

## UToledo research links fracking to higher radon levels in Ohio homes

By Christine Billau

**A** new study at The University of Toledo connects the proximity of fracking to higher household concentrations of radon gas, the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States.

Measuring and geocoding data from 118,421 homes across all 88 counties in Ohio between 2007 and 2014, scientists found that closer distance to the fracking wells is linked to higher indoor radon concentrations.

“The shorter the distance a home is from a fracking well, the higher the radon concentration. The larger the distance, the lower the radon concentration,” Dr. Ashok Kumar, Distinguished University Professor and chair of the UToledo Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, said.

The study also found the average radon concentrations among all tested homes across the state are higher than safe levels

outlined by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and World Health Organization standards. The average is 5.76 pCi/l, while the EPA threshold is 4.0 pCi/l. The postal code 43557 in the city of Stryker has the highest radon concentration at 141.85 pCi/l for this data set.

“We care about air quality,” said Dr. Yanqing Xu, assistant professor in the UToledo Department of Geography and Planning. “Our motivation is to save the lives of Ohioans. I hope this eye-opening research inspires families across the state to take action and have their homes tested for radon and, if needed, install mitigation systems to protect their loved ones.”

The results of the study were recently published in the journal *Frontiers in Public Health*. The research is a collaboration between UToledo’s Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and

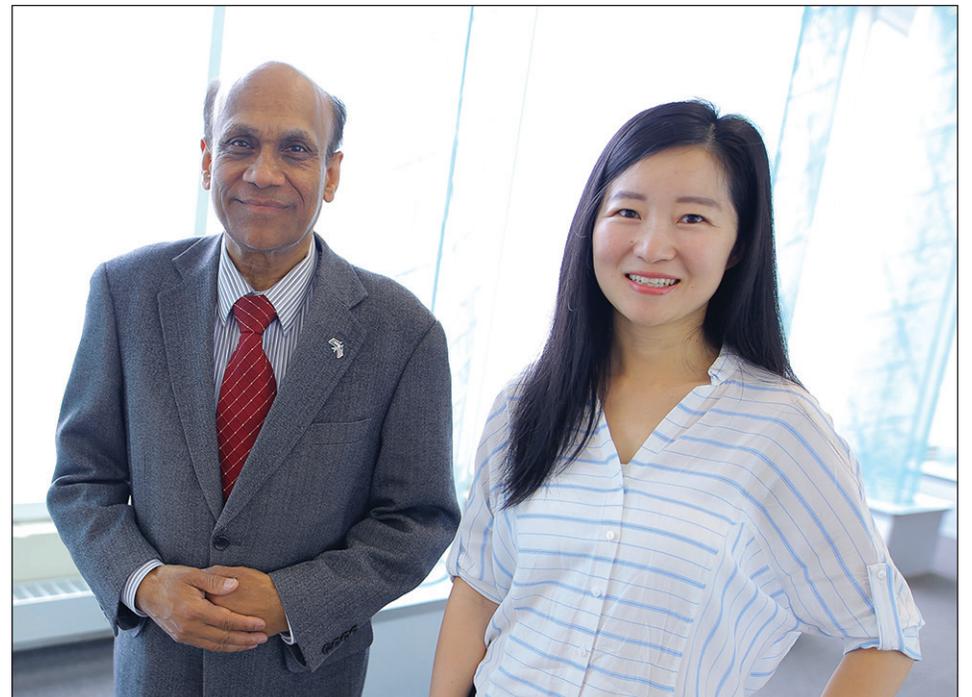


Photo by Daniel Miller

**MONITORING RADON:** Dr. Ashok Kumar, left, and Dr. Yanqing Xu published a study showing homes located near fracking wells in Ohio are linked to higher indoor radon concentration.

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## Medical student earns fellowship to study blood clotting in cancer patients

By Tyrel Linkhorn

**I**nnovative research that may explain the precarious connection between lung cancer and serious blood clotting disorders has earned a University of Toledo medical student a fellowship with the North American Society for Thrombosis and Hemostasis.

