Exum, Moss honored with 2017 UTM awards

ERIN CHESNIT
SPECIAL FOR THE SUN

MARTIN - Joe Exum, formerly of Leland Powell Fasteners in Martin, and Mike Moss, of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, will receive alumni awards during the University of Tennessee at Martin's homecoming festivities Oct. 7. The homecoming football game against Murray State University will begin at 2 p.m. in Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, will present the awards during the Chancellor's Brunch and Awards Program in the Paul Meek Library, scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m., Oct. 7.

Exum will receive the Chancellor's Award for University Service, which recognizes exemplary service to the university. He graduated from UT Martin in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in general business management and was a distinguished graduate from the university's Army ROTC program. He later served as executive officer of an advanced individual training company at Ft. Knox, Kentucky, and as a tank platoon leader and acting company commander in Vietnam.

After his military career, Exum earned a graduate degree in marketing from the University of Alabama in 1972, and his subsequent career included positions with First Federal Savings and Loan Association in West Point, Georgia; Pepsi Cola in Marion, Illinois; and Reelfoot Bank in Union City.

Exum has served his alma mater in many capacities, including filling positions as chairman of the UT Martin Development Committee, Chancellor's Roundtable and College of Business Advisory Board; president of the Weakley County alumni chapter and the UT Martin Skyhawk Club; and as a member of the University of Tennessee's Development Council.

Mike Moss will be honored with the Outstanding Alumni Award. Moss received a Bachelor of Science degree from UT Martin in 1963 and has since spent 40 years in public education, teaching with Memphis and Shelby County Schools, as an admissions officer with the University of Memphis and as coordinator of admissions for the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

He has served UT Martin and the UT System as a member of both the UT Martin Alumni Board and the University of Tennessee Alumni Association Board of Governors, and as president of the UT Martin Memphis Region Alumni Chapter, UTAA Memphis Region chapter and the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association.

Since his retirement, he has volunteered with First Presbyterian Church in Memphis to help the local homeless population obtain official identification paperwork. He has also taught a six-month program for addiction recovery.

UTM planning to host Italian speaker this week

The University of Tennessee at Martin will host Luca Bonomi, president of the Society Dante Alighieri in Siena, Italy, on Oct. 2-5. Bonomi will not only appear as part of the UT Martin Academic Speaker Series on Oct. 3, but will also host several special presentations during his stay.

Bonomi will present two public presentations during his week-long campus visit. He will appear as part of the UT Martin Academic Speaker Series at 6 p.m. Oct. 3, in the Boling University Center's Watkins Auditorium, where he will discuss "Music and Songs: A New Idea of Soundtracks in Italian Cinema, 1950s-60s."

He will also give a presentation sponsored by the UT Martin Department of Music at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 2 in the Fine Arts Building's Blankenship Recital Hall, where he will address "Love, Sacrifice and Redemption in 'La Traviata,' " an opera by Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi.
West Tennessee man killed in Las Vegas shooting

October 2, 2017 by NBC

Big Sandy, TN (WSMV)- A local man was killed in a mass shooting in Las Vegas.

Sonny Melton of Big Sandy, Tennessee, was killed at the Route 91 Harvest festival.

He was there with his wife, Dr. Heather Melton. She says Sonny saved her life while bullets struck the crowd.

“He saved my life. He grabbed me and started running when I felt him get shot in the back,” she said. “I want everyone to know what a kind-hearted, loving man he was, but at this point, I can barely breathe.”

Sonny was a registered nurse who worked at the emergency room with his wife and ICU at Henry County Medical Center. The hospital has released a statement saying counseling is available for people who work with the Meltons. Thomas Gee, CEO at Henry County Medical Center adds, “we ask that all staff, friends, and patients of the couple respect their privacy at this time and refrain from contacting the family and the HCMC Kelley Clinic if they do not have a reason to do so.”

His Facebook page says he studied nursing at Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. He also attended Big Sandy High School and University of Tennessee at Martin.

Sonny posted on Facebook that he was at the country music festival. Friends and family have posted their concerns and prayers.
Las Vegas Shooting Victim Identified as Sonny Melton of Big Sandy, Tennessee

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS & WKMS STAFF - OCT 2, 2017

Heather Gulish Melton and Sonny Melton. He was killed while protecting her in the mass-shooting Sunday night in Las Vegas.

Credit via Facebook

The first victim identified in a mass-shooting at a music festival in Las Vegas Sunday night is Sonny Melton of Big Sandy, Tennessee, who was attending the event with his wife Heather. Sonny was a registered nurse, according to Facebook, and an employee of Henry County Medical Center. He has also studied at University of Tennessee at Martin. Hundreds of people have expressed condolences on social media.

Dr. Heather Gulish Melton is an orthopedic surgeon at Innovative Orthopedics and was not injured the attack. She told USA Today that her husband had saved her life by protecting her after he had been shot. She told WZTV in Nashville that her husband "saved my life and lost his." She said her husband was the most kind-hearted, loving man she ever met.

HCMC said in statement they are “deeply saddened by the tragic loss of life that occurred.” They have asked to respect the family’s privacy and refrain from contacting the family, the HCMC Kelley Clinic and Innovative Orthopedics. The hospital has provided counselors for staff and others affected.

UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver said in a statement that "The UT Martin family mourns the tragic loss of life in Las Vegas, and we grieve with Mr. Melton's family and many friends at his death. We remember everyone touched by this unspeakable tragedy and pray for healing in the days ahead."

According to NPR, as of Monday afternoon, Melton was one of more than 58 people who died in the attack Sunday night at the Route 91 Harvest festival that also left 515 injured.
Marines honor first woman to become amphibious assault officer

On Tuesday, Marine 2nd Lt. Mariah Klenke became the Corps’ first female amphibious assault officer. (Carl Prine | San Diego Union-Tribune)

By Carl Prine, Contact Reporter

When Mariah Klenke decided that she wanted to become a Marine amphibious assault officer, she had no idea that she was going to be the first woman to even try.

“I had a thought, but I wasn’t for sure,” said Klenke, 24, of St. Rose, Illinois, a farming community about 35 miles east of St. Louis. “A couple of people had said something about me, possibly, being the first person. But then when I finally got my (military occupational specialty), my captain at the time told me, ‘You’re going to be an 1803. You’re going to be the first female to go there.’”

Second Lt. Klenke graduated Tuesday morning from amphibious assault school, the first woman to start the course since the Pentagon in late 2015 lifted its ban on female troops in combat roles.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee at Martin, Klenke went to the Marines’ Officer Candidate School in mid-2016, only months after the Department of Defense opened up all military specialties to women.

“When I first got to the class, I was a little nervous about it,” Klenke said. “But as time went on, it didn’t seem to be an issue after that.”

Klenke becomes the latest female first in the Marine Corps. Over the past six months, 2nd Lt. Lillian Polatchek became the first Marine woman tank officer and fellow lieutenants Virginia Brodie and Katherine Bey graduated the artillery officer course.

On Sept. 25, the corps announced that an unnamed woman had completed the grueling Infantry Officer Course and that she would be assigned to Camp Pendleton. That made the amphibious course the last to graduate a female officer.

Two female amphibious assault vehicle operators have graduated the enlisted Marines’ course, plus a woman who became a mechanic.

Col. Dan Yaroslaski, 47, told The San Diego Union-Tribune that the Marines can now “stop talking about integration” and just keep doing it.

“It’s just who we are now,” said Yaroslaski, who credited fitness tests designed to mimic the chores Marines would do in combat as ensuring officers meet tough standards, regardless of gender.

“We’ve actually screened out lots of males because the events that have to be done are specific to the types of things you have to do in the Marine Corps,” he said. “One of the events is that you have to take a Mk-19 (grenade launcher) and hold it above your head. Very realistic, right? You’ll have to hold a Mk-19 above your head to hand it up to the turret.”

Yaroslaski said that the Marines have to “watch out for your pioneers” but he believes Klenke will find the officers and senior non-commissioned officers to advise and mentor her, without letting her gender define her.

The demanding 12-week amphibious assault officer course is designed to produce platoon leaders who command amphibious vehicle crews. Klenke learned gunnery marksmanship, water survival skills and offensive and defensive operations, both on shore and deep inland. More than a third of the course took place in the Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center 29 Palms in southern San Bernardino County.

Klenke said that her toughest challenge came during amphibious operations training, when she completed up to four missions daily.

“We operated pretty much all day. We got a couple of hours of sleep and then went back to operating the next day,” she said.

Klenke has been assigned to Camp Pendleton’s 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion.

“I’m just excited to get to my platoon and finally get to lead Marines,” she said.

As for women thinking about a career in the corps, Klenke said anything is possible.

“If you think you can do it, you can do it,” she said. “There were hard times in the class, but hey, I got through them. I’m nothing special. I just did my job and if you work hard you can get through it.”
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UTM student gets daily education on family's farm

Story and photos by RACHEL FULCHER
Special to the Press

The University of Tennessee at Martin has always been able to pride itself on having students who are able to take what they learn in the classroom, and apply to the desired field of study upon graduation. However, there are many students who are taking what they learn in the classroom, and apply it to their daily lives and homes. A prime example of this is UTM student Julie Brasher. Julie has lived on a goat farm her entire life, but when she came to UTM she truly was able to apply what she learned in the classroom to her own goat herd at home.

For the past 15 years Mickey Brasher, along with this help of his granddaughter Julie, has been working with a small variety goat herd in Milan. This herd has ranged in size throughout the years. The herd currently consists of four females and two males.

“When I was younger my grandad needed animals that we could keep the pastures down with, that we could learn how to manage animals with, and he didn’t want to get cows because my grandfather knew we would get stepped on by them,” said Julie. They get goats from locals in the area, and then when they sell them, they sell to locals in the area.

I got a chance to talk with Mickey Brasher about the herd, and everything that the herd entails.

“I worm the goats every 30 days. I doctor the feet up. When they have bowel trouble I feed them oats, and even Pepto Bismol. I feed them sweet feed once or twice a week during this time of year, and every day in the winter. I put out hay for them in the winter as well, for a source of bedding and food for them. Other than that, they eat grass and keep the pastures down for me,” Mickey said.

Julie is alongside Mickey in all that he does with the herd. She has helped with all the steps that go into taking care of the herd.

“We recently took the young goats to get their horns burned off. This is too make sure that they do not hurt each other or themselves, doing things such as getting their head stuck somewhere they don’t need to be,” says Julie. She also helps trim their feet and deworm the goats every 30 days, and change their medicine to ensure that they stay healthy.

The UTM College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences is preparing another future farmer.
Big Sandy man killed in Vegas shooting

By JENSON GREENBURG
Press Reporter

A West Tennessee man was killed during Sunday night's mass shooting in Las Vegas, which killed at least 58 people and injured over 500 more.

Sonny Melton, 29, of Big Sandy was pronounced dead after the shooting that occurred during the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Las Vegas. Melton worked as a registered nurse at a Henry County Medical Center.

He was married to Heather Melton, who worked as an orthopedic surgeon in the same center. According to the wedding website The Knot, the couple celebrated their one-year anniversary in June.

Melton and his wife were attending the festival when Stephen Paddock, 64, opened fire on the crowd from the 32nd story of a Las Vegas hotel, sources say. Paddock was later found dead in the hotel room.

Heather Melton said that her husband died protecting her. She said she felt her husband get shot in the back as he covered her.

"We were the couple that never should have met, fallen in love or had a future together... but life is funny and we believe God brought us together as soul mates," read the couple's wedding website. "We have shared amazing times together and nearly unbearable heartaches but through it all we have grown stronger in our love for each other and our families."

Melton studied finance at the University of Tennessee at Martin and nursing at Union University.

Officials have named the incident the deadliest mass shooting in modern American history.
Area UTM alums recognized

Joe Exum, formerly of Leland Powell Fasteners in Martin, and Mike Moss, of the University of Tennessee College of Medicine, will receive alumni awards during the University of Tennessee at Martin’s homecoming festivities Saturday. The homecoming football game against Murray State University will begin at 2 p.m. in Hardy M. Graham Stadium, and the award-winners will also be recognized during halftime.

Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor, will present the awards during the Chancellor’s Brunch and Awards Program in the Paul Meek Library, scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday.

Exum will receive the Chancellor’s Award for University Service, which recognizes exemplary service to the university. He graduated from UT Martin in 1969 with a bachelor’s degree in general business management and was a distinguished graduate from the university’s Army ROTC program. He later served as executive officer of an advanced individual training company at Ft. Knox, Ky., and as a tank platoon leader and acting company commander in Vietnam.

After his military career, Exum earned a graduate degree in marketing from the University of Alabama in 1972, and his subsequent career included positions with First Federal Savings and Loan Association in West Point, Georgia; Pepsi Cola in Marion, Illinois; and Reelfoot Bank in Union City.

He also spent 23 years as chairman of the board of Leland Powell Fasteners in Martin.

Exum has served his alma mater in many capacities, including filling positions as chairman of the UT Martin Development Committee, Chancellor’s Roundtable and College of Business Advisory Board; president of the Weakley County alumni chapter and the UT Martin Skyhawk Club; and as a member of the University of Tennessee’s Development Council.

Mike Moss will be honored with the Outstanding Alumni Award, which recognizes an alum for outstanding achievement in his or her chosen profession. Moss received a bachelor of science degree from UT Martin in 1963 and has since spent 40 years in public education – teaching in classrooms with both Memphis and Shelby County Schools, serving as an admissions officer with the University of Memphis and acting as coordinator of admissions for the University of Tennessee College of Medicine.

He has served UT Martin and the UT System as a member of both the UT Martin Alumni Board and the University of Tennessee Alumni Association Board of Governors, and as president of the UT Martin Memphis Region Alumni Chapter, UTAA Memphis Region chapter and the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association.

Since his retirement, he has volunteered with First Presbyterian Church in Memphis to help the local homeless population obtain official identification paperwork. He has also been involved with the local food kitchen and has taught a six-month program for addiction recovery through Memphis Union Mission. He is currently a member of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

For more information about the alumni awards or UT Martin homecoming, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 731-881-7610, email alumni@utm.edu or visit utmforever.com.
Five to be inducted in UTM Athletics Hall of Fame homecoming day

From Sports Information

Five members have been selected to join the exclusive UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017. At former baseball player Bryan Jones (2003-04), pioneer Cal Luther (1990-99), former softball player Megan Williams Martin (2007-10), former rifle shooter Heather Tillson (2003-09) and former football player David Williams (1974-77) will be inducted during the 34th annual Letter Writer's Breakfast this Saturday, Oct. 7 in conjunction with Homecoming festivities. This year's Hall of Fame ceremony will take place at the Student Life Center at 7:30 a.m.

