Stranahan Arboretum 40th most beautiful

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo Stranahan Arboretum, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, has been named among the 50 Most Beautiful College Arboretums by Best College Reviews.

The college review journal evaluated college arboretums and botanical gardens based on size, how long they have been established, opportunities for students, and connections with the community. UT’s 47-acre arboretum was identified as the 40th most beautiful.

“This recognition confirms what we already know about the unparalleled beauty of the Stranahan Arboretum that allows us to educate our students and our community about nature and ecology,” said Dr. Daryl Dwyer, UT ecology professor and director of the arboretum.

Best College Reviews recognized the arboretum for its cultivated ornamental planting.

New dean named to lead honors college

By Meghan Cunningham

A chemical ecologist passionate about engaging students in experiential learning will join The University of Toledo to lead the Jesup Scott Honors College.

Dr. Heidi Appel comes to UT from the University of Missouri, where she served as senior associate director of the Honors College. Her first day will be Monday, Aug. 15.

Art on the Mall juried show coming July 31

By Josephine Schreiber

The 24th annual Art on the Mall will take place Sunday, July 31, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Centennial Mall.

Art on the Mall is a juried art show that will have more than 100 booths featuring mediums such as acrylic, glass, jewelry, watercolor, woodwork, photography, oil, mixed media and more. Each booth will have artwork available for sale by cash or credit.

There will be free parking in Lot 1 South, Lot 1 North and Lot 13, as well as free admission and golf cart shuttles to and from Centennial Mall.

The artists’ work will be juried by representatives from the Dayton Art Institute. Prizes will be given to the top artists, and UT’s Best of Show award will be presented to an artist who is affiliated with the University.

“The quality of our artists’ work is outstanding, and there is something for everyone. We have a diverse and eclectic mix sure to excite art lovers of all kinds,” said Ansley Abrams-Frederick, director of alumni programming in the UT Office of Alumni Relations.

Food and beverages will be for sale from Karen Anne’s Kettle Corn, Opa! Gyros, Java Sensations, K & K Concessions, Jeanie’s Weenies and Let’s Go Nuts. There also will be a children’s area where young artists can make creations, as well as a beer garden for attendees 21 and older.

Music will be performed by UT student groups, Minor Frett and The Cosmonauts throughout the day.

Art on The Mall is sponsored by The Blade, Huntington, 13ABC, Buckeye Broadband, 101.5 The River and Homewood Press.

For more information, contact Abrams-Frederick at 419.530.4316 or ansley.abrams@utoledo.edu.

Read about an artist who will be at this year’s event — p. 9

The Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center

UT Health chosen for national pilot program

By Rebecca Schwan

The University of Toledo Health’s Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center and University of Toledo Physicians were selected to participate in a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services pilot program designed to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of oncology specialty care.

UT Health will participate in the five-year program along with 195 other physician groups to accelerate cancer research. The Oncology Care Model pilot began July 1 and will end June 20, 2021.
Phanethropy dollars and donor numbers up in FY 2016

By Meghan Cunningham

The administration’s increased focus on fundraising to support University of Toledo initiatives has resulted in more donors and increased philanthropy this year.

At the end of fiscal year 2016, a total of 11,131 donors have given $18.4 million to the University. It is an increase in donors of nearly 17 percent over the 9,520 who gave last year and an increase of nearly 11 percent above the $16.5 million received the previous year.

“Philanthropy is key for ensuring a strong future for the University as we strive to increase the number of student scholarships, create endowed professorships and chairs to help recruit faculty who are leaders in their fields, and ensure campus facilities best serve our students and University community,” said Sam McCrimmon, vice president for advancement. “With President Sharon Gaber’s support, we will continue to work diligently to increase funding to benefit our students and University community.”

The strong fundraising year coincides with the first year of leadership under Gaber, who lists an increase in fundraising among her top five goals for the institution.

It also is the first year of the new Division of Advancement. Led by McCrimmon, who joined the University in September, the division merged together UT’s Institutional Advancement Division and its External Affairs Division. The Division of Advancement includes Alumni Relations, Development, Marketing and Communications, and Special Events.

Among the strategies to increase support for the University has been a campaign to engage alumni with their alma mater. The first Giving Tuesday Campaign included a total of 156 donors giving $56,083 to UT. Giving Tuesday is the day designated across the country giving $56,083 to UT. Giving Tuesday was held in May.

Cyber Monday just after the Thanksgiving holiday.

In response to the Giving Tuesday campaign, which featured 123 alumni among the 156 donors, and other efforts, UT experienced a 1 percent increase in alumni participation this year.

University Hall tower to be reinforced with steel

By Meghan Cunningham

The iconic tower of University Hall is being reinforced with structural steel to ensure the integrity of the 85-year-old structure.

W.R. Meyers Co. of Napoleon, Ohio, will use a helicopter crane to deliver the steel beams into the tower Friday, July 15, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. University Hall will be evacuated by 4:30 p.m. prior to the start of the work.

If it rains, the project will be moved to Saturday, July 16, at 5 p.m.

“The helicopter crane helps deliver materials to hard-to-reach places, making these types of projects faster and safer,” said Jason Toth, associate vice president for facilities and construction. “This structural steel framework being installed inside our iconic bell tower will support the structural concrete to ensure it will greet students for years to come.”

continued on p. 3

Price change for reserved spots first step in move to demand-based parking system

Parking Services is developing a new parking system to be implemented for 2017-18 that will give employees and students options for different levels of parking spaces marked with a license plate number. The cost of an annual permit for those parking spaces assigned to a specific license plate will increase to $300 for those who currently qualify.

The University is working with SP+, a national parking consultant firm, to move to a demand-based model beginning in fall 2017.

“Instead of setting fixed parking fees determined by a student or employee classification, demand-based parking provides the customer more choices in parking and assesses the value of parking according to demand with prime campus locations requiring a premium parking permit,” said Sherri Kaspar, public safety support services manager. “Demand-based parking can effectively redistribute parking around campus, which will help reduce the frustration of searching for a spot while providing our students and employees the best fit for their needs.”

The Office of Public Safety will continue to meet with constituent groups and provide updates throughout the year on the move to a demand-based parking system.

