UTM reading clinics open June 4-28

The University of Tennessee at Martin Reading Center will conduct personal sessions June 4-28 for students in second through 12th grade who need additional reading assistance between school years.

Students can meet with an experienced reading professional twice a week on either Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule. Registration is $100 per student, plus $25 for a required workbook.

All students will be individually tested to determine areas of need and placed into a course designed to fill any gaps in comprehension and skill.

Transfer, adult orientation at UTM

Adults and transfer students interested in learning more about life at the University of Tennessee at Martin are encouraged to register for the one-day Transfer and Adult Orientation event from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., June 1.

The day will begin with registration and an administrative fair from 8:30-9 a.m. An official welcome will start at 9, followed by concurrent sessions from 9:30-10:45. Attendees will learn about financial aid, student life, career planning and development, the student success center, as well as housing and meal plan options.

Advising and registration will begin at 10:45. An optional tour of UT Martin's campus, which is a Level I Certified Arboretum, will start at 1 p.m.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register. There is no fee to attend. An additional Transfer and Adult Orientation session will be held July 20. Students must have received notice of university acceptance to attend.

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

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ACT prep course at UTM Jackson Center

The University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center will host a one-day ACT preparation course for high school students from 4:30-8:30 p.m., June 5. Registration is $45 per student.

Alex Beene, course instructor, serves as lead instructor for Tennessee Adult Education in three counties and has extensive experience working with high school juniors and seniors to prepare for national exams such as the ACT and the SAT.

The UT Martin Jackson Center is now located at 2046 N. Parkway in Jackson in Jackson State Community College’s McWherter Building.

An ACT preparation course is also available June 7 at the UT Martin Somerville Center.

For more information or to register, visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/general and select your course location.

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All students will be individually tested to determine areas of need and placed into a course designed to fill any gaps in comprehension and skill.
UT Martin to host robotics camps at several locations

June 4, 2018 by WBBJ 7 Eyewitness News Staff

JACKSON, Tenn. — The University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center will host three robotics camps for children this summer.

The camp will be held for children ages 5-14. The first camp session will be held June 25-29. The second session will be held July 23-27.

Camps are enrolling now on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration is $155 per person.

A news release about the robotics camps says:

WeDo Robotics Camp is designed for children ages 5-7 and will be held from 9-11 a.m. during both sessions. Teams of students will work together to design, build, control and program simple robots to complete challenges. Children will learn about simple computer coding and sensors as well as teamwork and critical thinking.

NXT Robotics Camp is designed for students ages 8-14 and will be held from 1-4 p.m., June 25-29. Students will use LEGO Mindstorms NXT software to build and program robots to perform tasks such as dancing, following a line and parking. Children will work with complex control systems and brainstorm for creative solutions to challenges.
Advanced NXT Robotics Camp is for students ages 8-14 who have already participated in an NXT Robotics Camp session, either this year or in a previous year. Advanced camp will be held from 1-4 p.m., July 23-27, and will focus on a Mars rescue challenge. Camp participants will use advanced elements such as belts, beams, axles and special connectors to conquer new challenges.

Because of the cost of each robotics kit, children will not be able to take kits home at the conclusion of camp. However, product information and pricing will be made available for families who wish to purchase their own kits and components.

WeDo and NXT Robotics Camps will also be held at the UT Martin Parsons Center July 10-14.

You can find more information about each program at the UTM LEGOS Mindstorm Robotics website (http://www.utm.edu/departments/nondegree/courses/children/robotics.php).

Locals earn degrees from UTM

STAFF REPORTS 6/4/2018

Several Rutherford County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) during spring commencement held Saturday, May 5, in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UTM campus.

Local students receiving undergraduate degrees were: Emily P. Eubank, of Lascassas; Bailey Marie Barber, Shelby Day and Stephen Mark Reneau, all of Murfreesboro; and Bailee N. Barrett and Zach Haynes, both of Smyrna.
The late Tom Hyde was an entrepreneur who loved God and motivated others even while undergoing cancer treatments, his son said.

Thomas “Tom” Gregory Hyde, 55, of Murfreesboro, died of an infection on May 17, surrounded by his family.

He is survived by his wife, Yukari Hyde; parents, Martha and Charles Hyde; daughter, Erika (Alfredo Donato); sons, Alan and Jim (Hailey Williams); siblings, Chuck (Tonya), Robert (Michelle), Nancy Pantone and David (Robbie); and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.
His son Jim recently shared memories of his father, a Northwest Tennessee native.

His father was diagnosed last August with Stage 4 glioblastoma multiforme, a base tumor with “tentacles.” The tumor was fist-sized. Patients with that stage of cancer typically live eight to 12 months.

**Focusing on family, faith**

“I never saw him down,” Jim Hyde said. “His biggest pain wasn’t the pain he felt. The most pain he felt ... was the pain he could see in us. It was devastating for our family.”

His father’s relationship with God became stronger and his gratitude grew. He began spending every single moment with his wife for the last nine months of his life. Even as the treatments affected him, he took time after every session to call two people to encourage them.

Jim Hyde said his father was confident he would beat the cancer even though only one out of every 10,000 survives.

“Even with those grim statistics, he approached life with more passion, more zeal,” his son said. His family also had confidence. “He had always been a winner. Probably the person who’s most shocked is him.”

His father’s death happened quickly, Jim Hyde said. The family found out after he died that the same week, he had gone into remission, and the tumor had shrunk to virtually nothing. However, the chemotherapy treatments had depleted his immune system, and he died of an infection.

His father was always an optimist and an achiever, whether fighting cancer, running business or just living life, a trait he began displaying at a young age, he said.
Teenage globetrotter

Tom Hyde launched his career by traveling alone to Spain at age 14 to experience the culture. He fell in love with the international experience and began traveling the globe before putting down Middle Tennessee roots.

He graduated from the University of Tennessee-Martin, where he pioneered the school’s study abroad program and became one of the first pair of American students to study at Hirosaki University in Japan. He spoke 10 languages, studied in five countries and earned business degrees and certificates from National Taiwan Normal University, Chinese University of Hong Kong and International Christian University in Tokyo. He also studied archaeology in Israel.

Humble beginnings

The elder Hyde met his future wife while teaching English in Japan, Jim Hyde said. He proposed to Yukari in the back of a cab. At the time, his worldly possessions consisted of two pairs of jeans, three shirts and an alarm clock.

Tom Hyde promised to show his wife the world, their son said. Five years later, the couple, who had two children then, was broke and living with Tom Hyde’s younger brother and sleeping on mattresses on the floor; they did not even have enough money for toilet paper. Jim Hyde said his mother did not realize his uncle’s $2 bill collection was just that – something to collect. She thought it was just money, so she used it to buy milk for the family.

“It wasn’t the launch pad he had promised, but eventually things went well,” he said.

The couple traveled together to 99 countries, and Tom Hyde traveled to even more nations by himself. Jim Hyde said his father took him to 33 countries in the past three years. His father would take friends, business partners, church friends and others on spur-of-the-moment overseas trips because he loved exposing people to new cultures.
The couple moved to Murfreesboro to raise a family and because the city is a central business location. Tom Hyde started United Recruiters and Mr. Japanese, an executive search firm for a bilingual market with a Japanese focus to serve major manufacturing cities. That was 1992. Mr. Japanese grew to a multi-million-dollar business. Later, he started Project Staffing Inc. to serve the changing labor market where temp workers were needed.

“He was definitely an entrepreneur,” his son said of his father, who had more than 200 employees and 30 companies.

His other startups included insurance, travel, a software development company, a small mortgage brokerage firm, two gun stores and real estate investment.

A life of giving

Business was not Tom Hyde’s only interest, his son said. Tom Hyde ate breakfast almost daily at McDonald’s since age 21. A veteran named Tony sat outside one restaurant and would count nickels as a way of seeking donations instead of just asking for hand-outs. The two spent much time talking, and Tom Hyde and a friend bought the veteran a small home on a piece of land.

Tom Hyde began buying small houses for veterans, mostly in his native West Tennessee, and fixing them up to either lease them or give them away.

He also gave back to Martin, Tenn., because he felt there were not as many opportunities for young people there as there were in Murfreesboro, Jim Hyde said. He endowed the Tom and Yukari Hyde Global Scholars Program, which funds international education opportunities for UT-Martin students. The program has sent 100 students abroad to study mostly in Japan but also in Korea. He also endowed a similar program for aspiring computer programmers at MTSU.

Jim Hyde said his father was on the board of advisors for the Ned Ray McWherter Institute, which promotes entrepreneurship in West Tennessee. His father won an award for his involvement on the board.
His father was also a coach and sponsor of One Goal Sports, where Jim Hyde said he played soccer. Indeed, family was important to Tom Hyde, his son said. He played and often won in the racquetball leagues at Patterson Park Community Center.

Jim Hyde said his father, a “fierce, fierce competitor,” always beat the family at board games, and he took the family to weekly trivia nights at Doubletree by Hilton Hotel in Murfreesboro. He challenged his children to do new things such as playing a musical instrument. Jim Hyde and his brother took dancing lessons; their sister took ballet. He enjoyed sharing his children’s passions.

Tom Hyde also took care of his own parents and was the “glue of the family.”

His legacy

“He was always such a winner in life” and worked harder than anyone, his son said, coming to work first and leaving last. He involved family in his businesses. And he kept a sign above his desk referring to Luke 12:48: “But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with this much, much more will be asked.”

He told his son that would be his gift one day and to be grateful and give back to the community, people in his life and to the world.

Jim Hyde said so many people at the funeral told him, “I am where I am in life because your father took an interest in me.”

Despite his father’s business success, he was humble. He had a “cubbyhole” of an office, drove a 2007 Chevrolet Impala with malfunctioning locks and a window, and wore modest clothing. He parked in the back of the parking lot at work.

It is hard to think of his father dying at a young age, but there is some comfort, he said.

“My dad said the greatest legacy that God would want you to leave is in the individuals whose lives you influenced not the time you spent,” Jim Hyde said.
UT Martin students design Milan No-Till logos

UT Martin students Christina Hobson, of Leesburg, FL, and Brad Lyell, of Union City, designed the official logos for the 2018 Milan No-Till Field Day, hosted every other year by the University of Tennessee AgResearch and Education Center at Milan.

This event is one of the largest crop production field days in the nation, and this year’s activities mark the event’s 30th anniversary.

No-Till Field Day organizers chose Hobson’s and Lyell’s designs from a pool of submissions from fellow UT Martin senior graphic design majors. Lyell’s design will be used on event programs, while Hobson’s will adorn event caps. This is the second time event officials have allowed UT Martin students to submit design proposals.

“We gathered several of our field and office staff and laid all the designs on our conference table and started making selections. It took several votes, but we finally decided to go with the two designs,” said Dr. Blake Brown, director of the UT AgResearch and Education Center at Milan. “All the work submitted was exceptional.”

Sarah Haig, assistant professor of art, has facilitated the design competition among her students for the past two field day events.

ACT prep course at UTM Jackson Center

The University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center will host a one-day ACT preparation course for high school students from 4:30-8:30 p.m. today. Registration is $45 per student.

Alex Beene, course instructor, serves as lead instructor for Tennessee Adult Education in three counties and has extensive experience working with high school juniors and seniors to prepare for national exams such as the ACT and the SAT. Students taking his courses in the past have increased their individual scores by an average of 3.4 points.

The UT Martin Jackson Center is now located at 2046 North Parkway, in Jackson State Community College’s McWherter Building.

An ACT preparation course is also available Thursday at the UT Martin Somerville Center.

For more information or to register, visit utm.edu/departments/nondegree/general and select your course location. Assistance is also available over the phone by contacting the UT Martin Department of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082.

UTM reading clinics open

The University of Tennessee at Martin Reading Center will conduct personal sessions through June 28 for students in second through 12th grades who need additional reading assistance between school years.

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MARTIN, Tenn. – Morgan Martin, a current University of Tennessee at Martin student from Union City, and Lauren Dickson, a recent graduate from Parsons, will compete June 20-23 in the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson. Preliminary competitions will be held June 20-22, and the final competition will air live at 7:45 p.m., June 23, on EplusTV6.

Martin, a senior studying health and human performance with a concentration in exercise science and wellness, will represent the university as Miss UT Martin. Her platform is Wheeling Sportsmen, an organization that raises funds to help make hunting and shooting sports accessible to people with disabilities.

Dickson is only the second contestant to hold the new Miss Dixie PAC title after performing a rendition of Celine Dion’s “To Love You More” during the competition last August.

Dickson graduated from UT Martin this past May with a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies degree and will represent the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center in Huntingdon as Miss Dixie PAC. Dickson’s platform is CASA: I am for the child. The Court Appointed Special Advocates’ network currently boasts more than 76,000 volunteers whose role is to help abused and neglected children have their voices and needs heard in the courtroom.

She is a graduate of South Fulton High School and a current member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. Martin performed a flute solo for the talent portion of the combined Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Scholarship Pageant last November.

The winner of the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant will serve as the governor’s spokesperson for character education in schools across the state. She will also compete Sept. 8 in the Miss America Scholarship Pageant held in Atlantic City, New Jersey. If Miss Tennessee 2018 wins the Miss America crown, her first runner-up will assume statewide duties.
RECEIVES MEDALLION — Cody Robertson (left) of Union City completed the rigorous University Scholars program at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He received a medallion marking his accomplishment during a recent reception prior to the university’s spring commencement ceremony. Robertson, a computer science major, conducted two years of undergraduate research with Drs. Kathleen Ericson (right) and Joshua Guerin (not pictured), faculty members in the Department of Computer Science.

STUDENT LAUDED — John-Alex Warner (left) of Union City completed the rigorous University Scholars program at the University of Tennessee at Martin. He received a medallion marking his accomplishment during a recent reception prior to the university’s spring commencement ceremony. Warner, a music major with emphasis in music education, conducted two years of undergraduate research with Dr. Jessie Thoman (not pictured), associate professor of music. He was congratulated by Dr. Lionel Crews, director of UT Martin Honors Programs.
Martin will compete in Miss Tennessee pageant

Morgan Martin, a current University of Tennessee at Martin student from Union City, Tenn., and a South Fulton High School graduate, will compete June 20-23 in the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson, Tenn.

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Rachel Wilson Receives Degree

Rachel Denise Wilson of Hickory With graduated from the University of Tennessee at Martin on May 5, 2018. Rachel received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. She graduated from Fayette Ware High School in 2014. While attending Martin, Rachel joined the Zeta Lambda chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Peers Advocating Respectful Relationships, The National Society of Leadership and Success, and the Civil Rights Conference Committee. In the fall, Rachel will be pursuing a Masters of Arts in Criminal Justice at the University of Memphis. Rachel is the daughter of Joseph and Retta Wilson and the granddaughter of Mrs. Velma Scott Wilson.
BriAnna Colvin graduates from UTM

Janet BriAnna Oates Colvin of Ripley graduated May 5 from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Business Administration. She is married to Gared Colvin, and they have a son, Grant Lee. She is the daughter of Scott and Lisa Oates, and the granddaughter of Janet Oates, the late Jackie Lee Oates and the late Harrell Hutcherson.

UTM Competes In College National Finals Rodeo

Seven members of the University of Tennessee at Martin rodeo team will compete June 10-16 in the 70th-annual College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming. The UT Martin team is ranked 24th in the nation, and the men's team finished second in the Ozark Region this season. This is the 44th CNFR appearance for the men's team in the past 45 years.

Cord Barricklow, a recent graduate from Lebanon; Colton Matthews, a junior from Homeland, Florida; Ryan McDaniel, a junior from Yuma; Ross Mitchell, a sophomore from Bolivar; Chase Thrasher, a freshman from Columbia; Jonny Walker, a junior from Wildersville; and Kenzley Wilson, a senior from Black Oak, Arkansas, will represent the university at this year's competition.

Barricklow (steer wrestling), McDaniel (bull riding), Mitchell (team roping) and Wilson (barrel racing) will each make a second career appearance at the national championship, while Matthews (steer wrestling), Thrasher (tie-down roping) and Walker (bareback riding) all make their CNFR debuts.

"We are thankful to send a team back to the CNFR," said head coach John Luthi. "We have a good, solid group going to Casper. Most of them have been to the CNFR before, and the ones who haven't gone have been in similar big situations before. The CNFR is just like any other rodeo – it is so hard to predict, but I just tell our team to have fun, relax and do the best they can."

UT Martin accounts for three cowboys ranked in the top-20 for their respective events. Walker enters the CNFR ranked 11th nationally in bareback riding with 1,000 points accumulated during the season. Thrasher's 530 points in tie-down roping rank him 17th in the nation, while Mitchell ranks 20th in team roping with 555 points as a header.

The three-day competition can be viewed live on WatchESPN.
Local residents receive degrees from UT Martin

Jun 7, 2018

Three Robertson County residents were among students who received degrees from the University of Tennessee at Martin during spring commencement held May 5 in the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on the UT Martin campus.

The students receiving undergraduate degrees were William Mark Alexander of Cross Plains; Kenneth Aaron Abel and Hailey Elizabeth Williford of Greenbrier and Kelsey Alyse May of Springfield.

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All students will be individually tested to determine areas of need and placed into a course designed to fill any gaps in comprehension and skill.
Kelly registers for classes — Grace Kelly (center), of Martin, registered for classes May 21 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's Summer Orientation and Registration event. Kelly graduated from Westview High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She is pictured with her parents, Chris and Tina Kelly.

