High-flying fun

Isha Driver tried out the zip line that was set up on Centennial Mall last week as part of Homecoming Festival Day.

‘Portal’ sculpture installed on Main Campus

A shimmering silver sculpture titled “Portal” adorns the traffic circle east of Stranahan Hall on UT’s Main Campus.

Award-winning artist Gordon Huether traveled from Napa Valley, Calif., last week to oversee the installation of the circular piece that is about 15 feet in diameter and consists of aluminum tubing with blue and gold dichroic glass accents.

White LED lights will illuminate the sculpture at night.

“This work will serve as an iconic portal to the eastern edge of Centennial Mall,” said Dr. Steven LeBlanc, executive associate dean for academic affairs and professor in the College of Engineering, who is chair of the Campus Environments and Beautification Committee.

Huether said the shape of the sculpture was inspired by its location — the middle of a roundabout.

“We want something monumental here, but at the same time we don’t want to block the view of the architecture,” he said. “We want something open.”

Large pieces are Huether’s specialty.

“My favorite part is early in the process when I get to find a creative solution for the space,” he said. “The next best is winning; there’s a lot of talent out there, and it’s nice to be chosen.

“And now seeing it installed is awesome.”

Huether was selected from more than 50 artists who submitted proposals, according to LeBlanc. The artist has won more than 50 public art awards and been commissioned for more than 150 pieces around the world during his 30-year career.

Funding for “Portal” came from the Ohio Percent for Art Program related to the construction of Stranahan Hall North and the renovation of Gillham Hall and the Health and Human Services Building.

IN THE ROUND: “Portal” by Gordon Huether was installed last week in the traffic circle east of Stranahan Hall.

UT receives $1.25M grant to support children with special needs in public school programs

School supervisors and administrators throughout Ohio have the option to improve their early childhood special education programs with the help of a University of Toledo program funded by a $1.25 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Project LEA, or Leading Educators in Advancing Inclusive Early Education, addresses the knowledge and skills of supervisors of teachers who work with young children with special needs. The focus of the grant is assisting supervisors in helping early childhood special education teachers become more effective, while improving the quality of early childhood special education programs.

“In the past, we’ve always worked with teachers,” said Dr. Laurie Dinnebeil, professor of early childhood, physical and special education, and a co-principal investigator of the grant. “We were really excited to submit this proposal because a lot of teacher effectiveness depends on how well the supervisor does his or her job.”

The award will fund a two-year online graduate-level program for four cohorts of supervisors during the five-year...
VP/AD signs extension, looks forward to more student-athlete successes

By Jon Strunk

Rocket fans can count on Mike O’Brien’s steady hand at the wheel of UT athletics into the next decade as his contract as the vice president and director of athletics has been extended through July 2021.

“Throughout his tenure, Mike O’Brien has elevated the Toledo Rockets onto the national stage, while prioritizing the ‘student’ in our student-athletes. Guided by his leadership, our student-athletes have achieved unprecedented athletic and academic excellence. Our community can be very proud of its athletics program under Mike’s leadership,” UT President Lloyd Jacobs said.

“With all Mike has accomplished, I am so impressed by his drive and desire to continue to excel and to inspire those around him to greater effort and achievement,” Jacobs said. “The University of Toledo and the Mid-American Conference are the beneficiaries.”

“I would like to thank Dr. Jacobs and the Board of Trustees for the support they have shown not only to me but to the entire athletics program during my tenure. I have had the good fortune to be surrounded by incredible student-athletes, coaches and staff who are committed to helping make The University of Toledo such a vital part of our community,” O’Brien said.

“While we recognize there is still much work to be done in the growth of our program, we can be very proud of what we have achieved over the last decade, athletically, in the classroom and in the community. I look forward to leading the Rockets as we strive to reach new heights in the future.”

In the last year alone, O’Brien has been named Football Bowl Subdivision Northeast Region Athletic Director of HIGH SCORES: Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien showed the 2011-12 Mid-American Conference Institutional Academic Achievement Award the University received at a Board of Trustees meeting. UT won the award again for 2012-13.

continued on p. 4

UT named military friendly for fourth consecutive year

By Samantha Watson

The University of Toledo is one of only 20 percent of colleges in the country to be featured on the 2014 Military Friendly Schools list from GI Jobs magazine.

Many of the universities on the list are chosen based on research of the schools, but UT also had support from student veterans. Fourteen student-veterans rated UT’s veteran resources, school resources, faculty, school environment and career services. Each category scored at least a 3.5 on a four-point scale.

“At The University of Toledo, we work hard to make sure that the men and women who have served or are actively serving this country have every tool to excel in their educational and career goals,” said UT President Lloyd Jacobs, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps.

“We are honored to have such a disciplined and committed group of individuals attend UT to start another chapter in their lives, and we are proud to provide them a world-class education.”

The University works with veteran students to translate their real-world military service experiences into usable credits for their education.

Because many of these veteran students often are moving from one location to another, UT’s online courses are a great resource. UT also works with spouses of veterans who pursue careers that are easily transferable, such as teaching.

