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a biweekly publication for the Middle Tennessee State University community

Oct. 19, 2009 • Vol. 18/No. 08

the RECORD



Crank up the volume for plenty of fun

by Rhonda Wright
 rwright@mtsu.edu

MTSU students and alumni are preparing for "A Rockin' Raider Homecoming" week starting Monday, Oct. 19, and culminating with a full day of activities Saturday, Oct. 24.

Going with the "Rockin' Raider" theme, alumni and student groups plan to crank up the volume on events that will build on traditions and make new memories.

Among the scheduled activities are:

- T-Shirt Swap, trading another school's shirt for the official 2009 homecoming shirt;
- the African American Alumni Council's Comedy Show;
- the National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show;
- Chuck Taylor Blue Raider Golf Scramble;
- MTSU Centennial History Preview;
- Golden Raiders Society Class of 1959 reunion events;
- Great Bowls of Fire Chili Cook-Off;
- the Fourth Annual Mixer on Middle Homecoming Parade-Watching Party at the Alumni House and much more.

It all leads to the 2:30 p.m. MTSU vs. Western Kentucky football game in Floyd Stadium.

The Alumni House is a great vantage point for the parade, and all are invited to the Mixer on Middle Parade-Watching Party where alumni Chip Walters, the voice of the Blue Raiders, and Aaron Solomon, co-host of WSMV's "Channel 4 News Today," will serve as parade announcers. A complimentary breakfast will be served from 9 a.m. while the food lasts.

As part of Saturday's parade, which starts at 10 a.m., Alumni Relations also is hosting



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MTSU receives \$850K in new federal grants

from Staff Reports
 news@mtsu.edu

MTSU can help keep citizens safer from lead poisoning and train more law-enforcement personnel thanks to new federal grants totaling \$850,000 to expand lead-hazard outreach and forensic science training.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Justice recently allocated the funds, said Congressman Bart Gordon.

MTSU's Forensic Institute for Research and Education received \$550,000 from the Justice Department to develop six forensic science courses at MTSU and provide 12 in-service training workshops for Tennessee sheriff's and police departments, in addition to funding the development of online training workshops.

"The Justice Department grant will serve to broaden the impact of forensic science on both the MTSU campus and within Tennessee's forensic community," explained Dr. Hugh Berryman, director of FIRE and a forensic anthropologist and research professor of anthropology at MTSU.

"We will develop undergraduate and graduate programs in forensic science and provide traditional in-service training for Tennessee law enforcement, while exploring distance learning as a more economic and logistically advantageous alternative."

"At a time when many sheriff's and police departments can't afford to offer specialized training to officers, this grant will provide quality training to Tennessee law enforcement and educate more students to become forensic scientists and technicians," Gordon added.

The \$300,000 grant from

See 'Grants' page 2

Womacks lend name, love to department

by Tom Tozer
 ttozer@mtsu.edu

This family moves mountains. Because of the Womack family's tremendous love and support for MTSU for more than 50 years and their considerable financial assistance that ultimately will provide more than a half-million dollars in faculty and scholarship support for the education program, the university has renamed the Department of Educational Leadership in their honor.

The MTSU department is now known as the Womack Family Educational Leadership Department.

From the time the doors of

Middle Tennessee State Normal School opened in 1911, the Womack family has influenced the look, feel and heart of the campus and provided leadership across the education spectrum in the state of Tennessee.

"We greatly appreciate the Womack family's tremendous commitment to our College of Education," said Dr. Sidney A. McPhee, MTSU president.

"The Womack name has been synonymous with education in Tennessee, from Dr. Bob's long tenure



Dr. Womack

in our education leadership department to Andy's service in the state Senate as chair of the education committee. Few families have had as deep and lasting a history on our campus. We are deeply indebted to them for their generosity and are proud to recognize their service and commitment with the naming of the educational leadership department in their honor."

"Dr. Bob, his four children and their families have made a commitment to the university both in outright contributions and in their estate planning that will easily be the largest gift to that program," added

See 'Womacks' page 5

IN BRIEF

DYSLEXIA INFO FORUM SET

A free Dyslexia Information Forum is scheduled for parents, teachers and other interested individuals on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from

6:25 to 8 p.m. at Murfreesboro's Linebaugh Public Library, 105 W. Vine St. A panel from Murfreesboro City Schools, MTSU and the Tennessee Center for the Study and Treatment of Dyslexia will answer questions. RSVP to 615-494-8880 or dyslexia@mtsu.edu.

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www.mtsunews.com

Campus School turns 80—come to the party Nov. 6!

by Mary Catherine Sevier
news@mtsu.edu

The year 1929 lives for most of us as a reminder of the first time the U.S. stock market plummeted, taking businesses and lives with it. But before the bust, when the boom still had the promise of eternity, first- through eighth-graders, their parents, their teachers and assorted dignitaries, including Gov. Henry Horton, gathered in Murfreesboro to dedicate a magnificent example of classical architecture newly named the Training School.

The facility came complete with library, gymnasium/auditorium, music and art rooms, 10 classrooms and a price tag of \$140,000. The imposing building featured breathtaking friezes, palladium windows and huge columns.

The Training School was justifiably proud of its new home. Previous students had found their way to several destinations, including the basement of Kirksey Old Main and other buildings across the city. Parents jostled each other to get their children's names on the admission list as early as possible, sometimes within hours of birth.

At one time students could enroll in first through 10th grades. By the late 1960s, Campus School was piloting one of the first public kindergartens in the state. When the growth of the county led to the opening of two new high schools, Campus School, like many county schools, gave up its seventh- and eighth-grade programs. Class-size limits eventually created the current configuration of 310 students in two classrooms each in kindergarten through sixth grades.