Bynum registers — Aubrey Bynum (left), of Martin, registered for classes May 21 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's Summer Orientation and Registration event. Bynum graduated from Westview High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. He is pictured with his mother, Dr. Frances Bynum.

Soybean Festival: 25 years of memories

That selfie you grabbed with your favorite band on stage ... the snap you got just as your friend bit into her favorite fair food ... the pose The Funny Little People made when you stopped them for a shot with your kids ...

Such are the makings of Soybean memories and the Tennessee Soybean Festival wants to see and share yours.

As part of the celebration of the 25th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival culminating in the event Sept. 1-9, festival goers are asked to submit photos that "capture your favorite moments and history with family and friends at the Tennessee Soybean Festival," said festival organizers.

Photo submissions must include your name, phone number, date, event and names of those in the photo. Submissions are due Friday, June 15.

Submissions can be emailed to info@tnsoybeanfestival.org, messaged to the Tennessee Soybean Festival Facebook page, or dropped off in person at Martin City Hall Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

All submissions will be posted /uploaded to the Tennessee Soybean Festival "25 Years of Soybean Memories Contest" Facebook Photo Album as they are received. The winning photo entry will be determined by gathering the most Facebook "likes." The contest will end on Sunday, July 1. The winner will be recognized at the Tennessee Soybean Festival Mayor's Luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 4.
Kid College to be held at UTM, June 11-15

The University of Tennessee at Martin is now registering children for the 2018 Kid College program on the main campus in Martin. Kid College will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., June 11-15, for children entering kindergarten through fifth grade. Parents can register each child for up to five classes, and individual time schedules will vary based on the courses selected.

The registration fee is $30 per class and is due at the time of registration. Pre-registration is required, and the fee includes a T-shirt. Some courses have individual supply fees which must be paid directly to the course instructor on the first day of class. Children who attend Kid College all day must bring lunch from home.

Class choices for children entering kindergarten through second grade include cheerleading, chemical reactions, karate, bowling, music, disc golf, backyard farming and junior space camp. Selections for students in third through fifth grades include physics, advanced karate, paint lab, adventures in engineering, creative computers, basketball and disc golf. A complete list of courses is available on the Kid College website.

Parents were sent an email June 6 containing each child’s class schedule, supply fees and other important information. Please contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at (731) 881-7104 if you did not receive this email.

Kid College activities will also be held June 11-15 at the UT Martin Somerville Center; June 25-28 at the Parsons Center; July 9-13 at the McNairy County Center/Selmer; and July 11-13 at the Ripley Center.

Visit utm.edu/kidcollege to register online, see a complete list of course options and find extended information for parents. For assistance or more information, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104.

Governor’s school to begin

The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities and the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences both begin this weekend and will continue through the month of June.

Both programs bring selected high school students from across the state to UT Martin to take college courses and participate in a variety of activities. Interested students must complete an application process and receive an invitation to attend. The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities expects 58 participants, and the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences anticipates 34 to attend.

The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities, founded in 1986, is the original governor’s school program. Participating students may receive college credit in art history, political science or philosophy and choose from additional non-credit courses in English literature, history and music.

The Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences exposes students to courses in natural resource management and animal science and provides opportunities for hands-on interactions with working crop and livestock operations.

For more information, contact the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities at 731-881-7579 or the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Agricultural Sciences at 731-881-7211.
Local Students Among 63 Graduates Honored at UTM Parsons

Jun 7, 2018

The UTM Parsons Center celebrated 63 graduates with a reception in their honor recently. Ms. Heather Coleman, a former graduate was the guest speaker and Mrs. Jackie Johnson welcomed the students to the UTM Alumni Association. Graduates are pictured from left to right: (top row) Zach Thomas, Stephen Turner, Ashley Fish, Melissa Brown, (row two) Jessica Hollingsworth, John Ellison, Chase Milam, Chase Barrow, Elijah Carpenter, Brett Jordan, (row three) Lauren Dickson, Jennifer Pratt, Andrea Roberts, Amber Jones, Amber Mitchell, Celena Perry, Faith White, Kady Mitchell, Kaylee Smith, Abby Hooper, Kaci Lomax, and Katelyn McFall. Students graduated with degrees in Education, Nursing, Social Work, Interdisciplinary Studies, Business Management, Psychology, and Criminal Justice.
STUDENTS, Garret Steelman, right, in upper photo, and Lakesha Patrick, right, in lower photo, both of Halls, attended Transfer and Adult Orientation June 1st at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Garret and his father, Gary Steelman, left, along with Lakesha and her sister, Shaqueeda Patrick, left, were able to tour the UT Martin campus and speak with representatives from the offices of student life, financial aid, housing and dining services, among others. Garret is transferring from Dyersburg State Community College. Lakesha is transferring from Austin Peay State University.

JANET BRIANNA OATES COLVIN, of Ripley, graduated May 5th from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. BriAnna is married to Gared Colvin and they have one son, Grant Lee Colvin. She is the daughter of Scott and Lisa Oates, of Ripley, and the granddaughter of Janet Oates and the late Jackie Lee Oates, all of Ripley, and the late Harrell Hutcherson, of Halls.
The UT Martin Reading Center is conducting personal sessions through June 28 for students in second through twelfth grades needing assistance between school years.

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ERIN CHESNUT
UT MARTIN

Bells teacher among UTM faculty honored by Alumni Association

MARTIN — Dr. Nell Gullett and Dr. Kimberly Williams, faculty members at the University of Tennessee at Martin, both received University of Tennessee Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher Awards on June 1 during the UTAA Board of Governors' awards dinner.

Gullett, of Martin, is a professor of finance in the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs. She began working with UT Martin in 1975 as an administrative secretary and became an instructor of finance in 1983. She later rose through the ranks of tenured faculty to become a full professor in 1998.

She completed her bachelor's degree at UT Martin in 1976 and later earned a Master of Business Administration degree, also from UT Martin, in 1981, and a doctoral degree in finance from Memphis State University in 1990.

Gullett has received numerous awards during her career, including 18 teaching awards from the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs, three UT Martin Outstanding Educator awards and three consecutive Distinguished Service Professor awards from the UT National Alumni Association (2012-2015). She has also received the UTAA Outstanding Teacher Award on two other occasions (1994 and 2005).

Williams, of Bells, is an associate professor of education in the UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences. She served as dean of instruction and assistant principal at Salvador Sanchez Middle School in El Paso, Texas, and as secondary mathematics and science coordinator for Clint Independent School District, also in El Paso, before accepting a position at UT Martin in 2013.

She earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education mathematics from UT Martin in 1995. She then went on to complete a master's degree from the University of Phoenix in 2007, and both an educational specialists' degree and a doctorate of education from Liberty University in 2010 and 2012, respectively.

Williams serves as director of UT Martin's Teacher Quality Partnership Grant through the U.S. Department of Education and is heavily involved with designing and presenting special workshops to benefit West Tennessee educators. She also serves as academic adviser for an average of 45-65 undergraduate and graduate students each semester and assists the Martin Housing Authority with grant-writing for various youth education programs.

For more information on UTAA awards and activities, contact the UT Martin Office of Alumni Affairs at 731-881-7610.
Robotics camps now enrolling at UT Martin Jackson Center

ERIN CHESNUT
UT MARTIN

MARTIN — The University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center will host three robotics camps for children ages 5-14 this summer. The first camp session will be held June 25-29, and the second session is scheduled for July 23-27. Camps are enrolling now and seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is $155 per student.

1. **WeDo Robotics Camp** is designed for children ages 5-7 and will be held from 9-11 a.m. during both sessions. Teams of students will work together to design, build, control and program simple robots to complete challenges. Children will learn about simple computer coding and sensors as well as teamwork and critical thinking.

2. **NXT Robotics Camp** is designed for students ages 8-14 and will be held from 1-4 p.m., June 25-29. Students will use LEGO Mindstorms NXT software to build and program robots to perform tasks such as dancing, following a line and parking. Children will work with complex control systems and brainstorm for creative solutions to challenges.

3. **Advanced NXT Robotics Camp** is for students ages 8-14 who have already participated in an NXT Robotics Camp session, either this year or in a previous year. Advanced camp will be held from 1-4 p.m., July 23-27, and will focus on a Mars rescue challenge. Camp participants will use advanced elements such as belts, beams, axles and special connectors to conquer new challenges.

Because of the cost of each robotics kit, children will not be able to take kits home after camp. However, product information and pricing will be made available for families who wish to purchase their own kits and components.

WeDo and NXT Robotics Camps will also be held at the UT Martin Parsons Center July 10-14. Visit utm.edu/robotics for more information. Online registration is required prior to attending camp, and payment is accepted via Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

For assistance, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082.

From left: Lori Nolen, executive director of The Dixie, Miss Dixie PAC Lauren Dickson, and Huntingdon Mayor Dale Kelley
Huntingdon Mayor Dale Kelley pronounced Thursday Lauren Dickson Day, as the city and the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center held a send-off party for the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant contestant in The Colonial Tea Room. Many folks in the crowd of well-wishers wrote notes to Miss Dixie PAC Lauren Dickson that she will have during Miss Tennessee week. PHOTOS BY SUBMITTED
Leadership Tennessee announces 2018-19 class

Leadership Tennessee's 2018-19 class will feature 45 members from across the state.

The program, in its sixth year, brings together leaders from across government, nonprofit, education and business sectors, focuses on addressing the state's challenges and opportunities. It is a part of Lipscomb University's College of Leadership and Public Service.

The class members represent each geographic region of the state, including the communities of Memphis, Martin, Jackson, Nashville, Clarksville, Murfreesboro, Knoxville, Kingsport, Johnson City and Chattanooga.

"Each Leadership Tennessee class brings its own experience and insight to the table, and we're especially excited about Class VI and what they bring to the conversation around critical issues in Tennessee," said Leadership Tennessee Executive Director Cathy Cate. "Each class grows together over the course of the year as they challenge their perspectives on issues in their communities. We're looking forward to the conversations Class VI will have over the next year as they develop the program around focus areas they highlight as critical to state success."

The program is 10 months and will focus on collaboration and dialogue across the state.

The 2018-19 class:

- **Adamsville**: Commissioner Jai Templeton, Tennessee Department of Agriculture
- **Brentwood**: Valerie Hayes, Managing Director, Deloitte
- **Bristol**: Jerry Caldwell, Executive Vice President/General Manager, Bristol Motor Speedway; Senator Jon Lundberg, State of Tennessee
- **Columbia**: Jeff Aiken, President, Tennessee Farm Bureau
- **Chattanooga**: Jared Sizemore, Executive Director, Chattanooga ZU; Stacy Goodwin Lightfoot, Vice President College and Career Success, Public Education Foundation; Hodgen Maina, Vice President Community Development, Electric Power Board – Chattanooga; David Steele, Director of Civic Engagement & Assistant Professor of Practice, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; Dakasha Winton, Chief Government Relations Officer/Senior Vice President, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee
- **Clarksville**: Charlie Koon, VP Corporate & Military Business Development, F&M Bank
- **Dresden**: Mayor Jake Bynum, Weakley County
- **Franklin**: Brigadier General Kurt Winstead, Director of Joint Staff, Tennessee National Guard
- **Jackson**: Logan Hampton, President, Lane College, Justice Roger Page, Tennessee Supreme Court; Lisa Piercy, MD, Executive Vice President, West Tennessee Healthcare
- **Johnson City**: Alan Levine, Chairman/CEO, Ballad Health
- **Kingsport**: Mayor John Clark, City of Kingsport, Dr. Jeff McCord, Vice President, Economic and Workforce Development, Northeast State Community College; Aundrea Wilcox, Executive Director – KOSBE, Kingsport Chamber of Commerce
- **Knoxville**: Pastor Daryl Arnold, Overcoming Believers Church; Robyn Jarvis Askew, Shareholder/Attorney, Lewis, Thomason, King, Krieg & Waldrop P.C.; Cynthia Gibson, Chief Legal & Business Affairs Officer (former), Scripps Networks Interactive; Dr. Victoria Neiderhauser, Dean and Professor, University of Tennessee Knoxville College of Nursing
- **Martin**: Keith Carver, Chancellor, University of Tennessee at Martin.
- **Maryville**: Bryan Daniels, President & CEO, Blount Partnership
- **Memphis**: Rob Clark, Chief Government Affairs Officer, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital; Tosha Downey, Advocacy Director, Memphis Education Fund; Mike Dunavant, US Attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, US Department of Justice; Mitch Graves, President/CEO, HealthChoice LLC; Leslie Lynn Smith, President and CEO, Epicenter Memphis; Tish Towns, Senior Vice President/Chief Administrative Officer, Regional One Health
- **Murfreesboro**: Dan Caldwell, Senior Manager, Training, US Manufacturing, Nissan Group of North America; Beth Duffield, Senior Vice President of Education & Workforce Development, Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce
- **Nashville**: Shanna Singh Hughey, President, Think Tennessee; Paige Kisber, President and CEO, Hospital Alliance of Tennessee; Amy New, Assistant Commissioner, Community and Rural Development, State of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development; Toks Omishakin, Deputy Commissioner/Chief of Planning and Environment, Tennessee Department of Transportation; Ann Jarvis Pruitt, Executive Director, Tennessee Alliance for Legal Services; Emily Reynolds, Vice Chairman, Tennessee Board of Regents; Gabe Roberts, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer, TennCare; Tara Scarlett, President/CEO, Scarlett Family Foundation; Todd Skelton, Deputy Counsel to Governor Bill Haslam, State of Tennessee; Deborah Taylor Tate, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, Tennessee Supreme Court
- **Union City**: Lindsay Frilling, CEcD, CEO, Obion County Joint Economic Development Council
UTM student, alum to compete in Miss Tennessee pageant

Morgan Martin, a current University of Tennessee at Martin student from Union City, and Lauren Dickson, a recent graduate from Parsons, will compete June 20-23 in the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in Jackson.

Preliminary competitions will be held June 20-22 and the final competition will air live at 7:45 p.m. June 23 on EplusTV6.

Miss Martin, a senior studying health and human performance with a concentration in exercise science and wellness, will represent the university as Miss UT Martin. Her platform is Wheeling Sportsmen, an organization that raises funds to help make hunting and shooting sports accessible to people with disabilities.

She is a graduate of South Fulton High School and a current member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. Miss Martin performed a flute solo for the talent portion of the combined Miss UT Martin/ Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Scholarship Pageant last November.

Miss Dickson graduated from UT Martin this past May with a bachelor of interdisciplinary studies degree and will represent the Dixie Carter Performing Arts Center in Huntingdon as Miss Dixie PAC. Miss Dickson's platform is CASA: I am for the child. The Court Appointed Special Advocates' network currently boasts more than 76,000 volunteers whose role is to help abused and neglected children have their voices and needs heard in the courtroom.

Miss Dickson is only the second contestant to hold the new Miss Dixie PAC title after performing a rendition of Celine Dion's "To Love You More" during the competition last August.

The winner of the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant will serve as the governor's spokesman for character education in schools across the state. She will also compete Sept. 8 in the Miss America Scholarship Pageant held in Atlantic City, N.J.

If Miss Tennessee 2018 wins the Miss America crown, her first runner-up will assume statewide duties.
REED Center's "Salute to the Stars" award-winners

COMMUNITY STAR AWARD — Elizabeth Pritchett (center, left), of Martin, received a 2018 Community Star Award from the Tennessee Small Business Development Center and University of Tennessee at Martin's Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center during a Salute to the Stars reception June 5. The Community Star Award honors community members who share their time and experience with the REED Center's aspiring entrepreneurs and small-business owners. Pritchett is director of sales and marketing at Center Point Business Solutions in Union City. She taught the marketing portion of the REED Center's Small Business Boot Camp in 2017 as well as two Facebook classes designed specifically for small businesses. She has also led seven seminars for the center, reaching a total of 104 attendees. Pritchett is pictured with (l-r) Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor; Landy Fuqua, TSBDC/REED Center director; and Dr. Ross Dickens, dean, UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs.

COMMUNITY STAR AWARD — Michelle Dickens (center, right), of Martin, received a 2018 Community Star Award from the Tennessee Small Business Development Center and University of Tennessee at Martin's Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center during a Salute to the Stars reception June 5. The Community Star Award honors community members who share their time and experience with the REED Center's aspiring entrepreneurs and small-business owners. Dickens volunteered with the REED Center last year to help recruit students from the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs to fill internship requests from local businesses. She assisted in placing 29 students during her tenure and coordinated an on-campus recruiting event for Autozone. Dickens is pictured with (l-r) Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor; Landy Fuqua, TSBDC/REED Center director; and Dr. Ross Dickens, dean, UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs.

FACULTY STAR — Dr. Sean Walker (center), associate professor of management at the University of Tennessee at Martin, received a 2018 Faculty Star Award from the Tennessee Small Business Development Center and University of Tennessee at Martin's Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center during a Salute to the Stars reception June 5. The Faculty Star Award recognizes a UT Martin faculty member who gives his or her time and expertise to the REED Center's aspiring entrepreneurs and small-business owners. Walker taught a total of five center seminars last year on topics such as millennials in the workplace, workplace bullying and interoffice relationships. He is pictured with (l-r) Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor; Kasen Walker's son; Landy Fuqua, TSBDC/REED Center director; and Dr. Ross Dickens, dean, UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs.
RISING STAR — John and Courtney Sellers, owners of the Martin Coffeehouse on Lindell Street in Martin, received a Rising Star Award from the Tennessee Small Business Development Center and University of Tennessee at Martin's Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center during a Salute to the Stars reception June 5. The Rising Star Award recognizes local entrepreneurs who are on the rise and have demonstrated growth potential. The businesses selected are also engaged in their communities to create a positive impact. Martin Coffeehouse is part of a global effort to build libraries in Nepal, and 10 cents from each coffee purchase is contributed to Letters In Motion, a faith-based non-profit run by the Sellers to reach this goal. The shop has sold more than 40,000 cups of coffee since opening in 2017. Pictured during the reception are (l-r) Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor; John and Courtney Sellers, owners of the Martin Coffeehouse; Landy Fuqua, TSBDC/REED Center director; and Dr. Ross Dickens, dean, UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs.

WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR — The Tennessee Small Business Administration recognized Veterinary Home Health Care, owned by Dr. Debbie Reynolds (center), of Martin, as the 2018 Woman-Owned Business of the Year during a June 5 reception at the University of Tennessee at Martin. This award has been given annually to family-owned businesses in Tennessee for more than 50 years and recognizes consistent growth and innovation. Reynolds established Veterinary Home Health Care in 2011 after seeing a need for in-home veterinary care among her former clients. Reynolds also owns The Blessed Pet Shop on Lindell Street in Martin, which offers pet food and supplements as well as toys, clothing, accessories and other items for all kinds of animals. Landy Fuqua, TSBDC/REED Center director, nominated Reynolds for the award. Reynolds is pictured with (l-r) Shawn McKeenan, Tennessee district deputy director; Tennessee Small Business Administration; Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor; Fuqua; and Dr. Ross Dickens, dean, UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs.
UTM student, alum to compete for Miss Tennessee title

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She is a graduate of South Fulton High School and a current member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. Miss Martin performed a flute solo for the talent portion of the combined Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Scholarship Pageant last November.

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The winner of the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant will serve as the governor’s spokesman for character education in schools across the state.

She will also compete Sept. 8 in the Miss America Scholarship Pageant held in Atlantic City, N.J. If Miss Tennessee 2018 wins the Miss America crown, her first runner-up will assume statewide duties.
MARTIN, Tenn. — University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Keith Carver, Weakley County Mayor Jake Bynum and Obion County Joint Economic Development Council CEO Lindsay Frilling are three of 45 Tennessee leaders chosen from rural and urban communities across Tennessee to participate in the sixth Leadership Tennessee class.

Class members will spend the next year engaging in collaborative, non-partisan dialogue on issues of statewide importance. The 45 new class members represent each geographic region of the state and come from health care, education, economic development, government, tourism and agriculture. Leadership Tennessee is an initiative of the Lipscomb University College of Leadership and Public Service in Nashville.

Other class members from West Tennessee outside of Memphis include Commissioner Jai Templeton, Tennessee Department of Agriculture; Dr. Logan Hampton, president, Lane College; Justice Roger Page, Tennessee Supreme Court; Dr. Lisa Piercey, executive vice president, West Tennessee Healthcare.

Carver, Templeton, Bynum, Piercy and Frilling are all graduates of the UT Martin WestStar Leadership Program, which is in its 29th year of leadership development in West Tennessee and has graduated 798 class members since the program began.

"It’s an honor to be selected to the 2018-19 class of Leadership Tennessee," Carver said. "I look forward to working with community, industry, governmental and educational leaders from all across the state. I’m excited to represent rural West Tennessee and UT Martin in this statewide initiative."

"With the selection of Leadership Tennessee Class VI, we’re excited to welcome another group of outstanding Tennesseans to the network of leaders who are committed to finding solutions to some of the state’s most pressing issues," said Cathy Cate, Leadership Tennessee executive director. "Chancellor Carver’s perspective as a post-secondary leader and a member of a rural, West Tennessee community will enhance the voices of this representative group of Tennesseans. We look forward to learning more about UT Martin’s role in the post-secondary landscape, the importance of the region in the state’s success and learning from Chancellor Carver’s experiences."

Entering its sixth year, Leadership Tennessee selects a new class of leaders annually to visit different regions and communities of Tennessee, learning best practices and analyzing important issues faced by Tennesseans. To date, Leadership Tennessee has built a network of 175 leaders across the state.
JA HELPS STUDENTS — The Junior Auxiliary of Obion County recently presented $500 scholarships to three graduating seniors from the three local high schools. On hand for the presentation were (from left) recipient Arianna Hill, an Obion County Central High School graduate who will be attending the University of Tennessee at Knoxville; recipient Hannah Carlisle, a South Fulton High School graduate, who will be attending UT Martin; Connie Hoffman, Junior Auxiliary of Obion County chapter president for 2018-19; and recipient Elizabeth Calfee, a Union City High School graduate who will be attending UT Knoxville.

AT ORIENTATION — Daylen Ladd (left) of Obion attended Transfer and Adult Orientation recently at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is transferring to UT Martin from Dyersburg State Community College. She and her mother, Crystal Ladd, were able to tour the UT Martin campus and speak with representatives from the offices of student life, financial aid, housing and dining services, among others.
Local student attends UTM orientation

Garret Steelman, right, of Halls, attended Transfer and Adult Orientation on June 1 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Steelman and his father, Gary Steelman, left, were able to tour the UT Martin campus and speak with representatives from the offices of student life, financial aid, housing and dining services, among others. Steelman is transferring from Dyersburg State Community College.

Local student attends UTM orientation

Lakesha Patrick, right, of Halls, attended Transfer and Adult Orientation on June 1 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Patrick and her sister, Shaqueeda Patrick, left, were able to tour the UT Martin campus and speak with representatives from the offices of student life, financial aid, housing and dining services, among others. Patrick is transferring from Austin Peay State University.
Abel appointed UTM Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Longtime Weakley County resident, John Abel, will assume duties as UT Martin interim vice chancellor for student affairs beginning July 1.

Abel follows Dr. Margaret Toston, current vice chancellor, who will retire July 1 after serving in this position since 2008.

Abel has served as assistant vice chancellor of student affairs since January 2015.

He previously served as assistant director and then interim director of UTM's Boling University Center, managing not only the building's daily operations but supervising Office of Student Life activities and directly advising the Student Government Association as well.

Abel began his UTM career in 1998 as a hall director with the Office of Housing, and then became operations manager of the Boling University Center in 1999.

He received both bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from UTM in 1999 and 2002, respectively.

UTM Educator Prep Program earns CAEP accreditation

The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation has announced that UT Martin's Educator Preparation Program has earned full program accreditation.

UT Martin is one of 46 programs from 22 states and Puerto Rico to earn CAEP accreditation this semester and 147 total programs to boast this credential.

CAEP is the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation.

Accreditation is based on peer review and serves the dual functions of assuring quality and promoting improvement. CAEP was created by the consolidation of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council.

UTM Chancellor Keith Carver says UTM is proud of its external accreditations because they show that not only do those at UTM believe in the value of its programs, but others from the university's peer institutions can see the quality of the curriculum and its graduates as well.

Programs seeking accreditation must pass peer review on five standards based on two principles: solid evidence that the provider's graduates are competent and caring educators, and solid evidence that the provider's educator staff have the capacity to create a culture of evidence and use it to maintain and enhance the quality of the professional programs they offer.

Programs that do not meet all five standards and various sub-standards are placed on two-year probation.
WESTSTAR CLASS TO GRADUATE — The University of Tennessee at Martin's WestStar Leadership Program will graduate members of its 2018 class June 21 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Jackson. A reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and a graduation ceremony. The WestStar board of trustees will meet before the dinner and ceremony at The Jackson Chamber, 197 Auditorium Street, Jackson. The program is in its 29th year and has 798 graduates to date, most of whom are from West Tennessee. The 2018 class includes 30 participants who were competitively selected to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential.

REGISTERS AT UTM — Ericka Denton (center), of Gleason, recently registered for classes during the University of Tennessee at Martin's Summer Orientation and Registration event. Denton graduated from Gleason School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She is pictured with her parents, Pamela Bell and Nick Denton.
After a long wait, Vanguard Children's Theatre has arrived. Community leaders and arts patrons have wanted and asked for the creation of a summer children's theatre program for several years now. Sponsored by the Department of Visual and Theatre Arts Vanguard Theatre in cooperation with the Office of Educational Outreach, Vanguard Children's Theatre will bring to the UT Martin campus and our region, quality children's theatre, under the guidance of trained theatre artists, at a very reasonable cost. Children's Theatre or drama provides a space not just for performance before an audience, but also for honing communication skills. It allows children to practice, observe and communicate effectively. Being creative and learning to make creative choices helps children to be better at thinking of new ideas, allowing them to view the world around them in new ways. As Albert Einstein once said, "Imagination is more important than knowledge."

Students will explore the basic principles of acting and theatre through exercises that encompass the ideas of stage directions, articulation, and movement. Classes are designed to develop children's creativity through acting, improvisation and physical exercises in a controlled, focused setting. Emphasis will be on improving skills in concentration, observation and imagination. Students will use their imaginations to develop characters and creative writing skills to create stories and scripts. The class will work together to create an original script and perform a final production show for their parents. All students will engage in both sides of the production process, including creating sets, props and costumes.

Students are encouraged to bring a snack for break time during each session. The Vanguard Summer Children's Theatre is directed by Melanie Hollis, Lecturer of Theatre and Costumer for Vanguard Theatre, assisted by several university arts faculty and staff. Classes will be held in the Vanguard Little Theatre of the Fine Arts Bldg. on the UT Martin campus.

Session I for students who have completed grades 3-5 July 9-13 and July 16-20, 9 a.m. - noon
Session II for students who have completed grades 6-8 July 9-13 and July 16-20, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Each session runs for two weeks, culminating in a “performance” for friends and family on the final day of class, July 20.

Registration Fee: $150 per camper, $50 rebate per child for two siblings (to be credited after the first day of class) Registration and payment for summer children's theatre is online only. Go to https://www.utm.edu/departments/non-degree/camps/theatre.php to register.

AT LONG LAST — Vanguard Children's Theatre will begin this summer. This quality children's theatre program will help participants hone their acting chops and stimulate their imaginations.
UTM NEWS

NEW VETERINARY TECH - Tanaya Phillips, of Camden, completed course requirements for the UTM Veterinary Health Technology program during the spring 2018 semester. She received her vet tech pin in May and will finish a 6-week internship in an active veterinary practice before receiving her degree in the fall. For more information on the UTM Vet Tech program, contact Dr. Jason Roberts, program director, at 731-881-1071.

NEW SKYHAWK - From left, Jocelyn Galindo, Elaina Scarborough, and Gidget Willis enjoy time together at the UTM Summer Orientation and Registration event on May 22. The daughter of Willis and a 2018 graduate of Big Sandy High School, Scarborough will be a freshman at UTM in the fall.

UTM’s Kid College returns to Parsons June 25-28

The University of Tennessee at Martin is now registering children for the 2018 Kid College program at the UTM Parsons Center. Kid College will be held from 8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m. June 25-28, for children entering kindergarten through fifth grade.

The registration fee is $95 per student, and includes a T-shirt. Pre-registration is required, and payment is due at the time of registration. All children will take four courses with students of similar age. *Theatre Games* uses collaborative games to introduce children to acting, while *An Art Adventure* encourages students to follow an ocean map to hidden treasure. *Wild About Animals* will teach students about both warm and cold-blooded animals, and *Dinosaur Fun* will teach about fossils and the habits of different dinosaurs.

Please contact the UTM Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 for assistance or more information. Visit utm.edu/kidcollege to register online and find program details. Parents will be sent an email containing additional information before the start of Kid College.
Philippe Lumpkin (left) and Nicholas Pica, both of Jackson, attend Transfer and Adult Orientation on June 1 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. They were able to tour the UT Martin campus and speak with representatives from the offices of student life, financial aid, housing and dining services, among others. Both students are transferring from Jackson State Community College. SUBMITTED

Melody DeMoulin (left), of Jackson, registered for classes June 8 during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Summer Orientation and Registration event. DeMoulin graduated from Jackson Christian School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She is pictured with her mother, Debra DeMoulin. SUBMITTED
Zachary Jones, (center) of Jackson, attends Transfer and Adult Orientation on June 1 at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Zachary and his parents, Dexter (left) and Coretta Jones, were able to tour the UT Martin campus and speak with representatives from the offices of student life, financial aid, housing and dining services, among others. Zachary completed his associate degree at Jackson State Community College. SUBMITTED

Meet the 2018 Miss Tennessee contestants

Miss Dixie PAC
Lauren Dickson

Miss University of Tennessee at Martin
Morgan Martin
UT MARTIN NAMES LOCAL STUDENT TO SPRING SEMESTER CHANCELLOR’S HONOR ROLL

Monday, June 18, 2018
User-submitted story by Norma Coalter

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 18, 2018

Contact: Nathan Morgan, University Relations, 731-881-7615

Editors: Below is a list of students who requested that your paper receive notification that they have been named to the Chancellor’s Honor Roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Each listing includes the student’s name, hometown and honors.

UT MARTIN NAMES LOCAL STUDENT TO SPRING SEMESTER CHANCELLOR’S 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 Spring 2018 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 the 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).

- Cape Girardeau – Carson L. Stroup, 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.

###
Robotics camps now enrolling at The University of Tennessee Martin Jackson center

The University of Tennessee at Martin Jackson Center will host three robotics camps for children ages 5-14. The first camp session will be held June 25-29, and the second session is scheduled for July 23-27. Camps are enrolling now and seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is $155 per student.

WeDo Robotics Camp is designed for children ages 5-7 and will be held from 9-11 a.m. during both sessions. Teams of students will work together to design, build, control and program simple robots to complete challenges. Children will learn about simple computer coding and sensors as well as teamwork and critical thinking.

NXT Robotics Camp is designed for students ages 8-14 and will be held from 1-4 p.m., June 25-29. Students will use LEGO Mindstorms NXT software to build and program robots to perform tasks such as dancing, following a line and parking. Children will work with complex control systems and brainstorm for creative solutions to challenges.

Advanced NXT Robotics Camp is for students ages 8-14 who have already participated in an NXT Robotics Camp session, either this year or in a previous year. Advanced camp will be held from 1-4 p.m., July 23-27, and will focus on a Mars rescue challenge. Camp participants will use advanced elements such as belts, beams, axles and special connectors to conquer new challenges.

Because of the cost of each robotics kit, children will not be able to take kits home at the conclusion of camp. However, product information and pricing will be made available for families who wish to purchase their own kits and components.

WeDo and NXT Robotics Camps will also be held at the UT Martin Parsons Center July 10-14.

Visit utm.edu/robotics and choose the desired location for more information or to register online. Online registration is required prior to attending camp, and payment is accepted via Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

For assistance, contact the office of Educational Outreach at 881-7082.
Two receive honors at UT-Martin

Jun 19, 2018

Two local students have received honors at University of Tennessee at Martin.

Their outstanding academic achievements, as undergraduate students at University of Tennessee at Martin, have been honored with publication of the Spring 2018 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.

Both from Monroe, Mary R. Gean received Honors, and Katlyn V. Smith received Highest Honors.

To be eligible for the 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).

Abel named interim vice chancellor

John Abel, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of Tennessee at Martin, will assume duties as interim vice chancellor for student affairs beginning July 1. Abel follows Dr. Margaret Toston, current vice chancellor, who will retire July 1 after serving in this position since 2008.

Abel has held his current position since January 2015. He previously served as assistant director and then interim director of UT Martin’s Boling University Center, managing not only the building’s daily operations but supervising Office of Student Life activities and directly advising the Student Government Association as well. He began his UT Martin career in 1998 as a hall director with the Office of Housing, and then became operations manager of the Boling University Center in 1999.

He received both bachelor’s and master’s degrees in business administration from UT Martin in 1999 and 2002, respectively.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Division of Student Affairs at 731-881-7700.
UTM rodeo team claims 9th in College National Finals

TOP 10 TEAM — Seven members of the UT Martin rodeo team traveled to Casper, Wyo, last week where they finished ninth in the College National Rodeo. It was the rodeo team’s 44th appearance in 45 years at the CNR.

Coaches and members of the team who competed for the national championship are (front row, from left) head coach John Luthi (head coach), Jonny Walker, Ryan McDaniel, Kenzley Wilson, Colton Matthews, athletic trainer Nelson Davis, (back row) Chase Thrasher Ross Mitchell and Cord Barricklow. Photo courtesy of Sports Information.

Casper, Wyo. — Seven University of Tennessee at Martin student-athletes turned in memorable performances at the 70th annual College National Finals Rodeo, which wrapped up on Saturday evening at the Casper Events Center.

Making its 44th trip to the CNFR in the last 45 years, the UT Martin men’s team finished ninth out of 56 teams with 370 overall points during the weeklong event.

That marks the eighth national top-10 finish for UT Martin under head coach John Luthi since 2005. Panhandle State brought home the 2018 team title with a total of 750 points.

UT Martin boasted a pair of cowboys who advanced to Saturday’s short rounds as part of the top-12 in their respective events.

Freshman Chase Thrasher won the tie down roping short round by a full second with a time of 8.4, while junior Ryan McDaniel was one of all 12 participants in the bull riding finals who did not record a score.

Thrasher’s average time of 43.6 seconds earned him a fourth-place finish out of 49 cowboys who took part in the tie down roping event. The Columbia native opened with a time of 15.2 in Monday’s first go, placing 24th in the individual standings.

He followed that with a 9.6 on Tuesday, which was the fourth-best time in the second round. Thrasher then posted a 10.4 in Wednesday’s third go, which ranked ninth and punched his ticket into the finals.

