32-year-old woman receives heart pump implant at UTMC

By Christine Long

“Thank God I got here when I did,” 32-year-old Stacy Rollins of Napoleon, Ohio, said during a recent checkup at the Heart and Vascular Center at The University of Toledo Medical Center.

A month ago, UT Health cardiothoracic surgeon Dr. Mark Bonnell saved her life by implanting a battery-powered blood pump inside her chest to take over for her failing heart.

February is American Heart Month, and Rollins is sharing her story to encourage other younger women to take care of themselves and pay attention to early warning signs of heart failure.

“I was in pretty good shape, but I had been under a lot of stress,” Rollins said. “I started to feel terrible. I couldn’t breathe at night. I couldn’t go up the stairs. I was coughing. I thought it was pneumonia.”

Turned out her heart was barely pumping. The cough wasn’t a cold. The fatigue and breathlessness were symptoms of heart failure, which can become rapidly fatal.

In Rollins’ case, she had familial idiopathic cardiomyopathy — a weakening of the heart muscle that is inherited with unknown cause.

Her only chance of survival was a Left Ventricular Assist Device, commonly known as an LVAD. It is a mechanical device that helps pump blood to the rest of the body.

LVADs can serve as a bridge to a heart transplant or, in rare cases, as therapy for a patient as her heart heals. The longest a patient has lived with an LVAD is eight years and counting.

“Nationally, about 1 percent or less of these LVADs are taken out for recovery,” continued on p. 7

Historic perspective

Dr. Brian J. Johnson, president of Tuskegee University, gave the keynote address at UT’s Black History Month luncheon Feb. 6 in the Student Union Auditorium. To embrace this year’s theme, “Live for the Moment, not for the Movement: Black Activism in the 21st Century,” Johnson told the some 300 in attendance it’s important to remember and pay tribute to those who made an impact in the past — like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the Tuskegee Airmen — in order to move forward.

Staff member, student receive Ohio Liberator Awards for work to end human trafficking

By Ashley Gearheart

The University of Toledo was represented well at the 2016 Liberator Awards last month. Katie Bush, UT clinical simulation and educational research associate, received a Liberator Award in the individual category, and Nora Riggs was recognized as an award winner in the student category.

The Liberator Awards were created in 2013 by author, advocate and survivor Theresa Flores in recognition of William Lloyd Garrison, an American abolitionist, journalist, suffragist and social reformer. These awards were created both to unite local people fighting human trafficking and to recognize the work of outstanding individuals and groups making headway in the fight.

HONORED: UT graduate student Nora Riggs, left, and Katie Bush, UT clinical simulation and educational research associate, received Liberator Awards for their work to help fight human trafficking.

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Real Leadership in 21st Century focus of KeyBank Global Leaders Forum

By Bob Mackowiak

Real Leadership in the 21st Century is the theme of the 2016 KeyBank Global Leaders Forum, which will be presented by The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation Thursday, March 17, in Savage Arena on Main Campus.

The keynote speaker will be global engagement authority Jim Haudan, CEO of Root Inc., which is located in Sylvania, Ohio, and has been recognized nationally as a Great Place to Work, who will discuss “The Power of Engagement.” Haudan is also the author of the best-selling book, The Art of Engagement: Bridging the Gap Between People and Possibilities.

Also presenting at the event will be Jim Hoffman, president of KeyBank; Dr. Sharon L. Gaber, president of The University of Toledo; Dr. Clint Longenecker, UT Stranahan Distinguished University Professor and director of the Center for Leadership and Organization Excellence; and Marc Lautenbach, president and CEO of Pimney Bowes Inc.

“The KeyBank Global Leaders Forum provides a wonderful opportunity for our regional business owners and leaders to hear from difference-making leaders such as Jim Haudan, Marc Lautenbach, Dr. Longenecker and President Gaber,” Hoffman said. “It is part of our vision at KeyBank to help our community, and our businesses, thrive.”

“The University of Toledo College of Business and Innovation is extremely pleased to again partner with KeyBank to present another Global Leaders Forum,” noted Dr. Gary Insch, dean of the College of Business and Innovation. “Holding the event in UT’s Savage Arena assures that hundreds of area professionals, as well as many UT students, will have an outstanding opportunity to learn, network and benefit from the presentations and discussions at this unique event.”

Longenecker said, “As leaders are attempting to deal with the challenges of this turbulent economic environment, this event is a great way to discover new ideas for becoming a better leader and creating competitive advantage with people. We invite them to come, be ready to learn, and be in a better position to make 2016 a great year.”

