Celebrating enrollment

utnews.utoledo.edu



President Sharon L. Gaber, Rocksy and UT's enrollment team had a lot to cheer about Friday during a celebration in Libbey Hall: There's an increase in the number of students taking classes this semester for the first time in six years. Preliminary figures show an increase near 200 students for fall semester. The official enrollment numbers will be available Sept. 6. "It is important to take a moment to celebrate the hard work of the team who dedicated their time and energy to share the many great opportunities available here at UT and to encourage students through the enrollment process," Gaber said. "This is a University-wide achievement that reverses the recent trend of enrollment decline, and we all should be proud of this success.'

Photo by Daniel Miller

UT grad student trying to save rare songbird wins award at international conference

By Christine Long

hen golden-winged warblers and their sweet, buzzy voices take flight on the long journey south wearing what look like miniature backpacks, Gunnar Kramer worries how many will return in the spring.

"These birds are very uncommon and have been declining severely in some parts of their range for more than 50 years more than most other species of birds in North America," Kramer said. "To help preserve them, we are learning exactly where they go for the winter and how they get there.'

Kramer, a Minnesota-native who studies birds as a PhD student at The University of Toledo, uses cutting-edge technology to identify migration routes the tiny birds take once they leave their spring and summer nesting grounds.

The songbirds, which are about the size of a pingpong ball and weigh less than three pennies, travel thousands of miles, and Kramer is mapping their journey using what are called light-level geolocators.

"Golden-winged warblers breed throughout the Great Lakes region and the Appalachian Mountains," Kramer said. "We know they spend the winter somewhere in Central and South America. However, nothing is known about where specific populations settle down."

The graduate student in the Department of Environmental Sciences recently was honored for a talk he gave at the North American Ornithological Conference in Washington, D.C., about his pioneering research on the silvery gray birds with yellow-crowned heads that are under consideration for federal endangered species protection.

The American Ornithologists' Union awarded Kramer the Council Student Presentation Award at the gathering of 2,000 birding professionals from all over the world.

"The goal is to help improve conservation efforts to boost their

continued on p. 8



Gunnar Kramer held a golden-winged warbler, which carried a geolocator. Researchers attached the tiny backpack to the bird in 2015 and recovered it in 2016. The data on the geolocator will help Kramer understand the warbler's migratory route and winter location.

University's schoolrecord GPA wins **MAC** academic achievement award

Ry Paul Heloren

SEPT. 6, 2016 VOLUME 17, ISSUE 3

he University of Toledo received more hardware — the 2015-16 Mid-American Conference Institutional Academic Achievement Award.

For the past academic year, UT's 377 student-athletes posted a school-record grade point average of 3.235. It is the second year in a row and the fourth time in the last five years that the Rockets have won the award.

"Establishing the record for highest grade point average in school history and earning the MAC Institutional Academic Award is a wonderful achievement by our student-athletes," said UT Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O'Brien. "I'm especially proud of the tradition of academic excellence that we have established at The University of Toledo. Earning the MAC Institutional Academic Award for the fourth time in the last five years is an indication of the consistent effort and determination of our student-athletes to excel in the classroom. This honor is also shared by the coaches, classroom instructors and the Student Athletic Academic Services staff who all work so hard in mentoring and nurturing our student-athletes."

The MAC Institutional Academic Achievement Award is presented annually to the conference school that achieves the highest overall college GPA for studentathletes competing in institutionally sponsored sports for the academic year.

UT also received the award in 2014-15, 2012-13 and 2011-12.

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SEPT. 6, 2016 **NEWS**

UT researchers receive funding to study link between kidney disorder and cardiovascular disease

By Rebecca Schwar

Researchers at The University of Toledo are examining how a genetic kidney disorder also increases the person's risk of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

Dr. Wissam AbouAlaiwi, assistant professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, received a three-year, \$231,000 Scientist Development Grant, and doctoral student Hannah Saternos received a \$2,000 award from the American Heart Association to study the pathophysiology of cardiovascular disease in polycystic kidney disease (PKD).

PKD is a genetic disorder that causes numerous fluid-filled cysts to grow in the kidneys, ultimately destroying their architecture and reducing their function over time. These cysts also are associated with the development of high blood pressure and problems with the heart and blood vessels in the brain.

