Match Day brings excitement, life changes to University medical students

By Sarah A. Velliquette

Congratulatory cheers, hugs and tears were on full display at the annual Match Day celebration, when the next generation of physicians opened envelopes that revealed their residency placements.

“Match Day is a pivotal moment in the lives of medical students,” Dr. Christopher Cooper, dean of the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences, and executive vice president for clinical affairs, said. “Our students work tirelessly during their medical school career to reach this point. It is humbling to witness this day and experience the excitement of our students when they open their envelopes.”

Retaining top talent in the area continues to trend in a positive direction with 10 percent of the 156 fourth-year medical students graduating in May staying in northwest Ohio to continue their training.

Christina Camick matched to UT for her residency in general surgery, her top choice.

“I woke up a little nervous, but excited,” Camick said. “Toledo is a strong program, and I knew if it was meant to be it would work out. The faculty members are outstanding. They are approachable and knowledgeable. I am very excited.”

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Matching to UT:

MATCHING TO UT: Fourth-year medical students, from left, Alex Lu, Omaid Tarig, Tiffany Slutz and Eyad Jaara were all smiles after learning they matched to The University of Toledo.

UT scientists awarded $400,000 grant to study wildlife in Oak Openings region

By Christine Billau

A team of ecologists at The University of Toledo was awarded a two-year state wildlife grant from Ohio and Michigan to study flagship species of the Oak Openings region to better inform conservation and management strategies.

Using radio telemetry, Dr. Jeanine Refsnider, evolutionary ecologist and assistant professor in the UT Department of Environmental Sciences, and Dr. Henry Streby, ornithologist and assistant professor in the UT Department of Environmental Sciences, will focus on the productivity and survival of red-headed woodpeckers, eastern box turtles and spotted turtles particularly in the oak savanna and wet prairie habitats in northwest Ohio and southern Michigan.

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources are funding the work with a $400,000 grant through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

“Oak savanna and wet prairie habitats have drastically declined in this area during the last century,” Refsnider said. “We are interested in three flagship species of Oak Openings ecosystems. If they’re doing well, the ecosystem is probably doing well. But if the animals are there yet not successfully producing offspring, the populations will continue to decline and possibly go extinct. We want to give conservationists a powerful tool to optimize the landscape and maintain wildlife populations, and that requires knowing not just whether rare species are present, but also whether they are reproducing successfully.”

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SPOT CHECK: Spotted turtles like this one in the Oak Openings region will be monitored by UT researchers thanks to funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The two-year study will include conservation strategies for three species.
Faculty member who advocated for STEMM, minority students passes away

By Meghan Cunningham

Dr. Anthony Quinn, associate professor of biological sciences and assistant dean for diversity and inclusion in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, died Wednesday at the age of 59.

Visitation will be Monday, March 19, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Warren AME Church, 915 Collingswood Blvd. Funeral services will be Tuesday, March 20, at 11 a.m. at the church.

Quinn joined The University of Toledo Department of Biological Sciences in 2001 and was a renowned immunologist known for his work in deciphering the interplay between diabetes and immunity.

He was passionate about the recruitment and retention of underrepresented minority students and created in 2015 the We Are STEMM initiative to bring high-profile underrepresented minority scientists to UT in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine as role models for University students of color, inspiring them to engage in STEMM fields of study.

“Dr. Quinn was a very valuable contributor to his home Department of Biological Sciences, the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and the entire University. He was a tireless advocate who worked very hard toward increasing and supporting diversity in STEMM,” said Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Distinguished University Professor of Astronomy, and Helen Luedtke Brooks Endowed Professor of Astronomy. “Tony will be greatly missed by all of us. He leaves a huge hole that will be very difficult to fill, but his legacy will continue. We all feel fortunate to have had him as an important part of our lives.”

Quinn also co-directed the Multicultural Emerging Scholars Summer Bridge and Living Learning Community Program, and led the Brothers on the Rise mentoring program.

The University recently established the Tony Quinn We Are STEMM Initiative in recognition of his service to UT to expand the existing We Are STEMM lecture series to include fellowships for graduate and professional education and mentoring programs. The Tony Quinn We Are STEMM Fellowship Fund has been created to support the initiative. To make a donation, visit utfoundation.org/give/quinnfellowship.