The desire of parents to enroll their children in Homer Pittard Campus School—named in 1985 after educator Homer Pittard—is just as intense as it was years ago. The waiting list for kindergarten admission fills enormous three-ring binders, even though a child must now be 4 years old to be eligible to apply. Its mission, however, has not strayed from providing excellence in



Sevier

education to its enrolled pupils and its myriad pre-service teachers. Virtually all MTSU students majoring in elementary education pass through its doors, either to attend a class or to participate in a practicum or other laboratory experience.

Recently, when the integrity of the 80-year-old building became a source of spirited discussion at the county and university levels, the community was quick to voice support for both the school's program and its edifice. As a result, all but the last phase of renovations are complete. These improvements include adding an elevator and sprinkler system, modern fire alarm and infrastructure work (such as wiring, electrical, plumbing and HVAC), stair code upgrades and meeting Americans with Disabilities Act requirements. The building is freshly painted, cleaned and ready for its next milestone.

On Friday, Nov. 6, an 80th-anniversary celebration is planned beginning at 8 a.m. with a light breakfast. At 9 a.m., students and alumni will present a short program, followed by tours of the building and a Dutch-treat box lunch, available by reservation for \$10 each. Reservations for lunch can be made by e-mailing Charlotte Peay at peaybrain@juno.com. Join the students, faculty and alumni to reminisce about the many giggles, tears and triumphs inside those halls and to celebrate the countless lives yet to enter its doors on the way to their futures.

Many thanks to The Albert Gore Research Center at MTSU; Dr. Kathy Clark, president, Friends of Campus School; and Dr. Chontel Bridgeman, principal, Homer Pittard Campus School, for the information used above.

Mary Catherine Sevier is president of Sage Leadership Partners Inc. She has taught language arts and worked with gifted students. She served as an independent contractor for the Tennessee Department of Education, providing training to teachers on best practices related to improving student performance. She earned her law degree from Vanderbilt University and a master's degree in education from Belmont University focusing on gifted and talented education.

Apply now for Distinguished Lecture dollars

Monday, Nov. 16, is the deadline to submit applications to MTSU's Distinguished Lecture Fund for spring 2010 appearances.

The university's Distinguished Lecture Committee seeks to promote appearances by nationally and internationally known speakers who focus on the timely discussion of regional, national and global issues in a variety of fields. Through the Distinguished Lecture Fund, the committee supports academic and other departments that wish to bring individuals to the MTSU campus who represent a recognized level of expertise in their respective fields.

Sponsored programs should represent a balance of topics pertinent to the student population of MTSU and should be designed to elevate the campus dialogue on important current events. Speakers may include authors, lecturers, politicians and other relevant individuals. The programs should generally be open to students, faculty, staff and community members without charge.

Members of the university community may apply online by visiting www.mtsu.edu/nsfp and clicking on the "Distinguished Lecture Fund" link. Applicants will receive a confirmation e-mail within three working days, and the Distinguished Lecture Committee will meet shortly after the deadline to review the applications for funding.

For more information, visit the Web site or contact Gina Poff, director of New Student and Family Programs, at 615-898-2454 or ghpoff@mtsu.edu.

Federal grant to fund public health research

by Gina K. Logue
gklogue@mtsu.edu

The National Institutes of Health has awarded a two-year grant to Dr. Kris McCusker, associate professor of history at MTSU, to study the nexus of public health issues and political power during a critical period in the American South.

"Just Enough to Put Him Away Decent": The Management of Death and the Evolution of Public Health Policy in the South, 1918-1945" is completely supported by federal

funds. The book is under option by the University of Illinois Press.

"In the South, whether one was black or white, death was a common and important part of the region's self-conception, its 'mind,' in writer W.J. Cash's words, since the death of young and old alike was ever present," McCusker

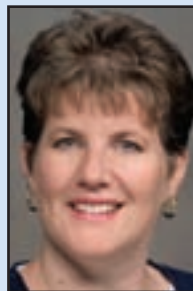
writes. "What happened, then, when public health policy, which assumed that dying was bad except in old age or on a battlefield, infiltrated the South? What happened to the centrality of death and the rituals used to manage the chaos associated with it in a region that witnessed a tremendous economic and social transformation during the interwar era?"

McCusker says she also will examine the impact of New Deal policies and the mobilization for World War II on the region at a time when it was considered to be "the

nation's No. 1 economic and health problem."

McCusker says her interdisciplinary approach to her research will include history, folklore and cultural anthropology. She intends to explore the application of the lessons the federal government and private foundations learned from the Southern experience to post-World War II nation-building in the emergent Third World.

For more information, contact McCusker at 615-898-2544 or mccusker@mtsu.edu.



McCusker

Grants

HUD's Lead Outreach Program will raise public awareness and knowledge about lead poisoning by helping to develop a coalition of partnerships across Tennessee that will provide lead-hazard control training, outreach and education to families.

"Lead poisoning can cause a whole range of health problems, from behavioral issues and learning disabilities to seizures and even death," Gordon said. "This grant will allow MTSU to help Tennessee families understand the risks associated with lead and identify if this material is a hazard in their homes."

The grant will be used specifically to provide 2,034 individuals with lead outreach through home visits, reach an additional 1.7 million people through public media and participate in more than 70 health fairs and community events throughout Tennessee.

"Exposure to lead is especially harmful to children—it actually inhibits development of the brain," said Dr. Kathy Mathis, MTSU director of the Tennessee Lead Elimination Action Program, or TN LEAP, and an associate professor in the Department of Engineering Technology.

"This is the fourth grant we've received from the U.S. Housing Department," Mathis said. "We'll use these funds to focus on getting essential information out to the people of Tennessee about the hazards posed by lead. We appreciate Congressman Gordon's continued support and the confidence that the U.S. Housing Department has placed in MTSU."