Tuition at UT is within reach for veterans with help from government programs such as the Post-9/11 GI Bill, designed to educate those service members who were engaged in conflicts since September 2011. Of the 422 veterans currently enrolled at UT, 360 of them receive financial assistance from the GI Bill.

The Military Service Center in Rocket Hall and Haraz Ghanbari, UT military and media liaison, provide services to help veterans and active duty military students transition back to the classroom and support them through successful degree completion. For more information, visit u Toledo.edu/call/military.

GI Jobs recognizes the top 20 percent of more than 10,000 schools nationally for the annual Military Friendly Schools list. See the 2014 list at militaryfriendlyschools.com.

TIE IT UP AGAIN! Help get the UT bow tie in the World Series! Go to http://utoledo.edu/utbowtie and "like" the UT bow tie. Last year, reporter Ken Rosenthal of Fox Sports, shown here with President Lloyd Jacobs at the “Tie One On” basketball game, wore the UT bow tie for game three thanks to 1,834 Facebook likes in the World Series BowTie Challenge. Dozens of charities compete for the chance to have their ties selected for the series. UT’s bow tie is the same one used for its annual “Tie One On” event at the men’s basketball game to benefit prostate cancer care, awareness and outreach.
Flu shot clinics available to UT community
By Khyara Harris

Because health-care workers are at increased risk for exposure to illnesses, The University of Toledo Medical Center has updated its immunization policy to encourage and promote vaccinations.

Among the updates is a requirement that those who have direct contact with patients receive the influenza vaccine to protect both employees and patients from the illness.

Health-care workers, who are defined as employees, medical staff, students, volunteers and contract personnel providing direct patient care, need to be vaccinated by Sunday, Dec. 1, or decline via the Influenza Declination System and wear a mask for protection when interacting with patients or caregivers. Stickers for ID badges will be provided to those vaccinated.

“Many hospitals and other health-care facilities nationwide have moved to a mandatory program for influenza vaccination due to the high number of cases of seasonal influenza,” said Dr. Carl Sirio, vice president for medical affairs and associate dean for clinical affairs, who also serves as the chief medical information officer.

“The flu is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States with about 36,000 people dying annually, so our goal is to get as many people vaccinated as possible at UTMC.”

Annual vaccination against seasonal influenza is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for adults to reduce risks of becoming ill with influenza or transmitting the virus to others.

As the flu season approaches and to help employees comply with the updated policy, UTMC is providing free vaccinations for employees and students throughout October and November. To accommodate employees and all work shifts, the flu vaccine will be available 24 hours at the nursing administration office in Mulford Library.

Flu shots will be given during clinics:

- Tuesday, Oct. 8 — UTMC sixth-floor lobby from 7 to 11 a.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 10 — UTMC fifth-floor lobby from 7 to 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 15 — UTMC fourth-floor lobby from 7 to 11 a.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 17 — UTMC third-floor lobby from 7 to 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 22 — UTMC first- and second-floor lobbies from 7 to 11 a.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 23 — Collier Building lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursday, Oct. 24 — Collier Building lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Friday, Oct. 25 — Student Recreation Center during Welloween from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 29 — Health Education Building lobby on Health Science Campus from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Oct. 30 — UTMC basement from 8 a.m. to noon
- Thursday, Oct. 31 — Health Education Building lobby on Health Science Campus from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 5 — Stranahan Hall lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 6 — Law Center SLK Lounge from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 7 — Health and Human Services Building lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 12 — Rocket Hall lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 13 — Memorial Field House lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 14 — Student Union entrance near the fountain from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Nov. 19 — UTMC Four Season Bistro’s Pinnacle Lounge from 6 to 10 a.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 20 — UTMC Four Season Bistro’s Pinnacle Lounge from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Thursday, Nov. 21 — UTMC Four Season Bistro’s Pinnacle Lounge from 3 to 7 p.m.

UT fully prepared for potential impact of government shutdown
By Tobin J. Klinger

The University of Toledo has assembled a working group of leaders from across the institution to handle any potential impact from the Oct. 1 federal government shutdown.

Thus far, there has been little direct impact on the University, but the work group is prepared to address areas of concern that could arise during the course of the ongoing shutdown.

“We are monitoring the situation closely and are well-positioned to react in the event that issues arise for our University,” said Lawrence J. Burns, vice president for external affairs. “We will proactively communicate any significant issues as soon as they become known.”

A memorandum was issued Friday from the Office of Government Affairs; it outlines the current status of the shutdown and potential areas of concern. Read the memo at utole.do/media/content/govworkinggroup.pdf.

In addition, President Lloyd Jacobs addressed the issue during the Oct. 2 episode of “The President’s Message,” which can be viewed at http://utole.do/govtshutdown.
Doctor operates pro bono on Algerian child with rare spinal cord anomaly

By Samantha Watson

I f left untreated, diastematomyelia can cause complete lower body dysfunction. Dr. Azedine Medhkour wouldn’t allow that to happen to a 6-year-old Algerian girl.