Quinn’s service to the University included co-chairing the strategic planning committee that created The University of Toledo’s Path to Excellence plan approved last year by the UT Board of Trustees. He also served as president of the Association of Black Faculty and Staff.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Mid-American Nazarene University in Olathe, Kan., a master’s degree in biology from the University of Missouri in St. Louis, and a PhD in microbiology and immunology from the University of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City.

Quinn, who received the UT Outstanding Teacher Award in 2013, was a member of the American Association of Immunologists, Juvenile Diabetes Foundation International, Immunology of Diabetes Society, Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology, and Clinical Immunology Society.

Match Day

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Grace Maltbie will go to Case Western/University Hospitals close to her parents; she will be a resident in the radiology department.

“I really enjoyed radiology and would be able to spend more time with my daughter,” said Maltbie, who attended the event with her daughter in matching outfits. “I am a single mom and have been dreaming of this day. Whenever things would get hard, I would just think about Match Day and being here with my daughter. It means a lot.”

Mike Maltbie, Grace’s father, was particularly excited with his daughter’s placement.

“I work at Case Western Reserve University doing information security, so I will be able to walk to a Starbucks and bring my daughter coffee after she’s had a long shift,” he said.

In addition to getting matched to the University of Pittsburgh in obstetrics and gynecology, Latima Collins also personally “matched” to her significant other when she became engaged at Match Day.

“I am excited because I matched and I got engaged to the love of my life,” Collins said. “I am in shock! I am on cloud nine and thank God for everything that has happened today.”

UT medical students matched to institutions across the country; these included Yale New Haven Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital and Duke University Medical Center.

This year, students matched into 23 specialties, with 71, or 46 percent, in primary care fields, and 50, or 31 percent, entering other specialties.

The top specialties for this graduating class were internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine and anesthesiology.

Ohio was the most popular state with 61 students matching here. The second most popular state was Michigan with 19, followed by Pennsylvania with 12. Overall, students matched with programs in 29 states.
Scientists

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Work begins in the spring on the study, which is titled “Distribution, Density and Demography of Red-Headed Woodpeckers, Eastern Box Turtles and Spotted Turtles in Oak Openings of Ohio and Michigan.”

“If the habitat is good for charismatic mega fauna, there’s a good chance it’s right for the whole system,” Streby said. “If it’s bad for one of these, it’s likely representing underlying problems for all species.”

Radio transmitters will be epoxied to the turtles and harnessed to the woodpeckers. They do not inhibit the animal’s movement.

For all three species, UT researchers will be conducting distribution and density surveys, monitoring adults with radio-telemetry, monitoring nests, and tracking juveniles with radio-telemetry when they leave the nest.

Researchers will then use nest and juvenile survival data to determine which landscape compositions and configurations result in the best overall productivity for any species individually and all three together.

“We want to identify the recipe for a quality habitat and map where nests might have the highest success in getting what they need for a self-sustaining population,” Streby said. “The Oak Openings region is a complex patchwork of wetlands, uplands, thin forest, dense forest, prairie and wet prairie. This comprehensive study is necessary to demonstrate which parts of the habitat are working and inform conservation management in the future.”
Last Thursday, President Sharon L. Gaber spoke with faculty and staff members at her ongoing Breakfast with the President series, held monthly throughout the academic year to gather input on the betterment of UT. After providing participants with a brief update on progress the University is making, she asked them to help UT tell its story and assist with recruiting new students. Topics discussed by the group included how to better ensure the financial literacy of students, UT’s new digital materials initiative to help reduce textbook costs, potential uses for the Woltower building, and expanding student recruitment efforts to other regions. The next Breakfast with the President is slated for Tuesday, April 17; an invitation will be posted for employees in NewsBreak early next month.

Carmella Jackson, a second-grader at Old Orchard Elementary School, picked up one of the books donated to Toledo Public Schools by UT’s Women & Philanthropy and the Judith Herb College of Education. The books were distributed to 33 second-grade classrooms at 19 TPS schools March 15 during a ceremony at Old Orchard Elementary. Mary McMahon, the chair of Women & Philanthropy, below center, and Dr. Romules Durant, TPS superintendent, presented the books to representatives of each school. “Second grade is a critical year for learning to read,” said Dr. Thea Sawicki, chair of the Holiday Project for Women & Philanthropy and professor in the UT Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology. “Choosing one grade to focus on allows us to support more schools.” Women & Philanthropy will continue to raise funds throughout 2018 with the goal of donating books to all second-grade classrooms in each of the 40 TPS schools this year.
Edwin Dodd Distinguished Lecture Series in Business Ethics

PRESENTS

JOHN NABER
Olympic Gold Medalist, Sportscaster

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018
7 p.m.
Balch-Clapp Auditorium
Droscoll Alumni Center
The University of Toledo Main Campus

PURSUING VICTORY WITH HONOR

In today’s difficult business environment, the temptation to “cut corners” has never been greater. John Naber will relay how his audiences can succeed without violating ethical standards, because he believes nice guys can finish first!