"There is currently no cure or treatment for PKD. A kidney transplant can buy an individual more time, but patients with PKD will still usually die from cardiovascular complications such as high blood pressure and heart disease," AbouAlaiwi said.

AbouAlaiwi and his team are studying a cellular organelle called primary cilia and its role in kidney and cardiovascular disease.

"Primary cilia are antennalike structures that, until recently, were believed to have no function in the body. We now know they contribute to dozens of genetic disorders and play a role in calcium signaling in heart cells, which is important to its contraction," he said. "We have developed mouse models to further study these cilia and the complications that arise from their dysfunction."

This is the third grant for AbouAlaiwi's lab in one year, and he is quick to credit his team of students for their hard work and dedication.

"The students are very reliable and passionate and the driving force behind the research," he said. "Funding for research is very competitive, and I am proud that Hannah was able to receive support from the American Heart Association. She

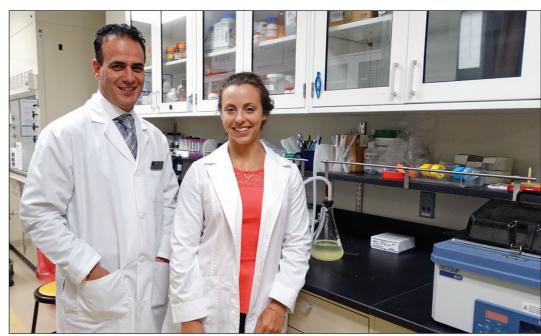


Photo by Amanda Benjamin

IN THE LAB: Dr. Wissam AbouAlaiwi and doctoral student Hannah Saternos both received grants for their research examining how a genetic kidney disorder increases a person's risk of cardiovascular disease and stroke.

is very talented, smart and dedicated to her work. The award is well-deserved."

Saternos is researching the function of a family of receptors that she recently discovered in the primary cilia and how it affects PKD and regulates blood pressure.

"If you would have told me four years ago I would be working with the kidney and loving it, I would have thought you were crazy," she said. "It's fascinating. I don't think people realize how much impact the kidney has on the rest of the body."

Interim AVP for marketing and communications named

Communications strategist with 30 years f experience has joined UT to lead the Marketing and Communications team.

Barbara J. Owens, former vice president of corporate communications and chief communications officer/senior communications advisor with Owens-Illinois Inc., has been named interim associate vice president for marketing and communications.

As the chief communications officer for Owens-Illinois from 2009 to 2015, she led the internal and external communications strategy of the Fortune 500 glass manufacturer in more than 20 countries around the globe.

Prior to that, she ran her own consulting business, Owens Communications LLC, in Chicago and Detroit. Her clients included General Motors Corp., Bayer AG in Germany, Bayer Corp., Baxter Healthcare Corp., Owens-Illinois, Edelman Public Relations, Gagen MacDonald, and Fox-Coffey Translation Services in Austria.

Owens also served as manager of corporate public relations at Bayer Corp. in

Pittsburgh for two years and as the North American liaison for public relations of Bayer AG in Leverkusen, Germany, for six years. She speaks German fluently.

"Barbara brings with her a wealth of experience and will help lead UT's marketing and communications efforts through a time of transition," President Sharon L. Gaber said.

"I am excited to join this talented group of professionals and look forward to helping integrate the marketing and communications team and developing a communications strategy that supports the University's objectives," Owens said. "We will continue to deliver excellent marketing and communications support to our many stakeholders and customers in support of building a stronger UT."

Owens has a bachelor of arts degree in political science and international politics from Northwestern University and an MBA from Arizona State University's Thunderbird School of Global Management.



Owens

GPA

continued from p. I

The Mid-American Conference recently recognized Toledo with the Faculty Athletics Representative Men's Academic Achievement Award. These honors recognize the conference institution with the highest overall grade point average for both men's and women's student-athletes. It was the third time the UT men won the award and the first time since 2010-11.

