Joshua S. Lemons of Martin recently received the Outstanding Communications Student Award from the College of Humanities and Fine Arts during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Nathan T. Elliott of Martin recently received the Tennessee Historical Commission Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award is given to a graduating history student selected by the department as the outstanding student in the field of history. The award consists of a gift from the Tennessee Historical Commission and a cash supplement.

Alex Zhang of Martin recently received the Ted Mosch Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award is given to an international student who has either a junior or senior status. This award is based on academic excellence. Dr. Mosch began his career at UT Martin in 1970 and retired in 2002. During this time, Dr. Mosch received the UTAA teaching award in 1974 and 1990. He also became one of the University of Tennessee Alumni Association Distinguished Professors in 1997.

Matthew L. Fitzgerald of Sharon recently received the Martin Lions Club H. B. Smith Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award is given to the prospective graduate who has accumulated the highest academic average.

Julie M. Reddick of Martin recently received the George and Ruth Horton Curricula Award for Humanities during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The George and Ruth Horton Curricula Awards of at least $375 each are presented to the pre-health sophomore who has the highest academic average and to the humanities sophomore with the highest academic average. The awards are supported from donations by Professor Emeritus Horton's former pre-professional students and other students and friends of the Hortons.

Angela D. Reddick of Martin recently received the William T. McCutchen Geology Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources presents this award of $300 to one or more outstanding geology students. Eligible students must have sophomore standing, be declared a geoscience major with a concentration in geology and submit an application consisting of transcripts of all college work, a letter of intent and an essay explaining why the applicant has chosen geology as a career. Funding for this award comes from the faculty and alumni donations. The geology faculty selects recipients of the award, which is named in honor of Professor Emeritus William T. McCutchen, the first geology faculty member at the university.

Ben M. Walker of Dresden recently received the Geography Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources presents this award of up to $300 to an outstanding geography student. Eligible students must have sophomore standing, be declared a geoscience major with a concentration in geography. Funding for this award comes from faculty and alumni donations. The geography faculty selects the recipient.

Saumil V. Patel of Martin was recently one of three students who received the Lower Division Chemistry Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award is given to an outstanding student or students in general chemistry. The award is a cash amount and a copy of the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics. The selections are made by the chemistry faculty of the Department of Chemistry and Physics. The other recipients were Laura K. Miller of Clarksville and Ryan W. Clark of Gleason.

Wes Clark of Gleason was recently one of three students who received the Lower Division Chemistry Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award is given to an outstanding student or students in general chemistry. The award is a cash amount and a copy of the Handbook of Chemistry and Physics. The selections are made by the chemistry faculty of the Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Kristan D. Jennings of Greenfield recently received the Bateman-Wyant History Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award of $250 is given to a full-time history student who has a 3.00 GPA or better. The recipient is named by the history faculty from students submitting articles written on aspects of American history.

Laquilla J. Johnson of Martin was recently one of four students who received the William H. Baker Scholarship Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award is given to one or more full-time students in the College of Business and Global Affairs who have completed 60 hours of college credit, demonstrated scholarship and leadership ability, participated in extracurricular activities, and shown promise of professional achievement. The other recipients were Donielle A. Hubbard of Morristown; Klaras S. Champion of Humboldt; and Janell R. McConkey of Athens.

Laura N. Gullatt of Martin recently received the Alpha Omicron Pi Mothers' Club Scholarship Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award consists of a gift from the University of Tennessee at Martin. This is an award of $500 is given to a senior Alpha Omicron Pi sorority member in recognition of academic excellence, leadership and service to her sorority and UT Martin.

Johanna S. Van Zyl of Martin recently received the Outstanding Mathematics and Statistics Student Award from the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Other University of Tennessee at Martin students earning awards that day, but not pictured, were:

- Victoria N. Russell of Martin recently received the Outstanding Criminal Justice Student Award from the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

- Other University of Tennessee at Martin students earning awards that day, but not pictured, were:

- Beth Reed of Palmersville recently received the Langdon Unger History Upper Division Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award of $200 is given to the outstanding upper division history major. The award may be used for either travel or non-travel courses.

- Coleen J. Hunt of Martin was recently one of three students who received the Faculty Women's Club Scholarship Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Faculty Women's Club Scholarship Award of $500 is given in recognition of the academic excellence of female students who have achieved the highest status. Selection is made by a committee of the club and is based...
primarily on academic achievement, financial need, citizenship and leadership. The other recipients were Paige Mason of Lebanon, and Christina West of Dyersburg.

- Anna Winkelmann of Martin was recently one of two students who received the Outstanding Upper Division Engineering Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Outstanding Upper Division Engineering Award is presented to two upper division students with at least 60 semester hours who have demonstrated scholarship and leadership ability, participated in extracurricular activities, and have shown promise of professional achievement. The other recipient was Ben Wright of Union City.

- Cynthia A. Hahn of Martin recently received the Outstanding Social Work Student Award from the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

- Ivan Simic of Germany recently received the Outstanding Lower Division Accounting, Finance, Economics, and Political Science Student Award from the College of Business and Global Affairs during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

- Christopher T. Fowler of Martin recently received the Outstanding Agriculture Student Award from the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Outstanding Student Awards were given from each of UT Martin's five colleges, as well as many departmental and university-wide scholarships during the Honors Day event.
UTM names outstanding athletes during Honors Day

*Jodie Tiley of Martin recently received the Intercollegiate Athletics Student-Athlete Award for Tennis during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.*

*Brooke Robertson of Martin recently received the Intercollegiate Athletics Student-Athlete Award for Soccer during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.*

*Colin M. Johnson of Martin recently received the Intercollegiate Athletics Student-Athlete Award for Men's Cross Country during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.*

The awards are given to student-athletes in their respective sports who have demonstrated academic excellence, as well as leadership in and out of the athletic venue. They are selected by the Office of Intercollegiate Athletics staff and coaches. Students were also honored for academic success.
Students lend helping hands

Members of the new University of Tennessee at Martin student organization, Skyhawk Veteran's Association, met recently to prepare for a landscape workday at the veteran's memorial on the Weakley County courthouse lawn in Dresden. On hand for the landscape work day included (from left) Justin Jones, vice president; Ron Cheatham, Weakley County Veterans Affairs officer; Kelly Karels; Dr. Alice Catherine-Carls, faculty advisor; Kevin Klutts; and David Crum, president.

Group forms at UTM to help vets

Members of the Skyhawk Veteran's Association (SVA) gathered recently on the Weakley County courthouse lawn in Dresden to prepare for a landscaping workday around the stone veteran's memorial that stands in front of the local government building. It was one of the first of what some hope will be many activities of the newly formed student organization at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"To serve the living while honoring the fallen," is the motto of the SVA that was formed in the fall of 2011 and was approved as an official student organization in February 2012. It is the first UT Martin student veteran's group since the early 1950s.

"In recent years, the number of student veterans and families of deployed military personnel in my classes has steadily increased. So I decided to do something about it," said Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, UT Martin professor of history and SVA faculty advisor.

Carls said during her career as a professor she has been moved by the efforts of veterans and their family members to integrate into collegiate life. The SVA's aim is to provide support to veterans and their families and in general be a place for encouragement.

"We hope to have a designated meeting place soon, perhaps an office where they can come, chat, have a cup of coffee; in general, where they can find resources to help them find a career path and achieve graduation, and perhaps even engage in graduate work. We hope to provide information about a number of issues ranging from veteran benefits to health care to academic information about majors and minors at UT Martin, to disabilities, to undergraduate scholarship and job opportunities."

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ties,” Carls said. The SVA met weekly during the spring academic semester and will return to the Weakley County courthouse lawn to complete the landscaping project at 9 a.m. May 11.

For more information about the SVA, contact James Copeland, secretary, at jamdc@ut.utm.edu.

LOCAL STUDENTS ATTEND UT MARTIN SOAR ACTIVITIES

- Danielle Gallimore and Chaz Coleman, both of Dresden, attended the recent Student Orientation and Registration (SOAR) activities at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Gallimore is the daughter of David and Tonia Gallimore. Coleman is the son of Kim and Kelly Coleman. SOAR helps incoming students get more acquainted with the UT Martin campus and the types of programs available to first-time students.

Photo submitted

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Wednesday, May 2, 2012

WOODS WALKS — The University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates at the Senior Walk event, hosted in the quad on campus. More than 600 graduates, including Ben Woods of Union City, took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff. Woods is an accounting major.

CELEBRATORY WALK — Over 600 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff when the University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates at the Senior Walk event, hosted in the quad on campus. Emily Belote (left) of Martin and Kelsey Sigman of Union City were among those who participated in the walk. Ms. Belote is a health and human performance major and Ms. Sigman will graduate with a master of science in education degree.
EARNED AWARD —
Johnny T. Dyer of Union City recently received the Carl G. “Butch” Newby Scholarship Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The award of $2,500 is given to a student majoring in history, criminal justice or political science who has, if possible, some military connection. The recipient is selected by history faculty.

STUDENT HONORED
Anita Matheny of Troy received the Outstanding Management, Marketing, Computer Science and Information Systems Student Award from the College of Business and Global Affairs during the annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

RECOGNIZED —
Cameron T. Graham of Union City received the Outstanding Sociology Student Award from the College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

SF HONOREE —
Andrew H. Moore of South Fulton recently received the Harry Neal Memorial Award and the Phi Kappa Phi Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Harry Neal Memorial Award is given to recognize an outstanding piano major in the UT Martin Department of Music. The recipient is chosen by the piano faculty and the department chair on the basis of performance, growth and grades received during the year. The Phi Kappa Phi Award of $150 is presented to the graduating senior with the highest GPA and the highest number of quality points.

UC STUDENT CHOSEN
Sarah E. Wright of Union City received the Outstanding Undergraduate Family and Consumer Sciences Student Award from the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

AWARD PRESENTED —
Ben Wright of Union City was recently one of two students who received the Outstanding Upper Division Engineering Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Outstanding Upper Division Engineering Award is presented to two upper division students with at least 60 semester hours who have demonstrated scholarship and leadership ability, participated in extracurricular activities and shown promise of professional achievement. The other recipient was Anna Winkelman of Martin.

Michael G. Ruddy of Union City recently received the Louise Knifley Memorial Scholarship Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

This award is given to a junior or senior mathematics major or secondary education mathematics major with a 3.50 GPA in mathematics and a 3.00 or above overall GPA.

Brandt Sisson of South Fulton received the Outstanding Biology Student Award from the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences during the University of Tennessee at Martin's 48th annual Honors Day.

Outstanding Student Awards were given from each of UT Martin's five colleges, as were many departmental and university-wide scholarships.
Phy named FirstBank financial center manager

Mitchell Phy has joined FirstBank as financial center manager at the Dickson office, where he will oversee the branch's retail operations.

"Mitchell will be in charge of ensuring that our customers receive excellent service and the help they need to meet their financial needs," said Dickson City President Kyle Lamastus. "His knowledge of the marketplace and his numerous local contacts will help us continue FirstBank's growth in the Dickson market."

Phy most recently was branch sales manager with Regions Bank in Huntingdon, Tenn. Prior to that, he had more than six years experience with Allstate Insurance, including as owner of Phy Insurance and Financial Services, LLC, an Allstate affiliate.

Phy, a graduate of University of Tennessee-Martin, is a member of the Dickson County Chamber of Commerce and the Dickson County Leadership Alumni. He and his wife, Rachel, reside in Dickson.

UT-Martin SOAR dates scheduled for June, July for 2012 freshmen, parents

Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester may prepare for college life by attending the Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program one of the three two-day SOAR programs scheduled for June 7-8, June 28-29 and July 16-17.

Students will have the opportunity to meet with academic advisers and register for classes; tour the campus, residence halls and University Village housing; receive information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and hear detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes).

Students and parents will participate in a variety of informational sessions such as those on student health services, public safety, bookstore, student employment and other topics. Additional concurrent sessions also are scheduled for students and parents with topics including student activities, Greek life, housing and meal plans. Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit with UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required, and in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter.

For more information about SOAR or to register visit www.utm.edu/soarregister, or call 731-881-7027.

Sisson tagged for Outstanding Bio Student

Brandt Sisson of South Fulton, son of Mike and Tammy Sisson, recently received the Outstanding Biology Student Award from the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Outstanding Student Awards were given from each of UT Martin’s five colleges, as well as many departmental and university-wide scholarship.

Sisson is a South Fulton High School graduate.
Inducted into Phi Kappa Phi

Local students inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin included (from left) Jennifer Reeves of Trenton, Kelly Kennedy of Medina and Rachel Hall of Humboldt. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character. Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent, and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education.

WestStar meets here

WestStar, under the auspices of the University of Tennessee at Martin, created in 1989 to serve the 21 counties of West Tennessee by providing leadership development and training for selected participants, had Session VI on Energy/Environment/Technology in the Teapot Room at Trenton City Hall Thursday. Warren Nevad, director, Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council of Knoxville, speaks to the class on “Energy 101” during the opening session. Pat Riley, Gibson County Utility District general manager and WestStar class graduate of the Class of 2002, led a class on “Natural Gas Issues” during the afternoon session. Among this year’s class is Gibson County Mayor Tom Witherspoon.
SOAR to help UTM freshmen students prepare for fall semester

Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester can get prepared for college life by attending the Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program. Incoming freshman and parents are highly encouraged to attend one of the three two-day SOAR programs scheduled for June 7-8, June 28-29 and July 16-17.

Students will get the opportunity to meet with academic advisers and register for classes; tour the campus, residence halls and University Village housing; receive information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and hear detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes). Students and parents will participate in a variety of informational sessions such as those on student health services, public safety, bookstore, student employment and other topics. Additional concurrent sessions also are scheduled for students and parents with topics including student activities, Greek life, housing and meal plans. Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required, and in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter. For more information about SOAR or to register visit www.utm.edu/soraregister, or call 731-881-7027.

ACT prep course offered in time for June 9 exam

A high score on the ACT exam could be worth thousands of dollars in scholarships for incoming college students. High school students who wish to improve their scores are encouraged to enroll in an ACT prep course, available through the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. The course will meet from 8 a.m.-noon on Saturdays, May 5-June 2, at the UT Martin Jackson Center.

Participants will use materials developed by Cambridge Educational Services. Students will learn how to complete test problems based on frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test-taking strategies. Students will take both a pre- and post-test under real testing conditions to determine individual skills and abilities. Each test is scored by Cambridge and students are given assessment reports with which to create a personal study plan.

The registration fee for the course includes two textbooks, one official ACT test and diagnostic reports. The textbooks for this course are the ACT Cambridge textbook and The Big Book of Skills textbook, both 11th editions. Class will not meet on May 26.

To register for the course, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/non_credit_registration.php.
Campus veteran’s group forms to offer assistance

Members of the new University of Tennessee at Martin student organization, Skyhawk Veteran’s Association, met recently to prepare for a landscape workday at the veteran’s memorial on the Weakly County courthouse lawn in Dresden. Pictured L to R: Justin Jones, vice president; Ron Cheatham, Weakly County Veterans Affairs officer; Kelly Karels; Dr. Alice Catherine-Carls, faculty advisor; Kevin Klutt; and David Crum, president.

Members of the Skyhawk Veteran’s Association (SVA) gathered recently on the Weakly County courthouse lawn in Dresden to prepare for a landscaping workday around the stone veteran’s memorial that stands in front of the local government building. It was one of the first of what some hope will be many activities of the newly formed student organization at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"To serve the living while honoring the fallen," is the motto of the SVA that was formed in the fall of 2011 and was approved as an official student organization in February 2012. It is the first UT Martin student veteran’s group since the early 1950s.

In recent years, the number of student veterans and families of deployed military personnel in my classes has steadily increased. So I decided to do something about it," said Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, UT Martin professor of history and SVA faculty advisor.

Carls said during her career as a professor she has been moved by the efforts of veterans and their family members to integrate into collegiate life. The SVA’s aim is to provide support to veterans and their families and in general be a place for encouragement.

“We hope to have a designated meeting place soon, perhaps an office where they can come, chat, have a cup of coffee; in general, where they can find resources to help them find a career path and achieve graduation, and perhaps even engage in graduate work. We hope to provide information about a number of issues ranging from veteran benefits to health care to academic information about majors and minors at UT Martin, to disabilities, to undergraduate scholarship and job opportunities," Carls said.

The SVA met weekly during the spring academic semester and will return to the Weakly County courthouse lawn to complete the landscaping project at 9 a.m. on May 11.
UTM CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER HONORED WITH RETIREMENT RECEPTION

- Current and former members of the UT Martin Information Technology Services staff gathered to honor Shannon Burgin with a retirement reception April 13 in the university's Holland McCombs Center. Burgin, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs and chief information officer, joined the university in 1978 and has directed Information Technology Services since 2002. On hand for the event were (from left) Scarlett McKinney, Patsy McNatt Young (former staff member), Burgin, Terry Lewis, Brenda Wright, Suzie Nanney and Bruce Harrison.

Free self-defense course offered at UT Martin

Free self-defense course offered at UTM A free course in women's self-defense and rape aggression defense (RAD) is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies. The course will be held from 4-10 p.m. May 21-22 on the main UT Martin campus.

Terry Guthrie, certified instructor in RAD basic physical defense, will instruct the course, focusing on education and awareness.

The course includes lecture, discussion and self-defense techniques and is suitable for women of all ages and abilities.

Participants are required to attend both days of instruction and will receive a certificate of completion at the end of the course.

The course is open to the general public, including UT Martin students, faculty and staff. Only women are eligible to participate.

For more information, contact ECOS at 881-7082.
UT Martin receives $200,000 from ‘Race to the Top’

The University of Tennessee at Martin received the largest amount awarded to any institution this year from the federal Race to the Top grant for the STEM Professional Development Program.

The overall purpose of the STEM Program is to provide high quality, research-based professional development to K-12 teachers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The grant proposal for the UT Martin program, titled “STEM-Integration for Middle School Teacher Academy” (SIMS-TA), focuses on integrating engineering and technology into middle school classrooms.

The Dickson County, Henderson County and Jackson/Madison County school systems will each send 10 science and mathematics teachers from grades 5-9 to participate in the one-week summer academy at UT Martin. Participants will learn to integrate various academic disciplines in order to provide students with a more comprehensive picture of the scientific world.

“We hope to create effective teachers in STEM integration. When teachers learn to integrate then students can learn more effectively,” said Dr. Becky Cox, co-writer of the project proposal and associate professor of educational studies at UT Martin.

“The biggest thing with our program is that we are incorporating engineering,” said Cox. “We’ll start with a science topic and, through modeling, allow teachers to create lessons to take back to their classrooms.”

The UT Martin program will focus on hands-on, inquiry-based learning and use models to translate written problems into real-life concepts. For example, a model of a human arm could be used to demonstrate how simple machines work together to create complex mechanisms.

The STEM program seeks to make middle school teachers more comfortable teaching engineering and technological concepts in science and mathematics courses. The goal is to make it easier for teachers to provide students with the “bigger picture” while still working toward set classroom standards.

“Participating teachers will receive and be taught to use an iPad for use in their classrooms,” said Cox. “We will also fund attendance at professional science and math conferences during the 2012-2013 school year for our participants.”

The academy will be offered during the summer in both 2012 and 2013.

The UT Martin proposal was developed through the joint efforts of Cox; Ramona Nelson, STEM project coordinator and lecturer of educational studies; and Dr. Ray Witmer, associate professor of engineering. Other members of the leadership team include Dr. Louis Kolitsch, professor of mathematics and statistics; Dr. Lionel Crews, associate professor of chemistry and physics; and Dr. Charles Baldwin, professor of chemistry at Union University.

Seventeen other programs at various Tennessee institutions were also chosen for Race to the Top grants.

For more information, contact Cox by email at beckyc@utm.edu or Witmer by phone at 881-7388.
Children have a special friend in Teresa Easton. The Tennessee Higher Education Commission, for her work as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, honored the University of Tennessee at Martin student April 26. Easton, a senior social work major from Lexington, received a Love Community Service Award during a reception at the THEC offices in Nashville.

Awards went to five faculty/staff members and five students who excel in volunteer work and community service activities. The Tennessee General Assembly created the recognition programs for faculty, staff and students at public and private two- and four-year post-secondary institutions in 1991. In 1993, the General Assembly funded the program by presenting $1,000 cash awards to future recipients.

The awards are named for the late Tennessee Rep. Harold Love, who sponsored legislation to create the recognition program.

"Teresa is an excellent example of someone pursuing a passion and helping others in the process," said Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

"She serves one of the most vulnerable segments of our population as an advocate for abused and neglected children. We're grateful that this awards program has chosen to honor her."

As an advocate, Easton researches each child's circumstances by speaking with family, friends, teachers, physicians, social workers and others to determine the child's current situation. She then works to assure that each child's needs are being met and that the children are receiving all services for which they are eligible. When the case is in court, she files a report with each child's current situation and any recommendations that she believes are in the child's best interest.

She recently became the AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteer in Service to America) for Northwest Tennessee CASA, with her primary goal to build the program's capacity and sustainability. As a VISTA, she recruits volunteers, fundraises, does community outreach and education, and develops media and public-relations materials. "I became involved with CASA because I wanted a concrete way of making a difference in the lives of children," Easton said. "In particular, I wanted to help children who had been abused and neglected. When I discovered CASA, I knew that was what I wanted to do, and I've never regretted that decision."

She especially enjoys working directly with children and seeing results that change lives. "It's amazing to see a child going from being withdrawn and sad to becoming an open, loving and happy child," she said. "To see these children find a place to call home, a place where they know they'll be safe and loved, is the most amazing thing, and it makes me happy to know that I had a small part in making that happen."

Easton, who will receive her bachelor's degree this coming December, believes serving others is important and that community members have an obligation to be involved "even if it is only in a small way." She said, "Communities need people to get involved in order to thrive. This is especially true in rural areas like West Tennessee."

Easton's recognition brings the total to 27 students, faculty and staff members from UT Martin recognized by the THEC Love Community Service Awards programs.
COMPLEX NAMED FOR FACULTY MEMBERS – University officials, family members and other guests gathered April 17 for the formal naming of UT Martin's horticulture and turfgrass complex. The area, located just north of the main campus on Farm Road, is now the McMahan/Knepp Horticulture and Turfgrass Complex, named for the late John McMahan and Earl Knepp, both longtime university faculty members.

On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Jerry Gresham, interim dean, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; David Shoaf, of Horn Lake, Miss., donor and project leader; Dot Spann, daughter of Earl Knepp, and her husband, Ray, both of Jackson; and Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor.

UTM complex named after faculty

University officials, family members and other guests gathered April 17 for the formal naming of UT Martin's horticulture and turfgrass complex.

The area, located just north of the main campus on Farm Road, is now the McMahan/Knepp Horticulture and Turfgrass Complex, named for the late John McMahan and Earl Knepp, both longtime university faculty members.

McMahan came to UT Martin in 1937 as head of the university's Department of Agriculture, while Knepp began teaching agricultural engineering and other agriculture courses in 1936. Both dedicated their educational careers to building and supporting the agricultural teaching tradition on the Martin campus.

Friends and former students have committed more than $73,000 to establish the McMahan/Knepp Workshop Endowment.

Additionally, the Knepp family and others created an endowment to honor Knepp, which totals more than $33,000.
**Race**

Continued from Page A1

Cox, co-writer of the project proposal and associate professor of educational studies at UTM.

"The biggest thing with our program is that we are incorporating engineering," Cox said. "We'll start with a science topic and, through modeling, allow teachers to create lessons to take back to their classrooms."

The UTM program will focus on hands-on, inquiry-based learning and use models to translate written problems into real-life concepts. For example, a model of a human arm could be used to demonstrate how simple machines work together to create complex mechanisms.

The STEM program seeks to make middle school teachers more comfortable teaching engineering and technological concepts in science and mathematics courses. The goal is to make it easier for teachers to provide students with the "bigger picture" while still working toward set classroom standards.

"Participating teachers will receive and be taught to use an iPad for use in their classrooms," Cox said. "We will also fund attendance at professional science and math conferences during the 2012-2013 school year for our participants."

The academy will be offered during the summer in both 2012 and 2013. The UTM proposal was developed through the joint efforts of Cox; Ramona Nelson, STEM project coordinator and lecturer of educational studies; and Ray Witmer, associate professor of engineering. Other members of the leadership team include Louis Kolitsch, professor of mathematics and statistics; Lionel Crews, associate professor of chemistry and physics; and Charles Baldwin, professor of chemistry at Union University.

Seventeen other programs at various Tennessee institutions were also chosen for Race to the Top grants.

For more information, contact Cox by email at beckyc@utm.edu or Witmer by phone at 881-7388.