In 1976, John Naber became the most highly decorated member of the U.S. Olympic Team, winning four gold medals and one silver and setting four world records in the sport of swimming. He became the first swimmer in Olympic history to win two individual medals on the same day. In 1977, he was named the recipient of the James E. Sullivan Award as the nation’s outstanding amateur athlete.

As a keen observer of excellence, Naber has discovered the method by which champions in all walks of life use to reach their goals, and he shares this process with his personal insights to audiences across the globe.

THE PRESENTATION IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, BUT PARTICIPANTS SHOULD REGISTER AT UTOLEDO.EDU/BUSINESS/EDWINDODD.
women of color symposium:
NAVIGATING A PREDOMINATELY WHITE INSTITUTION

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 2018
8:30 A.M. – 5 P.M.
THOMPSON STUDENT UNION ROOM 2582
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO MAIN CAMPUS

Free and open to the public; students, faculty, staff and community members are welcome. Although this event is free, please register for planning purposes. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, please email diversity@utoledo.edu.

SUPPORTED BY THE OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION, OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL STUDENT SUCCESS, CATHARINE S. EBERLY CENTER FOR WOMEN AND DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN’S AND GENDER STUDIES
Making a difference: Spring break in Guatemala

By Ashley Diel

For college students, spring break is generally a time to party, hang out with friends, or catch up on sleep. However, these typical activities did not entice me: I wanted to do something bigger and more meaningful.

During my junior year, I studied abroad in Ghana and realized my love for traveling as well as helping others. While there, I worked at a small non-government organization called the Mawulolo Youth Network, an after-school program, where I taught first- and second-graders math and English.

I quickly began to see how different other countries were from the United States, especially in the case of education, or rather the lack of its availability to children in other parts of the world.

Since then, I have made it my personal mission to travel to places others in the United States generally do not go to such as throughout Africa and the Middle East to see how others live as well as to learn about the accessibility to education.

With this mindset, I knew I wanted to make my senior year spring break memorable by continuing working in a community in another country to help lessen the gap between education and accessibility.

Last year for spring break, I traveled to Nicaragua with the Jesup Scott Honors College and worked in a school helping to build a library. I saw it only fitting that I travel with the college again this year, but this time to Guatemala.

There were seven honors students going on the trip. I was fortunate to know a few of them who had gone to Nicaragua with me last year, but by the end of the trip, all of us had become good friends.

For our first day in Guatemala, we traveled around the city of San Juan, as well as Antigua. This was meant to show us the country and let us learn a little about its culture. We learned about the importance of jade in Guatemala dating back to the times of the Mayans, as well as traveled to see an active volcano. The country was beautiful, and the views were breath-taking.

However, we were not there to vacation. We were there to work.

For the rest of the week, we spent time in a small community in the mountains. Getting there was an adventure as we had to drive down winding hills that made it feel like we were at Cedar Point.

We had two main projects that we worked on in the community. We painted the inside and outside of a small library for the children, and we started building the foundation of a house for a local family.

While I have painted many times, I cannot say that I have ever had to do construction, and it gave me a new appreciation for the people who do it for a living.

The group of us dug trenches with pick axes for days as the community did not have access to machinery to do the digging. Many of us quickly formed blisters, but we kept at it knowing that a little bit of pain on our behalf was worth it if we were able to help the people there.

As we worked, some of the local children would come up to us, interested in what we were doing. Unfortunately, my Spanish is not very good, so I was unable to communicate with them, but several other students on the trip were fluent and spoke with the kids.

It was amazing to see my fellow UT students interacting with the kids and connecting with some of the adults in the community. Since the kids did not know English, one of the students in my group wrote down a bunch of words for them so that they could begin learning.

As the week came to a close, I could see just how much we had accomplished. It was amazing to see how much we had painted, but even more impressive was how much of the foundation for the house we had finished. In one week, we went from not having broken ground to trenches that were several feet deep and beginning to lay the cinder blocks for the walls.