Jones is UT Martin's only Division I All-American in baseball, earning that title in 2004. The Waynesboro, Ga., native left as the Skyhawk's all-time leader in hits (218) and batting .335 in 191 games played over his four-year career.

The outfielder earned All-OH Valley Conference first team accolades as a senior in 2004, leading the team in batting average (.427), hits (189), the highest single-season total in UT Martin history, runs scored (55), slugging percentage (.561) and stolen bases (18).

"For me personally, being inducted into the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame is an incredible honor," Jones said. "I never thought it would happen at such a young age and worked at daily to perfect. Little did I know it would repay me 10-fold by providing an education, friends and memories that will last a lifetime — as well as leading me to the beautiful Blount and life I am in now." Tillson was an All-OVC performer in all four seasons at UT Martin, joining fellow Hall of Famer Jayson Collins as the only Skyhawk rifle members to earn that status.

She compiled OVC Most Valuable Player honors in 2006 and competed in the 2006 NCAA Championships as one of only three individuals selected nationwide.

The Galway, NY native established school records in smallbore (207) and air rifle (592) in back-to-back days in September 2007. "I absolutely loved my time at UT Martin and the rifle team was a huge part of why I cherish those memories," Tillson said. "I am thankful every day for my time on the team and what we learned and accomplished together. Being inducted into the Hall of Fame is a great reminder of four years that changed my life most definitely for the better."

Williams will be inducted posthumously, as the star defensive back passed away in 1988. The Valdosta native was a three-time All-Gulf South Conference first team performer, helping UT Martin post a 16-6 record with an 11-3 GSC mark over his final two seasons.

An eighth-round pick of the 1978 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons, he tallied a team-high 57 tackles in 1976 and a team-best three interceptions in 1975. "For David to be inducted into the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame is a great honor because David was the first of our six children to attend and graduate college," said Matthew and Jeffrey Williams, brother of David. "David was always so thankful to his coaches and teammates for their support during his collegiate years. We are appreciative beyond words for this honor — we only wish David could have been alive to receive this prestigious award."
HALL OF FAME UTM 2017

Posted on October 3, 2017 by Truly Martin in Local Sports

Five members have been selected to join the UTM Athletics Hall of Fame for 2017.

The athletes are: former baseball player Bryant Jones, pioneer Cal Luther, former softball player Megan Williams Martin, former rifle shooter Heather Tillson and former football player David Williams.

The five will be inducted during the 34th annual Letter Winner’s Breakfast this Saturday during Homecoming festivities. This year’s Hall of Fame ceremony will take place at 7:30 at the Student Life Center.

NEWS

Camp Pendleton Marine becomes first female officer to lead assault amphibian vehicle platoon

By ERIKA J. RITCHIE | eritchie@scng.com | Orange County Register
PUBLISHED: October 3, 2017 at 9:48 pm | UPDATED: October 4, 2017 at 7:47 am

Second Lt. Mariah Klenke has done most everything with total commitment.
So it was no surprise to her parents, Darrell and Tina Klenke, that the 24-year-old from Breese, Ill., made history Tuesday, Oct. 3, becoming the first female Marine to graduate from the Marine Corps Assault Amphibian Officer Course and earn the military occupational specialty of assault amphibian officer.

Six other Marines graduated with Klenke in a ceremony held at the YAT-YAZ Museum, which houses old assault vehicles and memorabilia from the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion at Camp Pendleton.

Klenke's first duty station will be with the 3rd Assault Amphibian Battalion with the 1st Marine Division. Several other officers will begin their duties at the 2nd Assault Amphibian Battalion with the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C.

"We cannot overlook the historic nature of this day," Col. Dan Yaroslaski, commander of the Assault Amphibian School, told the graduates, family, friends, commanders and instructors gathered for the ceremony. "The Marine Corps has been through the process of integration. We can stop talking about integration. This is who we are. We have set the standards every Marine has to pass. There has been no distinction between male and female."

Klenke was the first woman to enter the course after the Pentagon lifted its ban on women in combat roles in 2015.

She already was a high achiever in school — graduating from the University of Tennessee at Martin with a degree in accounting — when she told her parents that she planned to join the Marine Corps.

Tina Klenke recalled the moment her daughter made the announcement.

"We went for a car ride and she looks at me and says, 'What would you say if I said I'm joining the Marine Corps?'" Tina Klenke recalled. "I told her, 'Go for it.'"

Mom also told her daughter: "Do the best you can. There are so many opportunities for women."

"She's always been one to go above and beyond," her father added.

For the last year, the former collegiate soccer player has held her own with her male counterparts. Klenke has been held to the same requirements as male Marines — first in Officer Candidates School, then in The Basic School and most recently in the Assault Amphibian Vehicle Officer Course.
The latter, a 12-week program, started in July at Camp Pendleton, preparing Klenke and six other Marine officers to serve as Assault Amphibian Vehicle platoon commanders. Klenke graduated with the third highest scores in her class.

"I'm excited to finally get done with the course and onto the fleet," she said Tuesday, smiling broadly after the graduation ceremony.

The most difficult part of the 12-week course, she said, was a one-week training of amphibious operations at the Beach at Camp Pendleton. There, she and her classmates practiced ship-to-shore movement and inland operation doing four missions a day.

"We operated on two hours of sleep," she said.

Throughout her training, Klenke said, she was never treated differently from her male counterparts. "I wanted to do the best I could do," she said. "It was me putting pressure on myself."

Klenke, the youngest of four children, said her oldest brother, who joined the U.S. Army, was an inspiration to her. She had considered joining the military out of high school but decided to wait after getting a scholarship to play soccer at the University of Tennessee.

"A couple of months before graduation, I thought about joining the military again," she said. "I chose the Marine Corps because it's the best branch out there and I like being challenged."

For classmate 2nd Lt. Daniel Humphries, 24, of Tucson, Ariz., who ranked No. 1 in the officer class, Klenke's presence in the Assault Amphibian Officer Course wasn't a distraction.

"She was good and the instructor did a good job keeping us all the same," he said.

What impressed him most about Klenke, he said, was her ability to adapt to the very male-dominated environment of the assault amphibious vehicles.

"We're all training the same standards," he said. "There is no difference in the fight."

During the ceremony, Col. Joe Russell, chief of staff for the 1 MEF, reminded the graduates that school is over and the time to lead is upon them.

"You will deploy," he said. "Wherever the Marine Corps goes, you're one of the first waves. Get ready to come in to an era of change we haven't seen in a long time. It takes dedication to be a Marine, it's 24/7, 365 days a year. The nation counts on us to be most ready when there is chaos."

Russell pointed out global threats that are different than what Marines dealt with in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"We've got a couple of countries that have peer capabilities," he said. "They hear us, see us and have vehicles with the same capabilities. The only difference between us and them — we have a distinct edge. We have the nation's finest fighting systems."

In the next few days, Klenke will be assigned to command a platoon. She most looks forward to getting to know them personally, she said.

"I want to know what they like to do and what they're like," Klenke said. "The Marine Corps is our job but it's also our life. I want to make their job fun so they put their heart and soul into it."
OVC hoops coaching legend Luther heads UTM Hall ’17 class

Five members have been selected to join the exclusive UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame in 2017 as former baseball player Bryant Jones (2001-04), pioneer Cal Luther (1990-99), former softball player Megan Williams Martin (2007-10), former rifle shooter Heather Tillson (2005-09) and former football player David Williams (1974-77) will be inducted during the 34th annual Letter Winner’s Breakfast Saturday in conjunction with Homecoming festivities.

This year's Hall of Fame ceremony will take place at the Student Life Center at 7:30 a.m.

Jones is UT Martin's only Division-I All-American in baseball, earning that title in 2004.

The Waddy, Ky., native left as the Skyhawks' all-time leader in hits (218), batting .335 in 191 games played over his four-year career.

The infielder earned All-Ohio Valley Conference first team accolades as a senior in 2004, leading the team in batting average (.425), hits (96, the highest single-season total in UT Martin history), runs scored (55), slugging percentage (.588) and stolen bases (18).

"For me personally, being inducted into the UT Martin Athletics Hall of Fame is an incredible honor," Jones said. "I never took it for granted each time I put on that Skyhawk uniform. A lot of lifetime bonds and memories were created during my years at UT Martin. To get this kind of recognition is what I'd like to call some really good icing on a really good cake."

Born in Valdosta, Ga., and raised in Milwaukee, Wis., Luther is perhaps the most influential coach in UT Martin men's basketball history, as he guided the program through the NCAA Division-I reclassification process.

He became UT Martin's first-ever OVC Coach of the Year for men's basketball in 1995-96, leading the program to its first winning season in conference play. That came after Luther was forced to schedule the toughest of opponents to keep up with Division-I budget demands.

"I really enjoyed my stay at UT Martin," Luther said. "I came into a situation that was unstable at the moment and the kids responded well. We became competitive sooner than I thought, which was very satisfying. I have really grown to love living here in Martin."

A Murfreesboro native, Martin became the program's first-ever OVC Player of the Year in 2010. A three-time All-OVC honoree, she helped lead UT Martin to its first-ever NCAA Tournament appearance in 2009 and first-ever OVC championship in 2010.

The slugging outfielder graduated as the program's all-time leader in hits (236), triples (11) and total bases (371) while her 72 hits and 124 total bases in 2010 were also Skyhawk single-season records.

"To be inducted into the same Hall of Fame as Pat Head Summitt is truly an honor," Martin said.

Tillson was an All-OVC performer in all four seasons at UT Martin, joining fellow Hall of Fame Jaymi Collar as the only Skyhawk rifle members to earn that status.

She compiled OVC Most Valuable Player honors in air rifle in 2008 and competed in the 2006 NCAA Championships as one of only three individuals selected nationwide.

The Galway, N.Y., native established a school record in smallbore (578) and air rifle (592) in back-to-back days in September 2007.

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An eighth round pick of the 1978 NFL Draft by the Atlanta Falcons, he tallied a team-high 57 tackles in 1976 and a team-best three interceptions in 1975.
West Tennessee man killed in shooting

BRANDON SHIELDS, JOEY GARRISON AND DAVE BOUCHER
USA TODAY NETWORK - TENNESSEE

A West Tennessee native is among at least 59 people killed Sunday in Las Vegas, a victim of the worst mass shooting in U.S. history.

Sonny Melton, 29, was killed in the attack, his wife Dr. Heather Gulish Melton confirmed.

"He saved my life," Heather Melton told USA TODAY. "He grabbed me from behind and started running when I felt him get shot in the back."

In a Facebook post, Gulish Melton says she "lost my true love and knight in shining armor. I appreciate the prayers but I just need some time."

She said she's not ready to tell his story yet.

"I want everyone to know what a kindhearted, loving man he was but at this point I can barely breathe," she wrote to USA TODAY.

Sonny Melton and his wife Heather at a concert. PHOTO SUBMITTED

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders heralded his heroism from the podium at the White House at an afternoon briefing.

That was what he'd always say when we saw each other," Kelly said with a laugh. "I live in Jackson now, working for the state, and he'd drop by and see me and I'd tell him I missed hanging out with him more when we were in college.

"He'd just tell me, 'Man I'm living the dream.'"

Kelly said he was there when Melton met his wife Heather about four or five years ago.

"She was his world, and I talked to her this morning," Kelly said. "She said he's the reason she's alive right now.

"It's so sad. They'd just finished building a house on Kentucky Lake there in Big Sandy, and I think they were in Vegas taking a trip to go to the concert to celebrate that. They loved traveling all over to concerts."

Melton's uncle, Kelley Brewer, talked about his nephew at a prayer vigil held for him in Big Sandy.

"He grew up in our church at Ramble Creek, and he was a great young man," Brewer said while fighting back tears. "You never understand when things like this happen."

Michelle Lowery is a friend of Melton's who was always glad to see him come into the gas station she once worked at.

"I knew whenever he came in we were about to lock it down and have a good time," Lowery said. "He was always helping somebody and always willing to help.

condolences in a statement.

"I am praying for the many people affected by the senseless act of violence in Las Vegas. In particular, Crissy and I extend our condolences and prayers to the family of Sonny Melton, from West Tennessee, who was among those killed in this tragedy," Haslam said.

Melton's Facebook states he is from Big Sandy, Tennessee, a small community about 150 miles northeast of Memphis.

Las Vegas law enforcement say at least 59 are dead and more than 500 injured after a gunman opened fire Sunday evening upon attendees at the Route 91 music festival.

Police say the gunman, believed to be 64-year-old Stephen Paddock, killed himself.

Sonny was 'living the dream,' friend says

Jesse Kelly was a friend of Melton's for years, since elementary school.

"We really became close during high school and college when we both went to UT Martin," Kelly said.

Kelly described Melton as one who enjoyed life, helping people and "living the dream."
"I wish everybody knew a Sonny Melton."
Union University posted on its Facebook page about Melton, who graduated from their nursing school in 2015.
"Our hearts go out to the family of Sonny Melton, a 2015 Union University graduate who was killed in the Las Vegas shooting yesterday," the post said. "Sonny completed his Bachelor of Science in Nursing Accelerated degree from Union and was president of his BSNA class. He worked in the emergency department at Henry County Medical Center and was attending the country music festival in Las Vegas with his wife, Heather Gulish Melton."
One of Melton's instructors commented about him.
"You know how when you meet someone and you just know that they're good and kind? That was Sonny," said Christy Davis, assistant professor of nursing, in the Union Facebook post. "He just had a sweet, kind spirit about him."
"The thoughts and prayers of the entire HCMC family are with Sonny and Heather's families," said Thomas Gee, CEO at Henry County Medical Center, in a press release. "We ask that all staff, friends and patients of the couple respect their privacy at this time and refrain from contacting the family and the HCMC Kelley Clinic if they do not have a reason to do so."
Melton worked for West Tennessee Healthcare as a Surgical Intensive Care Unit RN in 2016.
"He was a kind, compassionate nurse who lived life to the fullest," said former nursing director Trisha Ross. "He took great care of his patients."
Natalie Alund contributed to this report.

