

2017 report for Ohio's Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative highlights UT water quality research

By Christine Billau

Ohio Sea Grant July 11 released its 2017 update on the statewide Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative documenting two years of progress seeking solutions for harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie.

The University of Toledo, situated on the western basin of Lake Erie, is one of the lead universities in the initiative, which consists of 10 Ohio universities and five state agencies and is funded by the Ohio Department of Higher Education and matching funds from participating universities.

The 54-page report features a variety of important research activity underway by members of the UT Water Task Force to protect the public water supply and public health, including:

- Early warning system for toxic algae in Lake Erie's Maumee Bay by Dr. Tom Bridgeman, professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences, and Dr. Ricky Becker, associate professor in the Department of Environmental Sciences;
- Developing methods to help water treatment plant operators make decisions on lake water pumping rates according to time of day and weather conditions in order to reduce exposure to algal toxins at the Lake Erie water intake, also by Bridgeman and Becker;



Photo by Daniel Miller

WATER ASSESSMENT: Dr. Tom Bridgeman, UT algae researcher and professor of ecology, held a water sample as, from left, Alex Lytten, senior; Zach Swan, senior; and Eva Kramer, graduate student pursuing a master's degree in ecology, examined the algae.

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Celebrating 25 years at Art on the Mall

By Vicki L. Kroll

For two local painters, it may have been a stroke of luck when Art on the Mall debuted in 1992 at their alma mater.

"I had been doing a lot of paintings of Lake Erie scenes, and then this event was announced," Carol Connolly Pletz recalled.

"It was the year I made my first Toledo calendar," Kathy Palmer Genzman said. "It was like it was meant to be."

The two women were among 51 artists who displayed and sold their work at the inaugural juried fair.

"It was a beautiful sunny day. There were few tents, if any, and UT supplied wire structures to display paintings," Connolly Pletz, a 1966 alumna with a bachelor's degree in art, said. "It was the first show where I stood out with a few my paintings. It was a very positive experience; people loved my work."

Palmer Genzman also felt the love.

"It was my husband, Bob, who suggested the calendar. He wrote the history, and I drew and painted scenes from around town," she said. "When Art on the Mall was announced, he said, 'Let's see if they sell,' and they did — people loved the calendar."

Connolly Pletz and Palmer Genzman have returned to Art on the Mall every year. The perennial favorites will be back with more than 100 artists Sunday, July 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Centennial Mall.

"I am so grateful to UT for putting this event on every year," Connolly Pletz said. "The community really enjoys the art, music and food. It's great it has remained a free show with free parking. Toledo loves this show."

"Everyone at UT is always so helpful," Palmer Genzman, a 1980 graduate with a master's degree in art



SCHOOL SPIRIT: This watercolor painting of University Hall by Kathy Palmer Genzman was featured in one of her Toledo calendars. "I always include my alma mater in the calendar," she said.

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Governor appoints two trustees

By Meghan Cunningham

A financial adviser and the chief executive officer of an international automotive supplier have been appointed to The University of Toledo Board of Trustees.

Patrick J. Kenney, a financial adviser with Wilcox Financial, was named by Ohio Gov. John Kasich to a full nine-year term ending July 1, 2026. He takes the seat of Gary P. Thieman who completed his term as a trustee in June.

F. Patrick “Pat” D’Eramo, president and CEO of Martinrea International Inc., was named by the governor to a term ending July 1, 2021. He will complete the remaining years of the trustee position that became vacant in 2012 when Richard McQuade and Carroll Ashley completed their service on the board.

“I look forward to welcoming Patrick and Pat to the board and the perspectives they will bring from their vast business experience as we set the path forward for UT,” said Steven Cavanaugh, chair of the UT Board of Trustees.

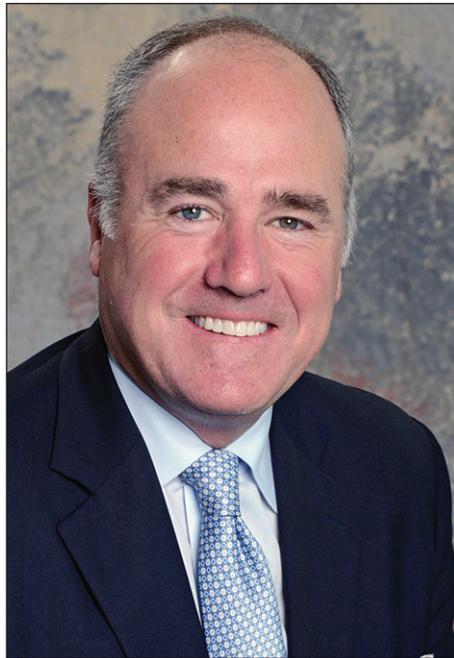
Kenney, a registered investment adviser, has more than 30 years experience running a financial advisory practice assisting individuals and corporations in a variety of financial issues. His entrepreneurial experience includes co-founding Health Care Solutions and CareLink Nursing Services, as well as serving as a founding member of the Ohio Innovations Fund that supports technical startup companies.

Kenney has a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and is a CPA.

“I am honored and excited to be a part of The University of Toledo’s Board of Trustees,” Kenney said. “I have a deep affection for the University and though I am not a graduate, I feel I am a Rocket at heart. The University of Toledo is a special place for all of us who live in this community. I will work hard to continue its great legacy.”

