

MLK Unity Celebration to kick off Week of Service to honor civil rights leader

By Christine Billau

The 2017 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Celebration will kick off a Week of Service for students at The University of Toledo.



Abernathy

Students, families and leaders in the Toledo community will gather at UT on the holiday for the annual Unity Celebration and then spread out throughout the city to honor King's passion to help others.

The theme of the 16th annual event on Monday, Jan. 16, is "Reconciliation Through Service: Education, Social Justice and Religion," named in honor of the three pillars that defined the philosophy of the civil rights leader who created a nonviolent social movement that changed the course of American history.

The free, public Unity Celebration will take place at 9 a.m. in Savage Arena on the UT Main Campus. A free community luncheon will follow the ceremony.

The keynote speaker will be Donzaleigh Abernathy, award-winning actress and daughter of civil rights icon Ralph David Abernathy. She published a book about the friendship between her

parents and the Kings titled "Partners to History: Martin Luther King Jr., Ralph David Abernathy, and the Civil Rights Movement."

The Unity Celebration will feature performances by the Scott High School marching band, UT gospel choir, UT Fire Squad dance team, and students from the Toledo School for the Arts, as well as recognition of MLK Scholarship recipients and African-American Leadership Council of United Way Scholarship Award winners.

Throughout the week, UT students will volunteer at local agencies, including the Friendly Center, Padua Center and J. Frank Troy Senior Center.

In addition, UT is partnering with the United Way of Greater Toledo and other local colleges and universities for service activities throughout the month.

"We are proud to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. King by working together

and helping serve others," UT President Sharon L. Gaber said. "Selfless acts of generosity combined with conversations about issues that in the past have kept us separate will allow us to celebrate our differences."

"Through meaningful work and 'Reconciliation Through Service: Education, Social Justice and Religion,' we can make real our celebration of Dr. King's life in 2017 and beyond as we strive as individuals and as a city to define ourselves by these peaceful and powerful activities," Toledo Mayor Paula Hicks-Hudson said.

Several events are scheduled at UT throughout the week, starting with Cost of Poverty Experience training sponsored by the United Way of Greater Toledo. The two-hour event will guide students through a role-playing simulation to give them a glimpse into the lives of low-income individuals

continued on p. 6

Pancreatic cancer survivor credits aggressive, unconventional treatment at UT in successful fight

By Christine Billau

Gerri Musser of Oregon, Ohio, didn't think she would be around to celebrate Christmas and the New Year with her family.

"I am very lucky to be alive," Musser, 62, said. "The odds were overwhelmingly against me."

The day-care worker and great-grandmother of seven believed she was delivered a death sentence when doctors diagnosed her with pancreatic cancer in August 2015.

"You hear awful stories about how it's too late when symptoms of pancreatic cancer surface — people died within weeks," Musser said. "I was at stage IV when they found it. The shocking diagnosis sounded like instantaneous death. They gave me six months to live."

Musser said her cancer journey started when she couldn't keep any food down and

continued on p. 5



Photo by Christine Billau

GRATEFUL PATIENT: Dr. Changhu Chen and Gerri Musser posed for a photo in the Edge Radiosurgery Suite in UT Medical Center's Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center. Under Chen's care, Musser received a 10-day, high-dose, targeted radiation treatment for a tumor in her pancreas, liver, stomach and bile duct.

Academic research uses hacked Ashley Madison data to map areas with most cheating husbands

By Christine Billau

The Bridgeport, Conn., metropolitan area led the nation last year in active use of Ashley Madison, the matchmaking website for extramarital affairs, with 6.23 subscriptions and \$1,127 spent for every 1,000 men between the ages of 18 and 79, according to research at The University of Toledo.

Graduate student researchers used customer data exposed by anonymous hackers last year to analyze the geography and market characteristics of active users.