While we all had a great time in Guatemala working and experiencing the culture, it was even more rewarding knowing we had made at least a little difference in the lives of those who live there.

I believe I can speak for everyone who went on the trip and say we all felt a sense of pride in what we had been able to accomplish. I am sure we all wished we could stay longer than a week, especially so that we could see the house being built through the end.

Saying goodbye to Guatemala was hard, as it always is with any country that I visit. However, I know that it will not be my last time traveling or volunteering abroad. There are still so many new and exciting opportunities out there, and I plan to keep going everywhere I can and trying to make a difference.

Diel is a senior majoring in communication and a student in the Jesup Scott Honors College. She will graduate in May.
Magic and fantasy will take center stage as The University of Toledo Opera Ensemble presents Benjamin Britten’s opera of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream.”

Performances will be held Friday through Sunday, March 23-25, in Doermann Theatre. Friday and Saturday shows will be at 7 p.m., and the Sunday performance will be at 3 p.m.

Britten’s English libretto brings song to the colorful world of Shakespeare’s famous play. Fairy-King Oberon orders Puck to gather a special love-potent herb to anoint the eyes of Tytania to fall in love with whomever or whatever she sees. Much to Oberon’s delight, she falls in love with a donkey.

Puck also sets out to sprinkle Demetrius, hoping to get him to fall in love with Helena. But things go awry when the mischievous Puck gets it wrong. Can love ever be put aright?

The cast features Micah Graber as Oberon and UT students Paige Chapman as Tytania, Alana Miller Scaglioni as Helena, Moises Salazar as Lysander, Meridian Prall as Hermia, and Justin Bays as Demetrius.

Fairies will be played by Robin Stafford Smithberger and UT students Sydney Kraus, Mackenzie Payton and Ashley Roark. UT students Caris Croy and Ashley Venrick will be fairies at large.

Rustics will be portrayed by Jordan Loyd, Phil Smith and Mark Blowers; UT alumnus Devon Desmond; and UT students William Floss and Brandon Warren.

Dr. Denise Ritter Bernardini, assistant professor of music, is producing and helping to direct the show. Scaglioni is an assistant director of the production, and Quincy Joyner is the stage director. Wayne Anthony is the rehearsal accompanist and vocal coach.

A chamber orchestra led by Matthew Forte, UT director of orchestral studies, also will perform.

Tickets $10 to $15 are available through the Center for Performing Arts Box Office and online at utoledo.tix.com.
Songfest to raise funds for Veterans Matter

By Ashley Diel

Since 1937, UT students have been brought together by song, dance and philanthropy for Songfest.

This year, student organizations will compete to raise money for Veterans Matter under the theme: “Billboard Hits: No Time Like the Present.”

Songfest 2018 will be held Saturday, March 24, at 5 p.m. in Savage Arena.

Veterans Matter was founded in 2012 and is a rapid-response system partnered with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs’ Homeless Veterans program to allow homeless veterans to find housing. Money raised helps cover the deposit or first month’s rent so veterans can move in quickly. Today, Veterans Matter operates in 16 states as well as Washington, D.C.

“We chose Veterans Matter this year because the members of both Mortar Board and Blue Key see the need for our local homeless veterans,” said Tayler Bowen, emcee for Songfest. “We decided there was a need to give back to those who gave so much for us.”

This year’s Songfest theme gives participants the opportunity to choose songs that were produced within the past decade.

“In the past, the theme has historically been based around older songs that were produced 10-plus years ago,” Bowen said. “We looked to get the organizations and community excited by only selecting songs from the past 10 years. We think this is a really fun change of pace for everyone and will keep everyone excited.”

Songfest will have 21 groups participating, and organizers hope to raise $25,000 for Veterans Matter.

Many hours of practice go into the weeks and months leading up to Songfest, and the performances that result have led to the event becoming one of the most highly anticipated of spring semester.

In addition to the musical numbers, Blue Key National Honor Fraternity and Mortar Board National Honor Society, the Songfest sponsors, hold their recognition and tapping ceremonies during the event.

“We look forward to sharing our beloved tradition with all students, faculty and staff, alumni and the rest of the Toledo community,” Bowen said. “People should be there to see the event come together and all of the hard work that the organizations have put into their performances.”

Donations will be collected at the event, or go to veteransmatter.org/songfest.
New book offers strategies on working with needy people

By Bob Mackowiak

In his latest book, “Needy People: Working Successfully With Control Freaks and Approval-holics,” Dr. Dale Dwyer immediately identifies a work situation everyone encounters.