Phi Kappa Phi ceremony scheduled

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Phi Kappa Phi Fall Recognition Ceremony will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday in Watkins Auditorium of the Boling University Center.
Freshman and sophomores who excel academically will be honored for their accomplishments.
Dr. Robbie Montgomery, associate professor of chemistry, will present a lecture titled "A Focus on Focusing Proteins."
Dr. Montgomery received her bachelor of science degree in chemistry from Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville and her Ph.D. in analytical chemistry from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, where she studied new and innovative methods to separate proteins.
She currently teaches a variety of courses — including general chemistry, quantitative analysis, instrumental analysis and forensics — for the UT Martin Department of Chemistry and Physics.

Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 127 was founded at UT Martin in 1971 and honors students, faculty and staff who have reached high levels of academic success. Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective collegiate honors society for all academic disciplines.
This event is free and open to the public.
For more information, contact Dr. Ann Gathers, chapter 127 president-elect, by email at agathers@utm.edu.
Computer science program accredited

The University of Tennessee at Martin's bachelor's degree program in computer science has been accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering and engineering technology.

ABET accreditation assures programs meet standards to produce graduates who are ready to enter critical technical fields that are leading the way in innovation and emerging technologies, and anticipating the welfare and safety needs of the public.

“The initial accreditation of this program is a gratifying result of the hard work the Department of Computer Science has put into creating an outstanding academic program for our students,” said Dr. Jennifer Greenwood, interim dean of the UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences.

“This is an affirmation of our faculty's commitment to excellence in undergraduate education,” said Dr. Joshua Guerin, associate professor and interim chair of the UT Martin Department of Computer Science. “We take great pride in meeting the ABET standards for accreditation. ABET accreditation provides external validation of our program's quality and value, and indicates the technical strengths of our students to future employers and graduate schools.”

Sought worldwide, ABET's voluntary peer-review process is highly respected because it adds critical value to academic programs in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines, where quality, precision and safety are of utmost importance.

Developed by technical professionals from ABET's member societies, ABET criteria focus on what students experience and learn. ABET accreditation reviews look at program curricula, faculty, facilities and institutional support and are conducted by teams of highly skilled professionals from industry, academia and government with expertise in the ABET disciplines.

ABET is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. It currently accredits 3,709 programs at more than 750 colleges and universities in 30 countries.

More information about ABET, its member societies and the accreditation criteria used to evaluate programs can be found at www.abet.org.

For more information about UT Martin's bachelor's degree program in computer science, contact the department at (731) 881-7391 or email Guerin at jguerin@utm.edu.

WUTM a finalist for two awards

WUTM 90.3 FM “The Hawk,” the University of Tennessee at Martin’s student-run campus radio station, is a finalist in two categories for the 2017 College Broadcasters Inc. Student Production Awards.

WUTM is in the running for the best audio podcast and best sports reporting awards with “For the Record — Hunter Hayes” and “WUTM Sportsbreak” submissions, respectively.

Winners in all categories will be announced during the organization’s awards ceremony Nov. 2-4 at the National Student Electronic Media Convention in San Antonio.

WUTM has already had an impressive year when it comes to regional, national and international recognitions. The station was named Best College Radio Station in the South during the 2017 Southeast Journalism Conference for the third consecutive year, and five students received individual Best of the South awards.

WUTM and its staff members also received 25 separate awards during the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System Conference, including a Platinum Award for the seventh consecutive year, and staff members brought home a total of 15 awards, including a best-in-show designation, during the Tennessee Associated Press College Journalism Contest.

College Broadcasters Inc. represents students in radio, television, webcasting and other related media ventures and advocates committed education and pursuit of excellence.

The organization also promotes cooperation between various national, regional and state-level media entities to discuss issues related to student-operated electronic media.

For more information on the campus radio station, contact Dr. Richard Robinson, WUTM faculty adviser, at (731) 881-7555 or by email at rrobinson@utm.edu.

For information on the communications program, which includes concentrations in broadcasting, news editorial, public relations and media design, contact Dr. Robert Nanney, department chair, at (731) 881-7556 or by email at rnanney@utm.edu.
Homecoming has pirate theme for UT Martin

Homecoming 2017 is taking on a pirate theme at the University of Tennessee at Martin this week as the Skyhawks prepare to face Murray State beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday in Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

This year’s festivities will include the traditional rope pull, lip sync, pyramid and step show events hosted by the UT Martin offices of alumni relations and student life, the Undergraduate Alumni Council and various campus organizations.

A complete schedule of these events is available online at www.utmforever.com.

Quad City will officially open at 10:30 a.m. and remain open until the football game at 2 p.m. Saturday.

Other scheduled events include:

Thursday — Public Relations Student Society of America hosts the “Womanless Beauty Revue,” Watkins Auditorium, 7 p.m., admission charge.

Friday — Black Alumni Council reception, Dunagan Alumni Center, 6 p.m.

Friday — University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building, 7 p.m., admission charge.

Friday — UT Martin soccer vs. Belmont, soccer complex, 7 p.m.

Saturday — Letter-win-

ners’ Breakfast and Hall of Fame Inductions, Student Life Center, 7:30 a.m., by invitation.

Saturday — Chancellor’s Brunch and Alumni Awards Program, Paul Meek Library, 10 a.m., by invitation.

Saturday — 1967 football championship team reunion, Graham Stadium, 10 a.m., by invitation.

Saturday — Football team’s “Hawk Walk” through Quad City, 11 a.m.

Saturday — Football game vs. Murray State, Graham Stadium, 2 p.m., admission.

Saturday — Black Alumni Council reception, Skyhawk Fieldhouse, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday — 1967 football championship team event, Dunagan Alumni Center, 5:30 p.m., by invitation.

Saturday — Young alumni reception, Dunagan Alumni Center, 6 p.m.

Saturday — University Choirs Dessert Evening, Fine Arts Building, 7 p.m., admission.

Saturday — Homecoming Brunch, Skyhawk Dining Hall, 10:30 a.m., individual charge.

Events are open to the public and free to attend unless otherwise noted. UT Martin students can use their meal plans or Captain’s Cash credits to attend the homecoming brunch.

McNairy County student receives scholarships to attend UT Martin

For the Independent Appeal

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

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

UT Martin names local student to Summer Semester Honor Roll

For the Independent Appeal

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

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

Selmer – Rachel D. Smith, 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.
Sonny Melton of Paris was one of 50 people killed by a lone gunman in Las Vegas. He and his wife, Heather, were enjoying a country music concert when the shooting took place.

Paris Man Dies Shielding Wife
Melton Killed In Vegas Shooting

A Henry County man was among the spectators killed in a barrage of bullets, at an outdoor country music concert in Las Vegas Sunday night.

Sonny Melton of Paris, 29, and his wife, Dr. Heather Gulish Melton, of Paris, were in Las Vegas celebrating their first wedding anniversary, when the mass shooting - described as the deadliest in United States history - took place.

More than 22,000 spectators were in attendance on the final night of the three-day Route 91 Harvest Festival, when a gunman perched on the 32nd floor of the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino across the street, unleashed a hail of bullets into the crowd and sent concertgoers scrambling for their lives. At least 59 people are dead, and over 527 wounded - many in critical condition.

During the middle of a performance by country music singer Jason Aldean, the lone gunman, identified as Stephen Craig Paddock, 64, of Mesquite, Nevada, opened fire.

Facebook posts indicate, when the shooting started, the couple started running. Sonny positioned himself between the direction of the gunfire and his wife to shield her from harm. Heather escaped injury, but Sonny was died after being shot in the back. Heather expressed her complete disbelief and despair over the loss of her husband. She describes Sonny as the most kind-hearted, loving man she has have ever met. "He saved my life and lost his," Heather said. "I lost my true love and knight in shining armor."

SWAT teams, utilizing explosives, stormed the gunman's hotel room and found him dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Paddock had 23 guns with him in the motel, police officials said. An additional 19 firearms were found at his home. Authorities note Paddock had no criminal history, except for a minor citation. He appears to have worked as an accountant or auditor and was a licensed hunter and private pilot.

The motive for the mass killing remains under investigation. Authorities say they believe it was a "lone wolf" attack, and, so far, there are no ties to international terror. And the U.S. Homeland Security Department stated there was no "specific credible threat" involving other public venues in the U.S.

Melton was a graduate of Big Sandy High School and 2015 graduate of Union University. He also studied finance at UT-Martin.

Sonny worked as a registered nurse at Henry County Medical Center, where his wife also works as an Orthopedic Surgeon.

Monday morning, his parents, James and Susan Melton of Big Sandy, flew to Las Vegas.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete at this time.
A Weakley County woman has voiced her opinion of the mass shooting Sunday night in Las Vegas and says she remembers one of the victims of west Tennessee.

Jennifer Schlict posted on social media and said, her job at UT-Martin allows her to meet different people every day from everywhere. She went on to say the more reports she heard about the Las Vegas tragedy, the name Sonny Melton kept coming to her mind.

Upon watching the evening news this week, Schlict realized she knew Benton County resident Sonny Melton. In the post, Schlict said when she went to work at UTM Tuesday, she remembered Melton – a 2010 UTM Grad - as a kid that had the most sincere smile and hid his beautiful eyes under a ball cap. She went on to say he was a nice person with a great personality. He had the best personality and he was just a kid you couldn’t forget.

The UTM employee says it doesn’t surprise her that Sonny did what he did to protect his wife.

Sonny Melton was killed in the shooting, his wife was not injured, because he died trying to protect her from the gunfire at the outdoor concert.
A UT Martin alum has become the Marines' first female Assault Amphibian Officer.

Second Lt. Mariah A. Klenke, age 24, graduated Tuesday from Assault Amphibian Officer Course and is the first female Marine Corps officer to earn the military occupational specialty of 1803, Assault Amphibian Officer.

Klenke, a St. Rose, Illinois native, attended UT Martin on a soccer scholarship where she was a standout player for the Skyhawks, graduating with an accounting degree.

Assault Amphibian Officer Course, which takes place aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., prepares Marine officers to serve as Assault Amphibian Vehicle platoon commanders, and employ their Marines and vehicles.

The 12-week course began in July and graduated seven Assault Amphibian Officers.
"Assault Amphibian Officer Course was a great experience, and everyone worked well together," said 2nd Lt. Klenke. "I chose the 1803 MOS for the role it plays in Marine Corps' amphibious mission, the occupation's close community, and the opportunity to work closely with the infantry. I am looking forward to moving on to the fleet and training with Marines."

Klenke's follow on assignment is to 1st Marine Division aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

(Public Affairs Officer Capt. Joshua Pena contributed to this story)
UT Martin hosts "Monster Mash"-themed Relay for Life

http://www.kfvs12.com/s

The Messenger, Union City, Tennessee, Tuesday, October 10, 2017

SF native among UT’s 100 Distinguished Alumni

Dr. Paul Blaylock — who grew up in South Fulton — will be honored Friday at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville as one of the UT system’s 100 Distinguished Alumni.

He will be honored alongside other Distinguished Alumni which include former professional football player Peyton Manning, NASA astronauts Scott Kelly and Margaret Rhea Seddon, former Major League baseball player Todd Helton and financial advisor Dave Ramsey.

Blaylock graduated at the top of his class in high school and enrolled at the University of Tennessee at Martin at the age of 16. After graduating as valedictorian from UT Martin in 1968, he graduated at the top of his medical school class from the UT Health Science Center in 1972.

A few years later, he added a JD to his name after graduating at the top of his class from Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College.

He now practices emergency/trauma medicine and is a trial lawyer in Portland, Ore.

He has also done disaster relief work for the American Red Cross worldwide in his long career.

Blaylock is responsible for the Paul Blaylock MD JD Legacy Scholarship.

Mikaela Hardy Holland of South Fulton, a December 2016 UT Martin graduate who is enrolled at the UT Health Science Center.

It was also recently announced that Blaylock has been named 2018 Outstanding Alumnus from the UT Health Science Center. He will be honored Sept. 18, 2018, in Memphis.

Blaylock previously received the UT Martin Outstanding Alumni Award during homecoming festivities in 2003 in recognition of outstanding achievement in his chosen professions. He was also the spring 2016 commencement speaker at UT Martin.
UTM computer science program accredited by global organization

The University of Tennessee at Martin's bachelor's degree program in computer science has been accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering and engineering technology.

ABET accreditation assures programs meet standards to produce graduates who are ready to enter critical technical fields that are leading the way in innovation and emerging technologies, and anticipating the welfare and safety needs of the public.

"The initial accreditation of this program is a gratifying result of the hard work the Department of Computer Science has put into creating an outstanding academic program for our students," said Dr. Jennifer Greenwood, interim dean of the UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences.

"This is an affirmation of our faculty's commitment to excellence in undergraduate education," said Dr. Joshua Guerin, associate professor and interim chair of the UT Martin Department of Computer Science. "We take great pride in meeting the ABET standards for accreditation. ABET accreditation provides external validation of our program's quality and value, and indicates the technical strengths of our students to future employers and graduate schools."

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More information about ABET, its member societies and the accreditation criteria used to evaluate programs can be found at www.abet.org. For more information about UT Martin's bachelor's degree program in computer science, contact the department at 731-881-7391 or email Guerin at jguerin@utm.edu.

'Ask the expert' series continues

The University of Tennessee at Martin's Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center will host its third seminar in the "Small Business Basics - Ask the Expert" series for local business owners from 6-8 p.m. on Oct. 17. Seminar costs are covered by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center.

Elizabeth Pritchett will give a presentation titled "Money-Making Marketing Strategies." Participants will receive instruction about proven and tested methods, which can easily be implemented into business strategies, and an overall method to earning profits quickly.

Pritchett is the director of sales and marketing at Center Point Business Solutions in Union City. She has 18 years of experience working with various types of businesses, from publicly-held corporations to small business partnerships. She is a UT Martin alumna, a member of the Martin Business Association, and a graduate of both the WestStar and Weakley County leadership programs.

There will be four more sessions held at the REED Center at 406 S. Lindell St. in Martin. No seminar will be held Oct. 31.

Visit tsbdc.org/UTM to register for any session. For more information, contact the center at 731-587-7333.
MARTIN, Tenn. - College students from across the country gathered in Oak Ridge this past month to spend three weeks studying forensic science from some of the top instructors in the country. The National Forensic Academy Collegiate program is hosted by the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center and designed in part by the University of Tennessee at Martin.

