Pianist to ‘Soothe’ with new disc, book at Barnes & Noble appearance April 29

By Vicki L. Kroll

Jim Brickman didn’t realize how comforting his music could be until two years ago when he hurt his knee and needed an MRI. The technician cued up two of his discs, No Words and By Heart.

“I never listen to something after I’ve already recorded it because then it’s out of me. I’ll play it in concert, but I don’t listen to the recording,” he said. “There were a couple songs that I thought were beautiful.”

Noting the irony, he said one that caught his ear in the machine was called “Open Doors.”

While fans have escaped through his music for three decades, it was the first time he found solace in his serene sound.

That one-hour test made Brickman recognize it was time to admit it: He was a stress junkie.

It’s true. The man with the tranquil blue eyes who looks laidback on dozens of CD covers and appears calm in concert said he used to freak out almost daily — until he made finding peace a priority.

His new project offers a soundtrack to relax to and advice on how to create quiet moments in stress-filled lives.

Brickman will play selections from Soothe — Music to Quiet Your Mind & Soothe Your World Volume I and read from a companion book, Soothe — How to Find Calm Amid Everyday Chaos, Wednesday, April 29, at 7 p.m. at Barnes & Noble University Bookstore at the Gateway.

Fans are advised to arrive early for the appearance, which will include an autograph session and photo opportunity.

Wind chimes gently ringing, birds softly singing, and waves caressing the shore herald his shimmering piano playing on “Fly,” the opening track of the new CD. You can almost feel the balmy breeze and smell the salty air.

“For ‘Fly,’ if you really listen to that song, it’s the most melodic on the album,” he said. “It was a melody that I felt soared, and it was about that you could find your dreams and you could go after anything you want… I felt it was a very positive and hopeful message.”

Since his 1994 debut, the Cleveland native has sold more than seven million records with songs that inspire, heal and comfort. He has collaborated with a long list of stars, including Martina McBride, Collin Raye, Jane Krakowski and Lady Antebellum. Brickman’s bright key work radiates feelings of love and peace.

Medical student wins national award

By Samantha Watson

In the face of an often-stigmatized procedure, one medical student is fighting to make sure all women have access to the health care they need by becoming an abortion provider.

That’s why Carolyn Payne, a fourth-year medical student at The University of Toledo, is this year’s recipient of the National Abortion Federation’s Elizabeth Karlin Early Achievement Award.

“It’s an issue that I’ve studied for a long time and, early in my career, I recognized there was a huge unmet need for abortion providers,” Payne said.

She began her journey as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan, where she took women’s studies courses to feed her own curiosity. Because abortion rights were a common topic brought up in class, she decided to investigate the matter further.

Payne began working at a Planned Parenthood that provided abortions, sitting in on counseling sessions with women. Her time there gave her perspective on what women facing this decision are going through and the many factors involved in it, and fueled her desire to learn more.

She then spent a summer working in a hospital in Ghana, a country where abortion is legal but culturally unacceptable. While there, Payne saw women die from trying to self-induce abortions to avoid the cultural ridicule of being seen obtaining an abortion at a public hospital.

“Abortion is a procedure that we can do in five minutes with simple technologies,” Payne said. “It is incredibly safe when done with the right equipment by skilled providers, and yet around the world we are still allowing women to die by denying them access to safe pregnancy termination.”

Payne worries that because abortion has been legal in America since 1973 and women in this country for the most part no longer die from unsafe abortion, many of her peers don’t understand the reality of the morbidity and mortality associated with unsafe and inaccessible abortion.

Fourth-year medical student Carolyn Payne will continue her training with an obstetrics and gynecology residency at Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

UT to celebrate opening of Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute

By Aimee Portela

As a response to the more than 29.8 million people worldwide trapped in modern-day slavery as victims of human trafficking, The University of Toledo Board of Trustees voted in November to establish the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute.

A ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony will take place Tuesday, April 28, at 2 p.m. in Health and Human Services Building Room 2638.

Scheduled speakers for the event include John Carey, chancellor for the Ohio Board of Regents; State Rep. Teresa Fedor; Dr. Naji Naganathan, UT interim president; and Dr. Celia Williamson, UT professor of social work, institute director and an international expert in the fight against human trafficking.
Engineering professor named Fellow

By Ameer Portala

Dr. Mohammad Elahinia, professor of mechanical engineering at The University of Toledo, has achieved the distinction of Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

The rank of Fellow is conferred by the ASME Board of Governors and recognizes significant achievement in research. It is the highest elected grade in the society.