A Yuma native, McDaniel earned a spot into the bull riding short round with a strong performance during the CNFR’s opening day on Sunday. He dialed
up a score of 80.5 points to begin his second straight CNFR appearance, which ranked second in the field of 48 participants.

McDaniel then ran into some tough luck with no scores during both Tuesday’s second go and Thursday’s third go. After Saturday’s championship round, he placed sixth in the nation with an 80.5 average score.

Jonny Walker barely missed out on the Saturday finals in bareback riding, as his 215.5 average ranked 13th in the final standings.

He placed 15th in the opening round with a score of 67 points on Sunday before the junior out of Wildersville followed with performances of 74.5 in Tuesday’s second go (ranking 10th) and 74 in Thursday’s third round (11th).

The lone women’s team representative was Kenzley Wilson, as the senior from Black Oak, Ark. represented UT Martin well during her second consecutive CNFR appearance. She was one of 49 participants in barrel racing, finishing 27th overall with a 45.48 average.

She began with a time of 15.00 seconds on Monday, which placed 20th before her best time of the event was a 14.83 (16th) in the second round on Tuesday. In her third go performance on Friday, she compiled a score of 15.65 seconds.

Sophomore Ross Mitchell served as the header in the team roping duo alongside Ethan Wheeler of East Mississippi Community College.

The tandem did not complete a score during the first go on Monday before ranking 13th with a time of 10.5 seconds during Tuesday’s second round.

Later that day, the Bolivar native and Wheeler did not record a score in the third round before settling for a 32nd place finish out of 48 teams with a 10.5 average score.

A pair of UT Martin cowboys competed in steer wrestling, as Cord Barricklow and Colton Matthews were one of 50 qualifiers in the event. Barricklow got off to a fast start as his Monday time of 4.0 seconds ranked second in the individual standings after the first round.

However, the graduate student from Lebanon, Ind. battled through some hard luck as he did not record a score in his performances over the next two days and finished 38th with a 4.0 average.

Matthews also began well as his 4.7 on Monday was the seventh-best time recorded in the first round. Like his teammate Barricklow, he ran into some tough luck with no scores during Tuesday’s second go and Friday’s third round. As a result, the junior from Homeland,
Keith Carver chosen for Leadership Tennessee Class

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Keith Carver is one of 45 Tennessee leaders chosen from rural and urban communities across Tennessee to participate in the sixth Leadership Tennessee class. Class members will spend the next year engaging in collaborative, non-partisan dialogue on issues of statewide importance. The 45 new class members represent each geographic region of the state and come from healthcare, education, economic development, government, tourism and agriculture. Leadership Tennessee is an initiative of the Lipscomb University College of Leadership and Public Service in Nashville.

Other class members from West Tennessee outside of Memphis include Jake Bynum, Weakley County mayor; Commissioner Jai Templeton, Tennessee Department of Agriculture; Dr. Logan Hampton, president, Lane College; Justice Roger Page, Tennessee Supreme Court; Dr. Lisa Piercey, executive vice president, West Tennessee Healthcare; and Lindsay Frilling, certified economic developer and CEO, Obion County Joint Economic Development Council. Carver, Templeton, Bynum, Piercy and Frilling are all graduates of the UT Martin WestStar Leadership Program, which is in its 29th year of leadership development in West Tennessee and has graduated 798 class members since the program began.

"It’s an honor to be selected to the 2018-19 class of Leadership Tennessee," Carver said. "I look forward to working with community, industry, governmental and educational leaders from all across the state. I’m excited to represent rural West Tennessee and UT Martin in this statewide initiative."

"With the selection of Leadership Tennessee Class VI, we’re excited to welcome another group of outstanding Tennesseans to the network of leaders who are committed to finding solutions to some of the state’s most pressing issues," said Cathy Cate, Leadership Tennessee executive director. "Chancellor Carver’s perspective as a post-secondary leader and a member of a rural, West Tennessee community will enhance the voices of this representative group of Tennesseans. We look forward to learning more about UT Martin’s role in the post-secondary landscape, the importance of the region in the state’s success and learning from Chancellor Carver’s experiences."

Earlier this year, Leadership Tennessee cohosted panels focused on the relationship of health, economic development and education in building healthier communities, and the program held a summit on childhood poverty in April in Northeast Tennessee.
WCPC trains UTM housing staff

By KAREN CAMPBELL
Press Reporter

Last week the University of Tennessee at Martin officially became the first state school in Tennessee to train and equip housing hall directors with Narcan opioid overdose prevention kits. The milestone is one example of how the Weakley County Prevention Coalition (WCPC) is meeting the goals of the TN: Save A Life Project, established to provide overdose training and pain management options throughout the state.

Melesa Lassiter, BSN, RN, led the training on the UTM campus just as she has led training for every law enforcement entity in all of the northwest region of Tennessee (Benton, Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Gibson, Henry, Lake, Obion, and Weakley counties) except for three small communities, and those are scheduled. This significant accomplishment has been achieved since September 2017 when Lassiter assumed the role of regional overdose prevention specialist (ROPS) of Region 6 North. The Dresden native says her goal is to “educate the public, medical community, law enforcement, and first responders on the opioid epidemic.”

The training Lassiter and other ROPS offer includes background on what opioids are (prescription medications that are used to treat pain such as morphine, codeine, oxycodone, Percocet, and hydrocodone), the signs and symptoms of an overdose, and how to administer Narcan (or the generic named Naloxone), the opioid reversal drug that prompts immediate withdrawal symptoms. Many opioid medications can be absorbed through the skin without the person knowing that they are being exposed. More than 80 percent of opioid overdoses occur at home when a friend or caregiver is present, and about 80 percent of opioid emergencies such as an overdose are deemed accidental.

When Lassiter took on the ROPS title, she was given the goal and the clearance to create what accomplishing it would look like. Her first step was contacting law enforcement. In less than seven months, the project has ensured that by the end of June every officer in the nine counties will be carrying Narcan.

“With the coalitions part...
NARCAN, 
FROM PAGE 1

nerships, we have completed many public forums and two medical forums with great success,” said Lassiter.

“More than 200 units of Narcan (naloxone) have been delivered to laypersons and agencies, as well as more than 650 of Narcan (naloxone) to law enforcement agencies,” she reported. The kits and the training are free to the public.

And perhaps the best news of all, reports have already started coming in that lives are being saved.

“The stories I’ve gotten are they are literally Lazarus moments,” she said of instances where the reversal drugs were utilized and the patients who were near death were revived, got up and began functioning.

The former labor and delivery and then emergency room nurse acknowledges the excitement and satisfaction she once received when seeing a baby born to an injured child restored and calmed in the ER now comes by another means.

“I’ve always been a thrill seeker,” she said. “I thrive well under pressure. Love deadlines. Love creating something from nothing, so this role is a good fit. Now, hearing the stories of saved lives is my adrenaline.”

When notified that someone has been saved, Lassiter partners with Lifeline coordinator Brannon Powell to provide options for treatment and recovery, if the patient suffering from addiction desires.

However, not all overdoses are due to addiction. Because opioids can be absorbed through the skin, family members and friends of opioid users can be exposed accidently.

The most recent statistics available are from 2016 when 1,631 overdoses occurred in the state and 1,186 of those were from opioids.

In July 2017, the Weakley County Prevention Coalition received a state-targeted response grant that launched the training program Lassiter now leads out of the WCPC offices. In the nine counties assigned to her, Lassiter notes that five have established coalitions and two are in the process of forming coalitions.

The WCPC states its vision as “to fashion a community that is safe, healthy, thriving, and engaged.” It does so by providing the mechanism by which individuals and groups within the community can “unite forces and impact the community in a much more effective and lasting manner than working alone.”

Lassiter readily agrees, “Coalitions know their counties, their law enforcement, their media. And to accomplish our goals we need that knowledge.”

Next up for Lassiter is increased outreach to schools, more public events, and medical forums. One goal is to have doctors co-prescribe Naxolone when prescribing an opioid.

“If they truly need the medicine for pain, we don’t want them to accidentally overdose,” she noted.

As to the long-range nature of her work and the concerted efforts of addressing what has been called a national epidemic, Lassiter is pragmatic.

“This didn’t start overnight, and it isn’t going away overnight,” she said.

For more information on training available, call 731-819-7603.
Miss Tennessee contestants make appearance at Rotary Club luncheon

June 20, 2018 by Amanda Gerry

JACKSON, Tenn. — The lights, the cameras, ready for all the action of Miss Tennessee 2018.

"I'm so excited to get the prelims started and just to see where the rest of the week's going to go," said Miss University of Tennessee Martin Morgan Martin.

Organizers say they have been planning the sights and sounds of the show since October.

"Every number is a different color scheme, so it's a color scheme that kind of fits the costuming and the music," said Jimmy Exum, president and producer of the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant.

Exum says this year the music will incorporate a tribute to James Bond.

"What I do is I try to look at our audience and have a piece of music for each age group," Exum said.

He says Miss Tennessee is the only state competition that includes a live orchestra.

"Because there's nothing like live music," Exum said.

The 37 contestants also made an appearance at the weekly Jackson Rotary Club luncheon Wednesday, getting the opportunity to introduce themselves and mingle with members of the community.

"I love the outdoors. I am a duck hunter, a turkey hunter, a skeet shooter," Martin said.
The ladies shared how they’ve prepared.

"Lots of practice, lots of tilapia and green beans," said Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Katie Hodges.

And they shared their excitement for the upcoming competitions.

"And the earrings, oh my gosh, you’re going to die," Hodges said.

Missing Tennessee 2017 Caty Davis says this weekend is bitter sweet for her, having visited 150 schools over the past year.

"But of course my favorite part is the children," Davis said. "Encouraging to them respect their teachers, respect their education, their dreams, the people around them, and, of course, themselves."

Spoiler alert. Exum also says the finale is sure to be a crowd pleaser, with a performance from the Macedonia Baptist Church Choir. Wednesday’s competition started at 8:00 at the Carl Perkins Civic Center.

Tickets for all nights are available at the box office.
UT Martin names local student to honor roll

By Jennifer Bahney Editor  Jun 20, 2018

MARTIN, TN—Hannah N. Phillips, of Orient, has made the Spring 2018 Chancellor’s Honor Roll with Honors at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Kelso named chair of UTM Department of Educational Studies

Posted on June 20, 2018 by Steve James in Local News

UT Martin has named Dr. Kent Kelso, formerly with St. John’s University in Queens, New York, as lecturer and interim chair of UT Martin’s Department of Educational Studies.

Kelso assumed his new responsibilities May 14.

He most recently served as associate dean of administration and student success at St. John’s University and spent many years prior to that appointment serving in residence life, student affairs and enrollment services positions at a variety of institutions.

Kelso holds bachelor’s degrees in history and secondary education from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri, and a master’s degree in history from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas. His doctoral degree is in educational administration and leadership from Indiana State University in Terra Haute, Indiana.
The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2018 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 the 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).

Students from Gates on the list include Hunter L. Haislip, High Honors; Lakenia S. Jones, High Honors; Chad A. Lewis, High Honors; and Jessica L. Sorrell, Highest Honors.

Students from Halls on the list include Trevor R. Belton, High Honors; Ellary J. Gillon, Honors; Zachary Harris, High Honors; Leah B. Jacobs, Highest Honors; Chris J. Rogers, Honors; Jameka J. Rogers, Honors; Alan B. Smith, High Honors; and James T. Wright, Highest Honors.

Students from Henning on the list include Erin N. Young, Highest Honors.

Students from Ripley include Charneshia L. Brown, High Honors; Jasmine Coleman, Honors; Victoria E. Dean, Honors; Caitlyn D. Gitchell, Highest Honors; Anetta M. Hall, Honors; Erica L. Hicks, Honors; Jessica L. Howell, Honors; Courtney R. Johnson, Honors; Darnisha N. Johnson, High Honors; Seeley A. Layne, High Honors; Bethany N. McCaslin, High Honors; Roger V. Mills, Highest Honors; Breianne M. Mires, Honors; Kelsey J. Murray, High Honors; Janet B. Oates, Honors; Anjalee S. Patel, Highest Honors; Melisha A. Polk, Honors; Marygrace T. Ray, Highest Honors; Cari A. Scott, Highest Honors; LaShundra L. Taylor, High Honors; Tammy M. Umbra, Highest Honors; Allison P. Webb, Highest Honors; Sheila C. Whitehorn, Highest Honors; and Tammi T. Winbush, Highest Honors.

Halls graduate registers at UT-Martin

Callie Belton, center, of Halls, registered for classes June 8 during the University of Tennessee at Martin's Summer Orientation and Registration event. Belton graduated from Halls High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She is pictured with her parents, Mary Jane and Wayne Belton.
UT Martin Names Local Students To
Spring Semester Chancellor's Honor Roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2018 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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Duskedom - Jennifer R. Huestis, Honors; Enrico Zoboli, Highest Honors.

Gleason - Chelsea E. Beasley, High Honors; Emily M. Bell, High Honors; Colby S. Brooks, Honors; Kayley E. Brooks, High Honors; Cayceee H. Collins, Highest Honors; Jacqueline M. Elits, Highest Honors; Elizabeth S. Francisco, Highest Honors; Casey J. Greer, Highest Honors; Daniel I. Grissom, Honors; Michael W. Hicks, Highest Honors; Heidi E. James, Highest Honors; Dalis J. Lampkins, Highest Honors; Erica N. Little, Highest Honors; Amanda S. Mansfield, Highest Honors; Christopher W. Mayo, Highest Honors; Daniel S. Morris, Honors; Claire E. Oliver, Highest Honors; Avery S. Orr, High Honors; Wilson D. Ross, High Honors; Austin M. Shafer, Honors; Morgan R. Spring, Highest Honors; Spencer C. Stewart, High Honors.

Greenfield - Blake A. Brauer, Honors; Brock A. Brauer, Honors; Kendal M. Cook, High Honors; Brittany M. Evans, High Honors; Logan A. Galely, Highest Honors; Victoria D. Galely, Honors; Rachel L. Graves, Highest Honors; Austin R. Gullett, Honors; William J. Harrison, Honors; Michael Johnson, Highest Honors; Katie M. Kail, Honors; Ashley K. Mitchell, Highest Honors; Savannah B. Ricketts, Honors; Kaitlyn L. Sanders, Highest Honors; Jamion S. Shelton, High Honors; Morgan E. Simmons, High Honors; Scott N. Stout, High Honors; Taylor M. Stout, High Honors; Bremia G. Taylor, Highest Honors; Chelsea J. Willis, Highest Honors; Richard M. Willis, High Honors; Cassidy M. Wren, Highest Honors.

