Ohio Division of Wildlife personnel are used to the drill, but the talons of UT resident peregrine Belle still rated respect when the mother of four falcon chicks whizzed by with their protection on her mind. Under cover, Jennifer Norris, wildlife research biologist, removed the little ones from their nesting platform. The four new peregrines received their identification bands and names — Blue Jacket (for the Shawnee war chief) and Shikoba (Choctaw name meaning “feather”) for the males, Unity and Aura for the females — last week. You can see a video of what happened atop University Hall at http://utoledo.falcon. That video, shot by UT’s Daniel Miller and Chris Mercadante, and edited by Miller, has gone viral and beyond, picked up by Right This Minute news and TV stations nationwide.

College of Medicine to hold commencement June 1

Dr. Jo Ivey Boufford, president of the New York Academy of Medicine, and Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Jim Petro will speak at the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences’ commencement ceremony Friday, June 1, at 2 p.m. at Stranahan Theater.

There are more than 200 students who are candidates for degrees; this includes 166 students who will receive doctor of medicine degrees. Nine students will earn a PhD in biomedical sciences, and 43 will receive master’s degrees. There are nine candidates for combined degrees, including the college’s first two students who will receive the medicine/master of business administration degree. And 18 students are candidates for certificates.

Boufford will receive an honorary doctor of science degree at the ceremony.

Since 2007, she has charted the course of the New York Academy of Medicine. The independent organization’s priorities are to create environments in cities that support healthy aging, to strengthen systems that prevent disease and promote the public’s health, and to eliminate health disparities.

Boufford served as dean of the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University from 1997 to 2002 and is professor of public service, health policy and management, and clinical professor of pediatrics at NYU.

From 1985 to 1989, she served as president of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corp. Boufford also was principal deputy assistant secretary for health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services from 1993 to 1997, and while there, served as the U.S. representative on the executive board of the World Health Organization from 1994 to 1997.

Boufford was elected to membership in the Institute of Medicine in Washington, D.C., in 1992 and is a member of its Executive Council, the Board of Global Health, and the Board on African Science Academy Development.

After attending Wellesley College for two years, Boufford received a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Michigan and her doctor of medicine degree from the UM Medical School.

Petro will receive an honorary doctor of humane letters degree at the event.

He leads the University System of Ohio, which is one of the largest comprehensive systems of public higher education in the nation.

Petro served as Ohio auditor from 1995 to 2002, providing financial and performance oversight to the universities
Women & Philanthropy at UT gives grant for alumni pavilion

Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo has made a $50,000 pledge over a three-year period to name the hospitality area in the new William and Carol Koester Alumni Pavilion that will be built this summer adjacent to the Glass Bowl Stadium.

The hospitality area will be the location for food service preparation and distribution.

“I am pleased that Women & Philanthropy received more grant applications this year than in any other year,” said Nancy Lapp, chair of the grants committee. “It shows that we are reaching our target population — UT’s staff, faculty and students in need of funding for their projects and programs. It also provides our Women & Philanthropy members an opportunity to learn firsthand of the important, exceptional work that continues to be done by the talented community that is The University of Toledo.”

Projected to cost $900,000, the 3,800-square-foot facility will be part of a 12,000-square-foot overall plaza area and feature the UT’s traditional lannon stone construction.

Thousands will use the pavilion at every home football game, and it will be available for other University functions and area events.

“The Alumni Association is very grateful to Women & Philanthropy for their kind and very generous legacy donation to the alumni pavilion project,” said Dan Saevig, UT associate vice president for alumni relations. “The tens of thousands of alumni and friends expected to visit the William and Carol Koester Alumni Pavilion annually will have yet one more point of pride at our great university. The visionary leadership gift from Women & Philanthropy to this project is something that will truly benefit our alma mater and the campus community for decades to come.”

Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo aspires to promote the institution through investments and grants to UT initiatives. Women & Philanthropy is committed to forging new relationships and building a community of thoughtful, effective philanthropists among women diverse in age, interests and backgrounds. Formed in 2006, the group made its first grant in 2008 and, including this year’s grant, has contributed a total of $176,931 to the University.

“Our goal is to unify and collaborate with many women to make a difference at The University of Toledo,” said Marianne Ballas, chair of Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo. “This gift is an example of what we can do with a membership of only 50 women. We invite all women to research our group and consider a membership. Collective and collaborative giving is powerful, and that’s what Women & Philanthropy is all about.”

For more information, go to utoledo.edu/offices/women_philanthropy.

UT Retirees Association named affiliate of year

Many people choose to volunteer — some because they believe in a cause, some because of the satisfaction they receive by making a difference. Whatever the motive for choosing to become involved, all volunteers are welcomed friends to the UT Alumni Association.

The Alumni Association relies heavily upon volunteers and annually chooses one group to honor as the Affiliate of the Year based upon volunteer activities and support.

The University of Toledo Retirees Association (UTRA) was honored as the 2012 Alumni Association’s Affiliate of the Year at the annual meeting and alumni pavilion groundbreaking ceremony May 12.

“The UT retirees were very pleased to be named the Affiliate of the Year by the Alumni Association,” said Dr. Keith Schlender, UT Retirees Association president and dean and professor emeritus of linguistics and psychology.