Diastematomyelia is a rare disease, affecting fewer than one in 4,000 people, where part of the spine protrudes through the spinal cord, splitting it in two. In young children, the disease is hardly noticeable, but when they reach the age of 11 or 12, they begin having issues walking and can later develop irreversible bowel and bladder dysfunction.

The family of the girl reached out to Medhkour after doctors in Algeria said they could not perform the surgery on the child because it was too dangerous. At the time, she was 3 years old and perfectly healthy except for an odd patch of hair on her back, which is a common indication of spinal defects in children.

The complex surgery includes removing the bone protruding through the spinal cord and closing the dura mater that surrounds the split spinal cords. This leads to closure of the sac around both spinal cords, which brings together the sections that were split.

In 2010, Medhkour performed a successful surgery on a 5-year-old Algerian girl with spina bifida. Before that in 2009, he helped a 14-month-old boy who couldn’t even lie on his back due to a defect in his spinal cord, which had caused a baseball-sized tumor.

Medhkour and the UT Medical Center worked with the Toledo Children’s Hospital to make this surgery possible for the girl with diastematomyelia.

“Thanks to The University of Toledo and their diligence, we were authorized to look for a place to operate on this child,” Medhkour said. “I’m very thankful to the pediatric service at Toledo Hospital for their assistance in helping this girl.”

The eight-hour surgery was performed July 3 and after a brief stay in the hospital to recuperate, the girl stayed with her mother at a nearby Ronald McDonald House and received physical therapy from Toledo Hospital. The family wishes for the girl, whose initials are N.B., to remain anonymous.

“N.B. is a wonderful little girl that is full of joy,” Medhkour said. “She radiates happiness through her wonderful smile.”

In memoriam

Annmarie (Kwiatkowski) Heldt, Toledo, former director of personnel at both UT and MCO, died Sept. 24 at age 66. She also served as interim director of employee and labor relations at UT from 2003 to 2007. A scholarship fund for UT Medical Center will be established in her name; donations are being accepted via PayPal to annmarieheldtscholarshipfund@hotmail.com; those wishing to send checks may email and receive postal mailing address.

John H. Malone, Delta, Ohio, a stationary engineer at MCO from 1983 to 1992, died Sept. 26 at age 61.

Roy A. Miller, Gahanna, Ohio, a former UT instructor, died Sept. 29 at age 96.

Dr. Richard L. Schaler, Toledo, died Sept. 24 at age 89. He was a clinical associate professor of medicine at MCO from 1969 to 1985 when he was appointed to associate professor of medicine and director of the UT Student Medical Center. He retired in 1994 and was named clinical associate professor of medicine in 1999 and clininc professor in 2006.
Celebrate right to read at Banned Books Week Vigil Oct. 10

By Kevin Bucher

Come out and celebrate the right to read at the 16th Annual University of Toledo Banned Books Week Vigil.

In conjunction with the national American Library Association’s Banned Books Week in September, the UT vigil will take place Thursday, Oct. 10, on the fifth floor of Carlson Library.

“We want to celebrate the right to read,” said Dr. Paulette D. Kilmer, UT professor of communication and coordinator of the event. “The right to read is the right to think freely, and if we limit access to what people read, we control what people think.”

The free, public event will begin at 9 a.m. and run until 5 p.m. Throughout the day, a number of presentations will be given about the right to read and think freely by members of the campus community.

Light snacks and refreshments will be available all day, along with door prizes that will include banned books as well as other goods.

New to the festivities this year: Episodes of “The Simpsons” and “South Park” — television shows that have been banned in certain countries — will be shown. Kilmer said she wants to showcase the right to think freely in a way more students can relate to.

“When you talk about the right to read, you’re also talking about the right to access other cultural materials. We are talking about our freedom of expression,” Kilmer said.

UT faculty should feel free to bring classes; attendance vouchers will be provided.

Topics and speakers for the event will be:

• 9 a.m. — “Celebrating the Right to Read Freely — Welcome to a Day of Discovery” by Marcia King-Blandford, interim director of UT libraries, and Dr. Paul Fritz, professor and chair of communication;
• 9:30 a.m. — “The Responsibility of Free Speech” by Dr. David Tucker, associate professor of communication;
• 10 a.m. — “Feminism and Censorship” by Brigitta Burks, Toledo Free Press staff writer;
• 10:30 a.m. — “500 Keys,” an episode of “The Simpsons,” in which Lisa discovers a secret room full of banned books at school;
• 11 a.m. — “Speaking and Reading in Prison: Reflections on Freedom and Punishment” by Dr. Renee Heberle, associate professor of political science;
• 11:30 a.m. — “Women as Defined by Men” by Warren Woodbury, Toledo author;
• noon — The Dr. Linda Smith Lecture: “Carl Joseph: Crusader for Social Justice” by Barbara Floyd, director of the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections;
• 1 p.m. — “Hazelwood: Freedom of the Press in High Schools?” by Danielle Gamble, editor-in-chief of The Independent Collegian;
• 1:30 p.m. — “A Walk With Fear: Banned Books of the Horror Genre” by Torrie Jadlocki, communication student;
• 2 p.m. — “Jeopardy!” led by The Independent Collegian staff;
• 2:30 p.m. — “The Black Eden: Idlewild, Michigan” by Dr. Glenn Sheldon, honors professor of humanities;
• 3 p.m. — “The Tale of Scrotie McBoogerballs,” an episode of “South Park” in which J.D. Salinger’s The Catcher in the Rye is revisited;
• 3:30 p.m. — “Censorship of LGBTQ Content in Books for Youth” by Dr. Sharon Barnes, associate professor of women’s and gender studies;
• 4 p.m. — “You Can’t Teach That!” by Cindy Ramirez, English teacher at Bedford Senior High School; and
• 4:30 p.m. — “Troubled Tunes” and “Posey,” Dr. Edmund Lingan, associate professor and chair of theatre and film, Risa Cohen of the Glacity Theatre Collective, and Erika Frank, visiting assistant professor of theatre.

