UTM Students participate in National Forensics Program

College students from across the country gathered in Oak Ridge this past month to spend three weeks studying forensic science from some of the top instructors in the country. The National Forensics Academy Collegiate Program is hosted by the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center and designed in part by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

"There is no other program like this in the country with the quality of instructors we bring in. This cannot be duplicated, and we are happy to share it with students from other universities," said Dr. Brian Donavant, UT Martin professor of criminal justice and instructor of record for the collegiate academy. Donavant helped design the academy’s curriculum when the program began in 2012. He is also serving as the current interim executive director of UT Martin’s Office of Educational Outreach.

The 2017 class had a maximum enrollment of 28 students, and every seat was filled with another dozen names on the waiting list. Students from California, Nebraska, Connecticut, Utah, Wyoming and other areas joined those from Tennessee to complete the elite academy that will put them ahead of their fellow criminal justice graduates.

Participating students receive a crash-course in fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis, crime scene investigation, DNA analysis and anthropology, among other subjects. The three-week collegiate academy is a condensed version of the 10-week academy completed by law enforcement professionals each year.

“They are getting the same training that a law enforcement officer would get if they went through a forensic program, and actually they’re getting more training than most officers have had in their careers,” said Dan Anselment, lead instructor for the academy. “For these students to get this type of training, they’re already going to be a step ahead for any agency, any employer they may go to.”

Melanie Allen, a UT Martin senior from Milan, has made a career in crime scene investigation a lifelong goal.

“I was five, and I walked in and my parents were watching CSI and I said, ‘I’m going to do that,’ I’ve stuck with it ever since,” she said. Allen was one of seven UT Martin students to complete the academy this year, and she immediately recognized the value of the unique hands-on experience.

“This will help me a lot. … This is all hands-on. We’ve done fingerprinting and photography. Next week we’re doing blood spatter. We’ve done DNA, and now we’re doing anthropology,” she said. “I will have more training than the normal person would when applying for jobs, so this will definitely set me apart.”

“I think this gives you a good head start for when you actually get your career started. When your agency does send you out for more training, you’ll have a good start because you already know what to do,” said Brandon Bookout, a UT Martin senior from Gleason.

Bookout plans to graduate in the spring and pursue a career in evidence recovery, so the academy provided a real-world look at what his future may hold.

While many of the participants originally became interested in forensic science by watching television shows such as CSI, Bones, and Law and Order, participation in the academy shows them the reality of crime scene investigation and the true work involved to process evidence and convict a criminal.

“The reality with a television show is that they have to take what is factual and speed it up and make it work in 45 minutes,” said Anselment. “So when they do a search for fingerprints or blood, the reality is that most of us will go at least a year before an agency can even get a fingerprint looked at. So everything in television is accelerated. Then, especially with computer systems, they’ll make it look like we have all this technology that we don’t have; it simply doesn’t really exist.”

While the work involved in crime scene investigation may not be as glamorous as it may appear on the screen, there are unexpected benefits to living in a culture saturated with high-tech crime television.

“The plus side for the investigator is that bad guys who watch those shows think we can do these things, so they end up sometimes confessing because they think we can do something that we actually can’t, because they’ve seen it on the show,” said Anselment. “That’s where we coin the phrase, ‘the
CSI effect,"... I've also sat on grand juries where they legitimately ask good questions that they would have never known to ask had they not watched a CSI show.

Students from all parts of the country traveled to participate in this one-of-a-kind experience. Cooper Elam, a senior at Eureka College in Illinois, is one of five Eureka students to enroll in the academy this year through a special partnership between UT Martin and Eureka College.

"The knowledge I've gained in just a week and a half of being down here is something I never would have gained just in a classroom.... The hands-on stuff you can do here with the state-of-the-art lab facility they have and having the different experts come is something nobody will be able to experience anywhere else," he said.

Not all participating students plan to specialize in crime scene investigation, and skills learned during the academy can be applied to a wide variety of criminal justice fields. Marissa Munger, a student at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and native Maryland resident, plans to gain a master's degree in computer science and pursue a career in cyber security.

"I had an internship with the security administration at the Smithsonian in (Washington) D.C. From that internship last summer, I learned that it's better to be out there in the field ... instead of just sitting in an office and making judgments," she said. "If a cyber-attack is related to a physical attack, it's nice to have this background knowledge."

All participating students must apply and be admitted to UT Martin in order to enroll in the academy and receive nine hours of college credit in return for their investment. Students are also required to create a portfolio demonstrating the skills they learn during the academy, and some have presented these portfolios at conferences across the country.

"This is the sixth year we've hosted this collegiate academy, and we only have 137 graduates," said Donavant. "That tells you how selective this program is. Not only are we extending out and offering this course to students in other places, but we're actually attracting students to relocate and work here, and that contributes to Tennessee's economy and quality of life." Several students from previous academy classes have relocated to the Volunteer State and are giving their talents back to the state and the university system that trained them.

For more information on the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program or the UT Martin criminal justice curriculum, contact Donavant at bdonavant@utm.edu or 731-881-3510.
SHOOTING FOR A CAREER — Melanie Allen (left) of Milan, and Kelly Hendon of Union City, both seniors at the University of Tennessee at Martin, are shown locating and photographing evidence during an exercise in the University of Tennessee Arboretum in Oak Ridge.

A GRAVE MOMENT — Brandon Bookout (center, right), a University of Tennessee at Martin student from Gleason, works alongside Kassidy Miller, a student from Chadron State College in Nebraska, to explore a grave site during a forensics exercise.
UTM herbarium samples contribute to national database

The University of Tennessee at Martin is one of Tennessee's nine current members of the Southeastern Regional Network of Expertise and Collections, which is working to digitize collected plant samples from across the Southeastern region for domestic and international research purposes.

By participating in this network, specimens found in UT Martin's herbarium - a collection of preserved plant samples for scientific study - will be added to an online database that includes specimens from across the United States and other countries such as China and Great Britain.

The UT Martin herbarium includes 4,000-5,000 samples dating back at least to 1963 and perhaps farther.

Dr. Lisa Krueger, UT Martin associate professor of biology, and several student and faculty volunteers will spend the next two to three weeks barcoding, imaging and entering each individual specimen into the database so that scientists around the world will have access to information previously only housed in Brehm Hall.

"We've got all these museums all around the country, most of them associated with universities, and the data are (inaccessible). If we can create national and international databases of biological specimens - the millions of biological specimens that have been collected since the time Europeans first started exploring North America - then we've got huge data sets," said Dr. Joey Shaw, professor of biology at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and leader of SERNEC's Tennessee branch.

Shaw estimates there are 850,000 collected specimens from Tennessee housed in Tennessee herbaria, which does not count Tennessee specimens potentially housed in outside herbaria such as those at Harvard or Yale Universities. With an estimated 3,000 plant species living in Tennessee, this creates a large amount of potential information about each species.

"Before we started this project, very few of the specimens out of those 850,000 were accessible unless you physically went to the place where they were held," said Dr. Ashley Morris, associate professor of biology at Middle Tennessee State University, which is also a SERNEC member. "This is huge not just from the perspective of big-picture science questions, but from the perspective of botanists in Tennessee and the Southeastern United States who may just be trying to monitor rare species. ... They'll be able to go online and see what other records there are. It will be a more up-to-date assessment of what we do and don't know about our flora."

The regional project is funded by a National Science Foundation - Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections grant.

The Southeastern Regional Network of Expertise and Collections originally began with more than 200 collections in 12 states and has grown since the project's beginning.

For more information on this digitization project, contact Krueger at 731-881-3171 or lkrueger1@utm.edu.
Dr. Charley Deal, associate vice chancellor for alumni relations and annual giving at the University of Tennessee at Martin and executive director for WestStar leadership, gave a presentation about WestStar's history, mission, and vision at the July 26 meeting of the Kiwanis Club of Martin. Dr. Deal explained that WestStar was created in 1989 to serve the 21 counties of West Tennessee by providing leadership development and training for selected participants. Dr. Robert Smith served as the first executive director. Dr. Deal said that the WestStar mission is to identify, encourage and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved in shaping the future of West Tennessee. Kiwanis members were especially interested in two WestStar-sponsored programs focused on children and youth—the Rising Stars program and the Future Stars program. Pictured with Dr. Deal is Kiwanis member Dr. Frances Bynum, who introduced Dr. Deal for the presentation.
UTM faculty receive research grants

Three members of the University of Tennessee at Martin faculty have received internal faculty research grants through the UT Martin Faculty Research Grant Program to participate in organized programs of study and research and further their knowledge in relation to the courses they teach.

Dr. Timothy Smith, lecturer of history; Dr. Charles Bradshaw, associate professor of English; and Dr. Anton Garcia-Fernandez, assistant professor of Spanish, have been chosen to receive grant assistance for the 2017-18 academic year.

Smith will conduct research to produce a modern, comprehensive, academic account of Benjamin Grierson’s “Epic Raid through the Civil War in Mississippi.” Smith will research several manuscript repositories in Washington, D.C., Illinois and Mississippi as the basis for a narrative and analytical history of the raid. The completed manuscript will be considered for publication.

Bradshaw will research Mark Twain’s novella “A Horse’s Tail” and use the British Library in London as a basis for research tying Twain’s references to Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show to popular sentiment in both America and Europe.

He will spend the remainder of his time drafting a scholarly introduction to the novella for the University of Nebraska Press.

Garcia-Fernandez will use his leave period to write a book-length study of Alvaro Cunqueiro Mora’s body of work. Mora is a Galician novelist, poet, playwright and journalist whose often-overlooked literary work made crucial contributions to the world of Spanish literature. Garcia-Fernandez will conduct research of Mora’s works in both Spanish and Galician to compose a paper for academic presentation and publication.

The UT Martin Faculty Research Grant Program is designed to provide compensation for faculty conducting preliminary studies leading to external grant proposals for long-term support or publication. Regular, full-time UT Martin faculty are welcome to apply.

For more information on the grant program or the current or past recipients, contact the UT Martin Office of Research, Grants and Contracts at 731-881-7015.
UT Martin to host final freshman registration session August 4

Students who intend to join the University of Tennessee at Martin's freshman class in the fall 2017 semester have one remaining opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR), a mandatory event for all incoming students. The final session will be held August 4.

The August 4 SOAR session will begin at 8 a.m. and include an administrative fair and informational sessions on academic options, financial aid and scholarships, housing, student life and other important topics. Students will begin registering for classes at 1:30 p.m.

If extenuating circumstances or late acceptance prevent a student from attending this final on-campus session, contact Mary Wiggins, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, at 731-881-7740 or munger@utm.edu as soon as possible to arrange alternate registration plans.

The registration fee for SOAR is per student and an additional fee for each guest. No tuition will be due until the start of the fall semester. SOAR registration is first-come, first-served, and space is limited. Students must have received a tentative or final acceptance letter to register. Visit utm.edu/soar for more information and for registration instructions.

For information on the admissions or registration process, contact the UT Martin Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or by email at admitme@utm.edu.

BRYAN SANDOR EARNS PhD - Bryan Sandor of Milan graduated May 5, 2017 with a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Mathematics from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. He was a top 10 graduate from Bradford High School in 2000. He completed a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (Magna Cum Laude) in 2004 and a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics (Magna Cum Laude) in 2006 from the University of Tennessee at Martin. He also earned a Master of Science Degree in Mathematics from Western Kentucky University in 2008 and a Master of Arts Degree in Mathematics from the University of Kentucky in 2011. Bryan is the son of Daniel and Dolly Sandor of Milan. He is the grandson of Glenn and the late Halie Bloodworth of Milan and the grandson of Don and Claudia Sandor of Mentor, Ohio. Bryan has accepted a position of Assistant Professor at Bethel University and will begin teaching in August.
Chris Ray (center), of Henderson, registered for classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin on July 21 after transferring from Pellissippi State Community College. He is pictured with Dr. Jamie Mantooth (left), director of UT Martin’s Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement, and Trevor Smith, admissions counselor.
TORNA DOES ATTEND — Jahnae Woods (left) and LaNyah Cross, both students at Union City High School, attended the recent End of Summer Bash event at the University of Tennessee at Martin. A campus tour and a "Rec Rampage" party at the Student Recreation Center were included in the special event, which drew 90 high school students from across the region.

ATTEND BASH — McKenzie Lamb (left), a student at Union City High School, and Lilly Moore, a student at Obion County Central High School, attended the End of Summer Bash event recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Ninety high school students from across the region participated in the special event, which included a campus tour and a "Rec Rampage" party at the Student Recreation Center.

UCHS ATTENDEE — Union City High School student Parker Little (right), joined by his mother, Connie Rogers, attended the End of Summer Bash event recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. The special event included a campus tour and a "Rec Rampage" party at the Student Recreation Center. Ninety high school students from across the region participated.
UTM trains future professionals in forensics

College students from across the country gathered in Oak Ridge recently to spend three weeks studying forensic science from some of the top instructors in the country.

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"There is no other program like this in the country with the quality of instructors we bring in. This cannot be duplicated, and we are happy to share it with students from other universities," said Dr. Brian Donavant, UT Martin professor of criminal justice and instructor of record for the collegiate academy.

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Participating students receive a crash-course in fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis, crime scene investigation, DNA analysis and anthropology, among other subjects. The three-week collegiate academy is a condensed version of the 10-week academy completed by law enforcement professionals each year.

"They (the students) are getting the same training that a law enforcement officer would get if they went through a forensic program, and actually they're getting more training than most officers have had in their careers," said Dan Anselment, lead instructor for the academy. "For these students to get this type of training, they're already going to be a step ahead for any agency, any employer they may go to."

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She was one of seven UT Martin students to complete the academy this year and she immediately recognized the value of the unique hands-on experience.

"This will help me a lot. This is all hands-on. We've done fingerprinting and photography. Next week we're doing blood spatter. We've done DNA, and now we're doing anthropology," she said. "I will have more training than the normal person would (when applying for jobs), so this will definitely set me apart."

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EXERCISE IN EVIDENCE — Melanie Allen (left) of Milan and Kelly Hendon of Union City, both seniors at the University of Tennessee at Martin, are shown locating and photographing evidence during an exercise recently in the University of Tennessee Arboretum in Oak Ridge. College students from across the nation participated.
University contributes to database

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The regional project is funded by a National Science Foundation Advancing Digitization of Biodiversity Collections grant. The Southeastern Regional Network of Expertise and Collections originally began with more than 200 collections in 12 states and has grown since the project's beginning.
Area educators used workshops to help prepare

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Educational Studies sponsored 55 professional development workshops throughout the month of June to help area educators prepare not only for the coming academic year, but also for the new Tennessee standards scheduled for implementation in 2018.

The workshops, funded by a U.S. Department of Education Teacher Quality Partnership (TQP) Grant, focused on a variety of subjects including classroom organization and management; the universal design for learning; elementary, middle and high school science; high school chemistry; robotics and more. More than 300 teachers from across West Tennessee attended the sessions.

Kim Crews, a ninth-grade biology teacher at Obion County Central High School, attended a session on high school STEM subjects taught by Dr. Ann Gathers, UT Martin associate professor of biology. The workshop included hands-on activities including the modeling of cell components and chromosomes to show cell division and the demonstration of osmosis and dehydration using laboratory conditions.

"The workshop gives us activities that are related to the Tennessee state standards — both the old standards we are currently testing on this year and the new standards that will go into effect in the 2018-19 school year," Ms. Crews said. "They’re giving us some labs and activities that they do at the college level that we can also use in our classrooms to teach those standards and reinforce them so our students will hopefully do well on their end-of-course tests."

Many of the workshops, including the high school STEM session Ms. Crews attended, sent participants home with kits of equipment to replicate the activities in their classrooms. Kits from this particular workshop included microscopes, beakers, scales, dissection kits, modeling materials and other equipment.

Educators are grateful for the extra supplies, particularly since many of these items would not otherwise be available at the grade-school level.

"We’re getting some good equipment today, so even if we can’t get the funding to have enough materials for groups of our students to use (themselves), at least we’ll be able to demonstrate the concepts to them," Ms. Crews said.

"I’m just like a kid at Christmas," said Tracy King, an educator at Carroll Academy who attended both the high school STEM and chemistry sessions.

She was not alone, and many other workshop participants expressed excitement at finding new and creative ways to engage their students in topics that might otherwise be forgotten.

"The one thing they (school administrators) want us to get away from is just working out of the textbook," said Valerie Guthrie, a middle school science teacher at Henry Elementary School. "I’ve done a social studies class, and this is my first year for science. I just want them (my students) up and busy and engaged and happy to be there."

Ms. Guthrie attended a workshop on incorporating the arts and dance into science-based courses and vice-versa, taught by Dr. Carol Eckert, UT Martin professor of art, and Sarah McCormick, associate professor of dance education.

The TQP Grant provided approximately $225,000 worth of educational supplies to area educators through these workshops. Versions of some kits will be stored in the UT Martin STEM Center for check-out by teachers who were not able to attend the workshops in person.
Weakley County Students Receive Scholarships to Attend UTM

Several Weakley County students have been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2017-2018 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

Morgan Elizabeth Curlin, daughter of Kim and Kevin Terrett, of Martin, will be a sophomore. She received the Walter P. Gorman Memorial Scholarship.

Michelle L. Fieser, of Martin, daughter of James and Laura Fieser, was a sophomore during the 2016-2017 academic year. She received the Dean Scholarship, the Student Government Association Study Abroad Scholarship, the Center for Global Studies Scholarship and the Downing History Lower Division Scholarship.

Elizabeth Stafford Francisco, daughter of Chris and Shawn Francisco, of Gleason, will be a senior. She received the Brown/Hill Family Law Scholarship.

Kristin Alexis Gallimore, daughter of David and Tonia Gallimore, of Dresden, will be a freshman. She received the E. C. Thurmond Memorial Scholarship.

Billy Ray Killebrew, of Martin, son of Robert Killebrew and Theresa Killebrew, will be a junior. He received the Robert (Pete) Vaughn Scholarship.

Jacob R. Last, son of Lane and Robin Last, of Martin, will be a junior. He received the Gene and Verletta Stanford Scholarship.

Ashley Marie Liford, of Martin, daughter of Willis and Sherry Liford, will be a graduate student. She received the Elizabeth Dilday Pentecost Scholarship.

Autumn Leigh Moss, of Martin, daughter of Christy Moss and Shannon Cavitt, will be a junior. She received the Stephen T. Wright Memorial Scholarship.

Alisa Marie Quayle, of Martin, daughter of Peter Quayle and Robyn Aresnault, will be a freshman. She received the Gail Latimer Non-Traditional Scholarship.

Katherine Grace Rea, of Dresden, daughter of Andy and Amy Rea, will be a freshman. She received the Parker Leadership Scholarship.

Colten Wade Snider, of Dresden, son of Sahunda Snider and Anthony Snider, will be a junior. He received the Robert (Pete) Vaughn Scholarship.

Jared F. Wortham, of Martin, daughter of Joe Wortham and Paige Spencer, will be a sophomore. He received the Matthew W. Robinson Memorial Scholarship.

In addition, the following student has ties to Weakley County and has requested that your paper receive notification that they have received a scholarship award from the University of Tennessee at Martin:

Brandon Lynn Bookout, of McKenzie, son of Audrea Vaughn and Charles Bookout, will be a senior. He received the Joey McDowell/West Tennessee Criminal Investigators Scholarship.

UTM Tuition To Rise 1.8 Percent for 2017-18 Academic Year

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a 1.8 percent undergraduate tuition increase during its annual meeting June 22 at the UT Institute of Agriculture campus in Knoxville. The increase takes effect beginning with the 2017 fall semester at UT campuses in Knoxville, Chattanooga and Martin.

The 1.8 percent in-state tuition increase reflects the Higher Education Price Index, which is the rate used throughout the UT System. This rate is below the Tennessee Higher Education Commission’s 3 percent limitation.

UT Martin in-state tuition and mandatory fees will now cost undergraduate students an additional $148 annually for students with fewer than 60 credit hours and an additional $140 annually for students with 60 or more credit hours. New tuition and fees will be $4,309 - $4,618 per semester or $8,618 - $9,236 for a full academic year. Full-time undergraduate enrollment is a minimum of 12 credit hours.

The “Soar in Four” tuition model, designed to speed progress toward degree completion, was approved for the University of Tennessee at Martin in June 2016. “Soar in Four” encourages students to take 15 hours per semester and complete their undergraduate degrees in four years. The 2017-18 academic year will be the second year of the tuition model.