NEWS SEPT. 6, 2016

Forums scheduled to receive feedback on master plan scenarios

By Meghan Cunningham

he University of Toledo's facilities master planning team will hold open forums next week to receive feedback on

The University is working with consultants from SmithGroupJJR to study UT facilities and establish a long-term vision to guide facilities decision-making. The consultants will provide an update on the work they completed over the summer and discuss major drivers of change and how the master plan should respond.

The forums will be:

Monday, Sept. 12

- Community Forum on Main Campus, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Driscoll Alumni Center Auditorium
- Student Forum on Main Campus, 7 to 9 p.m., Student Union Room 2591

Tuesday, Sept. 13

- Open Forum on Health Science Campus, 10 to 11:30 a.m., Collier Building Room 1200
- Brown-Bag Lunch on Main Campus, noon to 1:30 p.m., Student Union Room 2592
- Commuter Student Forum on Main Campus, 4 to 6 p.m., Student Union Room 2584
- Open Forum on Health Science Campus, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Collier Building Room 1200

For more information about the University's master planning process or to contribute input online, visit utoledo.edu/ facilities/master-plan.

Back-to-school parking tips

By Christine Long

s students become familiar with their class schedules and new routines during the start of fall semester at The University of Toledo, it's important to know available parking options and tools that can help make it easier to find a spot.

Parking congestion is greater in certain parts of campus, especially on the surface lots near the core academic area.

Like universities across the country, the best choice is not always closest to your

The parking lots by Bowman-Oddy Laboratories and the Health and Human Services Building fill quickly every morning and regularly stay full through the

The parking garages are equipped with vehicle counters and display the number of spaces available or if it is full.

Parking lots on the south side of campus usually have spots readily available. Parking lot 25 by Rocket Hall, lot 18 along Douglas Road near the Student Recreation Center, and lot 20 by Nitchske Hall have had a significant number of empty spots during the last few weeks.

If students are not able to walk a few extra minutes to their first class, they can jump on a shuttle for free.

UT offers Blue and Gold transit routes where buses are picking up and dropping off passengers at the parking lots every 10

Students can download the TransLoc Rider app at utoledo.transloc.com/info/ mobile to view arrival times and track

On the scene



Lt. Julie Rightnowar shared a laugh with two University students who were at the Meet the Office of Public Safety event last month near the Varsity T Pavilion, while UT Chief of Police Jeff Newton handed out flying discs and talked to two children. Held during the first week of classes, the event was a fun way to introduce students and area residents to members of the UT Police Department, Health Science Campus Security, Support Services, and Radiation Safety and Health.



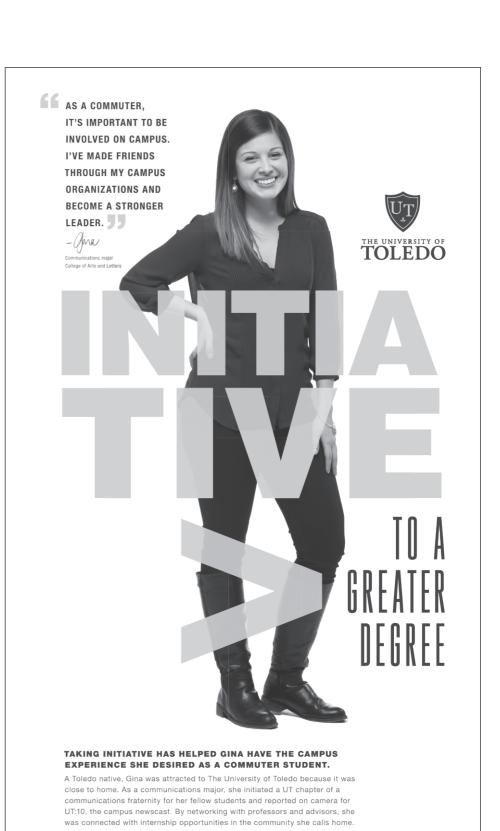
NEWS SEPT. 6, 2016





Saturday, Sept. 10, 2016 | 4:30-6:30 p.m. FREE FOOD, GAMES, AND PRIZES!

MEET UT PRESIDENT SHARON GABER! Look for our tent near the University Parks Trail just outside Rocket Hall.