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

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

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

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

"I was five, and I walked in and my parents were watching CSI and I said, 'I'm going to do that.' I've stuck with it ever since," she said. Allen was one of seven UT Martin students to complete the academy this year, and she immediately recognized the value of the unique hands-on experience. "This will help me a lot. ... This is all hands-on. We've done fingerprinting and photography. Next week we're doing blood spatter. We've done DNA, and now we're doing anthropology," she said. "I will have more training than the normal person would (when applying for jobs), so this will definitely set me apart."

FORENSICS ACADEMY GRADUATION - Milan alumni Melanie Allen (center) received a certificate for graduating from the National Forensic Academy Collegiate program. College students from across the country gathered in Oak Ridge for three weeks studying forensic science from some of the top instructors in the country. Allen, a senior at UT Martin, was congratulated by Dr. Brian Donavant, UTM professor of criminal justice and Rick Scarbrough, Chief of Police for Clinton Police Department.
Martin, Tenn. – Mike Moss, of Arlington, and Joe Exum, of Martin (center), received alumni awards Oct. 7 during UT Martin Homecoming. Moss received the Outstanding Alumni Award, and Exum received the Chancellor's Award for University Service. Moss is a retired educator and is past president of the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association. Exum served 23 years as chairman of the board of Leland Powell Fasteners in Martin and has held several volunteer positions with UT Martin and the University of Tennessee. The awards were presented during the Chancellor's Homecoming Brunch and Alumni Awards Program held at the university's Paul Meek Library. Joining Moss and Exum following the Saturday morning presentations were (left) UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver and Betsy Brasher, of Memphis, a senior vice president with First Tennessee Bank and president of the UT Alumni Association.
Mike Moss, of Arlington, and Joe Exum, of Martin (center, l to r), received alumni awards October 7th during UT Martin Homecoming.

Moss received the Outstanding Alumni Award, and Exum received the Chancellor's Award for University Service.

Moss is a retired educator and is past president of the University of Tennessee National Alumni Association.

Exum served 23 years as chairman of the board of Leland Powell Fasteners in Martin and has held several volunteer positions with UT Martin and the University of Tennessee.

The awards were presented during the Chancellor's Homecoming Brunch and Alumni Awards Program held at the university's Paul Meek Library.

Joining Moss and Exum following the Saturday morning presentations were (left) UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver and Betsy Brasher, of Memphis, a senior vice president with First Tennessee Bank and president of the UT Alumni Association.

Bee management featured

Mike Pierce, the University of Tennessee at Martin's farm manager, will speak about bee management Thursday at 7 p.m. at UT Martin's Special Collections reading room, located inside the Paul Meek Library.

Pierce, a 2003 UT Martin graduate, has partnered with a half-dozen students as they learn the science of keeping bees.

He has kept honey bees since 2010 and helped the 10 hives maintained by the Northwest Tennessee Beekeeper's Association grow to 20 hives as of March of this year.

His talk is in conjunction with the American Farmer traveling art exhibition in the Paul Meek Library's J. Houston Gordon Museum.
UT Martin faculty
lead way to honors

The American Chemical Society Kentucky Lake Local Section received three ChemLuminary awards during the recent 254th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition in Washington, D.C.

These awards recognize successful events and programs hosted by the society's 185 local sections.

Drs. Robbie Montgomery, Abigail Shelton, Phillip Shelton and Genessa Smith — faculty members in the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Chemistry and Physics — serve as councilor, past chair, chair and chair-elect of the section, respectively.

The Kentucky Lake Local Section was named a finalist in four ChemLuminary divisions and earned awards in the "Outstanding Public Outreach Event Organized by a Student Group" and "Best National Chemistry Week Event Organized by a Student Group" categories. The section also earned "Outstanding Performance by Local Section (Medium Small Size)," beating 46 other sections in this size division.

The section won the outstanding public outreach category for hosting a meeting where the UT Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society organized a water symposium last March which featured three outside speakers and a panel discussion detailing the chemistry of the Flint, Mich., water crisis. Dr. S. K. Airee, professor of chemistry, served as SMACS adviser and assisted with the symposium.

The section also partnered with SMACS in 2016 to host a chemistry demonstration at UT Martin in celebration of National Chemistry Week. Students from five universities within the section performed chemistry demonstrations during the event, which will be hosted again this year at 7 p.m. Oct. 19 in Watkins Auditorium.

For more information on the American Chemical Society Kentucky Lake Local Section, contact Dr. Shelton at (731) 881-7462 or by email at ashelt18@utm.edu.

**Oct. 26**

UTM-Ripley
holds Fall Festival

The University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center will hold its Fall Festival Thursday, Oct. 26, from 5-7 p.m. There will be free food, family activities, giveaways and fun.
Dr. Blaylock among UT Centennial Alum

The University of Tennessee in Knoxville will honor the top 100 graduates in the history of the entire university system Oct. 13, and among these "Centennial Alumni" is Paul Blaylock MD JD of South Fulton.

He will join Peyton Manning, Scott Kelly, space station astronaut, and other alumni for the honor.

Dr. Blaylock graduated at the top of his class in high school, UT Martin, UT Medical School and his law school.

He practices Emergency/Trauma medicine and is a trial lawyer in Portland, Ore.

He also has done disaster relief work for the American Red Cross worldwide in his long career.

Dr. Blaylock is responsible for the Paul Blaylock MD JD Legacy Scholarship Award at UT Martin, a scholarship awarded to a student who graduated High School at Fulton City or South Fulton, UTM and is accepted in Medical School at UT Health Science Center in Memphis, Tenn.

Also, it has been recently announced that Dr. Blaylock has been named "2018 Outstanding Alumnus" from University of Tennessee Health Science Center and will be honored in Memphis Sept. 18, 2018.

Dr. Blaylock is the son of Paul Blaylock of South Fulton and the late Ruth Blaylock, a long-time educator in the Obion County School System.
UTM nationally ranked for quality, opportunities

UTM has received new rankings in recent months for educational quality and student opportunities, from several national publications and university ranking websites. All of these sources cited UTM as the top-ranked Tennessee school in each of the reported categories. With so many citizens from Benton County attending or having graduated from the nearby university, a quick review of these recent positive ratings is needed.

**Washington Monthly**'s 2017 college guide and rankings publication lists UTM among the “best bang for the buck” schools in the South. UTM comes in at eighth on this annual list, up significantly from 17th in 2016. The “best bang for the buck” rankings are based on a series of criteria designed to help students obtain a marketable degree for a reasonable price. Evaluation categories include loan repayment rates, post-graduation earning potential, and percentage of first-generation students admitted.

**U.S. News & World Report** released its 2018 college rankings last month, and UTM appeared on several lists. Data for the 2018 rankings was collected from the Council for Aid to Education and the U.S. Department of Education.

Among all top Southern universities, UTM is tied for 46th place in these rankings, moving up from 47 in last year’s list. UTM is ranked 17th among public regional universities in the South, and was listed as the top Tennessee school.

UTM ranked 27th in the “best college for veterans” category in the South. Schools in this category not only participate in federal initiatives to help veterans pay for college, they also make an effort to provide support for veterans as they transition into college life.

**U.S. News & World Report** rankings were based on a variety of both quantitative and qualitative factors, including graduation and retention rates, undergraduate academics, faculty resources, student selectivity, and availability of financial resources.

The Student Loan Report recently ranked more than 400 public institutions participating in the Federal Work-Study Program, which offers work opportunities for students in need. UTM is ranked 45th among public schools, with 324 work-study positions available and an average of $2,566 paid per worker last academic year. UTM was again the top-ranked Tennessee school, with UT Knoxville following at number 50.

TeacherCertificationDegrees.com ranks UTM 10th on its national list of schools offering online Master of Education degrees. This list emphasizes cost per credit hour, the number of students enrolled in online courses, and program accreditation. The UTM program is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

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Collier to be guest artist at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will host Dr. Joel Collier in a guest euphonium recital at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 29 in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building’s Blankenship Recital Hall. Collier grew up in a musical family, and music has been one of the main focuses in his life. He has received recognition as a performer, composer and teacher of music and enjoys sharing his gifts with vast audiences. He currently performs with the Brass Band of Louisville and The Salvation Army Southern Territorial Band. Collier has won numerous awards as a soloist, including first place at the 2012 North American Brass Band Championship and later earned second place in 2016. He has been featured as a soloist with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, the Drexel University Concert Band, the New York Staff Band and many other ensembles. The event is free and open to the public.
Euphonium recital scheduled at UTM Oct. 29

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will host Dr. Joel Collier in a guest euphonium recital at 5:30 p.m., Oct. 29, in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building’s Blankenship Recital Hall.

Collier grew up in a musical family, and music has been one of the main focuses in his life. He has received recognition as a performer, composer and teacher of music and enjoys sharing his gifts with vast audiences. He currently performs with the Brass Band of Louisville and The Salvation Army Southern Territorial Band.

Collier has won numerous awards as a soloist, including first place at the 2012 North American Brass Band Championship and later earned second place in 2016. He has been featured as a soloist with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, the Drexel University Concert Band, the New York Staff Band and many other ensembles.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at 731-881-7402.

LEGACY ESTABLISHED — Martha Coleman Edinger (center) is pictured with Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls (left), Tom Elam Distinguished Professor of History, and Dr. David Coffey, chair of the UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy.

Edinger establishes legacy fund to honor grandparents

Martha Coleman Edinger, daughter of longtime Obion County residents Kenneth and Carolyn Coleman, has established the University of Tennessee at Martin Family Legacy Fund in memory of her grandparents. This fund will be used to support international travel for UT Martin history majors.

The Coleman family has lived in Northwest Tennessee for almost 200 years. Lexie and Verna Coleman had 10 children, and the last surviving child, Kenneth, has lived on his Obion County farm for 59 years.

The first trip to be supported by the legacy fund will take place May 20-June 1, 2018, and is designed to commemorate the centennial of the Great War. The travel-study itinerary includes stops in London and Paris and a five-day couch tour of the principal battlefields and memorials of the Western Front.

Trip highlights include the Imperial War Museum in England; the In Flanders Field Museum in Belgium; and the cathedral of Reims, American Memorial Cemetery, Verdun battlefield and memorial, World War I Museum, Invalides Museum and palace of Versailles in France.

"Travel study will enhance the students' learning experiences beyond the classroom and their usual study of history. They will see where history took place firsthand on the Great War battlefields and where the Treaty of Versailles was signed and the seeds of World War II were sown," said Edinger. "The students will also have opportunities to get out of their comfort zones - eat bangers and mash in London or a croissant in Paris. We plan for them to experience different cultures and have some fun while immersing in this transformative class."

"Martha Edinger's vision and generosity in creating the Coleman Family Legacy Fund are at once inspirational and empowering," said Dr. David Coffey, chair of the UT Martin Department of History and Philosophy. "In addition to faculty-led travel study, her investment will support internships as well as student research and writing, all core elements of our mission to provide an outstanding undergraduate education. Her commitment is also reflected in an annual scholarship to be awarded to a deserving history major. Thanks to Martha Edinger, we can provide an even more vibrant and valuable educational experience for our students."

Scholarships to cover up to half the cost of the trip are available for UT Martin history majors, and students may be eligible for course credit. Space is also available for community members to join students and faculty on the trip.

For more information, contact faculty members Dr. Alice-Catherine Carls at accarls@utm.edu or Dr. Ricky Garlitz at rgarlitz@utm.edu.
The American Chemical Society Kentucky Lake Local Section recently received three ChemLuminary awards during the 254th American Chemical Society National Meeting and Exposition held in Washington, D.C. These awards recognize successful events and programs hosted by the society’s 185 local sections.

Drs. Robbie Montgomery, Abigail Shelton, Phillip Shelton and Genessa Smith, faculty members in the University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Chemistry and Physics, serve as councilor, past chair, chair and chair-elect of the section, respectively. The Kentucky Lake Local Section was named a finalist in four ChemLuminary divisions and earned awards in the “Outstanding Public Outreach Event Organized by a Student Group” and “Best National Chemistry Week Event Organized by a Student Group” categories. The section also earned “Outstanding Performance by Local Section (Medium Small Size),” beating 46 other sections in this size division.

The section won the outstanding public outreach category for hosting a meeting where the UT Martin chapter of the Student Members of the American Chemical Society organized a water symposium last March, which featured three outside speakers and a panel discussion detailing the chemistry of the Flint, Michigan, water crisis. Dr. S. K. Airee, professor of chemistry, served as SMACS adviser and assisted with the symposium.

The section also partnered with SMACS in 2016 to host a chemistry demonstration at UT Martin in celebration of National Chemistry Week. Students from five universities within the section performed chemistry demonstrations during the event, which will be hosted again this year at 7 p.m., Oct. 19, in Watkins Auditorium.

For more information on the American Chemical Society Kentucky Lake Local Section, contact Dr. Abigail Shelton at 731-881-7462 or asheft18@utm.edu.
Euphonium recital to be held at UTM

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will host Dr. Joel Collier in a guest euphonium recital at 5:30 p.m., Oct. 29, in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building's Blankenship Recital Hall.

Collier grew up in a musical family, and music has been one of the main focuses in his life. He has received recognition as a performer, composer and teacher of music and enjoys sharing his gifts with vast audiences.

He currently performs with the Brass Band of Louisville and The Salvation Army Southern Territorial Band.

Collier has won numerous awards as a soloist, including first place at the 2012 North American Brass Band Championship and later earned second place in 2016.

He has been featured as a soloist with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, the Drexel University Concert Band, the New York Staff Band and many other ensembles.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at 731-881-7402.

UTM veteran services to host mobile clinic

The UT Martin Department of Veteran Affairs will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 26, in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin's Boling University Center.

Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a "veteran" stamp on Tennessee driver's license.

There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services.

For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Denesse Torpoco.
Proposal: Outsourcing would save UT $6.8M

The University of Tennessee system could save $6.8 million in the first year under a new contract for facilities and maintenance with Jones Lang LaSalle, the Chicago-based company with which the state has proposed expanding its contract to include public colleges and universities.

The savings are detailed in new proposals for each UT campus made public this week.

Officials with the university say that after recently receiving the proposals from JLL, they now have all the information needed to make decisions about outsourcing facilities and maintenance work, though that could still be weeks away.