Kilmer said the Banned Books Week Vigil would not be possible without help from generous sponsors: Barry’s Bagels; Dart Center for Journalism and Trauma (Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism); Ann Lumbrezer; The Independent Collegian; Kroger; Lambda Pi Eta (UT Communication Honor Society); Society for Professional Journalists; New Sins Press; Phoenicia Cuisine; Toledo Free Press; Barnes & Noble University Bookstore; UT Center for Experiential Learning and Career Development; UT Federal Credit Union; UT Foundation Friends of the Libraries; University Libraries; Jesup Scott Honors College; UT Student Government; University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism; WXUT; Yogurt U; UT departments of Art, Communication, English Language and Literature, Foreign Languages, Theatre and Film; and UT offices of Excellence and Multicultural Success, Greek Life, Marketing and Communications, and Dean of Students.

$1.25M grant

continued from p. 1

span of the grant. Participants will earn an education specialist degree from the University.

Dinnebeil and her colleagues will recruit participants this fall, with the program scheduled to begin in spring 2014. Supervisors enrolled in the program will participate in online discussions and interact with one another via video chat and periodic meetings with instructors and classmates in Columbus.

As a result of the program, administrators and supervisors will learn how to better use children’s progress data as well as data related to program quality to examine the direction of their programs. This can lead to informed improvements in the program and also help to retain talented special education teachers.

“One of the things we do know is supervisors and administrators play a really big role in the effectiveness of programs,” said Ed Cancio, UT associate professor of early childhood, physical and special education, who is a co-principal investigator of the grant. “What we’re finding out from the literature is that administrative support is one of the key issues in retaining quality special educators.”

This competitive grant is funded through the Office of Special Education Programs in the U.S. Department of Education. Sixteen of 77 applications were funded, and UT is the only program in Ohio to receive an award.

Dinnebeil and Cancio worked with Professor Emeritus Bill McNenemy and Project Manager Lyn Hale to write the grant, which was rated very highly by reviewers; it earned 103 of a possible 105 points.

“There’s a real need for projects like this,” Dinnebeil said. “I hope that the U.S. Department of Education and the Office of Special Education Programs continue to see the value of supporting leaders in the field of public education.”
Toledo Rep to present ‘Talk Radio’ reading Oct. 12

The Toledo Rep Theatre will give this season’s Edgy Rep Reading, “Talk Radio,” on the 10th Street stage Saturday, Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.

The 1987 Pulitzer Prize-nominated drama written by Eric Bogosian centers around a controversial late-night talk show host on the eve of his program going in national syndication coast to coast.

Jennifer Rockwood, senior lecturer in theatre and film, will direct the reading centering on Barry Champlain, a fictional shock jock in Cleveland.

“Beck, Limbaugh, Savage, Levine and even Frasier all pale in comparison with Barry Champlain and his callers as American values and attitudes go under the microscope and over the microphone,” Rockwood said.

“Talk Radio” features the talents of Kate Abu-Absi, director of the UT Arts Living and Learning Community, as well as Qarrie Marshall, Matthew Culbreath, Peter Morais, Tim Keogh, Jacob Wenman, Jennifer Nagy Lake, Jim Pinkelman and Eric Hillenbrand.

The performance is intended for mature audiences only.

Tickets cost $10.

The Toledo Repertoire Theatre is located at 16 10th St.

For more information or to order tickets, call the Toledo Repertoire Theatre at 419.243.9277 or visit toledorep.org.

LETTING IT FLY: Dylan Hans threw a frisbee disc on Centennial Mall.

SHOPPING: Kathy Zemmer, program accreditation specialist in the Pharmacy Practice Department, left, Denise Busdeker, administrative secretary in the Pharmacy Practice Department; center; and Cynthia Soncrant, executive secretary in the Office of the Dean in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, checked some deals at the Satellites Auxiliary’s recent $6 sale. A portion of the proceeds went to scholarships.
ARTS

Two political satires to open theatre season

Director Cornel Gabara will bring two rarely seen one-act political satires by Polish playwright Slawomir Mrozek — “Fox Hunt” and “Strip Tease” — to the Center for Performing Arts Center Theatre.