LEARN MORE ABOUT HOW UT IS HELPING STUDENTS LIKE GINA TAKE INITIATIVE IN THEIR CAREER AT

UTOLEDO.EDU/GREATERDEGREE

NEWS SEPT. 6, 2016

Med students complete summer community health project

By James A. Molnar

his summer, medical students spent more than 4,500 combined hours of service in the community.

Rising second-year medical students were part of the eight-week Waite Brand Community Health Project, a summer workstudy program that pairs medical students between their first and second years with local social service agencies.

For medical students, it's their last free summer of college before they begin year-round clinical rotations, and they could spend it doing anything they want.

From May to July, these 15 students spent roughly 300 hours each at one of 11 sites throughout northwest Ohio: Reynolds Elementary School, the Sight Center of Northwest Ohio, the Ability Center of Greater Toledo, ProMedica, Feed Lucas County Children, Cherry Street Mission, YWCA of Northwest Ohio, Prescribed Pediatric Center, Mercy Health, UT CommunityCare Clinics and the University Church Garden.

"Many students began their summer unsure of what to expect from their internship, but by the end, after jumping in to serve with these organizations, they learned a tremendous amount," said Sam Ivan, second-year medical student and this year's director of the program. "Students saw firsthand barriers to health that many of us would never consider."

Established in 1993, the Community Health Project provides medical students with a deeper and broader understanding of the socioeconomic, cultural and environmental factors that contribute to

an individual's health status

"The best part was seeing students build relationships," Ivan said. "We have several students who continue to volunteer with their organization because of relationships they made there.'

Students also had the opportunity to visit other sites within the program, engage in small group discussions, and craft a proposal to address a local need of their choosing. This resulted in seven unique studentmade proposals, many of which will be considered for implementation.

Interns were second-year medical students Omar Badawi, Danielle Bozek, Josh Hall, Jessica Ickes, Veronika Kholodovych, Kevin Litzenberg, Kayla Lockhart, Saloni Mathur, Amira Najjar, David Quan, Danielle Smith, Joseph Silvestri, Natasha Sinai Hede, Talya Spivak and Sonita Tem.

Learn more about the Waite Brand Community Health Project at utoledo.edu/ med/studentaffairs/summeropp/utchp.html.

Medical students who participated in the Waite Brand Community Health Project posed for a photo Aug. 13 at the reflection picnic at Providence Dam Metropark in Grand Rapids, Ohio. They are, from left, Director of Student Affairs Dawn Durivage with medical students Omar Badawi, Danielle Bozek, Jessica Ickes, Student Program Director Sam Ivan, Kayla Lockhart, Danielle Smith, Amira Najjar, Veronika Kholodovych, Josh Hall, Talya Spivak and CommunityCare Clinics Director Hannah Kissel.

> several students at Reynolds Elementary, one of 11 sites throughout northwest Ohio that is part of the Waite Brand

Intern Jessica Ickes had fun with Community Health Project.





SEPT. 6, 2016 SPORTS



SPORTS SEPT. 6, 2016

Renovated east side of Glass Bowl ready for Rockets' home opener this week

By Paul Helgren

oledo Rocket football fans who sit on the east side of the Glass Bowl are in for a pleasant surprise when they arrive at the stadium for UT's home opener vs. Maine Saturday, Sept. 10.

Renovation on the east side of Toledo's legendary football home is complete and ready for the 2016 season.

The renovation project gives the east side of the Glass Bowl a whole new look. Highlights include a more open concourse, an attractive new façade facing Stadium Drive, as well as improved fan amenities, including new entryways, concession stands and rest rooms.

"I think the spectators who sit on the east side of the stadium will really appreciate the improvements we've made," said UT Vice President and Athletic Director Mike O'Brien. "It will be a much better game-day experience for our fans."

In addition, the team itself will be playing on a brand-new FieldTurf surface that was installed last spring.

Even the Rockets' opponents will see the improvements, as the visitor's locker room received its first major facelift in a couple of generations.

> **NEW LOOK:** The east façade of the Glass Bowl is more spirited, and the concourse on that side of the stadium is more spacious.



One Rocket fan to win lease on Jeep Wrangler

By Paul Helgren

The University of Toledo has teamed up with the Yark Automotive Group and Bud Light to give one lucky fan a two-year lease on a new 2017 Jeep Wrangler.

