UT’s ‘Beer Professor’ to give keynote address at 10th annual Wisconsin Hop Seminar

By Christine Billau

The hop crop is a hot topic as the craft brewing industry’s thirst for new, locally grown flavors and aromas powers how and where farmers grow the key ingredient in beer.

“The incredible rise of the craft beer industry over the past decade changed and propelled the hop industry, particularly leading to new, experimental markets in the Great Lakes region,” said Dr. Neil Reid, professor of geography and planning at The University of Toledo, who is affectionately known as the “Beer Professor.” “With 810 acres dedicated to farming hop plants, Michigan is now the largest hop producer in the country outside the Pacific Northwest.”

Reid, who is teaching a new class this semester at UT titled The Geography of Beer and Brewing, will speak about the impact of the craft beer revolution on the American hops industry at the 10th annual Wisconsin Hop Seminar hosted by University of Wisconsin-Extension on Saturday, Feb. 16, at the Hillsboro Brewing Co., located at 815 Water St. in Hillsboro, Wis. The deadline to register is Thursday, Feb. 7.

The event connects craft beer brewers, such as the brew masters for New Glarus Brewing Co. and South Shore Brewing, with hop growers and University of Wisconsin experts in a variety of fields, including plant pathology and breeding.

“We want to focus on the relationship between the brewers and the growers because it is necessary for the small industry to succeed,” Carl Duley, Buffalo County agricultural agent for the University.

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CHEERS! Dr. Neil Reid, professor of geography and planning, will talk about the craft beer revolution at the Wisconsin Hop Seminar in February.

UT research assistant is crowned ‘Jeopardy!’ champion

By Tyrel Linkhorn

Holy Toledo! John Presloid is a multiday “Jeopardy!” champion.

The UT research assistant was a runaway winner in his second game last week, which improbably included a question about Toledo.

A clue in a first-round category “Holy This!” was “This city in Ohio, ‘glass capital of the world,’ is named for one in Spain.”

The answer, of course, was Toledo. Presloid was fastest on the buzzer, adding $1,000 to his growing total.

Holy Toledo, indeed.

“As soon as I saw glass city, I knew it was Toledo,” Presloid said. “I was thinking, ‘You have to buzz in first because you’re never going to hear the end of it if you miss the Toledo question.’”

Just getting on “Jeopardy!” was a dream come true for Presloid, who works in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology in UT’s College of Medicine and Life Sciences.

“I watched the show every day growing up. My first audition was actually like a

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UT online programs move up in U.S. News rankings

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo continues to improve its place in the U.S. News & World Report list of the top online bachelor’s programs.

UT is 114 out of 348 total institutions listed in the 2019 Best Online Programs ranking, an increase from 125 last year and 142 in 2017. The University is ranked 67 out of the public universities.

The rankings are determined based on criteria that includes student engagement,

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T he University of Toledo Medical Center is launching a new partnership with mental health boards throughout northwest Ohio to create a better model of care for adolescents dealing with particularly challenging mental health issues.

Through service agreements with the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County and 10 other boards representing 22 additional Ohio counties, UTMC will be able to provide longer, more intensive inpatient care for patients between the ages of 13 and 18.

The longer stay will enable clinicians to dig deeper into the root causes of the adolescents’ mental health issues and establish a more coordinated long-term treatment plan to address the problem of patients repeatedly going in and out of inpatient treatment without advancement.

“We want to be taking on the most difficult cases and also helping the community with its biggest needs. Right now, there’s a lot of fragmentation of services and limited access to care,” said Dr. Cheryl McCullumsmith, professor and chair of the UT Department of Psychiatry. “This innovative collaboration enables an expansion of services without duplicating resources.”

In many cases, insurers will only cover a few days of inpatient treatment. While that can be enough time to stabilize many patients in crisis, some patients need a more in-depth psychiatric and medical examination, monitoring of new medications, and coordination of continuing outpatient treatment, McCullumsmith said.

“There’s a high need for some adolescents to get more intensive evaluation and treatment plans,” McCullumsmith said. “We want the inpatient stay to advance the treatment plan, to be a constructive part rather than the Band-Aid it often is now. We’re trying to give them a comprehensive assessment and evaluation and kind of a restart. Let’s take some time, wipe the slate clean, start from the beginning, and figure out a true diagnosis and plan.”