“The UT retirees were very pleased to be named the Affiliate of the Year by the Alumni Association,” said Dr. Keith Schlender, UT Retirees Association president and dean and professor emeritus of linguistics and psychology. “In putting together the application, we became aware of the involvement of our membership in continued service to the University and to our community. Special thanks go to our members who have been very generous with their time, talent and money.”

The retirees of the University already have given a large portion of their lives to making a difference within the UT community, and the dedication they continue into retirement is a testament to their devotion to this institution.

The UT Retirees Association is one of the most active groups within the Alumni Office and hosts a wide variety of events. With 936 current active members, the group coordinated more than 40 events ranging from specialized lectures to group outings and even a seven day, two-bus trip to Cape Cod in 2011. The UT Retirees Association arranges and coordinates all programming.

Additionally, the group reaches out to the community and interacts with other UT affiliates. Hosting joint events with BGSU and the Golden Alumni Society, the group is centered upon stewardship and supporting the University.

UTRA holds monthly lunch meetings, each at a different area restaurant, and strives to support the local economy as well. The UT Retirees Association also maintains and publishes its own newsletter called Tower Talk, which members receive twice yearly.

Currently, there are some 86 volunteer positions in various nonprofit and charitable organizations in the Toledo area occupied by UTRA members.

The generosity of UTRA has no limits. Currently, the group awards two scholarships each year. Last year almost $5,000 was raised specifically to fund these scholarships. Additionally, UT retirees gave more than $10,000 to the University Community Charitable Campaign and, collectively for the last six years since the merger of UT and MUO, according to UT Foundation records, UT retirees have given $8,342,018 to the University.

“Congratulations to the UT Retirees Association for being named the Alumni Association’s Affiliate of the Year for 2012,” said Dan Saevig, UT associate vice president for alumni relations. “We are so proud of you for all your hard work and thankful for your continued support.”

HONORED: Jim Lapp, vice president of the UT Retirees Association, center, accepted the banner proclaiming the association as the UT Alumni Association’s Affiliate of the Year from Dan Warner, president of the Alumni Association, left, and President Lloyd Jacobs.

DIG IT: President Lloyd Jacobs, left, and UT Board of Trustees Chair Carroll Ashley, right, helped William and Carol Koester break ground for the alumni pavilion that will bear the couple’s name. Located on the west side of the Glass Bowl, the Koester Alumni Pavilion will be the future site for all UT Alumni Association football tailgates. Projected to cost $900,000, the 3,800-square-foot facility will be part of a 12,000-square-foot plaza area and feature the University’s traditional lannon stone construction. The Koester Alumni Pavilion is scheduled to open this fall.
**New UT program puts degrees in both medicine, law just six years away**

By Jon Strunk

With an increasing number of career options that require expertise in law and medicine, The University of Toledo has announced a new JD/MD program that will use an integrated curriculum to enable students to graduate with a law degree and a medical degree in six years.

“As evidenced by the recent debate of the new health-care law before the Supreme Court, the connections between the medical and legal arenas are only going to grow stronger as physicians and policymakers try to get a handle on the increasing costs of care,” said Dr. Jeffrey P. Gold, chancellor and executive vice president for health affairs, and dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

Daniel Steinbock, dean of the College of Law, said that students who graduate from joint programs such as this soon will be in leadership roles.

“Any student who enrolls in a joint degree program is already highly motivated,” Steinbock said. “By making use of the expertise and resources available across two UT campuses, these graduates will leave the University with specialized knowledge that will be highly sought after by leading health-care systems and public agencies.”

Students will be required to undergo standard admission procedures for both the JD and MD programs, and will make use of summer semesters throughout the program to finish within the six-year window. Students can begin their study in either college and will spend their six years alternating between the two colleges.

Additional information about the program, including issues of academic advising, tuition, graduation, and the bar exam and medical residences, is available at http://utoledo.jd-md.

“The best leaders in the years ahead will be those who can navigate the complex areas between disciplines, to make connections and find linkages that for most are not apparent,” Gold said.

Both Gold and Steinbock pointed to the new program as precisely the type of cooperative and interdisciplinary effort between academic units called for by UT President Lloyd Jacobs.

“UT’s joint JD/MD program will enhance the profile of the University and help attract stronger applicants,” Steinbock said. “No matter where they ultimately land, graduates of this program will have a variety of career paths to choose from.”

John Barrett, professor of law, and Dr. John McSweeney, professor emeritus of psychiatry and neurology, will serve as program co-directors.

Both men recognized a larger group of faculty who collectively put the program together: Daniel Hickey, associate professor of family medicine; Dr. Catherine Marco, professor and program director for emergency medicine; Nicole B. Porter, professor and associate dean for academic affairs in the College of Law; Robert Salem, clinical professor of law; and Dr. David Sohn, assistant professor of orthopedics.

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**Celebration to honor retiring provost June 13**

For the past 30 years, Dr. William McMillen has served the Medical College of Ohio/Medical University of Ohio and The University of Toledo in myriad roles, guiding the 2006 merger of the two institutions through the Ohio General Assembly and ultimately serving as provost and executive vice president for academic affairs for the past two years.

To celebrate a career of commitment, the UT community is invited to attend a party honoring McMillen Wednesday, June 13, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Hilton Faculty Club on Health Science Campus, where he worked for more than 20 years.