For more information about parking registration and services, visit u Toledo.edu/parkingservices.
During the delivery of the steel on Friday, University Hall will be vacant, and helicopter landing areas in front of the building and in the field south of the Memorial Field House also will need to remain clear. The helicopter will initially land by Memorial Field House to drop off personnel and equipment and then will use the landing site in front of University Hall, where the steel will be stored prior to being lifted into the tower. In addition, no traffic will be allowed on Centennial Mall.

The University worked with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to be sure that all the peregrine falcons that reside in the tower are able to fly and will be able to leave the area during the commotion.

Following the initial delivery, the four tons of steel will then be permanently installed to the inside tower throughout the month. The project is expected to be complete by Friday, Aug. 12.

University Hall was the first building constructed on the UT Main Campus in 1931 when it was built in 11 months by 400 men. The building was designed by the architectural firm Mills, Rhines, Bellman & Nordhoff Inc. in the collegiate gothic style that has been replicated in buildings across campus.

The tower reaches 205 feet tall and features four clock faces, each 11 feet in diameter, and the chimes that mark the half hours and hours of the day.

The goal of the Oncology Care Model is to enhance the care delivery process through nationally recognized clinical guidelines for beneficiaries undergoing chemotherapy. These enhanced services could include:

- Coordination of appointments with providers within and outside the oncology practice to ensure timely delivery of diagnostic and treatment services;
- 24/7 access to care when needed;
- Arrangement of diagnostic scans and follow-up with other members of the medical team such as surgeons, radiation oncologists and other specialists that support the beneficiary through cancer treatment;
- Ensuring data from scans, blood work and other tests are received in advance of patient appointments; and
- Access to additional patient resources, such as support groups, pain management services and clinical trials.

“The Dana Cancer Center’s treatment plans and programs are designed to provide our patients with this sort of comprehensive care and support,” said Chris Kosinski, clinic manager at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center. “We are proud to be a part of this national best practice model. We continually seek to improve patient care, and the Oncology Care Model will provide oversight and guidance as we work to facilitate advanced treatment and recovery from one of the most aggressive and invasive diseases we fight today.”

The Oncology Care Model represents a shift of basing provider payments on the quality of care delivered rather than quantity. Practices are encouraged to improve care and lower costs through episode- and performance-based payments that reward high-quality patient care. The model is one of the first Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services physician-led specialty care models and builds on key points from other innovative programs and private-sector models.

“The feedback we receive from the data collected during this initiative will serve to strengthen and optimize our nationally accredited oncology program,” said Allen Seifert, director of the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center. “We are proud to be a part of a group of providers dedicated to putting the patients’ needs first.”

In 2015, the cancer program at UT Health was one of only 47 cancer providers to earn the Outstanding Achievement Award from the American College of Surgeons’ Commission on Cancer. The award recognizes cancer programs that achieve excellence in providing quality patient care. Additionally, the center was named one of "100 hospitals and health systems with great oncology programs" by Becker’s Hospital Review.

In memoriam

Kathleen S. (Beczynski) Brooks, Toledo, a former UT secretary, died June 28 at age 63.

Genevieve “Genny” Cullen, Maumee, who volunteered with the Satellites Auxiliary, died June 20 at age 93. She was preceded in death by her husband, Dr. Bernard Cullen, professor emeritus of pediatrics.

James K. Mansfield, Bowling Green, a teaching assistant in anatomy at MCO from 1982 to 1992, died June 30 at age 91.

Dorothy MacKenzie Price, Toledo, a longtime UT benefactor, died July 2 at age 90. She received a business degree from the University in 1948 and generously gave to her alma mater: In the 1990s, she established a performance endowment fund that led to the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Piano Series, which annually brings in four pianists for performances and master classes. The patron of the arts also established the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Music Scholarship Fund and the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Endowed Fund for the Canaday Center for Special Collections. In addition, she started the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Health Mission Scholarship and the Dorothy MacKenzie Price Scholarship in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences. She was a longstanding member of the Presidents Club, Heritage Oak Society, and Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo. Tributes in her memory may be made to these funds and scholarships through the UT Foundation at https://give2utoledo.edu.

Correction

There was an error in the obituaries in the last issue. The Judith A. "Judy" Haas who died June 11 at age 85 was a former bookkeeper at the UT Bookstore, not Judith A. "Judy" Haas, retired secretary who worked in the Sociology and Anthropology Department.
UT researchers partner with Green Ribbon Initiative to identify invasive plant species

By Sanya Ali

Three University of Toledo researchers have teamed up with the Green Ribbon Initiative to develop a strategy for partner organizations to prioritize and manage invasive plant species common in the Oak Openings Region.

Dr. Jonathan Bossenbroek, professor of ecology, Dr. Todd Crail, UT lecturer in the Department of Environmental Sciences, and Sara Guiher, a graduate student, are working with the initiative, designed to preserve the natural landscape in the region, to compile a list of what are known as terrestrial invasive plant species. Invasive plant species can be non-native to a region, though only a small percentage of non-native plants qualify as invasive.

“Plants that are able to exclude native plants, take habitats away from native animals, those are the ones we are really trying to address,” Guiher said.

The project began in May 2015 with the identification phase, during which Guiher and Bossenbroek devised an assessment for partner organizations to determine where their priorities for invasive species management should be focused. After figuring which invasive plants each partner organization is dealing with, the goal is to develop best management practices for the conservation of the area. The development of the Oak Openings Region invasive species strategy brings together organizations like the Nature Conservancy, Metroparks of the Toledo Area, the Olander Parks System, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, among many others, to make informed decisions about how to control invasive species.

“A big part of this is communication between partners,” Guiher said. “There are all those different agencies, and they each have their own approach; we’re basically trying to bring all of them together and communicate about the spread of invasive plants and decide on consistent strategies to manage them.”

“All these organizations have their own properties and their own, sometimes different management goals — the metroparks have a different mission than the Nature Conservancy, different from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources — trying to find a framework for dealing with terrestrial invasive species is what we’ve been asked to do,” Bossenbroek said.