Under the new service agreements, the boards will pay for days not covered by insurance, allowing UTMC to treat adolescents for longer stays as needed.

The initiative will focus primarily on adolescents who have had multiple inpatient hospitalizations during the last year, have difficult to establish diagnoses, or who have challenges with medication.

“We’re very excited and encouraged by the engagement with UT,” said Scott Sylak, executive director of the Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County. “The timing was right to move forward with this, and we’re really thrilled with the partnership that’s developing. Having this resource locally and being able to ensure that families stay involved and that our providers stay involved is a worthy investment from the board’s perspective.”

The Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County, along with other partner boards across northwest Ohio, will refer patients into the program.

Founded in 1968, UTMC Child and Adolescent Psychiatry was northwest Ohio’s first hospital devoted to treating the emotional and behavioral needs of children and teens. Today, the center has an inpatient facility and outpatient mental health services.

Study buddies
Wyatt Pringle brought his terrier mix, Jacey, to campus on the first day of classes last week. The junior majoring in sociology said all of his courses are online this semester, so he and Jacey were going to study in the Thompson Student Union.

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student services and technology, faculty credentials and training, and expert opinion.

Specific to online programs, there is a focus on graduate indebtedness, course delivery, and academic and career support made available to students remotely. UT made improvements in each of those categories in the most current rankings list.

“The University of Toledo is committed to student success, and an important part of achieving that goal is providing flexible learning options and supportive faculty and staff whether students are on campus or online,” UT Interim Provost Karen Bjorkman said.

The UT College of Nursing also is now ranked in the 2019 Best Online Nursing Programs. The University offers online RN to bachelor of science in nursing completion, and master of science in nursing — nurse educator and doctor of nursing practice programs designed to help nurses achieve their professional advancement goals.

For additional information about the rankings, visit the U.S. News & World Report website at usnews.com/education/online-education.
UT dean elected to executive committee of Association of American Law Schools

D. Benjamin Barros, dean of the UT College of Law, was elected to serve a three-year term on the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) at its annual meeting in New Orleans this month. The AALS Executive Committee is composed of nine members from across the country who are respected among their peers as leaders in legal education. Barros, an expert on property law, was one of the youngest educators to serve on the executive committee when he served a one-year term in 2014.

“Dean Barros is well-positioned to serve legal education as a member of the AALS Executive Committee,” Judith Areen, executive director of AALS, said. “His thoughtful advice and prior experience on the committee will help guide the association in our efforts to advance excellence in legal education.”

“Law and lawyers are essential to our society and our democracy, and our profession is rooted in legal education,” Barros said. “I am honored to have this opportunity to serve the AALS and its member schools as we work to shape the future of legal education and the legal profession.”


Prior to joining UT, Barros was the associate dean of academic affairs and professor of law at Widener University School of Law. Barros practiced as a litigator before teaching. He clerked for Judge Milton Pollack of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and later worked at the law firms of Latham & Watkins LLP and Debevoise & Plimpton, both in New York City.

Barros graduated from Fordham University School of Law, where he was an editorial board member on the Fordham Law Review and a member of Order of the Coif. He holds a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Colgate University and a master’s degree in philosophy from the University of Maryland.

The Association of American Law Schools, founded in 1900, is a nonprofit association of 179 law schools. Its members enroll most of the nation’s law students and produce the majority of the country’s lawyers and judges, as well as many of its lawmakers. The association’s mission is to uphold and advance excellence in legal education. In support of this mission, AALS promotes the core values of excellence in teaching and scholarship, academic freedom, and diversity, including diversity of backgrounds and viewpoints, while seeking to improve the legal profession, to foster justice, and to serve communities — local, national and international.

Farewell reception for provost Jan. 30

Provost Andrew Hsu will be recognized for his service to The University of Toledo at a farewell reception Wednesday, Jan. 30.

Hsu, who has served as UT’s provost and executive vice president for academic affairs since 2016, has been named the president of the College of Charleston in South Carolina. He will complete his tenure at UT at the end of February.

