Welcome Class of 2012!

We are now through our second session with the Class of 2012. Each year we are surprised that we can enjoy the new class just as much as the previous. We have more private industry professionals in this class than have normally applied and that has certainly added a unique twist to the insights each individual brings. Please make an attempt to attend at least one session this year as we bring in 32 new leaders into the WestStar community.

Visit our website at www.utm.edu/weststar.
We are also on Facebook, WestStar Leadership Program and Twitter, WestStar20!

A leader is one who sees more than others see, who sees farther than others see, and who sees before others see.
- Leroy Elimes

Have you received your 2011-2012 WestStar Alumni Directory?
If not, you might not be current on your WestStar Alumni Association dues.
Contact Jackie for inquiries. weststar@utm.edu
The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining.
- John F. Kennedy

We would love to hear from you! Have you recently been promoted, accepted a new job, received an award or recognition, enjoyed a new milestone in your life such as a birth or marriage? Let us share your good news with the WestStar community.

Email jjohn253@utm.edu with your news to be added in the next newsletter.

We Grieve with:
Nick Dunagan (WestStar Exec. Director ’00-’09) and his family upon the untimely death of his son, Casey Dunagan
The family of Norm Spencer (’02) who was one of our brightest stars.
Terry Drumwright (’08) and family upon the death of his mother, Charlene Drumwright

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County Meetings

Last fall, we made a tremendous effort to revamp the WestStar Alumni county meetings that take place each year. These meetings are essential for the promotion of WestStar in your communities as well as a time for WestStar leaders to network with each other to discuss current events in each community.

Contact your Alumni Association representative to see when your next scheduled county meeting is.
(Madison County, contact Leslie Mills. Weakley County, contact Lisha Tuck)

Haywood County Alumni Meeting Nov. 2011

“The time to repair the roof is when the sun is shining.”
- John F. Kennedy
UTM FOOTBALL! Thanks to Jason Brigance for opening up his house to host a tailgate party before the UTM football game. We had a great time and enjoyed the hospitality of the Chancellor’s box at the Hardy Graham stadium.

Even though we did not come close to showing them how much we appreciate their support, WestStar hosted a Corporate Sponsorship Appreciation Dinner in January. We can’t say thank you enough to our great group of Corporate Sponsors who help make the WestStar Leadership Program possible each year. With their support, we are able to provide the highest quality leadership conferences and programs to the businesses and leaders of West Tennessee. West Tennesseans are able to attend great conferences at a fraction of the cost. Listed below are our 2011-2012 Corporate Sponsors. Let them know that they are appreciated next time you see one of their employees.

WestStar Corporate Sponsors
at&t
Bank of Ripley
Shannon Cotter/SIC Project Management
First Bank
First State Bank
Haywood County/City of Brownsville
Gibson County Utility District
HTL Advantage, Inc.
NW Tennessee Development District & Human Resource Agency/
SW Tennessee Development District
The TENNERGY Corporation
Tennessee Valley Authority
TLM Associates, Inc.
The University of Tennessee at Martin
USDA Rural Development
West Tennessee Healthcare
West Tennessee Healthcare Foundation
West Tennessee Industrial Association
About this time last year, the WestStar staff started brainstorming the possibility of offering a youth leadership summit to enhance the existing county youth leadership programs across West Tennessee. **RisingStar Leadership Summit** was created as a result. The best of the best of West Tennessee youth leaders met for the summit in November. They learned about proper table etiquette, team building, community involvement, and participated in a drum circle. A great time was had by all involved and we are looking forward to start planning next year's summit.

The **FutureStar Leadership Summit** was the idea of Dr. Stephanie Kolitch and Dr. Mary Lee Hall who are UTM professors. Since RisingStar was already in the works, we decided to use the same concept except simplify the experience into a one day event for 7th and 8th grade Weakley County students who need an extra push to reach their full potential. (The summit is scheduled to expand to more counties as logistics are worked out.) The FutureStar Summit is scheduled for March 16 here at the UTM campus.

If you are interested in becoming involved with either the RisingStar or the FutureStar Summits, please contact the WestStar staff to see how you can contribute to the events.
Welcome the Class of 2012

To view their bios, please visit our website under the current class tab.
Photo Board

Class of 2012: Greg York, Chuck Doss, and Alexandra Wardlaw

Madison County Alumni Meeting

RisingStar Summit: Rudy Kalis, our keynote speaker, and Marvin Flatt

RisingStar students participating in Julie Hill’s Drum Circle

Do you know a WestStar alumni who we have lost track of? Has their been a death of a WestStar Alumni in your community that we are not aware of? If so, send an email to weststar@utm.edu so that we can update our records. We will have a list of lost alumni and alumni who have passed away in the next newsletter.

“There is no higher religion than human service. To work for the common good is the greatest creed.” - Albert Schweitzer

WestStar20

Westar Leadership Program