McMillen started at MCO in 1982 as assistant to the president following several years as a faculty member and administrator at Bowling Green State University. He served in a joint role as vice president for government relations for both MCO/MUO and UT from 2005 to 2006, when the two universities merged.
U.S. News ranks Toledo Early College High School among nation’s best

Toledo Early College High School, a Toledo Public Schools high school operated in partnership with The University of Toledo, has been issued a Bronze Medal by U.S. News and World Report as part of its 2012 Best High Schools edition.

Toledo Early College High School allows students to earn college credit while in high school. Located on the UT Scott Park Campus of Energy and Innovation, early college students begin their studies with high school courses, and college courses are added to their curriculum in their junior and senior years. Students can graduate from high school with up to 60 college credits — the equivalent of two years of college.

U.S. News and World Report issued the Bronze Medal to schools that meet a number of academic achievement criteria, including college readiness, math and reading. Toledo students scored 100 percent proficiency in math and 98 percent proficiency in reading.

“The University of Toledo is proud to partner with Toledo Public Schools to give these students the unique opportunity to be a high school student and a college student at the same time,” said Dr. William McMillen, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. “The successes of the students in the Toledo Early College High School truly should be celebrated for their ability to excel at both the high school and college levels simultaneously.”

The Toledo Early College High School opened for the 2005-06 academic year and graduated its first class of students in 2009. Toledo Public Schools celebrated the 2012 graduates during a May 22 ceremony in Nitschke Hall Auditorium.

Early Colleges in Ohio got its start in 2003, when KnowledgeWorks, in conjunction with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Ohio Department of Education and others, created the Ohio High School Transformation Initiative and Early College High School Initiative reform models partly in response to the state’s poor graduation rate.

The program is designed to increase the number of first-generation, low-income, English language learners and students of color completing a four-year degree.

Toledo Early College High School is among nine early college high schools initiated by KnowledgeWorks that are now a part of EDWorks’ Fast Track high school approach, which is a subsidiary of KnowledgeWorks.

Two other Ohio early college high schools also were issued Bronze Medals: Dayton Early College Academy and Youngstown Early College.

The state’s Early College High Schools consistently have reported more than 33 percent of students graduate from high school with both a high school diploma and two years of college credit or an associate degree.

“The Ohio early college schools are still in their educational infancy, but the success of Youngstown, Dayton and Toledo early college high schools is emblematic of what can occur, even over a short span of time, when dedicated professionals endeavor to create challenging academic programs,” said Thomas J. Lasley II, executive director of the Ohio Early College Association. “Such programs are essential if our young people are going to be competitive for future jobs in a globalized market economy.”

To see the U.S. News and World Report ranking of Toledo Early College High School, visit utole.do/techs.

and other state agencies, and was later elected Ohio attorney general, an office he held from 2003 to 2006. His work there included that of chief legal officer to the state’s universities.

He has spent nearly three decades as an elected officialholder, also serving as state representative, Cuyahoga County commissioner and Rocky River city councilman.

An attorney for 38 years, Petro has litigated cases in most legal venues from Mayor’s Court to the United States Supreme Court and has represented clients ranging from prisoners claiming innocence to international corporations.

He has served on several nonprofit boards and as a pro bono lawyer for the Ohio Innocence Project. A recipient of many awards for his public service, Petro and his wife, Nancy, were recognized for their book, False Justice — Eight Myths That Convict the Innocent, with a 2011 Constitutional Commentary Award at Georgetown University School of Law.

Petro received his law degree from Case Western Reserve University and a bachelor’s degree from Denison University.

HISTORIC MOMENT: Mid-American Conference Commissioner Jan Steinbrecher held the Jacoby Trophy, which he presented May 17 to UT for having the top women’s athletic program in the MAC. The Rockets earned the honor for the first time in the 30-year history of the award. Accepting the trophy were, from left, President Lloyd Jacobs; Bryant Dudzik, men’s tennis player; Dr. Celia Regimbal, faculty representative and associate professor of early childhood, physical and special education; Amy Newell, softball player; Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O’Brien; and Kelly Andrews, senior associate athletic director/senior woman administrator in Intercollegiate Athletics.

For the 2011-12 academic year, UT women’s sports programs won MAC Championships in cross country, soccer, and swimming and diving. Toledo also claimed a share of its third consecutive MAC West Division crown in women’s basketball, and came in second place in both indoor and outdoor track and field.

EXPRESSIONS: Award-winning poet and disability studies scholar Dr. Jim Ferris last month presented “Slouching Towards Guantanamo,” a poetry reading from his latest book of the same name, as well as from the widely hailed anthology, Beauty Is a Verb: The New Poetry of Disability. Critics have described his poems as “funny,” “sly,” “Whitmanesque” and “kind of holy.” Ferris is the Ability Center of Greater Toledo Endowed Chair of Disability Studies, director of the UT Disability Studies Program and associate professor of communication.
Faculty sleuth unearths mystery of courtyard sentinels

By Cynthia Nowak

How many towers does University Hall possess? If you’re talking stone and mortar, the clock tower is the only candidate, but suppose that sheer upward heft is the defining characteristic. In that case, two other UT landmarks might make the grade: the massive trees at the center of each of the building’s enclosed courtyards.