The University community is invited to the reception from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in Libbey Hall.

“Thanks to Andrew’s leadership, we have made significant progress implementing the University’s strategic plan and advancing a culture of success for students and faculty,” UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. “We wish him all the best at the College of Charleston.”

Dr. Karen Bjorkman, dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics since 2010, is serving as interim provost.

The University plans to conduct a national search for provost at the beginning of the next academic year.

‘Beer Professor’

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of Wisconsin-Extension, said. “Michigan has grown a lot faster than we have when it comes to hops production. In 2017, about 300 acres of land in Wisconsin was devoted to hops farming. That’s up from nearly nothing 10 years ago. It’s exciting to see the supply side of the business evolve.”

Reid is an expert on the craft brewing industry and its economic geography. His research is focused on the industry’s growth in the United States and its potential role in helping to revitalize neighborhood economies.

“Craft brewers demand locally grown hops, experiment with different varieties of hops, and use more hops in beer production compared to mass-produced beers,” Reid said. “For example, an Imperial IPA [India pale ale] uses four pounds of hops per keg. A Pilsner, like Budweiser, uses 0.3 pounds of hops per keg.”

The volume of craft beer sales increased nationwide in 2017 to 12.7 percent of total U.S. beer sales, but more than 23 percent of the $111.4 billion U.S. beer market, according to the Brewers Association.

“A bigger share of money is being spent on craft beer,” Reid said. “The way these small, independently owned brewers are collectively challenging Anheuser-Busch and Miller Brewing is part of the local foods movement. And farmers in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin — as well as 23 other states — are starting to see this as an opportunity to diversify and meet the demand.”

Reid said the hops farms in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin are small compared to ones in Washington, Idaho or Oregon that together grow 95 percent of all hops in the country.

While four ingredients go into making beer—hops, barley, water and yeast—hops have grabbed most of the attention of consumers since its flavor and aroma are dominant.

Until around 2011, farmers in the Pacific Northwest mostly focused on alpha hop varieties that are used to give mass-produced beers like Budweiser and Miller Lite their bitterness. Instead of alpha, independent brewers want aroma hops that give beer flavors such as orange or fragrances like pine, and dual-purpose hops that are a hybrid of aromatic and bittering hops.

“In the last 10 years, alpha hop production in Washington dropped from 73 percent down to 26 percent of hops produced,” Reid said. “Craft brewers are driving the change to aroma and dual-purpose hops.”

As mass-beer makers focus on consistency so each bottle tastes the same, Reid said craft brewers enjoy creativity using different combinations of more than 125 varieties of hops, including Citra, Cascade, Chinook, Centennial and Mosaic.

To learn more about the evolving appetite of craft beer drinkers and the experimentation of craft brewers, tap into Reid’s blog about the beer industry at thebeerprofessor.com.
UT Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth to serve up inspiration

“Onward and Upward: Persisting Through Barriers and Obstacles” is the theme of The University of Toledo’s 35th annual Conference for Aspiring Minority Youth Saturday, Jan. 26.

Sponsored by Toledo Excel and the UT Joint Committee, the conference for seventh- and eighth-graders, high school students and parents will start at 8:30 a.m. in the Thompson Student Union Auditorium.

“The conference provides parents with methods to help students plan for their academic and professional futures,” David Young, director of Toledo Excel and Special Projects, said. “And we teach students to anticipate potential obstacles to achieving their goals and equip them with the skills necessary to overcome those obstacles.”

Dr. Terrell Strayhorn, a distinguished student success scholar, will give the keynote address.

Strayhorn is the founding chief executive officer of Do Good Work Educational Consulting LLC, and professor of urban education and interim vice president of academic and student affairs at LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis, Tenn. The authority on equity and diversity has written several books, including “College Students’ Sense of Belonging: A Key to Educational Success.” He is known for using the hashtag #DoGoodWork on social media.

“Many underrepresented students find that their success is hindered by barriers and obstacles that they did not create. With this year’s conference, we wanted to make it clear to them that they could be successful in spite of those barriers,” Young said. “Dr. Strayhorn is nationally recognized for his work with underrepresented students, and we felt he was the ideal choice to give the keynote address.”