Bossenbroek said his experience includes similar projects geared toward aquatic invasive species, such as the zebra mussel. His work has always included examination into spread of invasive species into the environment they might take over, which translates to this project on terrestrial invasive species as well.

“You use the same tools, the same types of analyses, to predict where things are going to live and how they get around,” Bossenbroek said. “There are usually two ways they move around: They get moved around naturally — birds, wind, streams — or by people. A lot of invasive species are easily transmitted by people.”

The next phase of the partnership will include digital modeling situations, in which variables such as topography and vegetation can be manipulated to figure out ideal habitats for invasive plant species. This type of model was what Bossenbroek said he used when examining aquatic invasive species.

“The next step is the modeling using software; taking those variables and possible vectors and trying to determine where the plant species may establish in the region, which will streamline the process,” Guiher said. “We can’t necessarily cover all the partners’ land, but we can try to give them guidance as to where those plants might show up.”

Guiher will give a free talk about the domestic invasive plants, including how to identify and manage them in home gardens, Wednesday, July 13, at 7 p.m. in the Lake Erie Center, 6200 Bayshore Road, Oregon.

To learn more about the Green Ribbon Initiative, visit the Oak Openings Region’s website at oakopenings.org/about.

Graduate student to discuss invasive plants July 13 at Lake Erie Center

By Sanya Ali

UT graduate student Sara Guiher will deliver a talk titled “Neighborhood Watch: Learn to Identify and Manage Invasive Plants in Your Yard” Wednesday, July 13, at 7 p.m. at the Lake Erie Center, 6200 Bayshore Road, Oregon.

The free event is part of the UT Lake Erie Center’s Naturalist Series, which welcomes a variety of speakers from different areas of expertise to share their insights.

Guiher’s talk connects to a larger project she began last year with Dr. Jonathan Bossenbroek, UT professor of ecology, and Dr. Todd Crail, UT lecturer in the Department of Environmental Sciences. In partnership with the Green Ribbon Initiative, the three worked to compile a list of invasive plant species prevalent in the Oak Openings Region.

Invasive plants can exist anywhere. Even home gardens can act as habitats for invasive species, and Guiher hopes to inform attendees of the various types of invasive species to look for in their yards.

Garlic mustard, honeysuckle, and landscaping plants such as Callery pear and Japanese barberry are among the species that can be prevalent and possibly invasive in home gardens. Guiher said she will not only highlight which plants to look for, but also offer some native alternatives for those plants and how homeowners can move forward in their gardens.

“My goal is to introduce local residents to invasive plants that are common in the area and likely already present on their properties, along with some effective management strategies. Controlling invasives in our yards can have a positive impact in our neighborhoods, as well as on native plant and animal communities,” Guiher said.

“I’m excited to provide examples of native plants that can be used in home landscapes,” she added. “Following the talk, we plan to take a short walk to get some experience identifying invasive plants in the field.”
High school teachers take chemistry lab classes at UT for College Credit Plus training

By Christine Long

It may be summer vacation, but a group of teachers from school districts across Ohio spent a week as students with goggles, beakers and chemicals in a science lab at The University of Toledo.

Since March, UT has been training dozens of high school teachers through online classes to teach college courses in biology, chemistry or English as part of an expansion of the statewide College Credit Plus program.

Ohio’s College Credit Plus program allows seventh- through 12th-grade students to earn high school credit and college credit at the same time for free.

A total of 19 high school teachers have been working online to earn qualifications to teach college-level chemistry in their classrooms; 16 of them were recently on Main Campus for a week of lab classes with UT instructors.

“This program is intense,” said Mike Saloiye, who works for Toledo Public Schools as a teacher at Toledo Technology Academy. “We’re becoming better chemists to allow us to become better chemistry teachers.”

Experiments included simulating the effect of pH on food in the stomach by reacting the preservative sodium benzoate with hydrochloric acid.

The chemistry students are teachers from Toledo Public Schools, Belleaire City Schools, Celina City Schools, Centerburg Local Schools, Copley-Fairlawn City Schools, East Muskingum Local Schools, Fayetteville-Perry Local Schools, Findlay City Schools, Indian Valley Local Schools, Lakota Local Schools, Morgan Local Schools, Shadyside Local Schools, Triway Local Schools and Steubenville High School.

English and biology students will take classes on Main Campus at the end of July.

Last year, the Ohio Department of Education and the Ohio Department of Higher Education awarded UT $769,000 in grants to develop programs and pay for up to 40 high school teachers to earn a master’s degree needed to teach college-level chemistry, biology or English courses in their high school classrooms.

“By credentialing dozens of high school teachers in our area to teach college courses, we are expanding higher education opportunities for more children,” said Dr. Rebecca Schneider, professor and chair of UT’s Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the Judith Herb College of Education.

The teachers who began the 18-month program in March are expected to begin teaching College Credit Plus courses in fall 2017.

University startup company participates in government contract to develop new radiation detector

By Christine Long

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security awarded two Toledo area companies a contract to develop a new device that could enhance security at ports and monitor the more than 17 million land, sea and air shipping containers in transit each day.

Lucintech, a University of Toledo LaunchPad Incubation startup company owned by UT Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Physics and Astronomy Al Compaan, will work with Lithium Innovations Co. LLC to create a lightweight, portable, sensitive and low-cost radiation detector that can discover neutrons in industrial shipments entering the country.

Lithium Innovations, a Toledo-based company, will provide foil that is nearly 100 percent lithium-6, an isotope that captures neutrons to start the detection process.

“The neutron subatomic particles are very difficult to detect and can penetrate a meter or more through steel or concrete,” Compaan said.

This collaboration leverages each local company’s technologies recently developed for applications outside of radiation detection.

“We are following on our successful exploratory work, which demonstrates a new approach to high-efficiency neutron detection,” Compaan said. “Neutron detectors are also important for oil and gas exploration, as well as nuclear medicine.”

“Advanced screening is an important component of domestic security,” Congressman Marcy Kaptur said. “I am especially pleased that two northern Ohio companies are collaborating to produce a nationally significant, state-of-the-art technology that enhances our nation’s security efforts.”