Using musical numbers, comic action and ridiculous imagery, Gabara’s concept for the two plays is designed to provoke laughter while critiquing political and social folly.

The plays, which will be shown back to back in performance, open Friday, Oct. 11. Gabara, associate professor of theatre, is taking advantage of each play’s comedy to tie their themes together. The multi-character play “Fox Hunt” focuses on the social and political foibles of the masses, while “Strip Tease” will spotlight these issues in the lives of individuals.

Through comic critique, both plays will spotlight the social and political quirks of 21st-century American. Audiences likely will find the ludicrous situations that arise in these two plays all too familiar.

Gabara starred in a 2004 production of Mrozek’s “Strip Tease,” at the famed La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club in New York City. By bringing “Fox Hunt” and “Strip Tease” to the UT stage, he makes a vivid and fantastical return to a world he knows firsthand. Mrozek’s dramatic universe of the funny and the grotesque.

“Fox Hunt” and “Strip Tease” will be performed with an intermission from Friday, Oct. 11, through Sunday, Oct. 13, and from Thursday, Oct. 17, through Sunday, Oct. 20.

All performances are at 7:30 p.m., except Sunday performances, which are at 2 p.m.

Following the opening night performance, there will be a free reception and discussion where the audience can meet the director, designers and cast, and ask questions about the shows.

Tickets are $12 for general admission; $10 for faculty, staff, alumni and seniors; and $5 for students. They can be purchased online at utoledo.edu/boxoffice, by calling 419.530.2375, or by visiting the Center for Performing Arts Box Office.

A season ticket or a season flex pass is 15 percent off the price of three individual tickets purchased separately. A season ticket provides one seat to the opening night performance of each of the four plays. The opening night seat can be exchanged for another performance of the play if the box office is notified in advance.

A season flex pass provides three tickets that can be used in any combination throughout the season.

The season tickets are available through Friday, Oct. 11, and flex passes are available all season.

Misty morning

University Photographer Daniel Miller took this shot of University Hall on a foggy morning last week.

Piano series to begin this weekend

Dr. Jill Dawe will open the 2013-2014 Dorothy MacKenzie Price Piano Series Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 12-13, with a program featuring the music of Robert Schumann, Claude Debussy and Modest Mussorgsky.

She will present a master class Saturday at 10 a.m. and hold a recital Sunday at 3 p.m. The free, public events will be held in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall.

For the recital, Dawe, associate professor of music at Augsburg College in Minneapolis, will perform Schumann’s Papillons Op. 2, Debussy’s “Estampes” and Mussorgsky’s “Pictures at an Exhibition.”

A native of Newfoundland, Canada, Dawe is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music. Her career combines solo and collaborative performance with teaching and cross-disciplinary projects.

Her upcoming projects will include a performance of Bartok’s Third Piano Concerto, recording the piano music of Steven Rydberg, and working with singer-actors in the Twin Cities region.

Dawe has performed as a soloist and as a chamber musician in Canada, England, South America and the United States, and has taught on the faculties of the Chautauqua Institution, Oberlin Conservatory and Lenoir-Rhyne College.

For more information on the series, contact Dr. Michael Boyd, UT professor of music, at michael.boyd@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2183.
ROCKETING ON THE WATER: The men’s UT Crew team took first place at the Frogtown Races Regatta Sept. 28 on the Maumee River, and the women’s team took third place in their division. The hometown event was the first competition of the season for UT Crew. Coaches Brian Ashenfelter, left, and Shannon Reiter, right, posed for a photo with rowers sporting their gold and bronze medals, from left, Emily Delettang, John Daniel, Matt Stockard, Levia Warrick, Liam McLaughlin, Emily Hartley and Emily Hooper, and not shown, Trey Coburn. UT Crew will travel to Columbus to face Ohio State, Cleveland State, the University of Cincinnati and other schools Saturday, Oct. 12, at the Speakmon Memorial Regatta on the Griggs Reservoir. Check out utcrew.com.

Rocket Roundball Social to take place Oct. 17

By Steve Easton

Former college basketball coach and current ESPN game/studio analyst Fran Fraschilla will be the guest speaker for UT’s annual Rocket Roundball Social Thursday, Oct. 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. on the main floor of Savage Arena.

University President Lloyd Jacobs and his wife, Ola, are hosting the event, and all proceeds will go to the UT Men’s Basketball Progress Fund.

The Rocket Roundball Social offers individuals the opportunity to meet Head Coach Tod Kowalczyk, his staff and players while sampling food from some of Toledo’s finest restaurants.

A silent and live auction also will be held during the evening. Some of the items up for purchase include a road trip with the Rockets, an all-access program pass for a game, Toledo basketball apparel and assorted memorabilia.

Fraschilla joined ESPN as a college basketball game and studio analyst in 2003. In addition to men’s college basketball, Fraschilla has been an analyst on ESPN’s NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Championship coverage since 2007 and is a regular on ESPN and ESPNU studio shows.