The trees, whose branches almost literally tickle the windows of University Hall’s six floors, seem to have been in place forever, given their height. In truth, their origins are mysterious: What species are they? Why were they chosen? And by whom?

Walt Lange, a professor emeritus and superannuate faculty member in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics — and a certified tree farmer — set out to uproot the mystery of the trees, which he’d long admired as healthy specimens.

First, their identity. Lange, well known as a regional conservationist, had to give the trees a close examination before he had a definite answer.

“Initially I thought the trees were bald cypress, but I have since determined that they are *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*, which has the common name of dawn redwood,” he said.

“*Metasequoia* isn’t to be confused with the giant California sequoias,” he added. “That’s a different species. In fact, the *Metasequoia* may be even more interesting.”

Until recently, dawn redwoods were considered fossil trees, extinct for millions of years. It was in 1947 that a forestry expedition uncovered a number of the trees alive in a remote area of southwest China. To preserve the species from logging, the trees were propagated among arboreta around the globe. *Metasequoia* proved easy to grow in temperate regions, where it’s now widely planted as an ornamental tree.

Lange now had the species and a date: Given the 1931 completion of University Hall, the dawn redwoods must have been planted later. An archival photograph Lange found in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections showed flowers growing in the spaces that would someday house the trees.

But who replaced lilies with *Metasequoias*? “I had heard several years ago that they were planted by [the late] Professor Robert Jackson, who was in the Mathematics Department from 1963 until he retired in 1974,” Lange said. “My search in the Canaday Center did not substantiate that. However, Dr. Ivie Stein, who joined the Math Department in 1971, recalls having had a conversation with Bob Jackson in which Bob indicated that he had planted the trees.”

Lange is still hoping that other members of the UT community will be able to corroborate Stein’s memory and give a specific year for the trees’ planting.

“Given that the trees have become such an integral part of University Hall, I’d like to place a small plaque in one of the courtyards to honor the person who did the plantings,” Lange said.

Anyone with information on the trees’ origins can contact Lange at walter.lange@utoledo.edu.

In the meantime, UT’s redwoods should continue to provide shade, shelter and beauty. As Lange noted, “Given their location, there may be nothing to limit just how much more they can grow.”

**GIRDING THE GIRTH:** It would take more than one person to hug the dawn redwood in University Hall’s east courtyard. Walt Lange noted, measuring the tree’s 124-inch circumference.
Artworks inspired by glass set to shine

By Angela Riddel

“Reflections + Refractions: Two-Dimensional Artwork Inspired by Glass” will be on display from Monday, June 11, through Sunday, July 8, in the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery on the Toledo Museum of Art Campus.

This exhibition is being presented in conjunction with the Glass Art Society’s 42nd Annual Conference, which will be held this year in Toledo from Wednesday through Saturday, June 13-16.

Utilizing diverse forms of media, 18 national and local artists will present their interpretations of the visual effects of glass.

“Glass is a relatively new medium for producing works of fine art; however, it now plays a significant role in the world of contemporary art. So much so that it now seems to have an impact on other artistic media,” said Ben Pond, lecturer and director of the Center for the Visual Arts Gallery. “Our goal in presenting ‘Reflections + Refractions: Two-Dimensional Art Inspired by Glass’ is to provide a view into this influence, to display artworks that are based on the effects of glass, as opposed to the material itself. Reflectance, transmissivity and color are themes considered by the artists represented in this show.”


The exhibit has been curated and organized by the UT Center for the Visual Arts Gallery and students who took the Gallery Practices class in spring semester.

A reception will be held Friday, June 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. The Center for the Visual Arts Gallery will be open extended hours that night, until 10:30 p.m., as part of the Glass Art Society’s Gallery Hop.

The free, public exhibition will be on display Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

For more information, contact Pond at 419.530.8347 or Benjamin.Pond@utoledo.edu.

Flower baskets add look of spring to Main Campus

By Nicolette Jett

The University Environments and Beautification Committee have brought baskets of brightly colored flowers to campus this spring as part of its efforts to enhance UT’s appearance.

A total of 30 locations have been identified on Main Campus, each to display two baskets that will integrate bright red calliope geraniums with purple fountain grass planted in the center and white scaevola flowers cascading down.

Dick Eastop, retired vice president of enrollment services and former chair of the Campus Beautification Committee, led the new initiative. The committee has long admired the flower basket program in Ottawa Hills and believed it would be a success to bring it to UT.

“We have been talking about this for a number of years, and I am delighted the committee decided to implement the project this spring,” Eastop said. “As a committee, we believe the beauty of the campus is our gift to the future.”

The pilot project was funded entirely by private donations through the Environments and Beautification Committee UT Foundation account.

“It is our hope that the University community and others will enjoy and embrace this project and that we can generate additional donations that can be used to perpetuate and hopefully expand the project to the other campuses,” said Dr. Steven LeBlanc, executive associate dean of academic affairs in the College of Engineering and chair of the Campus Beautification Committee.

Ralph Keefe, an area grower and a member of the Maumee Valley Growers Association, planted each basket and agreed to replant for future displays.

The UT Grounds Department will maintain the baskets, which will be used around the entrance areas of campus, said Doug Collins, director of facility maintenance and grounds.

