit murraystate.edu.

For more information on UT Martin, call the Office of University Relations at 731-881-7615.

Published 10:29 PM, Tuesday Aug. 30, 2016
Updated 10:14 PM, Tuesday Aug. 30, 2016

Local Residents Attend UT Martin Legacy Luncheon

MARTIN (August 19) — Caitlin Giles of Trezevant attended the University of Tennessee at Martin's 2016 Legacy Luncheon on Friday in the Paul Meek Library. This event is held during move-in weekend each fall to welcome new freshmen who are the children and grandchildren of UT Martin alumni. Pictured, from left, are Christy Honaker and Caitlin, Beth, and Keith Giles. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu/advantage.
Tennessee Soybean Festival begins!

The city of Martin, the University of Tennessee at Martin and many local businesses and organizations partner to bring the annual Tennessee Soybean Festival to Martin each year, and the 2016 concert lineup is one to remember. The 23rd annual festival, held Friday through Sept. 9, will feature a variety of family-friendly entertainment options, including concert appearances by the Plain White T’s, Vince Gill and Three Dog Night.

The festival will also feature the traditional Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 6, on University Street in front of UT Martin’s Hall-Moody Administration Building. The carnival midway and craft fair will also be open each night in downtown Martin.

Morris Day and The Time will make the festival’s first concert appearance, beginning at 9 p.m. Friday on the Festival Park main stage in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $10 per person. Any remaining tickets will be available for $15 at the Festival Park box office prior to the show.

That same day, Elsa’s Magical Ice Cream Party will begin at 11 a.m. in the Duncan Ballroom of the UT Martin Boling University Center. The registration fee is $25 per child and $5 for each accompanying adult. Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite Frozen character, princess or superhero.

Children in the fourth and fifth grades are invited to an interactive workshop titled “The Bare Necessities of Making Music” from 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday in room 206 of the UT Martin Boling University Center. Participants will build their own musical instruments and later play alongside the Martin Community Band at 6 p.m. in Virginia Weldon Park.

SEE FESTIVAL PAGE 9

FESTIVAL, From Page 1

The School of Rock Nashville will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday in Festival Park. There is no charge for this concert, which is sponsored by Hamilton-Ryker.

The third annual “Guitar as Art” contest and exhibition will begin at 2 p.m. Sunday in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building Gallery. The awards ceremony will begin at 3 p.m. More information and entry details are available at tssoybeanfestival.org/guitar-as-art/.

Chris Collins and Boulder Canyon: A Tribute to John Denver will perform at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Martin Recreation Complex. The concert is sponsored by Savant Learning Systems and will be followed by a fireworks show.

The Brothers Osborne will perform at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday on the Festival Park main stage. Advance tickets are $7 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $10 at the box office prior to the show. This concert is sponsored by Center Point Business Solutions.

Travis Cottrell and the Local Community Choir will perform for Faith and Community Night beginning at 6 p.m. Wednesday on the Festival Park main stage. The concert is sponsored by the Martin Area Ministerial Alliance, and there is no charge to attend.

UT Martin Student Night will feature a performance by the Plain White T’s beginning at 9 p.m. Sept. 8, in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

Next Friday night’s concert headliner is Vince Gill, who will perform at 9 p.m. Sept. 9 in Festival Park. Advance tickets are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show. This concert is sponsored by Republic Services.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival West Tennessee Dairy Show will begin at 10 a.m. Sept. 10 in the Ned McWherter Agricultural Complex on the UT Martin campus. Animals may arrive Sept. 9. Additional information and registration are available at tssoybeanfestival.org/west-tennessee-dairy-show/.

Blood Sweat and Tears will perform beginning at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 in Festival Park. Three Dog Night will end the evening with the festival’s headline performance at 9 p.m. Advance tickets are each performance are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

UT Martin will wrap up festival week with the annual Sunday brunch from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Skyhawk Dining Hall, located inside the Boling University Center. The charge is $10.82 per person, while children ages 10 and under eat for $5.08.

This is not a comprehensive list of festival events. For information on additional events or to purchase tickets, visit tssoybeanfestival.org/festival-schedule/ or get a free copy of the Weakley County Press’ schedule book at the Press office or at various locations around town. Tickets for all events are available on the festival website by selecting the event in which you are interested.