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**Three locals honored during UTM event**

Three Henry Countians were awarded during the recent 48th annual Honors Day ceremony at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Recognized were Janna L. Stubblefield, Chelsea N. Peeler and Amber L. Wood, all of Paris.

Stubblefield received the Carol McElvain Memorial award. The award is presented by the department of nursing and to a student in the junior level of the clinical nursing program. The recipient selected has demonstrated courage, determination and evidence of persistence, while maintaining a standard of excellence in performance.

Peeler received the $1,000 Norman and Ruby Campbell Scholarship award. The award is given to returning students majoring in chemistry. Norman Campbell served as a professor of chemistry, head of the physical sciences division, dean of instruction and vice chancellor of academic affairs at UTM for several years.

The Campbell scholarship was established by his family to honor him and his wife, Ruby. Students receiving the award are selected by the chemistry faculty of the department of chemistry and physics.

Wood received the Outstanding Educational Studies (grades) 4-8 Student award from the College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences.
OUTDOORS: UTM bass tournament grows in popularity

The University of Tennessee Bass Anglers Club got exactly what they were looking for—and more—when their fourth annual Buddy Bass Tournament was held out of Paris Landing last Saturday.

The tournament attracted 39 boats and produced approximately $800 in proceeds which benefits the UTM Bass Club.

"The guys worked really, really hard and it paid off," Bud Grimes said. "It's not a funded sport (so) I'm still amazed how this team has a club sport that gets the support they do."

Bud Grimes is UTM's director of university relations.

Area winners included McKenzie's Marshall Russey and Hunter Garrett, who took fourth overall after snagging 16.11 pounds of bass.

UTM club members directed, but did not participate in the tournament.

"In this day, with gas prices the way they are, I'm pleased with (tournament)," UTM team president Grayson Smith said. "It turned out real well."

For more information about the UTM Bass Club, e-mail Grayson at grawsmit@ut.utm.edu or team vice president Dylan Powley at matdpowl@ut.utm.edu, or call Bud Grimes (731) 881-7616.

UT Martin awarded Race to Top money

The University of Tennessee at Martin received $200,000—the largest amount awarded to any institution this year—from the federal Race to the Top grant for the STEM Professional Development Program.

The overall purpose of the STEM Program is to provide high-quality, research-based professional development to K-12 teachers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The grant proposal for the UT Martin program, titled "STEM-Integration for Middle School Teacher Academy" (SIMS-TA), focuses on integrating engineering and technology into middle school classrooms.

The Dickson County, Henderson County and Jackson/Madison County school systems will each send 10 science and mathematics teachers from grades 5-9 to participate in the one-week summer academy at UT Martin. Participants will learn to integrate various academic disciplines in order to provide students with a more comprehensive picture of the scientific world.

"We hope to create effective teachers in STEM integration. When teachers learn to integrate, then students can learn more effectively," said Dr. Becky Cox, co-writer of the project proposal and associate professor of educational studies at UT Martin.

"The biggest thing with our program is that we are incorporating engineering."

(See Page 2, Col. 3)

UT Martin...

(Continued from Page 1)

Dr. Cox said. "We'll start with a science topic and, through modeling, allow teachers to create lessons to take back to their classrooms."

The UT Martin program will focus on hands-on, inquiry-based learning and use models to translate written problems into real-life concepts. For example, a model of a human arm could be used to demonstrate how simple machines work together to create complex mechanisms.

The STEM program seeks to make middle school teachers more comfortable teaching engineering and technological concepts in science and mathematics courses. The goal is to make it easier for teachers to provide students with the "bigger picture" while still working toward set classroom standards.

"Participating teachers will receive and be taught to use an iPad for use in their classrooms," Dr. Cox said. "We will also fund attendance at professional science and math conferences during the 2012-13 school year for our participants."

The academy will be offered during the summer in both 2012 and 2013. The UT Martin proposal was developed through the joint efforts of Dr. Cox; Ramona Nelson, STEM project coordinator and lecturer of educational studies; and Dr. Ray Witmer, associate professor of engineering. Other members of the leadership team include Dr. Louis Koltitsch, professor of mathematics and statistics; Dr. Lionel Crews, associate professor of chemistry and physics; and Dr. Charles Baldwin, professor of chemistry at Union University.

Seventeen other programs at various Tennessee institutions were also chosen for Race to the Top grants.

For more information, contact Dr. Cox by email at beckyc@utm.edu or Dr. Witmer by phone at (731) 881-7388.
Self-defense offered free at UT Martin

A free course in women's self-defense and rape aggression defense (RAD) is available through the University of Tennessee at Martin's Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The course will be held 4-10 p.m. May 21-22 on campus.

Terry Guthrie, certified instructor in RAD basic physical defense, will instruct the course, which includes lecture, discussion and self-defense techniques and is suitable for women of all ages and abilities. Participants are required to attend both days of instruction and will receive a certificate of completion.

The course is open to the general public, including UT Martin students, faculty and staff. Only women are eligible to participate.

For more information, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082.

Students learn to SOAR for fall semester at UTM

Incoming freshmen who plan to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin during the fall semester can get prepared for college life by attending the Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) program.

Incoming freshman and parents are highly encouraged to attend one of the three two-day SOAR programs scheduled for June 7-8, June 28-29 and July 16-17.

Students will get the opportunity to meet with academic advisers and register for classes; tour the campus, residence halls and University Village housing; receive information about student activities, housing and financial aid; and hear detailed information about First-Year Initiative (an orientation for freshmen the week before classes).

Students and parents will participate in a variety of informational sessions such as those on student health services, public safety, bookstore, student employment and other topics. Additional concurrent sessions also are scheduled for students and parents with topics including student activities, Greek life, housing and meal plans.

Administrative offices will be open and students and parents will get additional time to visit with UT Martin personnel in housing, admissions and financial aid.

Advance SOAR registration is required and, in order to attend SOAR, students must have applied for admission and received a tentative or final acceptance letter.

For more information or to register, visit www.utm.edu/soarregister or call (731) 881-7027.

Three county college summit to be held later this week | News

Title (Max 100 Characters)
Three county college summit to be held later this week

Submitted by Justin Henson, News@news,. West Tennessee Reporter
Monday, May 7th, 2012, 1:52pm

Three county college summit to be held later this week

Colleges from Middle and West Tennessee are participating in a Three-County College Summit that organizers believe could be one of the area's largest college summits ever held from 7:50 a.m. to 2 p.m. on May 10-11 at Dyersburg State Community College's Covington Campus. The "Southwest Tennessee Regional College Summit" is a partnership effort between SWTDD's Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) College Access Program, Tipton, Lauderdale, and Haywood county schools; and Dyersburg State Community College.

On May 10, juniors from Ripley, Halls, and Haywood high schools will attend the college summit; on May 11, juniors from Covington, Munford and Brighton high schools will attend.

Door prizes will be given to the students by the participating colleges: UT Martin, Lane College, Union University, University of Memphis, Tennessee Technology Center-Memphis, Tennessee Technology Center-Ripley, Middle Tennessee State University, Austin Peay State University, Jackson State Community College, and Dyersburg State Community College. Additionally, the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation and VWIA 12-Workforce Development personnel will be on hand to help guide students.
Grads told to savor moment

UT president speaks at Martin ceremony

The Jackson Sun

MARTIN — University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro advised graduates to “savor this moment” as they prepared to receive degrees during the UT Martin spring commencement Saturday at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. DiPietro delivered the commencement address and conferred degrees during the larger of two annual UT Martin commencement events, according to a news release.

“For those of us — faculty, staff, administrators and others who watch the coming and going of students, a commencement ceremony gives us a great sense of accomplishment at your success,” he said. “For you, it means the culmination of many years of hard work, many years of learning, trials, tribulations. ... For your parents and family, it is an emotional and joyous time.”

DiPietro referenced two points from the book “10½ Things No Commencement Speaker Has Ever Said” by Dr. Charles Wheelan. The book is based on a commencement speech the author gave at Dartmouth College.

“First, as Wheelan says, ‘It’s all borrowed time,’” DiPietro said. “That is not something a commencement speaker would normally tell an audience of soon-to-be college graduates. The rest of your life is ahead of you, and yes, many of you have decades left to pursue a career, raise a family, go on a vacation and retire.”

He used the author’s advice in urging graduates to pursue opportunities and live full lives. “What Wheelan says is don’t have regrets, don’t take anything for granted,” DiPietro said. He advised the audience to “play hard and have some fun” and take time to love someone.

“The second item I’ll mention from the book is your time in a fraternity or sorority, or in extracurricular clubs or events, was well spent here at UT Martin,” DiPietro said. These additional activities develop friendships and memories that won’t be forgotten, he said.

DiPietro reminded the audience that higher education has seen its share of news coverage in recent times. “The state of our economy has made everyone examine the value of everything, and that is true of college degrees as well.” He noted the cost of tuition, the investment of time and the value of a degree in finding a job.

For those graduating and questioning whether college was worth it, he said, “I can give you an emphatic and big fat Yes.”

DiPietro said that each of his degrees has improved his life, although achieving the degrees wasn’t easy. He noted statistics that show college degrees are worth $1 million more in earning potential over a lifetime compared to a high school diploma only.

For those not finding work within their chosen major, he said, “Let me encourage you to be flexible and open-minded about jobs.”

DiPietro used his own veterinary medicine degree as an example, noting that he first worked as a practicing veterinarian, moved into teaching and research, and then into higher education administration. Today, he applies problem-solving skills learned in the veterinary medicine profession in his role as UT president.

“You need to lay out a plan, but remain flexible and grasp opportunities as you may wish throughout your career,” he said.

DiPietro also advised graduates to prepare for changes in life and to embrace them.

“Life and careers present you with unexpected opportunities as well, and it will be up to you to take a chance, to be bold, to have faith and go for it,” he said, adding, “Be excited for the opportunities to face change, because it will stretch your intellect, and it’s likely to maximize your successes.”

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the audience and presided over the event. He recognized the university’s 2012 Outstanding Faculty Award recipients and acknowledged the families, friends and supporters of the graduates in attendance.

ON THE WEB
Visit jacksontn.com for photo galleries from area college graduations.

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Grads

Continued from Page B1

University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro speaks on Saturday at UT Martin’s commencement exercises. PHOTO COURTESY OF UT MARTIN
**The CityPaper**

**Monday, 7 May, 2012**

Welcome Guest! Login

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**The Commercial Appeal | Saturday, May 5, 2012**

**Thomas T. Bowen** of Millington recently received the Outstanding Upper Division Management, Marketing, Computer Science, and Information Systems Student award from the College of Business and Global Affairs during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

**Kelsey R. Dotson** of Cordova recently received the Outstanding Educational Studies K-6 Student Award from the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Dotson also received the Gallien Award. The Gallien Award is given in memory of Dr. Glenn S. Gallien, who served as the first head of the teacher education unit at UT Martin.

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**The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Monday, May 7, 2012**

**AT CONFERENCE** — Curtis and Gloria McLendon of Union City attended the University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar Leadership Program’s 14th annual African-American Leadership Conference recently at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research in Jackson. McLendon is a member of the Union City School Board.

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**UTM to host business summit**

The 6th Annual Mid-South Economic and Business Development Summit will be held from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. on May 15 in the Boling University Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus.

This year’s theme is “Operation: Economic Empowerment.”

The summit is sponsored by Dyersburg State Community College’s Tennessee Small Business Development Center, UTM’s TSBD, the WestStar Leadership Program and the UTM REED Center.

The schedule of events for the summit will be:

- **8 a.m.** - Registration begins.
- **8:30** - Welcoming remarks by Landy Fuqua, REED Center interim director; Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor; Youlanda Jones-Wilcox, DSCC vice president for institutional advancement and continuing education; and Maleia M. Evans, director of the DSCC TSBD.
- **8:45-9:55** - “Mission: Don’t Just Tell It, Sell Your Story” by Pinky Gonzales, celebrity business consultant and senior vice president of brand development for BubbleUp, Inc.
- **9:55-10:05** - Break/networking contest.
- **10:35-10:45** - Break/networking contest.
- **Noon-1:30 p.m.** - 6th anniversary luncheon and keynote speaker Sherry Stewart Deutschmann, founder and CEO of LetterLogic, Inc.; “Corporate Culture...What Sets Your Company or Your Community Apart?”

Participants may register for the business summit online at www.utm.edu/midsouthsummit or by calling Landy Fuqua, REED Center interim director, at (731) 587-7333.

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Andrew Usery has been hired as a manager in accounting and assurance services. Usery is a graduate of UT-Martin, at which he earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration.
Cattlemen's Association awards scholarships

The Cheatham County Cattlemen’s Association recently hosted over 170 guests at the fourth annual dinner and benefit auction to raise funds for its college scholarship program.

The event was held at the Livery Stables in Pleasant View.

Families of scholarship recipients, cattle producers, county leaders and numerous community guests enjoyed a rib eye steak dinner complete with live entertainment provided by local singing artist, Tyler Shayne and friends.

Following the dinner, Cattlemen’s Association president David Shores presented a total of $3,750 in scholarships to five local youth who were selected as the 2012 recipients.

The recipients are Thomas Dalton Pate (2009 graduate of Harpeth High School, attending MTSU, son of Allen and Janet Pate), Jeffrey Dale Hester (2009 Sycamore High School graduate, attending Austin Peay State University, son of Randy and Tammy Hester), Colby Hunter Taylor (2011 Harpeth High School graduate, attending UT Martin, son of Terrill and Susan Taylor), Sarah Traylor (2012 Clarksville High School graduate, daughter of Phillip and Denise Traylor, plans to attend Murray State University) and Cheyenne Hooks (2012 Sycamore High School graduate, daughter of Craig and Rhonda Hooks, plans to attend Murray State University).

Following the recognition of scholarship recipients, UT Extension director Ronnie Barron recognized the family of the late Morris Bidwell and the contributions he made to the community as a leader and cattle producer.

In his memory, numerous individuals donated a total of $1,700 to the college scholarship fund.

The grand finale of the evening was a live auction, conducted by auctioneer Stephen Carr.

Numerous auction items donated by local individuals and businesses added over $2,800 to the college scholarship fund for future recipients.
Local Students Win UTM Poster Competition at Conference

MARTIN (April 19) — Four social work students from the University of Tennessee at Martin recently won the Student Policy Poster Competition at the Tennessee chapter's National Association of Social Workers annual legislative conference. It is the third poster competition win for the UT Martin Social Work program since the inception of the poster competition in 2005. The group also won two preliminary poster competitions before advancing to the state level. Pictured L to R are students Iana Mullen, of Atwood; Katherine Blaylock, of Dresden; Kristin Howes, of Martin; and Jamie Mills of McKenzie.

Local Students Participate in Math Contest

The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Students from McKenzie High School who participated were, from left to right, (first row) Ashley Hughes, Olivia Pate, Kaitlen Ridley, Dan Hoffman; (second row) Brennan Marr, Joshua McCoy and Brady Wilkes.
Raymond Gardner's friends call him "Rusty," but now they'll also know him as "college graduate." Rusty and his children, Jordan and Amy, also earned the same distinction as all three received degrees during Saturday's spring commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Next spring, wife, Marchell, will receive her degree, completing the Gardner family's circle of college graduates.

The journey to Saturday's commencement began more than 30 years ago as Rusty entered UT Martin in 1980 to study business administration and continue his football career.

Raised in Dresden as the youngest of four children, he excelled in football at Dresden High School. While his college football career as a strong safety was a success, he struggled academically.

"I was having too much fun I guess," he recalled. "Got in trouble academically, ... sat out a little while, then never did just go back." By this time, he was married, then Jordan and Amy came along, and working replaced finishing college as a priority.

He first worked with his uncle as a painter and also held a second job a casual carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. He next worked almost 10 years as a supervisor at Rebel Screeners in Sharon before landing a job with Goodyear in Union City through The Hamilton-Ryker Co. In 1998, he was hired through Goodyear as an area manager and later became a shift coordinator.

Rusty earned a good living, but Marchell, the long-term care ombudsman for Northwest Tennessee Human Resource Agency, never let him forget about his unfinished degree. "My wife attempted to get me to go back several times, but I was salary at Goodyear, and I was afraid that as soon as I went back to college – you know, being salary, I didn't have my choice of what shift I wanted to be on," he said.

SEE FAMILY, PAGE 4
FAMILY
FROM PAGE 1

Life happened again in February 2011 when Rusty heard in the news that the company was “intending to shut down Goodyear in Union City.” The words "intending to" were critical as this created hope that the shutdown wouldn’t occur. Then on Sunday, July 10, the third shift reported for work but posted on Facebook that they were told to gather their belongings and leave. Rusty reported Monday with the second shift, and the same thing happened.

When he arrived early, as was his custom, management directed workers to a meeting room; later, the hourly workers collected their belongings and left. The managers could stay until the hourly workers left, and then they could leave.

... My wife called me, said that FedEx had just dropped off a certified letter, and she read it to me, and they told me that I no longer had a job at Goodyear. That’s the way they actually let me know,“ he said. He hoped to stay with the company longer, but the only people who remained were those accepting assignments at other plants. The Gardners considered transferring, but they saw this as an opportunity for Rusty to complete his degree. He enrolled in fall 2011 to join three other family members attending the university.

Marchell first came to UT Martin in 1978 where she’s taken classes periodically for 30 years. A licensed practical nurse, she has worked in health care since 1983. The year 2009 was a turning point when a friend told her that the two would complete a four-year degree together. “She has not let me quit, and it’s been wonderful, because I feel like I’ve been a role model for my husband and for my kids,” Marchell said.

For Jordan and Amy, the financial impact of Goodyear’s closing was one matter, but seeing their parents taking classes was something else entirely. Jordan, who received a degree in health and human performance, seldom saw his parents on campus, but he did see his dad transform into a college student.

... We don’t eat at our dining room table,” he said. “And our dining room table is literally covered with papers and books and pens from this constant studying, note-taking that he sits there and does on a regular basis. And I always joke with him and tell him that, you know, in my five years of college, I don’t think I’ve done as much studying as he’s done in two semesters.

Amy, who earned a business administration degree, agreed that having the entire family on campus was different. “It was weird at first,” she said. “It was OK when it was just mama, because you don’t see her as much, but once it was all four of us, it was definitely weird, but you got use to it. And it was funny with mama and daddy, because they compete to make higher grades, and when they study together, it’s just funny.”

Rusty and Marchell had to make some adjustments as well, especially when the couple took classes together. “It’s just awful,” she said laughing as she recalled taking classes with her husband. “I call him the overachiever. He’s just blossomed I should say. But he pushes me, and so sometimes I have to say, ‘We have two different learning styles. We have two different studying styles, and in the end, I’m always going to be smarter. We just have a different way of arriving to that,’” she said.

While his other family members were already accustomed to college, Rusty was adjusting to classes in which he was often the oldest student. On one occasion, a female student called him “Mr. Rusty,” and the professor laughed and said, “Did you hear that? You hear the respect she gave you? I don’t think I’ve ever had a student call another one ‘mister’ in my class.”

He said walking into the classroom the first semester was hard, but he saw more nontraditional students the second semester, some of them former Goodyear coworkers. “I was one of the lucky ones that I was able to get in fall semester (2011), and it wasn’t easy,” he said, crediting Beth Edwards, university studies coordinator, for guiding him through the process.

Rusty knows that he couldn’t have finished his degree without Marchell’s support, explaining, “So she’s got two jobs, she’s a full-time student, she’s got two hard-headed kids and a husband without a job. So she’s the hero of the family.” Besides her hectic schedule, Marchell also battles personal health problems. Combined with the Goodyear closure, the family has succeeded in college despite significant challenges.

As for graduating with Jordan and Amy, Rusty said, “I’m more excited than they are. I mean, it means a lot. I want them to be able to get a job that they like.” One of his philosophy teachers told Rusty’s class, “When you have a job you like, you never go to work a day of your life.” So I want them to be able to go to a job that they like going to every day,” he said, quickly adding, “Of course, I want them to make a lot of money and be successful and remember old dad.”

Rusty will use his 25 years of management experience and new degree to re-enter the job market. Jordan will seek his first full-time position, and Amy plans to enter the MBA program this fall at Middle Tennessee State University.

Marchell will celebrate for different reasons when she graduates.

“It’s really a personal challenge for me. It’s a ‘bucket list’ kind of thing. I’m perfectly happy in the job that I have,” she said, adding, “It’s taken me 30 years, but I’m going to get it, and it’s something that once I have it (her degree), nobody can take that away from me.”

Legendary baseball pitcher Satchel Paige is known for saying, “Don’t look back. Something might be gaining on you.”

Rusty, Jordan and Amy Gardner aren’t looking back as they face the future with college degrees in hand.

If anything is gaining on them, it’s the family hero, Marchell, who’ll join the rest of the Gardner family in May 2013 as the family’s next college graduate.
DiPietro tells grads to ‘savor’ moment

University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro advised UT Martin graduates to “savor this moment” as they prepared to receive degrees during the university’s spring commencement exercises Saturday at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center.

DiPietro both delivered the commencement address and conferred degrees during the larger of two annual UT Martin commencement events.

“For those of us—faculty, staff, administrators and others—who watch the coming and going of students, a commencement ceremony gives us a great sense of accomplishment at your success,” he said.

“For you, it means the culmination of many years of hard work, many years of learning, trials, tribulations. ... For your parents and family, it is an emotional and joyous time.”

To further highlight the day’s importance, the UT president referenced two points from the book “10½ Things No Commencement Speaker Has Ever Said” by Dr. Charles Wheelan.

The book is based on a

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GRADS
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commencement speech the author gave at Dartmouth College.

“First, as Wheelan says, ‘It’s all borrowed time,’” DiPietro said.

“That is not something a commencement speaker would normally tell an audience of soon-to-be college graduates. The rest of your life is ahead of you, and yes, many of you have decades left to pursue a career, raise a family, go on a vacation and retire.”

He used the author’s advice in urging graduates to pursue opportunities and live full lives.

“What Wheelan says is don’t have regrets, don’t take anything for granted,” DiPietro said. He advised the audience to “play hard and have some fun” and take time to love someone. “And every day you should give thanks for having another day,” he added. “The second item I’ll mention from the book is your time in a fraternity or sorority or in extracurricular clubs or events, was well spent here at UT Martin,” DiPietro said. These additional activities develop friendships and memories that won’t be forgotten, he said.

“Those experiences make a difference in your life and broaden who you are as a person.”

DiPietro reminded the audience that higher education has seen its share of news coverage in recent times.

“The state of our economy has made everyone examine the value of everything, and that is true of college degrees as well.”

He noted the cost of tuition, the investment of time and the value of a degree in finding a job.

“For those graduating and questioning whether college was worth it, he said, “I can give you an emphatic and a big fat ‘Yes.’” From personal experience, he said that each of his degrees has improved his life, although achieving these degrees wasn’t easy. He noted statistics that show college degrees are worth $1 million more in earning potential over a lifetime compared to a high school diploma only.

“For those not finding work within their chosen major, he said, “Let me encourage you to be flexible and open-minded about jobs.” He used his own veterinary medicine degree as an example, noting that he first worked as a practicing veterinarian, moved into teaching and research, and then into higher education administration. Today, he applies problem-solving skills learned in the veterinary medicine profession in his role as UT president.

“You need to lay out a plan, but remain flexible and grasp opportunities as you may wish throughout your career.”

He also advised graduates to prepare for changes in life and to embrace them.

“Life and careers present you with unexpected opportunities as well, and it will be up to you to take a chance, to be bold, to have faith and go for it,” he said, adding, “Be excited for the opportunities to face change, because it will stretch your intellect, and it’s likely to maximize your successes.”

DiPietro emphasized that college graduates are in a position to accomplish great things. “Do something before others consider doing it—you know, like those Facebook or Google folks,” he said. “I encourage you to do what you can to make a positive difference in this world. Or, as Charles Wheelan says in his book, ‘Don’t make the world worse.’

“You don’t have to cure cancer or be the next Internet sensation to be successful or make difference. But if you do, I’m sure our development office will be in touch with you,” he added.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the audience and presided over the event. He recognized the university’s 2012 Outstanding Faculty Award recipients and acknowledged the families, friends and supporters of the graduates in attendance. In turn, he asked graduates to stand and applaud those who supported them through their college experience.
NURSING STUDENTS PROVIDE ASSESSMENTS AT MSAC — The UTM Health Assessment Class recently provided physical assessments for people at the Martin Senior Adult Center. Students and participants included (standing, from left) Trina Morris, SAC program coordinator; Arlene Miles; Wayne Copeland; Chelsea Quinn; Becca Payne; Dr. Mary Radford; (front) Callie Brison; Kelsey McAlexander; and Dr. Julie Floyd. (Photo submitted.)