All fans 21 and older in attendance at the Saturday, Oct. 22, football game against Central Michigan will be eligible to win. Fans may enter to win at the Glass Bowl Oct. 22 or via an enter-to-win contest on iHeartRadio and WIOT 104.7 FM.

During the game, three contestants will be escorted onto the field. All three finalists will be given a key to the jeep, and one lucky fan's key will start the vehicle.

To enter the contest, visit WIOT.com or sign up at the Glass Bowl on game day.

Tickets for the game can be purchased at the UT Athletic Ticket Office, online at utrockets.com or by calling 419.530.GOLD (4653).



Toledo football Sept. 10 home opener to feature fireworks

By Paul Helgren

he University of Toledo's home-opening football game vs. Maine Saturday, Sept. 10, will feature a halftime fireworks show, courtesy of area auto dealerships that are part of the Rockets' Car Coaches Program.

"The home opener is a celebration of a new season, so we want to kick it off with a spectacular fireworks display that will light

up the Glass Bowl," said Dave Nottke, deputy director of athletics. "We would like to express our sincerest thanks to all of our Rocket Car Coaches who have made this special fireworks presentation possible"

Season tickets are still available. Tickets are half-off for UT employees and retirees, and UT students are admitted free to home games with ID. Stop by the UT Athletic Ticket Office, go to utrockets.com or call 419.530.GOLD (4653) for more information.



Fireworks for the home opener have been made possible thanks to the generosity of the Rocket Car Coaches: Ballas Buick GMC, Brondes Ford Maumee, Brondes Ford Toledo, Brown Honda Mazda Mitsubishi Isuzu Truck, Bobby Jorgensen's Kistler Ford, Perrysburg Auto Mall, Yark Automotive Group, and the White family dealerships — Dave White Chevrolet, Jim White Toyota and Lexus of Toledo.

SEPT. 6, 2016 SCIENCE

Rare songbird

continued from p. I

numbers," Kramer said. "If we can figure out golden-winged warblers, we can help the other species make a comeback."

Kramer and Dr. Henry Streby, UT assistant professor and ornithologist, have been looping tiny backpacks around the legs of these birds for three years.

Figure-eight harnesses secure the backpack, which contains a battery, a computer chip and a light sensor. The whole thing weighs less than half of a paper clip and does not inhibit flight or movement.

"We were the first people to put this type of technology on a bird this small," Streby said. "We developed the tiniest methods for the tiniest birds, and now we're helping people do the same thing with many other species."

"The light sensor records ambient light and stores it with a time stamp on the unit every couple minutes," Kramer said. "We are using differences in day length to predict daily location of the birds throughout the year. Based on how long the day and night are, you can tell approximately where you are on the planet."

So far, more than 100 light-level geolocators have been recovered from birds who made the return journey to various locations up north.

Though the research is not complete, preliminary results show golden-winged

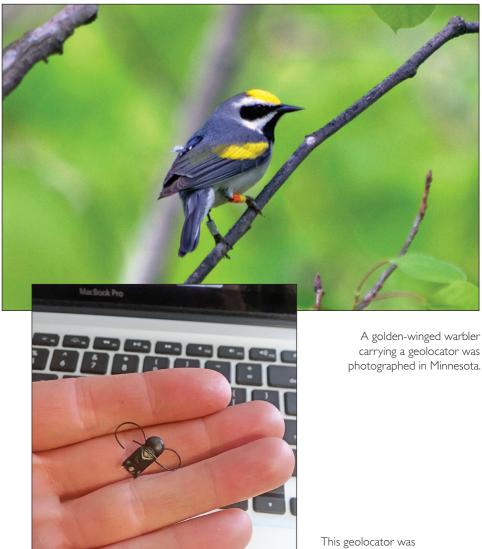
warblers from declining populations spend their winters in South America on the border of Venezuela and Columbia. The stable population of the species that breed in Minnesota spend the winter spread out through Central America from southern Mexico down to Panama.

"There might not be anything we may be able to do up here on the breeding grounds to help preserve this species of warbler if the limiting factors for these populations are on the wintering grounds," Streby said. "Factors like loss of habitat or human disturbance might be influencing the populations in the wintering grounds to a different effect. Countries have different conservation policies. There are countries that can afford to take care of bird habitat and those that cannot. We have a responsibility to help them."