For more information, visit tssoybeanfestival.org or contact festival coordinators at 731-588-1263 or email info@tssoybeanfestival.org.
HAWKING THEIR WARES — The Skyhawk Marching Band from the University of Tennessee at Martin is shown participating in the annual Tennessee Soybean Festival parade in 2015. This year the festival runs from Friday to Sept. 9 with events to satisfy everyone's tastes. The 2016 Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade will be Sept. 6.
STATE LEGISLATORS VISIT—Tennessee State Rep. Andy Holt (R-Dresden) and State Sen. John Stevens (R-Huntingdon) spoke with UT Martin Department of Family and Consumer Sciences students, dietetic interns and faculty Aug. 25 in Gooch Hall. Pictured are (back row, from left): Amber Buckner, Laurie Johnson, Dr. Todd Winters (dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences), Holt, Stevens, Andrea Richardson, Lacy McCaig, Dr. Joey Mehlhorn (interim chair, Department of Family and Consumer Sciences) and Brian Carroll (dietetic internship director); (front row): Halle Hudson, Angel Billingsley, Autumn Johnson, Allison Roland, Lisa Plunk and Rachael Dill.

READY FOR ACTION — Undergraduate and graduate members of Zeta Phi Beta sorority at the University of Tennessee at Martin, along with community volunteers, got up early Saturday morning to clean up downtown Martin in preparation for the Tennessee Soybean Festival. The cleanup was a joint project with Martin Beautiful and the Soybean committee. Volunteers performed general tasks including raking, moving tree limbs and picking up trash.

Photo by Linda Thurston
Soybean Festival Features Fun, Family Entertainment

The city of Martin, the University of Tennessee at Martin and many local businesses and organizations partner to bring the annual Tennessee Soybean Festival to Martin each year, and the 2016 concert lineup is one to remember. The 23rd annual festival, held Sept. 2-9, will feature a variety of family-friendly entertainment options, including concert appearances by the Plain White T’s, Vince Gill and Three Dog Night.

The festival will also feature the traditional Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade beginning at 6:30 p.m., Sept. 6, on University Street in front of UT Martin’s Hall-Moody Administration Building. The carnival midway and craft fair will also be open each night in downtown Martin.

There will be a Minecraft Farming Challenge for children ages 10-15 on Aug. 27 in the UT Martin Paul Meek Library prior to the official start of the festival. Sessions are open from 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m. Registration is required for this event, and space is limited. There is a $10 participation fee per child, and cash prizes will be given to challenge winners. Visit tnsoybeanfestival.org/minecraft to register. This event is sponsored by the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and the Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center.

The Little Miss Soybean Pageant will be held from 9-10 a.m. that same day in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building’s Harriet Fulton Theatre. This event is sponsored by the UT Federal Credit Union, and registration forms are available at tnsoybeanfestival.org or at Martin City Hall.

Morris Day and The Time will make the festival’s first concert appearance, beginning at 9 p.m., Sept. 2, on the Festival Park main stage in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $10 per person. Any remaining tickets will be available for $15 at the Festival Park box office prior to the show.

Elsa’s Magical Ice Cream Party will begin at 11 a.m. in the Duncan Ballroom of the UT Martin Boling University Center. The registration fee is $25 per child and $5 for each accompanying adult. Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite Frozen character, princess or superhero.

Children in the fourth and fifth grades are invited to an interactive workshop titled “The Bare Necessities of Making Music” from 2-3:30 p.m., Sept. 3, in room 206 of the UT Martin Boling University Center. Participants will build their own musical instruments and later play alongside the Martin Community Band at 6 p.m. in Virginia Weldon Park.

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**Manufacturing engineering focus**

**UT Martin plans to add new specialized courses**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Engineering announced plans to add a concentration in manufacturing engineering during a recent breakfast for area industry representatives.

This would be the first and only training program for manufacturing engineers in Tennessee, and the university hopes to help fill a statewide employment gap in the industry.

"There is a high demand for manufacturing engineers (with undergraduate degrees) in the state, and nobody is producing them," said Dr. Robert LeMaster, professor and interim chair, UT Martin Department of Engineering. "Companies are having to hire engineers and train them in skills that they could learn as part of their education."

The university plans to offer the new specialized courses beginning with the fall 2017 semester and this will be the first engineering concentration added to UT Martin's course offerings since the department was created in 1996.