About 1,100 employees in the UT system stand to be affected by the proposal. Other public campuses are also weighing the decision and JLL is in the process of getting proposals out to each campus.

"In terms of next steps, campus chancellors and their teams will evaluate the proposals," UT President Joe DiPietro said in an announcement Thursday.

Once completed, the chancellors will present their decisions to members of the UT board of trustees at a date yet to be determined.

**Knoxville could save $5.2 million — or more**

The Knoxville campus would save $5.2 million under the current proposal from JLL, an almost 10 percent savings over the current cost of custodial, maintenance and grounds work.

That's about $3 million less than a 17 percent savings originally proposed when JLL completed a preliminary analysis of four campuses across the state last spring. The most recent numbers are based on fiscal year 2017 data.

That includes a base of 709 full-time employees and a budget of $53.1 million, though there are also 90 positions in facilities and maintenance currently unfilled at UT Knoxville.

JLL says it can do that work for $47.9 million. The company says there will be no layoffs and that all employees who pass background and drug tests will be able to keep their jobs at the same or a greater rate of pay.

It has also included in its proposal an additional savings of $3.9 million for UT Knoxville that it says would be generated if the currently 90 vacant positions go unfilled. An additional $2.2 million in savings could also be generated by reducing utilities costs, the proposal states.

**What would other UT campuses save?**

Because of the way state funding for higher education works, universities must create separate budgets for education versus auxiliary items like housing, dining, parking and athletics.

Savings that are generated in one area cannot be moved to another area, so in evaluating the proposals each campus will also be looking at how much savings it is generating in specific areas.

At UT Knoxville, savings are proposed in every area under consideration. A total of $3.6 million stands to be saved on education and general maintenance in academic, administrative and student buildings, the part of the budget that is funded primarily with taxpayer dollars.

At UT Chattanooga, JLL's proposal would increase costs for housing and institutional maintenance by just under 4 percent total. That means UT Chattanooga would pay $263,217 more than it currently does to contract with JLL.

UT Martin would see about a 2 percent drop in overall costs, including a 35 percent slash in costs for housing maintenance.

The UT Health Science Center in Memphis stands to save $1.7 million, or about 10 percent, of its facilities and maintenance budget.

**Projected savings only estimates**

But officials with UT said it's important to keep in mind that the projected savings are only estimates. The amount and type of work in facilities can fluctuate, and if any campus exceeds the numbers for the estimates, they could be charged extra.

They also said they'll be looking at how the savings are achieved.
“JLL likes to say, ‘If you’re doing it today, we’ll do it tomorrow,’” said David Miller, chief financial officer for the UT system, pointing to the projected cost savings at UT Martin in housing.

The proposals also include provisions for bonuses that JLL would receive if they hit the projected savings. The bonuses would be for 10 percent of the cost savings in the first year, according to the current state contract, but would be smaller in subsequent years.

**JLL says pay and benefits would look similar for current employees**

The plan for pay and benefits is the same across all campuses, though it has only been proposed for current employees. Tom Foster, JLL manager for the state of Tennessee account, said in a statement that new employees would be hired “at market rate pay and benefit levels.”

Foster said that in the past, market rate pay has meant a pay raise for former public employees who transitioned to JLL.

For current employees, the company is proposing what it calls “total equitable compensation,” which means that while specifics of pay and benefits might be different, the overall compensation package is equitable.

For example, JLL cannot guarantee that employees will get the same days off that the state guarantees, but it has offered to compensate them for the difference.

The state is also planning to keep tuition waivers, an educational benefit that provides access to free or discounted education for employees, in place for current employees, Miller said.

There is no timeline for when campuses must make decisions on outsourcing. So far only one campus across the state — Austin Peay State University — has chosen to opt-in, and at least one campus — East Tennessee State University — has said it will not be participating.

The idea has been controversial on many campuses. United Campus Workers, the union representing state university employees, has strongly opposed the move and urged university leaders not to opt-in, saying there are too many unknowns and that the plan would put workers’ pay and benefits in jeopardy.

“It’s time for the Haslam administration to cease its failed plan to turn over public assets to an out-of-state company,” the union said in a statement this week. “Public services, jobs, and dollars should be kept in the public trust, with clear accountability, oversight and transparency.”
UT Martin engineering program earns ABET accreditation

ERIN CHESNUT
SPECIAL FOR THE SUN

MARTIN – The University of Tennessee at Martin's Bachelor of Science degree program in engineering has been re-accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET, the global accreditor of college and university programs in applied and natural science, computing, engineering and engineering technology.

ABET accreditation assures programs meet standards to produce graduates who are ready to enter critical technical fields that are leading the way in innovation and emerging technologies, and anticipating the welfare and safety needs of the public.

"This reaccreditation is a testament to our excellent program in engineering and the dedication of our engineering faculty to our students. We appreciate the outstanding institutional support we have received during this process," said Dr. Jennifer Greenwood, interim dean of the UT Martin College of Engineering and Natural Sciences.

"We are very pleased that the UT Martin Bachelor of Science program in engineering has been reaccredited. Accreditation is very important to an engineering program, and a degree from an ABET-accredited engineering program is a requirement for state licensure," said Dr. Robert LeMaster, professor and interim chair of the UT Martin Department of Engineering.

The UT Martin engineering program offers concentrations in civil, electrical, industrial, mechanical and manufacturing engineering.

Sought worldwide, ABET's voluntary peer-review process is highly respected because it adds critical value to academic programs in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics disciplines, where quality, precision and safety are of the utmost importance.

Developed by technical professionals from ABET's member societies, ABET criteria focus on what students experience and learn. ABET accreditation reviews look at program curricula, faculty, facilities and institutional support and are conducted by teams of highly skilled professionals from industry, academia and government with expertise in the ABET disciplines.

ABET is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. It currently accredits 3,709 programs at more than 750 colleges and universities in 30 countries.

More information about ABET can be found at www.abet.org. For more information about UT Martin's bachelor's degree program in engineering, contact the department at 731-881-7571 or email LeMaster at lemaster@utm.edu.

UTM veteran services to host mobile clinic

The UT Martin Department of Veteran Services will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Oct. 26, in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin's Boling University Center.

Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a "veteran" stamp on Tennessee driver's license.

There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services.

For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Denesse Torpoco.
The University of Tennessee at Martin recently received results from phase two of a study of the perceptions and experiences of UT Martin alumni and current students conducted by Gallup Inc.

UT Martin partnered with Gallup Inc. in 2016 to begin the project, and phase one dealt with the quantitative results of 2,623 alumni surveys completed from August to September of that year. That study showed UT Martin alumni to have an attachment to their alma mater surpassing the national average in many categories, including faculty support and academic rigor.

Phase two, conducted in May and June 2017, focused on qualitative answers from 20 phone interviews with alumni who graduated between 2011 and 2016, including both traditional and non-traditional students.

This phase focused on five research areas: academic rigor, student-faculty relationships, undergraduate internship and research opportunities, preparedness for post-graduation life and considerations for making post-graduation decisions.

The majority of alumni interviewed described their UT Martin professors as caring and willing to work with students.

They discussed the small-town feel of the school and local area and said this atmosphere helped foster strong relationships with faculty mentors who showed interest in both their academic and personal success.

These interviews also revealed opportunities to further enrich UT Martin's academic programs. Areas of discussion will include career support services, access to career-relevant internship opportunities, and the relevance of core academic classes to graduate school and career options.
UT Martin has already addressed some of these issues with the creation of the Office of Career Planning and Development, now almost a year old. This office is funded through the Soar in Four program, which encourages students to graduate in four years and is designed to help students make educated career decisions, gain relevant work experience before graduation, and learn valuable skills such as interview tactics, salary negotiation and job-search strategies.

Phase three of this project will turn the focus toward the perceptions and experiences of current students, and a survey will be released later in the year to gather this data.

For more information on this survey, or to see full demographic information for the response pools from phase one or two, contact Charley Deal, associate vice chancellor of alumni relations at 881-7610.

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**Aviation art contest set**

Everett-Stewart Regional Airport and the University of Tennessee at Martin are partnering to host an art competition for children and young adults to be held at the airport.

The local deadline to enter is 4 p.m. Jan. 12, 2018.


Winners will receive awards in each age group in the local contest.

All entries will be sent to Nashville for the state competition (entries will not be returned from the state).

The theme for the competition is “Flight Into the Future” and specific definitions and details can be found on the entry form.

To obtain an entry form, contact Jo Ann Speer or Vickie Higgs at Everett-Stewart Regional Airport, or email ESRA@estewartregionalairport.us.

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**UTM Veteran Services to host mobile clinic Oct. 26**

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Veteran Services will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Oct. 26, in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin's Boling University Center. Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a “veteran” stamp on a Tennessee driver's license. There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services. For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Dennes Torpoco.
Rev. Conner leaves lasting legacy behind

He has been called a professor, a leader, a friend, a role model, and an advocate for civil rights in West Tennessee. On Sunday, the man who also led people to God in his long life, passed away leaving behind a legacy for generations to follow.

Harold T. Conner was born in 1919 and grew up in South Fulton. Conner was the first principal of the Weakley County Training School in Martin. The training school was the first high school for black students in the area. He served as principal for 13 years, while his wife Florence taught classes. Rev. Conner supervised about 150 students in grades first through 12th.

Conner graduated high school in 1941 and went on to attend the Agricultural and Industrial State Normal College, which changed its name in 1968 to what is known now as Tennessee State University. He majored in agriculture, as the era saw men in the field of ag and women in the field of home economics.

He was a freshman in college when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. That incident would change Conner’s path from college to the United States Army. He served four years in the military during World War II and was posted in Italy.

In an interview with the Weakley Press in February during Black History Month, Conner revealed the first thing he did when he came home from the war was marry his sweetheart, Florence. Rev. Conner had a job as a porter in the dining car with the Illinois Central Railroad at the station in Fulton, Ky.

Although Conner reflected the job was a good job and a good paying job, he admitted college was calling his name. With their first-born Harold Jr. in tow, the family of three set out for Nashville. From then on, Conner made historical strides as a black man during a time when racial segregation was front and center in America.

The reverend was the first black administrator to be employed by UT Martin after it was desegregated in 1969. He first served UTM as Assistant Dean of Students and then Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs. According to university officials, Rev. Conner was instrumental in the formation of many campus organizations and programs that play significant roles on the UTM campus, including the Black Student Organization (BSO), Freshman Studies, the Highest Praise Gospel Choir, and the Peer Enabler Program (PEP).

See CONNER Page 8

CONNER FROM PAGE 1

Although he retired from the university in 1981, his work wasn’t finished. He became the first recipient of the Black Student Association’s annual Legacy Award for his achievements at UT Martin. Rev. Conner also served as a member of the Tennessee Board of Regents.

His legacy continues in the form of a scholarship in his name, the Harold Conner Scholarship, which is designed to offer financial assistance to those students who show academic promise. The $3,000 scholarship per academic year renewable award requires freshman applicants to have a high school GPA of 3.25 and an ACT score of 21 or SAT score of 470.

Rev. Conner was also an ordained Baptist minister and was the pastor for Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden for many years. His sweetheart died in 2013 at the age of 90. The couple leaves behind two sons, one daughter, several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services are expected to be held in Dresden with Bowlin Funeral Home in charge of arrangements. Service information was unknown at press time.

UT Martin Veteran Services to host mobile clinic

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Veteran Services will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 26, in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin’s Boling University Center.

Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a ‘veteran’ stamp on a Tennessee driver’s license.

There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services.

For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Denesse Torpoco.
UTM is celebrating Chemistry Week Thursday

The University of Tennessee at Martin SMACS (Student Members of the American Chemical Society) will be celebrating National Chemistry Week with a "Chemistry Rocks" program on Thursday.

National Chemistry Week is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year across the country. Every year, schools, businesses and clubs involved in chemistry gather to celebrate chemistry and “make a positive change in the public’s impression of chemistry.”

“We get together for a big celebration,” said Dr. Abigail Shelton, faculty advisor of UTM SMACS.

National Chemistry week is celebrated during the week of October 23 (10/23) to recognize Avogadro’s number, 6.02 x 1023. UTM will be holding their event a week early due to scheduling issues.

This year’s theme, “Chemistry Rocks,” will celebrate the chemistry of rocks and gems.

“For them it’s a geoscience thing,” Dr. Shelton said. “But it gave us a really cool idea.”

Members of the chemistry department hid rocks across campus that are painted with chemistry puns, messages and other fun designs. Students are welcome to keep any rocks they find or hide them in a different location.

“There are even rocks hidden in our building,” Dr. Shelton laughed. “Every time I walk by they’re hidden in a different place.”

The rock hiding is a precursor to get students interested in SMACS’ main event, Dr. Shelton said. On Thursday, the group will be hosting scientific demonstrations in UTM’s Watkins auditorium. Students from Union University, Murray State University and Bethel University will also be leading demonstrations.

“We try to out-demo each other,” Dr. Shelton said. “We see who can get things the biggest, fuzziest or most explosive.”

Demonstrations typically involve fun experiments such as “gun cotton,” “elephant toothpaste” and methane bubbles. Students will also be showing experiments with rocks for this year’s theme.

It’s not just about making things change color or blow up, though, Dr. Shelton said.

“I think chemistry tends to scare people sometimes,” she said. “It’s complex. We often lose sight of the beauty and fun of it. This can help more people get excited about chemistry.”

The event will be held Thursday at 6 p.m. in UTM’s Watkins auditorium and is free and open to the public. Parking is available outside the university center. For more information, contact Dr. Abigail Shelton at ashelt18@utm.edu.
ROCK OUT — Students in UTM's chemistry department are hiding rocks across campus to celebrate National Chemistry Week's theme "Chemistry Rocks."

UT Knoxville honors top 100 graduates in school history

On Oct. 13, the University of Tennessee in Knoxville honored the top 100 graduates in the history of the entire university system. Among these "Centennial Alumni" is Paul Blaylock MD JD of South Fulton, along with Peyton Manning, Scott Kelly (space station astronaut), and many other distinguished alumni. Dr. Blaylock graduated at the top of his class in high school, UT Martin, UT Medical School and his law school. He practices Emergency/Trauma medicine and is a trial lawyer in Portland, Oregon. He also has done disaster relief work for the American Red Cross worldwide in his long career. Dr. Blaylock is responsible for the Paul Blaylock MD JD Legacy Scholarship Award at UT Martin. This scholarship is awarded to a student who graduated high school at Fulton City or South Fulton, UTM and is accepted in Medical School at UT Health Science Center in Memphis. The recipient for the award this year was Mikaela Hardy Holland, UTM December 2016 Graduate. Mikaela is currently enrolled as a Medical Student at UT Health Science Center. Also, it has been recently announced that he has been named "2018 Outstanding Alumna" from University of Tennessee Health Science Center and will be honored in Memphis on September 18, 2018.
PARTICIPATE IN QUAD CITY —
Local residents (from left) Bo Pate and Harold Cochran, both of Troy, and Johnny Dyer of Union City participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Quad City recently. The annual event was held as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities and this year featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme.