Martin - Christopher T. Ablies, Honors; Ammar Albashe, High Honors; Parker E. Albright, Highest Honors; Chrysee J. Alexander, Highest Honors; Beth A. Allmon, High Honors; Teri B. Allred, Honors; Mason B. Arant, Honors; Danyel R. Arnold, Honors; Gabrielle L. Arwood, Highest Honors; Anna D. Barnes, Highest Honors; Reagan W. Barnhart, Highest Honors; Angela O. Barr, Honors; Christopher C. Bass, High Honors; Ryan T. Bearden, Honors; Jessica S. Bearse, Highest Honors; Chandler N. Beasley, Highest Honors; Lakin M. Bell, Highest Honors; Lewis T. Bell, High Honors; Barrett J. Belote, Honors; Ali E. Beverly, Honors; Aalia S. Bivens, Highest Honors; Avery N. Blanchard, Highest Honors; Tyler A. Bolton, High Honors; Zachary J. Bondurant, Honors; Ashley C. Bonner, Honors; Brandon L. Bookout, Highest Honors; Gwendalynn M. Breeze, Highest Honors; William D. Bratton, High Honors; Richard C. Brawley, High Honors; Christopher T. Brown, High Honors; Starla D. Brown, Honors; Emma R. Bruner, Highest Honors; Tony B. Bufford, High Honors; Jesse Barks, Highest Honors; Hallie B. Butler, High Honors; Kaleb P. Byars, Highest Honors; Laken Rent Callahan-Foster, Honors; Alie M. Cantrell, Honors; Mieah V. Capps, Highest Honors; Katherine N. Capua, High Honors; John A. Carr, Highest Honors; Seth A. Carr, High Honors; Matthew K. Castleman, High Honors; Tierra S. Chappell, Highest Honors; Samantha I. Clayton, Highest Honors; Forrest N. Coleman, High Honors; Seth L. Coleman, Highest Honors; Jennie K. Conley, Honors; Nicholas B. Cottingham, High Honors; Gregory S. Crawford, Honors; Shawn L. Cox, Honors; Denver C. Crittendon, Highest Honors; Travis L. Crum, Honors; McKayla M. Cunningham, Highest Honors; Morgan E. Curlin, Highest Honors; Melissa E. Curtis, Honors; Reed C. Daniels, Highest Honors; Cody L. Diebold, Highest Honors; Stephen L. Downing, Highest Honors; Kyle G. Doyle, Honors; Elysia L. Duke, Highest Honors; Brett N. Evans, Honors; Emma M. Fieser, Highest Honors; Michelle L. Fieser, Highest Honors; Bianca E. Fondren, Honors; Madison E. Ford, Honors; Lexie D. Forrester, Highest Honors; Peyton T. Forrester, Honors; Abigail L. Frazier, High Honors; Lucian P. Freeze, High Honors; Gian M. Garma, Honors; Allison M. Garner, Highest Honors; Jessica L. Garrigus, Highest Honors; Jessica A. Gay, Highest Honors; Randy L. Gillespie, Honors; Sarah J. Gillespie, High Honors; Kamryn L. Gitchell, Honors; Timothy A. Grissom, High Honors; Jillian P. Gunter, High Honors; Jonathan C. Hahn, High Honors; Katey M. Hargrove, High Honors; Tracey C. Harrell, Highest Honors; Nicholas R. Hart, High Honors; Brandi L. Hatte, Highest Honors; Garrett L. Hay, Highest Honors; Addison M. Hazelwood, Highest Honors; Sara E. Hibbard, Highest Honors; Mary E. Higgs, High Honors; Makenzie P. Hinshaw, Highest Honors; Christina F. Hobson, Highest Honors; Joshua K. Hollowell, Highest Honors; Jake A. Hollows, High Honors; Kianna Hope, Honors; Halsey J. Horner, High Honors; Hannah R. Houck, Honors; Miranda C. Howard, Honors; Katelyn M. Huggins, Highest Honors; Shelby S. Jacobs-Johnston, High Honors; James R. Jarboe, High Honors; Tom E. Johannsen, Honors; Dequad G. Jimmerson, Honors; Brittnie C. Johnson, Honors; Deonte M. Johnson, Honors; Emily Z. Johnson, Highest Honors; Larry J. Johnson, High Honors; Michaella C. Johnson, High Honors; Jason R. Kail, Highest Honors; Morgan
G. Kerr, Honors; Mindy E. King, High Honors; Jonathan D. Kirkland, High Honors; Jacob R. Last, Honors; Alyssa M. Lee, High Honors; Rebecca C. Leonard, Honors; Brittanie D. Lewis, High Honors; Macy K. Leyhue, Highest Honors; Samantha R. Liles, Highest Honors; Sydney F. Lintner, Honors; Junxiang Liu, High Honors; Elizabeth J. Longwell, Highest Honors; Abigail R. Lovell, Highest Honors; Kitty E. Lowry, Highest Honors; Amanda K. Lund, Highest Honors; Andrew V. Malacapay, Honors; Andrew V. Malacapay, Honors; Rebekah J. Mansfield, Highest Honors; Kaytie B. Martin, Honors; Brianna K. Maya, High Honors; Amanda K. Mayo, Highest Honors; Robert J. Mehlen, Honors; Shanelle R. Meza, Highest Honors; McKenzie L. Milburn, Highest Honors; Kaitlyn P. Monseau, Honors; Rachel A. Moore, Highest Honors; Nathaniel T. Newlin, Honors; Madelyn V. Newman, Honors; Amber F. Owensby, Honors; Brendan T. Page, Honors; Mason S. Parker, Honors; Mary E. Pate, High Honors; Marshall W. Pearson, High Honors; Cy A. Pemberton, Highest Honors; Ashton B. Pence, High Honors; Keaton N. Penick, High Honors; Kristen M. Perkins, Highest Honors; Ivie M. Pfennig, Highest Honors; Abigale L. Plunk, High Honors; Hohner K. Porter, High Honors; Christopher Z. Postel, High Honors; Tyler J. Postel, High Honors; Alisa M. Quayle, Highest Honors; Patricia A. Ramos, Highest Honors; Cheyanne J. Rebollar-Espinosa, High Honors; Allison K. Reda, Honors; Kathryn J. Reece, High Honors; Alycia N. Reed, Highest Honors; Ryne J. Reynolds, High Honors; Anna L. Rice, Honors; Paul E. Richards, Highest Honors; Stephen A. Richards, Honors; Aubrey L. Riggs, High Honors; Connor D. Rinker, Highest Honors; Madison B. Robbins, Honors; Sydney S. Robbins, Highest Honors; Brittanay A. Rose, Highest Honors; Kierra C. Rudd, Highest Honors; Meghan N. Sands, Highest Honors; Kimberly D. Schwartz, High Honors; Kaitlyn R. Scott, Highest Honors; Sylisa L. Scott, Highest Honors; Hailey M. Seguna, High Honors; Meagan A. Severs, Highest Honors; Megan L. Shelton, Highest Honors; Ashley K. Shores, High Honors; Catherine R. Skeen, Honors; Breanna S. Slater, High Honors; Alex A. Smith, Highest Honors; Katherine L. Smith, Honors; Haley J. Standridge, Honors; Trey A. Standridge, High Honors; Catherine E. Stanford, Honors; Alyssa J. Stegall, Highest Honors; Charles B. Stevens, High Honors; Brooklyn N. Stevens, Highest Honors; Anthony C. Stewart, Honors; Madeline M. Stokes, Honors; Collin L. Stricklin, Honors; Ashley N. Taylor, Highest Honors; Darius T. Taylor, High Honors; Nicolas A. Taylor, High Honors; Stephanie L. Taylor, Highest Honors; Jessica G. Tejeda, High Honors; Chelsea A. Thewett, Highest Honors; Katherine N. Tomlin, Highest Honors; Joshua L. Torres, High Honors; Evelyn F. Turner, High Honors; Maryann H. Upchurch, Highest Honors; Anthony M. Vanden, High Honors; Zachary J. Vandelacker, Highest Honors; Madison N. Vaughn, High Honors; John L. Vincent, Highest Honors; Carley E. Warlick, High Honors; Charles R. Walton, Honors; Caylon A. Weathers, Honors; Sarah J. Webb, Highest Honors; Lesley A. Welch, Highest Honors; Emery L. Whaley, Honors; Bryelle White, Highest Honors; Jeremiah A. Whiteman, Highest Honors; Matthew D. Wicker, High Honors; Madeline J. Withnans, High Honors; Caleb D. Williamson, Honors; Nathan E. Williamson, Highest Honors; Luke A. Winters, High Honors; Sloan C. Winters, Honors; Priscilla L. Woods, Honors; Jared F. Wortham, High Honors; Travis D. Wright, Honors.

Palmerville — Shannon M. Merrell, Highest Honors.

Sharon — Kristin L. Bates, Highest Honors; Amanda R. Bombela, Highest Honors; Gregory M. Davis, Honors; Jordan R. Fischer, High Honors; Ashley V. Mendez Garcia, Highest Honors; Rachel B. Melton, Highest Honors; Kinlee D. Moore, Highest Honors; Zachary M. Morgan, High Honors; Emily L. Plum, High Honors; Shawna R. Sampson, Highest Honors; Brandon K. Stacks, Highest Honors; Jonathan D. Yoesel, Highest Honors.

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

Atwood — Shelby B. Smith, Highest Honors.

Cottage Grove — Taryn A. Matter, High Honors.

Jackson — Kayla M. Patel, Highest Honors.

McKenzie — Ashley J. Hughes, High Honors; Manuel M. Jimenez, Honors; Mitchell L. Moore, Highest Honors; Logan Priestley, Honors; Leslie M. Todd, Highest Honors.

Paris — Dakota W. Parsons, High Honors.

South Fulton — Kevin W. Bartholomew, High Honors; Jasmine D. Rodriguez Bonilla, Highest Honors.

Union City — Jack S. Garrett, Honors.
Vanguard Children's Theatre Enrolling Now

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Vanguard Theatre will host a children's theatre camp July 9-20 in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building. Students who have completed grades 3-5 will meet from 9 a.m.-noon, and those who have completed grades 6-8 will meet from 1-4 p.m. each weekday.

The 2018 children's camp will focus on "Fabulous Fables," and each class will present an original production for friends and family during the final day of camp. Registration is $150 per child, and a $50 rebate will be credited for two siblings enrolling together.

Theatre performance allows children to learn skills such as critical thinking, physical exercise, concentration, observation and imagination in a creative, controlled environment. Participating children will explore basic principles of acting and theatre as well as character development, creative writing, and the creation of sets, props and costumes.

Registration is available online at utm.edu/childrenstheatre. For more information or registration assistance, contact the UT Martin Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at 731-881-7400.

Chair of Educational Studies named at University of Tennessee at Martin

Dr. Kent Kelso, formerly with St. John's University in Queens, N.Y., has accepted a position as lecturer and interim chair of the University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Educational Studies.

Kelso assumed his new responsibilities May 14.

He most recently served as associate dean of administration and student success at St. John's University and spent many years prior to that appointment serving in residence life, student affairs and enrollment services positions at a variety of institutions.

Kelso holds bachelor's degrees in history and secondary education from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo., and a master's degree in history from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kan. His doctoral degree is in educational administration and leadership from Indiana State University in Terra Haute, Ind.

He has served in faculty positions at seven colleges and universities primarily teaching history and education courses. He is also a current member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and the Organization of American Historians, among others.
GRADUATE REGISTERS — Heather Baggett (center) of Troy registered for classes recently during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Summer Orientation and Registration event. Miss Baggett graduated from Obion County Central High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She was joined by her mother, Sharon Baggett (right), and her friend, Bryonna Wilgus.

HEADED TO UTM — Brooke Killebrew (left) of Union City registered for classes recently during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Summer Orientation and Registration event. Miss Killebrew graduated from Obion County Central High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin. She was joined by her mother, Christina Killebrew.
REGISTERS AT UTM — Cecilee Morris (right) of Troy recently registered for classes during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Summer Orientation and Registration event. Miss Morris graduated from Obion County Central High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She was joined by her mother, Janet Morris.

UTM Educator Prep Program earns full CAEP accreditation

The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation announced recently that the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Educator Preparation Program has earned full program accreditation.

UT Martin is one of 46 programs from 22 states and Puerto Rico to earn CAEP accreditation this semester and 147 total programs to boast this credential.

“These institutions meet high standards so that their students receive an education that prepares them to succeed in a diverse range of classrooms after they graduate," said Dr. Christopher Koch, CAEP president. “Seeking CAEP Accreditation is a significant commitment on the part of an educator preparation provider.”

CAEP is the sole nationally recognized accrediting body for educator preparation. Accreditation is based on peer review and serves the dual functions of assuring quality and promoting improvement. CAEP was created by the consolidation of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Teacher Education Accreditation Council.

“UT Martin is proud of our external accreditations because they show that not only do we believe in the value of our programs, but others from our peer institutions can see the quality of our curriculum and our graduates as well,” said Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor. “I know our education graduates are going out into the world prepared for their careers, and I thank the faculty and staff in that program for giving them the training and confidence they need to be successful.”

Programs seeking accreditation must pass peer review on five standards based on two principles: solid evidence that the provider’s graduates are competent and caring educators, and solid evidence that the provider’s educator staff have the capacity to create a culture of evidence and use it to maintain and enhance the quality of the professional programs they offer.

Programs that do not meet all five standards and various sub-standards are placed on two-year probation.

For more information, contact Donna Nebblet, director of the Office of Education Student Services, at (731) 881-7686 or the Department of Educational Studies at (731) 881-7210. Learn more about the department online at utm.edu/departments/educate.
Vanguard Theatre to host workshops

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Vanguard Theatre will host a children’s theatre camp July 9-20 in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building. Students who have completed grades 3-5 will meet from 9 a.m.-noon, and those who have completed grades 6-8 will meet from 1-4 p.m. each weekday.

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Local leaders selected for Leadership Tennessee

University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver is one of 45 Tennessee leaders chosen from rural and urban communities across Tennessee to participate in the sixth Leadership Tennessee class.

Other class members from West Tennessee, outside of Memphis, include Lindsay Frilling, certified economic developer and CEO, Obion County Joint Economic Development Council; Jake Bynum, Weakley County mayor; Commissioner Jai Templeton, Tennessee Department of Agriculture; Dr. Logan Hampton, president of Lane College; Justice Roger Page, Tennessee Supreme Court; and Dr. Lisa Piercey, executive vice president of West Tennessee Healthcare.

Dr. Carver, Mrs. Frilling, Bynum, Templeton and Dr. Piercey are all graduates of the UT Martin WestStar Leadership Program, which is in its 29th year of leadership development in West Tennessee and has graduated 798 class members since the program began.

Leadership Tennessee class members will spend the next year engaging in collaborative, non-partisan dialogue on issues of statewide importance. The 45 new class members represent each geographic region of the state and come from health care, education, economic development, government, tourism and agriculture. Leadership Tennessee is an initiative of the Lipscomb University College of Leadership and Public Service in Nashville.

“It’s an honor to be selected to the 2018-19 class of Leadership Tennessee,” Dr. Carver said. “I look forward to working with community, industry, governmental and educational leaders from all across the state. I’m excited to represent rural West Tennessee and UT Martin in this statewide initiative.”

“With the selection of Leadership Tennessee Class VI, we’re excited to welcome another group of outstanding Tennesseans to the network of leaders who are committed to finding solutions to some of the state’s most pressing issues,” said Cathy Cate, Leadership Tennessee executive director.

“Chancellor Carver’s perspective as a post-secondary leader and a member of a rural, West Tennessee community will enhance the voices of this representative group of Tennesseans. We look forward to learning more about UT Martin’s role in the post-secondary landscape, the importance of the region in the state’s success and learning from Chancellor Carver’s experiences.”

Entering its sixth year, Leadership Tennessee selects a new class of leaders annually to visit different regions and communities of Tennessee, learning best practices and analyzing important issues faced by Tennesseans. To date, Leadership Tennessee has built a network of 175 leaders across the state.

“Leadership Tennessee helps you build relationships across multiple industries and sectors, public and private, but more importantly it builds opportunities for partnerships,” said Maya Bugg, recent Class V graduate and CEO of Tennessee Charter School Center.
UT Martin faculty honored by UT alumni

Dr. Nell Gullett and Dr. Kimberly Williams, faculty members at the University of Tennessee at Martin, both recently received UT Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher awards.

Dr. Gullett is a professor of finance in the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs. She began working with UTM in 1975 as an administrative secretary and became an instructor of finance in 1983. She rose through the ranks of tenured faculty to become a full professor in 1998.

She completed her bachelor's degree at UT Martin in 1976 and later earned a master of business administration degree, also from UT Martin, in 1981 and a doctoral degree in finance from the former Memphis State University in 1990.

She has received numerous awards, including 18 teaching awards from the UT Martin College of Business and Global Affairs, three UT Martin Outstanding Educator awards and three consecutive Distinguished Service Professor awards from the UT National Alumni Association. She has also received the UTAA Outstanding Teacher Award on two other occasions.

Dr. Williams is an associate professor of education in the UT Martin College of Education, Health and Behavioral Sciences. She served as dean of instruction and assistant principal at Salvador Sanchez Middle School in El Paso, Texas, and as secondary mathematics and science coordinator for Clint Independent School District, also in El Paso, before accepting a position at UTM in 2013.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in secondary education mathematics from UT Martin in 1995. She then went on to complete a master’s degree from the University of Phoenix in 2007 and both an educational specialists’ degree and a doctorate of education from Liberty University in 2010 and 2012, respectively.

She serves as director of UTM’s Teacher Quality Partnership Grant through the U.S. Department of Education and is involved in designing and presenting special workshops to benefit West Tennessee educators. She also serves as academic adviser for an average of 45 to 65 undergraduate and graduate students each semester and assists Martin Housing Authority with grant writing.

The University Of Tennessee Board Of Trustees meets Thursday and Friday in Knoxville.

Among the items to be discussed is the proposed three-percent tuition increase at UT Martin.

The Finance and Administration Committee will discuss the proposed tuition increase Friday morning at 10:15 prior to the full board meeting at 1:00.

The meeting will be webcast live and archived for later viewing; a link to the webcast will be available at tennessee.edu.
Two young women with Weakley County ties will travel to Jackson this weekend to compete in the Miss Tennessee Pageant.

Katie Hodges, 18, is from Henderson, and a graduate of Chester County High School. She has been chosen as this year’s Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival.

Hodges is a student at Freed-Hardeman College with a major in theater and a minor in education. Her goal is to be a K-12 theater teacher.

“I’ve always loved theater,” she said in a recent interview. “I hope my students will grow a love for it and maybe continue with it.”

Hodges is enthusiastic about making her connection with Martin through the festival.

“I’m really excited to see everything Martin has to offer,” she said.

If she wins Miss Tennessee she plans to continue attending school while serving.

Morgan Martin, 21, is from Union City and now serves as Miss UTM. Although her major at the University of Tennessee at Martin is exercise science, she has been accepted to...
MORGAN MARTIN

pharmacy school at Union University.
She is an avid hunter who started in high school and now enjoys hunting duck, deer and turkey.
“I killed my first turkey last season,” she says proudly of the wily and elusive bird.

A violinist, Martin plans to play “The Devil Went Down to Georgia” for the talent portion of this week’s pageant.
She is the daughter of Jeff and Lori Martin of Union City.

The Miss Tennessee Pageant consists of talent, interview, evening gown and swimsuit competitions. Thirty-eight contestants will compete this year.

The winner of the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant will serve as the governor’s spokesperson for character education in schools across the state. She will also compete Sept. 8 in the Miss America Scholarship Pageant held in Atlantic City, N.J.

If Miss Tennessee 2018 wins the Miss America crown, her first runner-up will assume statewide duties.

PAGEANT BOUND — A reception was held in the Dunagan Alumni Center recently for Miss University of Tennessee at Martin Morgan Martin, who is competing at the Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant in Jackson this week. The South Fulton High School graduate received well wishes from Chancellor Keith Carver and Katrina Cobb, director of broadcast operations for public television station WLJT. Ms. Cobb also serves as director of the annual Miss UT Martin/Miss Tennessee Soybean Festival Scholarship Pageant. If Miss Martin is named Miss Tennessee, she will be the second UT Martin student to hold the title in the past four years. Hannah Robinson, who graduated in 2017, served as Miss Tennessee 2015. The pageant’s final night will be broadcast on EPlusTV6 beginning at 7:45 p.m. Saturday.
UT Martin names local students to spring semester Chancellor’s Honor Roll

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2018 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 the 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).