Tuition and mandatory fees for instate graduate students will increase $83 per semester for a total of $5,031 per semester. Graduate students will pay a total of $10,062 per academic year starting this fall. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 28 at the main campus and UT Martin centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville.
LOCAL STUDENT TRANSFERS TO UT MARTIN

Tanner Rose (center), of Dyersburg, registered for classes at the University of Tennessee at Martin on July 21 after transferring from Dyersburg State Community College. He is pictured with family members Gale and Heath Rose. For more information on enrolling or transferring to UT Martin, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020. Prospective students can also schedule a campus tour and find additional resources at utm.edu/advantage.

Freshman registration is August 4

Students who intend to join the University of Tennessee at Martin's freshman class in the fall 2017 semester have one remaining opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration, a mandatory event for all incoming students. The final session will be held August 4.

For information, contact 731-881-7020 or admitme@utm.edu.

Crafton Scholarship winners announced

The E.C. Crafton Memorial Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce its recipients for the 2017-18 school year. Scholarships are given on a yearly basis and are awarded to students attending a University of Tennessee campus and majoring in health care.

Returning students receiving scholarships are Tanner Renee Petty, UT Martin, pre-occupational therapy; Audrey Regan Robertson, UT Memphis, occupational therapy; and Cody Sain, UT Knoxville, pre-med.

First-year students receiving scholarships are Benjamin Tyree Allen, UT Martin, pre-med; Alexander George Criswell, UT Chattanooga, pre-med; Mia Claire Hinson, UT Chattanooga, pre-optometry; Emma Claire Lovell, UT Chattanooga, pre-med; and Chandler Blake Maynard, UT Chattanooga, physical therapy.
Greenfield students get to study college-level science experiments

By JENSON GREENBURG
Special to the Press

Three students from Greenfield High School got a chance to enrich their science skills alongside a professor at the University of Tennessee at Martin during a week of research.

Robert McCall, a chemistry and biology teacher at Greenfield, brought seniors Sara Lewis, Matthew Pugh and Elizabeth Keylon to UTM last week to attempt scientific experiments in a more advanced setting. McCall and the students worked alongside Dr. Jen Esbenshade, assistant professor of chemistry at UTM.

The students collected soil samples from four locations around Weakley County and brought them to the chemistry lab at UTM. After drying one gram of the soil and combining it with nitric and hydrochloric acid, the students put the samples in an atomic emission spectrometer and were able to calculate the concentration of iron, lead, and cadmium in each soil. The results were then transferred to a large poster that will be hung in Greenfield High School.

"The experience was fantastic," said Sara Lewis, who plans to study plant and soil science at UTM in the future. "It gave me the chance to understand what working in a college lab is like."

The students worked every day Monday through Thursday in order to get their research completed. In addition to learning to handle new lab equipment, they also practiced data collecting and teamwork, vital skills in laboratory settings.

"They were less excited to do the data analysis and writing, but each student used their strength to bring the group poster together," said Dr. Esbenshade. "The students worked great together as a group."

The project is the first of what McCall hopes will be many summer research projects available to Greenfield students. McCall conducts activities with his students throughout the school year to introduce them to advanced science experiments. He allows them to choose projects involving everyday items such as lipstick, candles and fabrics.

"It makes them more interested if they use objects they see every day," McCall said. "By doing these experiments I get to see who is really interested in science."

McCall, who graduated valedictorian from Greenfield in 2005, has noticed an increase in motivation since he began introducing hands-on activities in addition to typical lecturing.

"There's been a big increase in interest since I started," he said. "Kids in Weakley County tend not to be as interested in science and I want to change that."

"Mr. McCall is a good influence on our school," added Matthew Pugh. "This is the perfect example of the extra work he is willing to put in to help interested students learn more about science."

McCall hopes to expand his outreach to students by not only continuing his projects during the school year, but also allowing enthusiastic students to conduct more advanced experiments over the summer. McCall and Dr. Esbenshade are looking to form a partnership in the future that will allow high school students to work alongside UTM undergraduates with research.

"I'd love to work with

See Science,
HOME BASE — The chemistry lab is one of many labs located in UTM's Engineering and Physical Sciences Building, which features advanced laboratory equipment for students to use. The building is home to the chemistry department.

SCIENCE, From Page 1
better understanding of the world around them.
"Being active in science helps you make better decisions," McCall said. "If you understand life around you, you can make informed observations. It's beneficial to everyone."
If you are a professor or student interested in becoming involved in summer science programs or starting up classroom activities, contact Robert McCall at robert.mccall@wcsk12.net.

OVERREACTING —
Students prep their lab station for the use of hydrochloric and nitric acid. By mixing the acids with soil, they were able to extract metals from the soil for further examination.

Wilson County residents receive University of Tennessee at Martin awards
MARTIN — Three Wilson County residents received awards from the University of Tennessee at Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences during a ceremony April 25.

Gina Beckman, of Mt. Juliet, received the silver park outstanding senior in parks and recreation administration award. She also received the outstanding natural resources management student award during UT Martin’s annual honors day celebration April 9.

Hunter Palmer, of Mt. Juliet, received an outstanding first semester college student in agriculture award for his grade-point average during the fall 2016 semester.

Miranda Carlton, of Lebanon, received the outstanding wildlife and fisheries student award.

http://www.lebanondemocrat.com
PARTICIPANTS of the University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center Kid College attended the five day program July 10th through the 14th. The theme was "Amazing Race", which gave students the opportunity to study art, culture, and dance from countries such as Russia, China, and Africa. The program is for kindergarten through 5th grade students.
Rotary Guests

JASON HOLLOWAY, center, assistant director of the University of Martin at Ripley Center, was the guest speaker Tuesday, August 1st of the Ripley Rotary Club at Rolling Hills Country Club. A Henning native, he spoke to the club about the University's Veteran Program, Tennessee Strong, free GED classes, and other degrees and programs offered. Ripley Rotary Club opened with prayer led by Thomas Bester, right, club president. Rotarian Roy Crowder, left, led the club in the Pledge of Allegiance and also in song.

Donation Presented

DR. SIMPFRONIA TAYLOR, UTM Ripley Center Director, accepted a check from the Ripley Gas Water, and Wastewater Department. Presenting the check were Scott Nelson, Ripley Gas and Water superintendent, left, and George Terrell, board president, right, along with board members, not pictured, Tonia Estes, Burnie Norman, Gwen Blackman and Bill Davis, Liaison for the City of Ripley Board of Aldermen. Dr. Taylor spoke at the July 20th meeting of the Ripley Gas, Water and Wastewater board meeting to discuss the importance of community support and how scholarships help students in the community. The $15,000 scholarship check will be used for the 2017-18 school year.
UTM trains future forensics professionals

College students from across the country gathered in Oak Ridge this past month to spend three weeks studying forensic science from some of the top instructors in the country. The National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program, hosted by the UT Law Enforcement Innovation Center, was designed in part by UTM.

"There is no other program like this in the country with this quality of instructors. This cannot be duplicated," said Dr. Brian Donavant, UTM professor of criminal justice. Donavant helped design the academy’s curriculum when the program began in 2012.

Students from all parts of the country participated. Students from at least six other states joined those from Tennessee to complete the elite academy, receiving a crash-course in fingerprinting, blood spatter analysis, crime scene investigation, DNA analysis, anthropology, and several other subjects. The collegiate academy is a condensed version of the 10-week academy completed by top law enforcement professionals.

"Students are completing the same training that a forensic law enforcement officer does. They actually are getting more training than most officers ever get," said Dan Anselment, lead instructor for the academy. "With this type of training, these students will be a step ahead for any agency they may go to."

Melanie Allen, a UTM senior from Milan, immediately recognized the value of the unique experience. "This is all hands-on. We’ve done fingerprinting, photography, blood spatter, DNA analysis, and anthropology," she explained. "I’ll have more training than the normal graduate, so this will definitely set me apart."

While many of the participants originally became interested in forensic science by watching television shows such as CSI, Bones, and Law and Order, participation in the academy shows them the reality of the work involved to process evidence at a crime scene and convict a criminal. The work involved in actual investigations is not as fast as it appears on TV, but there are benefits to living in a culture saturated with high-tech crime shows.

"The plus side for law enforcement is that bad guys who watch those shows think we can do all those things, so sometimes they confess because they think we can do something we actually can’t. That’s where we got the phrase ‘the CSI effect’, because they’ve seen it on TV," said Anselment. "I’ve also served on grand juries where they legitimately ask good questions that they would have never known to ask without shows like CSI."

All participating students received nine hours of college credit in return for completing the course. Students were also required to create a portfolio demonstrating the skills they learn during the academy, and some have presented these portfolios at conferences across the country.

"This is the sixth year we’ve hosted this collegiate academy, and we only have 137 graduates - that tells you how selective this program is," said Donavant. "Not only are students from other states coming to study here, we’re actually attracting graduates to relocate and work here, and that contributes to Tennessee’s economy and quality of life." Several students from previous academies have relocated to the Volunteer State and are giving their talents back to the state and the university system that trained them.

For more information on the National Forensic Academy Collegiate Program or the UTM criminal justice curriculum, contact Donavant at bdonavant@utm.edu or 731-881-3510.
FUTURE INVESTIGATORS - Brandon Bookout (right), a UTM student from Gleason, works with a student from Nebraska to explore a gravesite during a forensics exercise in the National Forensics Academy Collegiate Program.

UTM to host final Freshman Registration session Aug. 4

Students who intend to join the University of Tennessee at Martin’s freshman class in the fall 2017 semester have one remaining opportunity to attend Summer Orientation and Registration, a mandatory event for all incoming students. The final session will be held Aug. 4.

The Aug. 4 SOAR session will begin at 8 a.m. and include an administrative fair and informational sessions on academic options, financial aid and scholarships, housing, student life and other important topics. Students will begin registering for classes at 1:30 p.m.

If extenuating circumstances or late acceptance prevent a student from attending this final on-campus session, contact Mary Wiggins, Office of Undergraduate Admissions, at 731-881-7740 or munger@utm.edu as soon as possible to arrange alternate registration plans.

The registration fee for SOAR is $45 per student and $20 for each additional guest. No tuition will be due until the start of the fall semester. SOAR registration is first-come, first-served, and space is limited. Students must have received a tentative or final acceptance letter to register. Visit utm.edu/soar for more information and for registration instructions.

For information on the admissions or registration process, contact the UT Martin Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 or by email at admitme@utm.edu.
MARTIN, Tenn. — Weakley County has plenty of assets.

Leaders say it has a motivated workforce, plenty of land that is able to be developed and is home to the University of Tennessee at Martin.

“We have a lot to offer here,” Erica Moore with the Weakley County Mayor’s Office said.

But with the unemployment and poverty rate higher than the state’s average, some may say the county is economically distressed, which is why it is getting help.

“We’re going to basically make a promotional video of each county showing what the workforce is like,” said Joseph Spencer, who helped film parts of the county.

Weakley County was picked to receive help by the state’s Department of Economic and Community Development through the Marketing Assistance Program.

The program helps distressed counties produce a website with content, video and photos specific to each community.

UT Martin was just one of the areas in Weakley County the production team stopped to film.

From Tennessee himself, Spencer said it is a good way to give back.

“Being able to help your state and say that you’re trying to help growth, it is really rewarding,” Spencer said.

Moore says the website will not only help Weakley County but all of West Tennessee.

“When it comes to economic development, everything is connected,” Moore said. “Education, workforce and infrastructure. What’s good for the our county is good for West Tennessee.”

Moore says the website should be up by October.

Benton County is also scheduled to receive help from the Marketing Assistance Program later this month.
BATTLE OF THE BOTS

UTM Jackson hosts Lego robot camp

BRITTNEY L JACKSON
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

RIGHT: Aiden Swanger and Nash Poberson watch as their robots battle during a Lego NXL Mind Storm summer camp. FAR RIGHT: Hibiki Kaneko prepares to start his robot for battle.

PHOTOS BY KENNETH CUMMINGS/THE JACKSON SUN

NXT Lego Mindstorm robots buzzed during a “bot battle” tournament July 28 at the UT Martin Jackson Center as the advanced robotics camp, Survival Challenge, was coming to an end.

The UT Martin Jackson Center and a few other UT Martin extensions offer 5-day robotic camps to teach kids about coding and robots.

“We’re just trying to make them... well-rounded students, because this involves all of your STEM — science, technology, engineering and math,” UT Martin Center Director Kayce Beam said. “When they get older, we hope that they stay with STEM and it becomes more natural for them to succeed in these career fields.”

It is clear that there is an increase in the use of robotics and a demand for it in the workforce, Beam noted.

What is robotics camp?

With the use of math, scientific method and logic, kids in the advanced robot class learn basic program codes throughout the week and then combine them. At the end of the week, the students battle their robots against each other.

“It’s basically using trial and error and scientific method to make... them improve and think,” Robotics Instructor James Swanger said.

Advanced students learn complicated coding and program their robots to go through a maze, in addition to the battle.

“I learned how to code robots to do puzzles, mazes and other things like that,” camper Nash Roberson said. Roberson, 11, enjoy the battle the most, he said, adding that he was proud of the ramp he built on his robot.

Seeing the kids enjoying math and science gives Swanger hope that this younger generation with do great things.

“I like for my kids to learn science and math and logic, and I teach it just like I’d teach my own kids,” he said.

Robots are the future

Each year, the students improve, so by the time they are college age, they will be “stellar” in robotics, Beam said.

For more information on LEGO camp, visit utm.edu/departments/jackson/ or call (731) 425-9277. Reach Brittney Jackson at bjackson@gannett.com or 731-425-9643.
Evann Boley (right), a student at Henry County High School, attended the End of Summer Bash event July 28 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He is pictured with his mother, Melissa Boley. Ninety high school students from across the region participated in the special event, which included a campus tour and a "Rec Rampage" party at the Student Recreation Center.
Rotarians Hear About WestStar

Charley Deal, executive director of WestStar leadership program, was the guest speaker at the McKenzie Rotary Club on August 1.

Deal spoke about the mission of WestStar and how it is a leadership training course for west Tennessee. It brings leaders together throughout the region to develop new synergies among individuals and towns.

The WestStar mission is to identify, encourage and equip community-minded people who want to become more involved, who want to help West Tennessee become a better place, and who are willing to accept assertive and dynamic leadership roles.

Participants learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Participants also become part of a growing network of other leaders who through mutual support and assistance shape the future of West Tennessee. WestStar is committed to advancing the regional and global community through outreach and community/public service endeavors.

Applications are reviewed by the Board of Trustees, who are responsible for selecting the WestStar class. Only one class is chosen each year. Selection is based on leadership achievements and potential to contribute to the development of the region. Geography and diversity are factors in the overall class selection. Past participants have been chosen from all occupations and levels of community and regional involvement. WestStar does not select on the basis of age, sex, race or religion.

If accepted for the program, a tuition fee of $750 is payable prior to the first session. The fee includes meals during each session, breaks, program materials and expenses. Participants are responsible for their own lodging and transportation. Two-thirds of actual participant cost is underwritten by the program sponsors.

McKenzie Rotary Club meets each Tuesday noon in the Vera Low Center on the campus of Bethel University.
UTM faculty receive grants for course study, research

Three members of the University of Tennessee at Martin faculty have received internal faculty research grants through the UT Martin Faculty Research Grant Program to participate in organized programs of study and research and further their knowledge in relation to the courses they teach.

Dr. Timothy Smith, lecturer of history; Dr. Charles Bradshaw, associate professor of English; and Dr. Anton Garcia-Fernandez, assistant professor of Spanish, have been chosen to receive grant assistance for the 2017-18 academic year.

Smith will conduct research to produce a modern, comprehensive, academic account of Benjamin Grierson's "Epic Raid through the Civil War in Mississippi."

He will research several manuscript repositories in Washington, D.C., Illinois and Mississippi as the basis for a narrative and analytical history of the raid. The completed manuscript will be considered for publication.

Bradshaw will research Mark Twain's novella "A Horse's Tail" and use the British Library in London as a basis for research tying Twain's references to Buffalo Bill and his Wild West Show to popular sentiment in both America and Europe.

He will spend the remainder of his time drafting a scholarly introduction to the novella for the University of Nebraska Press.

Garcia-Fernandez will use his leave period to write a book-length study of Alvaro Cunqueiro Mora's body of work. Mora is a Galician novelist, poet, playwright and journalist whose often-overlooked literary work made crucial contributions to the world of Spanish literature.

Garcia-Fernandez will conduct research of Mora's works in both Spanish and Galician to compose a paper for academic presentation and publication.

The UT Martin Faculty Research Grant Program is designed to provide compensation for faculty conducting preliminary studies leading to external grant proposals for long-term support or publication. Regular, full-time UT Martin faculty are welcome to apply.
Former University of Tennessee President Emerson "Eli" Fly died Monday in Knoxville at the age of 82, according to a news release from the university.

Fly served as president from 2001 to 2002 after a 40-year career at UT.

"Another UT legend has left us and he will be missed by all," said UT President Joe DiPietro in the release. "We are thankful for his many years of service and leadership, including serving as president, to his beloved alma mater."

Fly was born in Milan, Tenn., on Feb. 5, 1935. His father died when he was two years old and his mother worked in a factory. After beginning his college education at UT Martin, Fly earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from UT Knoxville in 1961 and became a certified public accountant in 1962.

He worked as a junior accountant for Price Waterhouse from 1961 to 1962 before returning to the university as an assistant auditor, a position he held from 1962 until 1968, when he became the internal auditor, the release said.

In 1973, he became the vice chancellor for finance at UT Chattanooga. In 1977, he was named UT vice president for business and finance. In 1991, he became the executive vice president.

In 2001, Fly was named acting president, though the UT board of trustees later designated his position as permanent for historical record.

He retired in 2002 but returned as interim executive vice president and chief financial officer, a position he held until he retired again in 2004.

UT President Emeritus Joe Johnson said he requested Fly return as executive vice president because of his intimate knowledge of UT and his good relationship with state officials and the UT family.

"I don't know of anybody who was more devoted to the university," Johnson said in the release.

Fly served as the first president of the University of Tennessee Foundation and is a former president of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers.

He also served on numerous committees and groups, including on the boards of UT-Battelle and University Health System, and was active in the Knoxville chapter of the American Red Cross.

Fly was a U.S. Navy pilot who held the rank of commander in the U.S. Naval Air Reserve and a member of First Christian Church. He is survived by his wife, Catherine, four children and nine grandchildren.
Martin Kiwanis Members Introduced To Art of Drumming At UTM

Dr. Julie Hill, director of percussion and chair of the Department of Music, and Dr. Shane Jones, assistant professor of music and co-director of percussion studies, presented a lunch and learn program for the Kiwanis Club of Martin on August 2 in the Percussion Studio at UT Martin. Junior music major John Beale also assisted in the presentation.

The rhythms/instruments that 19 Kiwanis members and guests played under Dr. Jones' direction were from West Africa, Cuba, and Brazil. "We call these places with origins from Africa the African Diaspora," Jones said.

Jones introduced the following instruments: Djembe (West Africa), Conga (Cuba/Haiti), Surdo (Brazil), and Azatsc/Shakere (West Africa/Cuba).

Jones began work at UT Martin on August 1. "It is so great to be here in the Martin community," he said. "I look forward to seeing you all at future events."

In her introduction to the program, Dr. Hill stressed the power of music and the arts to enhance tolerance, diversity, and change. "We can create change," she said as she highlighted a shared vision with the Kiwanis mission of "improving the world one child and one community at a time."

New UT Martin assistant professor of music Dr. Shane Jones leads members and guests of the Kiwanis Club of Martin in drumming. Pictured from left are Frank Black, Mary Elizabeth Bell, Harry Henderson, Tiffany Emerson, Jan Wainscott, Frances Bynum, Danelle Fabianich, Laura Taylor, David Spencer, Sara Sieber, Jim Clark, Otha Britton, Jayne Parrish, Kira Blackburn, Vickie Hazlewood, Steve Lemond, Bettrye Giles, and Anna Clark.
Former UT President Eli Fly dies

http://www.thunderboltradio.com/

A former UT President who grew up in Milan and attended UT Martin has died.

Emerson "Eli" Fly, whose tenure as president capped a 40-year career in the university system, died Monday in Knoxville at the age of 82.