“We all know them — the control freaks and approval-holics of our organizations and our lives. These are the people who drive us crazy at work,” he said.

The UT professor of management suggests that their annoying behaviors have their roots in high needs for control, approval or both.

“We’ll call the person who most drives you crazy at work ‘Chuck.’ Everybody has a Chuck, and everybody’s Chuck is different,” Dwyer said.

Dwyer notes that we all have a need for control and a need for approval, but it is the extreme cases that cause frustration for leaders, direct reports and co-workers who have to deal with them every day.

Through his consultations with leaders, both new and experienced, Dwyer identified six key challenges for people high in needs for control and approval:

• Lack of emotional control — impatience, anger management, bullying;
• Inability or unwillingness to delegate;
• Lack of communication skills — interpersonal and fear of public speaking;
• Inability or unwillingness to deal with conflict;
• Tendency toward perfectionism; and
• Difficulty in making decisions.

Throughout the book, Dwyer takes readers through an extensive self-analysis process so they can improve on their own ability to better deal with the Chucks in their lives.

“Needy People” offers self-assessment techniques, explores how control and approval needs influence key challenges, discusses the “myth of perfection,” and looks at the ramifications of these challenges on trustworthiness within work relationships, suggesting some ways to address them — including what to do about them if they arise with your “Chuck.”

Dwyer hopes that “readers of the book will learn how to spot the triggers for control and approval so that we can all improve our ability to work with and lead the control freaks and approval-holics of our organizations and our communities.”

“Needy People: Working Successfully With Control Freaks and Approval-holics” is available in print and Kindle versions on Amazon.com, and through Amazon in 12 countries, as well as through Audible and iTunes.

Dwyer joined the UT faculty in 1989 and is a former chair of the Department of Management in the College of Business and Innovation. He received one of the University’s Outstanding Teacher Awards, as well as the first UT Student Impact Award.

He is the author of the top-selling SHRM-published book, “Got a Minute? The 9 Lessons Every HR Professional Must Learn” (2010), as well as “Got A Solution? HR Approaches to 5 Common and Persistent Business Problems” (2014), both with co-author Dr. Sheri A. Caldwell.

UT recently placed third in the College of Business and Innovation Edward H. Schmidt School of Professional Sales’ Invitational Sales Competition. Western Michigan University won the third annual event, and Asbury University, Wilmore, Ky., took second place. Students from 34 schools from across the country came to campus for the contest.

UT student Haley Orr placed third overall, and UT student Hanna Capell took fourth place in the sophomore/freshman division.

Photo by Daniel Miller
As director of the UT College of Business and Innovation’s Center for Leadership and Organizational Excellence and as a Distinguished University Professor, Dr. Clinton Longenecker consistently strives to encourage people to establish and achieve significant goals in their lives. He has bolstered these efforts to help people on campus and around the world by publishing his most recent book, “The Successful Career Survival Guide.”

“This book is all about helping people realize their full potential as a professional and as a person,” Longenecker said. “My goal is to provide the tools and resources to help people think bigger. This book is a collection of over 700 best practices, key research findings, leadership tools, power quotes, and game-changing career advice to inspire and dramatically improve your workplace performance and career trajectory.”

“I was inspired by H. Jackson Brown’s 1991 best-selling ‘Life’s Little Instruction Book,’ which was a collection of practical wisdom to help people live better lives, so I used the same format and approach in writing this book to help people improve their work lives and career trajectory.”

He explained the book discusses 12 career success and survival imperatives based on decades of research with high-performance professionals across key sectors of the world economy, including “the No. 1 factor for career success and survival in the 21st century: getting desired results for your enterprise. Readers will have the opportunity to explore how to take better control of their time resource, how to implement fundamental practices for improving their personal effectiveness, and specific practices for improving workplace productivity and effectiveness.”

Longenecker is an award-winning business educator, author, researcher, consultant and speaker. He has been the recipient of more than 50 outstanding teaching, service and research awards, as well as numerous industry awards, including the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Toastmasters International Leadership Award, and the Jefferson Award for Outstanding Public Service, in addition to numerous “best professor” recognitions. He also has been recently recognized by The Economist as one of the Top 15 Business Professors in the World.