Adam Meisler, who will be entering his second year of medical school, was one of only three students in the country to receive the 2019 award. The fellowship includes a \$5,000 stipend and a \$1,000 award to the lab.

“This is a huge honor for him,” said Dr. Randall Worth, associate professor in the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, and assistant dean for student affairs in the UToledo College of Medicine and Life Sciences. “You don’t often have

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Photo by Daniel Miller

**NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT:** Medical student Adam Meisler took a blood sample for his research focusing on the connection between lung cancer and blood clotting disorders. Meisler is one of three students in the country to receive a fellowship with the North American Society for Thrombosis and Hemostasis for his research.

## President praised for strategic plan progress in annual review

By Meghan Cunningham

**U**nder President Sharon L. Gaber’s leadership, The University of Toledo has met the graduation rate goal set in the strategic plan three years ahead of schedule.

The six-year graduation rate for undergraduate students has increased nearly 9 percent over the last three years to its highest level in school history, according to preliminary data available. The graduation rate has the potential to increase as additional students graduate following the summer session.

“We set an ambitious goal, and President Gaber accepted that challenge in her commitment to ensuring student success,” said Mary Ellen Pisanelli, chair of the UToledo Board of Trustees. “The University is stronger today because of her

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# Trustees approve 2020 operating budget

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo Board of Trustees approved June 17 a balanced operating budget for fiscal year 2020 that positions the institution to continue to make progress on its strategic priorities. The approximately \$770 million budget includes an investment in the people who make UToledo successful.

Because the state of Ohio biennium operating budget continues to work through the legislature containing language that limits tuition and fee increases, the University's budget leaves undergraduate tuition for continuing students not part of the Tuition Guarantee unchanged at this time. The board approved a resolution that authorizes UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber to modify tuition and fees if permitted by law.

The budget does include differential tuition increases in selected graduate and professional programs.

In an effort to make online programs more accessible, trustees approved a resolution to reduce the non-Ohio surcharge to just \$5 per credit hour for students enrolled exclusively in online programs.

The budget reflects a 2 percent wage increase for professional staff and faculty members who are not part of a bargaining unit. University employees who are members of unions will receive increased compensation as determined by their collective bargaining agreements.

In other board action, two new undergraduate degrees in data analytics were approved and will be sent to the Ohio Department of Higher Education for consideration.

The bachelor of arts degree in data analytics in the College of Arts and Letters has an emphasis on social sciences and will prepare students for careers that focus on interpreting and applying structured data for clients. The bachelor of science degree in data science in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics is designed to prepare students for careers that involve statistical tools to extract meaning from large data sets for specific applications.

Trustees also approved a reorganization of departments in the Judith Herb College of Education to combine programs into two areas — one related to teacher licensure and one focused on the study of education.

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction and the Department of Early Childhood, Higher Education and Special



Photo by Cameron Norton

**HONORED:** Sharon Speyer, center, received a proclamation and was named trustee emeritus after completing her term on the board. She posed for a photo with Mary Ellen Pisanelli, chair of the board, left, and UToledo President Sharon L. Gaber.

Education will be combined and renamed the Department of Teacher Education. The Department of Educational Foundations and Leadership and the faculty in the Higher Education and Education Technology programs will be combined and renamed the Department of Educational Studies.

At its final meeting of the fiscal year, the Board of Trustees elected officers for the 2019-20 year. Mary Ellen Pisanelli will continue to serve as chair, and Al Baker will continue as vice chair.

The June meeting completed the term of Sharon Speyer, president of the Northwest Ohio Region for Huntington National Bank. She was given the title of trustee emeritus, along with Steven Cavanaugh, who resigned upon beginning his new role as ProMedica's chief financial officer. A proclamation also was read to recognize student trustee Hedyeh Elahinia, a junior in the Jesup Scott Honors College studying biology, who completed two years of service on the board.