MTSU established the Forensic Institute for Research and Education in the summer of 2006. FIRE brings together faculty and students in several scientific specialties to provide educational and training opportuni-

ties for law enforcement, medical examiners, coroners, attorneys, social workers and other groups in forensic science and Homeland Security.

TN LEAP provides grants to private sector, nonprofit and for-profit organizations that identify and control lead hazards in privately owned housing units to eliminate lead poisoning as a health threat to children.

"We are grateful to Congressman Gordon and the rest of the Tennessee delegation for their tremendous support of our many activities and programs on campus," said Joe Bales, MTSU vice president for development and university relations. "These dollars allow us to continue to pursue excellence in every discipline and to provide a higher level of academic quality to our students and greater public service to the people of Tennessee and the region."

from page 1

Appreciating theatre in a whole new way: online and up close

by Claire Rogers
news@mtsu.edu

This fall, MTSU's Speech and Theatre Department is providing more than 200 students with a new, dynamic way to learn theatre appreciation.

This new section of the Theatre Appreciation 1030 course combines online coursework with classroom performances and discussions by guest speakers to demonstrate the real-world application of basic theater principles.

"Rather than talking in only general terms about the creative process, we'll have someone who was actually involved discussing it, much like a case study," said Professor Jeff Gibson.

Gibson and Dr. M. Crosby Hunt, who teach the section together, believe this teaching method will offer more opportunities for students to become engaged with the material as well as providing a more flexible class schedule. The class, worth three credit hours, meets once a week for 90 minutes rather than the traditional twice-weekly schedule.

"I feel like it's more of a hands-on experience," said Darrie Jones, a freshman nursing major. "The performances are very interesting and kept me focused during class."

Topics such as dramatic theory and theater history are covered through online content, allowing students to explore the large variety of multimedia available on the Web. Students will learn about the cre-

ative process of theater—from playwriting to set design—through in-class interaction with guest performers and presenters.

"I like the way this class is taught because it uses actual performances to teach students, which helps me because I'm a visual learner," said Ivana Taylor-Robinson, a freshman animal science major. "All you have to do is watch and listen, and you'll understand the topics being taught."

Students recently watched Bill Bowers perform excerpts from "Under a Montana Moon," a mime show. Bowers then discussed the history of mime with students and answered their questions about his experiences.

"MTSU typically offers 30 to 40 sections of THEA 1030 each semester, and being able to present the variety of experiences for students in all of those sections has simply not been possible, logistically or economically," Gibson said.

"We hope that having some larger sections like this one will enable us to focus our resources in a more effective way so as to provide these engaging opportunities."

About 225 students are currently enrolled in this section of Theatre Appreciation, a course taken by many students to fulfill their general-education humanities requirement. A class in this format also will be offered in the spring on Tuesdays at 9:40 a.m. in Tucker Theatre and can accommodate

about 240 students.

"I would recommend this section to other students because the performances make classes fun and easy to succeed at making a good grade," said sophomore Tyler Clifton, a marketing major.

"Sections like this one allow us to maximize use of limited classroom facilities as well as prepare for potential budget cuts by enhancing the delivery of the class with fewer staffing requirements," Gibson said.

Gibson specializes in arts management and the technical side of theater, while Hunt is an accomplished artist who teaches a variety of courses from storytelling to script analysis. Together they provide students with well-rounded instruction on a wide range of areas.

Plans to continue offering the larger section during the 2010-11 year are in place, but the professors also are awaiting a successful evaluation of this semester's class.



RAMBLIN' MAN—Dr. Eric Love performs his one-man show, "The Rambling Nut," about his experiences with testicular cancer, in Tucker Theatre for students enrolled in THEA 1030, a theatre-appreciation course that has become very popular in fulfilling the general education humanities and fine arts requirements at MTSU.

MTSU Photographic Services photo by Andy Heidt

Student is hard-working queen of quarter-horse world

by Claire Rogers
news@mtsu.edu

MTSU sophomore Korry Bailey easily could be called queen of the world—the world of hard-working quarter horses, that is. The interdisciplinary studies major from Livingston, Tenn., won first place in the working cow horse division at the American Quarter Horse Association Youth World Championships in Oklahoma City in August.

Bailey rode her horse Sparking Champ to the winners' circle after a tough round of qualifying and preliminary runs. This was Bailey's fourth year competing in the Youth World Championships and her last year of eligibility for youth competitions.

"I knew my horse and I were both capable of the world title. I had to stay focused. I could not let my nerves and everything from the previous years affect me," Bailey said. "I studied what had hurt me in my other finals and made sure that was not going to be a factor this year."

Bailey has been an active member of the MTSU Equestrian Team since arriving on campus. Since becoming involved with the team, she has successfully represented the university at many competitions, including the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Championships last spring, which was hosted by MTSU at Tennessee Miller Coliseum.

"My experience with the equestrian program at MTSU has been wonderful," said Bailey. "I rode close to (every) if not every day preparing for the world show. The equestrian team was where I did a lot of my riding. If I had not been involved, it would have been

hard for me to have a horse to ride and keep in shape."

Bailey is no stranger to showing at horse competitions; she began riding at age 2 and was competing by 3. Her 16 years of riding experience and familiarity with family-owned Sparking Champ helped prepare her for success in a difficult division.

"Working cow horse is the most dangerous sport I have competed in," she said. "My horse works off how the cow moves and should almost be a step ahead of it. If I am not ready to move quickly with my horse, I would fall off—and have."

After placing second in preliminary runs, Bailey and Sparking Champ were able to put their nerves behind them and claim the championship trophy, marking higher scores in cow work than any other competitor.

Bailey is planning to take a few years off from individual AQHA competitions to focus on her academic work and involvement with the MTSU equestrian team. She hopes to represent MTSU in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Championships this spring in the reining and horsemanship divisions.