These UT researchers are collaborating with scientists from various universities, including the University of Tennessee, the University of Minnesota and West Virginia University.

Funding is provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Science Foundation.

To watch a video showing how the geolocators are put on the birds, go to http://henrystreby.wixsite.com/research/methods.



This geolocator was recovered from a golden-winged warbler after a full year of recording data. The bird carried this unit for more than 5,000 miles.

UT Stranahan Arboretum invites public to March of the Monarchs Sept. 10

By Chrstine Long

The University of Toledo Stranahan Arboretum is helping save monarch butterflies with the creation of a rest stop and nursery for the black, orange and white-patterned pollinators.

The arboretum's new monarch waystation is a flower garden made up of milkweed and nectar plants to help nourish and protect the butterflies as they reproduce and migrate.

The public is invited to celebrate at the March of the Monarchs Saturday, Sept. 10, at 11 a.m. at the UT Stranahan Arboretum, located at 4131 Tantara Drive.

A butterfly parade showcasing the different stages from caterpillar to butterfly will begin at 1 p.m. Children are encouraged to wear butterfly costumes.

The event shines a spotlight on how families can help bolster the species' dwindling population.

"Every fall, the monarch migration from the U.S. and Canada to Mexico and California is a great natural wonder, but it's threatened by habitat loss," said Pam Struffolino, event coordinator at the arboretum and research operations manager in the Department of Environmental Sciences. "It's up to all of us to help preserve this beautiful species through gardening."



Researchers awarded grant to study how to increase diversity in engineering workforce

By Christine Long

The National Science Foundation awarded \$123,859 to a team of researchers at The University of Toledo to study the factors affecting the success and career choices of underrepresented minority engineering students.

The two-year project will compare factors at UT and Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University.

The study will focus on the attitudes and beliefs of faculty and staff, existing institutional support mechanisms, and the role of student organizations. The research will examine the effects these have on the social and academic integration of African-American students.

"The broader impact of this project is that it addresses the national need to diversify the engineering workforce," said Dr. Lesley Berhan, the project's principal investigator and associate professor in the Department of Mechanical, Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering. "The results will be used to identify areas where existing practices might be improved and to inform the design of programs and intervention strategies to improve the success of underrepresented engineering students not only at our home institutions, but at institutions across the country."

Berhan will work with Dr. Revathy Kumar, professor of educational

psychology, and Dr. Willie McKether, vice president for diversity and inclusion, on the project titled "Factors Affecting Underrepresented Minority Student Success and Pathways to Engineering Careers at Majority and Minority Institutions."

According to the National Science Foundation project summary, "While inadequate college preparation is a contributing factor in the low enrollment and poor retention and graduation rates among underrepresented students in engineering programs, there is evidence that professional persistence is directly linked to identity development and social and academic interactions."

"Once again, The University of Toledo is on the forefront of cross-cutting, long-term research that will determine our economic destiny," Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur said. "It's important for future generations and our economic standing to understand and develop the means to maximize opportunity for all of our citizens to contribute to their best God-given abilities. This research aims to do that."

UT to hold seminar on prostate cancer and urological health

By Rebecca Schwan

Surgery and radiation therapy for prostate cancer can cause undesirable side effects, including erectile dysfunction and incontinence, but a cancer diagnosis does not mean a man's quality of life needs to suffer.

A seminar aimed at educating men about available options for prostate cancer and improving their overall urological health will be held Thursday, Sept. 15, at 6 p.m. at UT Health's Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m.

"It is important for men who are diagnosed with prostate cancer to ask about the treatment options that are available to them," said Dr. Samay Jain, UT Health vice chief of staff and division chief of urologic oncology. "Men with low-risk prostate cancer may be good candidates for active surveillance, which means we monitor him closely, but delay surgery or radiation treatment until it is needed."

If active treatment cannot be avoided, Jain said there are options to help preserve a man's quality of life. "Our surgeons are trained in robotic surgery and other minimally invasive therapies for the cure of prostate cancer to help you get back to living your life with less pain and scarring and reduced risk of side effects," he said.