The research titled "Infidelity and the Internet: The Geography of Ashley Madison

continued on p. 7

Graduation day



Toledo native Dr. Timothy Law Snyder, president of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, returned to his alma mater to deliver the fall commencement address Dec. 17 in Savage Arena. The distinguished American educator and academic administrator's career includes success as a computational mathematician, musician, published scholar, lecturer and podcaster. He graduated from UT in 1981 with bachelor's degrees in both psychology and mathematics, and a master's degree in mathematics in 1983. Snyder received an honorary degree during the ceremony.



High-fives abounded during the ceremony.



President Sharon L. Gaber applauded the graduates.



Happy faces filled Savage Arena.

UT recognized as first university in U.S. to dedicate both Blue and Gold Star Memorial markers on campus

By Christine Billau

The University of Toledo is nationally recognized as the first University campus in the country to simultaneously honor all service members of the armed forces and the families who lost a loved one defending the United States by dedicating both a Blue Star Memorial marker and a Gold Star Memorial marker.

UT unveiled the new markers at the Veterans Memorial Plaza on Veterans Day.

Andrea Little, national chair of the Blue Star and Gold Star Families Memorial Marker Program, recently wrote a letter on behalf of the program and National Garden Clubs to Navy Reserve Lt. Haraz Ghanbari, UT director of military and veteran affairs, to notify the University of the pioneering honor.

“By these actions taken, you and your staff have elevated this program’s standards; and a distinct precedent has been established by which all other university campuses should emulate,” Little noted. “There is no greater way to honor all our armed forces and their families.”

continued on p. 6



Photos by B&K Photography

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: The Gold and Blue Star Memorial markers were unveiled in November at the UT Veterans Memorial Plaza, an outdoor area that honors individuals and groups who served in the U.S. military.

UT receives award for being military friendly

By Josephine Schreiber

The University of Toledo has consistently been recognized for accommodations to student veterans and their families.

After being recognized as a top school for supporting student veterans by Victory Media, UT has been named a Bronze Award recipient for being a Military Friendly School.

continued on p. 7



Board of Trustees approves conversion to 15-week semesters

By Meghan Cunningham

The University of Toledo will offer 15-week semesters beginning in the 2017-18 academic year to provide students with more flexibility for success in the classroom and experiential learning opportunities.

The Board of Trustees approved last month the conversion from a 16-week semester to a 15-week semester.

The new academic calendar setup will continue to provide the required 750 minutes of instruction during a semester while also allowing additional flexibility for students. The shorter semesters would allow students to participate in more summer and winter intersessions, which can improve their time to degree, or add experiential learning opportunities, such as internships, research or study abroad.

"It brings benefits to both students and faculty," Provost Andrew Hsu told the trustees. "Our main goal, of course, is student

success. It would improve student time to degree through intersessions and enhance student success through experiential learning opportunities. And it also will help our faculty members by giving them two weeks more time to do their research and scholarly activities."

The change in the academic calendar brings UT in line with peers in Ohio, including Ohio State, Cincinnati, Miami, Kent State, Akron, Cleveland State, Wright State and Ohio University.

Some universities have implemented the conversion by adding five minutes of instruction to each course, and others have made adjustments to fall break to maintain instructional time, Hsu said. The Provost's Office will work closely with Faculty Senate, which had previously approved the measure, to implement the shorter semester schedule at the University.

UT Medical Center earns national safety recognition

An increased focus on patient safety has earned The University of Toledo Medical Center a place on a ranking of the country's safest teaching hospitals by Consumer Reports.

UTMC was named one of America's 32 best teaching hospitals at preventing central-line infections in intensive care units. The study used federal data from 2011 to 2015.

Central-line infections involve IV tubes and are particularly dangerous because they allow germs to directly enter a patient's bloodstream. Up to a quarter of all central-line infections are deadly.

"Patient safety is our top priority at UTMC, and this report reflects the hard work that our doctors, nurses and entire staff have put in to reduce the number of these infections," said Dan Barbee, UTMC interim CEO.



Photo by Rachel Nearhoof

Experts believe central-line infections are highly preventable, and Barbee said, "As a teaching hospital, we feel it's vital to focus on safety as we prepare the next generation of physicians to serve northwest Ohio."