Compaan has been leading a research effort for nearly 30 years in thin-film photovoltaic materials and devices that convert sunlight directly into electricity. His company Lucintech is developing and scaling up innovative processes for making solar windows and sunroofs for vehicles.

Lithium Innovations, which is led by CEO Ford Cauffiel, leads this Phase II Homeland Security Small Business Innovation Research project. The company supplies pure lithium sources for use by manufacturers of dynamic windows that darken by applying a small voltage.
Students serve UT Medical Center patients through new advocate assistant program

By Rebecca Schwan

Starting this week, University of Toledo undergraduate and graduate student volunteers will join physicians, nurses and other health professionals as a part of a patient’s care team at The University of Toledo Medical Center.

Students pursuing a health-related career such as nursing, pre-med, pharmacy, social work or health-care administration will begin rounds as patient advocate assistants to provide a unique service to patients during their stay at UTMC.

A part of the Service Excellence Department, the patient advocate assistant serves as a patient resource, answering questions, facilitating communication between patients and hospital staff, troubleshooting when challenges arise, and ensuring patients are comfortable while they are recovering in the hospital.

“Communication issues are the main criticism patients have with hospitals nationwide,” said Debra O’Connell, UTMC patient advocate. “This program will help improve two-way communication with our patients and their family members while providing a unique learning opportunity for UT students enrolled in various health-related careers.”

The field of health care is complex, and patients and their family members can find a hospital stay overwhelming.

“It’s not always easy for a patient to ask their physicians questions about their care, or they may think of something after the doctor has finished rounds,” said UT student Mahbod Pourriahi, a patient advocate assistant studying bioengineering. “That’s where we come in. We spend time visiting with the patients, understanding their concerns, and gathering any questions they may have for their health-care team.”

Patient advocate assistants also ensure patients are resting comfortably during their stay.

“We visit patients on their second day in the hospital,” said future UT medical student Allison Gerren, a patient advocate assistant. “I was expecting to meet patients who were sad or in a lot of pain, but instead I found patients smiling and laughing and happy to talk with me. It brightens my day, and I look forward to doing rounds.”

Ten students have completed the training program, and 15 additional students are entering phase two of training. The students will begin regular rounds within UTMC’s Cardiovascular Unit and Medical/Surgical Step-Down and Neurology units. There are plans to expand the program to other areas of the hospital as more students enter the program.

“The program is another way UTMC strives to provide excellent patient care while training future doctors, nurses, pharmacists and hospital administrators,” said Dustin Ballinger, nursing director in the UTMC Cardiovascular Unit. “This program provides another avenue for checking in on our patients and receiving their feedback.”

Students also benefit from the opportunity to build relationships with medical professionals, get real-world experience interacting with patients, and practice communication and customer service skills.

“We want each and every patient to know that they are our priority,” O’Connell said. “Patients and their families should feel comfortable with all decisions and plans that are made during their stay. We encourage patients to be more active during consultations with physicians. The goal of this program is to provide the best care possible for the patient.”

The students in the program said they have already learned from the training experience and are ready to begin visiting their own patient caseload.

“The training has really helped me to become more comfortable approaching and talking to people in need of care,” Pourriahi said. “I think working with patients now will make me a better and more receptive doctor in the future.”

College of Medicine and Life Sciences introduces revised mission statement

By Jen Sorgenfrei

The College of Medicine and Life Sciences has revised its mission, vision and values to reflect the evolving educational, clinical and research goals of the college.

The revised mission accompanies an updated vision for the college, meant to reflect the academic affiliation between the College of Medicine and Life Sciences and ProMedica and the ongoing effort to develop educational programs and sponsored research of national prominence.

Both statements reflect the college’s core values of professionalism, service, diversity, collaboration and discovery.

“We want all College of Medicine and Life Sciences employees, faculty and learners to embrace and demonstrate our common values each day,” said Dr. Christopher Cooper, executive vice president for clinical affairs and dean of the College of Medicine. “The revised mission and vision statements frame the organizational culture of the college and will influence our success in achieving our educational, clinical and research imperatives.”

The new mission and vision statements were developed by a committee of faculty and executive leaders from the College of Medicine and Life Sciences and UT Medical Center. The group also has worked to redefine the organizational imperatives and goals the college is working to accomplish; these include ongoing implementation of the academic affiliation with ProMedica; successful recruitment and retention of high-quality faculty, staff, residents and students; ongoing training and development for faculty and leaders; and strong fiscal stewardship to achieve the mission.
Cool for the summer: Downtown walking tours showcase Toledo architecture, history

By Josephine Schreiber

Summertime and its warm weather are here, and that makes it the perfect time to put on your comfortable shoes and head downtown for the 32nd annual Toledo walking tours.

The free, public tours will be held every Thursday from July 14 through Aug. 25 from noon to 1 p.m., rain or shine.

Sponsored by the UT Jack Ford Urban Affairs Center and the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library, the downtown walking tours will take place:

**July 14** — Hensville. Meet at the corner of St. Clair and Washington streets and check out new places to watch the games.

**July 21** — The Oliver House, 27 Broadway St. Meet in the parking lot and take a look at the oldest commercial building in use in the city.

**July 28** — “The Low Down on UpTown.” See how the lower part of UpTown has evolved. Tour will center around Madison to Jefferson avenues and 10th to 13th streets. Meet at the corner of Madison Avenue and 10th Street, SSOE corner.

**Aug. 4** — Immaculate Conception Church. Meet at 434 Western Ave. Park on the street.

**Aug. 11** — Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Tour. See the city skyline from the Civic Center Plaza. Meet at the corner of Michigan Street and Madison Avenue. Free parking available in the library garage.

**Aug. 18** — Bush Street Historic District. Tour the Italianate colony with a touch of Spain. Meet in front of 712 Bush St. Parking will be available on the street.

**Aug. 25** — Fifth Third Building. Come see the view from Toledo’s tallest skyscraper. Meet in the lobby of One Seagate on Summit Street. Photo ID needed to get to the upper floors.

Participants will receive a small booklet with information about key downtown buildings.