Fly served as UT president from 2001 until 2002. UT says he was named acting president in 2001, which university trustees later designated as permanent for historical records.

The Milan native began his college education at UT Martin in the late 50s before getting his BS in 1961 from Knoxville and then worked as an accountant for Price Waterhouse before returning to UT as an assistant auditor.

Fly's tenure at UT included a stint as vice chancellor for finance at UT Chattanooga starting in 1973. In 1977 he was named UT vice president for business and finance. In 1991, he became the executive vice president.

Fly also served as the first president of the University of Tennessee Foundation.

He was a U.S. Navy pilot and held the rank of commander in the U.S. Naval Air Reserve. Eli Fly and Andy Holt, another UT President, are the only two men from the same town to serve as President of the University of Tennessee.
AWARDED LEAVE — (From left) Dr. Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music; Dr. Christopher Brown, professor of philosophy; and Dr. Chara Van Horn, assistant professor of communications, have received Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave awards to pursue academic research and advancement during the 2017-18 academic year.

Three professors awarded faculty leave

Three faculty members from the University of Tennessee at Martin have received Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave awards to pursue academic research and advancement during the 2017-18 academic year.

Dr. Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music; Dr. Christopher Brown, professor of philosophy; and Dr. Chara Van Horn, assistant professor of communications, chose to take their leaves of absence during the spring 2018 semester.

Mancusi has developed a concert series called "The Big Sing Theory" and plans to perform the selections regionally, nationally and internationally. He will also use his leave period to partner with a colleague to write a book on practical applications for vocal students, which will be considered for publication by the Oxford University Press.

Brown will use his leave to complete a book manuscript titled "St. Thomas Aquinas on God and Human Happiness: Solving Puzzles about Eternal Life," which has been invited for formal consideration for publication by the Catholic University of America Press. Brown will focus on analyzing and defending Aquinas' views on human happiness and heaven, originally presented in the 13th century.

Van Horn will use her time to expand her doctoral dissertation into a book examining the influence of conspiracy theories on official discourse. She plans to specifically focus on the intersection between conspiracy theories and the Warren and 9/11 Commission reports. Van Horn will also present her research at the Popular Culture/American Culture Association Joint Conference in Bloomington, Ind.

UT Martin's Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program is designed to enable participants to become more effective teachers and scholars by engaging in a variety of academic renewal experiences.

Tenured faculty members with six or more years of fulltime service at UT Martin are eligible to apply for awards.

For more information on the Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program or the current or past recipients, contact the UT Martin Office of Research, Grants and Contracts at 731-881-7015.
ATTEND SYMPOSIUM — Pictured at the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators symposium are (from left) Renee Stubblefield, UT Martin veterinary health technology instructor; Susie walker, wife of Dr. Danny Walker; Dr. Danny Walker, assistant professor of animal science and award winner; Dr. Jason Roberts, associate professor of animal science; and Erica Carroll and Amanda Waldon, veterinary health technology instructors.

Walker receives award for teaching excellence in veterinary education

Dr. Danny Walker, associate professor of animal science at the University of Tennessee at Martin, recently received the Elsevier Award for Teaching Excellence from the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators.

The Elsevier Award for Teaching Excellence is intended to honor those educators who are recognized by their students and colleagues as exceptional instructors. Nominations are taken from across the country, and one educator is selected every two years. The award was presented during the AVTE national symposium Aug. 4 in Albuquerque, N.M.

“Dr. Walker certainly deserves this award, and it is a great recognition for UT Martin and our veterinary technology program,” said Dr. Jason Roberts, associate professor of animal science and director of UT Martin’s Veterinary Health Technology Program.

Several of Walker’s students and colleagues submitted nomination materials on his behalf, and the letters show the vital role he has played in the lives of many.

“This man has been probably the biggest foundation of my career. Not only did he teach me in under grad, but he set me up for my career and helped me find my passion in life,” wrote Kelly Kennedy, a former student who is now an instructor in the program Walker helped establish.

UT Martin is one of fewer than 30 institutions in the country to offer four-year academic instruction in veterinary health technology. Students who graduate from the UT Martin program also complete six weeks of on-site, hands-on internship experience at a regional veterinary hospital, clinic or laboratory.

For more information on program requirements, contact Roberts at jroberts@utm.edu.
Former UT president Eli Fly dies

ERIN CHESNUT
SPECIAL FOR THE SUN

KNOXVILLE – Former University of Tennessee President Emerson “Eli” Fly died Aug. 8 in Knoxville at the age of 82.

“Another UT legend has left us and he will be missed by all,” said UT President Joe DiPietro. “We are thankful for his many years of service and leadership, including serving as president, to his beloved alma mater.”

Fly served as UT president from 2001 until 2002, capping a 40-year career at the university.

“I don’t know of anybody who was more devoted to the university,” said UT President Emeritus Joe Johnson.

Fly was born in Milan on Feb. 5, 1935, in what he described as “pretty humble circumstances” during an interview with the UT Martin “Campus Scene” magazine in 2002. His father died when he was 2 years old, and his mother worked in a factory.

Fly and legendary UT President Andy Holt were both from Milan, and Milan notes both on the city’s welcome sign.

“I don’t know anyone else who has that,” Johnson said. “It’s quite an accomplishment and a well-deserved recognition.”

After beginning his college education at UT Martin, Fly earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from UT Knoxville in 1961 and became a certified public accountant in 1962. He worked as a junior accountant for Price Waterhouse from 1961 to 1962 before returning to the university as an assistant auditor, a position he held until becoming the internal auditor in 1968. In 1973 he became the vice chancellor for finance at UT Chattanooga, and he was named UT vice president for business and finance in 1977. In 1991 he became the system’s executive vice president.

In 2001 Fly was named acting president, which the UT Board of Trustees later designated, for the historical record, as permanent. He retired in 2002, but was asked to return as interim executive vice president and chief financial officer in 2003 by Johnson, then interim UT president. He retired again in 2004.

Johnson said he requested that Fly return because of his intimate knowledge of UT and his positive relationships with state officials and the UT family.

“I trusted Eli completely,” Johnson said. “If I went to war, I’d want to go with Eli.”

Johnson also described Fly as “one of the most competitive people I know, but in a positive way.”

“He wanted things to be done the best they could be done. He wanted everything done the right way,” said Johnson.

Fly served as the first president of the University of Tennessee Foundation and is a former president of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers. He was the higher education representative on the advisory committee of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and was a member of the National Association of College and University Business Officers accounting principles committee. NACUBO awarded him its distinguished business officer award.

He was a charter member and president of the East Tennessee chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors. He was also past chairman of the executive committee of the Council of Business Affairs for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges.

He has served as advisory council chairman for the Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association/College Retirement Equities Fund as well as on the boards of UT-Battelle and University Health System. He was past president and treasurer for Junior Achievement and was active in the Knoxville chapter of the American Red Cross.

Fly was a U.S. Navy pilot and held the rank of commander in the U.S. Naval Air Reserve. He was a member of First Christian Church. He is survived by his wife, Catherine, four children and nine grandchildren.

See FLY, Page 5A
Trenton native, UTM student going through military training

ERIN CHESNUT
UT MARTIN

MARTIN — Remington Burch started his freshman year at the University of Tennessee at Martin two weeks later than his classmates, but not for reasons one might expect.

Burch, now preparing to start his junior year, joined the Tennessee National Guard while still in high school and was training with his unit when the UT Martin fall semester began in 2015.

"I went to basic training between my junior and senior years of high school, and then I went to my advanced training between my senior year of high school and college. So I actually arrived at UT Martin two weeks late. It was basically test time when I got here, so I had a lot of catching up to do," he said.

He hasn’t let the late start slow him down though, and now the Trenton native is a third-year cadet in UT Martin’s ROTC Program — known as Skyhawk Battalion — and recently completed Air Assault School at Ft. Benning, Ala. There, he learned to repel out of helicopters, load equipment into a special sling to be carried by helicopters, and inspect those slings and equipment for proper installation. He and his fellow trainees also completed almost two weeks of grueling physical and mental exertion.

"It’s actually called the 10 toughest days in the Army because you’re constantly going. Probably one of the hardest parts of Air Assault School was knowing that at any time you could be sent home — not restarted, but sent home completely — and having your buddies beside you start disappearing throughout the training because they’re going home," he said. "Even on the last day when we knew that all we had to do was the final 12-mile ruck march and the final inspection, even when you knew that in four hours you could have your wings, I was still worried that something would happen."

Burch was the only UT Martin ROTC cadet to attend Air Assault School this year. He received an honorable discharge from the Tennessee National Guard last fall to allow him to compete against his fellow ROTC cadets for an active duty commission upon graduation.

"Active duty is very competitive. After your third year, you go to advanced camp, and you are assessed. Then, in the fall of my senior year, I will find out if I get active duty or not," he said. His selection for and completion of a special program like Air Assault School will go a long way toward securing a higher cadet rank and an active duty assignment.

"They do what are called assessment points where you are assessed on everything from your GPA to your PT (physical training) score to how well you actually work with others and how well you do at advanced camp. Then they give you a number," said Burch. "It all depends on the needs of the Army. So if they say, ‘Ok, the top 60 percent will get active duty this year,’ ... the other people would go to the reserve components."

Burch will rank the infantry and aviation units high in his preferences, but his ultimate assignment will also depend on the needs of the Army at the time of his commission.

Being part of the ROTC Program takes dedication and discipline, traits Burch displays in abundance.

"It really comes down to how much effort you put into it," he said. "It’s not necessarily hard because I enjoy it. I don’t see it as much as a burden but as an opportunity. Even though we have to be at PT at 6:30 every morning, Monday through Thursday, after doing it then you’re just waking up at normal time. It’s not as hard as some people would say it is if you actually want to do it."

Burch is studying criminal justice and hopes to complete a 20-year military career before applying his degree in the civilian world.
Remington Burch, of Trenton, is a junior at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
Local UT Martin alumni chapter sends off Skyhawks

August 13, 2017 by Jackson Jones

JACKSON, Tenn. — A group of local Skyhawks were given the send off today by the UT Martin Jackson Regional Alumni Chapter.

University alumni and first year students came together in downtown Jackson for food, fellowship, and a drawing for a $350 scholarship. Associate Director of Alumni Programs Jackie Johnson said, if she could give new students one piece of advice, this is what it would be.

"My biggest piece of advice is to get involved in something, whether it be Greek life, a service organization, or an academic organization; just get involved, meet people, get to know their professors, and just to participate in the campus life," said Johnson.

The winner of the scholarship was incoming UT Martin freshman Madison Faulkner, who plans on majoring in biology. Fall classes at UT Martin being on Monday, August 28th.

UT Martin’s Richardson misses the cut at the U.S. Amateur

http://www.wpsdlocal6.com

PACIFIC PALISADES, Calif. — Two-time Ohio Valley Conference golf medalist Hunter Richardson represented the University of Tennessee at Martin at the 2017 U.S. Amateur Championship, which wrapped up its first round today.

One day after tying for 28th place with an even-par 70 at Bel-Air Country Club, Richardson carded a 77 (+7) at Riviera Country Club today. His two-round total of 147 finished tied for 103rd in the field of 312 of the best amateur golfers in the world, only three shots off the 69-man cut.

Richardson teed off on Hole No. 10 at 6:45 a.m. Pacific time, beginning his day with three straight pars. He added four more pars on his first nine to make the turn with a 38 (+2). However, he managed one par over his next six holes before carding a birdie on the par-4, 403-yard Hole No. 7. He wrapped up his day with back-to-back pars to bring his total to a 77.

A three-time All-OVC honoree, Richardson enters his senior campaign with eight career victories - all of which have occurred in the last two seasons. The Clarksville, Tenn. native won OVC Player of the Year accolades in 2016-17, one year after helping the Skyhawks win their first-ever OVC golf championship.

From: UTM Media Relations
Remington Burch started his freshman year at the University of Tennessee at Martin two weeks later than his classmates, but not for reasons one might expect.

Burch, now preparing to start his junior year, joined the Tennessee National Guard while still in high school and was training with his unit when the UT Martin fall semester began in 2015.

"I went to basic training between my junior and senior years of high school, and then I went to my advanced training between my senior year of high school and college. So I actually arrived at UT Martin two weeks late. It was basically test time when I got here, so I had a lot of catching up to do," he said.

He hasn’t let the late start slow him down though, and now the Trenton native is a third-year cadet in UT Martin’s ROTC Program — known as Skyhawk Battalion — and recently completed Air Assault School at Ft. Benning, Ala. There, he learned to rappel out of helicopters, load equipment into a special sling to be carried by helicopters, and inspect those slings and equipment for proper installation. He and his fellow trainees also completed almost two weeks of grueling physical and mental exertion.

"It’s actually called the 10 toughest days in the Army because you’re constantly going. Probably one of the hardest parts of Air Assault School was knowing that at any time you could be sent home — not restarted, but sent home completely — and having your buddies beside you start disappearing throughout the training because they’re going home," he said. "Even on the last day when we knew that all we had to do was the final 12-mile ruck march and the final inspection, even when you knew that in four hours you could have your wings, I was still worried that something would happen.

Burch was the only UT Martin ROTC cadet to attend Air Assault School this year. He received an honorable discharge from the Tennessee National Guard last fall to allow him to compete against his fellow ROTC cadets for an active duty commission upon graduation.

"Active duty is very competitive. After your third year, you go to advanced camp, and you are assessed. ... Then, in the fall of my senior year, I will find out if I get active duty or not," he said. His selection for and completion of a special program like Air Assault School will go a long way toward securing a higher cadet rank and an active duty assignment.

"They do what are called assessment points where you are assessed on everything from your GPA to your PT (physical training) score to how well you actually work with others and how well you do at advanced camp. Then they give you a number," said Burch. "It all depends on the needs of the Army. So if they say, ‘Ok, the top 60 percent will get active duty this year,’... the other people would go to the reserve components."

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Being part of the ROTC Program takes dedication and discipline, traits Burch displays in abundance.

"It really comes down to how much effort you put into it," he said. "It’s not necessarily hard because I enjoy it. I don’t see it so much as a burden but as an opportunity. Even though we have to be at PT at 6:30 every morning, Monday through Thursday, after doing it then you’re just waking up at normal time. It’s not as hard as some people would say it is if you actually want to do it."

Burch is studying criminal justice and hopes to complete a 20-year military career before applying his degree in the civilian world.
Former UT President Fly dies at 82

Former University of Tennessee President Emerson "Eli" Fly died Aug. 8 in Knoxville at the age of 82.

"Another UT legend has left us and he will be missed by all," said UT President Joe DiPietro. "We are thankful for his many years of service and leadership, including serving as president, to his beloved alma mater."

Fly served as UT president from 2001 until 2002, capping a 40-year career at the university.

"I don't know of anybody who was more devoted to the university," said UT President Emeritus Joe Johnson.

Fly was born in Milan on Feb. 5, 1935, in what he described as "pretty humble circumstances" during an interview with the UT Martin "Campus Scene" magazine in 2002. His father died when he was two years old, and his mother worked in a factory.

Fly and legendary UT President Andy Holt were both from Milan, and Milan notes both on the city's welcome sign.

"I don't know anyone else who has that," Johnson said. "It's quite an accomplishment and a well-deserved recognition."

After beginning his college education at UT Martin, Fly earned a bachelor's degree in accounting from UT Knoxville in 1961 and became a certified public accountant in 1962. He worked as a junior accountant for Price Waterhouse from 1961 to 1962 before returning to the university as an assistant auditor, a position he held until becoming the internal auditor in 1968.

In 1973, he became the vice chancellor for finance at UT Chattanooga, and he was named UT vice president for business and finance in 1977.

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Johnson said he requested that Fly return because of his intimate knowledge of UT and his positive relationships with state officials and the UT family.

"I trusted Eli completely," Johnson said. "If I went to war, I'd want to go with Eli."

Johnson also described Fly as "one of the most competitive people I know, but in a positive way."

"He wanted things to be done the best they could be done. He wanted everything done the right way," said Johnson.

Fly served as the first president of the University of Tennessee Foundation and is a former president of the Southern Association of College and University Business Officers. He was the higher education representative on the advisory committee of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board and was a member of the National Association of College and University Business Officers accounting principles committee. NACUBO awarded him its distinguished business officer award.

He was a charter member and president of the East Tennessee chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors.

McGuffin speaks to Kiwanis Club

Kurt McGuffin, new director of intercollegiate athletics for the University of Tennessee at Martin, spoke to members of the Kiwanis Club of Martin at their Aug. 9 weekly meeting in Boling University Center.

Danelle Fabianich, assistant athletics director for academics and student-athlete services, introduced McGuffin, who began his new position at UT Martin at the end of June.

McGuffin discussed his excitement about being in the Martin community with his family and his vision for continuing to improve athletic programs. "We would like to increase scholar-ship dollars and continue to give teams and coaches an opportunity to win. We want UT Martin athletes to be good as students, good as athletes, and good as people," McGuffin said.

During his first year at UT Martin, McGuffin plans to concentrate on building relationships with coaches and staff, faculty and staff, and those in the community. "We will find new ways to support each other," he said.

McGuffin holds degrees from Kansas State University and Wichita State University. He comes to the Skyhawks with more than 18 years of experience in education and athletics.
Former UT Chief
Eli Fly, 82 dies

KNOXVILLE — Former University of Tennessee President Emeritus “Eli” Fly died Aug. 8 in Knoxville at the age of 82.

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Former UT Chief...
(Cont. from page 1)

Soybean Fest to Feature Lynyrd Skynyrd, Clint Black, Air Supply

Martin — The Tennessee Soybean Festival has a strong musical lineup this year, with top acts—including Lynyrd Skynyrd, Clint Black and Air Supply—set to take the stage.

The Soybean Festival is September 2-10 in Martin and is billed as “West Tennessee’s Largest Music Festival.”

A Tribute to Paul McCartney called “Live and Let Die” will be presented for free September 5, with Echosmith performing on September 6.

Country Legend Clint Black will present a free performance on September 7, with Air Supply set to perform September 8.

Lynyrd Skynyrd will perform September 9.

Tickets are on sale now for the ticketed concerts at www.TNSoybeanfestival.org. Ticket prices are listed on the website.

The Jackson Sun
Tuesday, August 15, 2017

ACT prep in at UTM-Jackson

The University of Tennessee at Martin is hosting a one-day workshop on test-taking strategies for the ACT college entrance exam from 8 a.m. to noon, Aug. 26, at the UT Martin Jackson Center.

Students will learn to boost their scores and improve test performance by practicing test problems based on question frequency, difficulty, substantive knowledge, curriculum and alternative test-taking strategies. Alex Beene, college and ACT advisor for Fayette County Schools, will direct the course and offer quick, efficient tips for test-taking.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/nd. connect and select non-degree courses, general classes and the Jackson location.
Dr. Danny Walker, associate professor of animal science at the University of Tennessee at Martin, recently received the Elsevier Award for Teaching Excellence from the Association of Veterinary Technician Educators.

The Elsevier Award for Teaching Excellence is intended to honor those educators who are recognized by their students and colleagues as exceptional instructors.

Nominations are taken from across the country and one educator is selected every two years.

The award was presented during the AVTE national symposium recently in Albuquerque, N.M.

“Dr. Walker certainly deserves this award, and it is a great recognition for UT Martin and our veterinary technology program,” said Dr. Jason Roberts, associate professor of animal science and director of UT Martin’s Veterinary Health Technology Program.

Several of Walker’s students and colleagues, as well as former students, submitted nomination materials on his behalf, and the letters show the vital role he has played in the lives of many.

“This man has been probably the biggest foundation of my career. Not only did he teach me in undergrad, but he set me up for my career and helped me find my passion in life,” wrote Kelly Kennedy, a former student now a licensed veterinary medical technician at Memphis Veterinary Specialists.

The University of Tennessee at Martin has one of fewer than 30 institutions in the country to offer four-year academic instruction in veterinary health technology.

UT Martin’s Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program is designed to enable participants to become more effective teachers and scholars by engaging in a variety of academic renewal experiences. Tenured faculty members with six or more years of full-time service at UT Martin are eligible to apply for awards.

For more information on the Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave Program, contact the UT Martin Office of Research, Grants and Contracts at (731) 881-7015.