WAY TO WORK—MTSU sophomore Korry Bailey and her horse Sparking Champ circle their cow in the working cow horse finals of the 2009 Ford AQHA Youth World Championships in Oklahoma City. The pair's preliminary performance received the second-highest combined rein and cow-work scores in the competition, and they burst forward to beat their own time and win in the finals.

photo courtesy of American Quarter Horse Association

Campus Calendar

Oct. 19-Nov. 1

Please note:

Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.

TV Schedule



"Middle Tennessee Record"

Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday, 7 a.m., 5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+:
Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Visit www.mtsunews.com
for other cable-outlet airtimes
or www.youtube.com/mtsunews
for a complete show archive.

Through Oct. 22

Photo Exhibit: "Relics: Photographs by Brad Temkin"

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, noon-4 p.m. Saturday, 6-9:45 p.m. Sunday
Baldwin Photo Gallery,
Learning Resources Center
For information, contact:
615-898-2085.

Art Exhibit: "The Steve Prince/Boris Zakic Exhibit"

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, Todd Gallery
For information, contact:
615-898-5653.

Oct. 20

Tuesday, Oct. 20 Voluntary Buyout Program information session

9-11 a.m., Room 100, Ingram Building
For information, visit
<http://hrs.web.mtsu.edu/VBP/index.html> or contact:
615-898-2929.

Oct. 21

Wednesday, Oct. 21 The City Musick

7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit
www.thecitymusick.com or
www.mtsumusic.com or contact:
615-898-2469.

Oct. 22

Oct. 22-24 Ninth International MTSU Holocaust Studies Conference

For information, visit
www.mtsunews.com and click the "2009 Holocaust Studies Conference" button.

MTSU Theatre and Dance: "Dear Finder"

7:30 p.m., Tucker Theatre
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/~theatre
or contact: 615-494-8810.

Oct. 23

Oct. 23-25 Extreme Mustang Makeover Challenge

Tennessee Miller Coliseum
For information, visit
<http://extrememustangmakeover.com>.

Friday, Oct. 23 Chuck Taylor Golf Tournament

sponsored by the Blue Raider Athletic Association
Indian Hills Golf Course
Entry fee: \$165 per person, \$700 per four-person team
For information, contact:
615-898-2210.

MT Soccer vs. North Texas

7 p.m., Dean A. Hayes Track and Soccer Stadium
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com.

Oct. 24

Saturday, Oct. 24 Tennessee Simmental Showcase Sale

Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, contact:
931-215-0316.

Southern Source Boer Goat Sale

Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, contact:
334-399-6957.

Homecoming: MT Football vs. Western Kentucky

2:30 p.m., Floyd Stadium
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com.

Oct. 25

Sunday, Oct. 25 MT Soccer vs. Denver

1 p.m., Hayes Soccer Stadium
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com.

Sunday, Oct. 25

MTSU Symphony Orchestra
4 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit
www.mtsumusic.com or contact:
615-898-2469.

Oct. 26

Monday, Oct. 26 Red Cross Blood Drive

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Room 322, Keathley University Center
For information, visit
www.givelife.org.

Fall Honors Lecture Series: Dr. Lorne McWatters, "Built Environment of Campus"

3-3:55 p.m., Room 106, Honors Amphitheatre
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/~honors.

Our Friends, Our Selves Bookclub

featured: *Color Me Butterfly* by L.Y. Marlow
3:30-4:30 p.m., Room 206, James Union Building
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

Stones River Chamber Players

7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit
www.mtsumusic.com or contact:
615-898-2469.

Oct. 27

Tuesday, Oct. 27 "Disney Keys to Excellence" Leadership Session

open to all staff and students
9 a.m., Tennessee Room, JUB
Free, but registration required
For information, e-mail
ckoepfge@mtsu.edu.

Faculty Recital: Schubert's "Die schöne Müllerin" with H. Stephen Smith, tenor, and Joseph Walker, piano

8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit
www.mtsumusic.com or contact:
615-898-2469.

Oct. 28

Wednesday, Oct. 28 ShareFair: Faculty Exhibit of Innovative Learning Technologies

Noon-1p.m. and 1-3 p.m., Cantrell Hall, Jackson Building
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/ltanditc.

Wednesday, Oct. 28 Voluntary Buyout Program information session

2-4 p.m., Ingram 100
For information, visit
<http://hrs.web.mtsu.edu/VBP/index.html> or contact:
615-898-2929.

Oct. 29

Thursday, Oct. 29 Free Legal Clinic

sponsored by the June Anderson Women's Center
6:30-8 p.m., JUB 206
Appointments required
For information, contact:
615-898-2193.

MTSU Jazz Combos

7:30 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, visit
www.mtsumusic.com or contact:
615-898-2469.

Oct. 30

Friday, Oct. 30 Fourth Annual "Evening of Swing" Dinner/Dance

6:15 p.m., Tennessee Room, JUB
Admission: \$85 per person
For information, visit
www.mtsumusic.com or contact:
615-898-5924.

MT Volleyball vs. South Alabama

7 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com.

Oct. 31

Saturday, Oct. 31 Admissions Fall Preview Day

9 a.m.-1 p.m., campuswide
Full; no more places open
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/admissn.

48th Annual "Contest of Champions"

Horace Jones Field
For information, visit
www.mtsu.edu/~coc or e-mail
jstembri@mtsu.edu.

MT Volleyball vs. Troy

7 p.m., Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit
www.goblueraiders.com.

Nov. 1

Sunday, Nov. 1
Daylight Savings Time ends
Set clocks back one hour

Joe Bales, MTSU vice president for development and university relations. "This, coupled with the earlier announcement of the construction of our new education building, signifies our commitment to maintaining our College of Education as Tennessee's preeminent education program."