Also scheduled to speak is Christopher Scott, founder of Reach to Teach National, an organization that provides motivational service to youth throughout the country. The Cleveland, Ohio, native is the author of “7 Secrets to Surviving College.”

“Chris is someone who we are very familiar with as he is a UT alum and also worked in our Office of Admission after graduation,” Young said. “We will be using his wonderful book as part of our Toledo Excel curriculum and are excited for him to lead a session for our parents and students on academic success and persistence.”

Scott received a bachelor of science degree and a master of education degree in education theory and social foundations from the University in 2014 and 2017, respectively.

Toledo Excel was established in 1988 to help underrepresented students, including African, Asian, Hispanic and Native Americans, for success in college. Through summer institutes, academic retreat weekends, campus visits and guidance through the admission process, students increase their self-esteem, cultural awareness and civic involvement.

Toledo Excel is part of the Office of Multicultural Student Success, which is in the Division of Student Affairs. The UT Joint Committee includes representatives from the University, Toledo Public and Parochial schools, and civic and community leaders from the city of Toledo. The mission of the committee is to bring together people in the community interested in the education of underrepresented youth. The UT Joint Committee also serves as an advisory board and support system for Toledo Excel.

Advance reservations for the free, public conference are encouraged; visit the Toledo Excel website at utoledo.edu/success/excel or call 419.530.3820.
‘Jeopardy!’ champion

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week after my 18th birthday. Pretty much as soon as I turned 18, I’ve been applying nonstop,” he said. “It’s still weird it actually happened.”

Presloid’s run has been an eventful one. He started with a come-from-behind victory in his first game to knock off a four-time defending champion who had won more than $104,000 and then held onto his title the following night with an impressive game that saw him walk away with $25,200.

Going into Final Jeopardy! in the first game, his $7,400 total put him in third place, almost $7,000 behind the leader.

But Presloid was the only contestant to come up with the correct answer to a clue looking for the remote island where the first recorded birth was that of Thursday October Christian in 1790.

The answer? Pitcairn Island. Presloid’s $4,600 bet took him to $12,000 and gave him the win.

“That was such a lucky guess,” Presloid told a local TV station the day after his win. “I knew it was a remote island, and I knew it had something to do with ‘Mutiny on the Bounty.’ It was the first island that popped into my head.”

His runaway victory saw him correctly answer clues about the maker of the Preakness Stakes trophy (Tiffany,) the island that hosts an Ernest Hemingway look-a-like contest (Key West), and the Italian word for 90 (novanta.)

He also nailed a Daily Double, correctly answering it was Manuel Noriega who took a short refuge in the Vatican embassy in Panama City in December 1989, doubling his score to $12,000.

Presloid was grinning through it all.

“I thought it was going to be very serious, and I’d be really nervous. But I just had a blast the entire time,” he said. “One of the things they tell you is they want a poker face; they want you to look serious and not give anything away.”

“One of the handlers kind of jokingly wagged her finger at me for smiling, but she was like, ‘Question right, question wrong — you’re always smiling or laughing. That is your poker face.’ It was just so much fun.”

Presloid earned a bachelor’s degree in pharmacology from UT in 2004 and a master of science degree in biomedicine in 2008. He’s spent the last four years working in the lab of Dr. Mark Wooten, UT professor of medical microbiology and immunology, who studies Lyme disease and melioidosis, a bacterial infection common in tropical climates.

Birdhouse in their soul

The UT peregrines, Liadan and Rocky, circled the proceedings when a crew from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources visited Main Campus in December for the yearly sprucing-up of the birds’ nest atop the University Hall bell tower. Maintenance included removal of the old gravel and a sanitizing rinse before new nesting material was installed. The birds usually begin their annual courting cycle in February, with eggs laid by late March. Watch the action on the UT Fal-Cam on the homepage of the Toledo Peregrine Project at utoledo.edu/nsm/envsciences/peregrine/fal-cam.html.
Multiple diabetes resources available to UT employees

Did you know that roughly 10 percent of the U.S. population has diabetes and one-quarter of these individuals have not yet been diagnosed? In addition, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates one-third of Americans are living with pre-diabetes and are at risk for developing diabetes.