This honor comes on the heels of recent patient satisfaction surveys that give UTMC high marks in outpatient surgery. Barbee added, "It's great to see our staff's efforts to improve the patient experience being recognized, and we continue to focus on ways to provide high-quality, life-saving care to the patients we serve."

In memoriam

Virginia E. "Ginny" (Jacobs) Dietrick, Keithville, La., who worked in the Audio-Visual Department from 1961 until her retirement in 1979, died Dec. 10 at age 98.

Gloria A. (Fluharty) Drake, Sylvania, died Dec. 26 at age 90. She was a staff nurse in the recovery room at MCO Hospital from 1963 until her retirement in 1989.

Logan Green, Toledo, a junior in the College of Business and Innovation, died last month at age 18.

Tamra S. "Tami" (Chamberlin) Komisarek, Whitehouse, an analyst in the Budget Office, died Dec. 26 at age 34. She joined the UT staff in 2009. She is survived by her husband, Justin Komisarek, an electrician at the University.

Molly L. LaBadie, Waterville, who was studying anthropology and art history, died from a sudden illness Dec. 22 at age 24. She was on vacation with her mother, Dr. Kandace J. Williams, professor of biochemistry and cancer biology, and associate dean of the graduate program in the College of Medicine and Life Sciences. LaBadie was a lab aide in the College of Medicine from 2015 to 2016. The Department of Biochemistry and Cancer Biology is establishing a fund in memory of LaBadie with the UT Foundation. Donations may be made to the UT Foundation with "Biochem in memory of Molly LaBadie" in the memo and left with Mary Ann Schuster, assistant to the chair of the Biochemistry and Cancer Biology Department, in Block Health Science Building Room 413. Donations also may be made online at give2ut.utoledo.edu or mailed to the UT Foundation, 2801 W. Bancroft St., M.S. 319, Toledo OH 43606-3395.

Franklin W. Potts, Pemberville, Ohio, died Nov. 7 at age 97. He was a fire services consultant in vocational education at UT from 1968 to 1973.

Daniel J. Richardson, Columbus, a respiratory care practitioner at MCO/MUO/UTMC from 1981 to 2010, died Dec. 7 at age 67.

Monica (Boos) Shoviak, Toledo, a former UT instructor, died Dec. 12 at age 49. A UT alumna, she received bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees in 1998.

Everett E. "Willie" Williamson, Estero, Fla., who worked at UT from 1983 to 1997, died Dec. 31 at age 82. Over the years, he held several positions. Williamson was a member of the UT Retirees Association.



CONGRATULATIONS: Danielle Helmski, daughter of Holly Helmski, administrative assistant in the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, graduated cum laude with a bachelor of science degree in exercise science. Danielle will continue her education at the University and pursue a master of public health degree in epidemiology.

800-pound, interactive periodic table at UT inspires living science

By Christine Billau

It's the first of its kind at a university or museum in Ohio and Michigan and possibly the only life-size periodic table in the world built and filled by a community.

The 800-pound, interactive periodic table bolted to the wall inside the main entrance to The University of Toledo's Wolfe Hall features 118 LED-illuminated glass boxes.

Each box represents an element, and members of the community are invited to fill the boxes with examples of how each element relates to everyday life and current events.

The display features touch-screen technology that allows visitors to explore a variety of apps that share stories and videos about the elements, contents of the element boxes, and who donated the items for each element.

The display titled "Living Science: The Ever-Changing Periodic Table" was funded by a \$31,465 grant from UT's Women & Philanthropy, a collaborative effort of area women and the University's Division of Advancement that supports institutional initiatives.

"You'll be surprised how you can relate to the periodic table," said Dr. Kristin Kirschbaum, director of the UT Instrumentation Center, who worked for five years to bring this project to life. "This unique display is so inspiring — both visually and educationally — for anyone who walks through the doors. We want the whole community — not only chemists — to participate in filling it in."

As part of the grant for the project, Kirschbaum can reimburse donors up to \$50 for an item.