ON THE ROAD AGAIN — Members of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity at the University of Tennessee at Martin hit the road early Monday bound for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. Along the way, they planned to solicit donations to help the children's hospital. The group rolled through Union City's Reelfoot Avenue Monday afternoon. UTM is on its summer break and the dedicated group of fraternity members is scheduled to arrive in Memphis Wednesday. Last year, the fraternity raised $110,000 and this year's goal is $120,000, according to fraternity spokesman Bradley Harris.
Top Ten to honor 122 academic achievers Thursday

More than 120 of the top academic students in Paris and Henry County will be recognized Thursday night during the 54th annual Top Ten scholarship program.

The speaker will be Tom Rakes, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin. The program will begin at 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Paris.

Students to be recognized for their 2011-12 achievement are the top 10 in each of the four grades (9-12) at Henry County High School and its Grove freshmen campus, plus the top eight eighth-graders and the top seven seventh-graders at Inman Middle, Harrelson, Henry and Lakewood schools. These numbers will be expanded when necessary to include all straight-A students.

The students will be presented with academic pins for finishing at the top of their classes this year.

Also to be honored are the seven HCHS graduating seniors with the highest four-year scholastic average. They will receive college scholarships totaling $2,000.

Honorees plus principals and faculty members from Inman and each county school will attend the program, along with sponsors, school board members, county Director of Schools Sam Miles and Paris Special School District Supt. Mike Brown.

The program will begin at 7 p.m. in the church sanctuary, then will be followed by a catered dessert reception in the church's Christian Life Center for everyone attending.

The Top Ten program is sponsored by four banks — Commercial, FirstBank, Foundation and Security — plus The Post-Intelligencer and WMUF/WLZK Radio.

The six sponsors provide funds for Top Ten pins, the seven scholarships, the dessert reception and other expenses involved in the event, which is designed to recognize students solely on academic achievement.

Bill Williams, editor emeritus of The P-I, will serve as master of ceremonies and Rosie Johnson of Security Bank will introduce the speaker.

The Rev. Megan Houston of First Christian Church in Paris will give the invocation before the program.

Lance Pierce of WMUF/WLZK will present the scholarships, while Miles, Brown and the school principals will present the Top Ten pins.

Dr. Rakes is the ninth chancellor at UTM. Previously, he served as UTM provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. He was interim president at the University of Louisiana at Monroe where he also was provost and vice president for academic affairs, dean of graduate studies and research, and dean of the College of Education and Human Development from 1995-2002.

A Virginia native, Rakes began his career in higher education at the University of Memphis, where he spent 16 years as a faculty member, seven years as a department chairman, and where he also served as director of research and development in the College of Education.

He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Milligan College, a master's from East Tennessee State University and a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. In 2010, Rakes also was awarded an honorary doctoral degree from Hiroasaki University, Japan.

During his career, Rakes has written 24 books and monographs, and more than 80 national and international-level publication articles. He has served as principal investigator or administrator for more than $7.5 million in external grants.

He has been involved on numerous community boards, including Boy Scouts of America, United Way, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Blue Ribbon Commission on Excellence in Education and the Chamber of Commerce.

Rakes has served as a consultant to more than 40 different colleges and universities in 21 states, as well as corporate groups such as Belz Enterprises and Harcourt Brace, plus several insurance companies and financial institutions.

His wife, Glenda Rakes, is a UTM professor of education, who specializes in instructional design and technology.
“Father Makes Three” as Gardner Family Members Receive Degrees

Raymond Gardner’s friends call him “Rusty,” but now they’ll also know him as “college graduate.” Rusty and his children, Jordan and Amy, also earned the same distinction as all three received degrees during Saturday’s spring commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Next spring, wife, Marchell, will receive her degree, completing the Gardner family’s circle of college graduates.

The journey to Saturday’s commencement began more than 30 years ago as Rusty entered UT Martin in 1980 to study business administration and continue his football career. Raised in Dresden as the youngest of four children, he excelled in football at Dresden High School. While his college football career was a strong safety, he struggled academically. “I was having too much fun I guess,” he recalled. “Got in trouble academically, sat out a little while, then never did just go back.” By this time, he was married, then Jordan and Amy came along, and working replaced finishing college as a priority.

He first worked with his uncle as a painter and also held a second job a casual carrier for the U.S. Postal Service. He next worked almost 10 years as a supervisor at Rebel Screeners in Sharon before landing a job with Goodyear in Union City through The Hamilton-Ryker Co. In 1998, he was hired through Goodyear as an area manager and later became a shift coordinator.

Rusty earned a good living, but Marchell, the long-term care ombudsman for Northwest Tennessee Human Resource Agency, never let him forget about his unfinished degree. “My wife attempted to get me to go back several times, but I was salary at Goodyear, and I was afraid that as soon as I went back to college - you know, being salary, I didn’t have my choice of what shift I wanted to be on,” he said.

Life happened again in February 2011 when Rusty heard in the news that the company was “intending to shut down Goodyear in Union City.” The words “intending to” were critical as this created hope that the shutdown wouldn’t occur. Then on Sunday, July 10, the third shift reported for work but posted on Facebook that they were told to gather their belongings and leave. Rusty reported Monday with the second shift, and the same thing happened.

When he arrived early, as was his custom, management directed workers to a meeting room; later, the hourly workers collected their belongings and left. The managers could stay until the hourly workers left, and then they could leave.

“... My wife called me, said that FedEx had just dropped off a certified letter, and she read it to me, and they told me that I no longer had a job at Goodyear. That’s the way they actually let me know,” he said. He hoped to stay with the company longer, but the only persons who remained were those accepting assignments at other plants. The Gardners considered transferring, but they saw this as an opportunity for Rusty to complete his degree. He enrolled in fall 2011 to join three other family members attending the university.

Marchell first came to UT Martin in 1978 where she’s taken classes periodically for 30 years. A licensed practical nurse, she has worked in health care since 1983. The year 2009 was a turning point when a friend told her that the two would complete a four-year degree together. “She has not let me quit, and it’s been wonderful, because I feel like I’ve been a role model for my husband and for my kids,” Marchell said.
For Jordan and Amy, the financial impact of Goodyear's closing was one matter, but seeing their parents taking classes was something else entirely. Jordan, who received a degree in health and human performance, seldom saw his parents on campus, but he did see his dad transform into a college student.

"...We don't eat at our dining room table," he said. "And our dining room table is literally covered with papers and books and pens from this constant studying, note-taking that he sits there and does on a regular basis. And I always joke with him and tell him that, you know, in my five years of college, I don't think I've done as much studying as he's done in two semesters.

Amy, who earned a business administration degree, agreed that having the entire family on campus was different. "It was weird at first," she said. "It was OK when it was just mama, because you don't see her as much, but once it was all four of us, it was definitely weird, but you got use to it. And it was funny with mama and daddy, because they compete to make higher grades, and when they study together, it's just funny."

Rusty and Marchell had to make some adjustments as well, especially when the couple took classes together. "It's just awful," she said laughing as she recalled taking classes with her husband. "I call him the overachiever. ... He has just blossomed I should say. But he pushes me, and so sometimes I have to say, 'We have two different learning styles. We have two different studying styles, and in the end, I'm always going to be smarter. We just have a different way of arriving to that,'" she said.

While his other family members were already accustomed to college, Rusty was adjusting to classes in which he was often the oldest student. On one occasion, a female student called him "Mr. Rusty," and the professor laughed and said, "Did you hear that? You hear the respect she gave you? I don't think I've ever had a student call another one 'mister' in my class."

He said walking into the classroom the first semester was hard, but he saw more nontraditional students the second semester, some of them former Goodyear co-workers. "I was one of the lucky ones that I was able to get in fall semester (2011), and it wasn't easy," he said, crediting Beth Edwards, university studies coordinator, for guiding him through the process.

Rusty knows that he couldn't have finished his degree without Marchell's support, explaining, "So she's got two jobs, she's a full-time student, she's got two hard-headed kids and a husband without a job. So she's the hero of the family." Besides her hectic schedule, Marchell also battles personal health problems.

Combined with the Goodyear closure, the family has succeeded in college despite significant challenges.

As for graduating with Jordan and Amy, Rusty said, "I'm more excited than they are. I mean, it means a lot. I want them to be able to get a job that they like."

One of his philosophy teachers told Rusty's class, "When you have a job you like, you never go to work a day of your life." So I want them to be able to go to a job that they like going to every day," he said, quickly adding, "Of course, I want them to make a lot of money and be successful and remember old dad."

Rusty will use his 25 years of management experience and new degree to re-enter the job market. Jordan will seek his first full-time position, and Amy plans to enter the MBA program this fall at Middle Tennessee State University.

Marchell will celebrate for different reasons when she graduates. "It's really a personal challenge for me. It's a 'bucket list' kind of thing. I'm perfectly happy in the job that I have," she said, adding, "It's taken me 30 years, but I'm going to get it, and it's something that once I have it (her degree), nobody can take that away from me."

Legendary baseball pitcher Satchel Paige is known for saying, "Don't look back. Something might be gaining on you."

Rusty, Jordan and Amy Gardner aren't looking back as they face the future with college degrees in hand.

If anything is gaining on them, it's the family hero, Marchell, who'll join the rest of the Gardner family in May 2013 as the family's next college graduate.
ZUMBACK AWARDED AT UTM HONORS DAY:
Christopher R. Zumbach, of Dyersburg, recently received the Sigma Theta Tau Award during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing Award is given to student members of the Pi Tau Chapter who demonstrate the overall essence of nursing in practice and leadership. The Pi Tau Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau presents the $100 award each year. Departmental and university-wide scholarships were awarded during the festivities, as well as Outstanding Student Awards from each of UT Martin's five colleges.

ELLIS AWARDED AT UTM HONORS DAY:
Bobby Ellis, of Dyersburg, recently received the H. Kirk Memorial Scholarship Award for Football during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The H. Kirk Grantham Scholarship Endowment Fund was established January 12, 1974, to perpetuate the memory of the first coach and athletic director at UT Junior College. Student-athletes who participate in football, basketball or baseball—sports coached by Coach Grantham—are eligible for this award. The recipients are expected to demonstrate satisfactory academic competence, good athletic ability and outstanding character. Coaches in the aforementioned three sports select recipients of this award.

UTM students fundraise for St. Jude
Members of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity at the University of Tennessee at Martin walked across Lake Road from downtown Dyersburg to the Walmart parking lot on Tuesday, May 8 to raise funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Onlookers honked horns, donated money and shared encouraging words of support as the students made their way through Dyersburg. The annual ATO Wheelbarrow Push has been a fundraising tradition for the fraternity since 1986.

State Gazette photo/Tanya Sierra
Chelsea L. Chaffin, of Dyersburg, recently received the Outstanding Educational Studies PreK-3 Student Award from the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Outstanding Student Awards were given from each of UT Martin's five colleges, as well as many departmental and university-wide scholarships.

Gregory A. Frye, of Newbern, recently received the Outstanding University Studies Student Award from the College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences during the 48th annual Honors Day at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Outstanding Student Awards were given from each of UT Martin's five colleges, as well as many departmental and university-wide scholarships.

**Duo Sacramento at UT-Martin**

Jorge and Aquim Sacramento (Duo Sacramento) were in residency at UT-Martin, hosted by Dr. Julie Hill.

Jorge and Aquim Sacramento, from Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, were in residency at the University of Tennessee at Martin from April 19-30, 2012, hosted by Pearl/Adams Artist Dr. Julie Hill. The duo performed concerts, conducted numerous master classes with hands-on training, and taught many private and small group lessons during their stay.

Additionally, Jorge Sacramento worked as a clinician with the UT-Martin Honor Percussion Ensemble, April 26-28, which included 14 high school percussionists from across the state of Tennessee and Mississippi. Jorge taught traditional samba reggae rhythms to both participating high school students as well as UT Martin percussion majors.

Friday, April 27th, UT Martin percussion majors and the high school percussion ensemble students performed together in Bloco Afro fashion, forming a group of 35 percussionists. The 2012 UT-Martin Honor Percussion Ensemble performed a closing concert on Saturday, April 28, 2012 with Dr. Julie Hill, director and guest performer, and Dr. Jorge Sacramento, guest performer.
UT MARTIN SENIORS TAKE CELEBRATORY WALK: The University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates at the Senior Walk event, hosted in the quad on campus. More than 600 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff. Robin Griffin (left), of Dyersburg, Malorie Lulloff (center), of Lakeland, and Johnny Stephens, of Dyersburg, were among those who participated in the walk. Griffin, Lulloff and Stephens are all fine and performing arts majors.

UT Martin receives grant

The Tennessee Dept. of Commerce and Engineering’s Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners recently awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin Dept. of Engineering over $20,000 for the purchase of laboratory equipment.

“This grant enables our students to have the best possible lab experiences to prepare them for today’s competitive job market,” said Dr. Ed Wheeler, Dept. of Engineering chair.
MidSouth Economic, Business Development Summit May 15

The 6th annual MidSouth Economic and Business Development Summit will be held from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. May 15 in the Boling University Center on the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus, Martin, Tenn.

This year's theme is "Operation: Economic Empowerment," and the summit is sponsored by the Dyersburg State Community College Tennessee Business Development Center (TSBDC), the UT Martin TSBDC, the WestStar Leadership Program and the UT Martin Reed Center.

The schedule of events is as follows:

- 8 a.m. - Registration begins
- 8:30 a.m. - Welcoming remarks by Landy Fuqua, Reed Center interim director; Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin Chancellor; Youlanda Jones-Wilcox, vice president for institutional advancement and continuing education at Dyersburg State Community College; and Maleia M. Evans, director of the TSBDC at Dyersburg State Community College.
- 8:45-9:55 a.m. - "Mission: Don't Just Tell It, Sell Your Story" by Pinky Gonzales, celebrity business consultant and senior vice president of brand development for BubbleUp, Inc.
- 9:55-10:05 a.m. - Break/Networking Contest
- 10:05-10:35 a.m. "Mission: Accelerating Business in Northwest TN" by the Northwest Tennessee Business Accelerating Team, under the direction of moderator John Bucy, executive director of the Northwest Tennessee Development District.
- 10:35-10:45 a.m. - Break/Networking Contest
- Noon - 1:30 p.m. - 6th anniversary luncheon and keynote speaker Sherry Stewart Deutschmann, founder and CEO of LetterLogic, Inc.; "Corporate Culture.... What Sets Your Company or Your Community Apart?"

Participants may register online at www.utm.edu/midsouthsummit or by calling Landy Fuqua, Reed Center interim director at 731-587-7333.

Seniors anticipate graduation

The South Fulton High School Class of 2012 will receive diplomas at 5:30 p.m., while the Class of 2012 from Fulton High School will reverse their tassels at 7 p.m.

Haley McKinney, daughter of Ronnie and Scarlett McKinney of South Fulton, will lead her class as Valedictorian, while Landon Sowell, son of John Sowell and Deanna and Charlie Reams of South Fulton is the Salutatorian.

Sowell is a member of the Beta Club, FBLA, where he served as president two years, HOSA, Future Farmers of America, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and has participated in two mission trips to Nicaragua, through the church which he attends, South Fulton Baptist.

He plans to attend University of Tennessee at Martin, major in biology, and further his education by attending medical school to specialize in cardiology.
Local Kiwanis Club recognizes Students of the Year with banquet

By DONNA RYDER
Associate Editor

Throughout the school year, Union City Kiwanis Club recognizes students who exemplify the beliefs of the organization by naming students of the month at Obion County and Union City high schools.

Kiwanis is devoted to the principle of service; to the advancement of individual, community and national welfare; and to the strengthening of international goodwill.

The club further honored 14 of those students by naming a Student of the Year from each high school, as well as giving 12 $500 scholarships.

The scholarships are funded by the local club through various fundraisers held throughout the year, such as serving pancakes in November, the sale of ads for the annual banquet placemats and Burgers in the Park, which is scheduled for May 17 at Kiwanis Park in Union City.

Chelsea Southerland was named Student of the Year for Obion County Central High School. She has served as president and secretary of Christian Students Association, parliamentarian and secretary of HOSA (Health Occupations Student of America) and as a member of Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Beta Club and Foreign Language Club. She was a Girls State delegate and SCOPE (Student Congress on Policies in Education) delegate and competed in the University of Tennessee at Martin Math Competition. She is also a cheerleader and a member of the soccer team.

Miss Southerland has been a Vacation Bible School teacher, taught Clubhouse 252 at Troy First Baptist Church, participated in Operation Christmas Child and has gone on mission trips to Georgia and Mississippi. She has been a member of Obion County Fair Show and traveled abroad in 2011 through the Union City Rotary Club program.

In addition to being named a Kiwanis Student of the Month, she has received many awards, including Honors English 1, 2 and 3; Chemistry 1 and 2; and Algebra 1 and 2. She is the top student in her class.

Miss Southerland plans to attend UT Martin for pre-dental studies before going to the Health Science Center at Memphis to study dentistry.
College summit to be held in Covington

Dyersburg State to host on Covington campus

The Jackson Sun

Colleges from Middle and West Tennessee are participating in a Three-County College Summit that organizers believe could be one of the area’s largest college summits ever held from 7:50 a.m. to 2 p.m. on today and Friday at Dyersburg State Community College’s Covington Campus, according to a news release.

The “Southwest Tennessee Regional College Summit” is a partnership effort between Southwest Tennessee Development District’s Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) College Access Program; Tipton, Lauderdale, and Haywood county schools; and Dyersburg State Community College.

Juniors from Ripley, Halls, and Haywood high schools will attend the college summit today; on Friday, juniors from Covington, Munford and Brighton high schools will attend, the release said.

Door prizes will be given to the students by the participating colleges: UT Martin, Lane College, Union University, University of Memphis, Tennessee Technology Center-Memphis, Tennessee Technology Center-Ripley, Middle Tennessee State University, Austin Peay State University, Jackson State Community College and Dyersburg State Community College.

The release said that additionally, the Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation and LWIA 12-Workforce Development personnel will be on hand to help guide students.

Area colleges search for national bass fishing titles

By David Thomas
dgthomas@jacksonsun.com

Bethel University and UT Martin have their sights set on national bass tournament competition this month.

Bethel gets things started looking to repeat as champions in the Southern Collegiate Championship which begins Friday at Lake Guntersville in Guntersville, Ala.

Coach Garry Mason’s Bass ‘Cats enter four two-man teams in the two-day tournament which includes Jackson Christian School graduate Zach Parker and Iowa native Matthew Roberts; Matthew and Myles Palmer, from Anderson City, Ala.; Will Davis from Sylacauga, Ala., and Ben Freeman from Eddyville, Ky., and Jacob Har-

"An event like this helps inspire students to strive for better grades, become more aware of opportunities available to them, and to begin to dream about their future," said Lisa Hankins, REDI director. "We are excited about the doors that can be opened to students in these three school systems through this event.

"We also would like to thank Dr. Jamie Frakes, Dyersburg State Community College, and all the college’s administrators, staff, faculty, and student body for hosting what will be the largest college summit of its kind in West Tennessee," Hankins said.

To learn more about the college summit, contact Hankins at lhankins@swtdd.org or by calling 731.668.6450, or Cedric Deadmon, REDI coordinator, at cdeadmon@swtdd.org or 731.668.6448.

By Ryan Lackey

Bass ‘Cats take second at Truck-U.S. Bass Championship

"It’s not just at (UTM), but collegiate fishing is booming," Grayson said. "The popularity is on television and the national sponsors are jumping on board."

"The popularity of bass fishing continues to rise," said Ryan Lackey, a senior at the University of Tennessee Martin. "It’s not just at (UTM), but collegiate fishing is booming," Grayson said. "The popularity is on television and the national sponsors are jumping on board."

"But it plays into our hands, because it’s similar to Kentucky Lake and we will take what we know to Pickwick." UT Martin takes a West Tennessee flavor with them to Florence.

From Clarksville, Grayson teams with Dylan Powley from Paris and Bradford’s Alex Derry fishes with Jason McGee from Dover. Parsons’s Ryan Lackey joins Shawn Stamps from Paris.

Grayson serves as president of the UTM Bass Club.

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Handgun course offered Saturday

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies will sponsor a course in handgun use, operation and safety for interested members of the community.

The course will be held from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday on the UT Martin campus. The registration fee is $75.

The course will cover the use, operation and basic cleaning of a handgun.

The first four-hour block will be devoted to classroom instruction and the written exam. The second four-hour block will include firing-range instruction and the practical exam. Students must score a minimum of 70 percent on each exam to successfully complete the course.

Once the course is completed, students will have met the minimum requirements to apply for a handgun carry permit in Tennessee. All students must be 21 years of age and have no felony convictions. Students will need to bring their own handgun, 50 rounds of appropriate ammunition, pen or pencil, paper and hearing and eye protection.

Terry Guthrie, state certified handgun instructor, will instruct the course.

To register for the course, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082 or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/eecc/nondegree/home.php.

Veterans association begun at UT Martin

Members of the Skyhawk Veteran's Association (SVA) gathered recently on the Weakley County Courthouse lawn in Dresden to prepare for a landscaping workday around the stone veterans memorial that stands in front of the local government building.

It was one of the first of what some hope will be many activities of the newly-formed student organization at the University of Tennessee at Martin. “To serve the living while honoring the fallen” is the motto of the SVA, formed in the fall of 2011 and approved as an official student organization in February 2012. It is the first UT Martin student veterans group since the early 1950s.

“In recent years, the number of student veterans and families of deployed military personnel in my classes has steadily increased. So I decided to do something about it,” said Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls, UT Martin professor of history and SVA faculty advisor. Dr. Carls said during her career as a professor, she has been moved by the efforts of veterans and their family members to integrate into collegiate life. The SVA's aim is to provide support to veterans and their families and in general be a place for encouragement.

“We hope to have a designated meeting place soon, perhaps an office where they can come, chat, have a cup of coffee; in general, where they can find resources to help them find a career path and achieve graduation, and perhaps even engage in graduate work. We hope to provide information about a number of issues ranging from veteran benefits to health care to academic information about majors and minors at UT Martin, to disabilities, to undergraduate scholarship and job opportunities,” Dr. Carls said.

The SVA met weekly during the spring academic semester and will return to the Weakley County Courthouse lawn to complete the landscaping project at 9 a.m. Friday.

For more information on the SVA, contact James Copeland, secretary, by email at janmicode@utk.edu.

More than $5 million awarded to DCHS seniors at Honors Day ceremony

Dyer County High School honored their leading seniors during their Honors Day program this past Wednesday. Seniors of the Dyer County High School Class of 2012 received over $5 million in scholarships to assist them as they pursue higher education.

Collegiate Scholarships

- University of Tennessee at Martin: Jessica Alexander, Brandon Asher, Abbigail
- Bingham, Lane Duncan, Winter Evans, Josh Lowrance, Jared Peckenaugh, Jamie Shelby, Tacara Vaughn, and Skyler Zaricor
Kelly Burdett inducted into UT-Martin Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society

Kelly Burdett of Santa Fe was recently inducted into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Membership is based upon academic achievements and exemplary character.

Those eligible include graduate students in the upper 10 percent of their class, seniors in the upper 10 percent and juniors in the upper 7.5 percent. Also eligible are faculty members who possess outstanding academic, research, creative and service achievements. An internationally respected honor society, Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest and most selective organization that recognizes and promotes academic excellence in all fields of higher education. The society was founded at the University of Maine in 1897 and currently has chapters on the campuses of more than 300 colleges and universities in the United States, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Kelly Burdett

MORE ‘DISCOVERY’ — Robert Kirkland (left), principal benefactor of Discovery Park of America in Union City, and Elam Endowment trustees Betty Smith and Al Creswell met recently at the construction site of Discovery Park to celebrate the new Park Quasi-Endowment, funded by the Kathleen Elam Endowment. It will fund University of Tennessee at Martin student and faculty research and internships.
UTM celebrates Discovery partnership

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently received $300,000 from the Kathleen Elam Endowment that will be used to establish the Elam/Discovery Park Quasi-Endowment.

The Park Quasi-Endowment will be used to fund student internships and faculty stipends for UT Martin students and faculty working and conducting research at Discovery Park of America (DPA).

“This is a true partnership between UT Martin and DPA,” Elam trustee Betty Smith said. “It is appropriate for the Elam Endowment to be used for faculty and students. Education and lifelong learning are missions of both UT Martin and Discovery Park.”

Al Creswell, also an Elam trustee, facilitated the gift and serves on the DPA board of directors.

Discovery Park of America, currently under construction in Union City, will focus on nature, science, technology, history and art. Discovery Park’s mission is to enhance the educational experiences of children and adults and to inspire them to see beyond their current level of knowledge.

The Robert E. and Jenny D. Kirkland Foundation is Discovery Park’s principal benefactor.