University of Toledo Outpatient Pharmacies and Benefits are announcing a new program available this year in partnership with CerpassRx and Telcare. The BioTelcare Complimentary Diabetic Meter and Test Strip Program has many advantages over current products: a cloud-based system to replace the log book, which safely and securely shares information with your physician; access to a clinical team for additional support, including a certified diabetes educator; and continuous monitoring and real-time feedback from a dedicated clinical team.

For eligibility requirements and additional program details for the BioTelcare Complimentary Diabetic Meter and Test Strip Program, visit the Outpatient Pharmacy website at utoledo.edu/outpatientpharmacy.

Along with the BioTelcare program, Healthy U and UT Pharmacies also provide other resources to improve employee health, wellness and a better understanding of diabetes. Those include an on-site pharmacist who can offer personalized service. To schedule an appointment, contact Bree Meinzer, outpatient clinical pharmacist, at 419.383.1591 or breanna.meinzer@utoledo.edu. You also may visit one of the University’s pharmacists at any UT outpatient pharmacy location.

“As a pharmacist, I’m passionate about helping our employees understand their medications and health-care needs,” said Meinzer, outpatient clinical pharmacist.

“I’m proud to be part of the professional team that’s committed to offering well-being programs to help faculty and staff on their health journey.”

Healthy U also offers the Prevent T2 program, a CDC-recognized, lifestyle-change program that emphasizes healthy lifestyle choices to prevent Type 2 diabetes. For more information on this free program, visit the Healthy U website at utoledo.edu/offices/rocketwellness/healthyu/challenges.html.

Additionally, a variety of diabetes lifestyle management programs are available through UT Benefits plans. Visit the Benefits website at utoledo.edu/depts/hr/benefits/open-enrollment for more information specific to your 2019 plan.

For questions about any diabetes program offerings, contact healthyu@utoledo.edu or breanna.meinzer@utoledo.edu.

University Women’s Commission program to offer advice: ‘Just breathe’

By Bailey Sparks

“One of the things I tell my patients and employees to do is just breathe,” said Dr. Michelle Knox, UT professor of psychiatry, who will speak at the event, which will take place from noon to 1 p.m. in Collier Building Room 1035 on Health Science Campus.

Acute stress often leads to muscle tension, rapid/shallow breathing, increase in heart rate, and changes in stress hormones — adrenaline, noradrenaline and cortisol.

These in turn affect the regulation of the immune system and inflammation. Prolonged stress can lead to the development of various physical and mental health conditions. Knox wants to introduce students and employees to new strategies to combat these afflictions.

“I will be showing the attendees why and how to use technology to help learn to prevent and reduce stress. I will show them technology that I use to help patients with anxiety disorders learn to bring about a state of relaxation to counter or prevent the impact of stress,” Knox said. “I hope that attendees will learn a basic skill that they can use on a daily basis to reduce or prevent stress and its outcomes.”

Campus community members are invited to bring their lunch and attend the free event.

French connection

The UT Department of Theatre and Film will screen “Masculin Féminin” Friday, Jan. 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for Performing Arts Room 1039. The 103-minute French-Swedish New Wave film stars Jean-Pierre Léaud, Chantal Goya, Marlene Jobert and Catherine-Isabelle Duport. Jean-Luc Godard directed the 1966 movie, which will be shown from 16-millimeter film. Tickets — $12 for general admission and $8 for students, UT employees and alumni, military members, and seniors 60 and older — include popcorn and soft drink. Get tickets at utoledotix.com or by calling the Center for Performing Arts Box Office at 419.530.ARTS (2787).

New name

University Health Center is the new name of the former Main Campus Medical Center. The building houses the Main Campus Pharmacy, University Counseling Center and the Student Health Center.
Robert E. “Bob” Barger, Toledo, a World War II veteran who gained national attention when he received an associate of technical studies degree from the University in May, died Jan. 9 at age 97. His story captivated the country last spring. Barger entered the U.S. Navy in 1940, served as a commissioned naval officer, earned his naval aviator wings, and was detailed as a naval flight officer. After returning from the war, Barger attended UT, but left before finishing his degree so he could get a job to provide for his wife and two children. After reviewing Barger’s transcripts, it was determined the 96-year-old veteran met the requirements to graduate. He received a standing ovation and an associate of technical studies degree from University College during commencement. The UT Rocket fan was lauded across the country. His story was covered by ABC News, Fox News, The Associated Press, The New York Times and The Washington Post.