## President

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vision for our future and her sense of urgency and collaborative style getting everyone on board to accomplish it."

The graduation rate was one of a number of successes praised by the trustees during the president's annual review at the final board meeting of the fiscal year.

The trustees recognized Gaber for consecutive years of increased student retention rates and research awards during her tenure and two years of strong fundraising that exceeded goals.

Her leadership also was credited for the new brand, scheduled to launch July 1, that speaks confidently and boldly of UToledo with an emphasis on personal stories. It is part of Gaber's focused effort to boost Rocket

pride and the University's national reputation, which has led to successfully recruiting the most academically prepared class of first-year students in school history.

"I am proud of the progress we have made together to advance The University of Toledo," Gaber said. "It is an honor to lead this great team. We would not have been able to accomplish all that we have without the dedicated individuals who are so committed to our students."

As part of the performance review, the board voted to give the president a performance incentive, to be paid with private funds, per her five-year contract approved in 2018.

A nationally respected higher education leader, Gaber is one of the longest serving presidents among Ohio's public colleges. She recently was selected to chair the Inter-University Council of Ohio, which represents the state's 14 public universities. She serves on the NCAA Strategic Plan Committee and represents the Mid-American Conference on the NCAA Division 1 Presidential Forum.

Gaber also is a member of the board of directors of the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities, which is a network of 37 public urban research universities working to drive transformational change throughout their institutions and the communities they serve in partnership with the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities.

## Medical student

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students who have a fellowship on their resumé when it comes time to apply for residency. Adam is an outstanding student. If he maintains that, it's going to put him at the top of the national competitive scale."

Lung cancer patients have an elevated risk of strokes, heart attacks and pulmonary embolisms. Approximately one-fifth of the 150,000 annual deaths tied to lung cancer in the United States are the result of large blood clots.

Meisler's project is focused on whether cancer-fighting T-cells bonding with blood platelets in those patients might explain why.

"We suspect that the interaction between platelets and T-cells is largely contributing to that phenomenon," Meisler said. "If we can find a way to break up those aggregates, I think that would be huge."

In healthy individuals, a relatively small portion of T-cells are attached to blood platelets — somewhere around 15 percent. However, in lung cancer patients, Meisler and Worth have found as many as 65 percent of their T-cells are bonded with platelets.

Worth said science has already shown that a portion of lung cancer patients who have had a stroke or heart attack don't respond to the normal anti-coagulants that would be prescribed to prevent a second event.

"There's a big push from the National Cancer Institute and the National Institute of Heart, Lung and Blood trying to understand why that is," Worth said. "I think with these platelet T-cell aggregates, we may have discovered the time bomb."

With the fellowship, Meisler will continue his research and present his findings at the North American Society for Thrombosis and Hemostasis conference next spring.

"To apply my research to something as high impact as lung cancer is really special," Meisler said. "This project and the fellowship is definitely making me lean toward a future specializing in hematology-oncology."

## UToledo professors invent safer way to treat prostate cancer

By Christine Billau

**T**wo innovative professors at The University of Toledo from different fields of expertise teamed up to create a clever, common-sense way to solve a problem in treating prostate cancer, the second leading cause of cancer in men.

Recognizing the potential, the Ohio Third Frontier Commission awarded \$150,000 to the startup company founded by the mechanical engineer and medical physicist to develop and commercialize the new technology they invented that allows a higher level of radiation to safely be delivered at each session, decreasing significantly the number of treatment sessions needed to eradicate the cancer, while reducing damage to nearby, healthy tissue.

Dr. Mohammad Elahinia, professor and chair of the UToledo Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering, and Dr. Ishmael Parsai, professor and chief medical physicist in the UToledo Radiation Oncology Department and director of the Graduate Medical Physics Program, created the company called Retractor with the support of UToledo Launchpad Incubation, Rocket Innovations and the National Science Foundation's I-Corps program.