“The Successful Career Survival Guide”:
- Explores the importance of creating focus and ongoing alignment with the constantly changing demands of your job.
- Discusses how to improve your working relationship with your boss.
- Provides specific practices to help you better understand the power associated with creating great workplace relationships, networks, and building and demonstrating great emotional intelligence.
- Explains the importance of ongoing learning and personal development and the necessity of ongoing problem solving, process improvement, and effective workplace change and improvement.
- Provides a treasure trove of ideas, concepts and key practices for developing your workplace professionalism and character.
- This book is designed to challenge your thinking about your approach to work and provide you with ideas and practices to help you improve both your career mindset and your workplace performance while having fun,” Longenecker said. “It also presents some important research findings on how to implement the key practices that will help you get better results for your employer and improve your long-term career trajectory.”

The guide has some big fans.

John Caponigro, CEO of Sports Management Network Inc., said, “‘The Successful Career Survival Guide’ is a wonderful collection of great business lessons and best practices for everyone who wants to advance their career and be the best person, professional and leader that they can be. Clint has had a career of transforming people’s lives, and this book provides real insight on his success.”

“Clint’s ‘Successful Career Survival Guide’ is a gift to every lifelong learner,” said Chuck Stocking, CEO of Principle Industries Inc. “Timeless truths deserve to be shared and can make a huge impact on receptive thinkers who care to be transformative.”

“Ultimately,” Longenecker explained, “the book provides people with an opportunity to learn how to best develop their talents, as well as how to develop a personal performance improvement plan using tried and true practices that translate into better performance. In the end, it is critically important to realize that each one of us must take control of the factors that impact our career and our lives and that we are all capable of doing great things.”
Rocket Student Suit-Up event scheduled for March 25

By Cathy Zimmer

The University of Toledo Career Services, in collaboration with JCPenney, will host the UT Suit-Up Event at JCPenney in Franklin Park Mall Sunday, March 25, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

During this event, UT students and recent graduates will be able to purchase everything they need to finish their look for that next interview or new job: suits, dresses, sports coats, dress pants, shoes and accessories at an additional 40 percent off. Students must show their UT ID to get into the event and to receive a special discount card.

“This is a terrific partnership with JCPenney, where students will be able to take advantage of this discount and build their professional wardrobe for a new job or their first big interview,” said Shelly Drouillard, director of the Center for Experiential Learning and Career Services. “All UT students and recent graduates are encouraged to attend.”

Sephora inside JCPenney will offer a chance to win prizes and provide free mini-makeovers.

The night also will have free salon consultation and express bar hair touch-up. In additions, on-the-spot portraits will be available for discounted headshots.

A free shuttle bus will run to and from the event with pickup at the University Main Campus Transportation Loop. Shuttle times and event details may be found at utoledo.edu/success/career.

The Center for Experiential Learning and Career Services works to connect students to meaningful learning experiences and assist students with major and career exploration.

Question may be directed to Christine Albright, career consultant, at christine.albright@utoledo.edu or 419.530.4454.
Remembering John F. Savage: Businessman, benefactor, father

By Sean Savage

Twenty-five years ago, John F. Savage passed away at age 62. This has been an emotional time for me as I reflect on his life and how much I have missed him the last quarter of a century.

Many in the financial services industry knew John as a mesmerizing speaker whose memorable quips and concise financial lessons inspired thousands. Locally, John was known for founding and building — along with his brother, Bob — a successful, independent and diversified financial services firm, Savage & Associates.

He is known equally or more in northwest Ohio from the countless known (and many unknown) philanthropic efforts, primarily fundraising in service of the poor, the Catholic Church and The University of Toledo.

Me, along with my eight siblings, knew John Savage as dad, and I am sharing from that perspective. The story I will share about John Savage is not known by many and will truly put in perspective how his success was so improbable. It is truly an “only in America” story.

My father grew up in what, at best, could be described as a working-class neighborhood in Toledo with his eight siblings in a small home. His mom died when he was 7 leaving his father to raise nine children while owning a small corner grocery store, Savage Market. Out of necessity, all nine worked in the grocery store. This scenario does not seem like the right recipe to produce a man who would later be inducted into the City of Toledo Hall of Fame for his philanthropic and business achievements, but it did. His family instilled a work ethic, values, and a burning desire to do better.

He and all eight siblings remarkably graduated from college, and he began an entrepreneurial career in his 20s.

By the time I came along as the eighth child of my parents, the business was growing, and his community work was well-known.

How did John Savage go from growing up poor and without a mom to advising CEOs of Fortune 500 companies, raising millions of dollars for charity, and, with my mom, building a strong family?