“The purpose of the downtown tours is to provide Toledo area residents with a fun, yet informative opportunity to learn about some of the wonderful buildings and architecture that we have in downtown Toledo,” said Dr. Neil Reid, UT professor of geography and director of the Jack Ford Urban Affairs Center.

“The tour guides are all trained volunteers who really enjoy sharing their knowledge and passion about our wonderful downtown,” Reid said.

For more information, call the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library Local History and Genealogy Department at 419.259.5233.
The Blade and Huntington present the 24th Annual UT Alumni Association Outdoor Juried Art Fair

ART ON THE MALL

JULY 31, 2016
10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION
Original art, jazz, food and a children’s area
On the Main Campus of The University of Toledo
Events coordinator zooms in for Art on the Mall

By Vicki L. Kroll

It’s not unusual for Michele “Mickey” Ross to hop in her car, Canon XSi riding shotgun, and go for a drive. That’s how she found a small, dilapidated dwelling and gas pump one snowy day in Sylvania. And on a fall jaunt through Oak Opening Preserve Metropark, she spotted horseback riders on a leaf-covered trail.

“I just happened to be in the right spot at the right time,” the events coordinator in the Special Events Office said. “A lot of photography is patience and sometimes luck. You have to be willing to just sit and observe — especially with nature. You can see so much more that way.”

Armed with her camera, Ross captures places many area residents are familiar with and frames them in a new way.

“You can go to the same park every day and see something different each time; it’s just how you’re looking at things, whether it’s a bird or a turtle or a frog or flowers,” she said. “Nature changes so rapidly that there’s always something different to look at — always.”

Her favorite locales to wander and shoot include area parks, gardens and the Toledo Zoo.

At the zoo, she caught a cormorant careening its neck to preen with an orange autumnal sky reflected in the water, as well as a regal eagle perched by evergreen sprigs. After an ice storm, she ventured carefully to Olander Park in Sylvania and clicked in the cold; the result was a stunning image of a tree encased in a shimmering frozen glaze.

“It’s almost cathartic. I get lost when I go out and photograph. I can be out for hours and not even know it because there’s so much to look at and so much to see,” Ross said.

She’s had an artful eye for years.

“‘I’ve always loved taking photos,’” Ross recalled. “‘But I think I was getting frustrated because it seemed like I was in a rut.’”

So four years ago, she joined the Toledo Camera Club and the Photo Arts Club of Toledo. That’s when she got serious about her passion.

“The clubs have challenges and assignments, and it makes you get out there and think,” Ross said. “Members critique the shots each time, and I think that’s helped me grow and progress as a photographer because it’s given me things I never would have thought of to do.”

And she’s had the chance to work with some surreal subjects, including a fairy statue submerged in an aquarium filled with a carbonated drink — a sprite in Sprite.

“I won a few awards at the photo clubs, and I thought, you know, maybe I can try to sell the photos and see what happens,” she said. “And my family encouraged me, too.”

In 2013, the UT graduate who received a bachelor’s degree in 1976 returned to her alma mater and made her debut at Art on the Mall.

“It was cool because I actually did pretty well, and I was surprised,” she said. “I had never done an art show before, it was my first one.”

Last year, Ross introduced a new item to showcase her photography: coasters.

“I was trying to come up with something that was a little more cost-effective for the normal person to buy,” she said. “I got online, looked around, and I saw coasters.”

Pretty and practical, but finding a process to produce the coasters took some time.

“Through my own process, I finally found a way to get it to work so that it wouldn’t be tacky and it wouldn’t look tacky,” Ross said and laughed. “And it would be water-resistant so it could be used as a coaster.”

No surprise, her coasters featuring UT photos proved popular her second year at Art on the Mall and sold quickly.

Ross does take requests. Folks who stop by her booth have asked for shots of Toledo landmarks, including Tony Packo’s, the Rosary Cathedral, and Fifth Third Field and all things Mud Hens, as well as lighthouses, trains and various animals.

“There are a lot of things here in the area to focus on that people look at and say, ‘Oh yeah, I know where that is.’ In fact, when people come up at the art fairs and shows, they have fun looking at things and saying, ‘Now where’s that?’ ”

Ross will be at Art on the Mall Sunday, July 31, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The free juried art show will be held on Centennial Mall.

“I know they try to have alumni or people affiliated with UT at the event, and I think that adds to the flavor of it,” she said.

In her office, Ross has a few photos that she has taken, as well as several shots that she is in alongside celebrities who appeared in Centennial Hall/Savage Arena, where she worked for 25 years.

And there is quote from one of her favorite photographers, Ansel Adams: “You don’t make a photograph just with a camera. You bring to the act of photography all the pictures you have seen, the books you have read, the music you have heard, the people you have loved.”

“I don’t have a lot of equipment; it’s expensive. And like they say, it’s not the camera, it’s the shooter. You can make beautiful photographs with anything, even a point and shoot,” Ross said. “I’d like my photos to make people feel good, and I hope that they realize they are not random shots, that some thought was actually put into them.”
Assistant professor of nursing works on project for Sigma Theta Tau International’s Leadership Academy

By Sanya Ali

This year, Dr. Temeaka Gray was selected as one of 13 Scholars of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, granting her a spot in the 2016-17 Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy.

Gray, an assistant professor in the UT College of Nursing, has been a member of the society since 2012. The academy’s goals include fostering academic success, promoting nurse faculty retention, and facilitating personal leadership development, all of which are explored by projects completed by each scholar.

“The purpose of the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy is actually to expand the scope of influence and grow nurse faculty leaders — the project is a vehicle for that,” said Gray, president of the Zeta Theta Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing at UT.

As part of the academy, Gray has designed a project around the topic of communication in the workplace, with the objective of recognizing best practices in communication and shared governance for faculty and administration. This is a topic in which Gray said she had much experience, co-authoring two chapters in academic works, one regarding communication and the other on shared governance in the workplace.

“A lot of the time, people are talking and not listening, but the most effective communication takes place when they listen as well as talk,” Gray said. “One of the pieces that I’ve seen through my literature review said that, in a shared governance environment, sometimes people just don’t know what their duties are. Do they have input in everything? Do they act through committees? I want to know what people think about communication, what they think shared governance means, and what perceptions of the best way to have conversations are.”