Big Sandy – Bentley R. Cunningham, Honors; Kenneth D. Gaston, Highest Honors; Martha M. Hurlbert, Highest Honors; Jenna L. Leonard, Highest Honors; Hannah R. Morgan, High Honors; Carson L. Richardson, Highest Honors.

Camden – Patricia L. Bologa, High Honors; Anthony J. Castro, Honors; Dorothy F. Darnell, High Honors; Amanda S. Douglas, Honors; Cheyanne N. Eblen, Highest Honors; Sarah L. Florence, Highest Honors; Shelby L. Hatler, High Honors; Shelby M. Hicks, High Honors; Kyleigh G. Hollingsworth, High Honors; Brianna L. Hollowell, High Honors; Breydon D. Horton, High Honors; Allen D. Kee, Highest Honors; Troy W. Kelly, Highest Honors; Katelynn R. Lambdin, Honors; Matthew J. Melton, Honors; Colin W. Myrick, Highest Honors; Delilah H. Presson, Honors; Jacob L. Scott, High Honors; Raegan N. Taylor, Highest Honors; Garrett A. Todd, Honors; Devon T. White, Honors.

Eva – Samantha Grainger, High Honors; Sara D. Hooten, High Honors; Dylan T. Kelley, High Honors; Brody S. Seaton, Honors; Zachary S. Wofford, Highest Honors.

Holladay – Dustin R. Baker, Honors; Elijah S. Carpenter, High Honors; Dylan B. Furr, Honors; Kayla R. Joyner, High Honors; Jordan T. Mitchell, High Honors; Chelsea L. Oakes, High Honors; Justin D. Pierce, Honors; Shelby M. Wood, Honors; Casey F. Wright, High Honors.

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

Buceton – Marissa N. Cawthon, Honors.

Huntingdon – Haley M. Baker, Highest Honors.

Jackson – Abigail G. Holladay, Highest Honors.

Parsons – Haley N. Matthews, Highest Honors; Zachariah A. Thomas, 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.

WestStar Leadership Program
2018 class to graduate June 21

The UTM WestStar Leadership Program will graduate members of its 2018 class June 21 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Jackson. A reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and a graduation ceremony.

The program is in its 29th year and has 798 graduates to date, most of whom are from West Tennessee. The 2018 class includes 30 participants who were competitively selected to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential. Brett Lashlee, of Benton County, will be graduating in this cohort.

The public is welcome to purchase tickets to attend the graduation reception, dinner and ceremony. Tickets are $20 per person or $35 per couple and can be purchased from the WestStar office. For more information about this event or the WestStar Leadership Program, contact Virginia Grimes, program coordinator, at 731-881-7298.
The University of Tennessee at Martin Parsons Center will host robotics camps July 10-14 for children ages 5-14. Camps are enrolling now and seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Registration is $155 per student.

WeDo Robotics Camp is designed for children ages 5-7 and will be held from 9-11 a.m. each day. Teams of students will work together to design, build, control and program simple robots to complete challenges. Children will learn about simple computer coding and sensors as well as teamwork and critical thinking.

NXT Robotics Camp is designed for students ages 8-14 and will be held from 1-4 p.m. each day. Students will use LEGO Mindstorms NXT software to build and program robots to perform tasks such as dancing, following a line and parking. Children will work with complex control systems and brainstorm for creative solutions to challenges.

Because of the cost of each robotics kit, children will not be able to take kits home at the conclusion of camp. However, product information and pricing will be made available for families who wish to purchase their own kits and components.

WeDo and NXT Robotics Camps will also be held at the UT Martin Jackson Center June 25-29 with Advanced NXT Robotics Camp added July 23-27.

Visit utm.edu/robotics and choose the desired location for more information or to register online. Online registration is required prior to attending camp, and payment is accepted via Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

For assistance, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7082.

Wednesday's Talent Winner
Miss Dixie PAC
Lauren Dickson

Talent: Vocal — "How Great Thou Art"
Platform: CASA: I Am For The Child
Education: University of Tennessee at Martin / Interdisciplinary Studies / Graduate
Students At UT Martin Selected

Local students named to the spring 2018 chancellor’s honor roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin include, Hunter L. Haislip, Lakenia S. Jones, and Chad A. Lewis, High Honors; and Jessica L. Sorrell, Highest Honors, all of Gates; Ellary J. Gillon, Chris J. Rogers, and Jameka J. Rogers, honors; Trevor R. Belton, Zachary Harris, and Alan B. Smith, high honors; and Leah B. Jacobs, and James T. Wright, highest honors, all of Halls; Erin N. Young, Highest Honors, of Henning; and Jasmine Coleman, Victoria E. Dean, Anetta M. Hall, Erica L. Hicks, Jessica L. Howell, Courtney R. Johnson, Breianne M. Mires, Janet B. Oates, and Melisha A. Polk, honors; Charneshia L. Brown, Dashanna N. Johnson, Seeley A. Layne, Bethany N. McCaslin, Kelsey J. Murray, and LaShundra L. Taylor, high honors; and Caitlyn D. Gitchell, Roger V. Mills, Anjalee S. Patel, Marygrace T. Ray, Cari A. Scott, Tammy M. Umbra, Allison P. Webb, Sheila C. Whitehorn, and Tammi T. Winbush, highest honors, all of Ripley.

To be eligible, 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).

Future At UT-Martin

CALLIE BELTON, center, of Halls, registered for classes June 8th during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Summer Orientation and Registration event. Belton graduated from Halls High School and will be a freshman at UT Martin in the fall. She is pictured with her parents, Mary Jane and Wayne Belton.
Tennessee at Martin during its annual meeting June 22 at the UT Institute of Agriculture campus in Knoxville. The increase is effective for the 2018 fall semester. The in-state tuition increase is the maximum allowed by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

UT Martin in-state tuition and mandatory fees will now cost undergraduate students an additional $258 annually for students with 90 or more credit hours and an additional $276 annually for students with fewer than 90 credit hours. New tuition and fees will be $4,438 (for students with more than 90 completed hours) or $4,756 (for students with fewer than 90 completed hours) per semester or $8,876 (for students with more than 90 completed hours 90 hours) or $9,512 (students with fewer than 90 completed hours) for a full academic year. Full-time undergraduate students enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Tuition is based on the “Soar in Four” program, which is designed to speed progress toward degree completion and was approved by the UT Board of Trustees in June 2016 for UT Martin. The program encourages students to take 15 hours per semester and complete their undergraduate degrees in four years. The 2018-19 academic year will be the third year of the “Soar in Four” program.

Tuition and mandatory fees for in-state graduate students will increase $151 per semester for a total of $5,512 per semester or $10,364 per academic year starting this fall. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

The newly approved tuition schedule is available at utm.edu/tuition (http://www.utm.edu/tuition).

For freshmen attending UT Martin this fall, final Summer Orientation and Registration sessions are set for July 13 and July 23, both at the main campus. A final Transfer and Adult Orientation session is set for July 20, also at the main campus. Call the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020 for information.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 27 at the main campus and UT Martin centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville.
Ag. Business Bachelor's degree added at UT Martin

Published: Friday, June 22nd 2018, 3:34 pm CDT
Updated: Friday, June 22nd 2018, 3:34 pm CDT
Written by James Long, Digital Content Executive Producer

MARTIN, TN (KFVS) - A new bachelor's degree in agricultural business has been approved for the University of Tennessee at Martin by the UT Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees met in Knoxville, Tenn.

"There is a large demand for agribusiness professionals. Approximately 47 percent of all agriculture jobs are directly related to agribusiness," said Dr. Joey Meihorn, professor of agricultural economics. "New students who enter the program will benefit from a specialized degree which will allow them to compete with existing agribusiness programs. They will be able to market their degree as an agricultural business degree as opposed to a traditional agriculture degree."

This program is the 18th bachelor's degree program offered at UT Martin.

For more information, contact the department at 731-881-7260.

3 percent tuition increase for UT Martin, none for 2 other campuses

June 22, 2018 by AP

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Students at the University of Tennessee’s Knoxville and Chattanooga campuses won’t have a tuition increase next year.

Tennessee’s Board of Trustees on Friday approved a budget for 2018-19 calling for no tuition increase at either of those two schools. Students at Tennessee’s Martin campus will see a 3-percent tuition hike.

This marks the first time since 1984 that any school in the UT system hasn’t had a tuition increase.

Students at Chattanooga will have no increase in tuitions or fees. Knoxville students will pay $36 more in a fee supporting student services, activities and programs offered by the school’s division of student life.

This was the last meeting of the Board of Trustees in its current form. A newly configured and smaller board takes over next month and will choose its own president.
UTM's Kelso named chair of educational studies

Dr. Kent Kelso, formerly with St. John's University in Queens, New York, has accepted a position as lecturer and interim chair of the University of Tennessee at Martin's Department of Educational Studies. Kelso assumed his new responsibilities May 14.

He most recently served as associate dean of administration and student success at St. John's University and spent many years prior to that appointment serving in residence life, student affairs and enrollment services positions at a variety of institutions.

Kelso holds bachelor's degrees in history and secondary education from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Missouri, and a master's degree in history from Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas. His doctoral degree is in educational administration and leadership from Indiana State University in Terra Haute, Indiana.

He has served in faculty positions at seven colleges and universities primarily teaching history and education courses. He is also a current member of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and the Organization of American Historians, among others.

Students build skills in Lego robotics camp

Students from across West Tennessee are participating in Lego robotics camp this week. UT Martin has held the robotics camp since 2014, but this is the first year the camp has been held at the Jackson State Community College campus.

Students spend each day creating a new animal from Legos and programming it. On Monday, they created an alligator. UTM Jackson Center Director Kayce Beam tells us why they hold these camps.

"We just want everybody at a young age to start applying themselves and challenging themselves, and in the summer time it's very important for our kids to stay active and learn as much as possible," Beam said.

On Friday, some of the camp students will fight their completed robots to the death, like in the TV show "BattleBots."
University of Tennessee at Martin names local students to Chancellor’s Honor Roll

kmorris  Jun 25, 2018

The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2018 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 included on the Chancellor’s Honor Roll were local students Mercedes D. Tomlin, High Honors, of Enville; and Madelyn A. Collins, Honors; Brayden L. Faulkner, Highest Honors; Taylor J. Harrison, High Honors; Bethany M. Huggins, Honors; Caitlin E. Jones, Highest Honors; Madison T. Reed, High Honors; Abigail H. Rinninger, Highest Honors; Jerry S. Rowland, High Honors; Chad W. Sellers, Highest Honors; Kendyl D. Smith, Honors; Cullen R. Williams, High Honors; and Angela E. Wilson, High Honors, all of Henderson.

To be eligible for the 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).

University of Tennessee at Martin will offer Kid College program in Selmer in July

kmorris  Jun 25, 2018

The University of Tennessee at Martin is now registering children for the 2018 Kid College program at the UT Martin McNairy County Center/Selmer. Kid College will be held from 8:30-11:45 a.m., July 9-13, for children entering kindergarten through fifth grade.

The registration fee is $95 per student and is due at the time of registration. Pre-registration is required, and the fee includes a T-shirt.

All children will take three courses with students of similar age. “Fun with Science” introduces fossils, rockets and other experiments; “Amazing Race” teaches children about the cultures of five countries on a trip around the world; and “World Tour” introduces foods and traditions from other countries.

Parents will be sent an email containing additional information before the start of Kid College. Please contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 881-7104 if you do not receive this email.

To register online go to utm.edu/kidcollege. For more information, call 881-7104.
Miss Dixie PAC Lauren Dickson and Miss Chattanooga Christine Williamson are Wednesday's Talent and Fitness Wear preliminary winners, respectively, at the 2018 Miss Tennessee Scholarship Pageant at the Carl Perkins Civic Center in downtown Jackson. KENNETH CUMMINGS/THE JACKSON SUN
University of Tennessee at Martin

MARTIN, Tenn. — A local student has been named to the spring semester’s chancellor’s honor roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Rachel A. Noffsinger, of Anna, received high honors for the semester.

To be eligible for the 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).

Maury County student attends Governor’s School

By Special to The Daily Herald
Posted Jun 26, 2018 at 12:01 AM
Updated Jun 26, 2018 at 3:58 PM

Chase Hunter, of Columbia, was one of 57 students statewide to participate in the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities during the month of June. This academic program is hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin and allows select high school juniors and seniors to experience a collegiate atmosphere while earning college credit in either art history, political science or philosophy. Hunter is a student at Columbia Central High School.
Students from five local high schools complete Governor’s School this week

PHOTO: From left, Courtney Blaylock, Sarah Hall, Cameron Skillen, Bret Berry, Erin Mahoney and Cate Margolies

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE AT MARTIN

Courtney Blaylock, Sarah Hall, Cameron Skillen, Bret Berry, Erin Mahoney and Cate Margolies, all from Williamson County, are among 57 students statewide participating in the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities during the month of June.

The students attend Brentwood High School, Father Ryan High School, Page High School, Nolensville High School and Summit High School.

This four-week academic program is hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin and allows select high school juniors and seniors to experience a collegiate atmosphere while earning college credit in either art history, political science or philosophy.

The program started on June 4, and ends with a closing ceremony on Friday, June 29.

Seats still available for UTM SOAR sessions

incoming freshman students at UT Martin still have time to register for two upcoming Summer Orientation and Registration (SOAR) sessions: July 13 and 23.

Students must have received an official acceptance letter from UTM to attend orientation.

Registration for SOAR is $45 per student and $20 per additional guest, including parents, guardians, siblings and friends.

No tuition or fee payments are due until the first week of classes.

All incoming freshmen are required to attend a SOAR session to register for fall semester classes with the assistance of faculty members in their chosen fields of study. This ensures all students start their college experience on the right track to complete all required courses on time.

SOAR begins with check-in and an administrative fair on both July 13 and 23 at 8 a.m. An official welcome will begin at 8:45. Break-out sessions discussing Greek life, student organizations, intramural activities and the transition to college will be held later in the morning.

Additional sessions in housing, dining options, academic success, choosing a major and purchasing textbooks will follow lunch in the Skyhawk Dining Hall. Students will then meet with a faculty adviser to register for classes beginning at 1:15 p.m.

Special sessions for parents will help families learn more about college life at UTM and the expectations students will experience both from the campus community and the academic faculty. A departmental panel will host representatives from the offices of public safety, student life, disability services, student success, First-Year Initiatives, and career planning and development to discuss their respective areas.

Visit utm.edu/soar to register for your preferred date.

If you’re unable to attend either session, contact Assistant Director of Admissions Mary Wiggins at 731-881-7740 or mungers@utm.edu as soon as possible to arrange for alternate registration accommodations.
Couple uses their wedding to raise funds for Share Meal

When George Pasley and Tomi McCutchen began preparing for their New Year’s Eve wedding in 2017, they knew they needed to take an alternative route when it came to wedding gifts.

“At the time, we were 62 and 57, ... and we’ve had lives, and we have stuff. ... So we didn’t need anything,” said McCutchen.

With two homes already full of household goods, the pair instead requested donations to the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Skyhawks Share Meal Program, a sum that ultimately came to $2,385.

McCutchen is a longtime instructor of communications at UT Martin and grew up in Weakley County. She is also a two-time UT Martin alumnus with bachelor’s degrees in communications (’83) and geography (’05). Pasley relocated to the area from Alaska in February 2017 and serves as pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin. This combination made a donation to the university’s food insecurity program a logical conclusion.

“I knew that Tomi has a real bond with all her students, so between the fact that (Trinity) has a food ministry and Tomi is a teacher (at UT Martin), we decided that would be a good place to designate the gifts,” said Pasley.

The Skyhawks Share Meal Program was established in March 2017 by the UT Martin Student Government Association in an effort to help students who struggle with food insecurity. Meals can be donated to the program at $5 apiece, and students in need apply to have meals added to their student cards.

According to John Abel, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, 32 students have received assistance from the program since its inception and 380 meals have been distributed, with 164 of those meals given during the spring 2018 semester. The Pasley/McCutchen donation added 411 meals to the bank at a critical point in the academic year.

“The folks in the (student affairs) office were just overwhelmed. It was getting late in the semester, and they didn’t have much money left, and students were starting to run out of money,” said Pasley. “There was a definite need, and all students in need apply to have meals added to their student cards.

See WEDDING, Page 10
WEDDING,  
FROM PAGE 1  
of a sudden we were able to fill it. So we were tickled for that."  
"If nothing else, at least it will tide them over until they can have another donation day. Our hope is that maybe if people find out that you can just donate - that it doesn't have to come through students, it can be anyone in the community - then maybe others will do it," said McCutchen.

While McCutchen has never considered herself truly hungry, she has had some experience where food was in short supply.  
"My first exposure to [food insecurity] was when I was a grad student in Tuscaloosa. I could afford chicken noodle soup, and I ate a whole lot of chicken noodle soup for two and a half years. ... If you qualified for food stamps, you ate well. If you didn't qualify for them, and you were in grad school, then you didn't eat well," she said.  
"But I do know that it's getting more difficult for people [now] to qualify for assistance. The parameters of helping people are just changing dramatically, and in the midst of that change, if we can help people then we need to - especially people who make too much to qualify for a lot [of assistance]. If there's a way to hit that group that's not going to be able to get government help but there's still that need to get them over this hump and on to the next challenge, why not do it?"