Dr. Brown will use his leave to complete a book manuscript titled “St. Thomas Aquinas on God and Human Happiness: Solving Puzzles about Eternal Life,” which has been invited for formal consideration for publication by the Catholic University of America Press. He will focus on analyzing and defending Aquinas’ views on human happiness and heaven, originally presented in the 13th century.

Dr. Van Horn will use her time to expand her doctoral dissertation into a book examining the influence of conspiracy theories on official discourse. She plans to specifically focus on the intersection between conspiracy theories and the Warren and 9/11 Commission reports. She will also present her research at the Popular Culture/American Culture Association Joint Conference in Bloomington, Ind.

Three faculty members from the University of Tennessee at Martin have received Hal and Alma Reagan Faculty Leave awards to pursue academic research and advancement during the 2017-18 academic year.

Dr. Roberto Mancusi, associate professor of music; Dr. Christopher Brown, associate professor of philosophy; and Dr. Chara Van Horn, assistant professor of communications, chose to take their leaves of absence during the spring 2018 semester.

Dr. Mancusi has developed a concert series called “The Big Sing Theory” and plans to perform the selections regionally, nationally and internationally. He will also use his leave period to partner with a colleague to write a book on practical applications for vocal students, which will be considered for publication by the Oxford University Press.
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"It really comes down to how much effort you put into it," he said. "It's not necessarily hard because I enjoy it. I don't see it so much as a burden but as an opportunity. Even though we have to be at PT at 6:30 every morning, Monday through Thursday, after doing it then you're just waking up at normal time. It's not as hard as some people would say, it is if you actually want to do it."

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(Continued from page 1)

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STUDENT BEGINS SKYHAWK JOURNEY - Alana Carrington (upper photo, right), of Medina, with Brady Staggs, and Corey Needham (lower photo), also of Medina, registered for fall semester courses at the University of Tennessee at Martin during Summer Orientation and Registration held August 4. Students will begin moving into campus residence halls August 25 and classes officially begin August 28.

submitted photos
The UT Martin Somerville Center Grand Opening will be held on August 24, 2017 at 1:00 PM at the UT Martin Somerville Center located at 214 Lakeside Road, Somerville. Following a brief Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, the Center will be open for tours immediately afterwards and will be open until 5:00 PM that evening. In attendance are expected to be Lieutenant Governor Randy McNally, University of Tennessee President Joe DiPietro, UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver, State Senate Finance Committee Chairman Bo Watson, State Senator Dolores Gresham, State Representative Ron Giant, Fayette County Mayor Skip Taylor, Somerville Mayor Ronni Nettl, Somerville Vice-Mayor Sandra Myers, Somerville Aldermen James Loftis, John David Dougla, Mike French, Judy Acco and Jason Lee Hamilton, Roseville Mayor Judy Watts and Oakland Mayor Chris Goodman. Also in attendance will be many people who have been instrumental in making this project happen from UT and UT Martin including Former Chancellor of UT Martin Bob Smith, University of Tennessee Vice President of Government Relations and Advocacy Anthony Haynes, Vice Chancellor of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving Charley Doll, Executive Director of UT Martin Educational Outreach Brian Donavan and UT Martin Somerville Center Director Kara Topp. Classes will begin on August 28, 2017.
New carpet in the entry.

Remembering the past.

The student lounge

The computer lab

The bio-chemistry lab.

New landscaping
The University of Tennessee at Martin has launched a new strategic planning process to guide the university through 2023.

The five-year plan's initial development phase will last until December of this year when a strategic plan will be formed and unveiled. UT Martin chancellor Dr. Keith Carver said he expects the plan to focus on accreditation and academic assessment, enrollment growth and the perception of UT Martin in the area.

As part of the first phase, Carver appointed a steering committee to guide the process. The committee is speaking with constituent groups such as students and faculty in the next step of the process. Carver said he wants UT Martin to be a cultural, intellectual and social hub for the region.

For more information on UT Martin's strategic plan process, visit utm.edu/strategic.
UTM golfer Hunter Richardson narrowly misses final cut in U.S. Amateur Golf Championship

From Sports Information

Two-time Ohio Valley Conference golf medalist Hunter Richardson represented the University of Tennessee at Martin at the 2017 U.S. Amateur Championship, which wrapped up its first round on Tuesday.

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UTM launches six-year strategic planning process

The University of Tennessee at Martin officially launched a new strategic planning process Aug. 14, which will result in a document intended to guide the university through 2023.

"It's time that we start talking about who we are, what we can be and where we have an opportunity to be excellent in the next few years," said Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, during an administrative meeting on the subject. "I really want [UT] Martin to be a hub. I want it to be a cultural, intellectual and social center for the region."

Carver expects the new strategic plan to focus on key areas such as accreditation and a continued culture of academic assessment; targeted enrollment growth; and the perception of UT Martin in the area.

"Starting today, we're going to be talking in a very intentional way about where we are headed," he said.

Tom Griscom, consultant, is serving as university adviser on the project. Griscom also assisted with the development of a strategic plan for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2015.

The plan's initial development phase will last until December of this year, at which point Griscom expects to have a clearly defined university vision with associated goals and outcomes for the next five years. Each step of the process will be openly measured, and all associated notes and decisions will be available online at utm.edu/strategic.

"This is not something where the chancellor stands up and says, 'This is what we did.' This is something where each of you can look and see what we need to do to get where we need to go," he said.

Griscom has already facilitated interactions with more than 300 stakeholders in the university community to develop the plan's framework and says there will be many more opportunities for students, faculty, staff, donors, alumni and community members to give input on the process.

"We want to be able to say that we tried as best we could to give anybody and everybody with an interest in UT Martin an opportunity to participate," he said.

Interested parties will be able to join small-group discussions on campus and in the local area, and an online survey component will soon be available to gather input from afar.

"I don't want this to be Chancellor Carver's plan, I want this to be the UT Martin plan," said Carver.

"I want [UT Martin] to be the destination of choice for public higher education in West Tennessee and beyond."

For more information on the UT Martin strategic plan initiative, visit utm.edu/strategic.
UT Matin To Host Course

The University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center will host a computer course for senior citizens, age 55 and over, from 4 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, August 23rd through September 6th. The three-part session will cover using the mouse, searching the Internet, using Google, basic email usage, and introduction to Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. Lessons are designed for beginning students who would like to learn more about computers, technology and use of the Internet. Students will also have take-home assignments to help retain lesson concepts. For more information or to register by phone, call 731-881-7104.

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The course registration fee is $45 per student. The UT Martin Jackson Center is at 3031 U.S. 45 Bypass in Jackson.

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The 24th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival will be held September 2-10 in Martin, Tennessee, so it is fitting that the University of Tennessee at Martin will serve as the grand marshal along with its chancellor, Dr. Keith Carver.

Traditional events include the street fair, parade, and carnival, but a classic car show, a pro BMX stunt show, and golf competitions will also be featured. Lynyrd Skynyrd, Air Supply, Clint Black and Echosmith will headline the concert schedule this year.

UT Martin has again partnered with the city of Martin and other local sponsors to host the festival, and several planned events will be held on the university campus or feature UT Martin students, faculty and staff. A list of these particular events is included below:

- **September 2** – Minecraft Farming Challenge, hosted by the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center; ages 10-17; $10 advance registration; Gooch Hall, room 325; 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m.
- **September 2** – Be Our Guest children's brunch and show; ages 4-12; $25 per child and $5 for adult gallery seats; costumes encouraged; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.
- **September 3** – Fourth-annual "Guitar As Art" contest and exhibition; Fine Arts Building Gallery; exhibit opens at 2 p.m. and awards will be given at 3 p.m.
- **September 5** – Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade; begins on University Street in front of Hardy M. Graham Stadium; 6:30 p.m.
- **September 6** – Crossroads Luncheon: A Celebration of Civic Organizations; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; noon-1 p.m.; RSVP to Steve Vantrease at svantrease@utfi.org.
- **September 6** – Alpha Gamma Rho cornhole tournament; Lindell Street; 7:30 p.m.
- **September 8** – UT Martin World Percussion performance; Virginia Weldon Park stage; 5 p.m.
- **September 9** – Break for Bach, featuring Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, and Bethany Ostenson; C. E. Weldon Public Library; 10-11 a.m.
- **September 9** – The House Band and Friends, comprised of faculty and staff from UT Martin and WJCT; new Oxford Street Stage on the corner of Oxford and Lindell streets; 7 p.m.
- **September 10** – Sodexo Sunday Brunch; Boling University Center, Skyhawk Dining Hall; 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The week's major concert schedule is as follows:

- **September 5** – Live and Let Die, a tribute to Paul McCartney; free admission; 8 p.m.
- **September 6** – Martin Area Community Choir, faith and community night; free admission; First Baptist Church sanctuary; 7 p.m.
- **September 8** – Echosmith, UT Martin student night; 9:30 p.m.
- **September 7** – Clint Black, soybean celebration concert; free admission; 8 p.m.
- **September 8** – Air Supply; 9 p.m.
- **September 9** – Lynyrd Skynyrd; 9 p.m.

The above concerts are all held on the Festival Park stage and require an admission fee, unless otherwise specified. Concert ticket prices vary, and tickets can be purchased in advance at tssoybeanfestival.org or at the gate, space permitting, beginning at 5 p.m. the day of the show.

A complete list of the week's events can be found online at tssoybeanfestival.org or on pages 32-34 of the printed festival book, available free of charge at many area businesses.
UTM to serve as Soybean Festival grand marshal

ERIN CHESNUT
UT MARTIN

MARTIN – The University of Tennessee at Martin and chancellor Dr. Keith Carver will serve as grand marshal of the 24th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, to be held Sept. 2-10 in Martin.

The weeklong celebration includes events ranging from the traditional street fair, parade and carnival to a classic car show, pro BMX stunt show, photography contest, and golf competitions of both the classic and disc varieties. Musical artists Lynyrd Skynyrd, Air Supply, Clint Black and Echosmith will headline the concert schedule this year.

UT Martin has again partnered with the city of Martin and other local sponsors to host the festival, and several planned events will be held on the university campus or feature UT Martin students, faculty and staff.

Things to do
- Sept. 2 – Minecraft Farming Challenge, hosted by the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center; ages 10-17; $10 advance registration; Gooch Hall, room 325; 8 a.m. to noon or 1-5 p.m.
- Sept. 2 – Be Our Guest children’s brunch and show; ages 4-12; $25 per child and $5 for adult gallery seats; costumes encouraged; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.
- Sept. 3 – Fourth-annual “Guitar As Art” contest and exhibition; Fine Arts Building Gallery; exhibit opens at 2 p.m. and awards will be given at 3 p.m.
- Sept. 5 – Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade; begins on University Street in front of Hardy M. Graham Stadium; 6:30 p.m.
- Sept. 6 – Crossroads Luncheon: A Celebration of Civic Organizations; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; noon to 1 p.m.; RSVP to Steve Vantrease at svantrease@utm.edu
- Sept. 6 – Alpha Gamma Rho cornhole tournament; Lindell Street; 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 8 – UT Martin World Percussion performance; Virginia Weldon Park stage; 5 p.m.
- Sept. 9 – Break for Bach, featuring Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, and Bethany Ostenson; C. E. Weldon Public Library; 10-11 a.m.
- Sept. 9 – The House Band and Friends, comprised of faculty and staff from UT Martin and WLT; new Oxford Street Stage on the corner of Oxford and Lindell streets; 7 p.m.
- Sept. 10 – Sodexo Sunday Brunch; Boling University Center, Skyhawk Dining Hall; 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Musical entertainment
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The Plim White Ts appeared at the UT Martin Student Night concert performance during the 2016 Tennessee Soybean Festival.
The University of Tennessee at Martin's WestStar Leadership Program graduated its 2017 class during a ceremony June 20 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Jackson. Representing Weakley County, front row, from left: Rob Goad, Dr. Todd Winters, Dr. Keith Carver, Lisha Tuck, Landy Fuqua, Nicole Kincade, Mayor Jake Bynum, Jackie Johnson; back row, from left: Ken Thorne, Dr. Brian Donavant, Dr. Charley Deal and Bud Grimes. The WestStar Leadership Program, the oldest and largest leadership program in Tennessee, is in its 28th year and has graduated 799 alumni to date. For more information, contact Virginia Grimes, program coordinator, at (731) 881-7298.

From left: Dennis and Dee Henderson, both of Jackson; and Brenda Horner, of Trenton

From left: Dr. Karen Bowyer, president of Dyersburg State Community College; Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin; and Dr. Allana Hamilton, president of Jackson State Community College
Representing Fayette County, from left: Blake, Reeves and Kayla Wolley, Molly McCarley, Vincent Hayes, Sen. Dolores Gresham and Vanessa Wright-Hayes

From left: Sen. John Stevens, of Huntingdon; Mayor Jake Bynum, of Martin; Dr. Keith Carver, of Martin; Sen. Dolores Gresham, of Somerville; Sen. Mark Norris and Chris Norris, both of Collierville; and Rep. Jimmy Eldridge, of Jackson

Representing Crockett County, from left: Frankie McCord and Harold Nance

From left: Tracey Exum and Janna Hellums, both of Jackson
The course registration fee is $45 per student.

The UT Martin Jackson Center is located at 3031 Hwy 45 Bypass in Jackson. For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree courses, general classes and the Jackson location.
Trenton native prepares for career in the military

ERIN CHESNUT
SPECIAL FOR THE SUN

MARTIN - Remington Burch started his freshman year at the University of Tennessee at Martin two weeks later than his classmates, but not for reasons one might expect.

Burch, now preparing to start his junior year, joined the Tennessee National Guard while still in high school and was training with his unit when the UT Martin fall semester began in 2015.

"I went to basic training between my junior and senior years of high school, and then I went to my advanced training between my senior year of high school and college. So I actually arrived at UT Martin two weeks late. It was basically test time when I got here, so I had a lot of catching up to do," he said.

He hasn't let the late start slow him down though, and now the Trenton native is a third-year cadet in UT Martin's ROTC Program — known as Skyhawk Battalion — and recently completed Air Assault School at Ft. Benning, Alabama. There, he learned to repel out of helicopters, load equipment into a special sling to be carried by helicopters, and inspect those slings and equipment for proper installation. He and his fellow trainees also completed almost two weeks of grueling physical and mental exertion.

"It's actually called the 10 toughest days in the Army because you're constantly going. Probably one of the hardest parts of Air Assault School was knowing that at any time you could be sent home — not re-started, but sent home completely — and having your buddies beside you start disappearing throughout the training because they're going home," he said. "Even on the last day when we knew that all we had to do was the final 12-mile ruck march and the final inspection, even when you knew that in four hours you could have your wings, I was still worried that something would happen."

Burch was the only UT Martin ROTC cadet to attend Air Assault School this year. He received an honorable discharge from the Tennessee National Guard last fall to allow him to compete against his fellow ROTC cadets for an active duty commission upon graduation.

"Active duty is very competitive. After your third year, you go to advanced camp, and you are assessed... Then, in the fall of my senior year, I will find out if I get active duty or not," he said. His selection for, and completion of, a special program such as Air Assault School will go a long way toward securing a higher cadet rank and an active duty assignment.

"They do what are called assessment points, where you are assessed on everything from your GPA to your PT (physical training) score, to how well you actually work with others and how well you do at advanced camp. Then they give you a number," Burch said. "It all depends on the needs of the Army. So if they say, 'Ok, the top 60 percent will get active duty this year,'... the other people would go to the reserve components."

Burch will rank the infantry and aviation units high in his preferences, but his ultimate assignment will also depend on the needs of the Army at the time of his commission.

Being part of the ROTC Program takes dedication and discipline, traits Burch displays in abundance.

"It really comes down to how much effort you put into it," he said. "It's not necessarily hard because I enjoy it. I don't see it so much as a burden but as an opportunity. Even though we have to be at PT at 6:30 every morning, Monday through Thursday, after doing it, then you're just waking up at normal time. It's not as hard as some people would say it is, if you actually want to do it."

Burch is studying criminal justice and hopes to complete a 20-year military career before applying his degree in the civilian world.
Eclipse Q&A

Continued from Page 1A

Question: What makes the eclipse so much more dangerous than any other time?
Answer: "The danger of the eclipse isn't in the event itself. It's in the staring. Sunlight is still getting through to Earth if the eclipse isn't a total eclipse, and that's what damages the eyes. Staring at the sun for a few seconds or longer during an eclipse is the same as staring at it on a bright sunny day for the same amount of time. We don't detect as much light, so we think it's OK to stare at it — but it's not."

Q: What separates quality glasses to view the sun from those that shouldn't be used?
A: "That's kind of a tricky question. Just like anything else, businesses can cut corners to make money, unfortunately. In general, if you get them from a public source — like we got some from our local library — you can depend on the assumption that those are safe. If you buy them from commercial services, be careful. You can go to websites like NASA.com or astronomy.com to see if you can find something about the brands. A basic google search can show you if someone has said something or if there's been a recall."

Q: So if you're watching the eclipse, what's the safest way to look at it?
A: "Glance at it in short intervals. The eclipse will progress rather slowly as the moon will start to look like it's eating the sun at about 11 a.m. around here. Totality will not occur until a little after 1 p.m. So you really will not see anything by staring at it as it slowly moves across the face of the sun. If it's in the time of totality, you can see the corona, or the atmosphere of sun."

Q: Is this our only chance at seeing a total solar eclipse?
A: "No, there's typically a solar eclipse about once every two years or so somewhere in the world. It's just that most of them happen over the ocean, so no one is there to see them. There are actually companies who have what they call eclipse cruises where you can book a room on a cruise ship that will sail to where an eclipse will be visible. But those of us in this part of the world are fortunate because in 2024, there will be another eclipse further west. Reelfoot Lake will be on the eastern edge of totality. So we'll be in driving distance of another one in seven years."

Brandon Shields can be reached at bshields@jacksomsun.com or at 731-425-9751. Follow him on Twitter @JSEditor Brandon or on Instagram at editorbrandon.
FROM THE FARM TO THE TABLE — Farmers from the Martin Farmer’s Market delivered their goods last week and donated them to Sodexo for preparation of the annual Soybean Festival’s Homegrown Harvest Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. On hand for the donation were (from left) dinner organizer Suzanne Harper; Ed Mata of Sodexo; Anush Lazarian of Sodexo; Carol Reed of the Northwest Tennesse Entrepreneur Center; Christy Gooch of Sodexo; Martin Mayor Randy Brundige; Darlene Drummond of Sunnyside Farm in Martin; (kneeling, from left) farmer Richard Turnbow of Union City and Leo Konikowski of Camden; (seated, from left) Adrian Costa; Stephanie Sopher; and David Schmidt, all of Sodexo; Tim Brady of Dixie Chili Ranch/Sequoia Farm in Kenton; Sodexo General Manager Ken Bullock; Martin Community Development Director Brad Thompson; Local Food Network Coordinator Samantha Goyret and son Marco; Ben Markie of Sodexo; and Soybean Festival dinner coordinator Lynette Wagster. Not pictured were farmers Richard Gallagher of Hidden Hill Farm CSA in Dresden and Jill Magness and Richard Duncan from South Fulton.
UTM program connects students to businesses

By JENSON GREENBURG  
Press Reporter

Businesses in Weakley County now have a valuable opportunity to not only gain enthusiastic employees, but also to help local students gain priceless job experience.

UTM’s career planning and development office uses the Handshake program “to strengthen student engagement by allowing employers regionally, locally and nationally to recruit UT Martin students and alumni.” Students are able to set up an account and immediately be connected to dozens of employers eager to offer internships to able students. Employers are often located near Weakley County, though some students have gotten the opportunity to travel as far as Indiana for work.

While Handshake offers immense benefits for students working anywhere in the country, McCloud believes the program is very useful for helping students find opportunities that lie within Weakley County.

“We are encouraging local businesses to join,” he said. “It’s very beneficial to both the students and the employers.”

By hiring local students, McCloud said, businesses have the chance to train students who live near their workplace. By living close, students are then able to better meet the workplace demands, which will lead to more efficiency for everyone. In turn, this could let businesses potentially hire experienced full-time employees once the intern graduates.

“This will only lead to good hires,” McCloud said. Although McCloud’s office was only opened in November, it has already seen monumental success. Since Martin is not a busy location, McCloud said, employers often have a difficult time getting to the school to recruit. With Handshake, students and employers are connected online almost instantaneously.