"Through all of my research, this is the first and only community-built periodic table in the world," Kirschbaum said. "We didn't buy it pre-made with elements already inside. A local carpenter built this from scratch, and we are asking the public to help fill it up. We also will be able to regularly change the items in the boxes."

Eight-year-old Destiny Zamora furnished the element box labeled "Au" with a gold-plated coin minted to celebrate the 100th year of Mexico's independence, a gold medal, and a picture of Scrooge McDuck diving into his money vault.

"I chose gold because it's my favorite color, and I want to be rich someday," said the second-grader at Napoleon Elementary School whose father's fiancée works in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. "Did you know Olympic gold medals only contain 1.34 percent of gold?"

Alyson Lautar, a UT pharmacy student, donated a smoke detector to represent americium, which is made in nuclear reactors and was first produced in 1945 as part of the Manhattan Project. The symbol for the element on the periodic table is Am.

"Americium-241 is a vital ingredient in ionization-style smoke alarms, which are inside homes and help save lives in the event of a fire," Lautar said. "A tiny piece of the radioactive americium can detect smoke. When americium-241 decays, it releases positively charged alpha particles. The alarm has two ionization chambers — one is closed to everything but the alpha particles, while the other is open to the air. Normally, these two ionization chambers would receive the same amount of positive charge, but if a small amount of smoke gets into the open chamber, the

balance of charge between the chambers is thrown off and triggers the alarm."

Dr. Steven Toth, a lecturer and lead expert at the University of Michigan in Flint who earned his bachelor's degree and PhD in chemistry from UT, is donating a bottle of Flint water for the box representing



Photos by Cameron Norton

LIGHTING UP SCIENCE: "Living Science: The Ever-Changing Periodic Table" is located in the main entrance of Wolfe Hall.



HISTORIC CASE: The display in the radium box was created by Joe Slater, the UT Eugene N. Balk Professor of Law and Values. Women who worked in a New Jersey factory in 1917 and used self-illuminating paint that contained radium sued the New Haven Watch Co. after getting radiation poisoning. That case was the start of health and safety law in the workplace.

lead to help teach about the city's recent water crisis. The symbol for lead is Pb.

"Lead used to be thought of as a 'wonder' chemical. It doesn't store heat for nearly as long as other metals and has fast-drying powers, so it was used in pipes, paint and makeup," Toth said. "We now know that lead can be toxic, and pretty much all products are sold lead-free. However, people in Flint were drinking water with high levels of lead after the city changed the water source in 2014. The city treated the water with chlorine to kill bacteria, and the chlorine started leaching lead out of the older, lead-lined pipes."

Joe Slater, labor and employment law expert and the Eugene N. Balk Professor of Law and Values in the UT College of Law, designed the radium display that contains an old alarm clock, paint brush, New Haven watch box, black-and-white factory photo, description of legal cases, and program from the play titled "Radium Girls." Radium's symbol is Ra on the periodic table.

"Women who worked at the factory in New Jersey in 1917 used self-illuminating paint that contained radium to make the dials on the watches, and they were told to lick the brushes to give them a fine point," Slater said. "Some women got radiation poisoning and sued the company because they had



ELEMENTALLY SPEAKING: Dr. Kristin Kirschbaum, director of the Instrumentation Center, worked for five years to make "Living Science: The Ever-Changing Periodic Table" a reality.



The POWER OF GOLD: Destiny Zamora, 8, pointed to the gold element box, which she filled.

continued on p. 6

Alumna's gift makes holiday bright for one UT student

By Vicki L. Kroll

Daniela Somaroo hopped in her car Dec. 18 in Detroit and drove down I-75 to visit friends in Toledo — and to make one special delivery.

First stop for the UT alumna: the home of Dr. Sammy Spann, assistant provost for international studies and programs.

She handed Spann a check for \$4,000, a donation to the Center for International Studies and Programs.

“He immediately rejected it, which I expected was going to happen,” Somaroo recalled. “And I said, ‘No, this is something that I really need to do, and I’m not going to take it back because this could help somebody else.’”