Dr. Bob, as he is affectionately called by nearly everyone on campus, is starting his 53rd year of teaching at the university that he says "feels just like home." As a student, he enrolled in 1941 in what was then the State Teachers College.

"My family before me had come here, so I gravitated in this direction," he recalled. "And my wife was coming here, and that was another big factor. Then, of course, I had to take off a few years during World War II."

The Womacks, however, go back to the very beginning. Dr. Bob's older brother was a student when Middle Tennessee State Normal School opened in 1911 and later taught soldiers who were returning from World War I. Another brother and two sisters followed.

"And then I came along," Dr. Bob said. "I am very proud of this family, and I am very proud of this contribution to the university."

Andy Womack shares his father's sentiment.

"I take a great deal of pride in the generation before me," he said, referring to his dad, five aunts and uncles. "And what I think is really unique in what we're doing is that the money we are establishing is going to an endowment to enhance the faculty in the education department."

"We feel that oftentimes what is overlooked in the quality of education is that you have to have quality faculty. In order to recruit and retain quality faculty, we felt like an endowment that generated discretionary funds for the leadership in education to enhance the salaries and professional-development opportunities of the faculty was important."

During Andy Womack's tenure as chair of the state Senate Education Committee, the topography of the campus changed considerably.

"I was very proud of the fact that we were able to get the mass communication building as well as the infrastructure that made possible the new business building, the new library and the renovation of the Todd Library. ... When we moved back here in 1957, MTSU was just a small college. Now it has become a major university, not only in Tennessee but in the southeast and the nation."

The university will hold a formal naming ceremony in the future; the renaming of the department has been approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents, Bales said.



FAMILY EVENT—The Womack family poses for a photo during the 2008 Insurance Hall of Fame celebration when Andy Womack was inducted. From left are Lynn Womack, Lara Daniel, Ricky Womack, Cherry Womack, Andy Womack, Bob Womack, David Womack, Cheryl Womack, Dana Womack, Rob Sims and Marguerite Sims. Not pictured is Sara Womack, daughter of Ricky Womack.

photo courtesy of Ken Robinson Photography

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its first Baby Raider Ride Contest. Children and grandchildren of alumni and others are invited to walk if accompanied by an adult. Strollers, wagons and tricycles can be decorated with Blue Raider spirit. To participate, visit www.mtalumni.com, click on "schedule" and then click on the entry form.

The parade will start on Maney Avenue, proceed to East Main Street and turn onto Middle Tennessee Boulevard. Baby Raider Ride entries will join the parade at the Alumni House to walk the duration of the route.

One of the newest homecoming events will be the Alumni Reunion Tailgate Tent from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. in Walnut Grove. Representatives from the Jennings A. Jones College of Business and the Colleges of Basic and Applied Sciences, Continuing Education and Distance Learning, Education and Behavioral Science, University Honors, Liberal Arts, Mass Communication and James E. Walker Library will be on hand to share the latest news. Lunch will be available for \$6 per adult and \$4 per child under 12.

Discounted general admission tickets to the MTSU-WKU game can be purchased for \$7 each by calling the alumni office at 800-533-6878. Reserved tickets can be purchased by calling 888-937-6878 or visiting www.goblueraiders.com.

For a detailed schedule of the week's festivities, please refer to the homecoming schedule of events at right, visit www.mtalumni.com or call 615-898-2922.

Rhonda Wright is Alumni Relations' assistant director.

2009 Homecoming schedule of events

Week of Oct. 19-24

T-Shirt Swap at Alumni House
Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 22

A Comedy Show
7 p.m., State Farm Room, Business and Aerospace Building; sponsored by the African American Alumni Society; tickets \$20 each.
Information: 800-533-6878 or e-mail pwydra@mtsu.edu.

Friday, Oct. 23

Chuck Taylor Blue Raider Golf Scramble
11:30 a.m. lunch/12:30 p.m. shotgun start, Indian Hills Golf Club; hosted by the Blue Raider Athletic Association; \$165 per person or \$700 per foursome.
Information: 615-898-2210, www.goblueraiders.com or e-mail rmewbour@mtsu.edu.

MTSU Centennial History Museum Preview

1-4 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Todd Hall Room 129; produced by the Albert Gore Research Center in commemoration of MTSU's 100th birthday in 2011.

Golden Raiders Reunion and Induction Ceremony, Class of 1959

2 p.m., Tom H. Jackson Building Cantrell Hall; events include registration, campus tour, social hour and dinner.
Information: 800-533-6878.

Great Bowls of Fire Chili Cook-Off

5:30 p.m., Murphy Center Forest
Information: e-mail sgahome@mtsu.edu.

National Pan-Hellenic Council Step Show

7:30 p.m., Murphy Center
Tickets: Greek Life office, 615-898-5812.

Saturday, Oct. 24

Mixer on Middle Parade-Watching Party
9 a.m., MTSU Alumni House with announcers Chip Walters ('85) and Aaron Solomon ('94); complimentary breakfast while food lasts.

Annual Homecoming Parade

10 a.m.; grand marshal: alumnus and Grammy-nominated composer George S. Clinton ('69). Parade begins on Maney Avenue and follows East Main Street and Middle Tennessee Boulevard to Greenland Drive.

Baby Raider Ride Contest

Children and grandchildren of MTSU alumni are invited to walk, accompanied by an adult. Decorate your stroller, wagon or tricycle with Blue Raider spirit! Baby Raiders and their guardians will enter the parade at the Alumni House to walk the rest of the route.

Information: www.mtalumni.com or e-mail rwright@mtsu.edu.

MTSU Rugby Old Boys Game

11 a.m., MTSU Sport Club Complex, 2111 E. Main St.
Information: e-mail jodyhmoose@aol.com.