D’Eramo has had an extensive career in the automotive business, including serving as president of Dana Corp.’s Commercial Vehicle Technology group, vice president of manufacturing for Toyota, and varied manufacturing management roles for General Motors.

He has a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Michigan State University and a master’s degree in manufacturing management from Kettering University.



Kenney



D'Eramo

“I’m honored to have been selected by the governor for this position,” D’Eramo said. “I look forward to serving in the local community at UT and am anxious to get started.”

Hedyeh Elahinia, of Sylvania, was appointed a student member of the board to serve through July 1, 2019. Elahinia is a pre-med senior with a biology major and chemistry minor. She is co-president of the UT Muslim Students Association.

Construction on Bancroft Street set to start July 24

Two projects on Bancroft Street will mean traffic by the University will be a bit slower for a few months.

Lane restrictions between University Hills Boulevard/North Towerview Boulevard and Parkside Boulevard for the Bancroft Street Road Reconstruction Project are slated to begin Monday, July 24.

Traffic will be maintained in both directions during this project, which is scheduled to be complete in November 2018.

In addition, there will be a sewer line installed on Bancroft Street between Meadowwood Drive and Westwood Avenue. That project also is scheduled to start Monday, July 24.

This work will require closures of University Hills Boulevard and Bancroft

Street for three to five days, according to Doug Collins, director of grounds and transportation.

He added UT officials have met with members of the Toledo Division of Transportation and requested the closure take place before Sunday, Aug. 20, and the start of fall semester.

“We will announce when that closure is scheduled and keep the campus community informed as we receive updates from the city of Toledo on these two road projects,” Collins said.

Visitors to Main Campus can continue to use the north entrance off Bancroft during the reconstruction, but are encouraged to use the west entrance off Secor Road or the south entrance off Dorr Street to avoid traffic congestion due to the projects.

The front center entrance of University Hall on the north side is scheduled to be closed from Monday, July 24, through Saturday, Aug. 26, so structural repairs can be made to the top area of the clock tower. All other entrances will remain open.

Toledo tradition



Photo by Daniel Miller

UT President Sharon L. Gaber signed a world-famous Tony Packo’s hot dog bun July 13 and posed for a photo with Tony Packo Jr. at Packo’s at the Park in downtown Toledo. UT Football Coach Jason Candle, Men’s Basketball Coach Tod Kowalczyk and Women’s Basketball Coach Tricia Cullopp also recently participated in the tradition that began in 1972.

New parking system launches for fall semester, registration begins Aug. 5

By Christine Wasserman

As announced early this year, a new parking system is being implemented for fall semester, and faculty, staff and students should plan to register beginning Saturday, Aug. 5.

“In response to input from nearly 5,000 students, faculty and staff who completed a parking survey last December, several changes have been made to help reduce on-campus congestion and move UT toward a more equitable pricing system,” said Bonnie Murphy, associate vice president for auxiliaries.

Parking permit rates for 2017-18 will be as follows:

- “A” permits (faculty and staff), \$150 annually;
- “U” permits (faculty and staff), union-negotiated rates;
- “E/G” permits (executives and physicians), \$225 annually;
- “E-reserved” permits (executives), \$400 annually;
- Student permits, \$125 per semester; and
- Freshman residential (Scott Park Lot 21), \$100 per semester.

Faculty and staff represented by collective bargaining agreements may choose to upgrade to an “A” permit or maintain their current union-negotiated permit price by using the following lots:

- Main Campus — Lots 18, 25 and 28;
- Health Science Campus — Lots 44B, 44E and 46; and
- Scott Park Campus – Lot 22.

Another change is that faculty and staff may choose to purchase their permits pre-taxed through payroll deduction, reducing the net amount paid. For example, payroll deduction for the general “A” permit at \$150 will be \$5.77 over 26 paychecks; however, with pre-tax payroll deduction, that amount would be less based on each person’s tax bracket. Payroll deduction will begin with Friday, Sept. 1, paychecks for permits purchased before Thursday, Aug. 24. Payroll deduction for permits purchased on or after Aug. 24 will be spread among the remaining number of paychecks.

Note: Payroll deduction for nine- and 12-month faculty will be consistent with benefit deductions as prescribed in their contract, as will employees with collective bargaining agreements who elect to obtain an “A” permit.

In addition to the change in parking permit rates, which freezes student fees as UT moves toward a more equitable parking system, also new for the 2017-18 academic year is that all drivers will be required to print a permit confirmation — available when they register online — and display it on their vehicle’s dashboard whenever they are parked on UT property. “This is useful as a secondary means of identifying that vehicles are parked in appropriate lots,” Murphy said.

Another change is that registered parkers will no longer need to obtain a second permit. Parkers will register one time and may store multiple vehicles in their profile, making it easy to switch between one vehicle and any other that they own. Registrants may park only one vehicle from the profile list on a given day.

“Throughout this summer we’ve worked to redesign our webpages to streamline the process and ensure our site is mobile-responsive for smart phones and other digital devices,” said Sherri Kaspar, manager for public safety services. “When you register, you will see that our permit registration webpages look different, and

so you’ll be prompted to follow a different registration process than in the past.”