In 2008, KeyBank and the College of Business and Innovation presented the first Global Leaders Forum, which featured John Snow, former secretary of the U.S. Treasury Department, and the second event in 2013. The Global Leadership Forum was created to provide an environment for regional business leaders to talk about contemporary issues, discuss cutting-edge leadership practices, and explore trends.

Convenient parking is available, and a continental breakfast will be served.
To register for this free forum, go to utoledo.edu/business/keybankforum.

Ohio Liberator Awards

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Two years ago, UT Medical Center joined the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition, and since that time, the hospital has developed trainings that the Emergency Department staff — including nurses, EMTs, clerks and residents — are required to complete. These trainings are designed to teach emergency staff to recognize red flags that help identify trafficking victims, a critically important part of the their jobs because research shows that some of the only outside contact trafficking victims may have, other than with their traffickers and buyers, is with emergency personnel.

In July, Bush received a 30-minute slot in a new clinical employee orientation to provide this training to all new nurses, clerks, aides and any other clinical employees throughout the hospital. Educational brochures on the subject also are available in the lobby.

“Eventually, we hope the entire hospital is aware of the resources available when we’re able to identify these victims,” Bush said.

In addition to developing these trainings, Bush was the primary author of the national Emergency Nurses Association position statement on Human Trafficking Patient Awareness in the Emergency Setting. This statement was created to educate emergency nurses throughout the country on their essential role in identifying trafficking victims. According to Bush, half the battle is simply getting the information out.

Human trafficking is an issue growing faster than drug trade, Bush said, and that’s why she intends to continue working and educating others about it. “You can use drugs once, but you can use a person over and over,” she said.

“I could not have accomplished many of the things UTMC is doing without support from [Nursing Director] Deanna Montanaro, [Staff Development Coordinator] Greg Shannon, and [Lead Nurse] Julia Benfield,” Bush said. “And it is a must that I thank the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition for all of the great work they are doing. Our community is very lucky to have the coalition.”

Riggs began her journey in the fight against human trafficking in 2011 during her sophomore year at Albion College, when she attended conferences and presentations and co-facilitated awareness events on campus. She spent summer 2013 conducting a research project on aftercare for survivors of trafficking and then in fall 2014, she came to The University of Toledo for the master’s in social work program and later joined the Lucas County Human Trafficking Coalition.

“This award reminds me that every single one of us plays a role in this fight, that we can all make a difference, and that it is not an individualistic task, but rather a community-wide effort,” Riggs said.

She said she wants to be in a constant state of learning and growing, keep the momentum going, and work to find the best ways to help trafficking survivors become thrivers.

To that end, Riggs continues to work with the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute. In November 2014, The University of Toledo Board of Trustees approved the institute, which opened in April 2015. Since then, the institute has been working on around 25 projects to fight human trafficking locally, statewide and nationally. In addition to providing trafficking victims with much-needed resources, these projects work to establish protocols and procedures for Lucas County health-care professionals to recognize and respond to human trafficking.
Forums continue this week for provost candidates

By Meghan Cunningham

The final candidates for provost and executive vice president for academic affairs will visit The University of Toledo this week to meet with members of the UT community.

Dr. Donald Siegel, dean of the School of Business at the University of Albany, will visit campus Wednesday, Feb. 17; and will hold open forums from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. in Student Union Room 2582 on Main Campus and from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. in Health Education Building Room 100 on Health Science Campus.

Dr. Charles Robinson, vice chancellor for diversity and community at the University of Arkansas, will visit campus Thursday, Feb. 18; and will hold open forums from 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. in Student Union Room 2592 on Main Campus and from 4:45 to 5:45 p.m. in Health Education Building Room 100 on Health Science Campus.

The forums this week will conclude the campus visits of the four finalists for the University’s next chief academic officer.

Dr. Christopher Keil McCord, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at Northern Illinois University, participated in forums on Feb. 10. He discussed the importance of creating a shared vision and turning that vision into reality and the role of the provost to facilitate that process.

Dr. Andrew Hsu, dean of the College of Engineering at San Jose State University, participated in forums on Feb. 12. He discussed his interest in providing deans the support they need to improve student success and research opportunities, and the role of a provost to provide the strategic resources to do so.

The provost search website provides the finalists’ curricula vitae and video archives of their forums, as well as an opportunity for participants to provide feedback to the search committee. Visit utoledo.edu/offices/provost/provostsearch for additional information and to provide feedback.