The new, patent-pending technology, which is being tested on cadavers, is a minimally invasive device that moves the rectum away from the vicinity of the radiation fields targeting the prostate cancer. This allows for the delivery of higher doses of more focused radiation beams, resulting in shorter treatment days while reducing damage to healthy rectal tissue.

"The rectal retractor provides a safer, more efficient way to treat prostate cancer," Elahinia said. "The medical device is inserted into the body and set in motion by passing a small electrical current in a reliable, clean, silent process known as nitinol actuation, solving the persistent challenge in radiation therapy of prostate tumors."

"Instead of a patient undergoing daily radiation treatment sessions for nearly two months in a conventional method of radiotherapy, he can come in and have five sessions," Parsai said.

Through his work with patients at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center at The University of Toledo Medical Center, Parsai came up with the idea for the rectal retractor and approached Elahinia to engineer a prototype.



Photo by Daniel Miller

**TARGETING CANCER:** Dr. Mohammad Elahinia, left, and Dr. Ishmael Parsai developed the rectal retractor, which could help treat prostate cancer. The Ohio Third Frontier Commission awarded \$150,000 to their startup company to commercialize the new technology.

"Normally during radiation therapy for prostate cancer, we work to reduce as much as possible the impact of the radiation dose on any healthy organs, such as the bladder and rectum, but often some damage to healthy, nearby tissue is unavoidable," Parsai said. "This new device, however, allows us to move the rectum out of the field of radiation so we can eliminate the risk of sacrificing healthy tissue while safely delivering a higher dose for more effective treatment of the tumor. This especially is promising when implementing what is called high-dose rate brachytherapy, as well as newer techniques such as stereotactic body radiotherapy for treatment of prostate cancer."

While the retractor will mainly serve prostate cancer patients, it also can be applied during radiation therapy for all pelvic tumors, such as cervical, uterine, vaginal and endometrial cancers.

The award to Retractor is part of \$2.25 million given by the Ohio Third Frontier Commission to develop new technologies and move them out of the lab and into the marketplace.

"Ohio's world-class research and medical institutions are developing breakthrough technologies," said Lydia L. Mihalik, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency and chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission. "We are helping get these products to market where they can make a difference."

The Ohio Third Frontier Technology Validation and Start-Up Fund provides

grants to Ohio institutions of higher education and other nonprofit research institutions. The funding is to demonstrate that a technology is commercially viable through activities such as testing and prototyping. The ultimate goal is to commercialize the technologies.

Retractor is a success story for UToledo's Launchpad Incubation program and Rocket Fuel Fund. LaunchPad Incubation provides entrepreneurial assistance, state-of-the-art facilities and valuable resources to early-stage, technology-based concepts and startup companies. The Rocket Fuel Fund is a program in the UToledo Office of Research funded by the U.S. Economic Development Administration to support early-stage technology development.

"We serve the community, faculty, staff and students," Brian Genide, director of incubation and venture development at Launchpad, said. "Our team helps with the advancement of early-stage technology concepts, providing funding support for feasibility testing, proof-of-concept validation and prototyping. Our team also has proven to increase the success of grant applications."

Launchpad Incubation is located in the Nitschke Technology Commercialization Complex. Go to [utoledo.edu/incubator](http://utoledo.edu/incubator) for more information on how the program helps launch new businesses.

## Study finds large rise in suicide by African-American adolescents

By Tyrel Linkhorn

**A** large-scale study from The University of Toledo of young African Americans who have attempted or died by suicide suggests there is a greater need for mental health services in urban school districts, and that we need to do a better job in convincing parents and caregivers to safely secure firearms and ammunition in the home.



Price

Taking those measures, Dr. James Price said, could save lives.

Price, UToledo professor emeritus of health education and public health, recently authored the

largest study to date that examines suicidal behaviors of African-American adolescents between the ages of 13 and 19.