In response to user suggestions, the new online parking system webpages have been improved, including:

- A mobile-friendly design to ensure drivers have a smooth interface between the webpages and their phone and other mobile devices.
- With only a few clicks, drivers now can easily update their vehicle, buy a permit, pay a ticket, and manage any appeals.
- Commuters who drive more than one vehicle to campus will be able to add as many vehicles as they would like to their online profile and then quickly switch among them.

Finally, a new UT parking app that may be downloaded to mobile devices will be available in the future; additional information will be forthcoming.

To register for parking, log in to the myUT portal or visit utoledo.edu/parkingservices beginning Aug. 5 and follow the prompts. If needed, step-by-step instructions also will be available on the webpage on that date.

Compliance training reminders

COMPLETION DEADLINES:

- 12-month faculty/staff — **Thursday, Aug. 31**
- Nine-month, 10-month, part-time faculty/staff, student employees — **Tuesday, Oct. 31**

Required courses:

- Intersections: Supervisor Anti-Harassment and Title IX (all faculty/staff)
- Ohio Ethics Commission: Ethics — It’s Everybody’s Business (all faculty/staff)
- HIPAA Basics (all Health Science Campus faculty/staff, plus those with direct or indirect ties to patient care, as assigned)

Please reserve at least 60 to 90 minutes to complete each class online.

To access courses:

- Use the email invitation you received or will receive (via Begin Training button); or
- Log in to myUT (under Training and Career Development section); review instruction sheet there for more details before beginning course work.

QUESTIONS? Contact trainingdevelopment@utoledo.edu.



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Center for Health and Successful Living patient navigator named Healthcare Hero

By Vicki L. Kroll

Barbara Ann Oxner is always looking for someone who might need help.

"I meet prospective clients in grocery stores, doctors' offices, seminars, garage sales, bus trips, walking, physical therapy," she said.

Oxner is a patient navigator in the UT Center for Health and Successful Living, where she has worked since 2016 thanks to a grant from the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Before that, she volunteered there for three years.

"I love my job. I identify women in northwest Ohio who need health education and medical services, specifically, mammograms. I look for women 40 and older who are high-risk with little or no insurance.

"For a long time, my motto has been, 'helping people to help themselves.' That's exactly what a patient navigator does."

Oxner does her job so well the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio last month presented her with one of its Healthcare Hero Awards, which recognize the contributions of health-care workers in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. There were 30 nominees; Oxner and five others received that distinction during a ceremony at the Toledo Museum of Art Glass Pavilion.

"I don't see myself as anyone special," she said. "Being nominated was an unbelievable honor. Being recognized as a winner and named a Healthcare Hero? Wow — just wow!"

"Barb is an inspiration to everyone she interacts with," said Dr. Amy Thompson, professor of public health and co-director of the Center for Health and Successful Living. "She tirelessly works to help those in most need receive education, screening and care during the cancer survivor journey."

It's a journey Oxner started in 1985.

"I was a 38-year-old registered nurse with two children when, two weeks before my daughter's high school graduation, I discovered a lump in my breast during a self-exam," she recalled.

Three doctors confirmed the diagnosis: breast cancer.

"I had surgery and no chemotherapy and no radiation. My help came from God," Oxner said.

But five years later, Oxner received devastating news: She had multiple myeloma.

"I was given six months to live," she said. "I was at death's door — but God was at my door, and He kept me; He healed me. My oncologist said I was a miracle, and I am."

Her faith and determination are uplifting and contagious, and she shares both.

At the Center for Health and Successful Living, Oxner is the community outreach coordinator for the African-American Women's Cancer Support Group. And she and Lorraine Willoughby started the Pink Sneakers Program, which brings together cancer survivors, friends and loved ones to walk three times a week.

"These and other programs not only educate our ladies, but provide opportunities to socialize and enjoy fellowship," she said. "As a 32-year breast cancer survivor and a 27-year multiple myeloma survivor, I strive to be of comfort to others as I, too, have been comforted on this continual journey.

"The support group and Pink Sneakers are priceless opportunities to celebrate survivorship and allow new survivors to see they, too, can achieve longevity one step at a time."

"As a patient navigator who connects adults to needed services, Barb is committed, reliable, persistent and talented," said Dr. Timothy Jordan, professor of public health and co-director of the Center for Health and Successful Living. "She combines her knowledge and talent with genuine concern and love for people. Clients sense that Barb truly cares for them — above and beyond their health needs. That is why they respond to her so positively. This is Barb's secret to success. It is rare to see such an effective combination of knowledge, skill and love for people."

"The best part of my job is when clients receive the care they need. It is hearing patients' stories. It is seeing hopelessness turn to hopefulness. It is watching others become proactive in their own health care when the tools they need are provided," Oxner said.

"The Center for Health and Successful Living strives to do this. I'm grateful to God for allowing me to meet Dr. Thompson and Dr. Jordan; I am thankful for the opportunity to serve others."



Photo by Daniel Miller

HONORED: Barbara Ann Oxner, a patient navigator in the UT Center for Health and Successful Living, received a Healthcare Hero Award from the Hospital Council of Northwest Ohio.