"I've worked at several different manufacturing facilities around the West Tennessee area ... over the last 20 years and this is definitely something I would have benefited from in my career if I had had it back then," said Brian Bishop, 1994 graduate of UT Martin and engineering manager at Nobel Automotive in Paris.

Manufacturing is a major industry in the state, with 53 positions available per 1,000 people. However, the University of Miami offers only the bachelor's-level training program for manufacturing engineers in the southeast.

This forces local companies seeking manufacturing engineers to either recruit out-of-state graduates or hire an engineer from another specialization.

"Engineers in other disciplines are having to learn these skills after they go on the job and by trade, not education, become a manufacturing engineer," LeMaster said. This creates a difficult situation for new graduates who are faced with an unexpected learning curve."

"They're going to get there, but how many months or weeks do they have to put in to pick up those skills that we could have taught them here if we had this concentration already in place," said Dr. Jared Teague, associate professor of engineering. "This (new concentration) will help graduates get in faster and do the job more effectively."

According to the Academic Program Supply and Occupational Demand Projections for 2012-2025, the state of Tennessee produces an average of 234 engineering graduates each year in the mechanical, electrical and industrial concentrations. Only eight of those graduates choose industrial engineering and none specialize in manufacturing engineering. There are, however, an average of 295 statewide job openings in this industry each year, with 120 of those requiring industrial or manufacturing engineers.

"We're producing about 20 percent fewer engineers per year than are needed for the number of openings throughout the state, and we're not producing them in the right mix," LeMaster said.

Industrial and manufacturing engineers overlap in many areas; however, there are key differences that make the transition from one to the other more difficult than assumed. The training for industrial engineers is management-oriented and focuses on the worker to improve production.

The training for manufacturing engineers is process-oriented and emphasizes improving the production process and creating a high-quality product in the most efficient way possible. At UT Martin, the difference is seen in 27 hours of specialized coursework.

The new concentration would focus on meeting the needs of existing companies in West Tennessee and training a highly qualified workforce to take those companies into the coming years.

"Back when the engineering program was created in 1996, there was a lot of interaction with potential employers of the graduates and what they needed. A lot of that input shaped the courses we teach now," LeMaster said. "We're looking for that kind of involvement and feedback with this new manufacturing concentration program so that we, in fact, are turning out a product that is consistent with what (employers) need and also satisfies the requirements that we have from our accrediting bodies."

"We recruit in manufacturing engineering, that's what we're looking for actually in this area," said Jody Jones, engineering manager with NSK in Dyerburg. "We've got mechanical engineers that we normally hire to make that transition. ... It would be a whole lot easier for us to partner with someone like UT Martin and actually help develop that curriculum. We could hire our people straight out of school and have them come right to work."

The Department of Engineering is expected to grow exponentially with the completion of the university's new Engineering and Science Building and a proposed Innovation and Product Realization Facility. The bachelor of science in engineering program is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET.
UT Martin Somerville Center
“Somerville’s Success Story”

To date, the Town of Somerville has raised almost $2 million in public and private donations of the anticipated $2.5 million it will cost to renovate the Methodist Hospital building for the UT Martin Somerville Center and the remaining cost of the renovations will be paid for with a combination of donations and rent paid by UT Martin.

There is a signed agreement with the University of Tennessee that was approved by the State Building Commission, which states that the University of Tennessee Martin will pay rent to Somerville to fully fund the renovation. Somerville will also receive an additional $750,000 in rent over the next ten years, starting at the completion of the renovation, to offset any expenses the town might incur from maintaining the building.

The agreement has been approved by the University of Tennessee, UT Martin, the State Building Commission and the Town of Somerville and has the financial support of Governor Haslam and the State Legislature which includes an annual recurring appropriation of $250,000.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Somerville has been working diligently on this project for over five years. They have
Continued on Page 4A

Somerville Success
Continued from Page 1A

taken steps to ensure that the taxpayers of Somerville will not be burdened with the cost of this project.

By August 2017, the UT Martin Somerville Center will be operating as a state of the art facility. It will house a community room, conference rooms, a complete biology and chemistry lab, a computer lab, two distance learning centers and many classrooms.

This Center will help Governor Haslam’s “Drive to 55” initiative. This program’s goal is to have 55% of the working age Tennesseans attain a college degree or certificate by the year 2025.

This Center will provide citizens of Fayette County, and surrounding counties, the opportunity to receive a quality education at a reasonable price, right here in your own backyard.