The Kirklands are long-time supporters of educational pursuits in the area, and they share in the vision and mission of Discovery Park.

“WE anticipate this as just the beginning of a productive and long-term relationship between the university and Discovery Park,” Robert Kirkland said.

WHS students place second at UT Martin high school foreign languages day — Nick Hart and Samantha Bell, both students at Westview High School, won second place in the Spanish Video category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Randy Garza, associate professor of Spanish; Hart; Bell; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

(Photo submitted)
PECKHAM PLACES FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Heather Peckham, a student at Westview High School, won first place in the Bake-off French Desserts category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Lucia Florido, associate professor of French; Peckham; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages. (Photo submitted)

FORSYTHE PLACES FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Brandon Forsythe, a student at Westview High School, won first place in the Bake-off French Non-desserts category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish; Dr. Lucia Florida, associate professor of French; Forsythe; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.
WESTVIEW'S WHITEMAN PLACES FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Frankie Whiteman (right), a student at Westview High School, won first place in the French Posters category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. Whiteman (from left) was joined by Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; and Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

(Photo submitted)

PERKINS PLACES FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGE DAY — Graham Perkins, a student at Greenfield High School, won first place in the Bake-off Spanish Non-desserts category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish; Perkins; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

(Photo submitted)
WESTVIEW STUDENTS PLACE FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Georgia Brown, Sarah Wade, Heather Peckham and Jeff King, all students at Westview High School, won first place in the French Video category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; Brown; Wade; Heather Peckham; King; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

GREENFIELD STUDENTS PLACE FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Blake Miller and Jason Pentecost, both students at Greenfield High School, won first place in the Spanish Posters category during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish; Miller; Pentecost; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.
GLEASON STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MATH CONTEST
— The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Students from Gleason High School who participated were (from left, front) Jaclyn Montgomery, Sami Verrell, Dalis Lampkins; (second row) Conner Verrell, Cole Verrell and Wil Freeman.

UTM alum receives master's from Owen

Marcia Crofford Sloan of Nashville recently graduated cum laude from Owen Graduate School of Management Select One, where she received a master's of management in healthcare.

Mrs. Sloan is employed by Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She is an associate director of finance for VUMC and chief financial officer of Vander Health Williamson.

She graduated with highest honors from the University of Tennessee at Martin in 1983 with a bachelor of science in accounting and obtained her certification on public accounting (CPA) in the state of Tennessee.

She and her husband, Jay Sloan, are the parents of Joseph White Sloan III, 22, and Hilary Brook Sloan, 16.

GREENFIELD STUDENTS PLACE SECOND AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Andrea Smith, Taylor Hatcher and Abby McDaniel, all students at Greenfield High School, won second place in the Spanish Posters category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Smith; Dr. Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish; Hatcher; McDaniel; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

(Photo submitted)
Finish well at UT Martin Spanish event

Three Henry County High School Spanish students recently won third place in the Spanish Language Bowl during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day April 19. The winning team featured Austin Flowers (second from left), Holly Hodge (third from left); C.J. Clayton (third from right) and Brigette Passman (far right.) Also pictured are Anton Garcia-Fernandez (far left), assistant professor of Spanish at UTM, and Susan Neese (second from right), HCHS Spanish teacher. Neese annually has a group of Spanish students who take part in the UTM event.

PARIS TN: Cottage Grove Alumni Association award Brooke Smith and Crystal Douglass scholarships

The Cottage Grove Alumni Association has awarded $500 scholarships to Henry County High School graduates Brooke Smith and Crystal Douglass.

Smith is the daughter of Angie Smith of Cottage Grove and John and Jennifer Smith of Puryear. She plans to attend Murray State University and study animal and equine science. At HCHS, she was active in FFA, 4-H, Beta Club, basketball and track. She was a member of the National Honor Society.

Douglass is the daughter of John and Cheri Douglass of Paris.

She plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in accounting, with a minor in Spanish.

At HCHS, she was active Future Business Leaders of America and was a member of the Leo, history, math, Beta and Spanish clubs. She also

The Paris Post-Intelligencer
The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulder, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey’s Harpo Studios. Hannah Stewart, of Newbern, received the Dorotha and Robert Norton Scholarship. Robert Norton, widower of Dorotha Norton, presented the award. Stewart also received the PRSSA Chapter Award of Merit.

Stewart and Jacobi recognized at UTM Communications Day

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulder, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey’s Harpo Studios. Alex Jacobi (right) of Dyersburg received the Junior Scholarship. Stacy Freed (left), lecturer of communications, presented the award.

UTM GRAD — Rachel Triplett of Union City participated in recent commencement exercises at the University of Tennessee at Martin. UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony and UT President Joe DiPietro conferred degrees.
Children who will be entering kindergarten in 2012 through the fifth grade are invited to learn about the world around them at the University of Tennessee at Martin's 28th annual Kid College event, set for weekdays June 4-14.

The first classes meet at 9 a.m. and the last class ends at 2:50 p.m. Children may come and go all day.

Students will be divided into two groups based on grade level and participate in a variety of age-appropriate activities.

The registration fee is $40 per course, with a Kid College T-shirt available for an additional $10. Children may register for up to five courses.

Courses available for the kindergarten through second grade group include Art Adventures, Chemical Reactions, Dinosaur Train, Football Fundamentals, Karate for Kids, Practicing Pet Pro, Space Camp, Art Adventures, Creative Cuties, Hello Cupcake!, LEGO Math, Magnificent Mad Scientists, Oh, Yuck, Basketball/Life Skills, Drawn2Art, Fly Kids Fly Kids, Trash Into Treasure, Dance! Dance! Dance!, In It to Win It, Kids' Boot Camp, Kids vs. Wild, Milk and Cookies, Amazing Race, Cheerleading, Kids with Cameras, Scrapbooking with a Paper Bag and Wild, Wild West.

An open house will be held June 14 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. for friends and family to view class projects and displays. Demonstrations and refreshments will be available.

A Kid College brochure is available at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/ nondegree/children.php. To have a brochure mailed, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082.
EARNs MASTER'S — Kelsey Sigman of Obion County participated in commencement exercises recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She received a master's degree at the ceremony in which UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes presided and UT President Joe DiPietro conferred degrees.

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENT — Spencer Minyard (center) of Rives participated in commencement exercises recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He majored in criminal justice. Among the family members on hand to celebrate his graduation were (from left) his grandmother, Virginia Smith; his father, Andy Minyard; his mother, Cindy Minyard; and his brother, Sam Minyard. UTM Chancellor Tom Rakes presided over the ceremony and UT President Joe DiPietro conferred degrees.
Horticulture and Turfgrass Complex at UT Martin named for faculty members

University officials, family members and other guests gathered April 17 for the formal naming of UT Martin's horticulture and turfgrass complex. The area, located just north of the main campus on Farm Road, is now the McMahan/Knepp Horticulture and Turfgrass Complex, named for the late John McMahan and Earl Knepp, both longtime university faculty members. McMahan came to UT Martin in 1931 as head of the university's Department of Agriculture, while Knepp began teaching agricultural engineering and other agriculture courses in 1936. Both dedicated their educational careers to building and supporting the agricultural teaching tradition on the Martin campus. Friends and former students have committed more than $73,000 to establish the McMahan/Knepp Workshop Endowment. Additionally, the Knepp family and others created an endowment to honor Knepp, which totals more than $33,000.

Local students participate in Math Contest

The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools.

Students from Greenfield High School who participated were, from left to right, (first row): Brittany Ricketts, Sofia Oliva, Katy Caudle, Makala Sitzes; (second row): Bethany Cole, Chelsea Willis, Kaitlyn Simmons, Abbey McDaniel; (third row): Brody Stanford, Jessica Boettner, Tony Robinson; (fourth row): Mason Borneman, Kaitlyn Sanders, Hunter Crouse, Rachel Roberts and Kristin Bates.
Students from Westview High School who participated were, from left to right, (first row): Sarah Buckley, Laura Ferrer, Hunter Hazlewood, Samantha Daily, Brittany Ary, Areli Aguilar, Elizabeth Plunk, Brandon Stacks, Dominic Fabianich, Hallie Butler, McKay Warren; (second row): Nicholas Fortner, Sarah Pugh, Billy Killebrew, Alex Crosser, Melissa Darroch, Katelyn Luthi, Harrison Capps, Gian Garma, Cal Bradshaw, Leanna Coleman; (third row): Sangheon Son, Cody Cooper, Rachel Samuel, Zoe Stringer, Sarah Wade, Abe Haddad, Seth Coleman, Lakyn Bell and Alex Ross.

Students from Dresden High School who participated were, from left to right, (first row): Aleya Brent, Lauren Simmons, Clare Oliver, Courtney Trunk, Katelin Brown, Tiana Winstead; (second row): Nick Cobb, Dylan Kemp, Clay Palmer, Ty Roberts, Colin Kahnel, Zack Roberts, Joseph Sipes; (third row): Hayden Nanney, Joey Caldwell, Austin Puckett, Faalden Cervantes; (fourth row): Zack Cravens, Abbey Pilkington, Bradley Hutchens, Michael Vaughn, Abbie Marshall, Halston Matheny, Mason Brady and Jacob Cobb.
Students from Gleason High School who participated were, from left to right, (first row): Jaclyn Montgomery, Sami Verdell, Dalis Lampkins; (second row): Conner Verdell, Cole Verdell and Wil Freeman.

UT Martin Kid College is nine-day summer learning experience

Children who will be entering kindergarten in 2012 through the fifth grade are invited to learn about the world around them at the University of Tennessee at Martin’s 28th annual Kid College event, weekdays June 4-14.

The first classes meet at 9 a.m. and the last class ends at 2:50 p.m. Children may come and go all day. Students will be divided into two groups based on grade level and participate in a variety of age-appropriate activities.

The registration fee is $40 per course, with a Kid College t-shirt available for an additional $10. Children may register for up to five courses.

Courses available for the kindergarten through second grade group include Art Adventures, Chemical Reactions, Dinosaur Train, Football Fundamentals, Karate for Kids, Practicing Pet Pro, Jr. Space Camp, Art Adventures, Creative Cutesies, Hello Cupcake!, LEGO Math, Magnificent Mad Scientists, Oh, Yuck, Basketball/Life Skills, Drawn2Art, Fly Kids Fly Kids, Trash Into Treasure, Dance! Dance! Dance!, In It to Win It, Kids’ Boot Camp, Kids vs. Wild, Milk and Cookies, Amazing Race, Cheerleading, Kids with Cameras, Scrapbooking with a Paper Bag, and Wild, Wild West.


An open house will be held June 14 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. for friends and family to view class projects and displays. Demonstrations and refreshments will be available.

A Kid College brochure is available at http://www.utm.edu/departments/cece/nondgree/children.php. If you would like a brochure mailed to your house, contact ECOS at 731-881-7082.

SENIOURS TAKE CELEBRATORY WALK -
The University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates at the Senior Walk event, hosted in the quad on campus. More than 600 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff. Kiara Champion, of Humboldt, was among those who participated in the walk. Champion is an information systems major.
UT Martin among safest 4-year public institutions

The University of Tennessee at Martin is among the safest of the four-year public institutions in Tennessee in the most recent statewide crime statistics released for reported crimes.

According to crime statistics for 2011 released this week by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, UT Martin was the safest in the more serious crimes per 1,000 campus population and second safest in the lesser offenses per 1,000. Additionally, for more serious crimes and lesser offenses that are committed, the UT Martin Department of Public Safety has the best clearance rates for cases solved.

"Campus safety continues to be an important priority for us, so we are pleased to see the results from this report," said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. "We hope the recent replacement of our old campus lighting with brighter lamps, covering more areas of campus, will further increase safety for our students."

The statistics released also reported that UT Martin had the least number of reported offenses among four-year Tennessee Board of Regents and UT institutions.

"The statistics show once again that UT Martin is among the safest universities in the state and also the Southeast," said Scott Robbins, UT Martin director of public safety.

"The improvements made in video surveillance systems around campus did help with our improved clearance rate numbers, but the main reason for those numbers is the fact that the people that attend and work here at UT Martin have a genuine concern for the welfare of one another and do not hesitate to get involved and sound the alarm when they see suspicious activity."

During the last decade, the UT Martin crime rate has consistently been lower than the national and statewide averages for college campuses.
19th Annual Fulton-South Fulton Rotary Community Scholarship Program

LANDON SOWELL
Son of DeAnna & Charlie Reams and John Sowell
South Fulton High School
$900
University of Tennessee - Martin
- The Citizen's Bank - $250
- Dr. Glenn Bushart Memorial - $500
- Community - $150

DAVID "BUBBA" KIRBY, JR.
Son of David and LuAnn Kirby
Fulton High School
$900
University of Tennessee at Martin
- Bubba Cash - $500
- Robert's Lodge - $250
- Community - $150

MACY MAXWELL
Daughter of Paul and Stephanie Maxwell
South Fulton High School
$850
University of Tennessee at Martin
- All Kraft - $500
- Community - $350

CAYCE MARTIN
Daughter of John and Jenny Fulcher and the late Chad Martin
South Fulton High School
$750
University of Tennessee - Martin
- Roberts Lodge - $250
- All Kraft - $500
- Community - $150

ALEX BARNES
Daughter of James Barnes and the late Jenna Barnes
South Fulton High School
$650
University of Tennessee - Martin
- David & Amelia Prater - $250
- Fall & Fall - $250
- Community - $150

KENDALL GREER
Son of Kurt and Marina Greer
South Fulton High School
$650
University of Tennessee - Martin
- All Kraft Erectors - $500
- Community - $150

BLAKE BARNES
Son of Kevin and Kelli Barnes
Fulton High School
$600
University of Tennessee at Martin
- All Kraft Erectors - $500
- Community - $100

ASHLEIGH BURTON
Daughter of Dale and Penny Burton
South Fulton High School
$600
University of Tennessee - Martin
- John O'Neal & Karen Jones - $300
- Community - $300
AFRICAN-AMERICAN CONFERENCE HELD APRIL 19
— The University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar Leadership Program hosted the 14th annual African-American Leadership Conference April 19 at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research in Jackson. UT Martin students and staff in attendance were (seated, from left) Jessica Dodson; Sheterrika Jennings; Bosede Asolami; (standing) Dr. Annie Jones, multicultural affairs coordinator; Natalie Boyd, student affairs coordinator; Ashante Smith; Bryce Holmes; Steve Vantrease, University Center director; Kenneth Hollis; Dr. Margaret Toston, vice chancellor for student affairs; Demetrius Carter Brown and Mallana Ndabarushimana.
DHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MATH CONTEST
— The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Students from Dresden High School who participated were (from left, front) Aleya Brent, Lauren Simmons, Clare Oliver, Courtney Tlunk, Katelin Brown, Tiana Winstead; (second row) Nick Cobb, Dylan Kemp, Clay Palmer, Ty Roberts, Colin Kahnel, Zack Roberts, Joseph Sipes; (third row) Hayden Nanney, Joey Caldwell, Austin Puckett, Faalden Cervantes; (fourth row) Zack Cravens, Abbey Pilkington, Bradley Hutchens, Michael Vaughn, Abbie Marshall, Halston Matheny, Mason Brady and Jacob Cobb. (Photo submitted)

WESTVIEW STUDENTS PLACE FIRST AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Jeff King, Yvie Garcia, Leah Owen and Chase Thweatt, all students at Westview High School, won first place in the French Language Bowl during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Bob Peckham, professor of French; King; Garcia; Owen; Thweatt; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.
UT Martin to present Kid College

Children who will be entering kindergarten in 2012 through the fifth grade are invited to learn about the world around them at the University of Tennessee at Martin’s 28th annual Kid College event, weekdays June 4-14.

The first classes meet at 9 a.m. and the last class ends at 2:50 p.m. Children may come and go all day. Students will be divided into two groups based on grade level and participate in a variety of age-appropriate activities.

The registration fee is $40 per course, with a Kid College t-shirt available for an additional $10. Children may register for up to five courses.

Courses available for the kindergarten through second grade group include Art Adventures, Creative Cuties, Hello Cupcake!, LEGO Math, Magnificent Mad Scientist, Oh, Yuck, Basketball/Life Skills, Drawn2Art, Fly Kids Fly Kids, Trash Into Treasure, Dance! Dance! Dance! In It to Win It, Kids’ Boot Camp, Kids vs. Wild, Milk and Cookies, Amazing Race, Cheerleading, Kids with Cameras, Scraping with a Paper Bag, and Wild, Wild West.

An open house will be held June 14 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. for friends and family to view class projects and displays.

Demonstrations and refreshments will be available.

A Kid College brochure is available at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/children.php. If you would like a brochure mailed to your house, contact ECOS at 881-7082.

Producer for Oprah returns to campus

Living with intention was Terry Goulder’s first word of advice in his address to a banquet hall full of University of Tennessee at Martin communications students and faculty. It was advice he himself learned first hand from Oprah Winfrey.

“Intention is a big part of my life; it’s how I live my life,” he said.

Goulder, a UT Martin alumnus, returned to campus on April 24 to serve as the keynote speaker for the annual communications awards banquet. The man who was a talented communications major in the school’s broadcasting sequence in 1985 shared the story of his journey from graduation to becoming a producer for the Oprah Winfrey show.

“For 17 years I have been the student of Ms. Oprah Winfrey. I have learned the meaning of excellence from her,” he said.

Goulder got his break as an associate producer at Oprah’s Harpo Studios in 1994, but he hasn’t forgotten the dues he paid and mistakes he had to make to prepare himself for the opportunity. His first media job after graduation was with WMC-TV Channel 5 in Memphis where he made $5.50 per hour and was soon shuffled into local commercial production.

“About six months later, I’m just trying to keep up, trying to figure out what’s what and who’s who, [my boss] says ‘I’m going to retire, it’s all yours, Terry,’” he said. “I asked myself, ‘Am I good enough?’ Well, the answer was no. I failed on my first commercial on my own.”

Goulder went on to say that the company “loved him through” the failure and encouraged students to find such a place that will support them when they are learning and making mistakes. He would eventually go on to produce one-hour specials celebrating the city of Memphis, in turn garnered three regional Emmys. “By that time I could tell stories ... I was a producer,” he said.

Goulder described producing as being the leader of an orchestra, and after a connection got him noticed by Harpo, he was on his way to the Oprah Winfrey Show.

Goulder is still working for Oprah, since the popular show ended in 2011 and is now producing shows on the new Oprah Winfrey Network. “After sun setting the Oprah Winfrey Show, I’m still proud to call her my boss. I look forward to developing shows for her in the future,” he said in closing, and again encouraged students to live with intention.
The University of Tennessee at Martin recently celebrated the accomplishments of its graduates at the Senior Walk event, hosted in the quad on campus. More than 600 graduates took the opportunity to say goodbye to classmates, faculty and staff. Ashley White (left) of Brighton, and Taren Hatcher of Greenfield were among those who participated in the walk. White was a communications major and Hatcher was an integrated studies K-6 major.

Emily Belote (left), of Martin and Kelsey Sigman of Union City were among those who participated in the walk. Belote was a health and human performance major and Sigman graduated with a Master of Science in Education.

Abbey Stoker (left), of Dresden, and Meagan Meketi of Paris were among those who participated in the walk. Stoker and Meketi were biology majors.
GLEASON STUDENTS PLACE SECOND AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Conner Verdell, David Spelling, Matthew McAllister and Will Freeman, all students of Doreen Forrest at Gleason High School, won second place in the Spanish Language Bowl during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Anton Garcia-Fernandez, assistant professor; Forrest; Verdell; Spelling; McAllister; Freeman; Dr. Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish. (Photo submitted)

Photo class set in UC

A course in basic digital photography camera operation and skills will be offered from 6-9 p.m. Thursdays June 7-28, at the Obion County Public Library in Union City.

The class is sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

Roger Hughes, course instructor, will focus on camera features and functions, exposure, composure, depth of field, focus, photography ideas, exercises in lighting and portrait, landscape, action and close-up shots.

Students must bring a personal camera, its operations manual and a tripod.

The registration fee is $105 per person.

To register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7083, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

BY THE NUMBERS — Two students from South Fulton High School recently participated in the 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers’ Association High School Mathematics Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among those who took part were Cayce Martin (left) and Haley McKinney. Examinations were given in Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools.
IT ALL ADDS UP — The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students from 12 schools competed. Among those from Obion County Central High School were (from left, front row) Hannah Watkins, Maria Guerrero, Calli Johnson, Kayla Ford, Mikala Brandon, Imelda Rodriguez, Diana Ramos, Savannah Garrison, Macy McClure, Nancy Davis, Allison Wicker, Mallori Conley, Billie Dee Preuett, (second row) Kaleb Byars, Elliott Tomlinson, Amber Cunningham, Desarai Akers, Stella Preuett, Whitney Lee, Mary Helen Driver, Cassidy Robinson, Lauren Jones, Kristin Storey, (third row) Linden Scarbrough, Thomas Elam, Bobby Vissering, Korben Hagen, Andrea Pickard, Dillon Hamil, Tabitha Brown, Hannah Woodruff, (back row) Matt Lamastus, Chandler Fussell, Brady Chandler, David Rhodes, Austin Roach, Kevin Cumana and Rad McDavid.

ON THE PLUS SIDE — The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin, with examinations given in the areas of Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Among those from Union City High School were (from left, front row) Tori Reedy, Tara Elam, Molly Maclin, Emily Houston, Hunter Corley, Jonathan Hurtado, (middle row) Devin King, Morgan Stone, Mary Lawrence Critchlow, Davis Odle, Thomas Beard, (back row) John Kirkland, Abram Carroll, Grant Ransom, Garrett Ransom and Cody Robertson.
Jeff Agee, CEO and president of First Citizens National Bank, recently announced the officer promotion of several of the bank's teammates. In making the announcement Agee stated, "These teammates are tremendous assets to First Citizens National Bank. They are well respected by peers and are devoted to meeting the needs of our customers. We are proud of each teammate recognized."

Vicky Floyd, assistant vice president and senior accountant, was promoted to vice president and assistant controller. Vicky's expanded knowledge and application of accounting has provided First Citizens with additional expertise in the accounting and financial reporting functions of the bank's controller division. She has been a member of the First Citizens team since 2001 and previously served as a credit analyst for the bank's lending division. She received her bachelor's degree in accounting from Union University and master's degree in business administration (MBA) from the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is active in Dyer County's American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and March of Dimes' March for Babies. She attends First Baptist Church in Newbern. You may contact Vicky Floyd by calling 731-287-4386 or emailing vfloyd@firstcitizensbank.com.

Scott Foster, assistant vice president and agricultural loan officer, was promoted to vice president and agricultural officer. A native Dyer Countian, he has developed a strong relationship with the farming community in Northwest Tennessee. He began his career with First Citizens in 1999 as an agricultural lender. Foster is a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture. He is a member of Newbern and Lenox Volunteer Fire departments. He is a Newbern T-ball coach and a member of Dyersburg Kiwanis Club. He is a member of First Baptist Church in Newbern. You may contact Scott Foster by calling 731-287-4310 or email sfoster@firstcitizensbank.com.

Zach Smith, certified financial planner with First Citizens Financial Plus (a subsidiary of First Citizens National Bank), was promoted to vice president and investment representative for the investment firm. Zach joined the firm in 2010 bringing with him a wealth of expertise specializing in planning/consulting-business, retirement, estate, personal retirement, employee stock options, fixed income/municipal bonds and cash management. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Tennessee at Martin, with a Certified Financial Planning designation from Christian Brothers University. He is an active member of the Certified Financial Planning Association. Zach was previously featured in the Memphis Business Quarterly as an MBQ Player and was named as a "Mover and Shaker of Memphis" in an article naming the top financial planners in Memphis. In 2009 Memphis Magazine recognized him as a Five Star Wealth Manager. You may contact Zach Smith by calling 731-285-8880 or by emailing zsmith@fcbrokerage.com.
UT Martin to mark Memorial Day

Maj. Kevin Brandon of Medina will be the guest speaker at the University of Tennessee at Martin's 12th annual Memorial Day commemoration Friday.

The program will begin at 9 a.m. at the Hall-Moody Administration Building entrance.

Brandon has served 16 years in the U.S. Army and is currently the west region recruiting manager working out of Jackson. He has served overseas in Honduras, Bulgaria, Germany, Kuwait and Iraq and has held numerous positions, including platoon leader, troop commander and company commander.

Brandon is a 1999 graduate of UT Martin, where he received a bachelor's degree in agriculture business, and is a 2009 graduate of Webster University in St. Louis, where he earned a master's degree in public administration. Additionally, he is a graduate of advanced individual training, officer candidate school and the company level pre-command course.