Ohio's Algal Bloom Research Initiative

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- Transport and fate of cyanotoxins in drinking water distribution systems, such as pipes and storage tanks, by Dr. Youngwoo Seo, associate professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering;
- Investigating alternative biological filtration for algal toxin removal in water treatment through better understanding of microcystin-degrading bacteria, also by Seo;
- Examining the influence of potassium permanganate treatment on algal cell integrity and toxin degradation, also by Seo;
- Developing microcystin-detoxifying water biofilters to upgrade water treatment filters with friendly bacteria through the discovery of enzymes and pathways responsible for microcystin degradation by Dr. Jason Huntley, associate professor in the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology;
- Studying the accuracy of ELISA, the standard test measuring harmful algal toxins, in comparison to a more time-consuming but reliable method, liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry by Dr. Dragan Isailovic, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry;
- Developing lab tests for detecting microcystin exposure through biological samples and measuring how much remains inside the body, also by Isailovic;
- Evaluating the ability of commercially available home purification systems to remove algal toxins from tap water by Dr. Glenn Lipscomb, professor and chair of the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering;
- Reconsidering recommended healthy exposure limits by studying the impact of algal toxins in experimental models of pre-existing liver disease by Dr. David Kennedy and Dr. Steven Haller, assistant professors in the Division of Cardiovascular Medicine;
- Studying health effects of recreational and work exposure



Photo by Daniel Miller

FLOAT ON: The downtown Toledo skyline is visible from the UT water quality and sensor buoy located off the shore of Maumee Bay State Park Lodge. It's part of a network of buoys throughout the western Lake Erie basin that provides live data vital in the assessment of harmful algal blooms.

to harmful algal blooms through fishing, swimming or boating by Dr. April Ames and Dr. Michael Valigosky, assistant professors in the Department of Occupational and Public Health; and

- Creating an online database to help inform the public about harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie by Dr. Patrick Lawrence, geography professor and associate dean of the College of Arts and Letters.

Ohio Sea Grant, which manages the statewide Harmful Algal Bloom Research Initiative, is soliciting proposals for a third round of funding to continue the efforts underway to address toxic algae in Ohio's Great Lake.

Participating universities include UT, Ohio State University, Bowling Green State University, Central State University,

Defiance College, Heidelberg University, Kent State University, Sinclair Community College, the University of Akron and the University of Cincinnati. UT and OSU serve as leaders of the university consortium.

To view the full report, go to <http://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/p/ib57m/view>.

The UT Water Task Force, which is comprised of faculty and researchers in diverse fields spanning the University, serves as a resource for government officials and the public looking for expertise on investigating the causes and effects of algal blooms, the health of Lake Erie, and the health of the communities depending on its water. The task force includes experts in economics; engineering; environmental sciences; business; pharmacy; law; chemistry and biochemistry; geography and planning; and medical microbiology and immunology.

Water quality is a major research focus at UT. With \$12.5 million in active grants, UT experts are studying algal blooms, invasive species such as Asian carp, and pollutants. Researchers are looking for pathways to restore our greatest natural resource for future generations to ensure communities continue to have access to safe drinking water.

Researchers and students help to protect the public drinking water supply for the greater Toledo area throughout summer algal bloom season by conducting water sampling to alert water treatment plant operators of any toxins heading toward the water intake. UT's 28-foot research vessel and early warning buoy enable UT to partner with the city of Toledo and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to monitor the health of Lake Erie and provide real-time data.

UT tracking Lake Erie harmful algal bloom to help water treatment plant operators

By Christine Billau

During a weekly water sampling expedition in late July aboard The University of Toledo Lake Erie Center's 28-foot research vessel, UT senior Alex Lytten holds the buoy steady as fellow senior Zach Swan sprays and scrubs it clean of algae and bird droppings.

For the third year in a row, UT's water quality and sensor buoy floats in Lake Erie's Maumee Bay providing live data accessible 24/7 to anyone by smart phone.

It's one piece of UT's battle plan to track and combat the growing harmful algal bloom in order to sound the early warning for water treatment plant operators as they work to provide safe public drinking water.

"The bloom is on its way," said Dr. Tom Bridgeman, UT algae researcher and professor of ecology, who has been focused on this problem for nearly two decades. "The blue-green algae is growing very rapidly right now. It's growing leaps and bounds."

Nearby at the city of Toledo water intake that pumps raw lake water to the plant, Bridgeman uses a pulley to draw a water sample and concentrates it into a jar.

It holds a mix of bright green and olive green algae. The olive green algae — "the good algae called diatoms," according to Bridgeman — sinks to the bottom of the bottle. The bright blue-green algae — "the bad algae responsible for producing toxins such as microcystin" — stays at the top.

"Looks like more blue-green algae than we had yesterday," Swan said.

"It's growing exponentially," Bridgeman said.

The researchers also spot a spiny water flea, an invasive species from the Caspian Sea, in the water sample. It's eating the other zooplankton moving in the jar.

Eva Kramer, a UT graduate student researcher who is pursuing a master's degree in ecology, mans the big blue wand called a YSI EXO sonde, which is comprised of several probes to measure various water quality parameters, including the amount of blue-green algae present, oxygen levels, water temperature and pH. It's the same instrument mounted inside UT's buoy.