Classes are being held right now in the Career Center on the square. If you would like any information about the Center, please call the UT Martin Somerville Center’s Director, Kara Tapp at (901) 465-7313.

UT Martin Somerville is Soaring

UT Martin Somerville ushered in a new year at the local Higher Education Center last week with a variety of classes offered at the Career Center on the Court House Square in Somerville. Kara Tapp, Director of UT Martin Somerville, stated, “I couldn’t be happier with Fall 2016 enrollment. We have a very diverse group of students; some are starting out fresh as freshman and others are wanting to complete a degree they started years ago, but never did, because life happens.”

UT Martin Somerville is currently limited to only two classrooms, but fourteen classrooms are being conducted along with a complete variety of courses online under the direction of Dr. Adam Wilson, Director of Online Studies, who previously served as the Interim Director at the Somerville Center.

Kara went on to say, “I have had the opportunity to meet with so many individuals just in a matter of a few months. All of the students I have enrolled this semester are outstanding and deserve the opportunity to go to school in their backyard.”

Anyone interested in attending UT Martin Somerville, feel free to stop by Somerville City Hall or call 901-465-7313. UT Martin believes in giving everyone the one-on-one attention they deserve.

Fly with UT Martin Somerville!
A Fulton County student has been awarded a scholarship to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2016-2017 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Colton Aldridge, son of Jim and Scarlett Paitsel, of Fulton, Kentucky, will be a junior. He received the Elam Transfer Achieve Scholarship. Additional information on scholarships and other types of financial assistance is available by contacting the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships, 205 Administration Building, UT Martin, Martin, Tennessee 38238, or by calling (731) 881-7040.

KNOXVILLE – The list is down to four.
Four higher education leaders have been selected as finalists in the search for the next University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor.

On-campus interviews begin Monday, Aug. 29.

The finalists will visit Martin to meet with campus leaders and key faculty, staff, student, alumni and community members. The finalists also will speak at public forums while on the UT Martin campus. Each forum will be webcast live and archived for later viewing. The job description and resumes for finalists are available at tennessee.edu/execsearch/utm-chancellor/. Links to webcasts of the public forums will be added soon.

"UT Martin serves a distinctive and vital role within the University of Tennessee System and for the students, families and communities it serves in West Tennessee and beyond," UT President Joe DiPietro said. "My priority is on selecting the highest-caliber leadership possible to help advance the campus' mission, and I'm confident that we're on track to do that. All four candidates have extensive higher education experience and excellent qualifications."

The finalists are Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee; Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, Calif.; Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and Dr. Jerald Woolfolk, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego.

Carver has served as executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee since 2011. Carver's 19-year career at UT also includes various leadership positions at three of the system's campuses.

He served as interim vice chancellor for development and alumni affairs at the UT Health Science Center in Memphis in 2010 after spending four years at UT Martin as assistant vice chancellor for development.

He also served more than 10 years in various positions at UT Knoxville, including as director of development and alumni affairs for the College of Law. Carver earned
a bachelor's degree in sociology from Memphis State University and master's and doctoral degrees from UT Knoxville in college student personnel and educational leadership and philosophy.

Holz-Clause has been dean of the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly Pomona in Los Angeles, California, since 2014. She previously served as vice president for economic development at the University of Connecticut. Her career in higher education also includes 25 years at Iowa State University, where she served in several positions including associate vice president of extension and outreach.

Prior to beginning her career in higher education, she spent almost 8 years with the Iowa Department of Economic Development. Holz-Clause earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture business, a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate in agriculture education and extension—all from Iowa State University.

Morgan has served as chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education since 2015. He previously spent almost 20 years in leadership roles at Murray State University in Kentucky, including serving as provost and vice president for academic affairs and as associate provost for graduate education and research.

Before beginning his career in higher education, he served as program director for the Agriculture Leadership Development Program in Kentucky for 10 years. Morgan earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in agriculture science from Murray State and a doctorate in philosophy from Oklahoma State University.

Woolfolk has been vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego since 2014. She also serves as the interim chief diversity officer and inclusion officer. She previously spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where she served in several positions including vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity.

She has also served as vice president for student affairs at the College of Staten Island and as the dean of students at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Woolfolk earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a doctorate in urban higher education from Jackson State University in Mississippi. She earned a master's degree in counselor education from Iowa State University.