Varsity Club Reception

12:30 p.m., Kennon Sports Hall of Fame
Information: e-mail jsimpson@mtsu.edu.

Raider Walk

12:30 p.m., Walnut Grove.

MT vs. Western Kentucky

2:30 p.m., Floyd Stadium
General-admission tickets: \$7 per person (call 800-533-6878); reserved tickets: \$20 sideline and \$17 end zone per person (call 800-937-6878).

Alumni Homecoming Queens, Kings and Cheerleaders

Participation is complimentary with purchase of a game ticket.

Al Wilkerson Scholarship Dance

8 p.m., The Walnut House, 116 N. Walnut St.; hosted by the African American Alumni Society; open to the public, but reservations are requested. Tickets: \$20 per person; light hors d'oeuvres and cash bar provided.

Information: 800-533-6878 or e-mail pwydra@mtsu.edu.



'Dear Finder' shows planned

by Lisa L. Rollins
lrollins@mtsu.edu

MTSU Theatre will perform "Dear Finder," a show that unearths many truths about the past and the present, at 7:30 nightly Oct. 22-24 on the stage of the Boutwell Dramatic Arts Auditorium's Tucker Theatre.

Staged with 14 actors performing monologues from the letters and journals of actual Holocaust survivors, show director Jacqueline Springfield said the play "shows a new perspective of the Holocaust, illustrating a connection between their experiences and contemporary incidents of racial genocide."

The show was written by a group of students at the University of Minnesota and has been performed at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. The MTSU production will be performed in coordination with the Ninth International MTSU Holocaust Studies Conference.

Springfield, an assistant professor of speech and theatre, said she intends to "tell this story as honestly and simply as possible, out of respect for the victims whose experiences we will never really understand. I hope

audiences leave the theater knowing these events and struggles happened and that they feel challenged to fight the hatred that is still inflicting today's society."

Joining Springfield in presenting the show will be Kim Neal Nofsinger, director of MTSU Dance Theatre, who has choreographed movement for the play.

"We hope the powerful staging will help create moments to convey the emotional and physical struggles of these people," he said.

For those who take in the "Dear Finder" performance, Springfield said she hopes it will "bring remembrance to the lives that were lost and raise awareness to the intolerance that spawned such a tragedy.

"Intolerance is an active thing," she continued. "We are fighting social structures that were set upon us years before. We can no longer let our prejudices be the totality of how we see each other."

Advance tickets are available by calling 615-494-8810, visiting the theatre box office weekdays 11 a.m.-4 p.m. or at the door. Tickets are \$10 general admission and \$5 for MTSU staff and K-12 students. MTSU students are admitted free with ID.

MTSU center to participate in National Day on Writing Oct. 21

by Lisa L. Rollins
lrollins@mtsu.edu

The Margaret H. Ordoubadian University Writing Center at MTSU will participate in the National Day on Writing this year for the first time.

Although the annual writing day falls on Oct. 20, because of fall break MTSU will recognize the event Oct. 21 with planned activities, said Rachel Strickland, assistant director of the center.

According to the National Council of Teachers of English Web site, a national day focused on writing was created because of "the significance of writing in our national life," as well as "to draw attention to the remarkable variety of writing we engage in and to help writers from all walks of life recognize how important writing is to their lives."

As for what MTSU students can do in honor of the Oct. 21 event, "Firstly, we've created a National Gallery of Writing hosted by the NCTE," she said. "This is an online gallery that we'll have linked from our Web site (www.mtsu.edu/uwc) and it will go live on Oct. 20. Before that day, anyone in the MTSU community will be able to submit writing

of any genre to be made available in the gallery.

"We will also put up a graffiti wall outside the

UWC (in Peck Hall 325)," she added. "This will be a space for students to write whatever is on their minds, from rants and shout-outs to blurbs and signatures. We hope to have it on both sides of the hallway for the students to write on throughout the day."

For more information about the UWC or its National Writing Day activities, please call 615-494-8930.



Family Weekend Nov. 6-7 features football and fun

Two opportunities to see "Ragtime," the MTSU School of Music's presentation of the Tony Award-winning musical, and the Blue Raiders' home game against Florida International University are highlights of the Nov. 6-7 Family Weekend.

The Office of New Student and Family Programs coordinates all events.

"Ragtime," starring Shawn Lewis and Scott Willis, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, and Saturday, Nov. 7, in Tucker Theatre, New Student and Family Programs coordinator Rob Patterson said.

Saturday's events kick off at 11:30 a.m. with registration and a silent auction in Walnut Grove. While the silent auction is under way, the "Blue Raider Lunch, Tailgating and Fun" is set from noon to 2:30 p.m. in Walnut Grove, and other activities are planned, Patterson said.

The Raider Walk, a pregame tradition, will be at 1:15 p.m. This will add to the excitement as the Blue Raiders prepare to tackle Sun Belt Conference rival FIU at 3:30 p.m. in Floyd Stadium.

Family Weekend gives participants a "wonderful opportunity to learn more about the campus and where your student's college life is happening," planners said.

For more information about tickets, call 615-898-2454 or visit www.mtsu.edu/~nsfp.

Sustaining effort



THINKING GREEN—Student Life Dean Dr. Gene Fitch, right, accepts the Green Power Leadership Award on behalf of MTSU Oct. 2 at the first Summit for Campus Sustainability conference, which was hosted by MTSU and held in the Tom H. Jackson Building's Cantrell Hall. Presenting the award are Allison Dennis, left, of the Environmental Protection Agency and Gil Milear-Hough of the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy. Other recipients included East Tennessee State University, the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga, Cleveland State Community College and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. MTSU faculty, staff and students participated in the panel discussions and conference events.

photo by News and Public Affairs

Oct. 31 EYH expanding in new directions

by Randy Weiler
rweiler@mtsu.edu

The combination of Dr. Leslie Wisner-Lynch as keynote speaker, the support of Smyrna-based Schneider Electric and the first-time presence of the Jennings A. Jones College of Business will make the 13th annual Expanding Your Horizons in Math and Science even more special for girls and young women attending.