Elahinia is a leading expert on shape memory and super-elastic alloys with applications in biomedical devices. He has been at UT since 2004.

“The college is very proud of Dr. Elahinia’s accomplishments and congratulates him on being elevated to the rank of Fellow in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers,” said Dr. Steven LeBlanc, interim dean of the College of Engineering. “This distinction is reflective of the high esteem that Dr. Elahinia’s colleagues hold for his professional contributions.”

Elahinia has served as investigator on several projects and has received funding from the National Science Foundation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Army, U.S. Department of Transportation, Ohio Department of Development and Ohio Board of Regents.

He is the principal investigator for UT for the Nitinol Commercialization Accelerator, a Third Frontier Project. Funded by the state of Ohio, this accelerator facilitates the creation of startup medical device companies.

Elahinia has received several awards, including the 2010 ASME Adaptive Structures and Material Systems Gary Anderson Early Achievement Award; 2010 UT College of Engineering Faculty Excellence Award; 2006 UT Outstanding Young Faculty Research Award; and the 2004 Virginia Tech Torgersen Graduate Research Excellence Award.

He has supervised 28 graduate students, two of whom are now assistant professors at other universities. He has published more than 60 journal articles and 160 conference papers, in addition to being invited to speak at a number of events.

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers is a nonprofit organization that, according to its website, “enables collaboration, knowledge sharing and skill development across all engineering disciplines, while promoting the vital role of the engineer in society.”

New student housing to open this fall

By Kevin Bucher

The University of Toledo will open a brand new living community for the start of the 2015-16 academic year.

The Honors Academic Village is located just south of Bancroft Street at the corner of Campus Road and West Rocket Drive near the Memorial Field House.

The living community will have close to 500 state-of-the-art apartments with one-bed and one-bath, two-bed and one-bath, and four-bed and two-bath floor plans.

The Honors Academic Village will have a Mac and PC computer center, smart board-equipped study rooms, and iPad bar for residents to use.

A 24-hour fitness center, on-site laundry facilities, and a recreation center featuring billiards, ping pong and foosball are some of the other amenities included at the new village.

Students also will have the opportunity to participate in several Living and Learning Communities, including Engineering, Doctors Without Borders, and Peace, Sustainability and Global Citizenship, to join peers who are committed to their academics, as well as making a difference in the community.

“ar vision of the project was to create a space for students who have similar types of academic pursuits and interests to come together and support one another. It is designed to be a place where students can collaborate, share and build upon their ideas,” said Dr. Lakesha Ransom, dean of the Jesup Scott Honors College.

Financial aid funds can be applied to living in the Honors Academic Village, and returning UT students will have the option to select a meal plan.

Elahinia

GOING UP: Work continues on the Honors Academic Village, which will open for the start of the 2015-16 academic year.

“We wanted to create a space that would provide students with amenities and programs, and give them a sense of home and comfort,” Ransom said.

Space is limited, and rooms are filling quickly. The Honors Academic Village is accepting applications and leases.

To learn more, take a virtual tour or apply at honorsacademicvillage.com.

Institute

continued from p. 1

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SOCIAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

“This institute will increase UT’s prominence as an international leader in the effort against human trafficking,” Naganathan said. “We are proud to have someone of Dr. Williamson’s caliber as an expert in this area at UT, and this initiative will further highlight her work.”

The mission of the institute is to respond to human trafficking and social justice through teaching, research and service. Programs will be established to help victims become survivors and for survivors to become “thrive,” individuals who have completed the healing process and established stable and productive lives.

“This institute will build upon and extend the efforts of Dr. Celia Williamson to publicly address and help alleviate the evils of human trafficking regionally, nationally and globally through a multi-faceted blend of teaching, impactful research and targeted community partnering,” said Dr. Thomas Gutteridge, dean of the College of Social Justice and Human Service. “My thanks also to everyone involved in this initiative for their commitment to helping the institute become a major force in further reducing human trafficking and its impact upon those enslaved by this system.”

One of the key areas of focus for the institute will be educating practitioners to serve on the front lines of efforts to combat human trafficking and assist victims. Educational activities will focus on a wide range of professions, including social work, criminal justice, law, medicine, psychology, education, counseling and public health.

“I applaud The University of Toledo for providing the leadership necessary to establish the Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute, which will provide research, education and outreach to combat this issue,” Carey said. “I look forward to having all of Ohio’s colleges and universities collaborate with the institute to further strengthen our efforts across the state in the fight against human trafficking.”