The selected candidate will serve as a member of the UT System leadership team, reporting directly to the UT System president, and as chief executive officer of the Martin campus. The chancellor is responsible for promoting continued development of the campus and its academic, research and service programs—while maintaining a commitment to access and diversity and striving to build a national reputation of excellence.

To learn more about the search, read more about the finalists and download their photos, visit tennessee.edu/execsearch/utm-chancellor/finalists/.

For more information, contact Gina Stafford, assistant vice president and director of communications for the UT System, at 865-974-0741 or stafford@tennessee.edu, or Ellie Amador, assistant director of communications, at 865-974-1177 or amador@tennessee.edu.
UTM will use grant to assist veterans

By Jeff York
Contributor

The Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) announced that UT-Martin is one of the six campuses receiving nearly $1 million in funds through the 2016 Veteran Reconnect grant program. The grant is part of the State of Tennessee's larger efforts to support and encourage adult learners, many of whom are veterans, studying at Tennessee institutions.

Programs were also funded at Chattanooga State Community College, Lipscomb University, Maryville College, Middle Tennessee State University, and Tusculum College. The most recent round of the Veteran Reconnect program, which was awarded through a competitive proposal process, aims to build on proven practices to support veterans on Tennessee campuses to both connect with their campus and with their fellow servicemen.

The programs funded through Veteran Reconnect will increase campus services for student veterans and provide veteran-specific resources, such as the expansion of campus veteran centers or professional development for faculty and staff on the specific needs of students with military experience.

Veteran Reconnect was first awarded to 11 campuses in 2015 for a 15-month service period. To date, outcomes include:

- Development of standardized systems of tracking the enrollment, retention, and graduation of student veterans
- Formation of veteran success committees on campus composed of staff, faculty, and students focused on the continued evolution of best practices in veteran education
- Providing dedicated student veteran coordinators on each campus to serve as a sole point of contact for student veterans and all of their needs
- Building and furnishing veterans centers or lounges on campus to provide study space, social interaction, enhanced academic support, and other resources
- In-depth training programs for faculty and staff to improve awareness of veteran-specific issues
- Increased internship and employment opportunities for veteran students through new annual career development training sessions and enhanced relationship-building with corporate partners

Veteran Reconnect is part of Governor Bill Haslam's Drive to 55 initiative to increase the number of Tennesseans with a postsecondary degree.

UT-Martin will get $188,677 for their program. UT Martin, using Veteran Reconnect funds, will develop an integrated approach to student services for veterans. The university will hire a Veterans Service Specialist and dedicate space on campus to develop a student veterans center. The grant will also assist in establishing a veterans success committee, developing an orientation designed specifically for new student veterans, and integrating prior learning assessment (PLA) to assist veterans in receiving credit for their prior military training.

"Every student enrolled in college has a unique set of needs and that is especially true for veteran students," said THEC Executive Director Mike Krause. "Veteran Reconnect is assisting veterans on Ten-
Martin gears up for annual Soybean Festival

The 23rd annual Tennessee Soybean Festival will be held Friday through Sept. 9 in Martin.

Each year, the city of Martin joins together with the University of Tennessee at Martin and many local businesses and organizations to bring fun and entertainment, including a concert lineup of various performers and styles.

This year's festival will feature a variety of family-friendly entertainment options, including concert appearances by the Plain White T's, Vince Gill and Three Dog Night. The festival will also feature the traditional Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade beginning at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday on University Street in front of UTM's Hall-Moody Administration Building. The carnival midway and craft fair will also be open each night in downtown Martin.

Morris Day and The Time will make the festival's first concert appearance, beginning at 9 p.m. Friday on the Festival Park main stage in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $10 a person. Any remaining tickets will be available for $15 at the Festival Park box office prior to the show.

Elsa's Magical Ice Cream Party will begin at 11 a.m. in the Duncan Ballroom of the UTM Boling University Center. The registration fee is $25 a child and $5 for each accompanying adult. Children are encouraged to dress as their favorite "Frozen" character, princess or superhero.

Children in the fourth and fifth grades are invited to an interactive workshop titled "The Bare Necessities of Making Music" from 2-3:30 p.m. Saturday in room 206 at the Boling University Center. Participants will build their own musical instruments and later play alongside the Martin Community Band at 6 p.m. in Virginia Weldon Park.