Wisner-Lynch will be the keynote speaker for EYH, which will be held from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 31, across the MTSU campus. EYH is for girls in grades five through eight with up to 300 participating, and GRITS EYH will see up to 60 high-school girls in grades nine to 12 participate.

Wisner-Lynch is a founding member and serves as executive

director for BioTN Foundation Inc., a not-for-profit foundation whose mission is to advance science and technology in Tennessee through the collaboration of industry, PK12 education and higher ed.

Before dedicating herself full-time to the BioTN Foundation, Wisner-Lynch was director of applied research at BioMimetic Therapeutics Inc. in Franklin, which developed and commercialized combination device products for the repair/regeneration of orthopedic injuries including cartilage, tendon, ligament and bone.

"I believe Dr. Wisner-Lynch will make quite an impression on the girls," EYH director and MTSU

chemistry professor Judith Iriarte-Gross said. "Our (College of Basic and Applied Sciences) dean, Tom Cheatham, recommended her. I have heard her talk and she is a dynamic speaker, and very passionate about STEM education and careers." Iriarte-Gross said Schneider Electric will be sending three teams of engineers to EYH with workshops on "Windmill Energy," "Lighting Up the Future" and "Let 'er Rip."

Maria Edlin, assistant director for the Center for Economic Education, and junior economics major Jessy Richter will lead workshops on "My Dream Car and Me."

"We're excited to have the College of Business on board," Iriarte-Gross said. "The girls will find the workshops very beneficial when it comes time to buy that first car."



Wisner-Lynch

Hooper said. They are committed to their work and speak to other schools about the project. They also give tours of the school's Children's Holocaust Memorial and the donated authentic rail car from Germany, which was used to transport people to camps.

The project, since being registered with the National Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., has received

media attention, including being the subject for the documentary "Paper Clips," which will be shown at the Holocaust Conference.

The students originally set out to collect 6 million paper clips. Within several weeks of news coverage, the paper clip count reached 30 million, which continues to grow. The millions of paper clips lie in the rail car,

behind glass, undisturbed, Hooper said.

"They're people," she said. "They're souls. They rest there in peace."

For more information about the Holocaust Conference, please visit www.mtsunews.com and click on the link at the top of the page.

'Judge Alex' tells audience 'anything possible' in America

by Claire Rogers
news@mtsu.edu

The Hon. Alex Ferrer, better known as TV's "Judge Alex," delivered a message of perseverance during an Oct. 5 University Honors College lecture, assuring the audience that through persistence and education, all their goals can be achieved.

Ferrer was born in Cuba and immigrated as an infant to Miami on one of the Freedom Flights in 1961. His parents left behind positions of power and economic success in corporations to work minimum-wage jobs upon arriving in America. He said the family was able to achieve a solid, middle-class lifestyle through his parents' hard work.

That example left an impression on the young Ferrer, who was working full-time by age 15 as a gas-station attendant while enrolled in high school. There he met officers from the local police department and began pursuing a career in law enforcement.

"I firmly believe that if you work hard, anything is possible in the United States," Ferrer told attendees.

Originally employed as a Miami Police Department dispatcher, Ferrer began to ask his captain to recommend him for the police academy. Considered too young at age 19, Ferrer's persistence eventually paid off, and he became the youngest police academy graduate in Miami-Dade history.

Ferrer's parents encouraged him to continue school while working for the police department full-time in order to keep his options open. Ferrer earned an undergraduate degree by taking classes at multiple universities, transferring as needed to ensure he could manage classes during his changing shift schedule.

After graduating, he attended the University of Miami



'YES MA'AM, IT'S ME'—TV's "Judge Alex" Ferrer, left, talks to Joni Mitchell, mother of sophomore Rachael Mitchell, right, on Rachael's phone after his Oct. 5 lecture at MTSU's University Honors College.

MTSU Photographic Services photo by Andy Heidt

law school each day and worked nights for the police force. He applied for and became a member of the University of Miami Law Review, which opened the door for more job opportunities as a litigator and circuit court judge.

"You can have all the drive and perseverance you want, but without that educational base, you're going to hit a wall eventually," said Ferrer.

Ferrer's dedication to his academic career prepared him well for the types of high-profile cases he would try as a circuit judge, and his success with those cases brought him national attention and the offer for his own television show.

Ferrer said television could be the most difficult thing he has done, although he has been very successful in this field as well. The first year "Judge Alex" went on the air, the show was named the highest-rated daytime show in syndication, beating both Martha Stewart and Tyra Banks.

When he is not on the bench, Ferrer travels to universities across the country to share his story.

Show reveals 'story through step dancing'

by Gina K. Logue
gklogue@mtsu.edu

Pinpoint synchronization, dynamic themes and entertaining costumes will be in evidence when the Office of Greek Affairs, the Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs and the National Pan-Hellenic Council present the Step Show at 7 p.m., Friday, Oct. 23, in Murphy Center.

Teams from MTSU fraternities and sororities will compete for prizes of \$1,000 for first place and \$500 for second place with an additional \$500 awarded for best overall performance.

"I like it because it represents our African-American heritage," says organizing co-chair Ashlee Gray. "I take pride in telling our story through step dancing."

The preparation that goes into designing and perfecting each act is

grueling. Organizing Chairman Jeremy Simpson says some acts start preparing at least six months before the step show.