Kramer first lowers the sonde for a surface reading and then even lower for a deeper reading.

"Here it's about six meters deep," Kramer said.

Swan submerges the black-and-white Secchi disk to measure how far below surface it disappears from view.

"It's 160 centimeters," Swan said.

"That's higher than I thought," Kramer said.

Lytten, who also serves as boat captain, uses a long tube that reaches the bottom of the lake to draw a water column sample.

"We're collecting a plug of water, instead of just on the surface," Bridgeman said.

The research team takes the samples collected throughout Maumee Bay and the open waters of the western basin back to the Lake Erie Center lab to process and analyze for algal toxins and chemical signals that will provide clues to help predict future blooms.

"We are watching very closely and prepared," Bridgeman said. "We expect to get a big bloom this year, but it's not necessarily going to cause a problem. It's usual, but it's not acceptable."

Bridgeman and his team will continue these sampling trips throughout the summer as one part of the University's efforts to address harmful algal blooms.

In addition to the environmental scientists, UT has experts conducting water quality research in a diverse breadth of areas, including economics, engineering, business, pharmacy, law, chemistry and biochemistry, geography and planning, and medical microbiology and immunology.

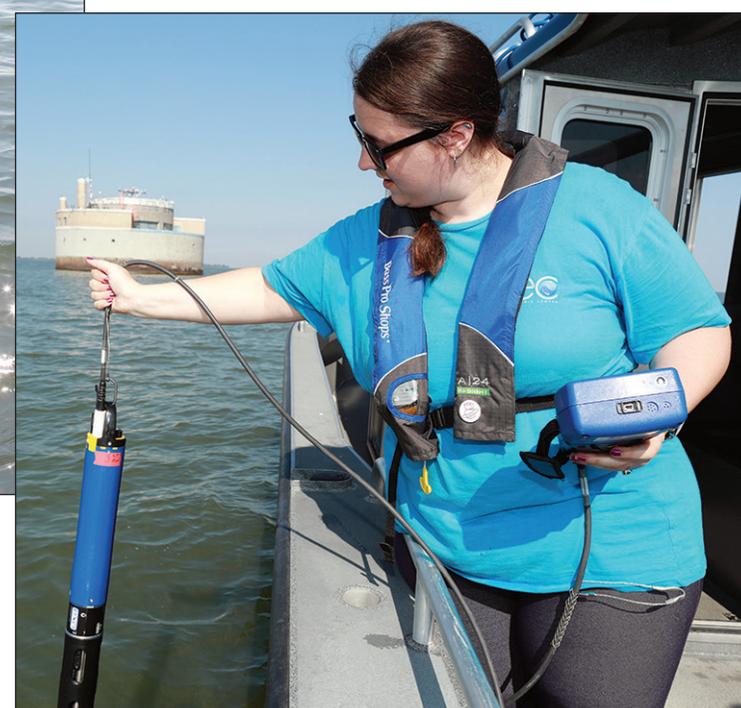


Photos by Daniel Miller

CLOSER LOOK: Dr. Tom Bridgeman, UT algae researcher and professor of ecology, examined a water sample aboard the Lake Erie Center research vessel.



LAKE SAMPLE: Alex Lytten, UT senior, draws a water column sample using a long, white tube.



LOWDOWN: Eva Kramer, UT graduate student pursuing a master's degree in ecology, lowers the YSI EXO sonde into the water. The instrument is comprised of several probes to measure various water quality parameters, including the amount of blue-green algae present, oxygen levels, water temperature and pH.

Art on the Mall

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education, said. “I’ve known Dan [Saevig, associate vice president of alumni relations] since the beginning. He and his crew do an amazing job rain or shine.”

Even fellow artists offer assistance. Connolly Pletz learned about notecards from Tom Durnford, a UT alumnus who taught a graphics class for the Communication Department and was director of publications and graphics from 1965 until his retirement from the University in 1989. The two had booths next to each for 23 years until Durnford passed away.

“He worked in watercolor and besides his paintings, he sold notecards of his artwork,” Connolly Pletz said. “That first year at Art on the Mall, I saw he was doing

a brisk business selling his cards. We talked, and he agreed to mentor me in publishing my own notecards.”

Since then, she has made 160 cards from her eye-catchingly colorful acrylic paintings, which showcase scenes from the Metroparks of the Toledo Area; the Lake Erie islands; Shippshewana, Ind.; and Ireland.

“People like to take something away that’s affordable,” Connolly Pletz said. “Not everybody has a place for a painting or can afford an original or the color is wrong. But everybody can use cards.”

“I also sell Toledo notecards, which are very popular,” Palmer Genzman said. “I sell out of calendars every year; I always have to send the kids home to get more.

The calendars aren’t that expensive, and yet they’re artwork. People really enjoy having a picture of Toledo.”

That local focus is important to both artists.

Palmer Genzman’s 2018 calendar features her meticulously detailed watercolor paintings of the University, last year’s Jeep parade, the Lights Before Christmas at the Toledo Zoo, walleye fishing, the Niagara ship on the Maumee River and more. Since her husband passed away, her son, Paul, writes the history.