The School of Rock Nashville will perform at 8 p.m. Saturday in Festival Park. There is no charge for this concert.

The third annual "Guitar as Art" contest and exhibition will begin at 3 p.m. Sunday in the UTM Fine Arts Building Gallery. The awards ceremony will begin at 3 p.m. More information and entry details are available at tnsoybeanfestival.org/guitar-as-art.

Chris Collins and Boulder Canyon: A Tribute to John Denver will perform at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Martin Recreation Complex. The concert is sponsored by Savant Learning Systems and will be followed by a fireworks show.

The Brothers Osborne will perform at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday on the Festival Park main stage. Advance tickets are $7 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $10 at the box office prior to the show.

Travis Cottrell and the Local Community Choir will perform for Faith and Community Night beginning at 6 p.m., Sept. 7, on the Festival Park main stage. There is no charge to attend.

UTM Student Night will feature a performance by the Plain White T's beginning at 9 p.m. Sept. 8, in downtown Martin. Advance tickets are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

Another concert headliner is Vince Gill, who will perform at 9 p.m. Sept. 9 in Festival Park. Advance tickets are $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival West Tennessee Dairy Show will begin at 10 a.m. Sept. 10 in the Ned McWhert-er Agricultural Complex on the UTM campus. Animals may arrive Sept. 9. Additional information and registration are available at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org/west-tennessee-dairy-show.

Blood, Sweat and Tears will perform beginning at 7 p.m. Sept. 10 in Festival Park.

Three Dog Night will end the evening with the festival's headline performance at 9 p.m. Advance tickets for Saturday's schedule $15 online, and remaining tickets will be available for $20 at the box office prior to the show.

UTM will wrap up festival week with the annual Sunday brunch from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. in the Skyhawk Dining Hall, located inside the Boling University Center. The charge is $10.82 a person, while children ages 10 and under eat for $5.08.

For information on additional events or to purchase tickets, visit tnsoybeanfestival.org/festival-schedule. Tickets for all events are available by selecting the event in which you are interested.

For more information, visit tnsoybeanfestival.org or contact festival coordinators at 731-588-1263 or email info@tnsoybeanfestival.org.

The UT Martin Skyhawk Marching Band marches down South Lindell Street in downtown Martin in the annual Tennessee Soybean Festival parade.
Woolfolk wants to improve UTM retention rates

KATHERINE BURGESS
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Her role in higher education isn't just a job, but a calling, Dr. Jerald Woolfolk told people at the University of Tennessee Martin.

"If this little girl from Leland, Mississippi, in the Mississippi Delta, one of the most impoverished areas of the country, can do this, then anybody can," Woolfolk said. "I have committed my career to ensuring that students are successful. That's who I am."

Woolfolk spoke and answered questions from faculty, staff and students at a public forum Tuesday, which was streamed online. The forum was the second of four, one for each of the finalists in the search for the next UT Martin chancellor.

Woolfolk is vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at the State University of New York at Oswego, a position she has held since 2014. The other finalists are Dr. Keith Carver, executive assistant to the president of the University of Tennessee; Dr. Joseph Morgan, chief academic officer and vice president for academic affairs and student success with the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; and Dr. Mary Holz-Clause, dean of the College of Agriculture at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California.

Issues with accreditation, declining enrollment and decreased funding don't frighten her, Woolfolk said.

Rather, she said she wanted to help brand UT Martin as the "premier institution" in West Tennessee, improving retention rates and increasing enrollment.

Woolfolk said she wants to be at UT Martin because it offers a quality undergraduate education, collaboration between students, faculty and staff, and values like community and excellence.

Students have said the school is friendly, comfortable and offers something for everyone, she said — things she would like students to also say about her.

Woolfolk also spoke about her experience as the interim chief diversity and inclusion officer at Oswego. In that role, she launched the "I Am OZ Campaign," a diversity and inclusion program, and diversified professional staff.

Woolfolk previously spent almost 10 years at Mississippi Valley State University, where she served in several positions including vice president for student affairs, enrollment management and diversity.

She has also served as vice president for student affairs at the College of Staten Island and as the dean of students at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Woolfolk earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and a doctorate in urban higher education from Jackson State University in Mississippi.

She earned a master's degree in counselor education from Iowa State University.

Like the Martin Skyhawk, Woolfolk is dominant, fearless, skilled and has a keen vision, she said.