“We all — students, faculty and staff alike — take tremendous pride in the beauty of the campus, and UT has been identified as having one of the most beautiful metropolitan campuses in the country,” Eastop said. “In order to maintain that reputation, we are continually looking for opportunities to enhance the campus beauty, not just for us who are here now, but for potential students as well.”

Student organizations and faculty offices are welcome to purchase a basket as a way to embrace the spirit of the initiative and grow together as a UT community. If interested, contact LeBlanc at 419.530.8264.

Retirement concert June 2

Barbara Rondelli Perry, professor emerita of classical voice in the Department of Music, will be honored with a concert in the Center for Performing Arts Recital Hall Saturday, June 2, at 2:30 p.m. The concert will feature opera and oratorio arias, as well as art songs, sung by 13 of her former students, all alumni. The music will represent compositions of Mozart, Handel, Gounod, Puccini, Wagner, Rorem, Duparc, Gershwin, Tosti and Debussy. Violinist Brenda van der Merwe, Rondelli Perry’s daughter, will play a selection by Brahms. Rondelli Perry, a lyric soprano, played more than 50 major operatic roles around the world before joining the music faculty in 1975.

BLOOMING: Flower baskets like these found near the Brunner Garden behind University Hall have been placed around Main Campus.
**Health Science Campus calls for ‘All Hands on Deck’ to improve patient care**

**By Meghan Cunningham**

A strategic initiative is being launched at The University of Toledo Medical Center to encourage a collaborative approach to best serving patients and each other.

The “All Hands on Deck” movement conveys the message that everyone’s help is needed for a team approach to making patient satisfaction a top priority at UTMC.

“This movement encourages staff to get involved in promoting key initiatives to create a distinctive experience for the UT Medical Center,” said Ioan Duca, service excellence officer for the University. “We are on a good path, but we still are not going to accept the status quo. We are going to continue to transform and continue to keep the patient in the center of our operations.”

The movement is being promoted with “Are Your Hands on Deck” rubber bracelets and electronic signage on Health Science Campus, along with a core group of leaders who have volunteered to head the movement in their respective fields and with their colleagues.

The leadership group, known as the “Gang of Five,” is:

- Kelli Chovanec, assistant nursing director, sixth floor;
- Olivia Dacre, director of revenue cycle and clinic operations;
- Christopher Kosinski, nursing director, fourth floor;
- Mario Toussaint, director of food and nutrition; and
- Tony Urbina, iCARE university manager.

“We are a multidisciplinary, institution-wide team that will do whatever it takes to provide patient-centered, university-quality care,” Chovanec said. “The ‘All Hands on Deck’ campaign is not merely a service-excellence initiative, but it is a movement and call for action. The movement will effectively move across and inspire every single department, team and individual in the institution. The expected result of the movement will be a positive, engaged culture that will ultimately benefit the patient’s experience.”

To increase service excellence, UT Medical Center has focused on hourly rounding, responding immediately to call lights, effective service recovery and universal scripting. Those efforts will continue, and the “All Hands on Deck” movement will draw more attention to these aspects of patient care.

“For me, ‘All Hands on Deck’ means ‘I’m yours.’ This is how I approach my patients and colleagues,” Toussaint said. “No matter who I report to or what department I am from, I am here for every soul at UTMC. I am here to help and to serve our great organization to ensure it is the very best it can be.”

Watch a “Tower Views” video about the All Hands on Deck movement at [http://utole.do/ondeck](http://utole.do/ondeck).

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**STUDENT RECOGNIZED:** Claudia Vercellotti, who just completed the UT Patient Advocacy Program, received the Chamberlin Edmonds 2011 Judith E. Starkey Advocacy Award. She was selected out of 17 nominations as the person who exhibits the characteristics of the company’s founder—compassion, spirit and unwavering commitment to patient advocacy. “I am as humbled as I am honored, but I accept the award on behalf of the entire Chamberlin Edmonds team at Toledo,” said Vercellotti, who has worked at the company since 2008. “Make no mistake about it: What we do is a team effort, and that’s what makes us successful.” Founded in 1986, Chamberlin Edmonds & Associates, a division of the Edmonds Corp, is a nationwide eligibility company with more than 1,100 employees in 35 states that specializes in working with uninsured hospital patients. Locally, Chamberlin Edmonds has partnered with UT Medical Center for more than six years to provide patient advocacy in the form of Medicaid/Social Security eligibility to the hospital’s uninsured population. “It is our partnership with UTMC, working closely together, that makes the difference in the lives of our patients. Chamberlin Edmonds’ success at UTMC and this nationwide award are only possible because of our patient-centered, working relationships with outcome management, financial counselors, physicians, nurses, social workers and other hospital employees and administrators. It’s inspiring to partner with such hardworking, dedicated professionals at UTMC,” said Vercellotti, who will continue her education at the University, where she is enrolled in the Elder Law Program in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service.