From my view, there are a few key ingredients:

• Positive energy. My dad exuded confidence and positive energy to everyone he encountered. People loved being around my dad because they felt better about themselves and what they could accomplish. He was on his death bed and still positive and thankful.
• Work ethic. He was a relentless worker and was driven to do well in all endeavors. He rose early and worked late. He poured everything he had in every day. He instilled a work ethic in us children that, for me, has lasted a lifetime. Even when my parents were able to give us things, they took the better and less traveled route of “teaching us how to fish instead of giving us a fish.”
• Values. My dad did the right thing. He was principled and led by example. His commitment to high standards in business and in his personal life was a tremendous example to me and my siblings.
• Loyal. Even after becoming a household name in Toledo and the industry, he never forgot his roots. He remained a loyal friend to the guys from the old neighborhood and was forever grateful to The University of Toledo for allowing him to be educated on a nothing budget.
• Humble. After all the success and accolades, he remained grounded. He made sure all his children understood what it took to do well in life, and once you do well to not change.
• Balance. My dad believed in a life-work balance, which involved a focus on family, spirituality, work, physical well-being, and doing acts of charity. He was far from perfect, but he did a good job in each of these areas.

Twenty-five years ago, I was just out of college and about 120 days from getting married. My dad’s death shook me at my core, but I turned to the valuable life lessons I was so fortunate to have been taught by my parents.

Today, my wife, Carolyn, and I feel so blessed with our six children, and I feel particularly blessed to walk into an office each day my dad walked into for so many years.

Looking back, I am still amazed at how far my father came in his life, and the good fortune I had to be under the same roof with him for 22 years.

God speed, dad!

Sean Savage is a financial adviser at Savage & Associates in Toledo.
Two men’s basketball players named to all-district squads

By Steve Easton

Senior Tre’Shaun Fletcher and junior guard Jaelan Sanford recently earned additional postseason honors, receiving all-district recognition by the National Basketball Coaches Association.

Fletcher was named First-Team All-District 14, while Sanford was selected to the second team.

Fletcher’s and Sanford’s honors mark the seventh straight year at least one Rocket has been included on the all-district squad. The National Basketball Coaches Association divides the country into 25 districts and honors 10 players from each district, signifying a five-player first team and a five-player second team.

A 6-foot-7, 215-pound guard, Fletcher earned Mid-American Conference Player of the Year and first-team All-MAC accolades this past season after ranking third in the conference with 18.1 points per game and fourth with 8.0 rebounds per game and 4.3 assists per game. He is the only MAC player to rank in the top 10 in each category on a team-high 28, 15 and 13 occasions, respectively, and also produced a team-high 15 20-point outings.

Sanford, a 6-foot-4, 195-pound guard, earned All-MAC honors for the first time this season and ranked ninth in MAC scoring with 16.3 points per game and second on the team with 3.0 assists per game. Sanford also is listed among the league leaders with his 84.6 free-throw percentage (third), and his 40.3 three-point field-goal percentage (eighth). He performed even better in conference action with his league-best 88.2 free-throw mark, and a 43.6 three-point shooting clip that ranked eighth. Sanford scored 20 or more points in 11 contests this season, including a career-high 31-point showing vs. Saint Joseph’s (Nov. 11). He paced the Rockets in scoring on nine occasions and in assists in 10 contests.

Toledo (23-11) concluded its 2017-18 campaign March 10 with a 76-66 defeat to No. 1 Buffalo in the MAC Championship Game. The Rockets captured their third outright MAC West Division title with a 13-5 league record, finishing two games in front of second-place Eastern Michigan. In addition, UT’s 23 victories are tied for third most in school history.

Women’s basketball player selected First-Team Academic All-America

By Brian DeBenedictis

Senior Jay-Ann Bravo-Harriott has been named to the 2017-18 College Sports Information Directors of America Academic All-America First Team.

Bravo-Harriott becomes only the fourth player in school history to earn this prestigious honor and first since Kim Knuth during the 1998-99 campaign.

The 5-foot-10 guard averaged 12.7 points, 3.5 rebounds, 2.3 assists and 0.6 steals in 29.3 minutes per game this past season. The three-time all-league honoree ranks sixth in the Mid-American Conference in three-point field-goals made (74), 10th in three-point field-goal percentage (.374, 74 of 198), and 20th in scoring.