William E. “Bill” Brewer, Toledo, died Jan. 6 at age 89. He joined the faculty of his alma mater in 1958 as a lecturer and became an instructor, teaching engineering classes. He received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in civil engineering from UT in 1951 and 1961, respectively.

Patrick J. Hower, Toledo, a respiratory therapist at UT Medical Center, died Dec. 31 at age 54. He received associate's and bachelor’s degrees in respiratory care from the University in 1998 and 1999, respectively. Hower began working at MCO in 1994.

Deborah Brewer Sherman, Toledo, a custodial worker at UT Medical Center, died Jan. 7 at age 59.

Betty L. Wardlaw, Toledo, died Dec. 19 at age 89. She worked at the University from 1993 to 2006, retiring as an executive secretary in the College of Engineering. Wardlaw was a UT alumna; she received bachelor of arts degrees in communications and English in 1984 and 1992, respectively.

Dr. Lester J. Elsie, Toledo, professor emeritus of educational technology, died Oct. 25 at age 76. He joined the College of Education in 1971 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 1975 and later to professor. The western New York native also was chair of the Department of Educational Technology from 1977 to 1985 and was coordinator of the Carver Teacher Education Center. Elsie served on the University Scholarship Committee, University Computer Literacy Committee and the University Microcomputer Committee, among others. He also helped coordinate technology uses in the college. He was named professor emeritus when he retired in 1999.

Canaday Center closed for renovation

Renovations are underway in the Ward M. Canaday Center for Special Collections, which is closed to the public with limited reference services. Work began Jan. 17 in the exhibition area and reading room of the center, which is located on the fifth floor of Carlson Library. The project is expected to be complete in March.

“We can still assist our remote users via email or phone; however, visitors to the center must email or call ahead to make an appointment,” Sara Mouch, university archivist and curator, said.

Patrons needing assistance should email canadaycenter@utoledo.edu or call 419.530.4480.

Renovations will include replacing walls for a lighter look, upgrading electrical outlets, and installing a projector.

“We’re also planning to showcase artwork that is preserved in the center,” Mouch said.

For updates, go to the Canaday Center website at utoledo.edu/library/canaday.
Baby race set for women’s basketball game vs. Miami Feb. 20

By Brian DeBenedictis

UT fans can see if their baby is the fastest crawler in northwest Ohio during an upcoming Toledo women’s basketball home game in the Toledo Rockets’ Baby Race presented by Kroger.

The race will take place during halftime of the women’s contest vs. Miami Wednesday, Feb. 20. Tip-off time for the Mid-American Conference cross-division matchup is set for 7 p.m.

A maximum of five babies, age 12 months and younger, will compete in each race with one parent at the starting line and one parent at the finish line. The winning baby will receive a $100 Kroger gift card.

Individuals need to go to the Toledo Rockets’ Baby Race website at utrockets.com/babyrace to register. Registration will close Monday, Feb. 18.

Each family selected to compete in the race will receive two free tickets and have the option to purchase additional tickets at a discounted price.

For questions, contact Adam Simpson in Athletics at adam.simpson@utoledo.edu.

They’ve moved

Just a reminder the new Center for Alumni and Donor Engagement, located at 4510 Dorr St., is home to:

• UT Foundation, mail stop 820;
• Development, mail stop 825;
• Alumni Engagement, mail stop 830; and
• Special Events, mail stop 835.

All office phone numbers remain the same.

Megabus stop moves off campus

Planning to hop on the Megabus? You’ll need to catch the coach at a new location.

The Megabus stop has moved from Scott Park Campus to Springfield Commons.

The new stop is located in the Kohl’s parking lot, adjacent to Planet Fitness, 1120 S. Holland-Sylvania Road in Holland, Ohio.