He posted an overall record of 175-100 with his teams making eight post-season appearances in nine years, including three NCAA Tournaments (1993, 1995 and 1998).

Kowalczyk is entering his fourth season at UT’s helm and has orchestrated a dramatic turnaround since his arrival in 2010. UT registered the second-largest turnaround in NCAA Division I Basketball in 2011-12 with a 19-17 win-loss mark and followed that up by sharing the Mid-American Conference West Division title with Western Michigan last season.

Advance ticket options include individual tickets for $75 and reserved table of 10 for $1,000.

Payment can be made with cash, credit card or check. Checks should be made payable to the UT Foundation.

Reserve tickets by Tuesday, Oct. 15, by email at toledombb@gmail.com or phone 419.530.7739.

UT to join fight to end hunger with walk

By Kevin Bucher

A walk dedicated to combating hunger will take place Sunday, Oct. 13, on University Parks Trail to benefit people in need in Toledo and around the world.

The Toledo Area CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Hunger Walk will begin at 3 p.m. at Rocket Hall and continue down University Parks Trail toward Richards Road for 1.2 miles before turning back toward Main Campus.

No parking lots or streets will be closed as a result of the walk.

The Toledo Area CROP Hunger Walk has set a goal of 200 participants and hopes to raise $8,000 to help stop hunger and poverty. A quarter of the funds raised at the event will go to Feed Your Neighbor of the Toledo Area Ministries to benefit the local community.

Jay Bershback, chief meteorologist for 13 ABC News, will serve as the honorary chair, participating in the opening sendoff at Rocket Hall.

This year Toledo and some 2,000 communities nationwide are joining together in interfaith community CROP Hunger Walks around the theme “Ending hunger one step at a time.”

Haiti is one part of the world where CROP Hunger Walks are making a big difference. In the aftermath of a massive earthquake, Church World Service was there with much-needed emergency assistance. With the recovery effort in full swing, the organization is helping families and communities to rebuild homes, food supplies and livelihoods.

CROP Hunger Walks also play a role in the United States, helping communities ravaged by floods and tornadoes to recover.

For more information about the 2013 Toledo Area CROP Hunger Walk, contact Donnajean Stockmaster at 419.242.7401 or Kathy Tashima at 419.882.0048.

The Rockets return four starters from last year’s squad, including all-conference guards Rian Pearson and Julius Brown, as well as MAC All-Freshman Team member Nathan Boothe.

Advance ticket options include individual tickets for $75 and reserved table of 10 for $1,000.

Payment can be made with cash, credit card or check. Checks should be made payable to the UT Foundation.

Reserve tickets by Tuesday, Oct. 15, by email at toledombb@gmail.com or phone 419.530.7739.
Although geography classes had been taught at UT in the College of Arts and Sciences since its formation in 1909 — and in later years in various programs by part-time instructors, including within a combined geography and geology department — in September 1963 a stand-alone Department of Geography was established with one full-time geography faculty member, Dr. Byron Emery. The arrival of Dr. William Carlson as the new UT president in 1958 had set the stage for the formation of the department due to his interests and experiences with the discipline.

Courses and majors would increase during the 1960s with the addition of Dr. Donald Lewis and a greater focus on economic geography led by Dr. Lawrence (Larry) Hoffman. In fall 1970, the Ohio Board of Regents (OBOR) approved the master of arts degree in geography to be offered by the department. By 1973, the department grew to seven full-time faculty members as Drs. Basil Collins, Eugene Frankowiak, Robert Basile and William Muraco also were teaching courses in a variety of areas with special focus on human, economic and urban geography.

Into the 1980s, those “eternal seven” faculty members would advance the department with the growth of the bachelor’s and master’s programs, with several also engaged in University administrative roles and community engagement — a trend that would continue within the department. The master’s program has continued to be a strength of the department and highly ranked nationally with as many as 40 students enrolled at one time, and graduating classes reaching 10 some years. Various department and program reviews would result in expanding to a Department of Geography and Planning and adding specializations in the fields of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing, transportation and the environment.

Growth in majors and students in geography courses continued into the late 1990s when the department became a member of the American Collegiate Schools of Planning. In 1996, the department was one of three geography graduate programs invited to participate in a major national study on global change in local places undertaken by the Association of American Geographers. By the late 1990s, retirees allowed a number of new members to join the department with an expansion to 10 full-time faculty, adding expertise and courses in environmental geography, cultural geography, urban planning and housing, remote sensing, and weather/climate.

Due to a growing interest and expertise in GIS and related research areas, the department established a lab in the Lake Erie Center in 1998, followed by the creation of the Geographic Information Science and Applied Geographics (GISAG) facility in 2003. Since its formation, the GISAG has secured almost $19 million in external research grant funding to geography faculty and researchers from other UT departments and colleges, and involving the work of dozens of graduate students supported by federal, state and local agencies, including the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, NASA, U.S. Geological Survey, National Resources Conservation Service, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Department of Transportation, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, city of Toledo and many others. The GISAG also has developed as an important regional warehouse for geospatial data shared with a number of community partners and agencies.