“Before Handshake, it was hard getting enough employers,” he said. “Now we have access to companies all over the country. We have new companies posting openings daily.”

The program is available to all UTM students and has currently found internships for over 100 students. Careers are available for nearly all academic majors, including those in the schools of agriculture and applied science, business and global affairs, education, health and behavioral sciences, engineering and natural sciences, and humanities and fine arts.

“Once you identify the area you want to try, you can see all the opportunities available,” explained Mark McCloud, director of Career Planning and Development. “You can click on a business and get connected to them.”

Students or employers interested in Handshake can call (731)881-7712 or visit https://www.utm.edu/departments/careers/handshake.php for more information. UTM students may also access Handshake through their My UTM portal.
CLEANUP IS SATURDAY — The Martin Beautiful Committee will hold a “Home Sweet Home” cleanup event on Saturday. The event is designed to help prepare the community for the influx of visitors who will attend the Tennessee Soybean Festival which begins Sept. 2. Sign-in begins at 6:45 a.m. at Virginia Weldon Park in downtown Martin and cleanup begins at 7 a.m. Volunteers will perform general tasks including raking, moving tree limbs and picking up trash. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. Pictured here are members of Zeta Phi Beta sorority at the University of Tennessee at Martin, who helped with last year’s cleanup. Everyone is welcome to help. Register online at www.tnsoybeanfestival.org.

FEEDING THE TEAM — Tennova Healthcare-Volunteer Martin had the pleasure of providing a meal for UT-Martin’s football players and staff on Wednesday. Pictured here are THVM employees Debbie Simmons, Dana Lawrence, Sandy Budge, Darrell Blaylock, CEO, Sandi Wilkinson, Donna Barfield, and Tammie Bell.
Jackson State, UT Martin team up to help Tennessee Promise students
August 23, 2017
WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff

MARTIN, Tenn. — An agreement was sealed in ink Wednesday allowing college attendance to be a reality for more students in the Volunteer State.

The University of Tennessee at Martin, the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission signed a memorandum allowing students at Jackson State Community College under the Tennessee Promise scholarship to "seamlessly transfer" to UT Martin once they have completed an associate's degree under the program.

It is something the Chancellor of UT Martin could not be more excited about.

"We're letting the region know education is an option," UT Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver said. "It's not just for those folks that have the financial means. There are options for everyone to go to college."

Those in attendance said it is not about the individual institutions but about the students and education.
UTM announces process for new Strategic Plan

Aug 23, 2017

The University of Tennessee at Martin officially launched a new strategic planning process Aug. 14, which will result in a document intended to guide the university through 2023.

"It’s time that we start talking about who we are, what we can be and where we have an opportunity to be excellent in the next few years," said Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, during an administrative meeting on the subject. "I really want (UT) Martin to be a hub. I want it to be a cultural, intellectual and social center for the region."

Carver expects the new strategic plan to focus on key areas such as accreditation and a continued culture of academic assessment; targeted enrollment growth; and the perception of UT Martin in the area.

"Starting today, we’re going to be talking in a very intentional way about where we are headed," he said.

Tom Griscom, consultant, is serving as university adviser on the project. Griscom also assisted with the development of a strategic plan for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga in 2015.

The plan’s initial development phase will last until December of this year, at which point Griscom expects to have a clearly defined university vision with associated goals and outcomes for the next five years. Each step of the process will be openly measured, and all associated notes and decisions will be available online at utm.edu/strategic.

"This is not something where the chancellor stands up and says, 'This is what we did.' This is something where each of you can look and see what we need to do to get where we need to go," he said. Griscom has already facilitated interactions with more than 300 stakeholders in the university community to develop the plan’s framework and says there will be many more opportunities for students, faculty, staff, donors, alumni and community members to give input on the process.

"We want to be able to say that we tried as best we could to give anybody and everybody with an interest in UT Martin an opportunity to participate," he said. Interested parties will be able to join small-group discussions on campus and in the local area, and an online survey component will soon be available to gather input from afar.

"I don’t want this to be Chancellor Carver’s plan; I want this to be the UT Martin plan," said Carver. "I want (UT Martin) to be the destination of choice for public higher education in West Tennessee and beyond."

For more information on the UT Martin strategic plan initiative, visit utm.edu/strategic.
Carver selected to represent TN’s 4-year institutions

MARTIN, Tenn. – The Tennessee Higher Education Commission selected Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, to serve as the four-year implementation lead on Tennessee’s Complete College America state team.

Carver, who is entering his 20th year of service within the University of Tennessee System, joined six other team members, including a representative of Tennessee’s two-year institutions, at Complete College America’s Summer Action Summit on July 13-14 to kick off the national campaign.

Teams from 36 participating states plus the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Central Valley Higher Education Consortium from California met to discuss national and state-specific policies with regard to higher education and the increase of college completion rates.

According to completecollege.org, only 41 percent of full-time students at four-year flagship schools and 19 percent of full-time students at four-year non-flagship schools complete requirements for a bachelor’s degree within four years. These numbers rise to 75 percent and 48 percent, respectively, when students are given six years to complete their degrees. The Complete College Act strives not only to increase the number of Americans who finish their college degrees, but also to increase the number who finish within the intended four-year period.

UT Martin has already implemented the Soar in Four academic plan, approved by the UT Board of Trustees in June 2016, which encourages students to complete 15 credit hours per semester and complete their undergraduate degrees in four years. The tuition model also funded the creation of a new Office of Career Planning and Development, which helps students narrow their career goals and connect with potential internships and employers before graduation.

This model, combined with the efforts of the Complete College America teams, aims to help Gov. Bill Haslam’s higher education initiatives including the Tennessee STRONG Act and the Drive to 55 campaign.

For more information on Complete College America, visit completecollege.org.

Pharmacy Tech certification program available at UTM-P

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 50-hour training course for future pharmacy technicians from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 9-Dec. 9, at the UT Martin Parsons Center. Student tuition for the course is $1,199, which includes textbooks and supplies.

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

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

Class will not meet Oct. 14 or Nov. 25.

If an interested party has worked on a farm of any kind in the past two years, he or she may qualify for financial assistance through the Tennessee Opportunity Programs. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, career manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-896-4860.

For more information on the UT Martin course or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs, general classes and the Parsons location.
UT Martin introduces new medical program

Those wishing to prepare for a career in healthcare are invited to register for the clinical medical assistant program held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 9, 2017-Feb. 17, 2018, on the University of Tennessee at Martin's main campus. Student tuition for the program is $2,599, which includes all supplies and textbooks.

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

For more information about the course or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs, general classes and the Martin campus.

Fall classes to begin next week at Martin

Fall classes for the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus and all extended campus centers will begin at 8 a.m. Monday.

Some upperclassmen have already begun returning to the main campus, including residence hall assistants, student-athletes and members of some student life groups.

The incoming freshman class will arrive Friday for move-in mania and welcome weekend activities.

Late registration remains open until Sept. 1, which is also the last day for currently enrolled students to add or drop a course without record of attendance.

UT Martin classes will not meet Sept. 4 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

For additional information, contact the UT Martin Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020.

UTM class offered

The University of Tennessee at Martin will add an EKG technician certification program to the list of courses available at the UT Martin Ripley Center this fall. Those interested in becoming certified EKG technicians can enroll in a 50-hour training program from 8 a.m. to noon, Saturdays, Sept. 9-Dec. 16.

The registration fee is $999 per student, which includes all books and supplies.

This course is designed to prepare students to take the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians-Electrocardiograph Technicians' exam. Students will focus on the anatomy and physiology of the heart, medical disease processes, medical terminology and ethics, legal aspects of patient contact, use of the Holter monitor, electrocardiography and echocardiography.

Class will not meet on Oct. 14 or Nov. 25. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, career manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-696-4860.
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"I want (UT Martin) to be the destination of choice for public higher education in West Tennessee and beyond."
The University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor is celebrating record breaking retention rates and increased enrollment.

Chancellor Keith Carver praised university staff at the annual fall faculty meeting Tuesday, citing an 11 percent increase in first-time freshman enrollment.

Carver says UT Martin expects to break its record for freshman-sophomore retention rates with 76 percent of freshmen expected to return this year. Carver attributes rising enrollment to lower out-of-state tuition and early contact with high-school students.

UT Martin is a new partner in the Tennessee Pathways program, which helps introduce K-12 students to options after graduation.

UT Martin is still assessing final enrollment numbers and examining its budget. Carver says final reports will determine whether or not outsourcing custodial and maintenance work is necessary.
UTM fall classes to begin Monday

Full classes for the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus and all extended campus centers will begin at 8 a.m. on Monday.

Some upperclassmen have already begun returning to the main campus, including residence hall assistants, student-athletes and members of some student life groups. The incoming freshman class will arrive Aug. 25 for move-in mania and welcome weekend activities.

Late registration remains open until Sept. 1, which is also the last day for currently enrolled students to add or drop a course without record of attendance.

UT Martin classes will not meet Sept. 4 in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

For additional information, contact the UT Martin Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020.

Reading clinics to hold enrollment

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

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

Students may enroll in one of three sessions this fall: Sept. 4-28, Oct. 2-Nov. 7 or Nov. 8-Dec. 7.

Depending on personal needs, students can meet with a reading assistant either twice per week for $100 or four times per week for $200. Each meeting lasts one hour. Twice-weekly meetings will be held on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Each student must also purchase a $25 workbook for use during meetings.

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

Contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082 to schedule a testing appointment.

UTM adds five years to Stewart’s contract

UT Martin has signed head men’s basketball coach Anthony Stewart to a rolling five-year contract extension through the 2021-22 season, athletic director Kurt McGuffin announced today.

Stewart was the Skyhawks’ associate head coach for two seasons before he was elevated to head coach on April 21, 2016.

He proceeded to guide UT Martin to one of its best seasons in school history, as the Skyhawks tied a school record with 22 victories, clinched their first-ever outright Ohio Valley Conference West division championship, advanced to the OVC Tournament championship for the second consecutive season and made their third straight postseason appearance.

He was named as one of 21 finalists for the Ben Jobe National Coach of the Year Award in 2016-17.

"Coach Stewart has proven that he is a successful head coach and is a true leader," McGuffin said. "We wanted to reward him with an additional year as this move will also provide stability for our program. I look forward to continuing a winning partnership with coach Stewart for many seasons to come."

In Stewart’s debut season as a head coach in 2016-17, UT Martin shattered the program record for points (2,693), field goals (966), rebounds (1,312) and assists (555).

The Skyhawks accumulated the most home victories (14) and nonconference wins (10) since the school joined the Division-I ranks in 1992.

UT Martin has reeled off at least 20 wins in all three seasons since Stewart joined the Skyhawks in 2014. UT Martin has dialed up five postseason wins in that span – becoming the only OVC program to win at least one postseason game in each of the past three seasons.

"I’d like to thank Chancellor Keith Carver and athletic director Kurt McGuffin for their belief in me and continual support of our program," Stewart said. “We’ve made a ton of progress in my time at UT Martin and a lot of that credit is due to my phenomenal staff and student-athletes. It’s a true privilege to be the head coach of the Skyhawks as we continue this exciting era of UT Martin basketball.”
UT Martin To Offer New EKG Program

The University of Tennessee at Martin will add an EKG technician certification program to the list of courses available at the UT Martin Ripley Center this fall. Those interested in becoming certified EKG technicians can enroll in a 50-hour training program from 8 a.m. through noon, Saturdays, September 9th through December 16th.

This course is designed to prepare students to take the American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians – Electrocardiograph Technicians’ exam. Students will focus on the anatomy and physiology of the heart, medical disease processes, medical terminology and ethics, legal aspects of patient contact, use of the Holter monitor, electrocardiography and echocardiography.

Students will also practice with equipment and complete hands-on laboratories, including an introduction to the EKG machine, proper lead placement and other clinical practices, as well as proper reading of EKG results.

Class will not meet on October 14th or November 25th.

If an interested party has worked on a farm of any kind in the past two years, he or she may qualify for financial assistance through the Tennessee Opportunity Programs. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, career manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-696-4860.

For more information on the UT Martin course or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs, general classes and the Ripley location.
Martin and UTM co-host 24th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival

UTM Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver will serve as grand marshal of the 24th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, to be held Sept. 2-10 in Martin. UTM has again partnered with the city of Martin and other local sponsors to host the week-long festival.

The celebration includes events ranging from the traditional street fair, parade, and carnival to a classic car show, pro BMX stunt show, photography contest, and golf competitions of both the classic and disc varieties.

Events for children and teens, such as the Minecraft Farming Challenge and the "Be Our Guest" brunch and show, start on Saturday, Sept. 2. Faith and community night is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6, which will also be UTM student night.

Musical artists Air Supply, Clint Black, Echosmith, and Lynyrd Skynyrd will headline the concert schedule this year. A list of festival highlights includes:

TUESDAY, Sept. 5
6:30 p.m. – Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade, begins by Hardy M. Graham Stadium, free
8 p.m. – Live and Let Die (Paul McCartney tribute band), Festival Park stage, free

WEDNESDAY, Sept. 6
7 p.m. – Martin Area Community Choir, First Baptist Church sanctuary, free
9:30 p.m. – Echosmith, Festival Park stage, admission fee

THURSDAY, Sept. 7
8 p.m. – Clint Black, Soybean Celebration Concert, Festival Park stage, free
9 p.m. – Lynyrd Skynyrd, Festival Park stage, admission fee

FRIDAY, Sept. 8
5 p.m. – UTM World Percussion, Virginia Weldon Park stage, free
9 p.m. – Air Supply, Festival Park stage, admission fee

SATURDAY, Sept. 9
7 p.m. – The House Band

FESTIVAL HEADLINER- Clint Black will headline the Soybean Celebration Concert at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 7, as part of the 24th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival in Martin. Other lead artists include Lynyrd Skynyrd, Echosmith, and Air Supply.

and Friends (UTM and WLJT staff), Oxford St. Stage, free
9 p.m. – Lynyrd Skynyrd, Festival Park stage, admission fee

Ticket prices vary for events that charge an admission fee. Tickets can be purchased in advance at tnsoybeanfestival.org or at the gate beginning at 5 p.m. the day of the show, until the event is sold out. A complete list of the week's events can be found online at tnsoybeanfestival.org.

Pharmacy Tech Program available at UTM Parsons

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 50-hour training course for future pharmacy technicians from 8 a.m.-12:15 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 9-Dec. 9, at the UTM Parsons Center. Student tuition for the course is $1,199, which includes textbooks and supplies.

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

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

If an interested party has worked on a farm of any kind in the past two years, he or she may qualify for financial assistance through the Tennessee Opportunity Programs. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, career manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-696-4860.

Class will not meet Oct. 14 or Nov. 25. For more information on the program or to register, contact UTM at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs, general classes and the Parsons location.
University of Tennessee-Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver delivered his "state of the campus" address this week.

During the university's annual fall faculty meeting, Dr. Carver said he expects an incoming class of 1,054 first-time freshmen, which represents an 11-percent increase from the fall of 2016.

Dr. Carver added that 518 student transfers will also begin classes on Monday, which is a 10-percent increase over last year's numbers.

During his address, the Chancellor said UT-Martin expects to break an all-time record for freshman to sophomore retention.

Almost 76-percent of last year's freshmen class are expected to return back to the classroom on Monday.

Dr. Carver also touched on issues such as reaching out to high school students at an earlier time, taking advantage of the reduction for the universities out-of-state tuition, and creating partnerships with community colleges following the close of the first Tennessee Promise cycle.

Soar in four aims to save families money on college


MARTIN, TN – As many college students in our area prepare to embark on fall classes, we want to remind you the importance of graduating on time.

If a student doesn't complete a four-year degree on time, it can cost them or their parents more than $8,000 a year at nearby universities like Murray State University and the University of Tennessee at Martin.

At a local community college, it could cost more than an additional $4,000 a year.

This reality has lead UT Martin to its Soar in Four program. The goal is to encourage student so take 15 hours, rather than the full-time minimum of 12.

Simple math will show the effectiveness of the initiative. To obtain most bachelor's degrees, you must complete 120 hours. In order to do that in eight semesters, you must at least take 15 hours.

UTM charges a flat tuition rate, so students can take more hours at the same price.

They've also invested in the Student Success Center and Career Planning and Development departments. They say additional staff helps students decide on their majors and future jobs.
Destin Tucker, UTM Admission Director, says there is already evidence of its success. Last year their freshman class had a record-setting 75.9% retention rate. This means the majority of them returned for the spring semester.

We spoke to a few students and their families while on a trip to campus Friday. While UTM welcomed freshmen and their families with plenty of festivities and fun, Kimi Bruce was moving into our dorm to prepare for her sophomore year. She wants a degree in either criminal justice or graphic design. "I'm hoping to finish sooner than that (four years). I'm going to take some summer school and I'm hoping to get out of here in three years and get an internship."

Tucker says after four years on campus, you can lose grants or scholarships. "The culture on a lot of college campuses for the past several years has been, for our freshman students, to take the minimum, full-time load, just to get acclimated to campus. While I understand the sentiment of that, it really put the students behind in terms of graduation," she said.

Doris Berry and Linda Mineses, grandmother and mother to an incoming freshman aren't worried about their student. They know she'll finish on time. "Yes, we're very confident," Berry said. While she's sad to see her youngest granddaughter go, Mineses is excited for her daughter. "I'm ready for her to go on with her future and become the woman that I know she'll become and to come watch her play basketball."

Murray State University has a similar initiative called 15 to finish. It also aims to get students to take a minimum of 15 credit hours, without charging more money for an additional course load.
UT Martin welcomes one of their largest freshman classes

August 25, 2017 by Mandy Hrach (http://www.wbbjtv.com)

MARTIN, Tenn. — Thousands of students are preparing to begin their college careers at the University of Tennessee Martin.

With some heavy lifting, the freshman year begins. “It’s very welcoming, so I’m actually really comfortable here,” said Alexis Rogers, an incoming freshman.

She is one of 1,000 freshmen living on campus. She moved all the way from Chicago.

Every freshman dorm is filled this year, and officials say it’s because of good recruiting.

“I got recruited for softball, and I visited and loved the campus, so it was a perfect fit,” Rogers said.

But freshmen aren’t the only ones dealing with the transition.

“Packing him up was difficult, and thinking about waking up and not having him at home is difficult as well,” Mary Runnion said.

Runnion says she was prepared, but helping her son move out was difficult.

“We’re trying to be upbeat, and we want this to be a positive experience for him, so I am kind of hiding my emotions away,” she said.

Even though it’s a tough time for parents, faculty members said next month is family weekend.

“It goes without question this is hard, but we are doing everything we can to make this easier,” said Bud Grimes, director of community relations.

But Grimes says the most important goal is to make the students feel at home.

Alexis says she already does.

“It was easy. It took a while, but it hasn’t been bad,” she said.

Classes start Aug. 28.
JSCC, UTM team up to make higher education easier for students

BRANDON SHIELDS
USA TODAY - TENNESSEE NETWORK

Students at Jackson State Community College have a better opportunity at making an easy transfer to UT Martin. Representatives from both schools, along with the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, were in Jackson Wednesday morning to formalize plans for the UT Martin Elam Transfer Promise.

"Along with the Tennessee Promise, this ensures students an easier path to a degree and a higher education," THEC Executive Director Mike Krause said. "The administrations at both schools worked hard to make this happen because both of them are committed to making decisions for the students."

UTM Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver and Jackson State President Dr. Allana Hamilton were the leaders involved in making the agreement happen. Board of Regents Chancellor Dr. Flora Tydings was also on hand to make the agreement official.

"The work both Dr. Carver and Dr. Hamilton have done during their time

See JSCC, Page 6A

UTM offering personalized reading classes for grades 2-12

MARTIN - Every student has different reading abilities, and some need a little extra assistance that may not be provided during a normal school day. The University of Tennessee at Martin Reading Center offers personalized reading clinic sessions for students in grades 2-12 who have difficulty reading or are falling behind grade level reading standards.

Students may enroll in one of three sessions this fall: Sept. 4-28, Oct. 2-Nov. 7 or Nov. 8-Dec. 7. Depending on personal needs, students can meet with a reading assistant either twice per week for $100 or four times per week for $200. Each meeting lasts one hour. Twice-weekly meetings will be held on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Each student must also purchase a $25 workbook for use during meetings.