After receiving a Jefferson Award earlier this year for her work, Williamson addressed the broad impact that human trafficking has. “Human trafficking affects more than just the victims, it affects the whole community.”

The institute also will work to advance the body of knowledge on human trafficking issues and track effective solutions to these problems.
In memoriam

Earl W. Apgar, College Station, Texas, died April 17 at age 71. The former Toledo Public Schools administrator taught some UT education classes.

Dr. Evelyn F. Baugh, Toledo, who was affiliated with MCO Pediatrics for 21 years, died April 19 at age 89. She joined the college as a clinical associate in pediatrics in 1975 and one year later was named a clinical instructor. In 1977, she joined the faculty as an instructor and was named an assistant professor in 1980 and an associate professor in 1992. Baugh retired in 1996.

Dr. John M. Croci, Key West, Fla., a UT and MCO alumnus who volunteered at his alma mater, died April 12 at age 68. He received a bachelor’s degree from UT in 1969 and was a member of MCO’s first class, graduating in 1972. Croci became a volunteer-clinical associate in family medicine in 1975 and was a volunteer-clinical assistant professor of family medicine from 1978 to 2009.

Women & Philanthropy to host event on human trafficking; RSVPs requested by May 1

Women & Philanthropy at The University of Toledo has donated almost $250,000 to the University, but it does much more than that.

That’s why from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 7, the organization will host a free, public discussion on human trafficking in the Law Center Richard & Jane McQuade Law Auditorium. It will feature speakers Dr. Celia Williamson, UT professor of social work; Attorney Megan Mattimoe; and State Rep. Teresa Fedor.

Williamson organizes and hosts the annual International Human Trafficking, Prostitution and Sex Work Conference at UT and founded Second Chance, which provides services to women and youth involved in sex trafficking. She also leads the recently established UT Human Trafficking and Social Justice Institute. (See story on p. 1.)

Mattimoe is one of only four attorneys in Ohio that specializes in the representation of trafficking victims and founder of the Advocating Opportunity program in 2012.

Both Mattimoe and Williamson were recipients of this year’s Toledo Area Jefferson Awards.

Fedor will speak on policy issues surrounding human trafficking.

“I hope people who come can learn more about the issue of human trafficking and what is being done both locally and at the state level,” said Marianne Ballas, chair of Women & Philanthropy.

To RSVP for the event, contact Christine Spengler, director of advancement relations in Institutional Advancement, Women & Philanthropy member and administrative contact for the organization, at 419.530.4927 or chris.spengler@utoledo.edu by Friday, May 1.

Founded in 2006, Women & Philanthropy is made up of UT faculty, staff and alumnae as well as members of the Toledo community. The group aspires to promote the University 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. The organization currently has 70 members who participate in several events throughout the year.

“One of the responsibilities of our organization is not only to invest in the University, but to learn more about it,” Spengler said. “We try to have at least one educational event a year where we can highlight something on campus that would be of interest to members.”

The organization funds one or two grants each year from membership dues, which are $1,000 per year. Last year, it funded a computer lab for the Catharine S. Eberly Center for Women and the Women & Philanthropy Student & Family Room for the College of Adult and Lifelong Learning to provide a comfortable place for students when they have to fill out paperwork, review transcripts and more.

The group is voting on this year’s grant recipients, which will be announced next month.

“It’s really a great group of ladies,” Spengler said. “The friendships made are really wonderful, and we do a lot of fun things in addition to our philanthropic pursuits.”

Membership is open to any interested woman. To learn more about the organization, visit http://utole.do/womenphilanthropy or http://utole.do/womenphilanthropyfacebook.

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MAKING A DIFFERENCE: Howard Newman, UT associate vice president for development, left, and Dr. Blair Grubb, UT Distinguished Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics, accepted a $10,000 check from Allie Dama, vice president of the Life as a Zebra Foundation Inc., left, and Katie Dama Jaskolski, president of the Life as a Zebra Foundation. The nonprofit organization raised the money during a benefit concert April 11 at the Kellogg Conference Center in East Lansing, Mich., to support Grubb’s groundbreaking postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome research at UT Health.
**Learn how tree helped heal Oklahoma City at April 29 talk**

By Cassandra DeYoung

Despite being across from the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, an American elm remained standing after the April 19, 1995, blast that devastated more than 16 city blocks.