“This was an unexpected blessing,” Spann said of the generous donation. “This will be used to help a young lady from Haiti who was getting ready to go home due to lack of funds. Now she can take classes next semester.”

Two years ago, Somaroo was that young lady lacking funds for school.

“During my last semester, the government body that administers currency exchange in my country wasn’t approving the release of dollars for me to be able to pay for school anymore,” the native of Caracas, Venezuela, said. “And, of course, if you don’t pay your last semester, you don’t get your diploma. That was my concern: If I

didn’t have my diploma, I wouldn’t be able to submit my paperwork for a work visa.”

Somaroo was at the Center for International Studies and Programs and happened to see Spann.

“Like the awesome person Sammy is, he asked, ‘Hey, how are you doing? Were you able to pay for your semester?’ I wasn’t going to lie to him, and I told him I was still about \$4,000 short, and I was graduating in four days,” Somaroo said. “I can walk in the ceremony, but I wouldn’t receive my diploma.

“So he talked to Cheryl Thomas, executive assistant in the Center for International Studies and Programs, who is also a great person, and he said, ‘Hey Cheryl, can you find \$4,000 for Daniela’s account?’ And then he said, ‘Congratulations, you’ve graduated.’ That was just a shocker. Things like that don’t happen all the time. It was a life saver. I am forever indebted to him.”

It was December 2014, and Somaroo received a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. Then she landed a job as a service engineer at Honeywell International Inc. and moved to Merrillville, Ind. For the past couple months, she’s been filling in at the company’s Detroit office.

“Sammy didn’t say it was a loan,” she said. “But I made myself a promise once he gave me that money to pay for the

semester; I told myself I had to pay it back somehow, someday. It took me two years, but I made it.”

Spann was moved to tears by the gift and posted about it on his Facebook page.

Comments poured in: “So awesome people like her still exist. Wow!” “She truly has a heart of gold.” “Thank you so much for showing love to our students.” “What an inspiration. I can’t wait to give back to the Center for International

Studies and Programs!” “It is so amazing to see Rockets helping Rockets!” “Thank you for reaching back and investing in others!”

Somaroo was surprised by the post — and the comments.

“It was just extremely overwhelming. I didn’t expect anything. Sammy’s thank-you and knowing where that money is going



GIVING BACK: UT alumna Daniela Somaroo visited Dr. Sammy Spann last month to give him a \$4,000 donation for the Center for International Studies and Programs. She wanted to pay back the scholarship the center gave her in 2014.

to were more than enough, and I told him that,” she said. “The amount of comments and love I’ve received from that post — my heart is full.”

Tax-deductible gifts to benefit UT students and programs can be made online at give2ut.utoledo.edu or by calling 419.530.7730.

Survivor

continued from p. 1

lost 23 pounds in six weeks. She went to her family physician to find out why she was so sick.

“The ultrasound discovered a tumor the size of a cantaloupe in my pancreas,” Musser said. “I was immediately referred to the Dana Cancer Center at The University of Toledo to see a specialist.”

Surgical oncologists took her into surgery, but couldn’t remove the tumor because they discovered it also had spread to her liver, stomach and bile duct.

Dr. Changhu Chen, radiation oncologist at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center and professor and chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology in the UT College of Medicine and Life Sciences, said Musser had a less than 5 percent chance of survival.

“After the surgery, I told them three times, ‘I want to live, I want to live, I want

to live,’” Musser said. “I will do whatever I have to do.”

The primary tumor in Musser’s pancreas continued to grow despite chemotherapy, so Chen and staff at the Eleanor N. Dana Cancer Center guided Musser through what Chen calls “unconventional treatment.”

“This is an exceptional case,” Chen said. “She responded so well, you could call it a miracle.”

Musser underwent a 10-day, high-dose, targeted radiation treatment.