The study, which was published in the *Journal of Community Health*, found the rate of suicide deaths among young black males increased by 60 percent from 2001 through 2017. Researchers documented a 182 percent increase in the rate of suicide deaths of young black females during that same time period.

"There are far more African-American adolescents attempting suicide than has been recognized in the past, and their attempts are starting to be much more lethal," Price said.

Currently, suicide is the second leading cause of death after homicide for African Americans between the ages of 13 and 19, and the rate continues to climb. Equally troubling is that the methods black youth are using in suicide attempts are among the most lethal.

Price and a co-researcher at Ball State University found 52 percent of the 560 males aged 13 to 19 who died by suicide from 2015 to 2017 used firearms — a method for which the fatality rate approaches 90 percent. Another 34 percent used strangulation or suffocation, which has a fatality rate of about 60 percent.

Among the 204 females who died by suicide over that time period, 56 percent used strangulation or suffocation and 21 percent used firearms.

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# Families invited on cruise to learn how UToledo monitors health of rivers, Lake Erie

By Christine Billau

Scientists and students at The University of Toledo work tirelessly to study the waters of Lake Erie and its tributaries in the fight against harmful algal blooms and invasive Asian carp. They also evaluate potential for reintroducing historic fish, such as sturgeon.

This summer, families are invited to board the Sandpiper and cruise the Maumee River while learning how researchers at the UToledo Lake Erie Center collect water information.

“The Maumee River may look like just a muddy river, but it’s full of life,” said Dr. Thomas Bridgeman, UToledo professor of ecology and director of the UToledo Lake Erie Center. “We show kids how sediment and algae affect water clarity, but they also get to see the tiny, shrimp-like animals that are eating the algae and — in turn — feeding the fish that make western Lake Erie the ‘Walleye Capital of the World.’”

The two-hour “Discover the River” cruise starts at 10 a.m. every Saturday through August at the dock at Water Street and Jefferson Avenue near Promenade Park in downtown Toledo.

Admission to the 100-passenger Sandpiper is \$19. Children younger than 12 are \$11. Purchase tickets in advance at sandpiperboat.com.



EDUCATIONAL CRUISE: Eva Kramer demonstrated how water quality testing equipment is used during a Sandpiper boat ride last summer. Kramer graduated with a master of science degree in environmental science and is on a fellowship in Germany.

## Yeah buoy



Photo by Daniel Miller

Dr. Tom Bridgeman, left, UToledo Lake Erie Center director and professor of ecology, and his team launched their buoy armed with a real-time sensor that helps sound the early warning during algal bloom season. The device measures various water-quality parameters, including how much blue-green algae are present, water temperature, clarity, oxygen levels, turbidity and pH. Researchers, water treatment plant operators and the general public can access the data on a computer or cellphone through the Great Lakes Observing System at glos.us.

## On the waterfront



Photo courtesy of U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown

As the 50th anniversary of the Cuyahoga River fires approached, U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown, second from left, was joined by, from left, UToledo Lake Erie Center Director Tom Bridgeman, National Center for Water Quality Research Director Laura Johnson and Ohio Sea Grant Director Chris Winslow for a cruise with Capt. Dave Spangler to see Lake Erie up close and discuss progress over the past half century and the current challenges facing the lake.

## Athletics announces partnership with Paciolan

By Steve Easton

The University of Toledo Athletic Department is entering a relationship with Paciolan July 1 that will enhance the ticket purchasing experience for Rocket fans.

Paciolan is the leading provider of ticketing, fundraising, marketing and analytic solutions for college athletics.

“We are proud to partner with Paciolan,” Deputy Director of Athletics Dave Nottke said. “Paciolan’s platform allows us to enhance our Rocket fan experience by improving the overall purchasing and managing of tickets. It also gives us the opportunity to send more personalized communications, connecting with our fans in a more meaningful way and growing our relationships.”

Current Toledo ticket account holders will receive an introductory email to the new platform in early July.