Although nearly destroyed and covered in debris, the tree was saved thanks to efforts made by the community and the Oklahoma Forestry Services, which turned the American elm into a memorial site for the victims of the Oklahoma City bombing.

Mark Bays, urban forestry coordinator at Oklahoma Forestry Service, will tell the elm’s story and how it became known as the Survivor Tree Wednesday, April 29, at 7 p.m. in Snyder Memorial Building Room 2100.

“It’s just amazing how they saved this tree from complete destruction and how they brought this tree back to life, and not only that, but the steps they took to preserve it,” said Craig Schaar, forestry inspector of the city of Toledo. “They had to put underground irrigation in for it and create an aeration system for the tree roots. They also have a patio-like area around the tree, so they had to create an infrastructure so that the tree would survive. The tree was originally surrounded by a parking lot, so they had to bring in special soil and create an environment for this tree to actually grow.”

Since the beginning, Bays has been directly involved with bringing the community together to save and preserve the tree.

“When the bombing happened, there were limbs blown off the tree, car parts embedded within the tree itself; you can actually see pictures where a car was wrapped around the tree trunk. Arborists would look at this tree and say, ‘Let’s just take it down,’” Schaar said.

“Bays saw all this and said, ‘You know what, we need to save this tree,’ and he decided to take it upon himself to get public support and politicians to save this tree,” Schaar said.

In conjunction with the presentation, a special tree planting was held April 24. A burr oak purchased by the Toledo Urban Forestry Commission was planted outside the Ritter Planetarium.

“The planting of this new tree on our campus recognizes both the significance of Arbor Day and Earth Day on our campus, but also this inspiring story on the importance of trees in urban communities and to those that live and work in a city who will be able to experience and admire these for many years,” said Dr. Patrick Lawrence, UT professor and chair in the Department of Geography and Planning, and chair of the President’s Commission on the River.

The free, public presentation is sponsored by the Toledo Urban Forestry Commission Inc., Findlay Shade Tree Commission, the UT Department of Geography and Planning, and the University of Findlay.

For more information, contact Schaar at craig.schaar@toledo.oh.gov or 419.936.2669.

**Recognizing a visionary**

Dr. Patrick Lawrence, professor and chair of the UT Department of Geography and Planning, and chair of the President’s Commission on the River, right, shook hands with architect Dick Meyers during a dedication ceremony for a new river outlook near Savage Arena. A plaque paying tribute to Meyers is part of the new scenic spot near the Ottawa River. As a co-founder of the Collaborative Inc., a Toledo-based design firm, Meyers has been involved with more than 30 landscape design and planning projects on UT campuses. He cited his most notable achievement as Centennial Mall, which was a parking lot before he helped design the green space. Meyers also is one of the original members of the President’s Commission on the River; the organization that started the habitat restoration efforts for the 3,700 feet of the waterway running through Main Campus.
“I really do believe in accomplishing whatever you set your mind to do,” the songwriter and author said. “Because once you do and you see that’s possible and that it works, it changes the way you look at the world.”

To help gain control of his hectic life and share that message with others, he contacted professionals he featured on his syndicated radio show, “Your Weekend With Jim Brickman,” heard locally on 101.5 The River, to offer advice in the 192-page book. Chapters cover how to soothe your mornings, kingdom, family and relationships.

“I feel like almost everything in the book is relatable to most of us, especially for aging baby boomers, but especially the sleep [chapter]. Everybody I know is sleep-deprived or an insomniac; nobody says, “Oh, I sleep great every night,”” he said and laughed. “What I started to do at night and in the morning is treat that differently and try to get better and more restful sleep.”

This means putting away electronics. A little lavender doesn’t hurt either.

“There’s so much stimulation all the time — it’s stimulation every second that you pick [the cell phone] up,” Brickman said during a call from his Cleveland home. “And then when you go to sleep at night, it’s a similar kind of thing because a lot of us take the computer to bed or are stimulated by TV or radio, and it’s hard to fall asleep when you’re stimulated by the electronics all the time.”

Those who unplug and unwind with the pianist on UT’s Main Campus may be treated to a spirited version of his first hit from 1994.

“‘Rocket to the Moon’ is actually about escape and it’s about an idea about taking a break from your life,” Brickman said. “Wouldn’t it just be fun to escape and come back and go right back into your life where it is? So many of us are in such desperate need of alone time or just me time as I call it. It’s very rare; not many of us have that in our lives.”
Hit the lanes for bowling mixer May 16

By Kevin Bucher

Campus community members are invited to come out for an afternoon of bowling, networking and fun at a mixer with colleagues from other schools.