"You can't think if you're hungry. You can't focus. You can't make the grades you need to make to keep your financial aid or pass your classes or continue on," she added. "Hunger is a very basic issue, a basic need. You can't focus on anything if you're starving half to death. ... For people who are truly hungry, it becomes an overwhelming thing."

The Skyhawks Share Meal Program accepts donations in person in the Skyhawk Dining Hall on designated donation days only, but the online donation portal is open year-round. Those wishing to contribute can do so at utm.edu/skyhawkshare. An online application is also available at this link for students in need of assistance.

For more information or for assistance in making a donation, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at 731-881-7700.

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The Banner • McKenzie, Tennessee • Tuesday, June 26, 2018

UT Martin Names Local Students to Spring Semester Chancellor's Honor Roll

MARTIN — The outstanding academic achievements of undergraduate students at the University of Tennessee at Martin have been honored with publication of the Spring 2018 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 the 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).

Local honorees include:

Atwood — Samantha M. Barrow, Highest Honors; Jordan M. Davis, Honors; Laura B. Killen, Highest Honors; Shelby E. Smith, Highest Honors; Caitlin S. Wade, High Honors.

Bruceton — Tabbyha R. Beardsley, Highest Honors; Kayce M. Brown, Honors; Marissa N. Cawthon, Honors; Joshua D. Gentry, Highest Honors; Jared A. Jordan, Honors; Matthew R. Katzmarek, High Honors.

Amanda L. Stockdale, Highest Honors; Michael E. Wilson, Honors.

Cedar Grove — Kendyll S. Gateley, High Honors; Tyler D. Kelly, Honors; Jane W. Williams, Honors.


Huntingdon — Haley M. Baker, Highest Honors; Brianna Bartholomew, High Honors; Sydney N. Batte, Highest Honors; Hannah O. Bououghs, High Honors; Nicholas R. Boyd, Highest Honors; John T. Burlison, Highest Honors; Morgan E. Cagle, Honors; Preston L. Carter, High Honors; Victoria B. Davis, Highest Honors; Savannah C. Dodson, Highest Honors; Austin K. Hill, Honors; Grace E. Hilliard, High Honors; Kirk T. Maddox, Highest Honors; Leah M. Martin, Highest Honors; Haidyn B. McLamore, Highest Honors; Morgan T. McKemick, Highest Honors; Benjamin J. Reiter, Highest Honors; Christopher A. Sullins, High Honors; Caroline E. Williams, Highest Honors.

Lavinia — Shelby A. Nicholas, Honors; Ashleigh T. Todd, Honors.
The University of Tennessee at Martin is still enrolling incoming freshman students for two upcoming Summer Orientation sessions.

Students must have received an official acceptance letter from the university to attend the orientation dates of July 11 – 13 or July 18 – 20.

Registration fee is $45 per student and $20 per additional guest, including parents, guardians, siblings and friends.

No tuition or fee payments are due until the first week of classes.

All incoming freshmen are required to attend a SOAR session to register for fall semester classes, with the assistance of choosing fields of study.

Each session will begin with a check-in and administrative fair at 8:00, with the days activities to include discussions on topics such as housing, purchasing textbooks, Greek life.

All attending freshmen students will also register for their Fall semester classes.

UT-Martin will also hold a specialized session for transfer and adult students on July 20th.
Fayette Schools: Students Seek Excitement and Knowledge at UTM Skyhawk Camp

A group of Fayette-Ware students seeking excitement and knowledge took part in the UT Martin Skyhawk Camp. The 2nd Annual Skyhawk Summer Academy afforded students a plethora of opportunities such as exposure to small animal veterinary science, interactions with all types of creatures both large and small, and boating on Reelfoot Lake. Thanks to UT Martin for providing these rich learning opportunities for students.

http://mctvlive.com/

Reece named to Honor Roll at UT Martin

Reece named to Honor Roll at UT Martin

MARTIN, Tenn. — Kathryn J. Reece of Louisburg recently was named to the Spring 2018 Chancellor's Honor Roll at the University of Tennessee at Martin.
UTM adds new ag degree

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees met June 22 in Knoxville and approved plans for UT Martin to offer a new Bachelor of Science degree in agricultural business. This program is the 18th bachelor’s degree program offered at UT Martin.

The program is an expansion of UT Martin’s existing concentration where students earning a degree in general agriculture could take select courses in agricultural business. Now, students will be able to earn a specialized bachelor’s degree in agricultural business with concentrations in areas such as agricultural marketing or agricultural finance.

“There is a large demand for agribusiness professionals. Approximately 47 percent of all agriculture jobs are directly related to agribusiness,” said Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor of agricultural economics. “New students who enter the program will benefit from a specialized degree which will allow them to compete with existing agribusiness programs. They will be able to market their degree as an agricultural business degree as opposed to a traditional agriculture degree.”

Mehlhorn said current students pursuing the existing agricultural business concentration can choose whether to move to the new catalog requirements for the (See UTM, page 11)
UTM sets tuition increase

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a three-percent tuition increase for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin during its annual meeting June 22 at the UT Institute of Agriculture campus in Knoxville. The increase is effective for the 2018 fall semester. The in-state tuition increase is the maximum allowed by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

UT Martin in-state tuition and mandatory fees will now cost undergraduate students an additional $258 annually for students with 90 or more credit hours and an additional $276 annually for students with fewer than 90 credit hours. New tuition and fees will be $4,438 (for students with more than 90 completed hours) or $4,756 (for students with fewer than 90 credit hours) per semester or $8,876 (for students with more than 90 completed hours 90 hours) or $9,512 (students with fewer than 90 completed hours) for a full academic year. Full-time undergraduate students enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Tuition is based on the “Soar in Four” program, which is designed to speed progress toward degree completion and was approved by the UT Board of Trustees in June 2016 for UT Martin. The program encourages students to take 15 hours per semester and (See TUITION, page 12)

Tuition increase set

(Continued from page 5) complete their undergraduate degrees in four years. The 2018-19 academic year will be the third year of the “Soar in Four” program. Tuition and mandatory fees for in-state graduate students will increase $151 per semester for a total of $5,512 per semester or $10,364 per academic year starting this fall. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

New bachelor’s degree added by university

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees met last week in Knoxville and approved plans for UT Martin to offer a new bachelor of science degree in agricultural business.

The program is an expansion of UT Martin’s existing concentration where students earning a degree in general agriculture could take select courses in agricultural business. Now, students will be able to earn a specialized bachelor’s degree in agricultural business with concentrations in areas such as agricultural marketing or agricultural finance.

“There is a large demand for agribusiness professionals. Approximately 47 percent of all agriculture jobs are directly related to agribusiness,” said Dr. Joey Mehlhorn, professor of agricultural economics. “New students who enter the program will benefit from a specialized degree which will allow them to compete with existing agribusiness programs. They will be able to market their degree as an agricultural business degree as opposed to a traditional agriculture degree.”

Mehlhorn said current students pursuing the existing agricultural business concentration can choose whether to move to the new catalog requirements for the independent degree program or continue on their current course of study. Incoming students will be automatically enrolled in the new degree program beginning with the fall 2018 semester.

This new degree program has been in the planning stages for the past two years, and Mehlhorn says all new courses will be taught by existing faculty members with no new hires anticipated.
Seats available at UTM orientations for incoming freshman students

The University of Tennessee at Martin is still enrolling incoming freshman students for two upcoming Summer Orientation and Registration sessions, July 13 and 23, and transfer and adult students for a specialized session July 20.

Students must have received an official acceptance letter from UT Martin to attend orientation.

Registration for SOAR is $45 per student and $20 per additional guest, including parents, guardians, siblings and friends. No tuition or fee payments are due until the first week of classes.

All incoming freshmen are required to attend a SOAR session to register for fall semester classes with the assistance of faculty members in their chosen fields of study. This ensures all students start their college experience on the right track to complete all required courses on time.

SOAR begins with check-in and an administrative fair at 8 a.m. July 13 or 23. An official welcome will begin at 8:45. Break-out sessions discussing Greek life, student organizations, travel-study opportunities and the transition to college will be held later in the morning.

Additional sessions in housing, dining options, academic success, choosing a major and purchasing textbooks will follow lunch in the Skyhawk Dining Hall. Students will then meet with a faculty adviser to register for classes beginning at 1:15 p.m.

Special sessions for parents will help families learn more about college life at UT Martin and the expectations students will experience both from the campus community and the academic faculty. A departmental panel will host representatives from the offices of public safety, student life, disability services, student success, First-Year Initiative and career planning and development to discuss their respective areas.

Those interested should visit utm.edu/soar to register for their preferred date.

For those unable to attend either session, contact Mary Wiggins, assistant director of admissions, at (731) 881-7740 or munger@utm.edu as soon as possible to arrange for alternate registration accommodations.

A Transfer and Adult Orientation session will be held July 20 for transfer and non-traditional students. This session begins at 8:30 a.m. and will host sessions in career planning and development, financial planning, student life, veteran services, student success and campus technology. Students will register beginning at 10:45 a.m. with the assistance of a faculty adviser, and campus tours are optional after lunch.

Attendance at orientation is not mandatory for transfer or adult students, and individuals may choose to register for classes online if they prefer. There is no charge to attend for transfer or adult students.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register.

For more information or assistance, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020.

Soybean Talent Show set

The 14th annual Soybean Talent Show has been scheduled for Sept. 3 on the big stage in Festival Park in downtown Martin.

The event begins at 6 p.m. for entrants ages 8 and younger, followed by ages 9-12 and ages 12 and older. The Mid-South Preliminary Division begins at 7 for contestants between the ages of 13 and 21.

Entry forms will be available online at the Soybean Festival website (www.tnsoybeanfestival.org) or from Linda Ramsey, show coordinator, at lramsey@utm.edu.

In the case of rain, the event will be moved at the Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The event begins at 8 a.m. July 13 or 23. An official welcome will begin at 8:45. Break-out sessions discussing Greek life, student organizations, travel-study opportunities and the transition to college will be held later in the morning.

Additional sessions in housing, dining options, academic success, choosing a major and purchasing textbooks will follow lunch in the Skyhawk Dining Hall. Students will then meet with a faculty adviser to register for classes beginning at 1:15 p.m.

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Attendance at orientation is not mandatory for transfer or adult students, and individuals may choose to register for classes online if they prefer. There is no charge to attend for transfer or adult students.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register.

For more information or assistance, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020.

The Soybean Talent Show is held in celebration of soybeans and the University of Tennessee at Martin. The event features a variety of acts, including solo, group or variety categories. There will be awards given to the first and second place in each division. In the Mid-South Division, there will be an overall winner, plus first, second and third places. The overall winner of the Mid-South Division will be invited to participate in the Mid-South Fair Talent Show in September. The talent scout may also invite other acts to participate in the Mid-South Fair.

A keyboard will be made available.

All Mid-South Fair Talent Show contestants should have their CDs, and it would be wise to sing without background vocals since that isn't allowed in the Mid-South Fair Competition.

The deadline for entries is Aug. 31. Entrants may scan their entry forms and email them to lramsey@utm.edu or entries may be mailed to Linda Ramsey, 986 Adams Road, Martin, TN 38237.

Anyone registering after the Aug. 31 deadline will pay a $5 late fee.

All contestants should check-in an hour before the show begins.

All proceeds will benefit leadership training and service projects of the Westview High School Key Club and the Martin Kiwanis Club.

For more information, email or call Ms. Ramsey at (731) 225-7729.
IN LIEU OF GIFTS — Tomi McCutchen and husband George Pasley collected more than $2,000 for the Skyhawk Share Meal Program at the University of Tennessee at Martin instead of accepting wedding gifts after their marriage in December 2017. Ms. McCutchen is a longtime instructor of communications at UT Martin.

Couple makes wedding donation to UTM Skyhawks meal program

When George Pasley and Tomi McCutchen began preparing for their New Year’s Eve wedding in 2017, they knew they needed to take an alternative route when it came to wedding gifts.

“At the time, we were 62 and 57 ... and we’ve had lives, and we have stuff. ... So we didn’t need anything,” Ms. McCutchen said.

With two homes already full of household goods, the pair instead requested donations to the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Skyhawks Share Meal Program, a sum that ultimately came to $2,385.

Ms. McCutchen is a longtime instructor of communications at UT Martin and grew up in Weakley County. She is also a two-time UT Martin alumna with bachelor’s degrees in communications (1983) and geography (2005).

Pasley relocated to the area from Alaska in February 2017 and serves as pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin. This combination made a donation to the university’s food insecurity program a logical conclusion.

“I knew that Tomi has a real bond with all her students, so between the fact that (Trinity) has a food ministry and Tomi is a teacher (at UT Martin), we decided that would be a good place to designate the gifts,” Pasley said.

The Skyhawks Share Meal Program was established in March 2017 by the UT Martin Student Government Association in an effort to help students who struggle with food insecurity. Meals can be donated to the program at
$5 apiece, and students in need apply to have meals added to their student cards.

According to John Abel, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, 32 students have received assistance from the program since its inception and 380 meals have been distributed, with 164 of those meals given during the spring 2018 semester. The Pasley/McCutchen donation added 477 meals to the bank at a critical point in the academic year.

"The folks in the (student affairs) office were just overwhelmed. It was getting late in the semester, and they didn't have much money left, and students were starting to run out of money," Pasley said. "There was a definite need, and all of a sudden we were able to fill it. So we were tickled for that."

"If nothing else, at least it will tide them over until they can have another donation day. Our hope is that maybe if people find out that you can just donate — that it doesn't have to come through students, it can be anyone in the community — then maybe others will do it," Ms. McCutchen said.

While Ms. McCutchen has never considered herself truly hungry, she has had some experience with food being in short supply. "My first exposure to (food insecurity) was when I was a grad student in Tuscaloosa (Alabama). I could afford chicken noodle soup and I ate a whole lot of chicken noodle soup for two and a half years. ... If you qualified for food stamps, you ate well. If you didn't qualify for them, and you were in grad school, then you didn't eat well," she said.

"But I do know that it's getting more difficult for people (now) to qualify for assistance. The parameters of helping people are just changing dramatically, and in the midst of that change, if we can help people then we need to — especially people who make too much to qualify for a lot (of assistance). ... If there's a way to hit that group that's not going to be able to get government help but there's still that need to get them over this hump and on to the next challenge, why not do it? ..."

"You can't think if you're hungry. You can't focus. You can't make the grades you need to make to keep your financial aid or pass your classes or continue on," she added. "Hunger is a very basic issue, a basic need. You can't focus on anything if you're starving half to death. ... For people who are truly hungry, it becomes an overwhelming thing."

The Skyhawks Share Meal Program accepts donations in person in the Skyhawk Dining Hall on designated donation days only, but the online donation portal is open year-round. Those wishing to contribute can do so at utm.edu/skyhawksshare. An online application is also available at this link for students in need of assistance.

For more information or for assistance in making a donation, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at (731) 881-7700.
UT Martin in-state tuition to rise 3 percent this fall

The University of Tennessee Board of Trustees approved a 3 percent tuition increase for students attending the University of Tennessee at Martin during its annual meeting last week at the UT Institute of Agriculture campus in Knoxville.

The increase is effective for the 2018 fall semester.

The in-state tuition increase is the maximum allowed by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

UT Martin in-state tuition and mandatory fees will now cost undergraduate students an additional $258 annually for students with 90 or more credit hours and an additional $276 annually for students with fewer than 90 credit hours.

New tuition and fees will be $4,438 (for students with more than 90 completed hours) or $4,756 (for students with fewer than 90 completed hours) per semester or $8,876 (for students with more than 90 completed hours) or $9,512 (students with fewer than 90 completed hours) for a full academic year. Full-time undergraduate students enroll for a minimum of 12 credit hours.

Tuition is based on the “Soar in Four” program, which is designed to speed progress toward degree completion and was approved by the UT Board of Trustees in June 2016 for UT Martin. The program encourages students to take 15 hours per semester and complete their undergraduate degrees in four years. The 2018-19 academic year will be the third year of the “Soar in Four” program.

Tuition and mandatory fees for in-state graduate students will increase $151 per semester for a total of $5,512 per semester or $10,364 per academic year starting this fall. Full-time graduate enrollment is nine hours per semester.

The newly-approved tuition schedule is available at utm.edu/tuition.

For freshmen attending UT Martin this fall, final Summer Orientation and Registration sessions are set for July 13 and July 23, both at the main campus. A final Transfer and Adult Orientation session is set for July 20, also at the main campus.

Call the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at (731) 881-7020 for information.

Fall semester classes begin Aug. 27 at the main campus and UT Martin centers in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville.
Fourteenth Annual Soybean Talent Show

On September 3, 2018 the annual Soybean Talent Show begins at 6 p.m. with the 8 and under age Division, and the Junior Division for 9 to 12 age Division. The 22 and older age category will follow the 9 to 12 age category this year. At 7 p.m., the Mid-South Preliminary Division begins for contestants between the ages of 13 and 21 years of age.

Entry forms will be available either online at the Soybean Festival website (www.tnsoybeanfestival.org) or from Linda Ramsey, Show Coordinator, at lramsey@utm.edu. The Soybean Talent Show will be located in on the big stage in Festival Park downtown. If it rains, it will be at the Watkins Auditorium in the Boling University Center at the University of Tennessee at Martin. There will be a keyboard available.