“We offered Gerri a 10-day course of high-dose, intensity-modulated radiation therapy using a technology called stereotactic radiosurgery,” Chen said. “Instead of the traditional treatment of low doses on a region of the body for 25 to 30 days, we focused specifically on Gerri’s tumor for 10 minutes a day for 10 days

with more than double the dosage using our Edge Radiosurgery Suite. We have had this machine for more than two years and have extensive experience with this fast and safe treatment.”

“It was aggressive treatment, and I’m happy to say it worked,” Musser said. “Dr. Chen dropped an atomic bomb on that big tumor in my pancreas, and the tumor has resolved. I had no side effects. I’m in a remission state and check in with my doctors every other month to make sure it doesn’t come back.”

Chen said Musser’s tumor is the largest for which he has had success using this treatment for pancreatic cancer. This technique is normally used for tumors less than 2 inches in size.

“Pancreatic cancer is a very deadly disease,” Chen said. “There has been no big breakthrough in treatment, no discovery

of a method for early detection. I am glad we had good results from a devastating diagnosis in Gerri’s case.”

Chen said the Dana Cancer Center has had many successful treatments for patients with cancers other than pancreatic cancer using expertise and technology in radiation therapy at UT.

Musser, whose hair is growing back, savored every minute celebrating Christmas with her husband, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

“I had great doctors, and I’m feeling good about making a fresh start for the New Year,” Musser said. “It’s a long road. I’m not done yet. It’s something I’ll have to live with for the rest of my life. However, I am prepared to fight again because I’d like to see my great-grandchildren grow up.”

MLK Unity Celebration

continued from p. 1

and families in this region. The free, public session will be held Wednesday, Jan. 18, from 3 to 5 p.m. in Thompson Student Union Rooms 2582 and 2584.

UT will show a documentary about the emergence of King titled “Eyes on the Prize: No Easy Walk” Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 6 p.m. in Doermann Theater. The screening will be followed by a discussion. The free, public event is sponsored by the UT Office for Diversity and Inclusion.

The UT Epsilon Alpha chapter of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity is sponsoring a showing of “Alpha Man: The Brotherhood of MLK” Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 6 p.m. in Student Union Room 2592. The documentary tells the story of King’s fraternity days as a member of Alpha Phi Alpha.

Students also are invited to UT’s Driscoll Alumni Center Auditorium, where Dr. Cornel West’s speech at Bowling Green State University will be streamed live Thursday, Jan. 19, at 6:30 p.m. West is a social activist, Princeton University professor and author of the book “Race Matters.”



The Unity Celebration is organized by a committee with co-chairs Dr. Willie McKether, UT vice president for diversity and inclusion; Linda Alvarado, executive director of the Board of Community Relations for the city of Toledo; and Pastor Christopher Rowell.

For more information, contact the UT Office for Diversity and Inclusion at diversity@utoledo.edu.

Blue and Gold Star Memorial markers

continued from p. 2

UT student Clinton Grantham, a senior studying social work, spearheaded the effort with Ghanbari. Grantham, who is a medically retired active-duty Army veteran, served a tour in Afghanistan as a member of the 10th Mountain Division based at Fort Drum, N.Y.

“UT has a lot of student veterans, and I wanted to do something special not only for them, but for families who lost a loved one in combat,” Grantham said. “When I started the process, I had no idea that no one had done this before. I’m proud we accomplished it in seven weeks, on time for Veterans Day. Future students will walk by every day, hopefully read the memorial markers, and understand what service members and their families sacrifice to serve and defend their country.”

The Blue Star Memorial reads, “A tribute to the Armed Forces who have defended the United States of America.”

The Gold Star Memorial reads, “A tribute to Gold Star Families whose loved one paid the ultimate price defending the United States of America.”

The University has long been recognized as a military friendly school for its commitment to providing exceptional assistance and support to service members, veterans and their families.

In 2017, UT was again recognized by Military Times in its Best for Vets: Colleges 2017 rankings and by Military Advanced Education & Transition as a top school in its 2017 Guide to Colleges & Universities research study.