Some of Brandon's awards include the (See Page 2, Col. 1)

UT Martin offers new online course

A new online course on advanced mobile marketing is available to current and aspiring business owners through the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The one-month online course will premier the week of June 4 and is available from any computer, 24-hours-per-day.

Participants will cover mobile marketing introduction and strategy, different platform types, campaign design, execution and success measurement.

The advanced mobile marketing course is part of the mobile marketing certificate, developed by Salt.

The program also includes creating cell phone apps for business and introduction to mobile marketing. The courses are offered four times a year.

For more information or to register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7082 or online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/onlinecourses.php.

UT Martin...

(Continued from Page 1)

Bronze Star Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals and a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

The local Memorial Day program is also dedicated to decorated U.S. Navy veteran Dr. Harold Smith, UT Martin professor emeritus of animal science, who served in World War II as a dive bomber pilot aboard the USS Hancock. He flew bombing missions in the Pacific theatre and over mainland Japan.

Area veterans who wish to be recognized during Friday's event are asked to call (731) 881-7150 to confirm attendance.

Maj. Christopher McDaniel of the UT Martin Department of Military Science and Leadership will serve as master of ceremonies. Dr. Roberto Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform the national anthem and Dr. Jerry Gresham, interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, will offer the invocation.

Phil Dane, director of athletics, will give the benediction and Chancellor Tom Rakes will welcome guests. Lt. Col. Timothy Marshall, professor of military science, will introduce the guest speaker.

The UT Martin Army ROTC Battalion will present the colors before the ceremony and Staff Sgt. Charles Sadler will present "Taps" at the end of the observance. The university's Department of Public Safety will honor area veterans with a gun salute.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking will be available in the Hardy M. Graham Stadium parking lot directly across from the Hall-Moody Administration Building. Eastbound and westbound traffic on University Street, in front of the administration building, will be stopped briefly as the flag ceremony begins and during the gun salute.

In case of rain, the event will be moved to the Student Life Center on the UT Martin campus.
FCNB promotes 6 teammates

First Citizens National Bank CEO and President Jeff Agee recently announced the officer promotion of six of the bank's teammates.

"These teammates are tremendous assets to First Citizens National Bank. They are well respected by peers and are devoted to meeting the needs of our customers. We are proud of each teammate recognized," Agee said.

Vicky Floyd, assistant vice president and senior accountant, was promoted to vice president and assistant controller. Her expanded knowledge and application of accounting has provided the bank with additional expertise in the accounting and financial reporting functions of the bank's controller division. She has been with the bank since 2001 and previously served as a credit analyst for the bank's lending division. She received her bachelor's degree in accounting from Union University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Scott Foster, assistant vice president and agricultural loan officer, was promoted to vice president and agricultural officer. He began his career with First Citizens in 1999 as an agricultural lender. He graduated from UTM Martin with a bachelor of science degree in agriculture.

Jackie Lucas, mortgage loan originator, was promoted to assistant vice president and mortgage loan originator. She joined the bank in January 2009 with more than 31 years of real estate experience.

Zach Smith, certified financial planner with First Citizens Financial Plus, was promoted to vice president and Investment representative. He joined the firm in 2010 and has a wealth of expertise in planning/consulting-business retirement, estate, personal retirement, employee stock options, fixed income/municipal bonds and cash management. He has a bachelor's of science degree in business administration from UTM with a certified financial planning designation from Christian Brothers University.
Photography course offered

A course in basic digital photography camera operation and skills will be offered from 6-9 p.m. on Thursdays, June 7-28, at the Obion County Public Library in Union City, sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

Roger Hughes, course instructor, will focus on camera features and functions, exposure, composition, depth of field, focus, photography ideas, exercises in light, action and close-up shots. The class will prepare students for a follow-up advanced photography skills class.

Students must bring a personal camera, its operations manual and a tripod. Printed and email handouts will be available. Student images will be evaluated both in class and via personal email.

The registration fee is $105 per person, and the Obion County Public Library is located at 1221 East Reelfoot Avenue in Union City.

UTM golf lauded for conduct

UT Martin’s golf team is the recipient of the 2011-12 Team Sportsmanship Award, the Ohio Valley Conference announced Thursday.

Voted on by the student-athletes and coaches of the respective sports, the team awards are given to the conference squads deemed to have best exhibited the standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior as outlined by the OVC and NCAA. Included in the areas for evaluation are the conduct of student-athletes, coaches, staff and administrators and fans.

“Without sportsmanship, there are truly no meaningful victories,” said Beth DeBauche, OVC commissioner.

“The recipients of the OVC Team Sportsmanship awards should accept this award with great pride for their fellow competitors have made it clear their teams exemplify the best in intercollegiate athletics. In receiving this prestigious honor other competitors are saying these student-athletes compete with class, respect their opponents and value fair play. That is quite a compliment as those are all traits that will lead to true victories throughout the course of life.”

The 2011-12 school year marks the seventh year the team sportsmanship honors have been awarded. It marks the first award for either golf program.

UT Martin finished fifth at the OVC Men’s Golf Championship this year.

“This is an outstanding award for our golf program and the University of Tennessee at Martin,” said UTM head coach Jerry Carpenter. “It is nice to be recognized by fellow coaches and players for exhibiting sportsmanship on the golf course. Sportsmanship is something we and the players stress all year. We have a saying that we live by, ‘Treat people the way you want to be treated.’”

Implemented in August 2005, the team honors are the most recent addition to an awards program that recognizes and celebrates sportsmanship within the conference.

In 1998, the league established the Steve Hamilton Sportsmanship Award, presented annually to a male or female student-athlete of junior or senior status who best exemplifies the characteristics of the late Morehead State student-athlete, coach and administrator.

Five years later, the conference added the OVC Sportsmanship Award, presented annually to the member institution selected by its peers to have best exhibited the standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior as outlined by the OVC and NCAA.

In 1995, the Ohio Valley Conference implemented a first-of-its-kind “Sportsmanship Statement,” a policy promoting principles of fair play, ethical conduct and respect for one’s opponent. The statement answered the challenge of the NCAA Presidents Commission to improve sportsmanship in collegiate athletics, and has become a model for others to follow across the nation.

Austin Peay, fifth at the OVC Golf Championship this season, was the women’s award winner.

“We are truly honored to receive this award,” said APSU head coach Sara Robson. “The girls that represent this program exemplify what golf stands for and they live their lives on and off the golf course with honor and integrity. It is truly a blessing to coach such amazing young women.”
Mobile marketing class offered at UTM

A new online course on advanced mobile marketing is available to current and aspiring business owners through the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

The one-month online course will premier the week of June 4 and is available from any computer, 24 hours per day. Participants will cover mobile marketing introduction and strategy, different platform types, campaign design, execution and success measurement.

"Mobile marketing is such a big trend that it is becoming critical for businesses," says Simon Salt, CEO of marketing communications agency IncSlingers.

"If your company is not a part of this trend, customers will pass you by."

The advanced mobile marketing course is part of the Mobile Marketing Certificate, developed by Salt. The program also includes Creating Cell Phone Apps for Business and Introduction to Mobile Marketing. The courses are offered four times a year.

For more information or to register, contact ECOS at 881-7082 or online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ccc/nondegree/onlinecourses.php.

Good at baked goods

Three Henry County High School students won first place in the Bake-off Spanish Desserts category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day April 19. Michelle Culley, Rachel Green and Chesney Buttrely all finished first in their categories. From left are Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish at UTM; Culley; Green; Buttrely; Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chairman of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages. Seen in the inset at bottom right is Savannah Hayes, another HCHS student, who placed third in the Bake-off Spanish Desserts competition.
UT Martin, Discovery Park partnership celebrated

The University of Tennessee at Martin recently received $300,000 from the Kathleen Elam Endowment that will be used to establish the Elam/Discovery Park Quasi-Endowment.

The Park Quasi-Endowment will be used to fund student internships and faculty stipends for UT Martin students and faculty working and conducting research at Discovery Park of America (DPA).

"This is a true partnership between UT Martin and DPA," Elam Trustee Betty Smith said. "It is appropriate for the Elam Endowment to be used for faculty and students. Education and lifelong learning are missions of both UT Martin and Discovery Park."

Al Creswell, also an Elam Trustee, facilitated the gift and serves on the DPA Board of Directors.

Discovery Park of America, currently under construction in Union City, will focus on nature, science, technology, history and art. Discovery Park's mission is to enhance the educational experiences of children and adults and to inspire them to see beyond.
UTM hosts Memorial Day Observance
May 25; Area Veterans to be recognized

Major Kevin Brandon, of Medina, will be the guest speaker at the University of Tennessee at Martin 12th annual Memorial Day Commemoration set for 9 a.m., May 25, at the Hall-Moody Administration Building entrance.

Brandon has served 16 years in the Army and is currently the west region recruiting manager working out of Jackson. He has served overseas in Honduras, Bulgaria, Germany, Kuwait and Iraq, and has held numerous positions including platoon leader, troop commander and company commander.

Brandon is a 1999 graduate of UT Martin where he received a bachelor's degree in agriculture business and is a 2009 graduate of Webster University in St. Louis, Mo., where he earned a master's in public administration. Additionally, he is a graduate of advanced individual training, officer candidate school and the company level pre-command course.

Some of Brandon's awards include the Bronze Star Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals and a Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

The memorial program is also dedicated to decorated U.S. Navy veteran, Dr. Harold Smith, UT Martin professor emeritus of animal science, who served in World War II as a dive bomber pilot aboard the USS Hancock. He flew bombing missions in the Pacific theatre and over mainland Japan.

Maj. Christopher McDaniel, of the UT Martin Department of Military Science and Leadership, will serve as master of ceremonies. Dr. Roberto Mancusi, assistant professor of music, will perform the national anthem, and Dr. Jerry Gresham, interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, will offer the invocation.

Phil Dane, director of athletics, will give the benediction, and Chancellor Tom Rakes, will welcome guests. Lt. Col. Timothy Marshall, professor of military science, will introduce the guest speaker. The UT Martin Army ROTC Battalion will present the colors before the ceremony and Staff Sgt. Charles Sadler will present "Taps" at the end of the observance. The university's Department of Public Safety will honor area veterans with a gun salute.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the Hardy M. Graham Stadium parking lot directly across from the Hall-Moody Administration Building. Eastbound and westbound traffic on University Street, in front of the administration building, will be stopped briefly as the flag ceremony begins and during the gun salute. In case of rain, the event will be moved to the Student Life Center on the UT Martin campus.

Area veterans that wish to be recognized during the event are asked to call 731-881-7150 to confirm attendance.
Area students named to the UTM Chancellor’s Honor Roll

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

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

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

Students named to the honor roll are:

**Humboldt**
- Sarah J. Allen, honors;
- Jason W. Barker, highest honors;
- Queena L. Brown, highest honors;
- Warren P. Cagle, highest honors;
- Kiara S. Champion, highest honors;
- Amber D. Futrell, highest honors;
- Holly K. Gillespie, highest honors;
- Rachel L. Hall, highest honors;
- Marcee L. Harvey, highest honors;
- Daniel R. Houston, highest honors;
- Livingston Hudson, highest honors;
- Douglass G. Hunderup, honors;
- Amanda K. Hunley, honors;
- Alexis R. Johnson, honors;
- Jordan R. King, high honors;
- Austin S. Koffman, highest honors;
- Emma J. Leatherland, honors;
- Elizabeth D. Pafford, honors;
- Adam A. Parker, honors;
- Gauri K. Patel, honors;
- Trey O. Patrick, honors;
- Amber J. Pearson, honors;
- Brittany N. Peeler, honors;
- Taylor A. Perry, high honors;
- Sarah E. Pickard, highest honors;
- Susan E. Privett, highest honors;
- Annalynn E. Smith, honors;
- Micheal W. Stone, honors;

**Medina**
- Stephanie L. Boling, highest honors;
- Kimberly A. Boswell, highest honors;
- Anthony C. Brown, honors;
- Dylan W. Brown, honors;
- Lisa N. Detrain, high honors;
- Katherine A. Estes, high honors;
- Cody A. Fowler, highest honors;
- Christina E. Johnson, highest honors;
- Kelly G. Kennedy, high honors;
- Lucas J. Mercker, high honors;
- Kirsten N. Nicely, honors;
- Samantha R. Ragain, high honors;
- Tyler C. Ray, honors;
- Lauren H. Rogers, high honors;
- Melody P. Sain, highest honors;
- Melissa D. Totty, high honors;
- Shelby L. Totty, highest honors;
- Justin L. Woods, high honors;

**Gibson**
- Cody F. Houck, high honors;

**Milan**
- Anne R. Avery, honors;
- Shelby R. Bledsoe, honors;
- Matthew L. Browning, honors;
- Heather Butler, highest honors;
- Jonathan W. Cavender, high honors;
- Merrilee A. Clark, high honors;
- Shelby R. Counce, highest honors;
- Sarah E. Cox, high honors;
- Jack H. Fields, honors;
- Gregory K. Garcia, honors;
- Aubrey A. Granger, highest honors;
- Anna K. Hardin, high honors;
- Jessica L. Hemann, high honors;
- Kenneth Z. Hilliard, high honors;
- Robert D. Hopper, highest honors;
- Alex M. Jackson, high honors;
- Autumn R. Jackson, highest honors;
- Timothy L. Jackson, honors;
- Shneeka L. Jones, honors;
- Robbie M. Luten, high honors;
- Lara B. Mangrum, highest honors;
- John M. Parks, high honors;
- James S. Postoak, high honors;

**Trenton**
- Tara L. Barlow, high honors;
- Greer C. Barnes, highest honors;
- Molly A. Blankenship, honors;
- Jennifer R. Bobbitt, highest honors;
- Jeremy W. Butler, honors;
- Hannah L. Cates, honors;
- Catherine A. Cole, high honors;
- Jamee A. Floyd, honors;
- Melissa B. Griggs, highest honors;
- Randall L. Hooker, honors;
- John W. Horner, honors;
- Lauren N. Jewell, high honors;
- Alivia R. Joes, high honors;
- Victoria G. Johnson, high honors;
- Elizabeth J. Landers, honors;
- Melissa A. Michel, high honors;
- Ashley H. Neisler, honors; Matthew A. Norvell, high honors;
- Kimberly N. Ratliff, highest honors;
- Billy G. Reeves,
Bradford
Natalie A. Alexander, high honors; Alsten R. Cates, high honors; Chrystyna M. Chipman, honors; Corey C. Crocker, honors; Brandon A. Gillespie, highest honors; Clayton A. Hampton, high honors; Clinton D. Hampton, high honors; Courtney B. Jackson, highest honors; Anthony L. Launsby, honors; Jordan R. McDade, honors; James M. Mitchell, high honors; Chelsea A. Quinn, honors; Joseph E. Wingo, highest honors

Kenton
Kerry D. Duck, highest honors; Amanda N. Greer, honors; James K. Hardin, high honors; David C. Hollomon, highest honors; Matthew J. Littleton, high honors; Bethany C. Patterson, highest honors; Marion E. Reed, honors; James T. Roden, high honors; Sheila F. Scott, highest honors; Danielle N. Spencer, high honors; Mallory C. Walker, highest honors

Idlewild
Matthew R. Bryan, high honors

highest honors; Cynthia D. Reeves, honors; Jennifer A. Reeves, high honors; Robert D. Reeves, highest honors; Virginia Reeves, high honors; Jessica C. Richardson, high honors; Jesse L. Shivers, honors; Rebecca J. Smith, high honors; Wendy R. Tate, highest honors; Rachel A. Ward, highest honors

Dyer
Rachel A. Cooper, honors; Jonathan L. Fisher, honors; Britney M. Garner, honors; David B. Garrett, honors; Hannah L. Greene, honors; Katherine L. Parks, highest honors; Kelley A. Parks, highest honors; Calah R. Paulhus, highest honors; Amber F. Simmons, high honors; Megan N. Turner, high honors; Emily R. Worrell, high honors

Rutherford
William Q. Abrams, high honors; Miranda K. Barron, honors; Jacob W. Dotson, highest honors; Jessica M. Gordon, high honors; Carol A. Kail, high honors; Tara A. Poe, honors; Trey A. Tate, honors; Lindsey D. Whitley, high honors; Danica C. Wright, honors

Humboldt Chronicle, Wednesday, May 23, 2012

RECEPTION AWARD - Elizabeth Pafford, of Humbolt, received an Outstanding Agricultural Communication Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Pafford; and Dr. Timothy Burcham, professor and interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources.
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PRESENTS AWARD - Michael Pate of Fulton, recently received the Outstanding Agricultural Engineering Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a departmental awards banquet. Pictured are, left to right, Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Pate; and Dr. Timothy Burcham, professor and interim chair of the Department Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources.

STATE GAZETTE | WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2012

BROCK RECEIVES AWARD FROM UTM: Amy Brock, of Finley, received the Student Dietetic Association Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Brock; and Dr. Lisa LeBleu, professor and chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

VIAR RECEIVES AWARD UTM: Mary Viar, of Dyersburg, received the Department of the Army Superior Cadet Award, MS III, from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Viar; and Master Sgt. Billy Rogers, Military Science Service Aide I.
Zarecor Receives Award from UTM:
Andrew Zarecor, of Newbern, received the Outstanding Agricultural Business Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Zarecor; and Dr. Timothy Burcham, professor and interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources.

Winters Receives Award from UTM:
Valerie Winters, of Dyersburg, received the Outstanding Pre-Professional Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Winters; and Dr. Timothy Burcham, professor and interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources.

Smith Honored at Scholars Ceremony:
Brandon Smith, of Dyersburg, was honored as a University Scholar before spring commencement exercises, May 5, at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among those requirements for University Scholars, students complete the honors core curriculum of courses, additional small group courses with other University Scholars and a faculty-mentored, two-year research project. Smith, right, is pictured with his scholars faculty advisor, Dr. Ann Gathers, assistant professor of biology.
Hundreds of Grove School students got an early shot at thinking about the future Thursday during the school's annual career day.

Several representatives from area colleges and local businesses and industries set up shop in classrooms throughout the school, giving presentations on what prospects await the ninth-grade students after their graduation in 2015.

Sam Tharpe, Grove School principal, said attending colleges included the University of Tennessee at Martin, Murray State, Austin Peay State and Bethel universities, Jackson State Community College and the Tennessee Technology centers at Paris and McKenzie.

"Everything is on an even playing field here," he said. "We have Tecumseh Products to Dana (Corporation) to the (Henry County) Medical Center covering every area. They're going to tell our freshmen, of which we have 450, the job opportunities that are in their community."

For example, a company like Tecumseh has job opportunities ranging from accountants and personnel supervisors to laborers, maintenance workers, truck drivers and other jobs.

"One thing they're going to get out of this more than anything is that they're going to need something beyond high school to even walk in the door — these are the changes that our environment is up against," Tharpe said. "And this is why we're preparing our students for the future — this is what this is all about. So that they can be more responsible in the classroom, and have some sense of direction from the opportunities that are out there."

Tharpe said students told him at last year's event that they didn't think there were any jobs in the area.

"But there are jobs here, and there's going to have to be people that replace the people that are in these jobs," Tharpe said. "And if we want to recruit more jobs here, the better we have an educated work force will that happen.

"The main thing is to broaden our education base to where everybody can understand that that's what sells a community is education. We can't make it any simpler than that — it starts with these young people," Tharpe, who is also the mayor of Paris, said.

Chris Ray, Lowe's Home Improvement store manager, talks about how his employees use smartphones to help customers during the career day at Grove School Thursday.

GLENN TANNER | P.I
Buy photos at www.parispi.net

STUDENTS RECOGNIZED — The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. Jenifer Nicks (left) of Union City and Kristen Harrelson (right) of Martin received Wayne Tansil Scholarships. They were presented by Tomi Parrish, instructor of communications.
SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED — Tiffany Logan of Union City received the WENK Award, presented by WENK president and general manager Terry Hailey, during the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications' annual Communications Day recently. The event honored the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students.

Professor memorialized with scholarship at UTM

Past generations of agriculture students studied soil science under University of Tennessee at Martin faculty member Elmer Counce. Now, future generations will benefit from his legacy as the Elmer Counce Memorial Scholarship is established in his memory.

Counce, who died March 13 at age 90, retired in 1989 from the UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources as Professor Emeritus of Soil Science. Scholarship awards will go to plant and soil science students who also exhibit good citizenship, a quality exemplified by Counce throughout his personal and professional life.

"I laugh when I say this, but it's true, Elmer Counce was the Billy Graham of soils," said Anthony Haynes, University of Tennessee associate vice president and director of state relations and a former Counce student. "His passion for teaching and science was clear to all who knew him."

Dr. Tim Burcham, UT Martin agricultural engineering professor and interim chair, UT Martin Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, credits Counce and others from that era for the department's strong position in teaching and research. "Mr. Counce and others laid the foundation for the success of our department today," he said.

Counce first came to UT Martin as a student when the campus was home to the University of Tennessee Junior College. He transferred to UT Knoxville to complete his bachelor's and master's degrees, returning to Martin in 1953 as a faculty member. He met his wife, Marilucille, during their UTJC days. They were married for 65 years and have one son, Ben, five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Counce taught all agronomy classes and introduced the university's first forestry class. He served as the soils team coach and trained teams that placed in national competition for 10 years. Many of those same students made major contributions to the soil conservation efforts in Tennessee and other states.

One-time soils team member, Mike Johnson, senior agribusiness analyst with Farm Credit Services of Mid-America, recalled how Counce prepared them for competition.

"One of the tricks, if you wanted to test and see if it was sandy soil or not, was to put it in your mouth and test for the grit," Johnson said.

"There are not many people in the world who could get me to put dirt in my mouth, and you never called it dirt around him."

"If you did, a quick lecture followed explaining how soil was sent straight from God for growing the food that feeds the world. Dirt was something you got under your fingernails and in your belly button."

In 1953, Counce was asked to head UTJC's first alumni and placement office, a position he held until 1964. He continued his full-time teaching and research position while he led the alumni office.

Counce won the UT Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award and many Farm Bureau and Soil Conservation awards for service to Tennessee agriculture. He was recognized as a Fellow of the Soil Conservation Society of America in the 1980s. Teaching students was his greatest joy as he taught an estimated 12,000 students during his career.

"He challenged us in the classroom, and he was tough but fair. He called his tests 'soil busters,'" Johnson said. "When you got a good grade in his class, you had to earn it. He was one of the finest men I've ever known."

Haynes, also a member of Counce's soil judging team, added, "Elmer connected the dots between the critical importance of the soil, food security and global political stability. Those of us who benefited from his knowledge and talent can show our gratitude by supporting this scholarship."

Contact the UT Martin Office of Development at 881-7629 to make a gift or for more information about the scholarship.