Jain encourages men experiencing incontinence or impotence to talk to their doctor about the available treatment options, including medications, therapies and surgical options.

"Shifting Focus: Thinking Beyond Prostate Cancer and Into Survivorship" is part of the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center's Wellness Information Series. Jain is certified through the American Board of Urology and focuses on urologic oncology, minimally invasive robotic procedures and prostate MRI.

Space is limited, and reservations are required. Email eleanorndanacancer@ utoledo.edu or call 419.383.5243.



The Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center Wellness Information Series

presents

"Shifting Focus: Thinking Beyond Prostate Cancer and into Survivorship"

Eleanor N. Dana Cancer CenterThursday, September 15, 20166-7 p.m.

Registration begins at 5:30

Surgery and radiation therapy for prostate cancer can cause undesirable side effects, but a prostate cancer diagnosis does not mean a man's quality of life needs to suffer.

Dr. Samay Jain, an expert in urologic oncology will discuss treatment options such as active surveillance and robotic surgery and will share the latest in medications, therapies and surgical treatments for men experiencing cancer-related side effects such as impotence and incontinence. Open to prostate cancer survivors and their partners, this lecture will focus on preserving and improving a man's well-being after a cancer diagnosis.



featuring

Dr. Samay Jain, UT Health vice chief of staff and division chief of urologic oncology

RSVP to 419.383.5243 by September 14, 2016

There is no charge to attend, but reservations are requested

SEPT. 6, 2016 NEWS

Comfort food



Photo by Daniel Miller

Kurt Fannin picked up some slices of pizza at De-Stress Fest, which was held during the first week of classes.

FOR BREAKING NEWS,
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utnews.utoledo.edu

Job search



Photo by Daniel Miller

Emir Moore, left, and DéAundré Byrd talked to Marjory Goodloe of Student Affairs at the On-Campus Student Employment Part-Time Job Fair.

UTNEWS

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NEWS SEPT. 6, 2016

New path, dedication of bridge to mark UT's Celebrate Our River Week

By Vicki L. Kroll

he beauty of the Ottawa River is being showcased by two new projects that officially will be recognized during UT's Celebrate Our River Week, Sept. 11-17.

Students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members can learn about a new walking path that will be constructed along the waterway that cuts through Main Campus. Hear about the gravel trail, which will extend from the Law Center to Secor Road, Tuesday, Sept. 13, at noon on the south side of the Law Center.

"This trail, which was paid for by the Student Green Fund, will be a great way to experience the Ottawa River," said Dr. Patrick Lawrence, chair of the UT President's Commission on the River and associate dean of social and behavioral sciences in the College of Arts and Letters.

"You never know what you might see. We have more than 40 fish species in the river. And this summer we've also reported muskrats, deer, turtles, frogs, blue heron, mallard ducks and Canada geese," Lawrence, professor of geography and planning, added.

Another great vantage point to look for wildlife and observe the river is the new David Leigh Root Bridge on Stadium Drive. The span will be dedicated during a ceremony Thursday, Sept. 15, at 3 p.m.

President Sharon L. Gaber and Lawrence are scheduled to speak during the event. David Leigh Root, the local businessman the bridge is named after, also will be at the ceremony.

The new span features UT's signature lannon stone as well as six-foot-wide sidewalks on both sides of the road.

"The bridge now provides ample walking room, a safety measure for all pedestrians," Jason Toth, associate vice president for facilities and construction, said. "In addition, the new bridge incorporates aesthetics that blend with the Gothic architecture on campus."

"Two new signs that identify the Ottawa River have been added to the bridge," Lawrence said. "We all worked together to make sure the new structure complemented our campus and the river."

Following routine inspection, it was determined the bridge, built in 1961, needed to be replaced due to age and condition, according to Toth. The project started in March, and the new bridge opened Aug. 5.

Other events for Celebrate Our River Week are:



Photo by Daniel Mille

NEW SPAN: The David Leigh Root Bridge on Stadium Drive opened last month.

- Clean Your Streams UT is participating in the 20th annual event Saturday, Sept. 17, from 8:30 a.m. to noon by hosting two locations by the Law Center on Main Campus and by the Collier Building on Health Science Campus. University community members may volunteer to help pick up along the Ottawa River and Swan Creek. Participants must register at partnersforcleanstreams.org by midnight Sunday, Sept. 11.
- Fifth Annual Student River
 Photography Contest Entries are
 due by noon Wednesday, Sept. 14.