Highlights of the platform include a more streamlined experience for purchasing tickets and attending events, and a customized mobile experience. Fans will have the opportunity to purchase mobile tickets, scan upon entry with their phone, manage their accounts directly from their mobile devices, and seamlessly transfer or exchange tickets for events they cannot attend. Ticketing will be integrated into the Toledo Athletics website, which is powered by SIDEARM Sports Inc.



“The Paciolan team is excited to work with The University of Toledo to reach a new standard of excellence,” said Paciolan CEO and President Kim Damron. “We look forward to partnering with Toledo to elevate their customer experience through a variety of technologies and services.”

Paciolan, a Learfield IMG College Solution, has nearly 40 years of experience serving more than 500 live

entertainment organizations. Paciolan enables the sale of more than 120 million tickets per year by powering more than 120 college athletic programs, more than 100 professional sports and arena organizations, 75 performing arts venues, and several regional ticketing partners that serve hundreds of venues.

For more information or questions, contact the Athletic Ticket Office at 419.530.GOLD (4653).

## Splashing — and courting — success



Marvon Greenlee, an eighth-grader at Gesu School, did a cannonball off the high dive into a pool at the Student Recreation Center this month during the National Youth Sports Program, which celebrated its 50th anniversary at the University this year. He was one of some 150 area children who participated in UToledo’s annual camp for financially disadvantaged youth. Once supported by federal funds and the NCAA, the program now relies on donations. To give a gift to the National Youth Sports Program Fund, contact the UT Foundation at 419.530.7730.



UToledo senior football player Willie Ross, a group leader for the National Youth Sports Program, played basketball with campers in the Health Education Center Gym.



Laila Brenneman, a fifth-grader in Anthony Wayne Schools, played basketball in the Health Education Center Gym during the National Youth Sports Program.

Photos by Daniel Miller

## Fracking

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Department of Geography and Planning. The radon data collection was supported by grants from the Ohio Department of Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Following the publication in the journal, UToledo is working with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources to examine the terminology used in this study related to fracking wells to address discrepancies related to the number of wells in the state.

Radon, which cannot be smelled or seen, begins as uranium found naturally in soil, water and rocks, but transforms into gas as it decays.

Fracking, or drilling the rock formation via hydraulic fracturing, stimulates the flow of natural gas. In Ohio, natural gas is available in deposits of the ancient Marcellus and Utica shales.

Most fracking wells are located in eastern Ohio, while Athens County has the highest number of fracking wells with 108. Fulton County is the only county with more than 20 fracking wells in western Ohio.

The researchers used data from the publicly accessible Ohio Radon Information

System, which the UToledo Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering started developing more than 25 years ago and maintains to improve public knowledge about indoor radon concentration. Licensed testers collect data each year in basements and first floors of homes in Ohio's 1,496 ZIP codes.

"You can find the average radon concentration in your ZIP code on the website," Kumar said.

Xu, a health geographer who previously studied obesity, installed a radon mitigation system after testing her home with a \$10 kit.

"Shale is not in Toledo, but radon can get into homes because of uranium concentration in the soil, unrelated to fracking," Xu said.

"My 2-year-old son likes to play in the basement, but radon concentration is higher in the basement. I did not hesitate even though the system cost around \$1,000."

The data in the study are from self-reported devices and not distributed equally throughout Ohio.