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THE WEAKLEY COUNTY PRESS

THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2012
UT Martin names local students to Honor Rolls

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

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

Local students earning the honors designations include:
- Mallory K. Robinson of Greenfield – High Honors
- Suzanne W. Ruddell of Greenfield – Highest Honors
- Stephanie D. Sellers of Greenfield – Highest Honors
- Mary A. Straley of Greenfield – Honors
- Michael Thompson of Greenfield – Highest Honors
- Anna M. Usery of Greenfield – High Honors
- Emily D. Waddell of Greenfield – Honors
- Cody L. Worley of Greenfield – Honors
- Melissa J. Adams of Martin – Highest Honors
- Marcy B. Ash of Martin – Highest Honors
- Candice N. Baker of Martin – High Honors
- Olivia G. Baltz of Martin – Highest Honors
- Magen L. Beard of Martin – Highest Honors
- Amy L. Belote of Martin – Honors
- Emily A. Belote of Martin – Highest Honors
- William D. Blackwell of Martin – Honors
- Sylvester Boyd of Martin – High Honors
- Chelsea D. Breeden of Martin – Honors
- Lauren A. Brelan of Martin – High Honors
- Chantia B. Brown of Martin – High Honors
- Charles A. Brubaker of Martin – High Honors
- Elizabeth R. Bukeavich of Martin – Highest Honors
- Megan N. Burcham of Martin – High Honors
- Jamie L. Burgess of Martin – High Honors
- Lauren N. Burress of Martin – Highest Honors
- Diedric E. Butler of Martin – Honors
- Ashley E. Bynum of Martin – Highest Honors
- Christopher E. Capua of Martin – Honors
- Chase H. Cartmell of Martin – High Honors
- Megan N. Cartmell of Martin – Highest Honors
- James K. Chappel of Martin – High Honors
- Justin K. Cobb of Martin – Highest Honors
- Scott E. Coleman of Martin – High Honors
- Joseph D. Copeland of Martin – High Honors
- Ken S. Covington of Martin – Honors
- Amanda L. Crowe of Martin – High Honors
- Brittany M. Creech of Martin – Highest Honors
- Gregory R. Curd of Martin – High Honors
- Steven W. Dalton of Martin – Highest Honors
- Lesley A. Daniel of Martin – Honors
- Martha E. Daniel of Martin – High Honors
- Bradley C. Davis of Martin – Honors
- Timothy M. Dehart of Martin – Honors
- Cheryl L. Deyeso of Martin – Highest Honors
- Robert L. Deyeso of Martin – Highest Honors
- Jordon P. Dorch of Martin – Honors
- Lauren B. Dowdy of Martin – Highest Honors
- Bryant J. Fisher of Martin – High Honors
- Ashley L. Floyd of Martin – High Honors
- Teal M. Ford of Martin – Honors
- Christopher T. Fowler of Martin – Highest Honors
- Rachel E. Fowler of Martin – Honors
- Abbie M. Fuqua of Martin – Highest Honors
- Amy P. Gardner of Martin – Honors
- Jordan R. Gardner of Martin – Highest Honors
- Raymond R. Gardner of Martin – Highest Honors
- Layla R. Gargas of Martin – High Honors
- Travis W. Garner of Martin – High Honors
- Brandt M. Gibson of Martin – High Honors
- Kesley J. Gibson of Martin – Highest Honors
- Stephanie R. Gourley of Martin – Honors
- Matthew J. Granner of Martin – Honors
- Chelsea M. Greer of Martin – Honors
- Ashley M. Gross of Martin – High Honors
- Betheny M. Guerrero of Martin – Honors
- Laura N. Gullett of Martin – Highest Honors
- Jacqueline A. Guzman of Martin – Honors
- Cynthia A. Hahn of Martin – Highest Honors
- Brent T. Harris of Martin – High Honors
- Jacob P. Hart of Martin – High Honors
- Taren P. Hatcher of Martin – Highest Honors
- Casey L. Hazelwood of Martin – Highest Honors
- Toni L. Holford of Martin – High Honors
- James R. Holland of Martin – High Honors
- Katie J. Holland of Martin – Honors
- Cassie M. Hood of Martin – Honors
- James D. Hatchins of Martin – Highest Honors
- Shelley M. Hutchins of Martin – Honors
- Kathryn A. Imperiale of Martin – Honors
- Charles A. Ingram of Martin – Honors
- Lyndsey B. Jackson of Martin – High Honors
- Jordan T. Jensen of Martin – Honors
- Jennifer K. Johnson of Martin – Highest Honors
- Joshua T. Johnson of Martin – High Honors
Martin

- Krishna V. Patel of Martin - High Honors
- Saumil V. Patel of Martin - Highest Honors
- Sreeve N. Pentecost of Martin - High Honors
- Breanna H. Pitcher of Martin - Highest Honors
- Steven L. Pitts of Martin - Honors
- Kathryn L. Poley of Martin - Honors
- Carrie L. Powers of Martin - High Honors
- Landon P. Prather of Martin - Highest Honors
- Allison C. Price of Martin - High Honors
- William T. Price of Martin - High Honors
- Emilee F. Ray of Martin - Honors
- Angela D. Reddick of Martin - Highest Honors
- Julie M. Reddick of Martin - Highest Honors
- Kristen L. Riley of Martin - Honors
- Ashley R. Ritz of Martin - High Honors
- Lauren B. Robertson of Martin - High Honors
- Ahmad R. Robinson of Martin - Honors
- Devon P. Rountree of Martin - High Honors
- Mercedes L. Rubio of Martin - High Honors
- Victoria N. Russell of Martin - Highest Honors
- Cory S. Sandefur of Martin - Highest Honors
- Jared J. Scherer of Martin - Highest Honors
- Katelyn E. Searcy of Martin - Honors
- Caitlin E. Simpson of Martin - Highest Honors
- Kayla B. Simpson of Martin - Highest Honors
- Mallory A. Simpson of Martin - Highest Honors
- Ashante L. Smith of Martin - Honors
- Chelsea L. Smith of Martin - Honors
- Morgan L. Smith of Martin - Honors
- Wesley A. Spangle of Martin - High Honors
- Rachel E. Stegall of Martin - High Honors
- David M. Stepp of Martin - Highest Honors
- Rory D. Stutzman of Martin - Highest Honors
- Taner J. Swiney of Martin - Highest Honors
- Gail L. Thomas of Martin - Honors
- Carly R. Unger of Martin - Highest Honors
- Calista E. Vaughn of Martin - Highest Honors
- James A. Verdel of Martin - Highest Honors
- Libbi W. Verdel of Martin - Highest Honors
- Lacardia D. Walker of Martin - High Honors
- Ashton J. Walsh of Martin - Honors
- Bentlee P. Walters of Martin - Honors
- Bethany A. Walters of Martin - High Honors
- Rose M. Warren of Martin - Honors
- Stanton T. Watson of Martin - Highest Honors
- Sargent L. Wells of Martin - Highest Honors
- Kelly R. Wheeler of Martin - Honors
- Kelsey P. Wiley of Martin - Highest Honors
- Brandon M. Wilson of Martin - High Honors
- Lauren P. Witherspoon of Martin - Highest Honors
- Rachel E. Yates of Martin - Honors
- Erin E. Rayburn of Palmersville - Honors
- Jannie E. Reed of Palmersville - Highest Honors
- Crockett D. Stephens of Palmersville - High Honors
- Roe N. Hughes of Paris - Highest Honors
- Jason Ballard of Sharon - Highest Honors
- Chadwick M. Brewer of Sharon - Honors
- Glenn A. Butkovic of Sharon - Honors
- Kala M. Christiansen of Sharon - Honors
- Kevin E. Edge of Sharon - Highest Honors
- Matthew L. Fitzgerald of Sharon - Highest Honors

This is a partial list of the local students named to the Honor Roll.
Please check next week's edition of The Press for the remaining list of participants.
Student chosen for scholarship

Nashville - Tennessee Gas Association has announced its 2012 Scholarship recipients. The TGA Scholarship Foundation provides scholarships to children of member company employees. Funds are raised throughout the year at the annual TGA Scholarship golf, tennis and fishing tournaments as well as silent auctions, association events and individual donations.

Two $2,500 scholarships were named in honor of distinguished TGA members who have gone above and beyond in supporting the TGA Scholarship Program.

The John Ward Scholarship in honor of John Ward of Award Productions in Knoxville and the Leslie B. Enoch, II Scholarship in honor of Leslie B. Enoch, II, former CEO of Middle Tennessee Natural Gas Utility District in Smithville, were named in honor of these men for their sacrificial giving and support.

The remaining 13 scholarships are $1,500 each.

$1,500 Scholarship:
The Piedmont Natural Gas Scholarship
  - Kensey A. Catlett, daughter of Kevin Catlett, a welder for the Sevier County Utility district, and Paula Condra. Kensey plans to major in animal science at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Tennessee Gas Association is a natural gas state association with just under 500 members. TGA was established in 1962.
Weakley County students receive degrees

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

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Dresden – Abbey Brooks Stoker, Benita June Evans, Christopher Dee Mason, Cody Wyatt Perkins, Erica Collins Green, Jennifer Tennis Beaty, Justin Billingsby Hatler, Lacie Claire Kelley, Matthew Joseph Valleé, Meagan Helena Pittman, Ryan Lloyd Delaney, Sarah Ann McAlpin, Suzanne Williams Ruddell, Travis Ray Davis;
- Dukedom – Charles V. Bailey II;
- Gleason – Savanna Carolyn Finch-Bratton, Julie Essary Roberts;
- Greenfield – Merrie Jo Joyner-Leach, Kristan Deena Jennings, Taren Paige Hatcher, Kandi Nicole Sawyers, Kelsey Lee Potts, Anna Marie Usery;

The students receiving graduate degrees were:
- Dresden – Zachary Oneal Baker;

Dr. Joe DiPietro, president of the University of Tennessee, was the commencement speaker and conferred degrees.

UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes presided over the exercises.

GREENFIELD STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MATH CONTEST — The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Examinations were given in six areas: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Students from Greenfield High School who participated were (from left, front) Brittany Ricketts, Sofia Oliva, Katy Caudle, Makala Sitzes; (second row) Bethany Cole, Chelsea Willis, Kaitlyn Simmons, Abbey McDaniel; (third row) Brody Stanford, Jessica Boettner, Tony Robinson; (fourth row) Mason Borneman, Kaitlyn Sanders, Hunter Crouse, Rachel Roberts and Kristin Bates.

(Photo submitted)
ETHINGTON PLACES SECOND AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Johnathan Ethington, a student at Westview High School, won second place in the Bake-off French Desserts category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Lucia Florido, associate professor of French; Ethington; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.

(Photo submitted)

WESTVIEW STUDENTS PLACE THIRD AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY — Brittanie Dunn and Tyler Baker, both students at Westview High School, won third place in the Bake-off French Desserts category during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Lucia Florido, associate professor of French; Dunn; Baker; Dr. Lynn Alexander, dean of the College of Humanities and Fine Arts; and Jenna Wright, chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages.
GLEASON STUDENTS PLACE SECOND AT UT MARTIN HIGH SCHOOL FOREIGN LANGUAGES DAY - Conner Verdell, David Spelling, Matthew McAlister and Will Freeman, all students of Doreen Forrest at Gleason High School, won second place in the Spanish Language Bowl during the University of Tennessee at Martin's English and Modern Foreign Languages High School Day held April 19. On hand for the event were (from left) Dr. Anton Garcia-Fernandez, assistant professor; Forrest; Verdell; Spelling; McAlister; Freeman; Dr. Daniel Nappo, associate professor of Spanish.

Photo submitted
Young writers’ summer camp to begin June 18 at UTM

MARTIN, Tenn. - Young writers in grades 3-12 are invited to participate in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s annual Young Writers’ Summer Camp, from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day beginning June 18 and continuing through the week.

Students will be divided into two groups and participate in age-appropriate writing activities with teachers from their grade levels. Participating teachers come from across West Tennessee, including the Martin, Jackson and Union City school systems.

Participants will be able to improve their writing skills in workshops, mini-lessons on content and editing strategies, writing response groups and one-on-one conferences with teachers from the West Tennessee Writing Project.

Friends and Family Day will be June 22 at noon, and the public is invited to join the writing groups to hear what the students have written during camp.

Registration is $125 per student, which includes a daily snack, T-shirt, writing notebook and an anthology of writing by the campers. All students must register by June 11. Parents should provide a bag or backpack for supplies.

For more information about the Young Writers’ Summer Camp or the West Tennessee Writing Project, contact Dr. David Carithers at dcarithers@utm.edu or visit the WTWP website at www.utm.edu/wtwp.
TROY HONOREE — Terry Chapman (second from right) of Troy received the Department of the Army Superior Cadet Award, MS II, from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. On hand to congratulate him were (from left) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; and Master Sgt. Billy Rogers, military science service aide I.

UC STUDENT HONORED — Clay Searcy (center) of Union City received the Geology Student Service Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Among those who congratulated him were (from left) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Michael Gibson, professor of geology; and Dr. Timothy Burcham, professor and interim chair of the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources.

Hands-on fun slated for youth at UTM

Will paper fall like a stone? How high will the ball bounce? Fifty students in grades 6-8 will have the opportunity to answer these questions and more using hands-on experiments at the first-ever STEMulation Camp June 18-22 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Each day, students will work in teams on activities organized into four major topics — Forces and Motion on Earth and in Space, Environment, Living Things and Energy. These experiences will prepare them for four team competitions the final day.

The competitions will include the Adventures in Duct Tape Competition, the Egg Drop Competition, the Spaghetti Bridge Competition and the Tower Competition. Prizes will be awarded to winners and parents may attend the competitions at 3:30 p.m. June 22.

For more information or to register, call (731) 881-7082 or 881-7081 or visit www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/stemulation_camp.php.

The registration fee for the camp is $125 and includes a T-shirt and all supplies. Enrollment is limited to the first 50 registrations with confirmed payment.

STEMulation Camp is under the direction of Dr. Louis Glover, UT Martin assistant professor of education.
BEING SCHOLARLY — Reuben Kendall (left) of Troy was honored as a University Scholar before spring commencement exercises recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Among the requirements, students must complete the honors core curriculum of courses, additional small group courses with other University Scholars and a faculty-mentored, two-year research project. Kendall was congratulated by his scholars faculty advisor, Dr. Lionel Crews, director of Honors Programs.

AWARDED - Billy Jewell, of Waverly, received the BG G. H. Weems Memorial Scholarship Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Pictured are (from left to right) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Jewell; and Master Sgt. Billy Rogers, military science service aide I.
Three awarded Owens scholarships

Henry County High School seniors Brad Owens, Nicholas Muncy and Caleb Grissom have been awarded the 2012 Michael D. Owens memorial scholarships. Brad Owens and Muncy were given $792, while Grissom received $500.

Owens, who is the son of Dan and Tammy Owens of Paris, plans to enroll at the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in engineering. At HCHS, Owens was a member of the 2011 state 5-A football championship team. He also was a member of the criminal justice club and National Honor Society. He placed first in a Northwest Tennessee Algebra I mathematics competition. In the community, he was active with Helping Hand, the Salvation Army Angel Tree project and the local Fraternal Order of Police's Shop with a Cop program.

Muncy is the son of James and Sherry Norwood of Paris. He plans to enroll at the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in chemistry and premedicine.

Grissom is the son of Chris and Vikki Grissom of Paris. He also plans to enroll at the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in accounting, with a minor in music. In high school, he was a member of the National Honor Society, Henry County High School Madrigals, Leo Club and Junior Livestock Association. He was named to the All Northwest Tennessee honor choir for four years. In the community, he was a volunteer at the Patriots Community Kitchen, held weekly at Grace Episcopal Church.

Doing math in Martin

The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers’ Association high school mathematics contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas: algebra I, algebra II, geometry, pre-calculus, calculus and statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Students from Grove School who participated were (from left, front row) Brianna Mercado, Mary Boyd, Holly Peavy, Riley Jordan; (second row) Becca Dean, Chelsey Allen, Jillian Dupras, EJazz Tate; (third row) Caleb Hernandez, Preston Neal, Jacob Gallimore; and (fourth row) Ryan Mahan and Kellen Robbins.
Medina native speaks at UT Martin program

Tennessee's volunteer spirit was honored during UT Martin's annual Memorial Day commemoration held Friday at the entrance to the Hall-Moody Administration Building, according to a news release. Maj. Kevin Brandon, of Medina, was the guest speaker and reminded the audience of sacrifices Tennesseans have made in service to America.

Maj. Christopher McDaniel, UT Martin assistant professor of military science, served as master of ceremonies and recognized Gold Star Families and military veterans in attendance. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes also welcomed the crowd and thanked members of the military and veterans for their service. The university's Army ROTC Battalion presented the colors, the release said.

Brandon, a 1999 UT Martin agricultural business graduate, noted his own 16 years of military service in the Army National Guard and that time period's significance.

"Eleven of those years, our great country has been fully engaged on the war on terrorism," he said. "If you're serving in the military, you've either deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, or been in a position that directly supports those soldiers downrange. We don't have to look far in Tennessee to see soldiers and families that are committed to serving this great country."

Brandon, who served two tours of duty in Iraq, recognized the 913th Engineer Co. in Union City and the 230th Engineer Battalion in Trenton, both currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He added that the 212th Engineer Co. in Paris and Camden and the 251st MP Co. in Lexington, Bolivar and Savannah would deploy overseas next year.

"Most of these young men and women have deployed before, some three or four times," he said. "Understand that our soldiers are committed to serving this great nation. All of them have freely volunteered to enlist or re-enlist during a time of war. Our soldiers are a reflection of the resilience of the United States."

Brandon noted the first Memorial Day observance on May 30, 1868, and "the history of the Tennesseans volunteer spirit and the sacrifices that have been made over the last century." More recently, in 1991, he said that more than 3,600 Tennessee Guardsmen were involved in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, according to the release.

"And in 2001, the world stood still after the World Trade Center was attacked. The Tennessee National Guard did not," he said. "The 118th airlift wing C-130 was one of the only aircraft that was not grounded that day. It flew a liver for a 6-month-old girl (needing a transplant) from Nashville to Houston, Texas, while all civilian air traffic was grounded."

In March 2003, Brandon said, "Tennesseans were some of the first units to cross into Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom."

He added, "At the close of December 2011, nearly 21,000 Tennessee Guardsmen had deployed for the war on terror, in addition to the thousands of men.
and women from Tennessee that volunteered to serve in the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps."

As he closed, Brandon said, "Tennesseans have always demonstrated their volunteer spirit through their actions by deploying whenever and wherever they are needed. And many of these servicemen have made the ultimate sacrifice."

Col. Bob Smith, of Martin, a Navy veteran who served in World War II, attended the ceremony and said these observances are important for reminding young people about the sacrifices made for freedom.

"I regret that the younger people don't take advantage of these things like they should," he said. "But, it's getting better, and I hope to see more younger people out in the future than there has been in the past."

The release said the ceremony ended with a gun salute by the university's Department of Public Safety and the playing of taps by Staff Sgt. Charles Sadler of the Army National Guard.

### Photo class offered in UC

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Monday, May 28, 2012

**Photo class offered in UC**

Sign-up is still under way for a course in basic digital photography camera operation and skills being offered from 6-9 p.m. on Thursdays June 7-28 at the Obion County Public Library in Union City.

The class is sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Extended Campus and Online Studies.

Basic digital photography will allow participants to make the most of their digital camera operations and use its advantage to improve their photographic skills.

Roger Hughes, course instructor, will focus on camera features and functions, exposure, composition, depth of field, focus, photography ideas, exercises in lighting and portrait, landscape, action and close-up shots. Students must bring a personal camera, its operations manual and a tripod.

Hughes is a retired special agent in charge for the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. He is a 30-year veteran criminal investigator of the TBI's Criminal and Drug Investigation divisions.

After years of photographing major crime scenes, evidence and surveillance targets, he began studying fine art imaging at the University of Tennessee and Rocky Mountain School of Photography and under the mentorship of three acclaimed wildlife and nature photographers.

He is past president of the Northwest Tennessee Photography Club.

The registration fee for the class is $105 per person. To register, contact ECOS at (731) 881-7083, or register online at http://www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/home.php.

### UT Martin plans study trip to South Korea

**UT Martin plans study trip to South Korea**

The Jackson Sun • Saturday, May 26, 2012

The 12-hour basic course is the basis for the follow-up advanced digital photography skills class, which will be offered from 6-9 p.m. on Thursdays July 12-Aug. 2 at the Obion County Public Library.

The University of Tennessee Martin will conduct a spring travel study to South Korea from June 4-13. The trip is open to the public.

Participants will visit the 1988 Seoul Olympic and 2002 FIFA World Cup main stadiums, the headquarters of international sports brand FIFA, the Korean Demilitarized Zone areas and the two largest cities in South Korea—Seoul and Busan.

Three hours of credit will be offered to UT Martin students who enroll in the spring course Sport Management 485.

The cost is about $2,600 per person, and scholarships are available.

For more information, contact trip leader J.C. Kim, assistant professor of sport management, at (731) 881-7667 or jkim@utm.edu, or call the Center for International Education at (731) 881-1023.
REMEMBERING — Michael Cochran of Union City, who retired from the Army in 2009, joined other area veterans Friday at the 12th annual Memorial Day Commemoration at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Maj. Kevin Brandon of Medina, a 1999 UT Martin agriculture business graduate, was guest speaker and the program was dedicated to U.S. Navy veteran Dr. Harold Smith, UT Martin professor emeritus of animal science, who served in World War II as a dive bomber pilot aboard the USS Hancock.

Norman Lillegard honored

Dr. Norman Lillegard (left), professor emeritus of philosophy, was honored with a retirement reception April 19 in the Holland McCombs Center. He has taught at UT Martin since 1989 and is completing a four-year, post-retirement teaching assignment. Philosophy students presented him with a signed painting of Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard by Molly Blankenship, Outstanding History and Philosophy Student for 2012 in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. Joining Lillegard at the reception were Dr. David Coffey, chair, Department of History and Philosophy, and Lynn Alexander, college dean.

CPD internship to go before council

CLARKSVILLE, TENN. — The Clarksville Police Department could soon have criminal justice students from the University of Tennessee at Martin interning at the department.

The internships would require an inter-local agreement between UT Martin and the city, said Lance Baker, the city attorney.

"Every semester, they would have a criminal justice student that would attend a certain number of hours — and many of the details need to be worked out still between CPD and the university — but they would come over and probably do ride-along type things and attend training classes," Baker said.

He said it would be beneficial for the students and also for the city in that the department could get some leads on prospective city police officers.

Because the internship would involve two governmental entities, Baker said state law requires the inter-local agreement.

Baker said the contract will need to be renewed annually and that several details still need to be worked out.

"The basics are in the contract," he said. "There's no pay. There will be no liability on the city's part. There's an identity clause in there, so we're protected."

Ward 7 Councilman Geno Grubbs, who is also on the Finance and Administration Committee and used to be a police officer with CPD, said the department has had interns in the past and it's been "a good thing."
Bethany Aden Graduates Cum Laude from UTM

Bethany Aden graduated Cum Laude from the University of Tennessee at Martin on May 5, 2012 with a Bachelors of Science in Chemistry and Cell and Molecular Biology. While attending UT Martin she was associated with the Peer Enabling Program which is an educational program geared towards helping incoming freshmen to transition into the college atmosphere. In 2010, she was recognized as a Ned Ray McWherter Scholar. Bethany is a three year member of the American Chemical Society and was awarded the 2011 Undergraduate ACS Award in Analytical Chemistry. In 2011, she was also a recipient for Who's Who Among Students In American Universities & Colleges. Bethany served as a Chemistry Teaching Assistant for the Chemistry Department at UT Martin where she taught general chemistry labs; she also conducted research for three years in the TWRA Forensic Lab with Mike Stockdale. Bethany is continuing her education at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where she will pursue her PhD in Chemistry. Bethany is a 2008 graduate of McKenzie High School. She is the daughter of Dale and Rhonda Aden and the granddaughter of Leona Aden and Barbara Porch.

Local Residents Receive Degrees from UT Martin

MARTIN — Several Carroll County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during the recent spring commencement held in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus. The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:

- Atwood – Ray Daniel Pinson; Bruceton – Jacob Fane Edwards;


The students receiving graduate degrees were:

- McKenzie – Julie Catherine Bennett, Joanna Leigh Robbins.

Dr. Joe DiPietro, president of the University of Tennessee, was the commencement speaker and conferred degrees. UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes presided over the exercises.

McKenzie High School Distinguished Scholars

Kendra Leigh Gilmore, salutatorian, is the daughter of Gary and Kim Gilmore. She plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and pursue a degree in biology.

Kendra Leigh Gilmore
IEEE'S volunteer spirit was honored during UT Martin's annual Memorial Day Commemoration held Friday at the entrance to the Hall-Moody Administration Building. Maj. Kevin Brandon, of Medina, was the guest speaker and reminded the audience of sacrifices Tennesseans have made in service to America.

Maj. Christopher McDaniel, UT Martin assistant professor of military science, served as master of ceremonies and recognized Gold Star Families and military veterans in attendance. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes also welcomed the crowd and thanked members of the military and veterans for their service. The university's Army ROTC Battalion presented the colors.

Brandon, a 1999 UT Martin agricultural business graduate, noted his own 16 years of military service in the Army National Guard and that time period's significance.

"Eleven of those years, our great country has been fully engaged on the war on terrorism," he said. "If you're serving in the military, you've either deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, or been in a position that directly supports those soldiers downrange." He added, "We don't have to look far in Tennessee to see soldiers and families that are committed to serving this great country."

Brandon, who served two tours of duty in Iraq, recognized the 913th Engineer Co. in Union City and the 230th Engineer Battalion in Trenton, both currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He added that the 212th Engineer Co. in Paris and Camden and the 251st MP Co. in Lexington, Bolivar and Savannah would deploy over.

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seas next year.

"Most of these young men and women have deployed before, some three or four times," he said. "Understand that our soldiers are committed to serving this great nation. All of them have freely volunteered to enlist or re-enlist during a time of war. Our soldiers are a reflection of the resilience of the United States."

Brandon noted the first Memorial Day observance on May 30, 1868, and "the history of the Tennessee volunteer spirit and the sacrifices that have been made over the last century." More recently, in 1991, he said that more than 3,600 Tennessee guardsmen were involved in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

"And in 2001, the world stood still after the World Trade Center was attacked. The Tennessee National Guard did not," he said. "The 118th airlift wing C-130 was one of the only aircraft that was not grounded that day. It flew a liver for a six-month-old girl (needing a transplant) from Nashville to Houston, Texas, while all civilian air traffic was grounded."