Pay it forward



Photo courtesy of Owens Community College

President Sharon L. Gaber was the keynote speaker at Owens Community College’s 36th commencement last month. She advised the 528 graduates to be lifelong learners, be part of the great change happening in northwest Ohio, pay it forward, and take care of their own health. Following her remarks, Gaber was presented with an honorary associate’s degree in geography from the college.

Periodic table

continued from p. 4

been told the paint was harmless. That was the start of health and safety law in the workplace, a very important part of current American employment law.”

Matt Hafner, the local carpenter who built the massive periodic table in seven weeks, wants to do something for hafnium simply because it’s similar to his last name. Hafnium is Hf on the periodic table.

“While researching hafnium, I discovered it is used in tips of plasma torches,” said Hafner, owner of MDH Construction in Maumee. “I have one of those torches, so I’m considering making a video of how they are used on construction projects.”

Only a small handful of the element boxes contain items. A toy-sized Tin Man from “The Wizard of Oz” stands behind the glass labeled “Sn.”

A radiologist supplied a small bottle of gadodiamide, a gadolinium (Gd) that is used as a contrast agent in MRIs. Gadolinium’s box also contains a CD and the magnetic Pokémon called Magnetron as it’s one of the few magnetic elements.

“We’re hoping the community will help us fill the empty element boxes,” Kirschbaum said. “Sparkplugs could be used for iridium (Ir), a tool set or dietary supplement for vanadium (V), dynamite for nitrogen (N). It can be anything from the pure element to something related to it. The possibilities are endless.”

To make a contribution to the periodic table, contact Kirschbaum at 419.530.7847 or kristin.kirschbaum@utoledo.edu.

For more information, go to utoledo.edu/nsm/ic/periodictable.html.

Research

continued from p. 1



Chohaney

Usership in the United States" recently was published in the journal *Geographical Review*.

The common characteristics identified of cheating husbands are financially well-off, younger, not retired and less religious.

Michael Chohaney, a PhD student studying spatially integrated social science at UT, and Kimberly Panozzo, who recently graduated with a master's degree from the Department of Geography and Planning, conducted the research.

"This is the only academic geography article we know of that collects, processes and analyzes publicly available data originally stolen and released by Internet hackers," Chohaney said. "Due to ethics concerns, we handled the Ashley Madison user account information with the utmost respect for personal security and privacy. No individual user identities or locations can be derived from our work."

Although the scandalous data dump included 7 million subscribers in the U.S., this research analyzed the accounts and narrowed it down to 702,309 active profiles. Researchers eliminated inactive users, such as people who visited the site once for free out of curiosity to view other members' profiles. Unusable billing addresses and duplicate profiles paid for by a single credit card account also were removed.

"Women were not required to pay, so only heterosexual men are included in our sample," Chohaney said. "We focus on users who put their money where their mouse is in order to measure and better understand the characteristics of those vulnerable to cheating."

The top three areas with Ashley Madison subscription rates are Bridgeport, Conn.; Boulder, Colo.; and Jacksonville, N.C. The markets with the top spending rates are Bridgeport, Conn.; Washington, D.C.; and Boston.

"Income is the leading market determinant for Internet-facilitated infidelity," Chohaney said. "The service of allowing people to pay to engage in an extramarital affair behaves as a luxury good, which means people with disposable incomes are willing to pay for a service that facilitates extramarital affairs and promises anonymity during the process. It makes sense; Bridgeport is wealthy."

Chohaney said metropolitan statistical areas with the highest rates also housed large numbers of armed forces personnel and families with children headed by male breadwinners.

At the local level, spatial distribution of user and spending rates are most highly clustered in the Atlanta and Chicago areas. The most active suburbs and neighborhoods of Atlanta were Buckhead and Roswell. The most active suburbs and neighborhoods of Chicago were Lincoln Park and Aurora.

The research finds that locations with higher proportions of Asians and older married men were less likely to subscribe or spend money on Ashley Madison than locations with large proportions of African-Americans, Hispanics and younger married men. Further, the research found Ashley Madison subscription rates drop 18 percent and spending rates drop 13 percent for every additional religious congregation per 1,000 people.