Recent years have seen continued expansion of the department with the introduction of the PhD program in Spatially Integrated Social Sciences approved by OBOR in 2009. This program is housed and administered by the Department of Geography and Planning and represents a multidisciplinary effort involving the departments of Political Science and Public Administration, Economics, and Sociology and Anthropology — all within the College of Languages, Literature and Social Sciences. By fall 2013, the program has grown to 18 students with anticipation of graduation of the first class this academic year.

2010 marked a significant milestone for the department with a move from the fourth floor of University Hall, which had been its home for many years, to newly renovated and expanded offices, labs and classrooms on the third floor of Snyder Memorial Building. The department has continued to deliver quality courses and programs to majors and students taking both geography and planning while offering opportunities for internships, undergraduate and graduate research, community engagement and outreach via classroom experiences and student projects.

Throughout its history, the department also has been engaged in numerous campus planning efforts — as highlighted by the often-repeated story of how geography students mapped the footpaths of students crossing Centennial Mall one winter to design the current walkways — and has worked extensively on local community planning for Toledo, Lucas County and various area townships. Graduates have taken careers in a range of fields and with many local agencies, including TMACOG, Toledo Port Authority, city of Toledo, TARTA and regional planning offices. A number of graduates also have continued onto advanced degrees leading to faculty positions at distinguished universities. Current faculty have received numerous major grants and awards, such as recognition from UT for teaching, research and service; have been active in various administrative roles at the University and college levels; and taken leadership responsibilities with regional, national and international professional organizations, including the Association of American Geographers, National Science Foundation, International Geographic Union and Regional Science Association.

Presently, more than 60 undergraduate and graduate majors and hundreds of UT students are served by the 10 full-time faculty and three support staff in the Department of Geography and Planning. With the continued interest and growth in international issues, geospatial technologies such as remote sensing and GPS, demand for urban and regional planning, and need for an improved global view, the future for the department and its programs remains strong and positive for another 50 years!
Culture Building Institute to offer Diversity Certificate Program this fall; registration deadline is Oct. 14

By Leisha Lininger

The Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement will launch its Culture Building Institute: Diversity Certificate Program in October. Comprised of seven mandatory seminars and an additional seven options of which four must be completed, participants will attend sessions hosted most frequently on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and a few full-day seminars on Fridays.

“UT’s Diversity Certificate challenges us to think about all dimensions of diversity and how they relate to us as faculty, staff and students,” said Matthew Perry, interim area coordinator in the Office of Residence Life, who graduated from the Diversity Certificate Program last spring. “My participation in this program has made me an even more well-rounded Rocket.”

This certificate satisfies the goal of supporting the mission and core values of the University, and is open and free to all UT faculty and staff. To find out more or to register, visit utoledo.edu/diversity/training and download the diversity certificate registration form. To register, fill out the form and send it to Eva Curtis in the Office of Quality and Continuous Learning, mail stop 103.

“It takes about 45 hours of training to earn UT’s diversity certificate. That is a significant time commitment for anyone. We do try to make it easier by making it possible to complete the training in one semester or over two semesters,” said Jeff Witt, program manager in the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Engagement.

The mandatory sessions include seminars on social psychology and diversity, global citizenship, supplier diversity and minority business development, interpersonal communication, measuring diversity, harassment and bullying, and disabilities and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Seminars are facilitated by campus faculty and staff, including Selina Griswold, associate professor of business technology, Wendy Wiitala, Americans with Disabilities compliance officer, and Toni Howard, student service coordinator in the Office of Academic Access.

“Session facilitators are UT faculty and staff who are subject matter experts,” Witt said.

A total of 19 participants have graduated from the Diversity Certificate Program since it began spring semester.

“The diversity certificate is the only one of its kind in northwest Ohio,” said Dr. Shanda Gore, associate vice president for equity, diversity and community engagement, and certificate administrator. “The fact that it is free to our internal UT members not only demonstrates UT’s commitment to diversity but to providing great professional development opportunities to our own campus community.”

The deadline to register for the fall Diversity Certificate Program is Monday, Oct. 14, but participants may register for individual sessions at any time. Seating is limited, so early registration is encouraged.

The Culture Building Institute Diversity Certificate Program also will be offered in spring semester.

For more information on the program or sessions, contact Witt at 419.530.8573 or jeffery.witt@utoledo.edu.

For questions regarding registration, contact Curtis at 419.530.2036 or eva.curtis@utoledo.edu.

TAKE ME TO THE RIVER: JoAnn Banda of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, left, Matt Horvat of the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments and Cherie Blair of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, snipped the ribbon during a dedication ceremony to celebrate the completion of the Ottawa River restoration project. In 2009, the President’s Commission on the River began the habitat restoration efforts for the 3,700 feet of the waterway that runs through Main Campus. The in-stream restoration efforts were completed Aug. 13. Follow-up work is ongoing with replanting on riverbanks and posting permanent information signs. The work was funded by grants from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Ohio EPA. The Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments, EnviroScience, Partners for Clean Streams, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also assisted with the project. The dedication ceremony was part of Celebrate Our River, a weeklong series of events dedicated to drawing attention to the Ottawa River on Main Campus each September.