## In the bag

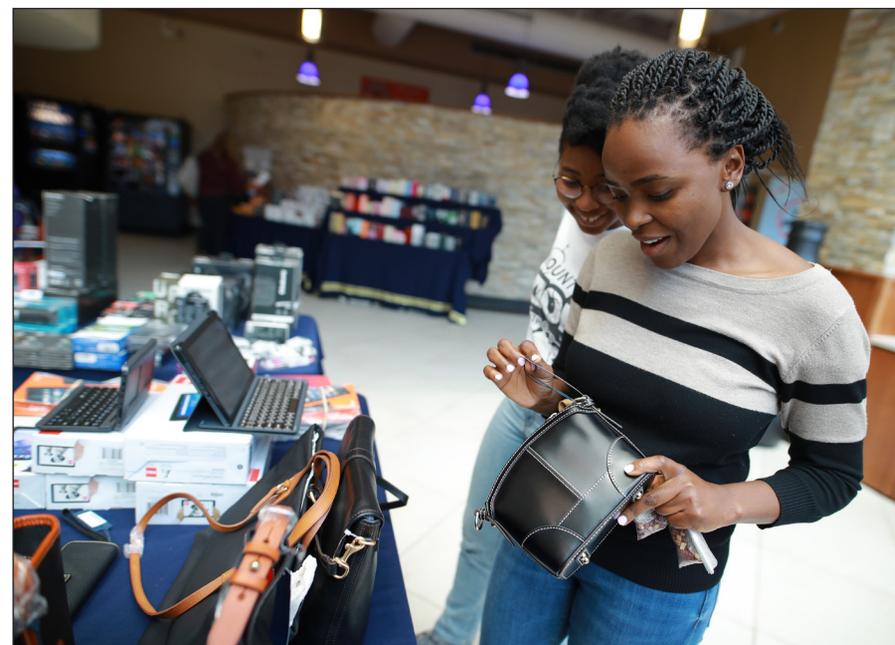


Photo by Daniel Miller

Angelique Nyinawabera, right, and Ethel Tackie-Yarboi, students in the College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, checked out a purse during the Satellites Auxiliary's marketplace fair in UToledo Medical Center.

## CampMed



Photos by Daniel Miller

Jayson Dyer, left, was among more than three dozen teens from across northwest Ohio who visited the University this month for CampMed. Here, he and campers learned how to prepare for the operating room and about the instruments used during surgery. The hands-on introduction to studying medicine is a scholarship program at no cost to the students, most of whom are first-generation college students and other underrepresented groups.



Brandyn Schee practiced CPR on a patient simulator during CampMed. The camp is sponsored by the UToledo Area Health Education Center program, which along with other programs throughout the country, strives to improve the health of individuals and communities by developing the health-care workforce. First- and second-year UToledo medical students serve as CampMed counselors, and the campers also interact with physicians and faculty members.

## Suicide

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“When we look at research with these adolescents, we find that they report their attempt to suicide is a cry for help. Two-thirds of the kids didn’t really want to die, but they’re using the most lethal form of attempting suicide,” Price said. “If you can have those lethal forms of suicide inaccessible to them, then that period of crisis and not seeing the irreversibility of this impulsive decision will pass. And with adequate mental health services available to young people, you may actually reduce the chance they’ll do that act again.”

Previous surveys have found that among inner-city elementary school students whose parents own a handgun, three-quarters knew where the gun was kept.

Keeping firearms locked away, unloaded and separate from ammunition unequivocally would reduce unintentional firearm injuries and impulsive suicide attempts, Price said.

The research also suggests a far greater need for mental health services in African-American communities. Public health researchers have repeatedly documented that

black youth are less likely than the youth population as a whole to receive adequate mental health treatment, setting the stage for situations that contribute to self-harm.

“What needs to be done early on is to make sure that young people have adequate access to mental health-care services, and mental health-care services have always taken a backseat to other forms of health care,” Price said. “If you look at where young people in urban areas, especially adolescents, are getting mental health care, it’s in the schools.”

Previous studies have found increasing mental health access in urban public schools could reduce suicide attempts by as much as 15 percent, Price said.

“While that doesn’t solve all the problems, it’s a good first step toward reducing the problem toward severe self-violence,” he said.

*If you or someone you know is thinking or talking about suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 800.273.8255 or visit [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org) for additional resources.*

## Human Resources moving to new offices

By Christine Wasserman

The University of Toledo’s Human Resources Department is moving its Scott Park Campus offices to the Center for Administrative Support (formerly the Child Care Center) on Main Campus, crosswise from the Transportation Center.