Hot time

Heather Byrd, senior lab technician at UT Medical Center center, won the inaugural UTMC Chili Cook-Off Championship and posed for a photo with her trophy and the judges, from left, Daniel Barbee, vice president of clinical services at UTMC; UT President Sharon L. Gaber; UTMC CEO Dave Morlock; and Dr. Christopher Cooper, executive vice president for clinical affairs and dean of the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences.
Faculty grant writing workshops to help obtain research funding

By Ashley Gearheart

Each year, The University of Toledo Office of Research and Sponsored Programs hosts several grant writing workshops for faculty members seeking research funding.

This year, there are five workshops designed to help faculty find opportunities for external funding, successfully work with the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and follow the best practices for writing grants. The workshops also will include tips from successful recipients and reviewers.

The workshops are designed to help faculty develop strategies to improve their chances for success, said Dr. William Messer, vice president for research.

“With workshops like the Shapiro Essay Revision Contest, we want to help faculty members and students develop and improve their writing skills,” Messer said.

The workshops will be held:

- Friday, March 11, from 9 to 11 a.m. in Health and Human Services Building Room 1711 on Main Campus with a focus on the National Science Foundation, science and engineering.
- Friday, March 25, from 9 to 11 a.m. in Health and Human Services Building Room 1711 on Main Campus with a focus on social science, business and education.
- Friday, April 8, from 9 to 11 a.m. in Student Union Room 2591 on Main Campus with a focus on communication, art and humanities.
- Friday, May 13, from 9 to 11 a.m. in Nitschke Technology and Commercialization Complex Brady Engineering Innovation Center on Main Campus with a focus on Small Business Innovation Research and the Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

According to Messer, President Sharon L. Gaber has made growing research a high priority for her administration.

“We want to work with faculty to help them develop as scientists and scholars. Research funding is difficult to obtain, and our faculty have to be ready to compete for limited resources,” Messer said.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Marcie Ferguson at marcie.ferguson@utoledo.edu.

Cash awards offered for Shapiro Essay Revision Contest

By Ashley Gearheart

Interested in winning $500 for one or two hours of work? The University of Toledo Department of English Language and Literature and the Composition Program will host the 2016 Shapiro Essay Revision Contest from Monday through Thursday, Feb. 22-25.

Fifteen winners will receive a cash prize ranging from $75 to $500, and no advance registration is required.

“The Shapiro Essay Revision Contest is the largest and most inclusive writing contest on campus,” said Dr. Deborah Coulter-Harris, associate lecturer in the Department of English Language and Literature, and coordinator of the contest for the past nine years.

Competitors will be given a poorly written essay and will have two hours to revise it and make it their own.

Judging takes place in the week following the competition, and winners will be notified.

This year, the top five winners will be invited to attend the Shapiro Festival celebration gala in April.

All nine sessions will be held on Main Campus in Memorial Field House Room 2420. Sessions will take place:

- Monday, Feb. 22, from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 4 p.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 23, from noon to 2 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m.
- Wednesday, Feb. 24, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., from 5 to 7 p.m., and from 7 to 9 p.m.
- Thursday, Feb. 25, from 5 to 7 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m.

Students must bring their Rocket Card and also may bring pens and pencils, dictionaries, and thesauruses. No laptops or other resources are allowed.

The Shapiro Essay Revision Contest is named for Dr. Edward Shapiro, who was designated professor emeritus in economics when he retired in 1989. He donated the funds used for the contest to encourage and recognize UT students for their good writing.

“Three awards must go to a freshman and three to a sophomore, a condition laid out by Dr. Shapiro, so that leaves nine awards that could go to anyone,” Coulter-Harris said.

She added that this contest is meant to enhance student experience at UT and reflects on the English Department’s student-centered philosophy.

For more information, contact Coulter-Harris at deborah.coulter-harris@utoledo.edu or 419.530.4416.
Enter if you dare: UT to present Sartre’s ‘No Exit’

By Angela Riddel

The University of Toledo Department of Theatre and Film will present its production of Jean-Paul Sartre’s existentialist play, “No Exit” this month.

Performances will take place Friday through Sunday, Feb. 19-21 and Feb. 26-28. Curtain time will be 7:30 p.m., except for Sunday shows, which will be at 2 p.m.

Andrés Medina, a UT senior majoring in theatre, will direct the play.