Participation as a scholar in the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy includes intensive four-day workshops, one this year and one next, and a presentation on the final project at the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing Biennial Convention in Indianapolis.

Gray said even being selected was a tremendous opportunity and, once she found out she had been one of 13 global applicants chosen, the idea of being able to confer with other nurses and like-minded professionals at a greater level was an exciting prospect. The first of the four-day workshops took place in March, and Gray said the highly immersive experience was driven by self-reflection and a close look at the operating style within the academy.

“They equipped us with a journal, so we were critically looking at ourselves as people. We used tools like the leadership practice inventory and strengths finder to assess strengths and weaknesses and, based on that, where we can to improve,” Gray said. “These workshops were from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. over four days. The leadership meetings included administrative people for the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy, the leadership mentors, the faculty advisors and the scholar.”

The opportunity of being invited to participate in a program like the Nurse Faculty Leadership Academy of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing is one she hopes others in her field take.

“I always stress this to nursing students because, at that time, you don’t understand what it truly means to be recognized like this,” Gray said. “By the time I was working, to be recognized at that level was so important because it was meaningful. We go around doing what we do because it’s what we do; seeing that other people recognize it is really amazing.”

She added, “Organizations that focus on professions and disciplines like nursing are actually driven by what you do. It’s a networking opportunity; you have the opportunity to learn from other people and their experiences.”

To learn more about the Scholars of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing at UT, visit zetatheta.nursingsociety.org.

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UT nursing program receives accreditation

By Rebecca Schwan

The University of Toledo’s Doctor of Nursing Practice Program and post-graduate Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Certificate Program were granted accreditation by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education following an onsite review in November. The accreditation is for five years to June 2021.

UT’s Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice Program is designed to take nurses with a bachelor of science in nursing to the highest level of clinical practice in order to meet the increasing complexities and challenges of the nation’s health-care environment.

“UT has the only advanced practice nursing program in our region, and this accreditation places our program at the leading edge of nurse training,” Dr. Kelly Phillips, interim dean of the College of Nursing, said. “Nurses who receive the doctor of nursing practice degree are poised to be leaders in the health-care field.”

The Post-Baccalaureate Doctor of Nursing Practice Program offers specialization options in adult gerontology primary care nurse practitioner, family nurse practitioner, pediatric primary care nurse practitioner and psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner.

“In providing a variety of training options, we are meeting the needs of patients who need specialized care,” Phillips said.

The Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education is an autonomous accrediting agency that ensures the quality and integrity of nursing programs and supports continuing growth and improvement of collegiate professional education and nurse residency programs.
Ice T, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Naughty by Nature to headline show at Savage Arena Aug. 4

By Paul Helgren

The Savage Live concert series is back, as Sirius XM Backspin will present the Art of Rap Festival Thursday, Aug. 4, at Savage Arena.

The lineup of legendary rappers and hip-hop artists will feature Ice T, Bone Thugs-N-Harmony, Naughty by Nature plus Grandmaster Melle Mel and Scorpio, EPMD, The Sugarhill Gang, Kurtis Blow and host Chief Rocket Busy Bee.


The Art of Rap Festival will be the second show for Savage Live, a multi-event concert series that kicked off in March with the sold-out Rock the Arena show. The series will continue with the sold-out I Love the ’90s Festival Saturday, Aug. 20, headlined by Salt-N-Pepa and Vanilla Ice.

“We’re pleased by the response to our Savage Live concert series,” said UT Associate Athletic Director Tony Zaworski.

Doors for the Art of Rap Festival will open at 5 p.m., and the music will begin at 5:25 p.m.

Tickets ranging from $55 to $95 can be purchased online at UTSavageLive.com or in person at the UT Athletic Ticket Office at Savage Arena.

Discount tickets are available to current University of Toledo students with a valid UT ID for $25 at the ticket office.

VIP packages also are available.

For more information, visit UTSavageLive.com.

Bink’s debut

He’s here! Watch the first animated short featuring Bink at http://bit.ly/bink000. The 30-second short is from Eric Miller Animation Studios, a company started two years ago by 2005 UT alumnus Eric Miller. “We’re super-excited to release the first 30-second short of Bink,” Miller, who left DreamWorks Animation two years ago and started his own company, said during a call from his Los Angeles home. “We needed an animated short to show potential clients, so I wanted to create a main character that’s cute and likable. The shorts are character-driven and comedy-driven.” Stay tuned: More animated shorts with the cute seafaring creature will follow. Sign up to receive updates at milleranimation.com/bink.
Incoming UT freshmen in Multicultural Scholars program start college early

By Christine Long

At the end of June, 32 incoming freshmen at The University of Toledo cut their summer vacation short to get a head start on college life.

Students accepted into the Multicultural Emerging Scholars Summer Bridge and Living Learning Community Program moved into the Academic House June 25 to participate in a two-day orientation prior to the program, which began June 27 and runs through Friday, Aug. 5.

This is the second year of the six-week program that supports student success in their first year of college as they transition from high school. The goal is to get students acclimated to the academic, social and cultural life on campus in order to boost retention and graduation rates, as well as promote academic excellence and college readiness.

“90 percent of the incoming freshmen who took part in the pilot session of this program last summer are returning to UT as sophomores this fall. That is higher than the University’s overall retention rate,” Dr. Willie McKether, UT vice president for diversity and inclusion, said. “Plus, students from last year’s program are now leaders on campus. Five students will serve as peer mentors for this year’s program.”

Students take four courses together in the summer and earn eight credit hours toward their UT degree requirements. Each student is enrolled in a series of classes during the six-week summer program, including Composition I, Cultural Anthropology, Learning to Serve and Math Camp.

“When the fall rolls around, these students will be ready to hit the ground running on the first day of the semester,” McKether said. “They will have already formed connections with fellow students who share similar academic goals and attitudes.”

The entering freshmen receive an $8,000 scholarship to cover tuition, books, housing and meals for the six weeks of summer class. To continue their momentum in the Emerging Scholars Living Learning Community, they will continue to stay in the same residence hall for the 2016-17 academic year.