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**THIS IS JEOPARDY!** Shirley Pawlowski, executive secretary 2 in Information Technology, faced off against IBM’s mobile kiosk that illustrated some of the capabilities of its Watson computing system, which took on “Jeopardy!” champions on the TV quiz show. The kiosk was featured at the Ohio Higher Education Computing Council Conference hosted earlier this month by the University.
COACHING LEGEND HONORED: Former Toledo Head Men’s Basketball Coach Bob Nichols was one of six new members inducted into the Mid-American Conference Hall of Fame May 17. Nichols’ name is synonymous with Toledo Rockets basketball excellence. He earned three varsity letters in basketball at Toledo as a player (1950 to 1953), and was assistant basketball coach for two seasons (1964-65) before serving as head basketball coach for 22 seasons (1965 to 1987). His lifetime record at Toledo was 376-212 and still ranks today as the most wins by any basketball coach in MAC history. Nichols led the Rockets to 20 consecutive winning seasons from 1965-66 through 1984-85. His 1966-67 squad posted a 23-2 record, the best record in school history, and was ranked No. 11 in the nation in the final UPI poll that season. During his coaching career, Nichols led the Rockets to the NCAA Tournament in 1967, 1979 and 1980. The 1979 squad advanced to the Sweet 16 with a win over Big Ten Champion Iowa before falling to Notre Dame. Nichols also coached six Academic All-Americans and 18 Academic All-MAC honorees. His teams earned five MAC titles, and he coached five MAC Players of the Year. Nichols also had a 5-0 record against Big Ten teams from 1976 to 1979, including wins over Michigan (twice), Ohio State, Indiana and Iowa. The victory over Indiana came in the inaugural game in Savage Arena, as Toledo upset the defending national champion Hoosiers, 59-57, snapping their 33-game win streak.

INKED IT!: Head Men’s Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk has signed an agreement that extends his contract through the 2016-17 season. He was named head coach in March 2010, assuming the reins of a program that had three straight losing seasons and was coming off a 4-28 win-loss mark. Last season, Kowalczyk guided a young Rocket squad to a 19-17 ledger to equal the second-best win improvement (plus 15) in the nation. Toledo also registered the program’s first postseason victory since 2001 with a win over McNeese State in the CollegeInsiders.com Tournament. Toledo’s roster has been completely transformed by Kowalczyk and his staff during his brief tenure. The Rockets are headed for a bright future and return all of their players from last year’s squad, including second-team All-Mid-American Conference selection Rian Pearson, honorable-mention All-MAC honoree Curtis Dennis and MAC Freshman of the Year Julius Brown.

RUNNING AWAY WITH MVP HONOR: Emma Kertesz received the 2012 Mid-American Conference Women’s Outdoor Most Valuable Performer Award on top of being named first-team All-MAC at the Outdoor Track and Field Championships. The Toledo track and field team had a school-record eight women named to the All-MAC team. With winning times of 10:33.45 in the 3,000-meter steeplechase and 16:35.87 in the 5,000 meters, Kertesz led the Rockets to the only two distance-event sweeps in the history of the MAC Championships. She also placed third in the 1,500 meters with a time of 4:28.16. The Women’s Outdoor MVP Award comes just over two months after Kertesz was named the conference MVP for her performance at the MAC Indoor Championships. Also named to the All-MAC first-team were Ari Fisher in the 10,000 meters and Huijun Jing in the high jump. Kertesz will compete in the NCAA Championship Meet Thursday, June 7, in Iowa.

TEEING OFF: Ricky Stokes of the Mid-American Conference presented UT golfer Chris Selfridge with the MAC Freshman of the Year award. Selfridge finished in third place earlier this month at the MAC Championship in Sugar Grove, Ill. His performance also earned him a spot on the all-tournament team as well as second-team All-MAC honors. Selfridge ended his freshman campaign with three top-10 finishes.
Students suggest renovations to Toledo’s UpTown District

By Samantha Watson

The UpTown District of Toledo has the potential to become a family-friendly environment, and UT students who participated in a Community Planning Workshop class have suggestions to make it happen.

The seven students in the workshop during spring semester created a project titled “UpTown District Land-Use and Walkability Analysis,” which they presented to the Toledo Design Center and UpTown District board in April.

The students found that although the area had a lot of potential because of its close proximity to downtown, it wasn’t living up to it. They suggest improvements to sidewalks, roads, and better uses for vacant lots.

During the project, some students looked at the use of the land, whether areas were well-used, vacant, residential, business or more. Others focused on the “walkability” of the streets. One of the students, James Marok, made a video displaying photographs of the problem areas.

“We divided up what skills and knowledge people had in geography and urban planning, and what they wanted to do with this course,” said Ryne Sundvold, a graduate student, who worked on the project. His focus was the “walkability” of the streets, since he is an avid cyclist.

Students walked, biked and drove throughout the district, recording problem areas in a survey that reported the existence and condition of sidewalks and bike lanes, along with other factors such as whether a street had one-way or two-way traffic.

The students discovered none of the main streets through UpTown had uninterrupted sidewalks from one end to the other, which causes problems for Toledoans who walk or bike from one place to the next. Many of the sidewalks also lacked ramps or had damaged ramps, which did not meet the standards of the Americans With Disabilities Act.

“One of the goals the group had for the UpTown District was to create ‘complete streets,’ a national movement for streets to be accessible for walkers and bicyclists from one end to the other, using sidewalks and bike lanes,” said Dr. Bhuiyan M. Alam, UT assistant professor in the Geography and Planning Department, who taught the course. “People who like to walk and who like to bike, they’re paying taxes for the roads, too.”