"That indicates religiosity prevents individuals from using the Internet to cheat on their spouse," Chohaney said.

Military friendly

continued from p. 2

This award is given to large public schools with outstanding programs and support for veterans and their families.

UT's name was published on militaryfriendly.com last month and was printed in the December issue of *G.I. Jobs* and the *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*. Both publications are produced by Victory Media.

"This recognition demonstrates the commitment of our university and our community to our service members, veterans and their families," said Navy Reserve Lt. Haraz N. Ghanbari, UT director of military and veteran affairs. "With increased support, we can continue to build upon the solid foundation we have created over the last several years."

UT has been consecutively recognized by Victory Media for being military friendly since 2010 and

also has been recognized by the KMI Media Group and the *Military Times*.

Ghanbari wants UT to be the most veteran friendly school in the region by implementing impactful programs and services that provide military students the opportunity to have successful transitions from military service to the classroom and beyond.

"I encourage our faculty and staff to contact the Military Service Center at 419.530.VETS to schedule Green Zone Training to help provide a better understanding of our service members, veterans and their families, as well as the resources we have on campus and in the community to make sure we are best-positioned and equipped to support our military students," Ghanbari said.

UT NEWS

UT News is published for faculty, staff and students by the University 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 Communications Office, Vicki Kroll. Email: vicki.kroll@utoledo.edu. Fax: 419.530.4618. Phone: 419.530.2248. Mailing address: University Communications Office, The University of Toledo, Toledo, OH 43606-3390.

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

Winter weather policy reminder

In the rare event of a major snow or ice storm or other inclement weather that makes it necessary for UT to delay or suspend classes or campus events, the University will announce this information through several communications vehicles:

- UT Alert text message and email: Sign up at utalert.utoledo.edu;
- Web: utoledo.edu and myut.utoledo.edu;
- Phone: 419.530.SNOW (7669);
- Social media: Facebook and Twitter; and
- Local media.

The University of Toledo is committed to a policy of equal opportunity in education, employment, membership and contracts, and no differentiation will be made based on race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, veteran status or the presence of a disability. The University will take affirmative action as required by federal or state law.



DO YOU HAVE A GREAT BUSINESS IDEA?

The University of Toledo faculty, staff, students and alumni* are invited to participate in a business innovation competition detailing your unique business idea.

THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND INNOVATION AT UT IS PROVIDING PRIZE MONEY OF:



\$10,000

sponsored by O-I



\$5,000

*sponsored by Chuck and
Ann Hodge Business Plan
Competition Fund*



\$2,000

sponsored by PNC Bank

Honorable Mention \$500

sponsored by PNC Bank

Innovation

You'll find the application instructions for this competition utilizing Lean Launch Pad concepts at utoledo.edu/business.

- There is one free workshop for those planning to enter the competition. It will be offered on **Monday, February 6, 2017**, from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the PNC Entrepreneurship Lab, room 3100, Savage & Associates Business Complex.
- Entries must be submitted by **Monday, February 27, 2017**.
- Finalists will be announced on **Friday, March 24, 2017**.
- Finalists will make an oral presentation about their business using the business model canvas** on **Thursday, April 13, 2017**, between noon and 5:30 p.m. in the PNC Entrepreneurship Lab, room 3100, Savage & Associates Business Complex.
- Winners will be announced **Thursday, April 20, 2017**.



**COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
AND INNOVATION**

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

This competition reflects UT's belief in innovative thinking and is intended to advance a creative culture of growth in all areas of the University. UT College of Business and Innovation is conducting the business model/plan competition.

COBI reserves the right to not provide a particular cash award if no qualified proposal is received. In addition to cash prizes, selected awardees may receive assistance in areas such as intellectual property and business consultation.

*Alumni can participate as a member of a team involving current UT faculty, staff or students.

** For more information, please visit businessmodelgeneration.com/canvas or leancanvas.com