Students in the summer session also take a variety of trips to help enhance their understanding and appreciation of their own culture and the Toledo community. Visits will include the Toledo Museum of Art, Cherry Street Mission, UT Lake Erie Center and Toledo City Council.

Law associate professor selected for Yale/Stanford/Harvard Junior Faculty Forum

By Kirsten Winck

Evan Zoldan, an associate professor in the UT College of Law, was selected to participate in the Yale/Stanford/Harvard Junior Faculty Forum June 28-29 at Yale Law School in New Haven, Conn.

Zoldan, who received his JD from Georgetown University Law Center and joined the UT faculty in 2012, is the first faculty member from the The University of Toledo College of Law to be selected for this prestigious event.

“I am delighted that Professor Zoldan’s paper was selected for the Yale/Stanford/Harvard Junior Faculty Forum,” said UT Law Dean D. Benjamin Barros. “This is a great honor for Professor Zoldan and is a reflection of the quality of his writing and his ideas.”

According to the organizers of the forum, the goal is to “encourage the work of scholars recently appointed to a tenure-track position by providing experience in the pursuit of scholarship and the nature of the scholarly exchange.” Between 12 and 20 young scholars — all with seven or fewer years of teaching law — are selected to present their papers at this annual event.

Senior scholars provide comments on the selected papers, and one of the forum’s aims is to help connect newer and more seasoned legal scholars.

Zoldan’s paper, “The Equal Protection Component of Legislative Generality,” describes an under-explored aspect of constitutional law and theory. “Our commitment to equality is compromised by the ability of Congress and state legislatures to target named individuals for special treatment that is not applied to the population generally,” Zoldan wrote. “This article describes how the Equal Protection Clause can be read to contribute to a constitutional value of legislative generality — that is — a value that suggests that targeted legislation should be disfavored simply because of its particularized effect.”
New dean

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“Dr. Appel is an advocate for the role of a strong honors college at a research university that engages students in critical thinking and creates interdisciplinary relationships across the institution,” said Dr. Andrew Hsu, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. “Her decade of experience with honors colleges along with her enthusiasm for research and active, hands-on learning as part of the student educational experience matches our goals for the Jesup Scott Honors College and The University of Toledo.”

Hsu thanked Kelly Moore, who has served as interim dean of the college since August, for his leadership during the past year.

Appel joined the University of Missouri in 2007 as a senior research scientist and member of the graduate faculty, and also served as associate director of the Honors College. Prior to that, she was a member of the faculty at Pennsylvania State University, which she joined in 2000.

“An honors college has a special role on campus. It’s a place where students can develop their intellectual capacities, learn to think broadly, creatively and critically, and have intense discussions,” Appel said. “The Jesup Scott Honors College’s emphasis on experiential learning and undergraduate research, inclusive approach to admissions, and its talented faculty and staff make it a standout program. I look forward to working with the honors students, faculty and staff, my colleagues in other colleges, and with the broader Toledo community to build upon the strong program.”

Appel, who grew up in the metro Detroit area, has long been interested in the outdoors. Midway through her undergraduate studies of ancient history and music, she decided to make science her career. Since then, she has focused her research on the intersection of chemistry and ecology to explain ecological patterns and broaden our understanding about the relationship between plants and insects.

An accomplished researcher, she has received more than $2.5 million in external research funding and authored more than 45 publications. She made national headlines in 2014 with her research that showed plants can “hear,” meaning that they can identify vibrations caused by a caterpillar chewing and respond with increased chemical defense. The experience reinforced her interest in being sure that students not only get involved in research, but that they also have the opportunity to present it to a broader audience.

“Everyone has a responsibility to be able to communicate their interests and ideas effectively with other people. In higher education, we have a special need for that training for our students. Even if we’re working on a very esoteric topic, it is important to explain the basics of that to other people,” she said.

Among Appel’s goals for the Jesup Scott Honors College are to align the curriculum with student needs, increase interdisciplinary course offerings, get honors students actively engaged with campus as mentors and tutors, and deepen relationships with other colleges across campus.

“I’m excited to join The University of Toledo where there is so much support for the role of honors education in the mission of the University,” she said.

Appel has a bachelor’s degree in general studies from Oakland University in Rochester, Mich., and a master’s degree in biology and PhD in ecology and evolutionary biology from the University of Michigan.

Arboretum

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The University celebrated 50 years of serving the community on Arbor Day 2016 with re-creation of the tree planting ceremony that marked the opening of the Stranahan Arboretum in 1966 at Sylvania Avenue and Corey Road.

The W.W. Knight family donated the land to UT in 1964 in memory of Robert Stranahan, founder of the Champion Spark Plug Co.

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What’s the buzz?

Photography intern Rachel Nearhoof took this shot of a bee in the flowers that surround the “Portal” sculpture in the traffic circle east of Stranahan Hall. The site has been designated a pollinator habitat as it features flowers protected from pesticides to provide an environment for bees. Groundskeeper Greg Smith is in charge of maintaining that area on Main Campus.
Former chief chemist at Toledo Water Treatment plant on H2O quality quest at UT

By Christine Long

When Brenda Snyder was 10 years old, her mother dragged her to a park along the Maumee River in Toledo before sunrise to witness a phenomenon.

“I remember I felt a little crazy climbing up on the monkey bars at five o’clock in the morning to look at a comet,” Snyder said. “But my mother was always interested in science, and that moment perked my interest.”

Fast-forward half a century and the grandmother of six still harbors a zeal for astronomy. However, her chosen scientific career is chemistry.

Snyder is a senior researcher at the UT Lake Erie Center who focuses on water quality.

“It is my job to do everything in my power to make sure that drinking water is safe,” said Snyder, a UT alumna and licensed water operator in the state of Ohio.

“She’s a heck of a chemist,” Dr. Thomas Bridgeman, UT algae researcher and associate professor of ecology, said. “I learn something new every day working alongside her in the lab.”

Bridgeman hired Snyder after she retired from the city of Toledo, where she spent 15 years as a chemist at the Collins Park Water Treatment Plant overseeing chemical processes that transform raw water from Lake Erie into high-quality drinking water.