The entry fee is $25 per act, and anyone can enter the solo, group, or variety categories. The deadline for entries is August 31, 2018. Please send completed entry forms either via email by scanning the form and attaching it to an email to lramsey@utm.edu or by mailing the form to Linda Ramsey, 986 Adams Road, Martin, TN 38237 by the deadline, August 31, 2018. For more information or if you have any questions, please email or call Linda Ramsey, 731-225-7729.

Blake Longacre and Judah Brown

Local Students Attend Governors School

Blake Longacre and Judah Brown, both of Martin, were among 57 students statewide to participate in the Tennessee Governor’s School for the Humanities during the month of June. This academic program is hosted at the University of Tennessee at Martin and allows select high school juniors and seniors to experience a collegiate atmosphere while earning college credit in either art history, political science or philosophy. Both students attend Westview High School.
Dr. Keith Carver, chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Martin, presented the university’s strategic plan to the UT Board of Trustees Subcommittee on Student Conduct, Rights and Responsibilities during the board’s annual meeting June 22 in Knoxville. The plan was later approved by the full board and became effective immediately.

“UT Martin is on an impressive trajectory,” said Dr. Joe DiPietro, president of the UT System. “This new strategic plan will help keep the campus growing and strong. It sets concise and important goals and has the metrics to measure outcomes and achievement.”

“We are grateful for the UT Board of Trustees’ endorsement of the UT Martin Strategic Plan. This five-year plan will be used to educate students, drive discovery and maximize our impact on the surrounding region. I am excited about UT Martin’s path forward,” said Carver.

UT Martin’s strategic plan is intended to serve as a university blueprint and guide the institution through the year 2023. It was created with input and direction from both current and retired faculty and staff members, current students, alumni, donors, stakeholders and local community members.

“I think it’s wonderful that UT Martin has initiated a long-term plan that it has not had (previously). It is beneficial not only for the campus (and) for the students but also the West Tennessee economy,” said Julia Wells, a UT trustee from Tennessee’s eighth district, following Carver’s presentation. “I see UT Martin on an upward trend, and I think this plan will enhance the movement that is occurring there. We’re excited about UT Martin and what it can offer to West Tennessee and the region.”

The plan is based on five goals, each with individual objectives to help guide university decisions in that area.

First, UT Martin will prepare graduates to be responsible, informed and engaged citizens in their workplaces and larger communities. To this end, UT Martin is committed to providing top-tier academic programs with hands-on experiences both inside and outside of the classroom and will put a priority on helping students develop essential life skills.

Second, the university will recruit, retain and graduate students who are prepared for careers, professions and life. UT Martin plans to do this by implementing a strategic enrollment plan and encouraging student participation in co-curricular programs such as internships and mentorships. The university intends to recruit high-caliber students and help them gain real-world experiences in professions for which they are well-suited.

The third goal commits UT Martin to creating a campus that is open, accessible and welcoming to all. Increasing visibility for the Office of Multicultural Affairs is a key component in achieving this goal, as is recruiting a diverse pool of faculty and staff members.

UT Martin also plans to promote the responsible use of resources by enhancing revenue; implementing competitive salary and compensation plans; and prioritizing facilities growth and improvements.

Finally, UT Martin is committed to improving the prosperity of West Tennessee and increasing the university’s visibility through service and advocacy in the region. Moving forward, UT Martin will continue to promote civic engagement through service learning, internships, research and travel study, and coordinate outreach and community activities to support research and economic development.

“The city of Martin and UT Martin enjoy a Town and Gown relationship that is critical to the success of both the city and the university. It is meaningful to know that the university cares not only about the campus experience but also about the community experience from a resident and business perspective,” said Brad Thompson, director of community development for the city of Martin. “This plan gives UT Martin a clear directive to strengthen academia and increase recruitment, which will ultimately have a positive economic impact on the region.”

Progress reports and meeting notes from previous strategic plan meetings are available at utm.edu/strategic. The website also provides a list of steering committee members, a timeline for plan implementation and a feedback form for those wishing to comment on the plan’s components.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Office of the Chancellor at 731-881-7500.
WestStar Leadership Program Class Graduates 21

MARTIN, Tenn. — Members of the WestStar Leadership Program’s class of 2018 graduated Thursday, June 21, during WestStar’s closing event held at the DoubleTree Hotel in Jackson. A 5:30 p.m. reception was followed by dinner and the graduation ceremony. The University of Tennessee at Martin sponsors the WestStar Leadership Program.

This marked the program’s 29th class and brings the total to 827 graduates since WestStar was established in 1989. The 2018 class included 30 members who were competitively selected to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential.

Each WestStar class is chosen annually by the program’s board of trustees. Selection is based on individual leadership achievements and potential to contribute to West Tennessee’s development. The class members, selected from all occupations and levels of community and regional involvement, complete eight sessions covering topics including agriculture and transportation, public policy issues, education and tourism.

Dr. Charley Deal, WestStar executive director, welcomed more than 150 class members, alumni and guests to the graduation ceremony. He thanked the program’s sponsors, reviewed WestStar-sponsored conferences and activities since the start of the year and joined the program’s board of trustees to congratulate graduates and present graduation plaques.

Deal also announced WestStar’s most recent scholarship recipients, as well as three major awards presented annually during the program’s graduation.

Ashley Dennis, of Savannah, chief financial officer of Hardin County Bank, received the 2018 Class Representative Award. Dennis was selected by current class members to represent the class in future WestStar activities.

Brett Lashlee, of Camden, an accountant and business process coordinator for Caterpillar Financial Insurance Services, received the C.P. Boyd Leadership Award. The award, named for the late Haywood County community leader and educator Dr. C.P. Boyd, recognizes the person who best reflects compassion and leadership for West Tennessee, as selected by his or her classmates.

Dr. Lisa Piercey, of Medina, executive vice president for West Tennessee Healthcare and a board-certified child-abuse pediatrician, received the Jimmy Daniel Make-A-Difference WestStar Leadership Alumni Award. The award is named for the late Jimmy Daniel, a 1990 WestStar graduate, founding program trustee and a field representative during the Gov. Don Sundquist administration. Recipients must be WestStar graduates who have had positive impacts in their city or county during the past five years and possess strong records of leadership in West Tennessee.

Piercey graduated from the program in 2015.

Seth Bowers, of Gleason, and Ray Washington IV, of Ripley, both received RisingStar Leadership Scholarships. These scholarships are awarded to students who attended WestStar’s RisingStar Leadership Program held for selected high school juniors and seniors each fall and who plan to attend UT Martin. Selections are made by a university committee.

Luke Winters, of Martin, and Jenna Watson, of Friendship, received Nick Dunagan Leadership Scholarships. Both students attend UT Martin and are the children of WestStar graduates. These scholarships are named for Dr. Nick Dunagan, UT Martin chancellor emeritus and former WestStar executive director. Recipients are chosen by the WestStar Board of Trustees.

Following recognition of the graduates, Deal closed the event by reminding the audience that leadership is about impact, influence and inspiration. “Impact involves getting results, influence is about spreading the passion that you have for your work, and you have to be able to inspire those around you,” he said. “Let us all leave here tonight committed to making a positive impact in our community, influencing positive changes in West Tennessee and inspiring the next generation of leaders to commit to making our state even better than it is today.”

Applications for the 2019 WestStar class are being accepted after Sept. 1, and members of the new class will be selected later this fall.

The 2018 WestStar graduating class members and their hometowns are: Tommy Allmon, Dyersburg; B.W. Beasley, Milan; Leigh Anne Bentley, Jackson; Yvette Blue, Brownsville; Rico Bryson, Jackson; Joseph Butler, Huntington; Alex Bynum, Dresden; Tony Childress, Dyersburg; Michael Creasy, Decaturville; Ashley Dennis, Savannah; Brent Dillahunty, Huntington; Stephanie Fowler, Jackson; Richard Griggs, Covington; John Hughey, Trenton; Brett Lashlee, Camden; Andrew Long, Jackson; Julian McIntzic, Bolivar; Charlie Moore, Alamo; Jeff Parham, Martin; Theresa Powell, Alamo; Rodney Reynolds, Lexington; John Rountree, Millington; Heidi Shafer, Memphis; Brandy Stutsman, Jackson; Portis Tanner, Union City; Kara Tapp, Somerville; Frank Tate, McKenzie; Bob Turner, Somerville; Katie Weatherford, Selmer; and Charles West, Paris.
UT Martin's Kid College Scheduled

The University of Tennessee at Martin is registering children for the 2018 Kid College program at the UT Martin Ripley Center. Kid College is scheduled to be held July 11th through July 13th, 8 a.m. through 12:10 p.m., for children entering kindergarten through fifth grade. Pre-registration is required, and the fee includes a T-shirt. All children will attend two courses based on age. "LEGOs-Early Simple Machines" allows students entering kindergarten to second grade to build simple models in teams, and "Simple and Powered Machines" allows students to third through fifth grades to study gearing mechanisms and motorized machines. "Fitness Fun" is designed for all ages. Parents will be sent an email containing additional information before the start of Kid College. Contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104 if this email is not received. Kid College activities will also be held June 11th through June 15th on the UT Martin main campus and at the UT Martin Somerville Center; June 25th through June 28th at the Parsons Center; and July 9th through July 13th at the McNairy County Center/Selmer. Visit utm.edu/kidcollege to register online and find extended information for parents. For assistance or more information on fees, contact the UT Martin Office of Educational Outreach at 731-881-7104.

SCHOLARSHIP

Ray Washington IV, of Ripley, received a RisingStar Leadership scholarship during the annual WestStar Leadership graduation ceremony Thursday, June 21st. WestStar program is sponsored by the University of Tennessee at Martin. The scholarship is awarded to a student, who attended WestStar’s RisingStar Leadership Program held for selected high school juniors and seniors each fall and who plan to attend UT Martin.
Seats Available at UT Martin

The University of Tennessee at Martin is still enrolling incoming freshman students for two upcoming Summer Orientation and Registration sessions, July 13th and 23rd, and transfer and adult students for a specialized session July 20th.

All incoming freshmen are required to attend a SOAR session to register for fall semester classes with the assistance of faculty members in their chosen fields of study. This ensures all students start their college experience on the right track to complete all required courses on time.

SOAR begins with check-in and an administrative fair at 8 a.m., July 13th or 23rd. An official welcome will begin at 8:45 a.m. Break-out sessions discussing Greek life, student organizations, travel-study opportunities and the transition to college will be held later in the morning.

Additional sessions in housing, dining options, academic success, choosing a major and purchasing textbooks will follow lunch in the Skyhawk Dining Hall. Students will then meet with a faculty adviser to register for classes beginning at 1:15 p.m.

Special sessions for parents will help families learn more about college life at UT Martin and the expectations students will experience both from the campus community and the academic faculty. A departmental panel will host representatives from the offices of public safety, student life, disability services, student success, First-Year Initiative, and career planning and development to discuss their respective areas.

Students must have received an official acceptance letter from UT Martin to attend orientation. No tuition or fee payments are due until the first week of classes.

Visit utm.edu/soar to register for your preferred date and for questions about registration fees. If you are unable to attend either session, contact Mary Wiggins, assistant director of admissions, at 731-881-7740 or munger@utm.edu as soon as possible to arrange for alternate registration accommodations.

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Attendance at orientation is not mandatory for transfer or adult students, and individuals may choose to register for classes online if they prefer. There is no charge to attend for transfer or adult students.

Visit utm.edu/transferorientation to register. For more information or assistance, contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 731-881-7020.
Members of the UTM WestStar Leadership Program’s class of 2018 graduated Thursday, June 21, during WestStar’s closing event in Jackson. A reception was followed by dinner and the graduation ceremony. This marked the program’s 29th class and brings the total to 827 graduates since WestStar was established in 1989. The 2018 class included 30 members who were competitively selected to learn new leadership skills and develop strategies for assisting communities in solving problems and maximizing potential.

Each WestStar class is chosen annually by the program’s board of trustees. Selection is based on individual leadership achievements and potential to contribute to West Tennessee’s development. The class members completed eight sessions covering topics such as agriculture, transportation, public policy issues, education, and tourism.

WestStar Executive Director Dr. Charles Deal welcomed class members and guests, and thanked the program’s corporate sponsors. He announced WestStar’s most recent scholarship recipients, and presented awards to WestStar graduates. Honorees included the following:

Brett Lashlee, of Camden, an accountant and business process coordinator for Caterpillar Financial Insurance Services, received the C.P. Boyd Leadership Award. The award recognizes the person who best reflects compassion and leadership for West Tennessee, as selected by his classmates.

Ashley Dennis, of Savannah, chief financial officer of Hardin County Bank, received the 2018 Class Representative Award. She was elected by the class to represent them in future WestStar events.

Dr. Lisa Piercey, of Medina, executive vice president for West Tennessee Healthcare, received the Jimmy Daniel Make-A-Difference WestStar Leadership Alumni Award, presented to a WestStar graduate who has positive impacted her community during the past five years and possess strong records of leadership in West Tennessee. Piercey completed the program in 2015.

Selected by a UTM committee, Seth Bowers (Gleason) and Ray Washington (Ripley) both received RisingStar Leadership Scholarships, awarded to prospective UTM students who participated in the WestStar RisingStar Leadership Program last fall. Chosen by the WestStar Board of Trustees, Luke Winters (Martin) and Jenna Watson (Friendship) received Nick Duncan Leadership Scholarships.

In addition to Lashlee, the 2018 WestStar graduates included area residents Joseph Butler (Huntingdon), Michael Creasy (Decaturville), Brent Dillahunty (Huntingdon), Frank Tate (McKenzie), and Charles West (Paris). Applications for the 2019 WestStar class are being accepted after Sept. 1, and members of the new class will be selected later this fall.
**Donation**

Continued from Page 3A

Program, a sum that ultimately came to $2,385.

McCutchen is a longtime instructor of communications at UT Martin and grew up in Weakley County. She is also a two-time UT Martin alumna with bachelor's degrees in communications ('83) and geography ('05). Pasley relocated to the area from Alaska in February last year and serves as pastor at Trinity Presbyterian Church in Martin. This combination made a donation to the university’s food insecurity program a logical conclusion.

"I knew that Tomi has a real bond with all her students, so between the fact that (Trinity) has a food ministry and Tomi is a teacher (at UT Martin), we decided that would be a good place to designate the gifts," said Pasley.

The Skyhawks Share Meal Program was established in March 2017 by the UT Martin Student Government Association in an effort to help students who struggle with food insecurity. Meals can be donated to the program at $5 apiece, and students in need apply to have meals added to their student cards.

According to John Abel, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs, 32 students have received assistance from the program since its inception, and 380 meals have been distributed, with 164 of those meals given during the spring 2018 semester. The Pasley/McCutchen donation added 477 meals to the bank at a critical point in the academic year.

"The folks in the (student affairs) office were just overwhelmed. It was getting late in the semester, and they didn't have much money left, and students were starting to run out of money," Pasley said. "There was a definite need, and all of a sudden we were able to fill it. So, we were tickled for that."

"If nothing else, at least it will tide them over until they can have another donation day. Our hope is that maybe if people find out that you can just donate — that it doesn't have to come through students, it can be anyone in the community — then maybe others will do it," McCutchen said.

While McCutchen has never considered herself truly hungry, she has had some experience where food was in short supply.

"My first exposure to (food insecurity) was when I was a grad student in..."
Tuscaloosa (Alabama). I could afford chicken noodle soup — and I ate a whole lot of chicken noodle soup for two and a half years. ... If you qualified for food stamps, you ate well. If you didn’t qualify for them, and you were in grad school, then you didn’t eat well,” she said. “But I do know that it’s getting more difficult for people (now) to qualify for assistance. The parameters of helping people are just changing dramatically, and in the midst of that change, if we can help people, then we need to — especially people who make too much to qualify for a lot (of assistance). ... If there’s a way to hit that group that’s not going to be able to get government help, but there’s still that need to get them over this hump and on to the next challenge, why not do it?

“You can’t think if you’re hungry. You can’t focus. You can’t make the grades you need to make to keep your financial aid or pass your classes or continue on,” she added. “Hunger is a very basic issue, a basic need. You can’t focus on anything if you’re starving half to death. ... For people who are truly hungry, it becomes an overwhelming thing.”

The Skyhawks Share Meal Program accepts donations in person in the Skyhawk Dining Hall on designated donation days only, but the online donation portal is open year-round. Those wishing to contribute can do so at utm.edu/skyhawksshare. An online application is also available at this link for students in need of assistance.

For more information or for assistance in making a donation, contact the UT Martin Office of Student Affairs at 731-881-7700.

### Seats available for UTM orientation sessions

The University of Tennessee at Martin is still enrolling incoming freshman students for two upcoming Summer Orientation and Registration sessions, July 13 and 23, and transfer and adult students for a specialized session July 20.

Students must have received an official acceptance letter from UT Martin to attend orientation. Registration for SOAR is $45 per student and $20 per additional guest, including parents, guardians, siblings and friends. No tuition or fee payments are due until the first week of classes.

All incoming freshmen are required to attend a SOAR session to register for fall semester classes with the assistance of faculty members in their chosen fields of study. This ensures all students start their college experience on the right track to complete all required courses on time.

SOAR begins with check-in and an administrative fair at 8 a.m., July 13 or 23. An official welcome will begin at 8:45. Break-out sessions discussing Greek life, student organizations, travel-study opportunities and the transition to college will be held later in the morning.

Additional sessions in housing, dining options, academic success, choosing a major and purchasing textbooks will follow lunch in the Skyhawk Dining Hall. Students will then meet with a faculty adviser to register for classes beginning at 1:35 p.m.
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