The three-time Academic All-District selection concluded the regular season eighth in UT annals in three-point field-goal attempts and 10th in three-point field goals made in the single-season record book.

Bravo-Harriott made at least four triples on a team-high eight occasions during the year, including a program-tying best eight at archival Bowling Green Jan. 27.

The London native graduated in December with a degree in communication and a minor in general business and a perfect 4.0 GPA. She is working on a master of business administration degree.

She is joined on the first team by New Mexico’s Cherise Beynon, Idaho’s Mikayla Ferenz, Ball State’s Carmen Grande and Kent State’s Jordan Korinek.

As of March 15, Bravo-Harriott was third in school history in three-point field goals made (240) and three-point field-goal attempts (672), eighth in minutes played (3,525), 10th in three-point field-goal percentage (.357, 240 of 672), and 13th in scoring (1,426 points).

Tee it up: Members needed for UT Women’s Golf League

The University of Toledo Women’s Golf League is looking for a few new members.

The league is open to faculty, staff, students, alumni, retirees and friends of UT at all playing levels. Individuals can be matched to a partner.

The league plays Thursday evenings from May through August at Valleywood Golf Club, 13502 Airport Highway, Swanton.

League fees are approximately $325.

For more information on the league, contact Deb Houck, IT/Clinical Informatics, at 419.383.5429.
Outstanding Staff Award nominations due April 2

Take a few minutes to nominate UT staff members who exceed expectations and enhance the University environment for students, patients, staff, faculty and the community.

Nominations for the 2018 Outstanding Staff Awards are due Monday, April 2.

Eligible nominees must be full-time or part-time (20 hours or more) regular employees (contingent, temporary and intermittent employees are not eligible), and have at least two years of service at the University.

Senior administrators and previous award recipients are ineligible if they have received the UT Outstanding Staff Award within the past three years.

All nominees will be acknowledged at an awards ceremony Thursday, April 26, at noon at the Thomas and Elizabeth Brady Engineering Innovation Center. A total of five employees will be selected to receive awards and $1,000.

In addition, the Diane Hymore Exemplar of Excellence Award will be presented.

Nominations will be accepted from faculty, physicians, staff, students, patients and community members.

The selection committee for the awards consists of previous winners and a representative from Human Resources, the Professional Staff Association, and the bargaining units.

The selection committee will consider:
• Career accomplishments and outstanding contributions on the job;
• Commitment to improvement and innovation; and
• Leadership and loyalty to The University of Toledo community.

The nomination form is open until April 2 and is available at utoledo.edu/depts/hr.

For more information, email michelle.peterson@utoledo.edu.

UT employees may schedule graduate photos

Faculty and staff or members of their families who will graduate from UT this semester may contact the University Marketing and Communications Office if they wish to have a photo taken and published in UT News.

Contact Kelsi Rooks at kelsi.rooks@utoledo.edu or 419.530.2299 to schedule an appointment before Friday, May 4.

Photos will appear in the paper after commencement.

Wanted: Nominations for Diane Hymore Award

Monday, April 2, is the deadline to nominate a UT employee for the Diane Hymore Exemplar of Excellence Award.

Established in 2013, the award is presented to those often-unheralded employees who do exceptional work. Hymore was director of senior administration operations and a longtime executive secretary to the president. She was honored in 2013 as the first recipient of the award. She passed away in 2015.

Nominations are open for the 2018 award, which will be presented to an individual whose work defines the core values of the University in Hymore’s spirit of support, encouragement and service.

The nomination form is available online at utoledo.edu/offices/provost/awards/hymoreexcellenceaward.html.

The award will be presented at a staff recognition ceremony Thursday, April 26.

In memoriam

Susanne McCann Clees, Toledo, who was a volunteer with the Satellites Auxiliary, died March 9 at age 88.

Joann R. (Speweik) Kurch, Toledo, who worked in housekeeping at MCO, died March 10 at age 83. She retired in 1989.

Rick Rightnowar, Temperance, Mich., died March 9 at age 48. He played basketball for the Rockets from 1988 to 1993 and later provided color analysis during radio broadcasts of UT basketball games.

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newstands on the Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, University Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248.

Mailing address: University Communications Office, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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Read UT news at utnews.utoledo.edu and myut.utoledo.edu.

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Dr. Sharon L. Gaber, president of The University of Toledo, invites you to attend her State of the University address.

**Wednesday, April 18, 2018, 3 p.m.**
*
Thompson Student Union Auditorium