In 2014, Snyder was the chief chemist who navigated through the Toledo water crisis when the city issued a ‘Do Not Drink’ advisory for half a million residents for three days due to the level of the toxin microcystin detected in the drinking water.

A year later, the algal bloom in Maumee Bay was much larger, but did not impact the public water supply.

“I would like to find some answers as to what happened that day,” Snyder said. “That’s one of the reasons I’m here at UT. What is triggering the production of toxin? Why is the size of the algal bloom not related to the amount of toxin released? There is still a ton of science that needs to be done.”

Snyder’s public health mission has shifted to early warning. She is working to find faster ways to alert water treatment plant operators if there is anything in Maumee Bay.

Throughout the summer algal bloom season, Snyder is part of Bridgeman’s team that collects water samples aboard UT’s 28-foot research vessel throughout Maumee Bay and the open waters of the western basin. She then runs those samples through what is called the ELISA test, the standard method of measuring the concentration of toxins, like microcystin, associated with cyanobacterial blooms, or harmful algal blooms, in Lake Erie.

Snyder also is tasked with getting a new lab instrument up and running called the SEAL AutoAnalyzer, which analyzes nutrients found in the water, such as phosphorus, ammonia, silica, nitrate and nitrite.

“This tool will help us look at things that feed the algae, which create the microcystin,” Snyder said. “We know the growth of algae is linked to phosphate and nitrogen in the water. But what other subtle things are triggering the overgrowth of the blue-green algae? That’s what we need to find out.”

The machine moves small water samples separated by bubbles through thin tubes that look like clear spaghetti. The tubes thread into different chemicals, and the data is graphed on a computer in the lab.

“The biggest way having this instrument in our lab will change how we conduct research is to get us the results in a more timely fashion,” Snyder said. “Dr. Bridgeman has had to send our samples to another lab to be analyzed for nutrients. We tend to send them in a batch at the end of summer. Instead of taking months to process, we hope to get results within a week of collecting the samples.”

Snyder and the team of researchers at the UT Lake Erie Center will use the SEAL AutoAnalyzer as another tool in their arsenal to help search for answers and develop new protocols for monitoring source water in Lake Erie that could benefit water treatment plants across the country that are affected by algal blooms.

“It’s darn near everywhere,” Snyder said. “They’re having problems in Minnesota, Washington, Oregon, California and anywhere in the South.”

With a very sense of humor, Snyder said she mixes science and a little bit of art in her water quality quest. It’s one that began at UT.

“I went back to school at the age of 40,” said Snyder, who graduated in 1997 with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry and biology. “My son graduated from UT a year later. I joke that I had to wait until he was old enough to tutor me through the calculus classes, which he did.”

But you’d have to rewind farther to discover the moment a little girl on the monkey bars with her eyes in the sky found a love of science in her heart to last a lifetime.
In 2015, I started an event to bring together community members, specifically kids, and men and women in uniforms. The second Build-A-Trust-Bowl-A-Thon took place May 14 at Interstate Lanes in Rossford. UT Police were beyond great, terrific, extraordinary — just to name a few. They not only provided all the kids with shirts, they bowled with them, talked, had fun, and let them tour the police cars. They left a lasting impression on the young folks ages 4 to 25 that they will never forget.

Rossford Police and the Toledo Fire Department also did a great job.

We had door prizes donated, and every child got something. I expect the next Build-A-Trust-Bowl-A-Thon to be even better and larger.

The main purpose of the bowl-a-thons is to bridge that trust level between the groups and to let both sides know that there are still a lot of great people trying to do the right thing here in Toledo and the surrounding area. There will be two events a year so folks don’t forget and get use to each other.

The next bowling event will be Saturday, Nov. 19, at 11 a.m. at Toledo Sports Center, 1516 Starr Ave. Ages 17 and younger will be free; others will pay $5 for three games with shoes included. We have been blessed with a major sponsor, a McDonald’s owner who thinks this is a great concept. This will be the third event since last year, and I have the entire bowling alley reserved as well for the bowl-a-thon in May 2017.

There are so many people to thank on and off campus. I didn’t ask permission to name names, so these folks will know who they are. Thank you to all the people who helped; I couldn’t have done it without your kindness and generosity. Words cannot express the appreciation I have knowing that so many of you gave up part of a beautiful Saturday afternoon to participate in what I believe is a valiant effort to try and help our future.

Thank you so much.

George W. Hayes Jr.
UT electrician journeyman 2 and Toledo Bowling Senate junior coordinator

Cancer patients are invited to learn about the health benefits of essential oils at a free wellness seminar called “What Essential Oils Can Do for You” Thursday, July 21, at 6 p.m. at The University of Toledo Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center.

Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. Deanna Fielder, licensed practical nurse and doTERRA International LLC representative, will share information about the different ways essential oils and aromatherapy can benefit cancer patients.

New essential oil blends that boost mood and improve emotional health will be introduced.

Oils will be available for purchase at Renee’s Survivor Shop after the program.

The event is a part of the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center Wellness Information Series.

Reservations are requested to eleanorndanacancercenter@utoledo.edu or 419.383.5243 by Tuesday, July 18.

Cancer patients to learn about essential oils at free wellness seminar July 21

The University of Toledo is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education, employment, membership and contracts, and no differentiation will be made based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran status or the presence of a disability. The University will take affirmative action as required by federal or state law.
I really feel that I've become a part of the community at UT, even as a first-year student. I've been able to branch out and connect to people on a deeper level.

― Celine

Graduating senior
College of Natural Science and Mathematics
Junior Health Sciences College
National Merit Scholarship Finalist

CONNECTED TO A GREATER DEGREE

As she participates in undergraduate research in the Chemistry Department and studies intensive math coursework, Celine is connecting with faculty and mentors and building a record of academic excellence.

Her college experience also extends beyond the classroom. Celine is using her knowledge as a springboard to connect with people by tutoring elementary school students in math and science, helping GED students prepare for their exams, and providing chemistry demonstrations to community groups.

Learn more about UT's commitment to helping students like Celine get connected at utoledo.edu/greaterdegree