Relocation is occurring through Tuesday, June 25, with the new Main Campus office expected to open and be fully operational Wednesday, June 26.

HR staff on Scott Park Campus will have limited access to phones and computers during the relocation. If you have an urgent need and cannot reach your HR consultant during this time, you may call Human Resources’ main number at 419.530.4747 and someone will return your call as soon as he or she is able.

“We’re thrilled to be situated on Main Campus because that will provide much easier access for our employees and everyone else whom we serve,” said Wendy Davis, associate vice president and chief human resources officer.

“This new location also offers new hires and visitors what may be their

first glimpse of the University, and this new space beautifully showcases our facilities and green space, making a great first impression,” Davis added. “Guest parking right in front of the building also is another advantage.”

The relocation affects Scott Park Campus Human Resources staff only; staff on Health Science Campus will remain on that campus, and all HR phone numbers will remain the same.

Further, the department’s 2801 W. Bancroft St. mailing address remains the same, except for a new mail stop. When addressing mail to the department, use mail stop 205.

Employees and guests visiting the new Human Resources location on Main Campus should use UToledo’s south entrance on Dorr Street, turn right on East Rocket Drive, and immediately turn right to park in lot 30, which is in front of the Center for Administrative Support.

If you have any questions about this move, contact your Human Resources consultant.

## In memoriam



Cole

**Emerson E. Cole**, Toledo, a football star who went on to play in the NFL, died June 4 at age 91. He received a football scholarship to attend the University and left his mark on the record books. At running back, Cole ran for 1,172 yards in 1949; he was the first Rocket to crack the 1,000-yard mark and is 11th in Toledo history for rushing yards in one season. His collegiate statistics were impressive: Cole is fifth in career rushing touchdowns (31), second in average per carry in one season (7.3 yards), fifth in single-game rushing (230 yards), and fifth in single-game average per carry (15.3 yards). Cole was honorable mention All-Ohio as a sophomore, second-team All-Ohio as a

junior, and first-team All-Ohio senior year, as well as honorable mention All-American. He lettered from 1947 to 1949, when he was the first African American drafted by the Cleveland Browns. Cole helped Cleveland win the NFL Championship in 1950. He played for the Browns until 1952 and finished his professional career with the Chicago Bears in 1953. He then became a deputy with the Lucas County Sheriff’s Office. In 1960, he accepted a job as a caseworker with the Lucas County Welfare Department. Meanwhile, he returned to the University to complete his studies; Cole received a bachelor of education degree in health and physical education in 1964. He directed anti-poverty programs in Toledo and Erie and Huron counties until 1968, when he was named regional director of the Northwest Office of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. In 1977, Cole transferred to Columbus to become chief of compliance for the commission; he retired from that post in 1986. Cole was inducted into the Varsity ‘T’ Hall of Fame in 1984 and was a member of the Alpha Xi Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

**Jacklyn M. “Jackie” (Sobczak) Zydorczyk**, Toledo, who was a secretary in the College of Engineering’s Polymer Institute from 1990 to 2009, died May 28 at age 62.

# UT NEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University Marketing and Communications Office weekly during the academic year and periodically during the summer. Copies are mailed to employees and placed in newsstands on the Main, Health Science, Scott Park and Toledo Museum of Art campuses. UT News strives to present accurate, fair and timely communication of interest to employees. Story ideas and comments from the UToledo community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #190, University Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: [vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu](mailto:vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu). Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Marketing and Communications Office, Mail Stop 190, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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The 27th Annual University of Toledo  
Alumni Association Outdoor Juried Art Fair



# ART ON THE MALL



## JULY 28

10 A.M. – 5 P.M.

The University of Toledo  
Main Campus | Centennial Mall

### Free Admission

Original art, jazz, food  
and a children's area



THE BLADE