“I want people to love their city and be proud of it. It’s a great city; it’s a great University — look at that

campus. What more can you ask for? Good eating places, you’ve got the Mud Hens downtown, I love the renaissance of downtown,” she said. “I taught art at Toledo Public Schools and lived in the Glass City until retirement. I now live in Lambertville, Mich., but I’m a Toledo person.”

“Many local places have caught my eye — and my heart,” Connolly Pletz said. “The Toledo Botanical Garden, Wildwood Metropark Preserve, the Maumee River, to name a few. There is so much natural beauty in our part of the world. I hope my work inspires some to pause and take a closer look at what we have right here.”



CALENDAR GIRL: Kathy Palmer Genzman posed for a photo in front of some of her watercolor paintings that are included in her Toledo calendar.



Photos by Daniel Miller

CARDHOLDER: Carol Connolly Pletz has made 160 cards from her acrylic paintings.



GIDDYUP: “Brown Swiss Dairy,” acrylic, was painted by Carol Connolly Pletz after one of her many visits to Shippshewana, Ind.

Associate professor emeritus sketches Louie the elephant

By Madison Vasko

On a recent Monday morning, Dr. Paul Brand found inspiration in the wise eyes of Louie, an elephant that was at the time housed at the Toledo Zoo.

“I belong to an informal group of artists, the Monday Morning Painters. We meet every Monday for breakfast and then sketch or paint in different venues around northwest Ohio,” explained the associate professor emeritus of physiology and pharmacology.

Though Brand was able to expertly capture Louie in his sketch, he pointed out that wild animals don’t always make the easiest subject matter: “Sketching at the zoo is fun, but challenging. Subject matter is mostly the interesting architecture; the animals would make great pictures if they would hold still. Happily, Louie held still for about 30 minutes while eating an enormous amount of hay.”

While Louie ate his breakfast, Brand studied the elephant’s features.

He described his artistic process: “I set up opposite him and laid out a sketch as usual, using a 2B drawing pencil, first noting the length and height of his body, the relative sizes of his head, ears and trunk, and the length of his legs compared to his height at his shoulder. Then I carefully outlined his body shape and used shading to give volume and character. I paid special attention to his face as that is where character is. Last, I made fine lines to show the creases around his eyes that give him the appearance of wisdom.”

Louie, born in 2003 at a whopping 275 pounds, recently was transferred to Henry Doorly Zoo and Aquarium in Omaha, Neb. He resides with a herd of six other elephants rescued from Africa amid a severe drought. Zoo staff are hopeful that transfers such as these will serve a large role in saving the endangered species.

Though visitors aren’t able to visit Louie at the Toledo Zoo, they can still pick up greeting cards made from Brand’s sketch, and the original sketch, at Art on the Mall. The juried art fair will be held Sunday, July 30, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Centennial Mall. Brand will be at booth No. 98, located near the Health and Human Services Building.

“I enjoy showing my work at art fairs; Art on the Mall is one of the best: well-organized; friendly, competent volunteers; and an excellent location on campus,” he said. “This is my fourth year at Art on the Mall.”



BIG TIME: Dr. Paul Brand, who drew this sketch of Louie the elephant, will have a booth at Art on the Mall Sunday, July 30.

Graduate student awarded Spitzer Fellowship in astronomy

By Madison Vasko

“As a teenager, gazing at the stars on the dark canvas of the sky was like entering the most luxurious cinema,” reminisced Thomas Lai, a graduate student studying astronomy. “Soon I picked up the habit of staying in the dark whenever I could and to recognize as many constellations as possible during my high school years.

“In retrospect, I can see this as a sparkle of the beginning of my interest in the enigmatic cosmos.”

Lai’s passion and hard work were recognized by the Department of Physics and Astronomy: He recently received the Doreen and Lyman Spitzer Graduate Fellowship.

The fellowship is named after Toledo natives. Lyman Spitzer was a world-renowned physicist and astronomer, who was an early proponent of a project that became the Hubble Space Telescope. The Spitzer Space Telescope, launched in 2003, is named after the scientist. Doreen Spitzer was a prominent archaeologist who had an affinity for all things Greek.

Lai, with assistance from Dr. Adolf Witt, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of Astronomy, and Dr. JD Smith, associate professor of astronomy, was able to publish a study on light emissions from nebulae in the Cassiopeia constellation.

“I was extremely pleased that we were able to offer the Spitzer Fellowship to Thomas. He was clearly qualified; he was eager to start an independent research project during his first year as a graduate student at UT, which the Spitzer Fellowship made possible,” Witt said. “The data for this project had been secured beforehand by my collaborator, Ken Crawford, and myself. This allowed Thomas to enter right at the data calibration, reduction and analysis stage of the project — the phase where scientific results and conclusions are being extracted from a collection of images and numbers.

“I enjoyed working with Thomas. The fact that the project resulted in a peer-reviewed scientific paper in a major journal within about two years speaks for itself.”

“They showed me not only the method in conducting research, but also the right attitude in finding the reasonable answer,” said Lai, regarding the aid he received from Witt and Smith.

On the results of his study, Lai said, “I am particularly interested in extended red emission, because we understood little about the exact emission process and the carrier involved in producing such light, even though it has been studied for more than 40 years. To summarize this study, we attributed the extended red emission to a

fluorescent process, namely the recurrent fluorescence, which enables small and fragile particles in interstellar space to dissipate their energy efficiently after being bombarded by high-energy photons originating in an illuminating star. This mechanism prevents particles from getting destroyed in the harsh environment filled with ultraviolet radiation from stars, and it may be a crucial process for increasing the survival rate of small carbonaceous molecules, which might be the building blocks of life.”