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

Contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082 to schedule a testing appointment.
Soybean Festival packed with activities, concerts

BY BILL MCCUTCHEON
POST-INTELLIGENCER

The annual Tennessee Soybean Festival in Martin kicks off tomorrow with the Soybean Festival Pageant in the Harriet Fulton Theater of the University of Tennessee at Martin Fine Arts Building.

The festival then picks up speed the next weekend with various events including the fourth annual Guitar Art Contest Exhibition in the art gallery in the UTM Fine Arts Building at 2 p.m. on Sept. 3.

The Martin Community Band will be in concert at 5:30 p.m. at the Virginia Weldon Park. Rachel Taulbee, a singer/songwriter and entertainer living in Denver, will be featured with the band.

Of course, there's a midway each night from 5-11 p.m. from Sept. 5-9.

The annual Soybean Festival Parade is set for 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 5. UTM and its chancellor, Keith Carver, will serve as grand marshal of both the parade and the entire festival.

There are other special concerts scheduled throughout the festival.

At 8 p.m. on Sept. 5, “Live and Let Die,” a tribute to Paul McCartney is set for Festival Park. Tony Kishman, a veteran of the Broadway hit, “Beatlemania.” The free show features a five-piece band led by Kishman.

The Martin area community choir will present a program at 7 p.m., Sept. 6, during a faith and community night at First Baptist Church.

It’s UT Martin student night at 9:30 p.m. Sept. 6 at Festival Park. Echosmith, an American indie pop band formed in 2009 in California, will be featured. Originally formed as a quartet of siblings, the band currently consists of Sydney, Noah and Graham Sierota, following the departure of eldest sibling Jamie in late 2016. Echosmith started first as “Ready Set Go!” until they signed to Warner Bros. Records in May 2012.

They are best known for their hit song “Cool Kids,” which reached No. 13 on the Billboard Hot 100 and was certified double platinum by the RIAA with over 1,200,000 sales in the United States.

Thursday night, Sept. 7, the soybean celebration concert is set for Festival Park, featuring country music star Clint Black. The concert is free and begins at 8 p.m.
There are also two groups with UTM connections set for Sept. 8. The World Percussion group performs at 5 p.m. at Virginia Weldon Park. Then, the Jamaica Me Happy band performs there at 6:30 p.m. It is a six-person steel drum band that performs traditional calypso music from Trinidad and the greater Caribbean, but also favorite hits from the '70s, '80s, '90s and much more.

At the Festival Park main stage, Air Supply performs at 9 p.m. on Sept. 8. Tickets range from $5-$15. Air Supply is an Australian soft rock duo consisting of singer-songwriter and guitarist Graham Russell and lead vocalist Russell Hitchcock. They had a succession of hits worldwide, including eight Top Ten hits in the United States, in the early 1980s. The Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) inducted Air Supply into their Hall of Fame in 2013.

The next night, Sept. 9, on the Festival Main Stage, Lynyrd Skynyrd will perform at 9 p.m. Tickets range from $35-$50.

The band's legacy began almost 50 years ago in Jacksonville, Fla., but was halted for a decade by the 1977 plane crash that killed three band members. Since then, the band has tragically lost four other members.

Still, Lynyrd Skynyrd rocks on, standing "still unbroken." "People may say, 'they need the money,' but I don't think any of need the money," says Johnny Van Zant.

"It's just that we love the music, it's bigger than the money, it's not even about that anymore," he says.

"We have to make a living, sure, but it's about the legacy of Lynyrd Skynyrd and what it stands for, what the fans are all about."

With a catalog of over 60 albums, sales beyond 30 million worldwide and their class American rock anthem "Sweet Home Alabama" having over 2 million downloaded ringtones, the band remains a cultural icon that appeals to all generations.

Concert tickets can be purchased in advance at tnsoybeanfestival.org or at the gate, space permitting on the days of the shows.

A complete list of the week's events can also be found online at tnsoybeanfestival.org.
UTM's Carver evaluates state of campus before fall semester

ERIN CHESNUT
UT MARTIN

MARTIN - University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Keith Carver delivered a “state of the campus” address on Tuesday during the university’s annual fall faculty meeting.

After the introduction of new faculty and staff members from various academic and administrative areas, Carver took the stage to discuss the university’s current challenges and triumphs and give an update on future plans.

According to Carver, UT Martin expects an incoming class of 1,054 first-time freshmen to arrive on campus in the coming weeks. This is just over an 11-percent increase as compared to the incoming freshman class in fall 2016. The numbers for transfer students are also up, with 518 transfer students expected to begin classes on Monday. This is just over a 10-percent increase from the number of transfer students who began last fall.

“I want to thank all of you; this is good news. This represents the hard work of a lot of people in this room,” said Carver.

He praised the efforts of the university admissions staff, faculty and staff members who make time to meet with potential students and their families, and the custodial and grounds maintenance crews who keep the campus beautiful throughout the year.

Due in large part to their efforts, UT Martin expects to break its record for freshman-to-sophomore retention rates for the second consecutive year. Carver says almost 76 percent of last year’s freshman class are expected to return for their sophomore year, making this the highest retention rate in university history.

Although overall university enrollment will still be down in terms of total headcount, the promising increase in incoming freshmen indicates that times may be changing for UT Martin. While it will take a few years to rebound former enrollment numbers, Carver says the university is “refilling the pipeline” one semester at a time.

Carver says UT Martin is reaching out to high school students earlier than ever, and this approach is beginning to produce results.

“Every (high school) sophomore and junior in all 95 Tennessee counties who meet our admissions criteria have already heard from us, and the results and interactions we’re having with them have been incredible,” he said. “We’ve already, in 2017, had more visits to our website and more interactions through social media than we’ve ever had in our history. ... We’re creating a culture where we’re getting our name out there, and it’s attracting people back to look at what we do.”

The UT Board of Trustees’ decision in summer 2016 to allow for a reduction in UT Martin’s out-of-state tuition has also yielded results, with a higher number of out-of-state students considering UT Martin as a similar or more-affordable alternative to universities in their re-
With the first Tennessee Promise cycle coming to a close, UT Martin is creating partnerships with community colleges to reach those students who are looking to finish their degrees at four-year institutions. The university has established the Elam Transfer Promise scholarship for eligible transfer students to aid their transition to UT Martin’s four-year program.

“We are locking arms with our community colleges across the state ... and this (scholarship) is going to signal to community colleges all over that we want their students, we’re going to recruit them early, and we’re aligning ourselves with the (Tennessee) Promise name,” said Carver. “We will be the first and only public institution in the state of Tennessee to do this, and we are very proud of that.”

Carver also announced that the state of Tennessee has reached out to UT Martin as a partner in the Tennessee Pathways program, which helps K-12 students statewide discover the various options available after high school graduation, including both four-year and two-year schools, trade and technical schools, and other professional certification programs.

As part of this partnership, UT Martin will soon house a Tennessee Pathways office, which will bring stakeholders in the K-12 education community together to discuss best practices and the future educational health of Tennessee’s students.

“When we’re talking to K-12 classroom instructors, principals, guidance counselors, school and county superin tendents, they’re going to be convening here,” said Carver. “They’re going to be on our campus and seeing what UT Martin has to offer, and I hope this will be the first of many opportunities for the state to say, ‘Why don’t we go to Martin?’ I think we are ready to answer the call.”

Carver also briefly touched on budget restrictions and the questions surrounding the potential outsourcing of custodial and maintenance functions. He says the total impact of enrollment on this year’s operating budget will not be known until after the fall semester begins and final headcounts are determined. However, he pledged to minimize the impact to academic programs and students as much as possible.

As for the issues surrounding outsourcing of services, Carver says each University of Tennessee campus still has the option to opt in or out of the proposed outsourcing contract once final service estimates have been received. He hopes to have those final numbers available before the fall UT Board of Trustees board meeting.

Carver ended his remarks by telling the story of Ann Aspin, a current student from Kenya and All-American athlete for track and field.

“When you talk to Ann about what makes this place special, she says it’s the relationships. It’s the relationships with her teammates and with her coaches, and it’s the relationships she has with the students in her classes and those she rooms with. But it’s also how the faculty have made her feel here,...

“That’s the power of one,” he said. “One student at a time, one dream at a time, makes all the difference.”

Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, is shown giving his "State of the Campus" address during the fall 2017 faculty meeting on Tuesday.
UTM to offer phlebotomy, digital photography classes this fall

ERIN CHESNUT
UT MARTIN

MARTIN - The University of Tennessee at Martin is offering a couple of new classes this semester.

UTM will offer a 90-hour phlebotomy technician training course from 6-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 12-Dec. 14, on the UT Martin main campus. Student tuition for this course is $1,799, which includes textbooks and supplies.

This program prepares students to collect blood specimens from clients for the purpose of laboratory analysis. Students will also develop comprehensive skills to perform venipunctures completely and safely.

Classroom and lab work includes terminology, anatomy and physiology, blood collection procedures, specimen hands-on practice, and training in skills and techniques to perform puncture methods.

The National Healthcare Association certification exam is given at the end of the course and costs an additional $105. The instructor will arrange for registration and payment prior to the exam. There is no outside externship rotation included with this program.

Class will not meet Nov. 23. This same course is also available at the UT Martin Jackson Center from 5:15-8:45 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 12-Dec. 19.

If an interested party has worked on a farm of any kind in the past two years, he or she may qualify for financial assistance through the Tennessee Opportunity Programs. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, career manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-696-4860.

UTM also will offer a four-week course on basic digital camera operation from 6-9 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 5, and Mondays, Sept. 11-15, on the main campus.

Photographers of all skill levels are encouraged to apply, either for a first introduction or a refresher of the basics. Participants will learn to use the camera’s various features and functions as well as a few key strategies for successful photos. Attendees must bring a digital camera and the associated owner’s manual to class for reference.

Dr. Tom Gallien, photography instructor, will direct the course. To view examples of Gallien’s photography work, visit his website at moliebiscuit.com.

Pre-registration is required. The course fee is $125 per person. For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/martin.php and select “photography and photoshop.”
ADDRESSING THE FUTURE — Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, is shown giving his "State of the Campus" address during the fall 2017 faculty meeting Aug. 22.

UTM sets record for retention rate

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Keith Carver delivered a "state of the campus" address Aug. 22 during the university’s annual fall faculty meeting.

After the introduction of new faculty and staff members from various academic and administrative areas, Carver took the stage to discuss the university’s current challenges and triumphs and give an update on future plans.

According to Carver, UT Martin expects an incoming class of 1,054 first-time freshmen to arrive on campus in the coming weeks. This is just over an 11 percent increase as compared to the incoming freshman class in fall 2016. The numbers for transfer students are also up, with 518 transfer students expected to begin classes Monday. This is just over a 10 percent increase from the number of transfer students who began last fall.

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Due in large part to their efforts, UT Martin expects to break its record for freshman-to-sophomore retention rates for the second consecutive year. Carver says almost 76 percent of last year’s freshman class are expected to return for their sophomore year, making this the highest retention rate in university history.

Although overall university enrollment will still be down in terms of total

See UTM, Page 4
UTM,
FROM PAGE 1
headcount, the promising increase in incoming freshmen indicates that times may be changing for UT Martin. While it will take a few years to rebuild former enrollment numbers, Carver says the university is “refilling the pipeline” one semester at a time.
Carver says UT Martin is reaching out to high school students earlier than ever, and this approach is beginning to produce results.
“Every (high school) sophomore and junior in all 95 Tennessee counties who meet our admissions criteria have already heard from us, and the results and interactions we’re having with them have been incredible,” he said.
“We’ve already, in 2017, had more visits to our website and more interactions through social media than we’ve ever had in our history. We’re creating a culture where we’re getting our name out there, and it’s attracting people back to look at what we do.”
The UT Board of Trustees’ decision in summer 2016 to allow for a reduction in UT Martin’s out-of-state tuition has also yielded results, with a higher number of out-of-state students considering UT Martin as a similar or more-affordable alternative to universities in their respective states.
With the first Tennessee Promise cycle coming to a close, UT Martin is creating partnerships with community colleges to reach those students who are looking to finish their degrees at four-year institutions. The university has established the Elam Transfer Promise scholarship for eligible transfer students to aid their transition to UT Martin’s four-year program.
“We are locking arms with our community colleges across the state ... and this [scholarship] is going to signal to community colleges all over that we want our students, we’re going to recruit them early, and we’re aligning ourselves with the [Tennessee] Promise name,” said Carver. “We will be the first and only public institution in the state of Tennessee to do this, and we are very proud of that.”
Carver also announced that the state of Tennessee has reached out to UT Martin as a partner in the Tennessee Pathways program, which helps K-12 students statewide discover the various options available after high school graduation, including both four-year and two-year schools, trade and technical schools, and other professional certification programs.
As part of this partnership, UT Martin will soon house a Tennessee Pathways office, which will bring stakeholders in the K-12 education community together to discuss best practices and the future educational health of Tennessee’s students.
“When we’re talking to K-12 classroom instructors, principals, guidance counselors, school and county superintendents, they’re going to be convening here,” said Carver. “They’re going to be on our campus and seeing what UT Martin has to offer, and I hope this will be the first of many opportunities for the state to say, ‘Why don’t we go to Martin?’ I think we are ready to answer the call.”
Carver also briefly touched on budget restrictions and the questions surrounding the potential outsourcing of custodial and maintenance functions. He says the total impact of enrollment on this year’s operating budget will not be known until after the fall semester begins and final headcounts are determined. However, he pledged to minimize the impact to academic programs and students as much as possible.
As for the issues surrounding outsourcing of services, Carver says each University of Tennessee campus still has the option to opt in or out of the proposed outsourcing contract once final service estimates have been received. He hopes to have those final numbers available before the full UT Board of Trustees board meeting.
Carver ended his remarks by telling the story of Ann Asipan, a current student from Kenya and All-American athlete for track and field.
“When you talk to Ann about what makes this place special, she says it’s the relationships. It’s the relationships with her teammates and with her coaches, and it’s the relationships she has with the students in her classes and those she rooms with. But it’s also how the faculty have made her feel here....
“That’s the power of one,” he said. One student at a time, one dream at a time, makes all the difference.
THE MAGIC OF ART AND MUSIC — Liam, a young visitor to the Guitar As Art exhibit last year, was amazed by what he saw when his dad showed him around.

Photo by Linda Thurston

24th Tennessee Soybean Festival begins Saturday

The 24th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival begins this weekend with fun, art, crafts and music for everyone.

On Saturday, the Minecraft Farming Challenge will be held at the University of Tennessee at Martin at Gooch Hall Room 325. The Be Our Guest Brunch and Children’s Show, with morning and afternoon show times, will take place in the Duncan Ballroom at UTM, and the Biodiesel Truck and Tractor Pull will be held at the Martin Recreation Complex at 7 p.m.

The Guitar As Art Contest will be on exhibit at the Fine Arts Building on the UTM campus, the Optimist Club Bicycle Rodeo is Sunday afternoon at the recreation complex, followed by the Sunday Sundown Concert and Fireworks Spectacular, also at the complex.

Monday will include the Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest at the C.E. Weldon Library, the Makers Faire art exhibit in downtown Martin, Magical Martin Day at Virginia Weldon Park, the Martin Community Band with Rachel Taulbee, also at the park, and the Festival Talent Contest at Festival Park.

On Tuesday, the Friends of the Library will hold a used book sale; the History of Farming Exhibit opens at the library; the Junior Photography and Art Contest Exhibit will be on display at Northwest TN Repurpose; the festival midway opens with armband night.

To finish off the evening, the Soybean Festival Parade will travel University and Lindell Street and the “Live and Let Die” tribute concert will be free to the public at Festival Park.

For more details on any of these events, visit tennesseeoybeansfestival.org.
Learning the ropes
UTM’s teaching farm helps ag students get up close and personal with livestock industry

As an agriculture-based school, the University of Tennessee at Martin prides itself on many things. At first thought, one might think about the very low student-to-teacher ratios, the small class sizes, the hands-on experience that each student gets, or the overall success and degrees attained by graduates from UTM. But there are other vital aspects of the university that reap a myriad of benefits and bring students a valued education; one is the UTM Teaching Farm.

The UTM Teaching Farm Complex is 640 acres that include the Ned McWherter Agricultural Pavilion, the West Tennessee Diagnostic Lab, and the Smith Center. Each of these areas hosts a variety of events, and has more to offer to students and the community than most universities. The UTM Teaching Farm Complex provides ample opportunities dealing with swine, sheep, goats, cattle, horses, and even bees. These aspects of the farm are used as hands-on teaching tools for students, and provide a great platform for students to learn from, furthering their agriculture knowledge.

The UTM farm offers an extensive beef program and operation. The farm utilizes educational student labor through the beef farm operations. The funding from the beef operation helps to further the UTM Teaching Farm Complex.

This is a cow-calf operation. This operation is split into fall and spring calving herds. With the herd split into two separate breeding times, students can observe both parts of the process. This means that many students will get to watch breeding and see the calf herd produced. “This allows us to provide the maximum amount of hands-on experience we can provide for our students here at UTM,” said Dr. Emalee Buttrey.

This operation is primarily Angus based, although there are two registered Simmental cows. With the artificial insemination, we used Simmental, polled Hereford, Angus and Gelbvieh.

In terms of beef cattle production classes there is the beef cow calf production class and the stocker and feedlot cattle production class. The feedlot class takes a trip each semester to tour feedlots and other facets of the cattle industry. In years past the class has taken the trips to Texas and Oklahoma.

The beef cattle operation at UTM utilizes artificial insemination and estrous synchronization as two ways of reproductive technologies. The herd is synchronized and set at a fixed time with artificial insemination, although there is also an Angus bull for “cleanup work.” With the

From a teaching standpoint, this is a way to demonstrate the benefits of crossbreeding

GOOD NEWS — Hannah Alexander checks a cow for pregnancy.

Story and photos by Rachel Fulcher
calves are used for the livestock classes and used for regional youth events such as the West Tennessee Region FFA Livestock Career Development Event.

Each cow on the farm gets a pregnancy check, body condition score, routine vaccinations, synchronized artificial insemination to breed with the calves, a sex and calving score based on ease of calving, as well as udder and teat scores on the cows at both calving and weaning stage. Farm students and faculty make sure that each calf is up and nursing. They are weighed between six and eight months of age. At this point the calf heifers are retained.

Once these calves are weaned they can be used in the halter breaking and showmanship class in a livestock show at the end of the semester. Some heifers are retained as replacements, and some steers are fed out for freezer beef, with the reminder of these cows simply being sold. Each intricate aspect of this operation helps to gives students a hands-on experience of the cow-calf operation.

Another facet of the beef operation on the farm is the stocker backgrounding program. The farm brings in about 500 head of cattle each year. They get the full run-through on this operation. The farm gets calves in that are purchased out of Middle Tennessee sale barns, and are then delivered to the UTM Teaching and Demonstration Farm. The stocker program provides a variety of animal science and veterinary health technology courses, courses that are not offered at other universities in the area. This gives students the opportunity the opportunity to run through the process that freshly weaned calves need. This includes documenting individual body weight, ear tag identification, a dose of metaphylactic antibiotics, and other vaccinations to protect against viral and bacterial diseases that are prevalent in our region. If needed they will tip the horns, a process like clipping finger nails, to help prevent injury to that animal, other animals and humans, while also protecting meat quality.

We utilize the principles of low-stress handling with the cattle. Animal health and wellbeing are practiced. Classes have labs on this low-stress handling. We complete breeding soundness exam on bulls.

“We can check semen both semen quantity and quality, with a variety of other characteristics,” said Dr. Buttrey.

Aside from the academics, the UTM beef operation is involved in the Student Cattlemen’s Association. The Student Cattlemen’s Association is for students who are interested in cattle or wish to pursue a future in the beef industry to come together, share a common interest, and grow together, while learning more about the industry they love. This organization is very beneficial for all members
involved. I got a chance to talk to Hudson McCallister, 2017-2018 President of the club about what SCA has brought to her and what they do.

"The Student Cattlemen’s Association is striving to provide its members the opportunity to learn about the cattle industry while also having fun," Hudson said. "We want our members to create the relationships with fellow students as well as community members that can be used in the future."

"The UTM Student Cattlemen’s Association has tremendously impacted my life not only as a student at UT Martin but outside of it as well. There is so much hands-on work with cattle that not many people get the opportunity to do while in college. SCA not only was a club, but it was like a family. The people you get to network with is truly amazing! If it wouldn’t have been for the UTM Student Cattlemen’s Association I probably wouldn’t be where I am today!” said Dustyn Watson, a former Student Cattlemen’s Member and current Decatur County Extension Agent.