CLEAN YOUR STREAMS: Nearly 300 volunteers gathered on UT’s Main Campus and spread out to help spruce up the Ottawa River and Swan Creek Sept. 21 for the annual community event Clean Your Streams, which the University helped sponsor. More than 200 trash bags were filled and numerous items — traffic cones, shopping carts, bicycles and a plastic light saber — were removed from the waterways, according to Dr. Patrick Lawrence, professor and chair of geography and planning, and chair of the President’s Commission on the River. UT Habitat for Humanity won for best collegiate group and was among several University organizations that participated in the event.
Department of Geography

continued from p.9

Special events planned during the 2013-14 academic year to celebrate the department’s 50th anniversary include:

- Selected dates — special colloquium series featuring distinguished alumni;
- Friday and Saturday, Oct. 25-26 — hosting the 2013 Joint Annual Meeting of East Lakes Division, Association of American Geographers and Canadian Association of Geographers, Ontario Division;
- Thursday, Nov. 7 — 50th Anniversary Alumni Reception;
- Friday, Dec. 6 — Department Holiday Party; and
- Tuesday through Thursday, April 8-10 — Special panel sessions at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Geographers in Tampa, Fla.

For more information on these events, email patrick.lawrence@utoledo.edu.

Lawrence is professor and chair of the Department of Geography and Planning.

Health Care Open Enrollment

Tuesday, Oct. 1 - Thursday, Oct 31
For current plans, and to enroll for 2014, visit the Human Resources and Talent Development (HRTD) website at utoledo.edu/HCenroll

All benefit-eligible employees must complete online Open Enrollment.
UT schedules events for LGBTQA History Month

The University of Toledo will celebrate LGBTQA History Month with several events this October.

The Office of Excellence and Multicultural Student Success, LGBTQA Initiatives and Spectrum UT are dedicated to serving the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and allied students.

“LGBTQA History Month is important because it allows us to reflect back on the roots of our movement,” said Melissa Brodsky, a second-year student majoring in bioengineering, who is vice president of Spectrum UT. “While we have made many advancements in the past few months, it is to important to recognize that we came from struggle. October is the month to celebrate where the LGBTQA community has been and where it is going.”

Listed by date, events scheduled to increase awareness for LGBTQA History Month include:

**TUESDAY, OCT. 8**
- “Societies in Balance: Re-Thinking Matriarchy in Modern Matriarchal Studies” by Dr. Heide Goettner-Abendroth, pioneering scholar known for her work on modern matriarchal studies, 7 p.m., Student Union Ingman Room.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 10**
- “Banned Books: Censorship of LGBTQ Content in Books for Youth” by Dr. Sharon Barnes, UT associate professor of women’s and gender studies, 3:30 p.m., Carlson Library Fifth Floor. This talk is part of the 16th annual UT Banned Books Week Vigil; read more about that event on page 5.
- Spectrum Hate Crimes Vigil, 8 to 10 p.m., Student Union Steps.

**FRIDAY, OCT. 11**
- National Coming Out Day Celebration, noon to 2 p.m., Student Union Room 2500. Stop by and receive a “Gay? Fine by me” T-shirt and show your support.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 15**
- Film Screening of “Transamerica,” 7 p.m., Sullivan Hall Room 2010. The movie is sponsored by the Jesup Scott Honors College.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16**
- Keynote address by Kate Bornstein, gender activist, author, playwright and performance artist, 8 p.m., Scott Park Auditorium.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 17**
- Spectrum Meeting on Gender Identity, 8 to 10 p.m., Student Union Room 2582.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 22**
- All Love Photo Shoot, 6 to 8 p.m., Student Union Room 2500. The free professional shoot will provide prints to all participants.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 23**
- National Bisexuality Day Ice Cream Celebration, noon to 2 p.m., Student Union Room 2500.
- LGBTQA Short Stories with the Honors Book Club, 5 p.m., Sullivan Hall Room 2030.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 24**
- Film Screening of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show,” 8 p.m., Student Recreation Center Oak Room. This presentation of the participation picture is sponsored by Spectrum UT.

**MONDAY, OCT. 28**
- Expanded Safe Place — LGBTQA Ally Training, 1 to 4:30 p.m., Student Center Room 1080C on the Scott Park Campus.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 29**
- Poetry Reading by Dr. Glenn Sheldon, UT honors professor of humanities, and T. Miller, slam poet from Detroit, 1 to 3 p.m., Student Union Room 3018.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 30**
- Queer Marriage Reception, noon to 2 p.m., Student Union Room 2500.

**THURSDAY, OCT. 31**
- Spectrum UT Halloween Ball, 8 to 10 p.m., Student Union Room 2582.

For more information on these events, call the UT Office of Excellence and Multicultural Student Success at 419.530.2261 or visit utohio.edu/studentaffairs/omss.