JOINING THE FUN — Blake Berner (second from left) of Union City participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s recent Quad City. The annual event was held as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities and featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme. Berner was joined by fellow Alpha Gamma Rho members Nathan Whitley (left), Christian Kemp (third from left) and Lane Edden.

GETTING INVOLVED — Audrey Adams (front right) of Union City participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Quad City recently as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities. It featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme. Ms. Adams was joined by fellow members of UT Martin’s Student Government Association, including (from left, front row) Lora Moore, Cherquala Cole, Hope Jarrett, (back) Jagger Lampkins and Michael Samko.
HOMECOMING HAPPINESS — Bryan and Christina Moore and daughter Ava of South Fulton recently participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Quad City. The Moores are both UT Martin graduates. This annual event was held as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities. It featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme this year.

LOCAL RESIDENTS PARTICIPATE IN UT MARTIN QUAD CITY — Pictured left to right are Bryan, Christina and Ava Moore, of South Fulton, participated in the University of Tennessee at Martin’s Quad City on Oct. 7. Bryan and Christina are both UT Martin graduates. This annual event is held as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities and this year featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme. See more UT Martin Homecoming images at facebook.com/utmartin/photos. (Photo submitted)
UTM To Host Mobile Veterans Affairs Clinic

The University of Tennessee at Martin Office of Veteran Services will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Oct. 26, in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin’s Boling University Center.

Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a “veteran” stamp on a Tennessee driver’s license.

There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services.

For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Denesse Torpoco.

Reed Center To Host Fourth Free Speaker October 24

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center will host its fourth seminar in the “Small Business Basics – Ask the Expert” series for local business owners from 6-8 p.m., Oct. 24.

Seminar costs are covered by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center.

Darlene Adkins will give a presentation titled “Your CPA – A Key to a Better Return.” Participants will receive instruction about the benefits of hiring a Certified Public Accountant. Topics include the CPA’s assistance with payroll, sales and use taxes, tangible business personal property taxes, state and federal corporate income taxes and additional taxes.

Adkins, lecturer of accounting at UT Martin, has more than 20 years of experience in various accounting and auditing positions and has served as senior auditor for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General. She has also worked in the health care, non-profit and retail industries.

Three more sessions in the series will be held at the REED Center at 406 S. Lindell St. in Martin. No seminar will be held Oct. 31.

Visit tsbdc.org/utm to register for any session. For more information, contact the center at 731-587-7333.

UT Martin Honors Outstanding Employees

Derry Rogers and Carrie Arant were honored Oct. 11 when they received UT Martin Outstanding Employee Awards for fall 2017. Rogers received the non-exempt award and Arant the exempt honor. The awards recognize outstanding service to the university and are presented each fall and spring semester.

Rogers is the business manager for the Department of Agricul- ture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources. He came to the university in April 2009 and has held her current position since March 2014. Arant processes invoices, travel and payroll; coordinates faculty and staff searches; and maintains and balances all department, gift and grant accounts. She is known for her work ethic, organizational skills and positive attitude.
UT Martin honors outstanding employees

Derry Rogers and Carrie Arant were honored Oct. 11 when they received UT Martin Outstanding Employee Awards for fall 2017 from UTM Chancellor Keith Carver.

Rogers received the non-exempt award and Arant the exempt honor. The awards recognize outstanding service to the university and are presented each fall and spring semester during the Clerical and Support Staff Coffee, an appreciation event for UT Martin employees. Rogers, of Martin, is a 20-year university employee and is foreman in the Physical Plant Plumbing Shop. Besides his work as a supervisor, he is known for his efforts to improve the quality and reliability of the campus systems he oversees. His initiative and out-of-the-box thinking are credited with diagnosing and resolving several potential building issues and problems.

Arant, of Sharon, is the business manager for the Department of Agriculture, Geosciences, and Natural Resources. She came to the university in April 2009 and has held her current position since March 2014. Arant processes invoices, travel and payroll; coordinates faculty and staff searches; and maintains and balances all department, gift and grant accounts. She is known for her work ethic, organizational skills and positive attitude.
STUDENTS PARTICIPATE — Kody Holsten (left),
of Martin, participated in the University of Tennessee at
Martin’s Quad City Oct. 7. This annual event is held as
part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities and this year
featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme. Holsten is
pictured with fellow Pi Kappa Alpha member Austin Scates.
See more UT Martin Homecoming images at facebook.
com/utmartin/photos.

UTM hosting band championship Saturday
Eighteen high school bands are expected
to compete in the 16th annual
West Tennessee Marching Band Championships
on Saturday at UT Martin’s Hardy M. Graham
Stadium. The gates open
at noon with the first band
stepping off at 1:10 p.m.
and the first band in the
finals competition stepping
off at 8:25 p.m.
Tickets are $10 for adults,
$5 for children, and chil-
dren 4 and under are
admitted free of charge.
The bands range from
small classes fielding
under 30 performers to
two classes with more
than 120 performers.
More than 1,400 students
are expected to perform
in bands from Arkansas,
Kentucky and Tennessee
and will compete for 45
separate trophies be-
tween preliminary and
finals competition. UT
Martin’s Skyhawk March-
ing Band will also per-
form at 5:55 p.m. before
the preliminary awards
ceremony. For informa-
tion, contact Dr. Bill Wat-
terman, director of athlet-
ic bands, at 731-881-7401,
or email him at wwater-
ma@utm.edu.

RESIDENT PARTICIPATES IN EVENT — Colin
Stricklin (right), of Martin, participated in the University of
Tennessee at Martin’s Quad City Oct. 7. This annual event
is held as part of UT Martin’s Homecoming festivities and this
year featured the Captain of the Caribbean theme.
Stricklin is pictured with (from left) Hannah Lampley, Han-
nah Lighfolt and Kiara Jones. See more UT Martin Home-
coming images at facebook.com/utmartin/photos.

Guest Dr. Joel Collier to perform at UT Martin
The University of Tenness-
e at Martin Department of Music will host Dr. Joel
Collier in a guest euphoni-
um recital at 5:30 p.m., Oct.
29, in the UT Martin Fine
Arts Building’s Blankenship
Recital Hall.
Collier grew up in a mu-
ical family, and music has
been one of the main focuses
in his life. He has received
recognition as a performer,
composer and teacher of
music and enjoys sharing
his gifts with vast audiences.
He currently performs with
the Brass Band of Louisville
and the Salvation Army
Southern Territorial Band.
Collier has won numer-
ous awards as a soloist,
including first place at the
2012 North American Brass
Band Championship and
later earned second place in
2016. He has been featured
as a soloist with the Phila-
delphia Youth Orchestra, the
Drexel University Concert
Band, the New York Staff
Band and many other en-
sembles.
The event is free and open
to the public.
For more information,
contact the UT Martin De-
partment of Music at 731-
881-7402.
Funeral arrangements are set for the University of Tennessee at Martin's first black administrator. The Rev. Harold Conner Sr. died last Sunday at age 97.

His services are set for 1 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24, at Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden with burial to follow at Eastside Cemetery in Martin. Visitation will be held at the church starting at 11 a.m. the day of the service and continue until service time.

Conner came to UT Martin in 1969 as assistant dean of students and was later named assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. He helped start the Black Student Association and the Highest Praise Gospel Choir.

Conner also played a role in the integration of UT Martin and public schools in Weakley County. Jesse Arnold Pryor was the first African American student to enroll at UTM in 1961. She credited Conner for encouraging her to attend the university. Conner retired in 1981.
West TN marching band championships at UT Martin

By FOX 23 Monday, October 23rd 2017

MARTIN, TN (Heartland News at 9) -

Eighteen high school bands are scheduled to compete in the 16th annual West Tennessee Marching Band Championships Saturday, Oct. 21, at UT Martin’s Hardy M. Graham Stadium.

The gates open at Noon with the first band stepping off at 1:10 p.m. and the first band in the finals competition stepping off at 8:25 p.m.

Tickets are $10 for adults, $5 for children, and children four and under are admitted free of charge.

The bands range from small classes fielding under 30 performers to large classes with more than 120 performers.

More than 1,400 students are expected to perform in bands from Arkansas, Kentucky and Tennessee and will compete for 45 separate trophies between preliminary and finals competition.

UT Martin’s Skyhawk Marching Band will also perform at 5:55 p.m. before the preliminary awards ceremony.

For information, contact Dr. Bill Waterman, director of athletic bands, at 731-881-7401, or email him at wwaterma@utm.edu.
UTM veteran services to host mobile clinic

The UT Martin Department of Veteran Services will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thursday in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin's Boling University Center. Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a "veteran" stamp on Tennessee driver's license.

There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services.

For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Denesse Torpoco.

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (CLARKSVILLENOW (http://clarksvillenow.com/)) –

Each year, the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Organization (https://www.ffa.org/home) honors FFA members who show the utmost dedication to the organization through their desire to develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.

The American FFA Degree is bestowed upon a select group of students in recognition of their years of academic and professional excellence. This year 4,071 American Degrees will be awarded.

David Thomas Key, an alumni member of the Montgomery Central FFA Chapter in Cunningham, TN will be awarded the American FFA Degree at the 90th National FFA Convention & Expo October 25-28 in Indianapolis. The award will be presented on Saturday, October 28 during the 8th General Session in Lucas Oil Stadium.

Sponsored by Case IH, Elanco Animal Health and Syngenta, the award recognizes demonstrated ability and outstanding achievements in agriculture business, production, processing or service programs.

To be eligible, FFA members must have earned and productively invested $10,000 through a supervised agricultural experience program in which they start, own or hold a professional position in an existing agricultural enterprise. Recipients must also complete 50 hours of community service and demonstrate outstanding leadership abilities and civic involvement.

Each recipient of the American Degree receives a gold American Degree key, certificate and matted framed after being recognized on stage at the national convention.

David Thomas Key is the son of Scott and Wendy Key of Clarksville, TN. He is a third generation FFA member. David Thomas Key is pursuing a degree in Agriculture Business at The University of Tennessee Martin. He is a currently a member of The University of Tennessee at Martin FFA Chapter.

The National FFA Organization provides leadership, personal growth and career success training through agricultural education to 649,355 student members who belong to one of 7,859 local FFA chapters throughout the U.S., Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The organization is also supported by 225, 891 alumni members in 1,934 alumni chapters throughout the U.S.
Professor to speak on World War I and UTK

Dr. Vejas Liulevicius, professor in the humanities at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and director of the Center for the Study of War and Society, will present a seminar titled “World War I Remembered: The Work of UTK’s Center for the Study of War and Society” at 7 p.m. Thursday in Watkins Auditorium, located in the Boling University Center.

Liulevicius served as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University. His awards and honors include the University of Tennessee’s Excellence in Teaching award and a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship. Liulevicius has published numerous articles and two books: “War Land on the Eastern Front: Culture, National Identity, and German Occupation in World War I” and “The German Myth of the East, 1800 to the Present.”

He has also recorded seven taped lecture courses with The Great Courses company on topics including the First World War, dictatorships, espionage, exploration and the history of Eastern Europe.

This presentation is part of UT Martin’s Academic Speakers Program, which annually features top speakers who meet with the university’s Honors Programs students and offer presentations to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Lionel Crews, director, UT Martin Honors Programs, at 731-881-7436 or by email at lcrews@utm.edu.

The complete list of 2017-2018 speakers is available online at utm.edu/departments/honors/events.php.
RHS Band excels at UTM

Finish 2nd in their class

"The Outcast" performance in the UT Martin Invitational this weekend was a hit once again as the band's hard work continues to pay off. The band finished second in their class with additional awards brought by the percussion section, winning second and the guard placing third. This season of competition will culminate in a bid for the top spot in Tennessee. The state competition will be held Nov. 4 at Riverdale High School in Murfreesboro.
Recognized for five years of service

University of Tennessee at Martin employees who have attained five years of service were honored Oct. 11 by UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver during the Clerical and Support Staff Coffee, an appreciation event for university employees. Attending the event and recognized were: (front row, l to r; hometown and work area noted for all persons pictured) Jewell Franklin, Martin, international studies; Kiara Castleman, Greenfield, bursar's office; Kim Barnett-Sledd, Dresden, family and consumer sciences; Emily Sparks, Union City, admissions; and Chancellor Carver, Martin; (second row, l to r) Kimberly Olive-Milligan, Martin, campus recreation; John Na Webster, Greenfield, student health and counseling; Norma Coalter, Martin, university relations; Amy Davidson, Greenfield, nursing; Daphne McDaniel, Greenfield, business services; (back row, l to r) Andy Wilson, Martin, university advancement; Dr. Kelli Deere, Lexington, Parsons Center; Brooke Dodd, Martin, educational outreach; Vickey Hardrick, Dresden, custodial services; Kristina Pitz, Martin, pre-health science program; and Michael Brent, Martin, custodial services.

Guest artist to perform at university

The University of Tennessee at Martin Department of Music will host Dr. Joel Collier in a guest euphonium recital at 5:30 p.m. Sunday in the UT Martin Fine Arts Building's Blankenship Recital Hall.

Collier grew up in a musical family, and music has been one of the main focuses in his life. He has received recognition as a performer, composer and teacher of music and enjoys sharing his gifts with vast audiences. He currently performs with the Brass Band of Louisville and The Salvation Army Southern Territorial Band. Collier has won numerous awards as a soloist, including first place at the 2012 North American Brass Band Championship and later earned second place in 2016. He has been featured as a soloist with the Philadelphia Youth Orchestra, the Drexel University Concert Band, the New York Staff Band and many other ensembles.

The event at UT Martin is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the UT Martin Department of Music at (731) 881-7402.
Best College Buys includes UTM for the 12th time

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc. of Rome, Ga., for the 12th consecutive year.