The event will take place Saturday, May 16, at Interstate Lanes, 819 Lime City Road, Rossford.

From noon to 3 p.m., faculty, staff, family and friends from The University of Toledo, Bowling Green State University, Monroe County Community College and Owens Community College will be striking up conversations and tearing up the lanes.

“The main reason behind this is not only to get folks together from the other schools, but to bring together folks especially on this campus,” said George W. Hayes Jr., UT electrician journeyman 2 and organizer of the event. “It would be ground-breaking for this event to happen with all the mix of people just from this campus alone to come together, relieve some stress, bowl, mingle and just have fun.”

Bowlers are encouraged to wear their school colors. There will be music, games and door prizes.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for $8 and include three games and a pair of bowling shoes.

“This event is for us to break the mold and try something new. Let’s dare to be different,” Hayes said.

For more information or to purchase tickets, contact Hayes at george.hayes@utoledo.edu.

UT Health encourages employees to register for Toledo Heart Walk

By Amanda Benjamin

University of Toledo Health is ramping up participation for the 2015 Toledo Heart Walk with T-shirts and a raffle for UT employees.

The Heart Walk, which supports the American Heart Association, will take place Saturday, May 30, at 8 a.m. at the Huntington Center in downtown Toledo.

“Heart disease is still the No. 1 cause of death in the United States,” said Vicki Riddick, senior wellness officer. “And here at UT and UT Health, we feel it’s really important for us to take care of our employees and empower them to take care of their own health and well-being. That’s why we encourage everyone to join us for the Heart Walk.”

UT Health CEO Dave Morlock is the chair of this year’s event. He has challenged the UT community to raise a total of $40,000 for the Heart Walk this year.

To encourage participation, UT Health is raffling off a $100 gift card. To be entered in the drawing, UT employees must register for the Heart Walk and raise $25 by Saturday, May 2. In addition, any team captain who meets that criteria and has at least eight walkers on his or her team by May 2 receives a second chance to win.

All UT employees who donate $25 will receive a UT Health 2015 Heart Walk T-shirt to wear for the walk. T-shirts will be distributed the week of May 26. To receive a T-shirt or be entered in the raffle, participants must contact Andrea Jacobs at andrea.jacobs@utoledo.edu.

Employees can join the UT/UTMC Heart Walk team by visiting heart.org/toledowalk.

Rockets Spring Raffle and Auction set for May 16

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo Athletic Department’s annual Spring Raffle and Auction Fundraiser will be held Saturday, May 16, in Savage Arena.

The spring raffle is a night of fun, food and games. A limit of 350 tickets at $150 each are sold for the event. Each ticket admits the purchaser and one guest to the event and provides the opportunity to win the $7,500 grand prize or one of many cash prizes or gift items.

Buffet grazing stations, as well as snacks, soft drinks, beer and wine, will be available throughout the night. In addition, each purchaser of a spring raffle ticket will receive seven coupons good for seven tickets to UT home football games at the Glass Bowl (a $195 value).

All proceeds support The University of Toledo Athletic Department and Rocket student-athletes.

For more information, call the Athletic Development Office at 419.530.5087 or go to utrockets.com.

UT employees may schedule graduate photos

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

Call Laurie Flowers at 419.530.2002 to schedule an appointment before Friday, May 8.

Photos will appear in an upcoming issue of the paper.
Volunteers make a significant impact at The University of Toledo Medical Center through their service to more than 118 departments. UTMC has more than 250 active volunteers who provide an average of 4,000 hours of monthly service.

To thank them for their service, UTMC hosted a luncheon during National Volunteer Week in the Faculty Club at the Radisson Hotel on Health Science Campus.

“Volunteers are an integral part of UTMC,” said Amy Finkbeiner, service excellence operations manager at UT Health. “During National Volunteer Week, we recognize them for the contributions they make every day here at the hospital.”

According to Finkbeiner, volunteers provide an extra level of care and service to patients, understand and empathize with families and visitors, provide support services for hospital and University staff, and assist with research in various laboratories and facilities.

Speakers at the luncheon included Dave Morlock, CEO of UT Health and executive vice president of finance and administration; Tony Urbina, service excellence officer; Lynn Brand, president of the Satellites Auxiliary; and Mario Toussaint, senior director of operations for dining, retail and clinical nutrition.