In March 2003, Brandon said "Tennesseans were some of the first units to cross into Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom." He added, "At the close of December 2011, nearly 21,000 Tennessee Guardsmen had deployed for the war on terror, in addition to the thousands of men and women from Tennessee that volunteered to serve in the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps."

As he closed, Brandon said, "Tennesseans have always demonstrated their volunteer spirit through their actions by deploying whenever and wherever they are needed. And many of these servicemen have made the ultimate sacrifice."

Col. Bob Smith of Martin, a Navy veteran who served in World War II, attended the ceremony and said these observances are important for reminding young people about the sacrifices made for freedom. "I regret that the younger people don't take advantage of these things like they should," he said. "But, it's getting better, and I hope to see more younger people out in the future than there has been in the past."

The ceremony ended with a gun salute by the university's Department of Public Safety and the playing of "Taps" by Staff Sgt. Charles Sadler of the Army National Guard.

IN MEMORY OF – Charles A. Sadler of Martin, Tennessee Army National Guard on-campus recruiter, performed "Taps" at the 12th annual Memorial Day Commemoration Friday, Maj. Kevin Brandon, of Medina, was guest speaker, and the program was dedicated to U.S. Navy veteran, Dr. Harold Smith, UT Martin professor emeritus of animal science, who served in World War II as a dive bomber pilot aboard the USS Hancock.

GOLD STAR FATHER – Mike Morel of Martin attended UTM's 12th annual Memorial Day Commemoration Friday. Morel represented the only Gold Star family in attendance at the commemoration, which signifies a family who has lost a loved one as a result of military service. Morel's son, Brent Morel, a 1996 graduate, was killed in Iraq in 2004. His bust is displayed in the university's Paul Meek Library, and Brent's mother, Molly Morel, serves as the national treasurer for American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.

GUEST SPEAKER – Maj. Kevin Brandon of Medina, a 1999 UT Martin agriculture business graduate, was guest speaker during the 12th annual UT Martin Memorial Day Commemoration held on the university's campus Friday morning.
WESTVIEW STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN MATH CONTEST — The 56th annual Tennessee Mathematics Teachers' Association High School Mathematics Contest was recently conducted at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Examinations were given in six areas: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre Calculus, Calculus and Statistics. At the UT Martin testing site, 226 students competed from 12 schools. Students from Westview High School who participated were (from left, front) Sarah Buckley, Laura Ferrer, Hunter Hazlewood, Samantha Daily, Brittany Ary, Areli Aguilar, Elizabeth Plunk, Brandon Stacks, Dominic Fabianich, Hellie Butler, McKay Warren; (second row) Nicholas Fortner, Sarah Pugh, Billy Killebrew, Alex Crosser, Melissa Darroch, Katelyn Luthi, Harrison Capps, Gian Garma, Cal Bradshaw, Leanna Coleman; (third row) Sangheon Sony, Cody Cooper, Rachel Samuel, Zoe Stringer, Sarah Wade, Abe Haddad, Seth Coleman, Lakyn Bell and Alex Ross.

Sharon resident earns ag internship

St. Francisville, Ill. — AgriGold is proud to introduce Seth Waterfield of Sharon as a sales intern. Waterfield will be sharing the AgriGold story, placing field signs and working closely with his local Corn Specialists, Andrew Snider and Lee Herring, as a part of the 2012 Sales Internship Program. Waterfield is a student at the University of Tennessee at Martin and works at Modern Tool and Die (MTD Products).

AgriGold announced it was proud to invest in the future of agriculture and support college students pursuing careers in the food and fiber industry. AgriGold has hired a total of 75 interns across the Corn Belt with two of those being placed in Tennessee. Their time with AgriGold provides great lessons in professional and personal development along with a better understanding of the seed corn business.

Members of the AgriGold Intern Team will be responsible for assisting their Corn Specialist in achieving profitable growth and development in their respective district. This specifically includes helping with coordinating logistics, evaluating corn hybrid performance and implementing an advertising plan for the district.

AgriGold has developed, produced and sold hybrid seed corn since 1936, bringing corn growers genetics from the 4th largest breeding and research program in the United States. Pairing these world-class GENETICS with the superior knowledge of AGRONOMICS from our Corn Specialists, growers are achieving outstanding RESULTS in the field.

For more information about AgriGold Corn Specialists in the local area or the GIANT results the growers are seeing, visit agrigold.com.
LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE SERVICE AWARDS — The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulder, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey's Harpo Studios. Tonya Evans, of Sharon, received the Women in Communications Presidential Service Award; Angie Land, of Greenfield, received the Women in Communications Outstanding New Member Award; and Kim Barnett-Sledd, of Dresden, received the Women in Communications Outstanding Member Award. Dr. Teresa Collard, assistant professor of communications, presented the awards. Barnett-Sledd and Evans also received recognition for their leadership of the March of Dimes 5K for Women in Communication.

MEBANE RECOGNIZED AT UT MARTIN COMMUNICATIONS DAY — The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Communications recently held its annual Communications Day to honor the academic and extracurricular accomplishments of communications students. The keynote speaker for the banquet was Terry Goulder, UT Martin alumnus and co-executive producer at Oprah Winfrey's Harpo Studios. Leah Mebane, of Gleason, received the Darrin Devault PR Scholarship. Dr. Jeff Hoyer, associate professor of communications, presented the award.

(Photo submitted)
ASH RECEIVES AWARD FROM UT MARTIN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES — Marcy Ash of Martin received the Outstanding Child and Family Studies Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Presenting and accepting the award were (from left) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Ash; and Dr. Lisa LeBleu, professor and chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Photo submitted
MELISSA ADAMS RECEIVES AWARD FROM UT MARTIN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES - Melissa Adams of Martin received the Outstanding Dietetics Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Presenting and accepting the award were (from left) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Adams; and Dr. Lisa LeBleu, professor and chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Photo submitted

PEG ADAMS RECEIVES AWARD FROM UT MARTIN COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCES - Pegeen "Peg" Adams of Martin received the Outstanding Interior Design Student Award from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a recent departmental awards banquet. Accepting and presenting the award were (from left) Dr. Jerald Ogg, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; Dr. Jerry Gresham, professor and interim dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences; Adams; and Dr. Lisa LeBleu, professor and chair of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Photo submitted
UT MARTIN names local students to Spring Semester Chancellor’s Honor Roll

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

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

Dyersburg - Leslee N. Adams, Honors; Kathleen N. Alford, High Honors; Seth E. Appleton, Highest Honors; Jennifer L. Arguello, High Honors; Belinda J. Barker, Highest Honors; Billy A. Bivens, Honors; Jere R. Blalock, Honors; Mallory L. Brimm, Highest Honors; Alicia D. Burkey, Highest Honors; Lindsey J. Burns, High Honors; Chelsea L. Chaffin, Highest Honors; Penny L. Cherry, High Honors; Alexander D. Clark, Honors; Shelby T. Clayton, High Honors; Courtney R. Countess, High Honors; Jesse R. Cowart, High Honors; Kassie A. Cowart, High Honors; Corey W. Criswell, High Honors; Caitlin A. Crocker, Highest Honors; Robert A. Ellis, Honors; Elizabeth B. Finley, High Honors; Stacey R. French, Honors; Amber N. Garner, Highest Honors; Andrea N. Geary, Honors; Leah J. Graham, High Honors; Robin L. Griffin, Highest Honors; Russell Grigsby, Honors; Jordan L. Gunn, High Honors; Jonathan C. Hall, High Honors; Tiffany N. Halliburton, High Honors; Dominique N. Hardaway, High Honors; Yolanda K. Harris, Honors; Megan H. Hummer, Highest Honors; Alexandra L. Jacobi, High Honors; William B. James, Highest Honors; Brittany T. Jones, High Honors; Jennifer A. Jones, Highest Honors; Linda F. Jones, Highest Honors; Terra S. Jones, Honors; John R. Jowers, Highest Honors; Hailey N. Keeling, Highest Honors; Travis E. Laird, Honors; Lindy M. Layton, High Honors; Elizabeth N. Lee, High Honors; David A. Lewellyng, High Honors; Todd D. Mauldin, High Honors; Judith L. McCormack, Honors; Kerrie N. McGuire, Highest Honors; John M. Moody, High Honors; Ian M. Neavills, Honors; Weston H. Newbill, High Honors; Jared A. Nobles, Highest Honors; Kaitlin B. Paschal, Honors; Kyle E. Paschal, High Honors; Alison M. Petty, Dyersburg, Highest Honors; Alissa R. Plewa, High Honors; Beth A. Radziewicz, High Honors; John A. Reasons, Honors; Ginny L. Roper, Highest Honors; Lee M. Schultz, Honors; Nicole T. Shanklin, Highest Honors; Todameka L. Shorter-Smiles, Highest Honors; Micheal W. Singleton, Honors; Corey A. Smith, Honors; Christopher R. Sorrell, High Honors; Johnnie M. Stephens, Highest Honors; Lisa E. Tarr, High Honors; Claire A. Tidwell, High Honors; Amanda L. Tittle, Highest Honors; Jason W. Tittle, Honors; Rhiannon M. Triplet, Honors; Whitney D. Tucker, High Honors; Mary C. Viar, High Honors; LeAnna P. Waldron, Honors; Christina West, Highest Honors; Christopher L. White, Highest Honors; Cara L. Williams, High Honors; Valerie L. Winters, Honors; Matthew B. Wolf, High Honors; Jennifer L. Wright, Highest Honors; Christopher R. Zumbach, High Honors.

Newbern - Megan N. Alford, Honors; Cody A. Austin, Honors; Peyton E. Bunn, Honors; Wendy M. Butler, Highest Honors; Adam D. Clark, Highest Honors; Janelle L. Cleaves, High Honors; Amanda B. Compton, High Honors; Trista L. Ferguson, Honors; Gregory A. Frye, High Honors; Austin A. Gaskins, High Honors; David L. Gilton, Honors; Mary Helen Hepler, Highest Honors; Kristin B. Hopper, High Honors; Judy G. Jordan, High Honors; Randy R. Lee, High Honors; Keith W. McGuire, High Honors; Kyle W. McGuire, Honors; Heath A. McLean, High Honors; Felicia D. Mula, Highest Honors; Heather N. Peavyhouse, High Honors; Joseph B. Powell, High Honors; Cary E. Smith, Highest Honors; Laura West, Highest Honors; Andrew R. Zarecor, Highest Honors.

Tigrett - April N. Walker, High Honors; Trimble - James Jackson, Honors.
Tennessee’s volunteer spirit was honored during UT Martin’s annual Memorial Day Commemoration held Friday, May 25, at the entrance to the Hall-Moody Administration Building.

Maj. Kevin Brandon, of Medina, was the guest speaker and reminded the audience of sacrifices Tennesseans have made in service to America.

Maj. Christopher McDaniel, UT Martin assistant professor of military science, served as master of ceremonies and recognized Gold Star Families and military veterans in attendance. UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes also welcomed the crowd and thanked members of the military and veterans for their service. The university’s Army ROTC Battalion presented the colors.

Brandon, a 1999 UT Martin agricultural business graduate, noted his own 16 years of military service in the Army National Guard and that time period’s significance.

“Eleven of those years, our great country has been fully engaged on the war on terrorism,” he said. “If you’re serving in the military, you’ve either deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan, or been in a position that directly supports those soldiers downrange.” He added, “We don’t have to look far in Tennessee to see soldiers and families that are committed to serving this great country.”

Brandon, who served two tours of duty in Iraq, recognized the 913th Engineer Co. in Union City and the 230th Engineer Battalion in Trenton, both currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He added that the 212th Engineer Co. in Paris and Camden and the 251st MP Co. in Lexington, Bolivar and Savannah would deploy overseas next year.

“Most of these young men and women have deployed before, some three or four times,” he said. “Understand that our soldiers are committed to serving this great nation. All of them have freely volunteered to enlist or re-enlist during a time of war. Our soldiers are a reflection of the resilience of the United States.”

Brandon noted the first Memorial Day observance on May 30, 1868, and “the history of the Tennessee volunteer spirit and the sacrifices that have been made over the last century.” More recently, in 1991, he said that more than 3,600 Tennessee guardsmen were involved in operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

“And in 2001, the world stood still after the World Trade Center was attacked. The Tennessee National Guard did not,” he said. “The 118th airlift wing C-130 was one of the only aircraft that was not grounded that day. It flew a liver for a six-month-old girl (needing a transplant) from Nashville to Houston, Texas, while all civilian air traffic was grounded.”

In March 2003, Brandon said “Tennesseans were some of the first units to cross into Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom.” He added, “At the close of December 2011, nearly 21,000 Tennessee Guardsmen had deployed for the war on terror, in addition to the thousands of men and women from Tennessee that volunteered to serve in the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps.”

As he closed, Brandon said, “Tennesseans have always demonstrated their volunteer spirit through their actions by deploying whenever and wherever they are needed. And many of these servicemen have made the ultimate sacrifice.”
Col. Bob Smith, of Martin, a Navy veteran who served in World War II, attended the ceremony and said these observances are important for reminding young people about the sacrifices made for freedom. "I regret that the younger people don't take advantage of these things like they should," he said. "But, it's getting better, and I hope to see more younger people out in the future than there has been in the past."

The ceremony ended with a gun salute by the university's Department of Public Safety and the playing of "Taps" by Staff Sgt. Charles Sadler of the Army National Guard.

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University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes welcomes those in attendance during the 12th annual Memorial Day Commemoration on May 25. Maj. Kevin Brandon, of Medina, a 1999 UT Martin agriculture business graduate, was guest speaker, and the program was dedicated to U.S. Navy veteran, Dr. Harold Smith, UT Martin professor emeritus of animal science, who served in World War II as a dive bomber pilot aboard the USS Hancock.

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Mike Morel of Martin attended the University of Tennessee at Martin's 12th annual Memorial Day Commemoration on May 25. Morel represented the only Gold Star family in attendance at the commemoration, which signifies a family who has lost a loved one as a result of military service. Morel's son, Brent Morel, a 1996 graduate, was killed in Iraq in 2004. His bust is displayed in the university's Paul Meek Library, and Brent's mother, Molly Morel, serves as the national treasurer for American Gold Star Mothers, Inc.
African-American Leadership Conference Held

The University of Tennessee at Martin WestStar Leadership Program hosted the 14th annual African-American Leadership Conference on April 19, at the West Tennessee Center for Agricultural Research in Jackson. UT Martin students and staff in attendance were (sitting, left to right): Jessica Dodson; Shetterika Jennings; and Bosede Asolami; (standing, left to right): Dr. Annie Jones; Multicultural Affairs Coordinator; Natalie Boyd, Student Affairs Coordinator; Ashante Smith; Bryce Holmes; Steve Vantrease, University Center Director; Kenneth Hollis; Dr. Margaret Toston; Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Demetrius Carter Brown and Maliana Ndagurushimana.

Receives Scholarship

For the 13th year, the Cantrell Family, along with friends and colleagues, are able to provide a scholarship for a worthy Weakley County high school student. Again this year, many outstanding seniors applied for and were considered for the scholarship. The recipient of the 13th Annual Scholarship was selected from fifteen Weakley County high school seniors who applied this spring.

Courtney Plunk was the recipient of this year’s scholarship. Courtney’s parents are Marty and Angie Plunk of Sharon. Courtney will receive $500.00 to begin her studies this fall at the University of Tennessee at Martin in Nursing. If she maintains a 2.75 GPA during the fall semester, she will receive another $500.00 for the spring semester.

Pictured (left to right): Dresden High School Principal, Chuck West, presents Courtney Plunk with a $500 scholarship to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin.
UT President urges graduates to “Savor this moment”

University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro advised UT Martin graduates to “savor this moment” as they prepared to receive degrees during the university’s spring commencement exercises Saturday at the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center. DiPietro both delivered the commencement address and conferred degrees during the larger of two annual UT Martin commencement events.

“For those of us - faculty, staff, administrators and others - who watch the coming and going of students, a commencement ceremony gives us a great sense of accomplishment at your success,” he said. “For you, it means the culmination of many years of hard work, many years of learning, trials, tribulations. For your parents and family, it is an emotional and joyous time.”

To further highlight the day’s importance, the UT president referenced two points from the book “10122 Things No Commencement Speaker Has Ever Said” by Dr. Charles Wheelan. The book is based on a commencement speech the author gave at Dartmouth College.

“First, as Wheelan says, ‘It’s all borrowed time,’” DiPietro said. “That is not something a commencement speaker would normally tell an audience of soon-to-be college graduates. The rest of your life is ahead of you, and yes, many of you have decades left to pursue a career, raise a family, go on a vacation and retire.”

He used the author’s advice in urging graduates to pursue opportunities and live full lives. “What Wheelan says is don’t have regrets, don’t take anything for granted,” DiPietro said. He advised the audience to “play hard and have some fun” and take time to love someone. “And every day you should give thanks for having another day,” he added.

“The second item I’ll mention from the book is your time in a fraternity or sorority, or in extracurricular clubs or events, was well spent here at UT Martin,” DiPietro said. These additional activities develop friendships and memories that won’t be forgotten, he said. “Those experiences make a difference in your life and broaden who you are as a person.”

DiPietro reminded the audience that higher education has seen its share of news coverage in recent times. “The state of our economy has made everyone examine the value of everything, and that is true of college degrees as well.” He noted the cost of tuition, the investment of time and the value of a degree in finding a job.

For those graduating and questioning whether college was worth it, he said, “I can give you an emphatic and a big fat ‘Yes.’” From personal experience, he said that each of his degrees has improved his life, although achieving these degrees wasn’t easy. He noted statistics that show college degrees are worth $1 million more in earning potential over a lifetime compared to a high school diploma only.

For those not finding work within their chosen major, he said, “Let me encourage you to be flexible and open-minded about jobs.” He used his own veterinary medicine degree as an example, noting that he first worked as a practicing veterinarian, moved into teaching and research, and then into higher education administration. Today, he applies problem-solving skills learned in the veterinary medicine profession in his role as UT president. “You need to lay out a plan, but remain flexible and grasp opportunities as you may wish throughout your career.” He also advised graduates to prepare for changes in life and to embrace them.

“Life and careers present you with unexpected opportunities as well, and it will be up to you to take a chance, to be bold, to have faith and go for it,” he said, adding, “Be excited for the opportunities to face change, because it will stretch your intellect, and it’s likely to maximize your successes.”

DiPietro emphasized that college graduates are in a position to accomplish great things. “Do something before others consider doing it - you know, like those Facebook or Google folks,” he said. “I encourage you to do what you can to make a positive difference in this world. Or, as Charles Wheelan says in his book, ‘Don’t make the world worse.’

“You don’t have to cure cancer or be the next Internet sensation to be successful or make difference. But if you do, I’m sure our development office will be in touch with you,” he added, drawing laughs from the audience.

He closed by highlighting three points in the University of Tennessee mission. “We educate, we discover and we connect,” he said, and challenged graduates to educate, discover and connect in their own lives as well.

Dr. Tom Rakes, UT Martin chancellor, welcomed the audience and presided over the event. He recognized the university’s 2012 Outstanding Faculty Award recipients and acknowledged the families, friends and supporters of the graduates in attendance. In turn, he asked graduates to stand and applaud those who supported them through their college experience.
New lighting celebrated with official ceremony

"Nearly 32,000 alumni have walked under our old lamps on their way to classes and events," said Charley Deal, University of Tennessee at Martin, assistant vice chancellor for alumni relations. "Tonight with the help of all of you we will write the next chapter of our university’s history... when we officially turn on our new lamps."

Kicking off that next chapter was what was dubbed the “Illumination Celebration.” Taking place April 17, on the UT Martin campus plaza near the Boling University Center, it observed the completion of the $3.2 million campus lighting project. Nearly 42 years after the installation of the campus’s old “lollipop” style lamp posts, new energy efficient lighting was put in place and officially lit for the first time in front of a crowd of hundreds of students, staff and alumni.

"Approximately 665 new light fixtures were installed to replace 345 old fixtures," Deal told the audience, referring to the new antique-style black posts topped with acorn-shaped light fixtures.

Though the new lamps will nearly double the number of the old lamps, which were scheduled for immediate removal following the ceremony date, they will use roughly the same amount of total energy as each light is 75 percent more energy efficient.

“Part of the reason for doing this has to do with campus safety,” said UT Martin Chancellor Tom Rakes. “It helps enhance a definitive environment for safety... we’re celebrating the past and the future and remaining safe.”

New lighting will cover many previously unlit areas on the periphery of the campus, including the outdoor fitness trail.

Dr. Joe DiPietro, UT President, was also in attendance and thanked the UT Martin campus as its lighting project was to the advancement of UT Martin and the UT System.

“As these lights shine bright, it also reflects the bright future that Martin has as a part of our system,” he said.

Rakes and DiPietro, along with UT Martin Student Government Association (SGA) President Alex Wilson, did the honor of “flipping the switch” using laptops to power on the new lights for the first time.

“This is a project that was brought up by SGA many years ago,” Wilson said, adding that the UT Martin administration had been a tremendous help in bringing the new lighting to fruition. “It’s to make this campus a safer and more energy efficient campus.”

A REAL PLUS — Collin Terry, a middle school student at Lake Road Elementary School, recently won third place in the sixth grade competition at the 2012 Middle School-Junior High School Mathematics Contest at the University of Tennessee at Martin. It was sponsored by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. His trophy was presented by Dr. Richard Helgeson, dean of the College of Engineering and Natural Sciences.
UT Martin Soil Professor remembered with scholarship

Past generations of agriculture students studied soil science under University of Tennessee at Martin faculty member Elmer Counce. Now, future generations will benefit from his legacy as the Elmer Counce Memorial Scholarship is established in his memory.

Counce, who died March 13 at age 90, retired in 1988 from the UT Martin Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources as Professor Emeritus of Soil Science. Scholarship awards will go to plant and soil science students who also exhibit good citizenship, a quality exemplified by Counce throughout his personal and professional life.

"Laugh when I say this, but it's true. Elmer Counce was the Billy Graham of soils," said Anthony Haynes, University of Tennessee associate vice president and director of state relations and a former Counce student. "His passion for teaching and science was clear to all who knew him."

Dr. Tim Burcham, UT Martin agricultural engineering professor and interim chair, UT Martin Department of Agriculture, Geosciences and Natural Resources, credits Counce and others from that era for the department's strong position in teaching and research. "Mr. Counce and others laid the foundation for the success of our department today," he said.

Counce first came to UT Martin as a student when the campus was home to the University of Tennessee Junior College. He transferred to UT Knoxville to complete his bachelor's and master's degrees, returning to Martin in 1953 as a faculty member. He met his wife, Marilucille, during their UTJC days. They were married for 65 years and have one son, Ben, five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Counce taught all agronomy classes and introduced the university's first forestry class. He served as the soils team coach and trained teams that placed in national competition for 10 years. Many of those same students made major contributions to the soil conservation efforts in Tennessee and other states.

One-time soils team member, Mike Johnson, senior agribusiness analyst with Farm Credit Services of Mid-America, recalled how Counce prepared them for competition.

"One of the tricks, if you wanted to test and see if it was sandy soil or not, was to put it in your mouth and test for the grit," Johnson said. "There are not many people in the world who could get me to put dirt in my mouth, and you never called it dirt around him."

"If you did, a quick lecture followed explaining how soil was sent straight from God for growing the food that feeds the world. Dirt was something you got under your fingernails and in your belly button."

In 1953, Counce was asked to head UTJC's first alumni and placement office, a position he held until 1964. He continued his full-time teaching and research position while he led the alumni office.

Counce won the UT Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award and many Farm Bureau and Soil Conservation awards for service to Tennessee agriculture. He was recognized as a Fellow of the Soil Conservation Society of America in the 1980s. Teaching students was his greatest joy as he taught an estimated 12,000 students during his career.

"He challenged us in the classroom, and he was tough but fair. He called his tests 'rod busters,'" Johnson said. "When you got a good grade in his class, you had to earn it. He was one of the finest men I've ever known."

Haynes, also a member of Counce's soil judging team, added, "Elmer connected the dots between the critical importance of the soil, food security and global political stability. Those of us who benefited from his knowledge and talent can show our gratitude by supporting this scholarship."

UTM to host writers camp

Young writers in grades 3-12 are invited to participate in the University of Tennessee at Martin's annual Young Writers' Summer Camp from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. each day beginning June 18 and continuing through the week.

Students will be divided into two groups and participate in age-appropriate writing activities with teachers from their grade levels. Participating teachers come from across West Tennessee, including the Martin, Jackson and Union City school systems.

Participants will be able to improve writing skills in workshops, mini-lessons on content and editing strategies, writing response groups and one-on-one conferences with teachers from the West Tennessee Writing Project.