“No Exit” takes place in hell, where three souls are mysteriously placed in the same room. There, they are trapped together for eternity and begin to realize the binding force keeping them in the room is one from within.

During the course of the play, the characters reflect on their past and share all of the unforgivable things they have done throughout their lives. The classic theme, “Hell is other people,” is presented as the story unfolds.

Medina said he is excited to explore the play’s theme of life after death and intrigued by Sartre’s philosophy.

“Everybody wonders about death and the meaning of life. I was also interested in Sartre’s philosophy that human beings supply meaning to the big questions of life and death out of their own experience of each,” he said.

The set will be minimalist, according to Medina.

“Especially with this kind of play, I prefer to rely on movement, on the actors and their characters, to captivate the audience and hold their interest.”

While “No Exit” is Medina’s directorial debut, he assisted directing the UT productions of “Cabaret” and “The Adding Machine.” “The Adding Machine” was invited to be performed at the 2015 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 2. He also was the assistant stage manager for UT’s production of “Orpheus.”

Professionally, Medina served as the stage manager for the Glacity Theatre Collective’s production of “House of Vinyl.”

On stage, Medina has played roles in various UT plays, including “Twelfth Night,” “Miss Julie,” “Cabaret,” “Out to Lunch,” “Ghost Light,” “Three Sisters,” “Metamorphoses” and “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.” His professional acting credits include a role in Glacity Theatre Collective’s “Nightmares Come in Threes.”

The cast for “No Exit” features Davion T. Brown, a senior majoring in theatre and communication, as Garcin; Olivia M. Pierce, a junior majoring in theatre and minoring in art, as Inez; Christina M. Pinciotti, a junior majoring in theatre and minoring in communication, as Estelle; and Reshi Phillips, a sophomore majoring in theatre and film, as the valet.

Tickets are $8 for students and children; $10 for seniors 60 and older, for military members, and for UT faculty, staff and alumni; and $15 for the general public. To purchase tickets or for more information on this event, visit utoledo.tix.com or call 419.530.ARTS (2787).

Forecast: More art

“A Gray Day in Winter,” watercolor, by Dr. Paul Brand, associate professor emeritus in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, is one of more than 60 pieces featured in the 2016 Health Science Campus Artist Showcase. The free, public exhibition is on display on the fourth floor of Mulford Library through Friday, March 18. This is the 11th year for the event, which spotlights the creative side of faculty, staff and students affiliated with the health sciences on Health Science and Main campuses.
New library search feature to improve research efficiency
By Ashley Gearheart

Finding books, articles and other resources through The University of Toledo library website became even easier this month thanks to a new catalog search option.

The new search feature is based on EBSCOhost, a popular online database that allows users to sift through thousands of scholarly journals and articles, magazines, e-books and more.

The former process to look through the library’s resources and a number of databases that UT subscribes to required multiple different searches. The new search interface simplifies that process by combining nearly all of the available resources into one search.

“This will be much more efficient for people researching our collections because they won’t necessarily need to look elsewhere,” said Chris Rigda, coordinator of library systems.

Search results in the new discovery layer will include both the library’s electronic resources and its print resources and their availability, all of the EBSCO databases the University subscribes to, and other e-resources such as the Electronic Journal Center and the Web of Science. By clicking on the advanced link, users will be able to limit their search results based on a number of factors or widen their search to include OhioLINK resources.

The old library catalog only searched 10 EBSCO databases and the library’s physical collections and excluded most of the databases the University subscribes to.

“We wanted to be able to integrate them into one easy search without people having to search several times for the same subject in many different databases, or searching one database and missing many other articles and materials because they didn’t know they were available to them,” Rigda said.

For more information, contact Rigda at christine.rigda@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2333.

Gala to share Chinese culture, celebrate Year of the Monkey
By Lindsay Mahaney

The University of Toledo Confucius Institute will continue celebrating the Year of the Monkey through traditional Chinese dance at the Spring Festival Gala Thursday, Feb. 18, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Student Union Auditorium.

Zhe Wang will take part in the merriment through dance at the free, public event. Wang, a sophomore biology student, will participate in two of the 12 dance, song and instrumental performances by UT students, Toledo Public School students, and additional students of the Confucius Institute.

Her first dance will be a modern pop dance, and the second a traditional dance called Yong Chun. Wang explained Yong Chun is a fan dance developed almost 2,000 years ago during the Han dynasty. Dressed in cheongsam, a Chinese cloth, Wang will perform with a lace fan to upbeat music played by traditional Chinese instruments, combining modern and traditional aspects of the culture.