Though great progress has been made, Witt pointed out the work of a scientist is never finished: “It is an important part of the research experience that every successfully completed project should lead to new questions, which then demand follow-up studies. This has been the case with our work as well. A new question has emerged from some of our current findings, the solution to which we are pursuing through observations with the 4.3-meter Discovery Channel Telescope in Arizona and the 10-meter Keck II telescope on Mauna Kea, Hawaii. This will most likely be part of Thomas’s PhD thesis.”

Luckily, Lai’s passion for this field will surely lead to many more years of scientific discovery.



Lai

“Having this paper published means a lot to my career in astronomy,” Lai said. “It encourages me to find more intriguing phenomena provided by the universe and to reveal those profound facts hidden by wonders of the nature.”



Summer blooms

James A. Molnar, web and digital media specialist with the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, took this photo of daylilies by UT Medical Center.

Photo by James A. Molnar

Leap into action: Sign up to be a FROG

Employees and students: It's that time of the year when the Office of Residence Life needs your help.

Sign up to be a First-Year Orientation Guide (FROG) and help students who will be moving in next month.

"You can really make a difference to students and their families," Adam Bohland, assistant director of residence marketing and housing, said. "Students and their guests continually express how appreciative they are to have dedicated UT faculty and staff, as well as their peers, greet and assist them as they arrive on campus."

FROGs assist in a variety of tasks, including directing traffic, helping load students' items, and greeting and talking with new Rockets.

"This is a chance to show UT pride and have fun while being part of the excitement of the new fall semester," Bohland said.

To sign up to be a FROG and for more information, go to utoledo.edu/studentaffairs/reslife/frog.html.



JUMPING INTO HELP: FROGs — First-Year Orientation Guides — were ready to offer assistance last year when students were moving into Ottawa House West.

Student Rec Center to close for regular maintenance

The Student Recreation Center will be closed for upgrades from Saturday, Aug. 5, through Sunday, Aug. 20.

"We are excited that we will be replacing the auxiliary gym floor during our annual building maintenance shutdown," said Demond Pryor, director of the Office of Recreation in the Division of Student Affairs. "The current floor is the original surface from when the Student Recreation Center opened in 1990. So after 27 years of usage, it is well overdue to be replaced.

"This space is very popular for student informal recreational usage and for competitive recreational sports programming throughout the year."

During the shutdown, pool maintenance work will include replacing the spa heat exchanger as well as draining and deep cleaning the pools.

Preventative maintenance work also will be done on all of the fitness equipment, including re-upholstering a number of the weight machines and benches.

Touch-up painting inside the facility will take place, broken lockers will be repaired, and all interior and exterior windows will be washed.

"We strive to enhance the look and feel of the Student Recreation Center," Pryor said. "We are excited for the upcoming academic year that will bring increased usage of the Student Recreation Center by students, faculty, staff and the community."

The Morse Center, located in Dowling Hall on Health Science Campus, will continue to be available to all eligible students, faculty, staff and current UT Rec members. Summer hours for the center are Monday through Thursday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.; and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Additionally, UT Rec members can use the pool at the Radisson Hotel on Health Science Campus. Rocket IDs must be shown before use. For the Radisson Hotel pool hours, call 419.381.6800.

Scholarship established to honor former employee

By Steve Easton

A scholarship fund has been created for University of Toledo students in memory of former UT employee Larry Hilton.



Hilton

"UT was such a huge part of Larry's life, his extended family," said Debbie Hilton, Larry's wife of 28 years. "Larry is no longer here physically to mentor students, but we're hopeful

that this scholarship will provide monetary support that will assist future students in reaching their educational goals."

The Larry Hilton Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to two student workers, one student who is in Plant Operations Ground/Facilities and one

student in Athletic Facilities. The College of Engineering Scholarship Committee and the Athletic Department Scholarship Committee will each choose a student who is deserving of the scholarship.

"A scholarship of this magnitude will make it possible for a student to go to school who may not be able to afford college otherwise," said Dr. Steve LeBlanc, interim dean of the College of Engineering. "It is very kind of the Hilton family to consider an engineering student for this gift."

"We are extremely appreciative of this gift from the Hilton family," said Mike O'Brien, UT vice president and athletic director. "When you come to a Rocket event and see a student employee in action, you will see the legacy of Larry Hilton through this scholarship."

Hilton joined the UT staff in 1988 and worked as a mechanic and supervisor for the Motor Vehicle Department. He died in 2013 at age 54.

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Rockets rank No. 22 nationally in GPA among women's golf programs

By Steve Easton

The UT women's golf program was honored for its outstanding classroom performance this year by earning its greatest recognition to date from the Women's Golf Coaches Association. The Rockets' 3.723 team grade-point average during the 2016-17 academic year ranked No. 22 nationally (17th among NCAA Division I programs), with Jacksonville University leading the way with a remarkable 3.924 GPA.