Friends and Family Day will be June 22 at noon and the public is invited to join the writing groups to hear what the students have written during camp.

Registration is $125 per student, which includes a daily snack, T-shirt, writing notebook and an anthology of writing by the campers. All students must register by June 11. Parents should provide a bag or backpack for supplies.

For more information, contact Dr. David Carithers at dcarithers@utm.edu or visit the WTWP website at www.utm.edu/wtwp.
Students awarded degrees at UTM

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

Among the students who received undergraduate degrees were:
- Obion — Mary Helen Hepler and Autumn Brooke Knipper.
- Rives — Mitchell Gregory Hahn, Mary Keturrah Caldwell, Beulah Rene Montgomery and Ashton Jade McCrea Walsh.
- South Fulton — Robbie Alexandra Peoples, Ashley Gail Meadows, Andrew Hoyt Moore and John Robert Burrow.
- Troy — Joshua Blaine Williams and Molly Nichole Ledbetter.

Among the students who received graduate degrees were:
- South Fulton — Jessica Leigh McKinney and Ross A. Ratkowski.

UT President Dr. Joe DiPietro was speaker for the UT Martin spring commencement ceremony.

ORDER OF THE ENGINEER —

Tyler Smith (center) of Union City was inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to the University of Tennessee at Martin’s recent commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by Dr. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering interim chair, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.
Gleason High School
2012 Top Ten

Hollie Lynn Townes
Hollie Lynn Townes ranks fifth in the 2012 Graduating Class at Gleason High School. She is the daughter of Mark and Tammy Etheridge and the sister of Felicia Etheridge. School Clubs and Achievements include: Spanish Club, Science Club, Beta Club, FCA, Student Council, D.A.R.E. Role Model, and Citizen of the Month. Hollie attends the First Baptist Church of Gleason. Her future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin to major in Nursing and minor in Spanish.

Chandler Nicole Beasley
Chandler Nicole Beasley ranks eighth in the Graduating Class of 2012 at Gleason High School. She is the daughter of John Beasley and Michelle Thompson and sister of Chelsea Beasley. School Clubs and Achievements include: Science Club, Spanish Club, Beta Club, FFA, and FCCLA. Chandler attends Tumbling Creek Baptist Church. Her future plans are to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall to major in Biology in order to pursue a career in pharmacy.

Tysha Margarita Torre
Tysha Margarita Torre ranks ninth in the 2012 Graduating Class at Gleason High School. She is the daughter of Cavi and Twyla Torre and sister of Trevor Torre. School Clubs and Achievements include: FFA, FCCLA, FCA, Spanish Club, and Science Club. She attends Beech Springs Missionary Baptist Church. Tysha’s future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall to major in Nursing.
Danielle Nicole Gallimore

Danielle Nicole Gallimore ranks fourth in the Graduating Class of 2012 at Dresden High School. She is the daughter of David and Toni Gallimore of Dresden. While in high school, she has taken part in numerous clubs and activities, including the Beta Club, the Spanish Club, FFA, and HOSA. She is an avid member of Davis Memorial Baptist Church in Dresden, having attended all of her life. Danielle will be graduating as a four-year Tennessee Scholar. Throughout her high school career, she has assumed responsibility in being employed at McDonald’s and Pizza USA in Dresden. Danielle has been awarded the University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor’s Award for four years. She plans to attend UTM in the fall, majoring in Biology.

Courtney Denise Plunk

Courtney Denise Plunk ranks sixth in the 2012 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. She is the daughter of Marty and Angie Plunk of Sharon, Tennessee, and sister to D.J. Plunk of Jackson, Tennessee. During her four years at Dresden High School, Courtney has participated in a variety of clubs and community activities. She is active in some of the clubs including the Beta Club, FCA, DECA, Students Creating Change, and the Political Club. Courtney holds the offices of Vice President of her DECA chapter and Secretary of the Political Club. She is also involved in community activities provided by Students Creating Change including serving as a planner for the “Alcohol Free Night” and participating at “Tennessee Teen Institute.”

Courtney is a member of Dresden First Baptist Church, where she is actively involved in services and trips including “World Changers.” After graduation, Courtney plans to attend The University of Tennessee at Martin and major in Nursing.

Anna Elizabeth Stafford

Anna Elizabeth Stafford ranks seventh in the 2012 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. She is the daughter of Gena and Terry Harris of Dresden. Anna has been in the Top 10 of her class each year of high school. She is a Tennessee Scholar. She has earned nine hours of college credit through the dual credit program. She has been involved in a variety of clubs including the Beta Club, FCA, FCCLA, DECA, Pep Club, Spanish Club, and the “D” Club. Anna was selected Most Dependable in Who’s Who by the Senior Class. She is the 2nd Maid in the 2012 Tennessee Iris Festival Hostess Princess Royalty. Anna, a member of Oak Grove Baptist Church, participates in her youth group, works in the nursery, and helps with Vacation Bible School.

Last summer, Anna went on a mission trip to Polk County with her church. After graduation, Anna plans to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and earn a degree in some phase of health care. She has been awarded the TN HOPE Scholarship and the Dean’s Scholarship.

Jason Alex Hansen

Jason Alex Hansen ranks ninth in the 2012 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. He is the son of Rick and Rene’ Hansen of Dresden. Alex has received the “A Average” Award each year while in high school. During his four years, he has been involved in many clubs and activities. Alex has been a member of the Beta Club, Mu Alpha Theta, Student Council, and an officer in DECA. He has been Class Vice-President in both his Junior and Senior years. Alex also been involved in community activities. He has been a member of the Weakley County Prevention Coalition for all four years of high school. In this capacity, he has traveled and attended camps throughout the state to help promote the awareness of the effects of drugs and alcohol. He will be a staff member this upcoming summer at camp. Alex attended the Tennessee Governor’s School for International Studies at the University of Memphis in June, 2011, where he studied with students from across Tennessee at a college level. He attends Matheny Grove Primitive Baptist Church in Dresden. After graduation, Alex plans on attending the University of Tennessee at Martin.
Ty Roberts

Ty Roberts, son of Lee and Anna Roberts, is the Salutatorian for the 2012 Graduating Class of Dresden High School. Ty is involved in numerous school activities and organizations and has been elected to officer positions in these organizations. Among these include: Beta Club, member since fifth grade and currently serving as reporter; DECA, three-year member and currently serving as treasurer; HOSA, four-year member and currently serving as Historian; Mu Alpha Theta, two-year member and currently serving as President; Student Council, two-year member and currently serving as reporter; Golf team, member for three years; 2010 member of Weakley County Youth Leadership; and 2011 SCOPE Conference attendee. Academically, Ty has maintained a 4.00 grade point average. He has never been one to shy away from attending school, only missing school fewer than ten days. Ty enjoys many different recreational activities that include playing the piano, playing golf, playing ultimate Frisbee, reading, writing, cheering on the Nebraska football team, and driving his car. Ty believes that the community plays a key role in the lives of students, and without a positive community, students would be less apt to pursuing future careers. Ty is very humbled with all of the praise and accomplishments given to him, and plans on continuing his success at the University of Tennessee at Martin by majoring in Engineering.

Colton Carl Rogers

Colton Carl Rogers ranks 8th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Dresden High School. He is the son of Craig and Patresa Rogers. While at Dresden High School, Cole was an active member of the Student Council, BETA Club, DECA Club, and Spanish Club. Cole was also very involved in SKILLS USA, where he held the office of Reporter his junior year and then served as President this past year. He also recently enjoyed representing Dresden High School as a state voting delegate with SKILLS USA. Cole attends the Dresden church of Christ, where he has been a part of many youth activities. Following graduation from Dresden High School, Cole will be attending the University of Tennessee at Martin, where he will major in Business and Marketing.
**Greenfield High School**

**Class of 2012 Top Ten**

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**Taylor Nicole Hatcher**

Taylor Nicole Hatcher ranks 4th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. Taylor is the daughter of Perry Hatcher and Sherri Hatcher. Her GPA is 97.2500. School Activities and Awards include: Beta Club - 1, 2, 3, 4 (Secretary); FBLA - 1, 2, 3, 4; Student Council - 1, 2; FCA - 1, 2, 3, 4 (Event Planner); Basketball - 1, 2, 3; Scout Team Award - 2; Tennis - 1, 2, 3, 4; Tennis Captain - 3, 4; Hidden Strength Award - 1, Best Potential Award - 2, Best Comeback Award - 3; Class Favorite - 1, 3; Tennessee Scholar; Who’s Who Most Attractive; Class Officer - 2 (Reporter); Homecoming Royalty - 1; Honor Roll - 1, 2, 3, 4; Youth Leadership - 2; Miss Greenfield 2011; All A’s - 2, 4; Majors include Math, Science and Social Studies; Minors in Business and Spanish; Ladies Club Scholarship Recipient; and Leaders in Residence Scholarship Recipient. She is a member of the First Baptist Church of Greenfield. Taylor’s future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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**Andrea Shannon Smith**

Andrea Shannon Smith ranks 7th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. She is the daughter of Danny and Christy Smith. Andrea’s GPA is 95.4091. School Activities and Awards include: Beta Club - 1, 2, 3, 4; FBLA - 1, 2, 3, 4; Student Council - 1, 2, 3, 4 (Secretary/Treasurer); Basketball - 1, 2, 3, 4 (Captain); JV Award, Best Defensive Player; Softball - 1, 2; Yearbook Staff - 1, 2; Tennessee Scholar; Who’s Who Most Gifted; Class Officer - 1 (Treasurer), 4 (Treasurer); Weakley County Youth Leadership - 2; Girls’ State - 3; Perfect Attendance - 3; and Honor Roll - 1, 2, 3, 4. Andrea is a member of the Greenfield First Baptist Church. She is currently employed at Greenfield Subway and the UTM Financial Aid Office. Andrea’s future plans are to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in Biology. She then plans to become an oncologist.

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**Dylan Jobe Davidson**

Dylan Jobe Davidson ranks 10th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. He is the son of Kent and Amy Davidson. Dylan’s GPA is 92.7391. School Activities and Awards include: Beta Club - 1, 2, 3, 4; FBLA - 1, 2; FFA - 1, 2, 3, 4; Officer - 1, 2, 3, 4, Soil Judging Team - 2, 3, 4; Student Council - 3, 4 (Vice-President); FCA - 1, 2, 3, 4 (Vice-President); Basketball - 1, 2; Class Favorite - 1; Weakley County Youth Leadership; Tennessee Scholar; Class Officer - 1 (Sgt. at Arms), 2 (Vice-President). Dylan is a member of the First Baptist Church of Greenfield. He is currently employed at Haywood Lawn Care in McKenzie. Dylan’s future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin to major in Ag Business.

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**Jacelyn Nicole Bates**

Jacelyn Nicole Bates ranks 6th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. She is the daughter of Royce and Pam Bates. Jacelyn’s GPA is 95.8958. School Activities and Awards include: Beta Club, FBLA, Yearbook Staff, FCA, 25 and Above ACT (25), and Honor Roll. She is a member of Shepherd’s Field Church. Jacelyn is currently employed at Greenbrier Meadows. Her future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in Business or Accounting.
Abby Tez McDaniel

Abby Tez McDaniel is the Salutatorian for the 2012 Graduating Class of Greenfield High School. She is the daughter of Steve and Daphne McDaniel. Abby is graduating with a 98.2955 GPA. School Activities and Awards include: Math Contests Participant, Basketball Team, Honor Roll, Beta Club, Student Council Freshman Representative, Future Business Leaders of America Member, Yearbook Staff, 4-H Honor Club; 10th Grade - All A’s, Math Contest Participant, Honor Roll, Beta Club, Basketball Team (Scout Award), Student Council Freshman Representative, Future Business Leaders of America Member, Yearbook Staff, Miss Greenfield Royalty (2nd Maid); 11th Grade - Weakley County Youth Leadership, Math Contest Participant, Honor Roll, Beta Club, Basketball Team, Future Business Leaders of America Member, Yearbook Staff, Miss Greenfield Royalty (2nd Maid); 12th Grade - Miss GHS, All A’s, Homecoming Senior Maid, Class President, Beta Club (President), Student Council (Secretary), Future Business Leaders of America, Math Contest tied for 1st in Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry, Honor Roll, Miss Greenfield Royalty (1st Maid). Abby also achieved Perfect Attendance for all twelve of her school years. She is a member of the Greenfield Church of Christ. Abby’s future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall to become an occupational therapist.

Benjamin Cody Garner

Benjamin Cody Garner ranks 8th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. He is the son of Bobby and Marilyn Garner. Benjamin’s GPA is 95.1042. School Activities and Awards include: Beta Club - 2, 3, 4; FBLA - 1, 2, 3, 4; FFA - 1, 2 (Treasurer), 3 (Treasurer), 4 (President), Soil Judging Team - 2 (1st in District), 3 (2nd in District), 4 (1st in District), Cattle Judging Team, Creed Contest Winner, Green Hand Award Recipient, State Degree Recipient; Student Council - 1, 2, 3, 4 (Treasurer); Yearbook Staff - 1, 2, 3, 4; Tennessee Scholar; Who’s Who Most Likely to Succeed; Boys’ State Delegate; S.C.O.P.E. Conference Delegate; DAR Good Citizen Award; FBLA Competition (2nd Ag Business); Honor Roll - 2, 3, 4; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Majors are: Math, Science, Social Studies, and Agriculture; Minors are: Business and Spanish. Benjamin is a member of Brocks Chapel United Methodist Church in Greenfield. He is currently employed with Bobby Garner Farms and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. His future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in Ag Business.

Kaitlyn Paige Simmons

Kaitlyn Paige Simmons ranks 5th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. Kaitlyn is the daughter of Kelly Simmons and Marla Simmons. Her GPA is 97.1458. School Activities and Awards include: Beta Club, FBLA, FCA, Yearbook Staff, Class Favorite (Senior), Tennessee Scholar, Who’s Who Friendliest, Junior Class Reporter, Senior Class Secretary, Math Competition Participant, FBLA Regional Winner (Freshman and Senior), Homecoming Junior Maid, Honor Roll, SCOPE Representative, Girls’ State Delegate, All A’s (Senior), and Miss Greenfield 4th Maid (Senior). She is a member of the First Baptist Church in Greenfield. Kaitlyn’s future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in Nursing.

Heath Alan Crouse

Heath Alan Crouse ranks 9th in the 2012 Graduating Class at Greenfield High School. He is the son of Jeff and Karen Crouse. Heath’s GPA is 93.7727. School Activities and Awards include: Member of Beta Club and FBLA all four years of high school; Student Council member his sophomore, junior, and senior years; FFA member his freshman and sophomore year; Basketball and Baseball Teams for all four years, Captain of both teams his senior year; Tennessee Scholar; Class Favorite - Sophomore and Junior Years; Who’s Who Mr. GHS and Most Athletic; Weakley County Youth Leadership Class of 2010; Basketball Awards: All-District, 1000 pt. Club, Charter Player of the Week (Junior Year), and All-District, All-Region, 1500 pt. Club, Charter Player of the Week (Senior Year); Baseball Awards: All-District, All-District Tournament Team for all years, District MVP (Senior Year), All-West Tennessee Team, and All-State (Junior Year). Heath is a member of the Greenfield Church of Christ. He is currently working at Akin & Porter. His future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin and major in Business.
Westview High School
Class of 2012 Top Ten

Kelsey Hauhe
Kelsey Hauhe ranks fourth in the Graduating Class of 2012 at Westview High School. Her parents are Jason and Bridget Hauhe. School Activities include: Member of the Women’s Soccer Team, HOSA, Anchor Club, BETA Club, FBLA, FCA, and National Honors Society. Honors and Awards include: Top 10 in Class throughout her high school years, UTM Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in 2012, and a Tennessee Scholar. Kelsey’s future plans include attending the University of Tennessee at Martin in the fall with plans to major in Nursing. Kelsey’s goal is to become a Pediatric Nurse.

Zoe Stringer
Zoe Stringer ranks fifth in the 2012 Graduating Class at Westview High School. She is the daughter of Jeff and Rebia Stringer. School Activities include: Marching Band and Concert Band (Clarinet), Drum Major of Westview High School Band, French Club, BETA Club, Top Ten, Honor Society, First State Weakley County Youth Leadership, and Anchor Club. Honors and Awards include: Youth Leadership Representative, UTM Honor Band, Chosen to represent Westview at SCOPE (Student Congress on Policies in Education), University of Tennessee Alumni Dinner Award recipient, Performed at WWI Memorial in Washington, D.C. with Westview High School Band. Zoe’s future plans are to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin and then transfer to Watkins College of Art, Design, and Film in Nashville. She will also obtain a degree in Interior Design and also Business. After College, Zoe wishes to own and manage her own Interior Design Company and be successful in her endeavors as a designer.

Orren Parker “O.P.” Ogg
Orren Parker “O.P.” Ogg ranks eighth in the 2012 Graduating Class at Westview High School. He is the son of Sammy and Cheryl Ogg. School Activities include: FFA, Honors Society, Beta Club, and Tennessee Scholar. Honors and Awards include: Top Ten in Class, Star Greenhand in FFA, and Honors Society. O.P.’s future plans are to graduate from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a major in Ag Business and then farm with his family.
ORDER OF THE ENGINEER – Matthew Fitzgerald (center) of Martin was inducted into the Order of the Engineer at a ceremony prior to UT Martin commencement. Graduates pledged to be ethical and impartial and adhere to safety codes as they enter the engineering profession. The awards were presented by Dr. Ed Wheeler (left), Department of Engineering interim chair, and Dr. Richard Helgeson, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences dean.

RODEO QUEENS SPECIAL GUESTS IN FRANKLIN — Breezy Smith, Katie McKenzie and Amber Nanney, all of Martin, were asked by the Franklin Noon Rotary to carry sponsor flags during the 63rd Annual Pro Rodeo Cowboys Association Rodeo held May 17, 18 and 19 in Franklin. Miss McKenzie is a sophomore at UT Martin. Miss Nanney is a senior and Miss Smith is a recent graduate of UT Martin. All three are accomplished barrel racers and former rodeo queens. Miss McKenzie was the 2009 and 2011 Miss UTM Rodeo and 2009 Miss Teen Rodeo Tennessee. Miss Nanney was Miss UTM Rodeo 2008, and Miss Smith was 2010 Miss Tennessee Rodeo.

(Photo submitted)
UTM announces Honor Rolls

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

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

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

Local students earning the honors designations include:
- James T. Adkins of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Riley E. Auvenshine of Dresden - Honors
- Jennifer T. Beaty of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Katherine N. Blaylock of Dresden - Honors
- Hannah M. Cooper of Dresden - Honors
- Donna M. Davidson of Dresden - Honors
- Ryan L. Delaney of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Kimberly M. Edenfield of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Misty L. Evans of Dresden - Honors
- Shannon E. Fisher of Dresden - Honors
- Cassie J. Frensley of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Jeffrey T. Goodlow of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Bonnie A. Hickman of Dresden - High Honors
- Lacie C. Kelley of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Sarah A. McAlpin of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Brittany D. Morgan of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Kristi L. Morgan of Dresden - Honors
- Cody W. Perkins of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Colleen E. Perkins of Dresden - Honors
- Jessica M. Phelps of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Meagan H. Pittman of Dresden - Honors
- Amy L. Reddick of Dresden - Honors
- Hilerie D. Rickman of Dresden - Honors
- Ryan C. Roark of Dresden - Honors
- Maegan M. Smith of Dresden - Honors
- Adam S. Turbeville of Dresden - High Honors
- Precious E. Turbeville of Dresden - High Honors
- Matthew J. Valle of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Ben M. Walker of Dresden - Highest Honors
- Erin L. Bivens of Dukedom - High Honors
- Jeremy L. Robertson of Dukedom - Highest Honors
- Ryan W. Clark of Gleason - Highest Honors
- Preston D. Frazier of Gleason - Highest Honors
- Kelly L. Hatley of Gleason - Highest Honors
- Nicole M. Huisman of Gleason - High Honors
- Evan J. Orr of Gleason - Honors
- Kandi N. Sawyers of Gleason - Highest Honors
- Elizabeth D. Terrell of Gleason - High Honors
- Trevor C. Torre of Gleason - Highest Honors
- Adam R. Vaughan of Gleason - High Honors
- John M. Wilson of Gleason - Highest Honors

Editor's note: This is the second and final listing of local students named to the University of Tennessee at Martin's Honor Rolls. The first part of the listing published in the Weakley County Press May 24 and featured students from Sharon, Greenfield and Martin.
International students receive degrees from UTM

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

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were:
- Baoding, China - Xiao Lin;
- Cambridge, England - Jodie Tiley;
- London, England - Michaela Gooden;
- Riyadh, Saudi Arabia - Khaled Aiysh Almotiri;
- Saihat, Saudi Arabia - Ali Alhalal;
- Seoul, South Korea - Jun Seok Yoo;
- Taipei, Taiwan - Emily Erin Osment.

Dr. Joe DiPietro, president of the University of Tennessee, was the commencement speaker and conferred degrees. UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Tom Rakes presided over the exercises.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED — Courtney Plunk was this year's recipient of the Cantrell Family Scholarship, now in its 13th year. Joining her in celebrating is Dresden High School principal Chuck West.

WC student earns local scholarship

For the 13th year, the Cantrell family, along with friends and colleagues, are able to provide a scholarship for a worthy Weakley County high school student. Once again this year, many outstanding seniors applied for and were considered for the scholarship.

The recipient of the 13th annual scholarship was selected from 15 Weakley County high school seniors who applied this spring.

Graduate Courtney Plunk was the recipient of this year's $500 award. She is the daughter of Marty and Angie Plunk of Sharon. Miss Plunk plans to begin her studies this fall at the University of Tennessee at Martin in nursing. If she maintains a 2.75 GPA during the fall semester, as a part of the Cantrell Family Scholarship, she will receive an additional $500 for the spring semester.
UT Martin offering STEM Camp

Will paper fall like a stone? How high will the ball bounce?

Fifty students in grades 6-8 will have the opportunity to answer these questions and more using hands-on experiments at the first annual STEMulation Camp set for June 18-22 at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Each day at STEMulation Camp, participating students will work in teams on activities organized into four major topics: Forces and Motion on Earth and in Space, Environment, Living Things and Energy. These experiences will prepare them for four team competitions on the final day of camp.

In the Adventures in Duct Tape Competition, teams will have 90 seconds to tape one of their team members to the wall and will see which team can keep their member on the wall the longest.

In the Egg Drop Competition, teams will build a container with toothpicks and glue that will protect an uncooked egg from breaking when it is dropped.

Students will construct a bridge out of spaghetti and glue in the Spaghetti Bridge Competition, and the bridge that holds the most weight while meeting specifications, will win.

Finally, in the Tower Competition, teams will use paper and scotch tape to see who can build the tallest tower in a 30-minute time frame.

Prizes will be awarded to competition winners and parents are invited to attend the competitions at 3:30 p.m. June 22.

For more information or to register, call 881-7082 or 881-7081, or visit www.utm.edu/departments/ecce/nondegree/steamulation_camp.php. The registration fee for the camp is $125 and includes a T-shirt and all supplies.

Enrollment is limited to the first 50 registrations with confirmed payment. STEMulation Camp is under the direction of Dr. Louis Glover, UT Martin assistant professor of education.

BMH-UC names new administrator

Baptist Memorial Hospital-Union City has named Barry "Skipper" Bondurant as administrator and chief executive officer, effective Monday.

Bondurant replaces Brad Parsons, who will become administrator and CEO for NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital in Jonesboro, Ark., effective June 7.

Bondurant has served as administrator and CEO of Baptist Memorial Hospital-Tipton in Covington since 2008. Bondurant previously served as assistant administrator at Baptist Union City from 2005 to 2008. He earned his bachelor's degree in education from the University of Tennessee at Martin, a master's degree in exercise and sports medicine from the University of Tennessee, and a master's degree in business administration from Union University.

"It has been my pleasure to serve our community and our hospital as CEO of Baptist-Union City. As health care continues to change at a rapid pace, our community hospital is positioned to continue to meet the medical needs of Union City and northwest Tennessee. This community has been wonderful to me and my family and we will be forever grateful to the people and relationships we have in Union City," said Parsons.

"I am excited about serving my hometown community and am honored to join the team at Baptist Union City," said Bondurant, a native of South Fulton. "I am dedicated to continuing the standards in health care excellence currently in place at the hospital. I look forward to building and maintaining an open, collaborative relationship with the medical staff and the community to ensure Baptist Union City is the hospital of choice for quality, patient-centered health care."

For more information about Baptist Union City, call 885-2410 or visit unioncity.baptistonline.org.