“I feel so excited and happy to perform at the gala,” she said. “I love dancing very much, and I often learn some new dances and do some simple practices in my spare time.”

Yuan Hu, a first-year PhD student majoring in mechanical engineering, also will perform, but through song. Hu will sing “Fading Fireworks.”

“I think it’s great to sing on stage at the gala,” Hu said. “I am so happy that I have the chance to show my Chinese culture to the audience.”

A free buffet dinner featuring dumplings, spring rolls and other Chinese delicacies also will be served.

The gala is part of the two-week celebration of the Chinese New Year, a festival marking the start of a year beginning on the second new moon after the winter solstice and ending on the full moon 15 days later.

“A lot of people have an idea of what China is like, but it’s not right,” said Xinren Yu, international programs coordinator in the UT Center for International Studies and Programs.

“The Confucius Institute is that ultimate resource to set the right message about what the real China is like and provide opportunities for people to learn.”

For more information, contact the Confucius Institute at 419.530.7750 or confuciusinstitute@utoledo.edu.

Chinese New Year fun

Photos by Lindsay Mahaney

The UT Confucius Institute celebrated the Year of the Monkey at the spring carnival Feb. 10 in the Student Union Auditorium. The event featured mask painting, fan decorating, calligraphy lessons, pitch pot games and more. Walking the runway to show traditional Chinese clothing at the spring carnival last week were, from left, Rachel Johnson, Kristen Hebebrand, Nicola Sulfaro and Danielle Hale. And making bracelets were Yan Liu, left, and Yuan Wang.
Heart pump implant
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Bonnell said. “Here at UTMC, we have actually taken out almost 10 percent of them.”

UT Health cardiologist Dr. Samer Khouri said heart disease risk factors include a poor diet, lack of exercise and stress.

“This is what you call low-intensity stress that is continuous, unfortunately,” Khouri said. “The cause can also be genetic.”

Khouri said women, especially younger women, more often ignore or mistake symptoms of heart failure.

“This is an age where many have children,” Khouri said. “They are so busy. They don’t have time for themselves.”

With more women dying from heart disease than breast cancer and lung cancer combined, Rollins wants others to know she is alive and healthy today because she responded to the subtle symptoms of heart failure and asked for help.

“I am grateful for my doctors and my life,” Rollins said.
Saturday Morning Science is back for 2016 with five programs on topics that include exoplanets, forensic science, sustainable chemistry and more.

Each of the programs will begin at 9:30 a.m. on The University of Toledo’s Main Campus in Wolfe Hall Room 1205. A light breakfast provided by Barry Bagels will be available before the program.

The free, public talks are presented by the UT Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Dr. Joseph Schmidt, UT associate professor of chemistry and an organizer of the event, said the goal is to find speakers whose talks can be understood by anyone.

“We tried to come up with topics that are of general public interest as well as interesting to us. Everyone should feel welcome to come,” Schmidt said.

Listed by date, the programs and speakers are:

- **Feb. 20:** “Exoplanets: The Discovery of Alien Worlds and Habitable Planets” by Dr. Steve B. Howell, UT alumnus and project scientist for the NASA Kepler Mission.
- **March 19:** “Goghing, Goghing, Gone! The Analysis of Color Fading in Masterpieces by Vincent van Gogh” by Dr. Gregory D. Smith, Otto N. Frenzel III Senior Conservation Scientist for the Indianapolis Museum of Art.
- **April 16:** “The Human Microbiome: Good for What Ails You” by Dr. Patrick D. Schloss, associate professor in the University of Michigan Department of Microbiology and Immunology.
- **April 23:** “Green Chemistry: Making Better Molecules for a Sustainable Future” by Dr. Amy S. Cannon, executive director of Beyond Benign.
- **April 30:** “Deadly Doodle: How One Sketchy Sketch Led to Murder” by Kimberly Zebrowski, forensic scientist in the Controlled Substances Unit of the Michigan State Police Department.

“I really hope attendees learn something interesting and get a better understanding of science. Maybe some of the younger members of the audience will consider a career in science,” Schmidt said.

He invited anyone with topic suggestions for future programs to contact him at joseph.schmidt@utoledo.edu.

Free parking will be available in area 13 and the west parking ramp.

For more information about Saturday Morning Science, visit facebook.com/SaturdayMorningScience or contact Schmidt at joseph.schmidt@utoledo.edu.