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville, Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville and Union University in Jackson join UT Martin as the only Tennessee universities listed.

“Offering students a high-quality education at an affordable cost is critical in today’s higher education marketplace,” said Dr. Keith Carver, UT Martin chancellor. “We will work to maintain UT Martin as a value leader for those seeking a four-year college experience.”

To be considered for the designation “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” an institution must be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor’s degrees. The institution must also offer full residential facilities, including residence halls and dining services.

Additionally, the institution must have had an entering freshman class in fall 2016 with a high school grade point average and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen.

Also, the out-of-state cost of attendance in 2017-18 for three quarters or two semesters must either be below the national average cost of attendance or not exceed the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

Institutional Research & Evaluation Inc. conducted its 27th Annual National College Survey between April 1 and July 31, 2017. The survey form was submitted to the offices of admissions directors of 1,469 accredited U.S. colleges and universities offering four-year undergraduate degree programs and providing facilities for both room and board. Of the institutions surveyed, 1,088 schools responded.

“Each year UT Martin secures its place among those institutions offering the very finest educational opportunities based solely upon objective, measurable criteria by which all the colleges and universities in America can be compared,” said Lewis Lindsey Jr., IRE president.

“Students at UT Martin enjoy and benefit from the opportunity of attending one of a very select group of institutions providing high-quality educations at low cost.”

The recognition follows two listings announced in recent months. In August, The Princeton Review named the university among the “2018 Best Regional Colleges.” The list is part of the company’s website feature “2018 Best Colleges: Region by Region” posted at PrincetonReview.com. UT Martin has been included in this listing for 15 consecutive years.

UT Martin also continued among the top southern master’s level universities in the 2018 U.S. News & World Report Best Colleges rankings, released in September. The university tied for 46th place among both public and private universities and ranked 17th for southern public universities.
UTM series to feature speaker

Dr. Vejas Liulevicius — professor in the humanities at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and director of the Center for the Study of War and Society — will present a seminar titled “World War I Remembered: The Work of UTK’s Center for the Study of War and Society” at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

The event will begin at 7 p.m. Thursday in Watkins Auditorium, located in the Boling University Center.

Liulevicius, a native of Chicago, earned his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Chicago.

He later received his doctoral degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Liulevicius served as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University.

His awards and honors include the University of Tennessee’s Excellence in Teaching award and a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship.

Liulevicius has published numerous articles and two books: “War Land on the Eastern Front: Culture, National Identity and German Occupation in World War I” and “The German Myth of the East, 1800 to the Present.”

He has also recorded seven taped lecture courses with The Great Courses company on topics including the First World War, dictatorships, espionage, exploration and the history of Eastern Europe.

This presentation is part of UT Martin’s Academic Speakers Program, which annually features top speakers who meet with the university’s Honors Programs students and offer presentations to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Lionel Crews, director, UT Martin Honors Programs, at (731) 881-7436 or by email at lcrews@utm.edu.

The complete list of 2017-18 speakers is available online at utm.edu/departments/honors/events.php.

OCCHS VISIT — University of Tennessee at Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver (center) recently met with several seniors at Obion County Central High School.

A spokesman said he provided encouragement to the students as they consider their futures and educational opportunities.

UTM-Ripley holds Fall Festival

The University of Tennessee at Martin Ripley Center will hold its Fall Festival Thursday, Oct. 26, from 5-7 p.m. There will be free food, family activities, giveaways and fun.
Conner Remembered As Ad Educator, Trailblazer, Man Of Faith

The Rev. Harold Conner Sr., the University of Tennessee at Martin’s first black administrator, died Oct. 15 at Diversicare of Martin. He was 97. Funeral services were held at 1 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 24, at Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden with burial following at Eastside Cemetery in Martin.

Conner, known by many as “Dean Conner,” first came to UT Martin in 1969 as assistant dean of students and was later named assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. He continued as a university administrator until his retirement in 1981. Conner was instrumental in starting many campus organizations and programs that still play significant roles at the university, including the Black Student Association, the Freshman Studies Program, the Highest Praise Gospel Choir and the Peer Enabler Program that mentors entering students.

“He was always giving life instructions,” Williams-Boyd added. “I loved hearing him preach, and he never bothered to sugarcoat any of it. He shot straight from the hip and, if it bothered you, you just said ‘ouch’ and kept on pushing.”

Dr. Phil Watkins, UT Martin vice chancellor emeritus of student affairs, first knew Conner when he was a high school principal in Weakley County and later worked many years with Conner after he was hired by the university. Watkins credits Conner’s human-relations skills for his ability to work with people from all backgrounds. “I think a good part of it (his success) was his leadership style,” Watkins said. “It was a quiet, dignified and effective way of interacting with people.”

Beyond his leadership qualities, Watkins remembered Conner as a master storyteller. “Mr. Conner had a good sense of humor, and he used stories to make his points effectively,” Watkins said. “He could tell a simple story, and the point would be so clear, you just couldn’t miss it.”

“Mr. Conner was one of the finest gentlemen I’ve ever had the privilege of working with,” Watkins said of his longtime friend and colleague.

Phil Dane, retired UT Martin athletics director and the university’s coordinator of student leadership development who now lives in Memphis, remembered Conner as both his junior high school principal and a fellow UT Martin employee. Dane paid tribute to Conner in a Facebook post.

“He was one of the wisest men I ever knew and a great man of faith,” Dane wrote. “He led our school when racial integration began and always made the point that we were integrated, not desegregated. And he was right. He treated us all the same.”
WUTM PARTICIPATES IN COLLEGE RADIO DAY – The University of Tennessee at Martin’s WUTM 90.3 “The Hawk” participated in the 2017 College Radio Day, Oct. 6, by holding a live broadcast in front of the Barnes & Noble Bookstore in the Boling University Center. College Radio Day’s goal is to raise the profile of college radio stations across the country and encourage increased student participation in the medium of college radio. Pictured from the station are, left to right, Olivia Johnston, of Madison, Ala., station news director; John Thornton, of Atoka, WUTM sports director; and Emma Bruner, of South Fulton, station business and traffic director, all communications students. “Since 2005, WUTM has won over 200 awards from state, regional, national and international competitions,” wrote Dr. Richard Robinson, station faculty adviser, in a university email promoting the event. “The station currently holds the title of ‘Best College Radio Station in the South,’ as designated by the Southeast Journalism Conference, and is a seven-time Platinum-rated station, as designated by the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System. ‘The Hawk’ was named the ‘Best College Radio Station in the Nation’ (for colleges with under 10,000 enrollment) in both 2012 and 2016.” (Photo submitted)

UTM veteran services to host mobile clinic

The UT Martin Department of Veteran Services will host a Mobile Veteran Affairs Clinic from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. today in rooms 230 and 232 of UT Martin’s Boling University Center. Campus veterans and veterans in the surrounding counties are invited to attend. Services provided include assistance with disability claims and medical insurance; setting up an eBenefits account; educational benefits; and receiving a “veteran” stamp on Tennessee driver’s license.

There is no cost to attend. Attendees are encouraged to bring a copy of their DD-214 (discharge paper) to assist in determining eligibility for services. For more information, contact the Memphis Vet Center at 901-522-3950 and ask for Frederick Smith or Denese Toppoco.

UTM’s REED Center plans free speaker event

UT Martin’s Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center will host its fifth seminar in the “Small Business Basics – Ask the Expert” series for local business owners from 6-8 p.m., Nov. 7. Seminar costs are covered by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center.

Dr. Sean Walker will give a presentation titled “Ending the Cold War in your Workplace: Practical Tips for Resolving Conflict.” One of the objectives of this presentation is to help organizations and organizational members make a conflict a productive attribute of the organization. Participants will receive instruction about the seven important facets of “working with conflict.”

Walker is an associate professor in the UT Martin Department of Management, Marketing and Information Systems and focuses primarily on the impact of psychological phenomena on human resources and organizational behavior. He is also both a licensed minister and mediator and has extensive experience helping parties reach mutually acceptable agreements when faced with conflict.

UTM named among ‘America’s 100 Best College Buys’

The University of Tennessee at Martin is listed among “America’s 100 Best College Buys,” a listing compiled by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc., of Rome, Ga., for the 12th consecutive year. The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville and Union University in Jackson join UT Martin as the only Tennessee universities listed.

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UT faculty, staff remember Harold Conner

The Rev. Harold Conner Sr., the University of Tennessee at Martin’s first black administrator, died Oct. 15 at Diversicare of Martin. He was 97. Funeral services were Tuesday.

Conner, known by many as “Dean Conner,” first came to UT Martin in 1969 as assistant dean of students and was later named assistant vice chancellor for student affairs. He continued as a university administrator until his retirement in 1981. Conner was instrumental in starting many campus organizations and programs that still play significant roles at the university, including the Black Student Association, the Freshman Studies Program, the Highest Praise Gospel Choir and the Peer Enabler Program that mentors entering students.

“Dean Conner was a trailblazer and a role model for generations of students from all backgrounds,” said UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver in a statement. “His UT Martin legacy endures in many lasting forms, but his students and those who worked with him will always know him as an educator, mentor, friend and man of great faith.”

Conner played a major role in the integration of public schools in Weakley County and at the university. UT Martin joined the University of Tennessee in 2011 to observe the 50th anniversary of African American students enrolling in the university. Conner is remembered in the commemorative publication “Celebrating 50 Years of African-American Achievement” for his role in the successful integration of Weakley County Schools and UT Martin.

Jesse Armord Pryor, the first African American student to enroll at the university in 1961, credited Conner during the September 2011 dedication of Unity Circle near Clement Hall for encouraging her to attend the Martin campus.

Conner was a U.S. Army veteran, a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and an ordained Baptist minister, serving as pastor of the Fuller Street Baptist Church in Dresden for almost five decades. Conner was the first recipient of the UT Martin Black Student Association’s annual Legacy Award honoring his university achievements.

The university’s Harold Conner Scholarship is named for him, and the city of Martin annually presents the Harold Conner City of Martin Award that recognizes outstanding achievement and innovative leadership in the community.

Deborah Williams-Boyd is a longtime employee in UT Martin’s Office of Business Services and recalled the many ways “Dean Conner” touched her and her family. “While a student at UTM, timid and shy, I was told to do everything I could not to go to his office, because when you went, you were already in trouble,” she wrote in an email. “He expected great things out of me, and I did all I could to make him proud.”

Conner baptized her youngest son, loved hearing her daughter play the piano, and all of her children received the Harold Conner Scholarship while attending the university.

“He was always giving life instructions,” Williams-Boyd added. “I loved hearing him preach, and he never bothered to sugarcoat any of it. He shot straight from the hip and, if it bothered you, you just said ‘ouch’ and kept on pushing.”

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A LEGACY OF LEADERSHIP — As the first black administrator at UTM, Dean Conner (left) helped shepherd the university through integration.
RECOGNIZED FOR FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE AT UT MARTIN

— University of Tennessee at Martin employees who have attained five years of service were honored Oct. 11 by UT Martin Chancellor Keith Carver during the Clerical and Support Staff Coffee, an appreciation event for university employees. Attending the event and recognized were: (hometown and work area noted) (back row, from left) Andy Wilson, Martin, university advancement; Dr. Kelli Deere, Lexington, Parsons Center; Brooke Dodd, Martin, educational outreach; Vickey Hardrick, Dresden, custodial services; Kristina Pitz, Martin, pre-health science program; and Michael Brent, Martin, custodial services; (second row) Kimberly Olive-Milligan, Martin, campus recreation; John钠 Webster, Greenfield, student health and counseling; Norma Coalter, Martin, university relations; Amy Davidson, Greenfield, nursing; Daphne McDaniel, Greenfield, business services; (front row) Jewell Franklin, Martin, international studies; Kiara Castleman, Greenfield, bursar’s office; Kim Barnett-Sledd, Dresden, family and consumer sciences; Emily Sparks, Union City, admissions; and Chancellor Carver, Martin.

STUDENTS TAKE TOUR — The senior nursing education at Westview High School recently toured Health South and the Health and Human Performance Department at University of Tennessee-Martin. Students had the opportunity to gain knowledge on health careers in rehabilitative therapies at Health South first hand. HealthSouth is one of the nation’s largest providers of post-acute healthcare services, and through the acquisition of Encompass Home Health and Hospice, an industry leader in home-based patient care. Lori Manley, occupational therapist, assisted the students. Nursing education students were also enlightened on health career choices offered at UTM through the HHP department. The Department of Health and Human Performance offers concentrations in exercise science/wellness and K-12 licensure physical education and health. Each of these concentrations leads to an exciting and rewarding professional career. Additionally, through this department a variety of physical activity classes are offered to meet the needs of the UT Martin student body. James Reid, associate professor in the HHP department at UTM, also assisted the students. Students participating in the tour were Students (sitting, from left) Reid Chandler, Nolan Bingham, Ben利用 Pritchard, Hayley Shumake, Rachel Forrester and Olivia Wilson, Kaylee Garrett, (back) Jaelyn Cartwright, Jada Briggs, Summer Villarosa, Carly Williamson, DeAnn Wilkerson, Samantha Foster, Madison Summers, CeCe Spencer, Alexis Shanklin, Bunty Jones, Claire Capps, Relie Ford, Emily Fowler, Angin Ho, Michael Long, Aubrey Byrum, Keith Evans, Tyana Clemons and Malek Jones. Not pictured is HOSA advisors, Kim Alexander and Carolyn Glover, BSN-RN.
OcTUBAfest comes to UTM Monday

The University of Tennessee at Martin’s music department will be ringing in the fall season with two festive performances.

The UTM Tuba and Euphonium Studio will be hosting its fourth annual OcTUBAfest concert on Monday. OcTUBAfest will feature German music for tuba and euphonium ensembles. The night will feature large and small groups playing traditional German polkas and waltzes. The Tuba and Euphonium Studio will also perform traditional ensemble literature.

UTM’s OcTUBAfest was named after Germany’s Oktoberfest, which is known for being lively and fun. The concert was created to bring some of that spirit to Martin.

Those outside the studio are welcome to participate in OcTUBAfest.

High schoolers, community members and other college students regularly join the studio on stage for a few selections.

“It’s truly a fun time had by all celebrating this celebratory time,” said Dr. Bill Waterman, professor of applied tuba and euphonium.

OcTUBAfest will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Blankenship Recital Hall. For more information, contact Dr. Waterman at waterma@utm.edu.