The Student Cattlemen’s Association used the testicles from castrating in the lab for extracurricular activities this past year. They hosted the “Testicle Festival” in November. This event was used for men’s health awareness to educate about testicular cancer. All proceeds from this event went to funds for testicular cancer.

"UTM SCA accomplished a lot in the previous school year,” said Samantha Knight, a former SCA member. "Through the many activities we attended, hosted, or participated in, my favorite would have to be the annual Testicle Festival. I believe incorporating our community into our association was one of the most rewarding activities we were privileged with. We also attended the Tennessee Cattlemen’s convention and some of our officers worked for the Tennessee Association or sat at our booth. It was a very cool experience working as an ambassador for the animal agriculture community."

The UTM beef operation is a strong facet of the UT Martin Teaching Farm Complex. This operation gives students an opportunity to gain a hands-on experience with cattle in a variety of ways. The farm does an excellent job at providing the best possible platform for students to learn in a career-type livestock industry.

At UTM Animal Science, we aren’t just hands on, we’re hands in.
CHECKUP — (From left) Nolen Fussel, Hannah Alexander, and Dustyn Watson put a cow in the head chute to give it shots, check ear tags, and give medications.

Downtown Martin streets to close for festival

As the Tennessee Soybean Festival prepares to open its doors for another year of festivities, street closings will begin Wednesday. Main Street will be closed from Lindell to Central, and Lindell Street will be closed from University to Oxford for bleacher construction. Both streets will remain closed through Monday except for the parade.

On Saturday, both Central and Lindell Street will be closed from University to Park for Magical Martin Day from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

On Monday, Oxford Street will be closed from Lindell to the alley for stage construction. Lindell Street will reopen for the Soybean Festival Parade on Tuesday night and reclose after the parade.

Main Street, Lindell Street and Oxford Street will remain closed until the conclusion of the festival and until the stage and bleachers are removed.
5K WINNERS — Overall winners of the 5K Blackout Run were Caitlyn Sheffield (left) and Blake Gallimore.

The Banner • McKenzie, Tennessee • Tuesday, August 29, 2017

UT Martin Chancellor’s Honor Roll

McKenzie’s Gaye Coleman Earns Highest Honors

COURTESY NATHAN MORGAN
UTM University Relations

MARTIN — The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 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.

Henry County student Gaye L. Coleman of McKenzie earned Highest Honors.

Chancellor’s Honor Roll honorees with ties to Caroll County included Dyersburg’s Emily M. Swallows-High Honors.

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).
UTM names summer honor roll

MARTIN, Tenn. — The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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In addition, the Chancellor’s Honor Roll honorees with ties to Gibson County include:


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

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 Chancellor's Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences, and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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James R. Moore, of South Fulton, Highest Honors.

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

UTM names local students to summer semesters Chancellor's Honor Roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 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).

Bath Springs - Madison B. Montgomery, Highest Honors.
Parsons - Chesley J. Baker, High Honors;
Zachariah A. Thomas, Highest Honors.

In addition, the Chancellor's Honor Roll honorees with ties to Decatur County include:
Savannah - Melanie N. Hanson, Highest Honors.

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

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

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

Students may enroll in one of three sessions this fall: Monday through Sept. 28; Oct. 2-Nov. 7; or Nov. 8-Dec. 7.

Depending on personal needs, students can meet with a reading assistant either twice per week for $100 or four times per week for $200. Each session lasts one hour. Twice-weekly meetings will be held on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule.

Each student must also purchase a $25 workbook for use during meetings.

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

Contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at (731) 881-7082 to schedule a testing appointment.

At the college level

Several students from Obion County were recently named to the summer semester Chancellor's Honor Roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The honorees include:
- Hornbeak — Jessica D. LaMastus, highest honors.
- Obion — Amber L. Cunningham, highest honors.
- Rives — Taylor B. Morrow, highest honors.
- South Fulton — James R. Moore, highest honors.
- Union City — Darcey H. Jones, high honors; Kaysee L. Mathenia, highest honors; Shawn A. Weak, highest honors; and Aundrea G. Williams, highest honors.

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University, chancellor to be grand marshal

The University of Tennessee at Martin and its chancellor, Dr. Keith Carver, will serve as grand marshal of the 24th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, set for Saturday through Sept. 10 in Martin.

The week-long celebration includes events ranging from the traditional street fair, parade and carnival to a classic car show, pro BMX stunt show, photography contest and golf competitions of both the classic and disc varieties.

Musical artists Lynyrd Skynyrd, Air Supply, Clint Black and Echosmith will headline the concert schedule this year.

Photo course available

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a four-week course on basic digital camera operation starting 6-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from Sept. 11-25 on campus.

Photographers of all skill levels may apply, either for a first introduction or a refresher of the basics.

Participants will learn to use the camera’s various features and functions, as well as a few key strategies for successful photos. Attendees must bring a digital camera and the owner’s manual to class.

Dr. Tom Gallien, photography instructor, will direct the course. To view examples of his work, visit his website, molliebiscuit.com.

Pre-registration is required. The course fee is $125 per person.

To register, contact the Office of Educational Outreach at (731) 881-7104 or visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/martin.php and select “photography and photoShop.”
Carver reports state of campus

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver delivered a “state of the campus” address recently during the university’s annual fall faculty meeting.

After the introduction of new faculty and staff members from various academic and administrative areas, Carver took the stage to discuss the university’s current challenges and triumphs and give an update on future plans.

According to Carver, UT Martin expects an incoming class of 1,054 first-time freshmen to arrive on campus in the coming weeks. This is just over an 11 percent increase as compared to the incoming freshman class in fall 2016.

The numbers for transfer students are also up, and 518 transfer students were expected to begin classes Monday. This is just over a 10 percent increase from the number of transfer students who began last fall.

“I want to thank all of you; this is good news. This represents the hard work of a lot of people in this room,” Carver said.

He praised the efforts of the university admissions staff, faculty and staff members who make time to meet with potential students and their families, and the custodial and grounds maintenance crews who keep the campus beautiful throughout the year.

Due in large part to their efforts, UT Martin expects to break its record for freshman-to-sophomore retention rates for the second consecutive year. Carver said almost 76 percent of last year’s freshman class are expected to return for their sophomore year, making this the highest retention rate in university history.

Although overall university enrollment will still be down in terms of total headcount, the promising increase in incoming freshmen indicates that times may be changing for UT Martin. While it will take a few years to rebuild former enrollment numbers, Carver said the university is “refilling the pipeline” one semester at a time.

Carver said UT Martin is reaching out to high school students earlier than ever and this approach is beginning to produce results.

“Every (high school) sophomore and junior in all 95 Tennessee counties who meet our admissions criteria have already heard from us, and the results and interactions we’re having with them have been incredible,” he said.

“We’ve already, in 2017, had more visits to our website and more interactions through social media than we’ve ever had in our history. ... We’re creating a culture where we’re getting our name out there and it’s attracting people back to look at what we do.”

The UT Board of Trustees’ decision in summer 2016 to allow for a reduction in UT Martin’s out-of-state tuition has also yielded results, with a higher number of out-of-state students considering UT Martin as a similar or more-affordable alternative to universities in their respective states.

With the first Tennessee Promise cycle coming to a close, UT Martin is creating partnerships with community colleges to reach those students who are looking to finish their degrees at four-year institutions. The university has established the Elam Transfer Promise scholarship for eligible transfer students to aid their transition to UT Martin’s four-year program.

“We are locking arms with our community colleges across the state ... and this (scholarship) is going to signal to community colleges all over that we want their students, we’re going to recruit them early, and we’re aligning ourselves with the (Tennessee) Promise name,” Carver said. “We will be the first and only public institution in the state of Tennessee to do this, and we are very proud of that.”

Carver also announced that the state has reached out to UT Martin as a partner in the Tennessee Pathways program, which helps K-12 students statewide discover the various options available after high school graduation, including both four-year and two-year schools, trade and technical schools and other professional certification programs.

“That’s the power of one. One student at a time, one dream at a time, makes all the difference.”

— Dr. Keith Carver
UT Martin Chancellor
As part of this partnership, UT Martin will soon house a Tennessee Pathways office, which will bring stakeholders in the K-12 education community together to discuss best practices and the future educational health of Tennessee's students.

“When we’re talking to K-12 classroom instructors, principals, guidance counselors, school and county superintendents, they’re going to be convening here,” Carver said. “They’re going to be on our campus and seeing what UT Martin has to offer, and I hope this will be the first of many opportunities for the state to say, ‘Why don’t we go to Martin?’ I think we are ready to answer the call.”

Carver also briefly touched on budget restrictions and the questions surrounding the potential outsourcing of custodial and maintenance functions. He says the total impact of enrollment on this year’s operating budget will not be known until after the fall semester begins and final headcounts are determined. However, he pledged to minimize the impact to academic programs and students as much as possible.

As for the issues surrounding outsourcing of services, Carver said each University of Tennessee campus still has the option to opt in or out of the proposed outsourcing contract once final service estimates have been received. He hopes to have those final numbers available before the fall UT Board of Trustees board meeting.

Carver ended his remarks by telling the story of Ann Asipan, a current student from Kenya and All-American athlete for track and field.

“When you talk to Ann about what makes this place special, she says it’s the relationships. It’s the relationships with her teammates and with her coaches, and it’s the relationships she has with the students in her classes and those she rooms with. But it’s also how the faculty have made her feel here,” he said.

“That’s the power of one. One student at a time, one dream at a time, makes all the difference.”

The Lauderdale Voice, Wednesday, August 30, 2017

UTM announces honor students

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls.

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 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).

Students with a Lauderdale County connection that received honors included Hayley L. Gillion, highest honors, and Leah B. Jacobs, highest honors, both of Halls; Myeisha Lee, honors, and Cari A. Scott, highest honors, both of Ripley; and Aundrea G. Williams, highest honors, of Union City.

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

Years of planning and persistence paid dividends August 24, 2017, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that officially opened the new University of Tennessee at Martin Somerville Center in Fayette County. Elected and university officials and guests gathered at the center's sun-drenched front entrance to open the facility that will welcome students for fall classes that start Aug. 28.

The former Methodist Fayette Hospital has been transformed into a state-of-the-art higher education facility that features science and computer laboratory space, classrooms, conference rooms and offices. The center offers select degree programs and courses and will also concentrate on job-skills training and meeting the immediate needs of existing and prospective regional employers.

"This today is what happens when a great city, and a great county, and a great state, and great people pair together with a great university and create opportunities like Somerville," said Dr. Keith Carver. He added that part of UT Martin’s mission is to provide access and "that students in this region can have access and can dream, and we can equip them to pursue their dreams."

Other program speakers included Kara Tapp, Somerville Center director; Somerville Mayor Ronnie Neill; Fayette County Mayor Rhea "Skip" Taylor; State Rep. Ron Gant (R-District 94); State Sen. Delores Gresham (R-District 26); and Tennessee Lt. Gov. Randy McNally (R-District 5).

Discussions about a possible Fayette County higher education center began in 2004. The University of Tennessee and UT Martin became involved in 2012, a new building for the center was originally proposed, but the project was cost-prohibitive. Methodist Fayette Hospital then closed in March 2015, and Fayette County officials approached Methodist Healthcare about giving the facility to the town.

The facility was transferred to the town in July 2015, and Methodist Healthcare also gave the city $250,000 to assist with the facility’s renovation. The State Building Commission approved a lease on July 25, 2016, between the University of Tennessee and the city of Somerville to house the UT Martin Somerville Center in the former hospital building.

Earlier in 2016, the University of Tennessee General Assembly approved $250,000 in recurring funding for the center in the state’s 2016-17 budget. Also approved was $875,000 in one-time funding to support the facility’s renovation.

Gov. Bill Haslam visited Somerville on July 26, 2016, to formally present UT Martin with the total $1.125 million in funding from the state to establish the new center. A ground-breaking event was held December 7 to officially begin the renovation project that was completed in time for the 2017 fall semester.

"Not everybody has a chance to go take four years off their life and move and be a resident on campus somewhere," said Gov. Bill Haslam when he visited Somerville in July 2016 to announce the funding to establish the center. "Higher education looks different to everybody now. One of the keys is to make certain that it’s convenient for people who have other things going on in their lives. This campus is a real effort to do that."

More information about the center is available online at utm.edu, by contacting Kara Tapp at_ktappl_@utm.edu or by calling the center at 901-465-7313.

New UT Martin Somerville Center Officially Opens

Celebrating the UT Martin Somerville Center ribbon cutting and opening were (l to r) Bob Turner, administrator for the town of Somerville; Ellen Windley, architect; Planning Architects: Skip Taylor, Fayette County Mayor; Ronnie Neill, Somerville mayor; State Rep. Ron Gant (R-District 94); State Sen. Delores Gresham (R-District 26); Kara Tapp, UT Martin Somerville Center director; Tennessee Lt. Gov. Randy McNally (R-District 5); UT President Joe DiPietro; UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver; UT Martin Chancellor Emeritus Bob Smith; and Dr. Brian Donavant, interim executive director, UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach.
Several people received awards from UT Martin for their assistance in getting the center started in Somerville. UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver made the presentation to Molly McCarley (left), Mayor Ronnie Neill (center) and County Commissioner Steve Reeves (right). Not all honorees are pictured.

Left to right are Lt. Gov. Randy McNally, Attorney Gen. Mike Dunavant, and Deputy Attorney General Mark Davidson.


Oakland Mayor Chris Goodman, Circuit Court Judge Weber McCraw, and Mayor Ronnie Neill and wife, Carol Ann at the grand opening.
Dr. Jim Burnett has a classroom named for him after making a donation to UT Martin Somerville Center.

Rossville Mayor Judy Watters spoke with Mayor Neill at the UT Martin ribbon cutting last week.
UTM To Serve As Soybean Festival Grand Marshal

The University of Tennessee at Martin and its chancellor, Dr. Keith Carver, will serve as grand marshal of the 24th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, held Sept. 2-10 in Martin.

The weeklong celebration includes events ranging from the traditional street fair, parade and carnival to a classic car show, pro BMX stunt show, photography contest, and golf competitions of both the classic and disc varieties. Musical artists Lynyrd Skynyrd, Air Supply, Clint Black and Echosmith will headline the concert schedule this year.

UT Martin has again partnered with the city of Martin and other local sponsors to host the festival, and several planned events will be held on the university campus or feature UT Martin students, faculty and staff.

A list of these particular events is included below:

Sept. 2 – Minecraft Farming Challenge, hosted by the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center; ages 10-17; $10 advance registration; Gooch Hall, room 325; 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m.

Sept. 2 – Be Our Guest children's brunch and show; ages 4-12; $25 per child and $5 for adult gallery seats; costumes encouraged; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

Sept. 3 – Fourth-annual "Guitar As Art" contest and exhibition; Fine Arts Building Gallery; exhibit opens at 2 p.m. and awards will be given at 3 p.m.

Sept. 5 – Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade; begins on University Street in front of Hardy M. Graham Stadium; 6:30 p.m.

Sept. 6 – Crossroads Luncheon: A Celebration of Civic Organizations; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; noon-1 p.m.; RSVP to Steve Vantrease at svantrease@utfi.org

Sept. 6 – Alpha Gamma Rho cornhole tournament; Lindell Street; 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 8 – UT Martin World Percussion performance; Virginia Weldon Park stage; 5 p.m.

Sept. 9 – Break for Bach, featuring Dr. Elaine Harris, professor of music, and Bethany Ostenson; C. E. Weldon Public Library; 10-11 a.m.

Sept. 9 – The House Band and Friends, comprised of faculty and staff from UT Martin and WLJT; new Oxford Street Stage on the corner of Oxford and Lindell streets; 7 p.m.

Sept. 10 – Sodexo Sunday Brunch; Boling University Center, Skyhawk Dining Hall; 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The week's major concert schedule is as follows:

Sept. 5 – Live and Let Die, a tribute to Paul McCartney; free admission; 8 p.m.

Sept. 6 – Martin Area Community Choir, faith and community night; free admission; First Baptist Church sanctuary; 7 p.m.

Sept. 6 – Echosmith, UT Martin student night; 9:30 p.m.

Sept. 7 – Clint Black, soybean celebration concert; free admission; 8 p.m.

Sept. 8 – Air Supply; 9 p.m.

Sept. 9 – Lynyrd Skynyrd; 9 p.m.

The above concerts are all held on the Festival Park stage and require an admission fee, unless otherwise specified. Concert ticket prices vary, and tickets can be purchased in advance at tnsoybeanfestival.org or at the gate, space permitting, beginning at 5 p.m. the day of the show.

A complete list of the week's events can be found online at tnsoybeanfestival.org or on pages 32-34 of the printed festival book, available free of charge at many area businesses.

Soybean Festival Set To Kick-Off September 2

This year’s Soybean Festival in Martin kicks off on September 2 with a full day of events, including a free Sunday Sundown Concert and Fireworks Spectacular.

On Sep. 3, everyone is invited to enjoy a free evening of live entertainment with “Bluffett” Tribute to Jimmy Buffett Show, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Martin Park & Recreation Complex.

It will be followed by a spectacular Fireworks Celebration.

More free events take place on Sep. 4, including, the Martin Community Band with Rachel Taulbee, which will perform at Virginia Weldon Park, at 5:30 p.m. A Talent Contest will be held at Festival Park beginning at 6:00 p.m.

One of the acts scheduled to appear at this year’s Soybean Festival is the free concert “Live and Let Die”, which is a Tribute to Paul McCartney. The show is scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Sep. 5, on the main stage in Festival Park.

On Sep. 6, the Junior Photography & Art Contest will take place at Northwest TN Repurpose on N. Lindell Street from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

“An Evening with Clint Black” is a free event held on the main stage at Festival Park in downtown Martin. The show starts at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, Sep. 7.

The BMX Pros Stunt Show is on Sep. 8, starting at 10:00 p.m. at the City of Martin Municipal Building Parking Lot.

On Sep 9, the 21st Annual Car & Bike Show will be staged at First Baptist Church beginning at 10:00 a.m.
Local Students Named To UTM Summer Semester Honor Roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 Chancellor’s Honor Rolls for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, College of Business and Global Affairs, College of Education, Health, and Behavioral Sciences, College of Engineering and Natural Sciences and the College of Humanities and Fine Arts.

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Martin – Ednesha L. Brasher, Highest Honors; Jesse Burks, Highest Honors; Heather L. Butler, Honors; Lexie D. Forrester, High Honors; Addison N. Hazlewood, Highest Honors; Taylor P. Martin, High Honors; Stacy K. McGrath, High Honors; Alisa M. Quayle, Highest Honors; Makala C. Sitzes, Highest Honors; Katelyn M. Taylor, Highest Honors; Caitlyn A. Walker, High Honors; Kassi L. Wright, High Honors; Jason S. Ziegler, Highest Honors.

Sharon – Taylor N. Alderson, High Honors.

International – Ammar Albasha, Highest Honors; Wardah Alshaikhhuessain, High Honors; Mazen Alsuleman, High Honors; Ahmed Howaidi, High Honors; Salam Khuraiedah, Honors; Ahmed Tahnoon, Honors; Peitong Wang, Honors; Wenhe Zhu, Honors.

Local student on UTM honor roll

kmorris 20 hrs ago  http://www.chestercountyindependent.com/  8/31/2017

The University of Tennessee at Martin honored the outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students with publication of the Summer 2017 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.

Among those listed was local student Jake A. Melaro of Henderson who received Highest Honors.

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UT Martin announces schedule changes for some branches

August 31, 2017 by WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff

MARTIN, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin has announced schedule changes for some UTM branches due to inclement weather.

The main campus in Martin remains open and operating on regular schedule for Thursday, Aug. 31, according to a release from Bud Grimes with the UT Martin Office of University Relations.

The UT Martin Somerville Center has been closed Thursday, Aug. 31, because of the inclement weather threat.

Other UT Martin centers will close Thursday as follows:

• Jackson Center – Closes at 5 p.m.
• McNairy County/Selmer Center – Closes at 5 p.m.
• Parsons Center – Closes at 5 p.m.
• Ripley Center – Closes at 5 p.m.