 Winners will be announced Friday,

- Sept. 16, at noon in the Student River Plaza, located behind the Student Union and Carlson Library. See story below for details.
- Informational posters and videos will be on display in Carlson Library during the week.

Celebrate Our River Week is presented by the UT President's Commission on the River.

"We're lucky to have the Ottawa River running through our campus," Lawrence said. "We've worked hard to improve the aquatic and forest habitat along the 3,700 feet through Main Campus."

Submissions sought for Student River Photography Contest

Students: It's time to take your best shots of the Ottawa River. Enter the fifth annual Student River Photography Contest.

The President's Commission on the River is sponsoring the competition. Gift cards will be awarded for first, second and third place.

Photographers of all skill levels are encouraged to enter the contest; cell phone photos will be accepted.

Students are limited to a maximum of three separate photo entries. Digital manipulation should be limited to basic light and color correction.

Entries should include a high-resolution jpeg image of the Ottawa River on Main Campus and can focus on scenic views, wildlife, nature, people or any river-related topic or theme.

A panel of photography and Ottawa River experts will judge the entries. Decisions of the judges will be final.

Entries must be received by noon Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Email photos, along with student name, Rocket ID and phone number, to patrick.lawrence@utoledo.edu — Dr. Patrick Lawrence, associate dean of social and behavioral sciences in the College of Arts and Letters; professor of geography and planning; and chair of the President's Commission on the River

Awards will be presented Friday, Sept. 16, at noon at the Student River Plaza, located behind the Student Union and Carlson Library, as part of Celebrate Our River Week.



"The Descent to Fall" by Sarah Dooley won first place in the 2015 Student River Photography Contest.

SEPT. 6, 2016 NEWS

Island fun



Photos by Daniel Mille

Provost Andrew Hsu took a photo of President Sharon L. Gaber and a student at the luau last week.

Abbey Lorenz received a T-shirt from Teri Shehan, a success coach in the Center for Success Coaching, at the President's Backyard Barbecue last week. Centennial Mall was packed with students, faculty and staff who ventured out for a taste of the island life. The Office of the President and the Division of Student Affairs sponsored this annual event.

Help support right to read by donating banned books

By Carly Wiegand

Stand up for your right to read by donating books for The University of Toledo's annual event that promotes freedom of expression.

UT's Banned Books Vigil will be held Thursday, Sept. 29, on the fifth floor of Carlson Library. Every half hour, attendees have the chance to win prizes, including banned books.

Each year, several books are banned and some are considered among the best novels ever written — *The Great Gatsby, Moby Dick, The Scarlett Letter* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

UT's vigil takes place during Banned Books Week, which brings together librarians, booksellers, publishers, journalists, teachers, students and readers. By concentrating on efforts to remove or restrict access to books, Banned Books Week draws attention to the harms of censorship.

"It is important for society to stay vigilant when it comes to censorship because people will try to tell us what to think and how to think, and if access to ideas is closed, then it will be easy for people to control what we are thinking," Dr. Paulette D. Kilmer, UT professor of communication and founder of the vigil, said. "The only way we can think freely is to read whatever we wish to read."

The UT Communication Department, Honors College and University Libraries sponsor this campus-wide event, which also is supported by the community. More than 1,800 individuals attended the event last year, according to Kilmer.



Read, Think, Speak, Create **Freely**

"We should never think that the fight for the First Amendment is over. We need to always care about our intellectual freedom and our right to express ourselves," Kilmer said.

A list of banned books is available on the American Library Association's website at ala.org.

Become a "Champion of Freedom of Expression" by donating a banned book. Donors' names will appear inside the books they purchased and announced as the novels are awarded as door prizes.

Books for the vigil may be purchased at Barnes & Noble University Bookstore, or contact Colleen Strayer at 419.530.2516 or toledo@bkstore.edu by 9 p.m. Monday, Sept. 21. Cash donations also are welcome.

For more information, contact Kilmer at paulette.kilmer@utoledo.edu.