On Halloween night, the UTM Woodwind Students Association will host their Woodwind Spooktacular. Members of the clarinet, flute, saxophone and double reed studios will play festive tunes to usher in the Halloween spirit for the family-friendly event. Performers will be in costume and audience members are encouraged to dress up as well.

After the event, there will be a trunk-or-treat in the Fine Arts parking lot for children to receive candy.

The Woodwind Spooktacular will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Blankenship Recital Hall. Tickets are $5 with a discounted price of $3 for students. Children under 10 are free. For more information, contact Anna Gorman at annegorman@ut.utm.edu.

Chemistry students at Murray State celebrate National Chemistry Week

http://www.kfvs12.com/

Published: Sunday, October 29th 2017, 8:07 pm CDT
Updated: Sunday, October 29th 2017, 8:24 pm CDT
Written by Julie Bollinger, Production Assistant

MURRAY, KY (KFVS) - Murray State University chemistry students recently participated in National Chemistry Week. This celebration of chemistry is sponsored by the American Chemical Society (ACS). National Chemistry Week has been informing millions of people nationwide about the positive contributions of chemistry to everyday life for 30 years now. The theme for 2017 was "Chemistry Rocks!"

Students and faculty in Murray State's department of chemistry spent October 22-28 participating in a number of events, such as a chemistry demonstration, a display of rocks from more than 20 countries, and a webinar presentation.

The week prior to National Chemistry Week, student members of the ACS at Murray State assisted in a chemistry demonstration in front of more than 100 people at the University of Tennessee at Martin. Dr. Kevin Miller, faculty advisor for the student organization, led the presentation, which discussed the chemistry involved in the formation of rocks. The demonstration was sponsored by the Kentucky Lake Section of the ACS and included six student groups participating from four colleges, including Murray State, West Kentucky Community and Technical College, University of Tennessee at Martin and Union University.

Dr. Bommanna Loganathan, Bikram Subedi and Sebastian Jezowski, all Murray State chemistry professors, then hosted a National Chemistry Week program-in-a-box presentation Tuesday, Oct. 24. The event included a discussion about rocks, gemstones and minerals; a webinar; a Q&A period; and door prizes. Over 30 students and faculty from the department of chemistry attended the event.

The "Chemistry Rocks!" theme was especially relevant to Murray State due to its location in western Kentucky, where there is an abundance of rocks that are rich in high-quality iron. Rocks collected from the Land Between the Lakes, located near Murray, are currently on display in the department of chemistry at Murray State, as well as different types of rocks from more than 20 countries in honor of National Chemistry Week.
UT Martin ranked first among online colleges in Tennessee

http://www.kfvs12.com/

The Jackson Sun  Sunday, October 29, 2017

UT Martin's REED Center plans free speaker events

UT Martin’s Regional Entrepreneurship and Economic Development Center will host its fifth seminar in the “Small Business Basics – Ask the Expert” series for local business owners from 6-8 p.m., Nov. 7. Seminar costs are covered by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center.

Dr. Sean Walker will give a presentation titled “Ending the Cold War in your Workplace: Practical Tips for Resolving Conflict.” One of the objectives of this presentation is to help organizations and organizational members make a conflict a productive attribute of the organization. Participants will receive instruction about the seven important facets of “working with conflict.”

Walker is an associate professor in the UT Martin Department of Management, Marketing and Information Systems and focuses primarily on the impact of psychological phenomena on human resources and organizational behavior. He is also both a licensed minister and mediator and has extensive experience helping parties reach mutually acceptable agreements when faced with conflict.

UT Martin not outsourcing facilities management services

The University of Tennessee at Martin is opting not to outsource its facilities management services.

The decision comes following a campus visit by Jones Lang LaSalle Americas Inc., as a facilities management service provider recently contracted by the State of Tennessee.

In 2015, the University of Tennessee System was invited to participate in a process to identify possible opportunities to reduce costs for the operation of all state facilities including higher education.

UT President Joe DiPietro asked the leadership of each campus to work with JLL to enable them to make proposals for facilities operations and determine what is in the best interests of the campus. Each campus will present their decision to the Board of Trustees at the UT Board of Trustees meeting Friday in Knoxville.

The master contract allows authorized entities such as University of Tennessee institutions to utilize the JLL contract, which primarily provides for custodial, grounds and repair and maintenance facilities management services using a cost-plus fees service model.

Following the site tour, JLL submitted a proposal for providing services to UT Martin with cost-reduction opportunities of $93,366 annually. Most projected savings were within the university’s housing auxiliary operations.

Upon further examination of the proposal, it was determined that the estimated cost reduction in the JLL proposal would be less than $14,000 annually. The adjustment is due to the duplication of $80,000 in both the housing grounds and maintenance budgets.

UT Martin... (Continued from Page 1) when providing data to JLL.

The university elected to not utilize JLL’s services because the adjusted proposed savings to UT Martin with the JLL contract are not significant. UT Martin will further increase savings and efficiencies in the physical plant and housing maintenance operations through incorporation of opportunities JLL outlined as observations and insights from its site tour.

UT Martin’s center locations in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville are not owned by the university and were not included in outsourcing considerations.
UTHSC, UT Martin opt out of statewide outsourcing contract

All University of Tennessee (UT) campuses, including those in Memphis and Martin, have opted out of a state outsourcing contract for facilities management.

The state of Tennessee contracted Chicago-based Jones Lang LaSalle Americas Inc. (JLL) as a facilities management service provider earlier this year for security, janitorial and landscaping services for state-owned public colleges and universities.

Each UT campus announced individually on Oct. 31. According to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC), JLL estimated savings for the Memphis campus of about $1.7 million annually, with $1.2 million of that coming from leveraging procurement across all management services.

But, UTHSC decided to opt out of the overall JLL contract.

"Because the projected savings are focused on procurement and our overall satisfaction with our internally managed staff performance and our currently outsourced comprehensive landscape services, the Health Science Center has elected not to participate in the outsourcing initiative proposed by JLL," read a statement from UTHSC. "We will continue to work with our campus and system staff on ways to generate savings in procurement across the board."

UTHSC said it’s a member of a consortium — with the University of Memphis and Southwest Tennessee Community College — that will "afford JLL the opportunity to either provide these services currently provided to external mechanical services vendors and/or through leveraged procurement, reducing the $6 million expenditure to the Health Science Center."

The University of Tennessee at Martin (UTM) opted out of the JLL's proposal because it determined the estimated cost reduction would be less than $14,000 annually.

"UT Martin will further increase savings and efficiencies in the physical plant and housing maintenance operations through incorporation of opportunities JLL outlined as observations and insights from its site tour," the school's statement read.

UTM’s satellite campuses in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville are not owned by the university and were not included in outsourcing considerations.

UT campuses in Chattanooga (UTC) and Knoxville (UTK) also opted out of outsourcing with JLL.

UTC’s statement said JLL's proposal was higher than its annual costs for custodial, groundskeeping and maintenance services by $263,217. JLL's proposal would cost $6.959 million, and the university’s yearly budget is $6.696 million.
"Our decision is to not participate based on the higher cost of services," said UTC chancellor Steven R. Angle, in a statement. "Our data indicates our campus operates effectively and efficiently. I want to personally thank JLL for their candor and efforts in this matter where it has related to our university."

UTK chancellor Beverly J. Davenport said in a statement that she opted out of JLL's proposal after "considerable analysis of proposed savings and a close examination of our current and future operations."

"I have decided outsourcing facilities management is not the best option for our campus," she wrote.

Each campus will present its decision to the UT board of trustees meeting in Knoxville on Friday, Nov. 3.

Elle Perry
Digital Producer
Memphis Business Journal

College Choice ranks UTM #1 in state online programs

The University of Tennessee at Martin is ranked first among the 19 Best Online Colleges in Tennessee for 2017 by College Choice. The full ranking is available online at collegechoice.net/rankings/best-online-colleges-in-tennessee.

"Receiving recognition as the number-one online program in the state is a tribute to our faculty and administration," said Dr. Adam Wilson, director of UT Martin Online. "I am always deeply appreciative of the efforts our faculty make to engage with students in our virtual classrooms, and this ranking is further validation of their hard work."

Other recent rankings received by UT Martin's online program include 36th nationally and top-ranked in Tennessee by U.S. News & World Report's "2017 Best Online MBA Programs" category; 16th by master-of-finance.org for Most Affordable Online MBA; and 17th nationally for the master's in education with a major in counseling degree program by affordablecolleges.com. The online master's degree in education was recognized for affordability.

"Our faculty and administration strive to be very deliberate when developing courses and degree programs for online students. These efforts to propel student success have not gone unnoticed as evident by this national recognition," said Wilson.

According to College Choice, the ranking was based on institutional excellence and student success. Institutional excellence includes student test scores, graduation rate and student-to-faculty ratio. The student success composite score includes tuition costs, average student indebtedness after graduation, projected early career salary for graduates and the amount of financial aid available. Sources for the data come from colleges' websites, PayScale, and nationally recognized U.S. News & World Report and The National Center for Education Statistics.

In its description of UT Martin, College Choice noted UT Martin offers a variety of online-only programs, as well as online classes available for all students. The ranking also mentioned UT Martin's transition of its distance-learning platform from Blackboard to Canvas in Spring 2017, which enables students to access interactive course materials including PowerPoints, images, lectures, movie clips, audio, graphs and charts.

For more information, contact UT Martin Online at 731-881-7021 or visit utm.edu/onlinestudies.
Poster commemorates 24 years of festival
By RACHEL MELTON
Special to the Press

As a member of the University Scholars Program at UT Martin, I was tasked with choosing a two-year research project for study. A graphic design major, I chose to focus on an arts oriented project. I’ve lived within a few minutes of Martin for my entire life, and I combined my interests in photography, the arts, and in the town itself for a project titled “Established 1873: An Illustrated History of Martin, TN.”

It is mentored by Sarah Haig, associate professor of graphic design and Jason Stout, associate professor of art at the University.

The intention of the project is to highlight a variety of historic locations and businesses and renew them in a contemporary style. Through a research-based process, I create graphic design illustrations and posters that are based largely on original documentary photographs and objects. This foundation of original photography allows the pieces to retain an element of historical relevancy while being something completely new.

While many of the pieces for the project are based around original photographs and information, several of the pieces are centered on advertisements for historical businesses and posters for events. As soon as my project began, I knew that I wanted to create a poster design commemorating the Tennessee Soybean Festival. I had just finished creating a mock graphic idea for the festival. The design was based on a soybean, and featured a farm with a silo, windmill, and soybean plant inside the bean shape itself. While the image didn’t work well for its original purpose, I soon found that it was perfect as a concept design for the poster which I envisioned. I took the flat design and set out to create a poster celebrating 24 years of the Tennessee Soybean Festival.

**Est. 1873: An Illustrated History of Martin, TN is a work in progress**

The first Soybean Festival was held Sept. 6-11, 1994. The board of directors included Jerry Gresham, Richard Kelly, David Hopkins, Nick Dunagan, Suezana Speight, Teresa Johnson, Sharon Wade, Martin Mayor Larry Taylor and UT Martin Chancellor Margaret Perry in various roles ranging from Festival Coordinator to Director of University Events and Public Relations. The festival included just over 25 events including a Downtown Merchants Antique Fair, Cheerleader Competitions, a 5K Road Race, a barbecue Cookoff, the Optimist Club Bicycle Rodeo, a Health Fair and a concert featuring Tim McGraw in the UTM Pacers Arena on the UT Martin Campus. From the beginning, the festival was a tie between the City of Martin and the University community. The Junior, Senior and Miss Soybean Festival Beauty Pageants were also held during the first year of the festival.

Four years later, a brochure for the festival included an illustrated map of the town, with highlighted locations for events, and the event list grew to include an Alumni Rodeo, the Soybean Festival Pancake Breakfast, a Karaoke Contest and a Street Dance. In 2004, the 10th year of the festival, over 40 events were featured with 80 festival sponsors. In 2007, the festival featured a concert by Blake Shelton, and since then, concerts have featured Lee Brice, We the Kings, Joan Jett, and most recently Lynyrd Skynyrd among many others. The 2017 festival featured well over 100 events, and nearly 100 sponsors.

As a freelance designer, I spent much of this summer working on graphics and posters for this year’s festival. I based the 2017 festival book cover design on my original project poster with a change in color scheme, text layout and the addition of information related to this year’s festival. While the original poster is dark green, with green, yellow and orange elements, the cover for the book took a different turn, with lighter colors including a blue gray background, larger featured text in yellow-orange, off-white and green.

The ability to use a piece from my project in a broader way has been a great way to fulfill the goals of the project while expanding the visibility of the pieces to the community and beyond. While some pieces will remain singular and for the project only, the nature of others will render them capable of being used in various ways and for broader purposes, which is a large part of what I would like to accomplish through the project itself.

Research for this piece was made possible by the staff of the C.E. Weldon Public Library who provided copies of original festival brochures with information on the history of the festival.

“Est. 1873: An Illustrated History of Martin, TN” will continue to be in progress throughout the remainder of the year and into early 2018. More information or photographs regarding specific historic Martin businesses locations is welcome. For inquiries or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at rachmelt@ut.mtn.edu.

Rachel Melton lives in Sharon, Tennessee and has an interest in the local community and its history. She is a senior graphic design major at the University of Tennessee at Martin. She is also a member of the University Scholars Organization, President of The League of Striving Artists, and was named the 2016-2017 Registered Student Organization Student Leader of the Year.
The artist's initial concept

5th Annual Tennessee Soybean Festival, Sept. 8-13, 1998

Downtown Martin, TN

Farmer's Market
Bar-b-que Contest
Stage #2
Street Dance
Pizza Booths

Antiques
Stage #1
Oxford Street
International Food Fest
Lindell Street
University Street
The University of Tennessee at Martin is opting not to outsource its facilities management services.

The decision comes following a campus visit by service company Jones Lang LaSalle Americas. The university is electing not to utilize JLL because the adjusted proposed savings in their contract are not significant. The University of Tennessee System was invited in 2015 to participate in a process to identify opportunities to reduce costs. Each campus will present their decision to the UT Board of Trustees at a meeting November 3 in Knoxville. UT Martin’s center locations in Jackson, Parsons, Ripley, Selmer and Somerville are not owned by the university and were not included in outsourcing considerations.