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at UTM have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 Chancellor’s Honor Roll. Among those named was Zachariah A. Thomas, of Parsons, who achieved the distinction of highest honors.

To be eligible for this recognition, a student must take at least 12 hours of credit and achieve at least a 3.2 (B) GPA based on a 4.0 scale. On the honor roll, students can be recognized with honors (3.2-3.49 GPA), high honors (3.5-3.79 GPA) or highest honors (3.8-4.0 GPA).
[Audio] 4th Annual Guitar As Art Exhibition Opens in Martin this Sunday

By TRACY ROSS ([PEOPLE/TRACY-ROSS]) & ALLISON CRAWFORD ([PEOPLE/ALLISON-CRAWFORD]) • 16 HOURS AGO

Jason Stout, Associate Professor of Art at University of Tennessee at Martin, speaks with Tracy Ross on Sounds Good about the Fourth Annual Guitar As Art exhibit which opens this Sunday at the university’s Art Gallery.

Guitar As Art

Stout says the idea for the exhibition came from Katie Smith who had seen successful painted violin exhibitions in Colorado. Stout and Smith thought a painted guitar exhibition would fit in well with the Tennessee Soybean festival, tying together music, a big part of the festival, with art. The two also wanted to provide local artists an affordable opportunity to exhibit their work to the community in an approachable way.

The first 30 artists who apply to participate receive standard guitars on which to paint for the exhibition. Their $35 entrance fee goes to cover the cost of the guitars, food at the reception, and the awards. The artist whose guitar is selected as best of show will receive a $500 purchase prize. The guitar itself will be used to promote the following year’s Soybean Festival. Stout says the Guitar As Art exhibit attracts a mix of artists, including professionals, current students, and local artisans.

The Guitar As Art exhibit opens Sunday, September 3rd from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Art Gallery at University of Tennessee at Martin and will run through September 16th.
Student receives scholarships to attend UT Martin

A McNairy County student has been awarded scholarships to attend the University of Tennessee at Martin for the 2017-2018 academic year, according to Dr. James Mantooth, executive director, Office of Enrollment Services and Student Engagement.

-Hannah Jester Robinson, of Selmer, will be a senior. She received the Lyn E. Scott Scholarship and the Elam Transfer Advance Scholarship.

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

Local residents participate in Move-In Mania

Allison Sides (center), a McNairy County native, participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin's 2017 Move-in Mania on Aug. 25. This event is held during move-in weekend each fall to welcome new freshmen. Sides, an agriculture major, is pictured with her parents, Anita and Chris Sides. For more information about UT Martin, visit utm.edu/advantage.

UT Martin names local student to Honor Roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Summer 2017 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 Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).

- Selmer - Rachel D. Smith, Honors.

THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY ENTERPRISE

AUGUST 31, 2017

UT-M HONOR ROLL

Students named to the honor roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin include Hayley L. Gillion and Leah B. Jacobs, both of Halls, with highest honors; and Cari A. Scott, highest honors, and Myeisha Lee, honors, both of Ripley.

To be eligible for the recognition, 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 Honor Roll with honors (3.2 through 3.49), high honors (3.5 through 3.79) or highest honors (3.8 through 4.0).
Soybean Festival in Martin next week

THE JACKSON SUN

MARTIN – There will be plenty to do around Martin next week as the town will host the 24th annual Soybean Festival.

Events start this weekend before the activity picks up Monday on Labor Day and goes throughout the following weekend.

The festival is highlighted by free concerts in town with nationally renowned country music singer Clint Black on Sept. 7 at 8 p.m. at the Festival Park.

Friday night's concert at the park will include another nationally known name with Air Supply taking the stage at 9 p.m., after the hometown Westview Chargers high school football team hosts rival Milan at Hardy Graham Stadium at 7:30.

The concert on Saturday night will feature legendary Southern rock band Lynyrd Skynyrd.

Plenty of events for all ages surround these concert events, including a talent contest on Monday, exhibits displaying the history of farming, Paul McCartney tribute act Live & Let Die, cornhole tournaments, faith and community picnics, BMX bike stunt shows, art and photography exhibits and other events.

For more information and a full schedule of events for the week, log on to http://www.tnsoybeanfestival.org/ or call 731-588-1263 for more information.

Clint Black will perform Sept. 7 at the 24th annual Soybean Festival.

classes offered
Mondays at UTM

MARTIN – Community members interested in learning about the Korean language and culture are encouraged to register for one of three level-based courses offered Mondays, Sept. 11-Dec. 4, on the University of Tennessee at Martin's main campus.

The course levels include beginner, which meets from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; intermediate, which meets from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; and advanced, which meets from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The courses will cover Korean alphabets and basic conversation. Participants will also be invited to the annual Korean New Year party and Kimchi festival to experience Korean food and culture.

The classes will not meet on Oct. 16.

Jisun Collier will instruct the course. Collier has taught Korean since 2013 and holds a master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages.
Personalized reading
clinic sessions can
improve skills

MARTIN – Every student has different reading abilities, and
some need a little extra assistance that may not
be provided during a normal school day. The University of Tennessee
at Martin Reading Center offers personalized reading clinic sessions for

students in grades 2-12 who have difficulty reading or are falling behind
grade level reading standards.

Students may enroll in one of three sessions in the fall: Monday-Sept. 28,
Oct. 2-Nov. 7 or Nov. 8-Dec. 7. Depending on personal needs, students
can meet with a reading assistant either twice per week for $100 or four
times per week for $200. Each meeting lasts one hour. Twice-weekly meet-
ings will be held on either a Monday/Wednes-
day or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Each student must also purchase a $25
workbook for use during meetings.

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

Private beginning
horsemanship lessons
available at UTM

MARTIN – Community members interested in private riding instruction
are encouraged to sched-
ule lessons with UT Mar-
tin equestrian coaches
Meghan Cunningham
Corvin and Kim Leiter.

Individual lessons will cover the fundamentals of horse safety and
horsemanship including handling, grooming, equipment, riding West-
ern or English style, and the relationship of riding to physical and mental
well-being.

The registration fee is $40 per one-hour lesson, which includes at least 30
minutes of riding time with care and saddling instruction before and
after.

Riders must be at least 7 years old, and no prior riding experience
is necessary. Participants must wear long pants and boots with a heel. Re-
quired riding helmets will be provided.

Fall semester begins
at UT Martin

MARTIN – Fall classes for the University of Tennessee at Martin
main campus and all extended campus centers began Monday.

Late registration remains open until Friday, which is also the last day
for enrolled students to add or drop a course without record of attend-
dance.

UT Martin classes will not meet Monday in ob-
servance of the Labor
Day holiday.
UTM to offer courses

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a four-week course on basic digital camera operation from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday and Mondays from Sept. 11-25 on the main campus.

Photographers of all skill levels are encouraged to apply, either for a first introduction or a refresher of the basics.

Participants will learn to use the camera’s various features and functions as well as a few key strategies for successful photos. Attendees must bring a digital camera and the associated owner’s manual to class for reference.

Dr. Tom Gallien, photography instructor, will direct the course. To view examples of Gallien’s photography work, visit his website at mollybiscuit.com.

Pre-registration is required. The course fee is $125 per person.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at (731) 881-7104 or visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/martin.php and select “photography and photoshop.”

Those wishing to prepare for a career in health care are invited to register for the clinical medical assistant program held from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Saturdays, Sept. 9, 2017-Feb. 17, 2018, on the University of Tennessee at Martin’s main campus. Student tuition for the program is $2,599, which includes all supplies and textbooks.

This program will train students to assist physicians by performing functions related to the clinical responsibilities of a medical office. Instruction includes preparing patients for examination and treatment, routine laboratory procedures, diagnostic testing, the cardiac lifestyle and technical aspects of phlebotomy.

Students will also review important topics including phlebotomy, pharmacology, the proper use and administration of medications, taking and documenting vital signs, professional workplace behavior, ethics and the legal aspects of healthcare.

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

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

Classes will not meet on Nov. 25, Dec. 23 or 30, or Jan. 13.

If an interested party has worked on a farm of any kind in the past two years, he or she may qualify for financial assistance through the Tennessee Opportunity Programs. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-696-4860.

For more information about the UT Martin course or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/connect and select non-degree programs, general classes and the Martin campus.

Community members are invited to enroll in a water aerobics class held from 9:15-10:15 a.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, Sept. 6-Dec. 6, on the University of Tennessee at Martin main campus. The registration fee is $35 per person.

Water aerobics is a low-impact fitness class to help build muscle, increase cardio fitness and improve flexibility. Students of all swimming levels are welcome.

For more information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/martin.php.

The University of Tennessee at Martin will offer a 90-hour phlebotomy technician training course from 6-9:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 12-Dec. 14, on the UT Martin main campus. Student tuition for this course is $1,799, which includes textbooks and supplies.

This program prepares students to collect blood specimens from clients for the purpose of laboratory analysis. Students will also develop comprehensive skills to perform venipunctures completely and safely.

Classroom and lab work includes terminology, anatomy and physiology, blood collection procedures, specimen hands-on practice, and training in skills and techniques to perform puncture methods.

The National Healthcareer Association certification exam is given at the end of the course and costs an additional $105. The instructor will arrange for registration and payment prior to the exam. There is no outside externship rotation included with this program.

Class will not meet Nov. 23. This same course is also available at the UT Martin Jackson Center from 5:15-8:45 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Sept. 12-Dec. 19.

If an interested party has worked on a farm of any kind in the past two years, he or she may qualify for financial assistance through the Tennessee Opportunity Programs. For additional information, contact Sherry Fowler, manager, Tennessee Opportunity Programs, at 731-696-4860.

For more course information or to register, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 or visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/martin.
UTM, Jackson State sign transfer agreement

Drs. Allana Hamilton and Keith Carver share much common ground in their first year of leading their respective institutions. Hamilton, Jackson State Community College president, welcomed Carver, University of Tennessee at Martin chancellor, and other higher education officials to the JSCC campus Wednesday to formalize a partnership through the university’s Elam Transfer Promise scholarships that will benefit Tennessee Promise students who pursue a four-year degree at UT Martin.

A memorandum of understanding signed by Dr. Flora Tydings, Tennessee Board of Regents chancellor; Mike Krause, Tennessee Higher Education Commission executive director; and Carver makes UT Martin the first four-year public university in Tennessee to formalize an extension of the Tennessee Promise scholarship program. The announcement and signing ceremony were held in the Jim and Janet Ayers Center for Health Science.

UT Martin offers three tiers of Elam Transfer Promise scholarships for those who qualify with the goal to benefit more transfer students. The scholarships are named for the late Kathleen and Tom Elam of Union City, longtime UT Martin and University of Tennessee supporters.

The Tennessee Promise is both a scholarship and mentoring program focused on increasing the number of students that attend college in Tennessee. The program covers tuition and mandatory fees not covered by the Pell grant, the HOPE scholarship or the Tennessee Student Assistance Award. Students can use the scholarship at any of the state’s 13 community colleges, 27 colleges of applied technology or other eligible institution offering an associate degree program.

Hamilton told those attending the event that approximately half of Jackson State students plan to transfer to a four-year college or university.

“So, here at Jackson State, we view that as our responsibility to help develop pathways, to help develop seamless transitions from Jackson State to four-year colleges and universities,” she said. “And with our guests today, I’m going to say from Jackson State to UT Martin.”

Krause, founding executive director of the Tennessee Promise and Drive to 55 before his appointment to lead THEC, sees the partnership as a natural extension of the Tennessee Promise. “First and foremost, what’s going to happen today is an opportunity for us to build a bridge in West Tennessee between Jackson State students to UT Martin students,” he said. “If you think back to the original idea behind Tennessee Promise, it was really to change how students thought about their future.”

He recognized Jackson State’s success retaining more that 80 percent of Tennessee Promise students who attend the community college.

“I’m excited about what’s going to happen in West Tennessee with these two leaders specifically [Hamilton and Carver] and then with Chancellor Tydings leading at the system level,” Krause said. “What I know from all three of these leaders is that this is only about students. That’s it. That’s what they’re about, and that student focus in West Tennessee will be transforming.”

Carver said that the agreement is an extension of a long-standing relationship with Jackson State. “And to be able to really say to all of our partners in the Tennessee Board of Regents, we’re here for you when you want to continue on, and we’re going to provide some financial aid and scholarships to aid you in this journey,” he said.

“So the UT Martin Elam Transfer Promise scholarships, I hope, will send a signal not just to West Tennessee, but also across the state … that we want to be a destination for your students, and we’re going to continue to provide the same type of student service and focus on quality instruction that the students are getting at Jackson State and other places,” Carver added.

Tydings credited Hamilton and Carver for their leadership in being the first to formally connect the Tennessee Promise to a four-year public university. “They took the initiative to put this down in a formal process where we had a lot of students that have taken part in the transfer before,” she said.

“This formalization of it [the process] will now help students to understand the [transfer] pathway, not just for Jackson State, but for all of our 40 institutions across the state of Tennessee.”

Information about the Elam Transfer Promise scholarships is available at utm.edu or by calling the UT Martin Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships at 731-881-7040.
UTM opens Somerville campus

Years of planning and persistence paid dividends Thursday with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that officially opened the new University of Tennessee at Martin Somerville Center in Fayette County. Elected and university officials and guests gathered at the center’s sun-drenched front entrance to open the facility that will welcome students for fall classes that start Aug. 28.

The former Methodist Fayette Hospital has been transformed into a state-of-the-art higher education facility that features science and computer laboratory space, classrooms, conference rooms and offices. The center offers select degree programs and courses and will also concentrate on job-skill training and meeting the immediate needs of existing and prospective regional employers.

“This today is what happens when a great city, and a great county, and a great state, and great people pair together with a great university and create opportunities like Somerville,” said Dr. Keith Carver.

He added that part of UT Martin’s mission is to provide access and “that students in this region can have access and can dream, and we can equip them to pursue their dreams.”

Other program speakers included Kara Tapp, Somerville Center director; Somerville Mayor Ronnie Neill; Fayette County Mayor Rhea “Skip” Taylor; State Rep. Ron Gant (R-District 94); State Sen. De lores Gresham (R-District 26); and Tennessee Lt. Gov. Randy McNally (R-District 5).

Discussions about a possible Fayette County higher education center began in 2004. The University of Tennessee and UT Martin became involved in 2012, a new building for the center was originally proposed, but the project was cost-prohibitive. Methodist Fayette Hospital then closed in March 2015, and Fayette County officials approached Methodist Healthcare about giving the facility to the town.

The facility was transferred to the town in July 2015, and Methodist Healthcare also gave the city $250,000 to assist with the facility’s renovation. The State Building Commission approved a lease on July 25, 2016, between the University of Tennessee and the city of Somerville to house the UT Martin Somerville Center in the former hospital building.

Earlier in 2016, the Tennessee General Assembly approved $250,000 in recurring funding for the center in the state’s 2016-17 budget. Also approved was $875,000 in one-time funding to support the facility’s renovation. Gov. Bill Haslam visited Somerville on July 26, 2016, to formally present UT Martin with the total $1.125 million in funding from the state to establish the new center.

A ground-breaking event was held Dec. 7 to officially begin the renovation project that was completed in time for the 2017 fall semester.

“Not everybody has a chance to go take four years off their life and move and be a resident on campus somewhere.” said Gov. Bill Haslam when he visited Somerville in July 2016 to announce the funding to establish the center.

“Higher education looks different to everybody now. One of the keys is to make certain that it’s convenient for people who have other things going on in their lives. This campus is a real effort to do that.”

More information about the center is available online at utm.edu, by contacting Kara Tapp at ktapp1@utm.edu or by calling the center at 901-465-7313.
A PLACE OF HONOR —
The University of Tennessee at Martin and its chancellor, Dr. Keith Carver (right) are grand marshals of this year’s Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade.

Keith Carver, UTM are grand marshals of Tuesday’s parade

The University of Tennessee at Martin and its chancellor, Dr. Keith Carver, will serve as grand marshal of the 24th annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, held Sept. 2-10 in Martin.

The weeklong celebration includes events ranging from the traditional street fair, parade and carnival to a classic car show, pro BMX stunt show, photography contest, and golf competitions of both the classic and disc varieties. Musical artists Lynyrd Skynyrd, Air Supply, Clint Black and Echosmith will headline the concert schedule this year.

UT Martin has again partnered with the City of Martin and other local sponsors to host the festival, and several planned events will be held on the university campus or feature UT Martin students, faculty and staff.

A list of these particular events is included below:

• Sept. 2 – Minecraft Farming Challenge, hosted by the UT Martin College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences and Northwest Tennessee Entrepreneur Center; ages 10-17; $10 advance registration, Gooch Hall, room 325; 8 a.m.-noon or 1-5 p.m.

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PARADE, From Page 1

• Sept. 2 – Be Our Guest children’s brunch and show; ages 4-12; $25 per child and $5 for adult gallery seats; costumes encouraged; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; 10:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m.

• Sept. 3 – Fourth-annual “Guitar As Art” contest and exhibition; Fine Arts Building Gallery; exhibit opens at 2 p.m. and awards will be given at 3 p.m.

• Sept. 5 – Tennessee Soybean Festival Parade; begins on University Street in front of Hardy M. Graham Stadium; 6:30 p.m.

• Sept. 6 – Crossroads Luncheon: A Celebration of Civic Organizations; Boling University Center, Duncan Ballroom; noon-1 p.m.; RSVP to Steve Vantrease at svantrease@utfi.otg

• Sept. 6 – Alpha Gamma Rho cornhole tournament; Lindell Street; 7:30 p.m.

• Sept. 8 – UT Martin World Percussion performance; Virginia Weldon Park stage; 5 p.m.

• Sept. 9 – Break for Bach, featuring Dr. Elaine Harriss, professor of music, and Bethany Ostenson; C. E. Weldon Public Library; 10-11 a.m.

• Sept. 9 – The House Band and Friends, comprised of faculty and staff from UT Martin and WJLT; new Oxford Street Stage on the corner of Oxford and Lindell streets; 7 p.m.

• Sept. 10 – Sodexo Sunday Brunch; Boling University Center, Skyhawk Dining Hall; 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The week’s major concert schedule is as follows:

• Sept. 5 – Live and Let Die, a tribute to Paul McCartney; free admission; 8 p.m.

• Sept. 6 – Martin Area Community Choir, faith and community night; free admission; First Baptist Church sanctuary; 7 p.m.

• Sept. 6 – Echosmith, UT Martin student night; 9:30 p.m.

• Sept. 7 – Clint Black, soybean celebration concert; free admission; 8 p.m.

• Sept. 8 – Air Supply; 9 p.m.

• Sept. 9 – Lynyrd Skynyrd; 9 p.m.

The above concerts are all held on the Festival Park stage and require an admission fee, unless otherwise specified.

Concert ticket prices vary, and tickets can be purchased in advance at tnsoybeanfestival.org or at the gate, space permitting, beginning at 5 p.m. the day of the show.
CAMPUS CLUBS — Caitlin Marino (left), president of the Japanese Anime Research Society at the University of Tennessee at Martin, explains club aspects to interested UTM student Andrew Taylor. Dozens of student-led clubs set up booths at UTM's Student Organization and City of Martin Merchant Fair Monday night to recruit other students to their organizations. Also pictured are (back, left) club vice-president Russell Williams and treasurer Jasminie Hall. Several local businesses and campus organizations gathered at UTM's Student Organization and City of Martin Merchant Fair Monday night to greet students. Freshmen in the General Studies class, along with any other interested students, gathered in the campus’ Elam Center to browse booths and learn more about the businesses. Many booths gave out free candy and prizes to visitors and encouraged students to participate in organizations to enrich their college experience.

Photo by Jenson Greenburg
BAND SUPPER PLANNED — The Martin Westview High School and Martin Middle School band programs will be hosting their annual band supper fundraiser on Sept. 19 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Martin Recreational Complex pavilion. The tickets for the supper are $7.50. The supper includes a BBQ sandwich, with all the trimmings, and a drink. Desserts will be available for purchase, as well. The show includes music selections from the Martin Westview Jazz Band, the Martin Middle/Sharon advanced band, and the Martin Westview High School Marching band. Tickets may be purchased from band students or Booster Club members, or by calling (731) 514-6764. Pictured are band students (from left) Jonah Simmons, Sally Bradshaw, Richard Fletcher and field commander Kaylin York.