For more information about the UTMC Volunteer Services Program, contact Finkbeiner at amy.finkbeiner@utoledo.edu or Patty MacAllister at patricia.mac2@utoledo.edu or 419.383.6336.

Medical student

continued from p. 1

“Throughout history and in nearly every culture, women have always terminated pregnancies,” Payne said. “We as a society and as a medical profession have the opportunity to acknowledge that and provide this care safely to women. Alternatively, we can ignore reality and turn our back on women when they need empathetic medical care the most. If I can provide this service and save a woman’s life, that’s a great privilege.”

According to Payne, another problem with denying women the right to an abortion is that it’s not always as simple as a woman not wanting a baby.

“I’m on an obstetrics rotation right now, and we frequently see women present to the hospital with pregnancies that are not viable or are severely compromising the health of the woman,” Payne said. “She may need a termination, but if the fetus still has a heartbeat, the entire obstetrics team is uncomfortable providing that woman with the evidence-based medical care she needs and deserves.”

Payne, who will graduate from the UT College of Medicine in May, matched into an obstetrics and gynecology residency at Tufts Medical Center, which is a Kenneth J. Ryan residency training program in abortion and family planning in Boston. Having this distinction means the program will allow Payne to practice abortion procedures — something not all programs support.

“I am so thrilled about this match and think I will thrive in Boston,” Payne said. “I am confident Tufts is going to train me to be an excellent ob-gyn and will nurture and support my involvement with organized medical and political advocacy.”

Payne isn’t the only one confident about her future. Dr. Lisa Harris, one of Payne’s mentors, nominated her for the National Abortion Federation’s Elizabeth Karlin Early Achievement Award.

“I have no doubt that in watching Carolyn over these past years I am witnessing the beginning of an exceptional career in medicine and an exceptional career in leadership and advocacy around abortion care and rights.” Harris wrote in her nomination.

Payne plans to continue advocating for women’s health care for the rest of her career.

“There are a lot of negative stereotypes about abortion providers,” Payne said. “Something that I hope to do is show that abortion providers are compassionate, educated doctors who just want to provide the best health care to women.”
‘Rocket Around the World’ at UT April 30

By Cassandra DeYoung

The University of Toledo will celebrate global expressions during “Rocket Around the World,” a multicultural event to be held on Centennial Mall Thursday, April 30, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. “It’s going to be a great time for students as they get closer to finals week to go out and have fun and to learn from our international community,” said Joseph Lepone, graduate assistant in the Office of Student Involvement and Commuter Student Services.

“Sometimes our students are so busy and are constantly coming and going, and this will be a time for all of us to come together and bond, to talk to each other and really make this campus community stronger and better,” Lepone said.

The event will feature free food, prizes and cultural activities from more than 20 multicultural student organizations. “The students are really interested and excited to showcase [their cultures] because they sometimes don’t get to do that,” Lepone said. “It will be a great bonding experience between international cultures and our students on campus that are from Ohio and other states.”

Those who attend the event will receive passports to be stamped by each organization. Once all stamps have been collected, the passport can be turned in for giveaways. “It’s a good opportunity for students to get out of their comfort zones if they aren’t familiar with international students and really see that they are just like you and I,” Lepone said.

If it rains, festivities will take place in the Student Union Auditorium. The event is sponsored by Campus Activities and Programming, the International Student Association, and the Center for International Studies and Programs.

For more information, contact Lepone at joseph.lepone@rockets.utoledo.edu.

‘The Relevant University’ to air April 28

Tune in to “The Relevant University” Tuesday, April 28, at 7 p.m. on AM 760 WJR.

Athletic training and sports medicine at the collegiate level will be the topic of this month’s program.

Mary-Bec Gwyn, UT associate vice president for branding and creative services, will be joined by Brian Jones, UT assistant athletic director for sports medicine, for the show.

Their guests will be:

• Rex Sharp, associate athletic director for sports medicine at the University of Missouri;
• Dr. Sally Nogle, head athletic trainer at Michigan State University;
• Dr. Chris Ingersoll, professor and dean of the UT College of Health Sciences; and
• Dr. Roger Kruse, a board-certified family and sports medicine physician in Toledo.

The University of Toledo and Detroit’s WJR Radio produce the monthly, hourlong program that explores the critical role higher education plays in our world. Listen at utoledo.edu/therelevantuniversity, WJR 760 AM or wjr.com.