Their analysis led the group to recommend Jefferson Street as the best candidate to be transformed into a “complete street” because it is already in decent shape and construction would not deter traffic as much as it would on other streets.

The group also suggested turning vacant parking lots into community gardens or farmers’ markets, which would encourage community participation.

They also had the idea of putting a grocery store or two in one of the unused lots, so that residents in the area would not have to drive so far for food and other provisions. Such accommodations also would attract young families and senior citizens to the area.

Qiong Zhang, a student who focused mainly on the land classification aspect of the project, said she enjoyed the experience so much she plans to pursue a career in urban planning. Zhang, who is from China, is double-majoring in public administration and geography, and is interning with the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority.

Sundvold was offered an internship with the Toledo Design Center and plans to continue working on this project this summer. A few other students in this class have been working as summer interns in urban planning at local organizations.

“It gives you the feeling that you actually have a purpose in your community,” Sundvold said of the course.

Other students who participated in this project were Rebekka Aparidian, Lance Dasher, John Puente, James Marok, Qiong Zhang and Ryne Sundvold, along with Lucas Davis, who is not shown, gave a presentation in April on how to improve Toledo’s UpTown District.

DELECTABLE DEALS: Tom Gervasi of the Buckeye Chocolate Co. in Burton, Ohio, talked with Dianna Williams, center, as Michelle Hoffmann, left, and Jessica Studer checked out the goodies at the Satellites Auxiliary's recent chocolate sale. The three staff nurses were among many who stopped by to check out the sweet sale. "We sold a lot of chocolate," said Lynn Brand, president of the Satellites. "A total of $441 benefited scholarship funds."
Former dean inducted into Plastics Hall of Fame

By Felicia Dosamont

Dr. Tom Brady, former interim dean of the Judith Herb College of Education and former member of the UT Board of Trustees, has been inducted into the Plastics Hall of Fame to honor his professional achievements in the field.

Brady was one of 10 people inducted last month into the hall, which is administered by the Plastics Academy and the Society of the Plastics Industry Inc.

Brady is the chair of Plastic Technologies Inc., a polyethylene terephthalate (PET) packaging research and development firm in northwest Ohio. He worked at Owens-Illinois Inc., eventually rising to the position of vice president of plastics technology before he left to found Plastic Technologies Inc. in 1985. Brady was one of the first engineers to work with PET to create soda bottles.

“We went from being literally new engineers to experienced people in a matter of a few years because there was nobody else,” Brady said. “We went and did it. We invented the machines. We designed the bottles. We invented the processes.”

One of Brady’s major early achievements was the development of the plastic Coca-Cola bottle, one of Plastic Technologies Inc. ’s first client projects. Brady was able to help the company retain elements of the classic Coke bottle and save millions of dollars in production costs with his design.

Other designs by Plastic Technologies have become landmark packaging in the plastics industry, many with Colgate-Palmolive Co.

Plastic Technologies employs about 200 people, with nearly half of those employees in the Toledo area.

“This is really the premiere provider of package technology and materials-development services for the industry, and we work for everybody,” Brady said.

A native of Maumee, Brady has strong ties to the area with a special interest in public service and education.

“My goal is to help anywhere I can to make education better,” he said. “If we don’t educate our kids in this country, we’re lost.”

Brady served as interim dean of the Judith Herb College of Education from 2009 to 2011. He was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the former Medical College of Ohio in 2005 and after the merger continued to serve on the UT Board of Trustees until his appointment as dean.

Brady was a founding board member of Toledo Technology Academy and currently serves on the boards of the Toledo School for the Arts and Toledo Early College High School.

Adviser wins national award

By Aaron Hora

The National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) each year honors individuals who have demonstrated outstanding academic advising. There were just 11 winners chosen across the nation, and a University of Toledo adviser made that short list.

Wiona D. Porath, academic program coordinator in the UT Department of Bioengineering, was selected as a National Outstanding Advising Award winner in the academic advising — primary role category. She will be honored this summer at the NACADA National Conference in Nashville, Tenn.

“This award is all about my students,” Porath said. “My students are very engaged and recognize that staff can also affect their college careers positively.”

Students Kelly Marbaugh, Marcus Sinewe and Hoangha Dao nominated Porath for the recognition.

Without the help of those UT students, Porath said winning the award would not be possible. She also thanked Dr. Scott Molitor, associate professor of bioengineering and undergraduate program director, for his mentorship.

“Dr. Molitor has been a great friend and mentor. His guidance has played a major part in my life,” she said.

Porath, who also received the UT Outstanding Adviser Award in 2010, is the second person from UT to receive the NACADA award; Nancy Lapp was recognized with the honor in 2005.

When asked where the NACADA Award sits on her list of life achievements, she said, “Professionally, it sits close to the top, but my daughter, Jennifer, just graduated from UT in the spring, and I am more proud of that.”

For more information on the NACADA Award, visit http://utoledo.nacada.

ACT prep course to be offered at UT this summer

By Cathy Zimmer

The University of Toledo is offering an intensive ACT prep course for high school students from Tuesday, July 10, through Tuesday, Aug. 14, to prepare for the September, October and December exams.

This customized course consists of 16 hours of test preparation (two days per week for four weeks) and six hours of pre- and post-testing.