"Success is my driver and I don't stop until I achieve the success that I'm looking for," Woolfolk said.

Carver will speak at an open forum Sept. 7, while Morgan will speak Sept. 8. All forums start at 2 p.m. and will be streamed online.

Reach Katherine at (731) 425-9748. Follow her on Twitter: @kathburgess
UTM to add engineering program

Specialized courses planned for fall 2017

THE JACKSON SUN

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Engineering announced plans to add a concentration in manufacturing engineering during a breakfast for area industry representatives Aug. 24. This will be the first and only training program for manufacturing engineers in Tennessee, and the university hopes to help fill a statewide employment gap in the industry, according to a news release.

“There is a high demand for manufacturing engineers (with undergraduate degrees) in the state, and nobody is producing them,” said Dr. Robert LeMaster, professor and interim chairman, UT Martin Department of Engineering. “Companies are having to hire engineers and train them in skills that they could learn as part of their education.”

The university plans to offer the new specialized courses beginning with the fall 2017 semester, and this will be the first engineering concentration added to UT Martin’s course offerings since the department was created in 1996.

“I’ve worked at several different manufacturing facilities around the West Tennessee area ... over the last 20 years, and this is definitely something I would have benefited from in my career if I had had it back then,” said Brian Bishop (UT Martin, ’94), engineering manager at Nobel Automotive in Paris. Manufacturing is a major industry in

UTM

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the state, with 53 positions available per 1,000 people. However, the University of Miami offers the only bachelor’s-level training program for manufacturing engineers in the Southeast, according to UT Martin.

This forces local companies seeking manufacturing engineers to either recruit out-of-state graduates or hire an engineer from another specialization, UTM officials said.

“Engineers in other disciplines are having to learn these skills after they go on the job, and by trade, not education, become a manufacturing engineer,” LeMaster said. This creates a difficult situation for new graduates who are faced with an unexpected learning curve.

“They’re going to get there, but how many months or weeks do they have to put in to pick up those skills that we could have taught them here if we had this concentration already in place? This (new concentration) will help graduates get in faster and do the job more effectively,” said Dr. Jared Teague, associate professor of engineering.

According to the Academic Program Supply and Occupational Demand Projections for 2012-2025, the state of Tennessee produces an average of 234 engineering graduates each year in the mechanical, electrical and industrial concentrations. Only eight of those graduates choose industrial engineering, and none specialize in manufacturing engineering. There are, however, an average of 295 statewide job openings in this industry each year, with 120 of those requiring industrial or manufacturing engineers.

“We’re producing about 20 percent fewer engineers per year than are needed for the number of openings throughout the state, and we’re not producing them in the right mix,” LeMaster said.

Industrial and manufacturing engineers overlap in many areas, but there are key differences that make the transition from one to the other more diffi-
The training for industrial engineers is management-oriented and focuses on the worker to improve production.

The training for manufacturing engineers is process-oriented and emphasizes improving the production process and creating a high-quality product in the most efficient way possible. At UT Martin, the difference is seen in 27 hours of specialized coursework. The new concentration would focus on meeting the needs of existing companies in West Tennessee and training a highly qualified workforce to take those companies into the coming years.

"Back when the engineering program was created in 1996, there was a lot of interaction with potential employers of the graduates and what they needed. A lot of that input shaped the courses we teach now," LeMaster said. "We're looking for that kind of involvement and feedback with this new manufacturing concentration program so that we in fact are turning out a product that is consistent with what (employers) need and also satisfies the requirements that we have from our accrediting bodies."

"We recruit in manufacturing engineering, that's what we're looking for actually in this area," said Jody Jones, engineering manager with NSK in Dyersburg. "We've got mechanical engineers that we normally hire to make that transition ... It would be a whole lot easier for us to partner with someone like UT Martin and actually help develop that curriculum. We could hire our people straight out of school and have them come right to work."

The UT Martin Department of Engineering is expected to grow exponentially with the completion of the university's new Engineering and Science Building and a proposed Innovation and Product Realization Facility. The Bachelor of Science in engineering program is accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET. For more information on ABET accreditation, visit abet.org.

For more information on the new concentration, contact the department at (731) 881-7571.

Marne Helbing (foreground, right), a senior engineering major from Gilbert, Ariz., works with Ray Witmer (left), associate professor of engineering, to complete an exercise.