"What a great honor for our student-athletes," Head Women's Golf Coach Nicole Hollingsworth said. "We have only been on this list once before in the history of this award, and this year's grade point average is our best yet. I am so proud of their hard work in the classroom, golf course and

community. What an awesome award to end the year!"

Toledo registered a school record 3.780 cumulative GPA in the 2017 spring semester and has posted team grade-point averages above 3.00 in 27 of the 28 semesters under Hollingsworth.

The Women's Golf Coaches Association is a nonprofit organization representing women's collegiate golf coaches. The association was formed to encourage the playing of college golf for women in correlation with a general objective of education and in accordance with the highest tradition of intercollegiate competition.



NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT: The Rockets' 3.723 team grade-point average during the 2016-17 academic year ranked No. 22 nationally — 17th among NCAA Division I programs — according to the Women's Golf Coaches Association.

Two men's basketball players named to national honors court

By Steve Easton

UT men's basketball players Zach Garber and Jordan Lauf have been named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Honors Court for a second consecutive season.

Garber and Lauf each graduated from UT following the 2016-17 academic year.

To be eligible, a student-athlete has to be a member of the varsity squad with junior or senior status and hold a cumulative 3.2 GPA or higher at the conclusion of the academic year.

A business management major, Garber started 10 of 16 contests last year while missing much of the second half of the season due to a broken foot. He averaged 3.6 points per game and 4.4 rebounds per game in 15.4 minutes per game and was able to return to play his final contest as a Rocket in the 2017 College Basketball Invitational.

Lauf will be entering his first season as a graduate assistant on the Rockets' coaching staff after earning his degree in business management. He paced UT with a 59 field-goal percentage and ranked second on the team with a career-best 6.2 rebounds per game and 75 offensive boards. The Rockets' two-time captain started 33 of 34 contests and averaged a career-high 8.3 points per game in a career-best 33.6 minutes per game en route to playing in a school-record 133 contests in his collegiate career.



Lauf



Garber

Annual Health Science Campus picnic on deck

Faculty, staff, students and volunteers are invited to UT Medical Center's thank-you picnic next month.

The picnic will begin with first-shift employees from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 1, on the patio outside of the Four Seasons Bistro and Health Education Building.

UT President Sharon L. Gaber will be joined by Dan Barbee, chief executive officer of UT Medical Center, and Dr. Christopher Cooper, dean of the College of Medicine and Life Sciences, and executive vice president for clinical affairs, for a brief program at noon.

David Cunningham, a custodial worker in Environmental Services, will play keyboards.

Second-shift employees will celebrate from 4 to 6 p.m. on the patio.

And third-shift employees will have their picnic from 7 to 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 2, in the Four Seasons Bistro.

"It's important to take the time to come together to celebrate the many accomplishments we have had over the year and recognize everyone for their exceptional work," Barbee said. "The UTMC team is the best group of people I have ever had the opportunity to work with, and the care they provide is second to none."



Thank You,
UTMC

faculty, staff, students and volunteers, for providing university-quality care and patient experiences in our hospital and clinics.

Celebrate with us!

<p>TUESDAY, AUGUST 1 Patio area outside Four Seasons Bistro and Health Education Bldg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First shift: 11 a.m.–2 p.m. • Brief program at noon by UTMC administration • Second shift: 4–6 p.m. <p>Live music by: David Cunningham UTMC employee</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2 Four Seasons Bistro</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Shift: 7 – 9:30 a.m.
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**THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
MEDICAL CENTER**

New work order software rolled out

To better serve the campus community, Facilities and Construction has implemented new maintenance request software, SchoolDude.

All facilities and maintenance requests should be made online to utoledo.edu/facilities/requests.html.

Users must register with the UT account number 1382162944 before entering work requests.

Once registered, users can follow the prompts and enter the work order, including maintenance, custodial or housekeeping, and sign shop requests.

In addition, users may log in at any time to check the status of the request and check the status of prior requests.

Emergencies should continue to be called to the following numbers: Main Campus and Scott Park Campus, 419.530.1000; and Health Science Campus, 419.383.5353.

For questions about the new software, contact Rebecca Smith, manager of work control, at 419.530.1409.

Current SchoolDude User? Login Here! **Click Here to Register Your Account!**

Email	Password	Sign In
<input type="text"/>	<input type="password"/>	
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Never Submitted a SchoolDude Request? Register Here! ^

Enter this account number during registration to link directly our account.

Account Number

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Phone Number

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New Password

Passwords are case sensitive and must be at least six characters long.

Confirm Password

Register

NOTE: Registration will be complete after you submit your first request. New users are not saved until their first request has been submitted.

In memoriam

Lynn Brown Buri, Maumee, a social worker in Outcome Management from 2004 to 2011, died July 9 at age 69.

Joesph W. Smolinski, Toledo, a pharmacist who worked at MCO, MUO and UT four decades, died July 13 at age 70. After retiring, he continued to work part time until 2010. A UT alumnus, Smolinski received a bachelor's degree in pharmacy in 1969.

Eugene Sund, Toledo, a former member of the Satellites Auxiliary, died July 1 at age 88. For a time, he served as treasurer for the volunteer organization.

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 UT community are welcome. Send information by campus mail to #949, University Marketing and Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Marketing and Communications Office, Mail Stop 949, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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

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