Taught by certified teachers, this face-to-face ACT prep course will help students prepare for all four sections of the test, plus the optional writing section. Students enrolled will have access to two official retired ACT tests. In addition, students will receive data reports from pre- and post-testing targeting specific areas they need to focus on.

Students also will receive two textbooks that include test-taking strategies, quizzes, additional practice tests, and a review of skills needed to achieve a high score on the ACT.

The cost for this course is $249. Fees include pre- and post-tests with diagnostic feedback, student workbooks, certified instruction, UT parking, taxes, and shipping and handling.

Children of UT alumni and employees receive the course at a discounted cost of $199.

The course will be held on The University of Toledo’s Main Campus in the Learning Enhancement Center, located in Carlson Library Room 0300M.

Deadline to register is Friday, June 29. Class size is limited. To learn more on how to register, visit http://www.utoledo.edu/utlc/actprep.

For additional information, contact Julie Radwanski at 419.530.2449 or julia.radwanski@utoledo.edu.
Office names International Student of the Year

By Cathy Zimmer

The Office of International Student Services has named Nithya Doraiswamy, a doctoral student in the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service, the 2012 International Student of the Year.

She was recognized in April on International Student and Scholar Appreciation Day.

“Being the recipient of the International Student of Year Award has certainly been a proud and humbling occasion for me,” Doraiswamy said. “I was pleased to learn that two among my most-respected professors, Drs. Lynne Hamer and Charlene Czerniak, thought that I deserved to be nominated.

“The reasons for their nominations are truly everything I have loved and enjoyed doing, both on and off campus. It was also humbling to know that I was chosen among the wide range of talented international scholars on campus.”

Doraiswamy has a 3.9 GPA from her master’s and doctoral programs and is a graduate/research assistant on the Leadership for Educators: Academy for Driving Economic Revitalization in Science (LEADERS), which is funded by a $5 million grant from the National Science Foundation. She designs, assists with, and co-teaches leadership and social justice courses for the LEADERS summer institute.

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services established the award to create more awareness about the international students on campus and their contributions to The University of Toledo and surrounding community.

“We are proud to see Nithya Doraiswamy receive this award,” said Peter Thomas, director of the Office of International Student and Scholar Services.

“My experience at The University of Toledo has been nothing short of phenomenal in its positive contributions to my passion in scholarly pursuits, community engagement, new cultural experiences, and the ever-widening networks of friends, mentors and other scholars,” Doraiswamy said.

“The UT College of Business and Innovation-PSG Institute of Management collaboration in particular has been a foundation for my achievements. The department I study in, the LEADERS grant I work for, the faculty, staff, fellow graduates, and administrators across the University, and friends have all played a key role in my wonderful journey at UT and in Toledo.”

A former graduate assistant with the Office of Global Initiatives/International Student Services, Doraiswamy is active in program development and new initiatives in the UT-PSG Business School, both as an alumna and as a student. She organized the university-wide international cooperation and exchange panel, showcasing UT’s international connections across borders with special reference to the UT-PSG collaboration. She is an active member in the Sister City Committee between Toledo and Coimbatore, India, and volunteers at a language center for teaching an Indian language.

Doraiswamy has organized and presented in the Research Colloquium and Symposium series in the Judith Herb College of Education, Health Science and Human Service. In the Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership, she was involved in the design and development of a pilot course on peace education and will co-teach a master’s/dottoral-level leadership course on social justice in science education that she also helped design and develop.

In the community, Doraiswamy has been active in the Light the Night project under the grassroots organization Inner City Development Coalition. She is involved with many student organizations, including the Graduate Student Association, International Student Association and the International Business Association, and is a volunteer with ASHA for Education, a nonprofit organization for basic education in India.

The International Student of the Year honor is awarded to a full-time undergraduate, graduate or American Language Institute student at The University of Toledo with a minimum 3.0 GPA. The recipient must demonstrate participation in student organizations, community service projects and activities outside of the classroom. Students may be nominated by their peers, faculty or staff. Members of the International Students Association Executive Board review the nominations and select a recipient.

The Office of International Student and Scholar Services provides assistance and services to UT international students, helping them transition to life at UT and in the United States.

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.
New phone number for non-emergency assistance

By Meghan Cunningham

A new phone number for non-emergency assistance has been created to better assist campus police with responding to concerns.

The new extension 2601 for both Main Campus and Health Science Campus is the preferred contact number for non-emergency issues such as lockouts, alarm testing and parking issues.

The University of Toledo Police emergency number remains extension 2600 for immediate concerns, such as crime or accident reports and fire and smoke alarms.

“The new system will help police dispatchers prioritize the calls coming in and get assistance to those who need it,” Police Chief Jeff Newton said.

“We are asking our University community to treat 2600 as they would 911 and use it for emergencies only. All other concerns should go through 2601, and we will respond as soon as possible.”

On Health Science Campus, dialing the 2601 extension will go to the hospital security staff, and dialing 2600 will go directly to a UTPD dispatcher starting Monday, June 4. In the past, dialing the police number also would go through the security office first; the new system eliminates that extra step.

The new non-emergency extension 2601 already is up and running.

“The project will result in improved service and response, and ultimately make our campuses that much safer,” Newton said.