"A lot of the time you don't sleep at night," says Simpson, who won with his Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity brothers in 2006 through 2008.

"Guys step harder and louder than girls," Gray says. "They want to be 'macho man.'"

The judging criteria include more than just hard stepping. Judges may award one to 10 points for introduction step, crowd interaction, enthusiasm and vocal clarity. They may award one to 15 points for complexity, creativity, synchronization and overall performance. The high and low scores are thrown out, and the final score is an average with a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 100.

All the hard work has paid off beyond MTSU for several students.

Southern Movement, a group of alumni and students, competed in the MTV series "America's Next Best Dance Crew" this year. Members of the Iota Tau chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority participated in the 2005 movie "Stomp the Yard." And two brothers from Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, student Chris Pryor and alumnus Ryan McDade, are traveling across the country to help Sprite promote its national Step Off competition, which has a \$1.5 million prize pool.

Cash-only admission for this year's MTSU Step Show is \$10 in advance at the Murphy Center ticket office or \$15 on the day of the show. For more information, contact Angela King, director of the MTSU Office of Greek Affairs, at 615-898-5812, or Valerie Avent, assistant director of the Office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs, at 615-898-2718.

CBAS grows to 6,000+ majors, \$16M in funding

by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

The College of Basic and Applied Sciences' incredible growth mirrors the university's: this fall, there's a record 6,111 majors—about 7 percent growth from a year ago—and 222 full-time faculty members.

"This is major growth," said Dean Tom Cheatham, who held the State of the College address in September in the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

"We bring all our college faculty and staff together to look at what we did last year and the big issues for the new year," the dean said of the annual gathering.

CBAS celebrated five recent university award recipients, presenting each with a desk or wall memento. The honorees included: Drs. Cliff Ricketts (agribusiness and agriscience), Career Achievement Award; Anatoliy Volkov (chemistry), Special Projects Award; Don Hong (mathematics), Distinguished Research Award; and Mary Martin (math), Outstanding Public Service Award; and Leigh Ann McInnis (nursing), Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award.

Cheatham, Associate Dean Saeed Foroudastan and the CBAS staff also identified 20 of the college's award winners "for outstanding work from the last year," Cheatham said.

For 2008-09, the dean said CBAS "brought in more than \$16 million in outside funding—mostly grants and contracts and some gifts in kind—that is considerably higher than the \$7 million brought in in 2007-08. The college presented eight awards to people who earned more than \$1 million in grant funding."

"We had a really good year in terms of extramural funding," the dean said.

Cheatham said disappointments for the past year included:

- the college and MTSU not receiving funds from the state for the new science building, which is on hold because of the state budget situation; and
- three doctoral proposals that are hung up at the Tennessee Higher Education Commission.

"We know we're not going to give up on either the science building or the Ph.D. programs," Cheatham said.

He welcomed Drs. Jeff Walck (biology) and Ginger Rowell (math) to their former positions. Walck conducted research for two years in Australia; Rowell spent 18 months working at the National Science Foundation.

Cheatham said Farman Ahmed, who is a chemist in his native Pakistan, is a Fulbright Scholar working this year with Dr. Sing Chong (chemistry).

'Paper Clip Project' brings school acclaim



by Megan McSwain
news@mtsu.edu

When Whitwell Middle School began its after-school Holocaust-studies class in 1998, Principal Linda Hooper, who will speak at the Ninth MTSU International Holocaust Studies Conference on Saturday, Oct. 24, said she had no idea it would evolve into a project that would attract media attention to the school and its students.

"I did not have a clue anybody would care outside of this community," Hooper said about the Paper Clip Project, for which students collect donated paper clips in honor of Holocaust victims.

Students created the project after a school-improvement council decided Holocaust studies would address the school curriculum's lack of cultural diversity.

"We live in a very isolated area," Hooper said about Whitwell, Tenn. "We thought our children needed to come to some realization about what hate and intolerance can cause, and we also felt like our children needed to understand diversity of culture, because we do live in a global neighborhood."

The project was to give students a better understanding of the amount of Jews and non-Jews who were persecuted by the Nazis. Students chose to collect paper clips to represent the Holocaust victims, because a Norwegian Jew, Johan Vaaler, is credited with inventing the paper clip, Hooper said, and Norwegians who protested the Nazi regime wore paper clips on their lapels during World War II.

Hooper asked Sandra Roberts, a language arts teacher, to teach the class, without pay, to students who would not receive school credit. There was not enough time in the school's schedule to fit it into its regular curriculum, which is why it was first offered after school.

Because new subject matter was being introduced, Hooper said she wanted the community and parents to be aware and involved, and required students to bring a parent to each class.

"When we first started studying the Holocaust, that was a brand new subject to this area," Hooper said. "People were aware that Jews were persecuted, but they were not aware of the enormity of it. We needed people to understand what we were studying and why."

The class has since changed to a before-school program. Hooper said now that the community knows about the program and supports it, students no longer have to bring a parent to class, but parents are welcome to attend.

Hooper, who graduated from MTSU with a bachelor's degree in 1963, said she thinks students should be taught about issues like the Holocaust to under-



LEARNING FROM HISTORY—Whitwell Middle School Principal Linda Hooper, right, an MTSU alumna, will explain at the upcoming Ninth International MTSU Holocaust Studies Conference how an after-school history class to teach tolerance became a worldwide effort of remembrance in the "Paper Clip Project." Above is a rail car used to transport Jewish victims to concentration camps in Germany; it was donated to the school to help create the Children's Holocaust Memorial and is filled with more than 30 million paper clips to represent those slain by the Nazis. The butterfly, top, is one of 18 embedded in concrete around the car, representing a child victim's poem.

photos courtesy of Whitwell Middle School Library

stand the consequences of actions.

"Differences are what make this world so great," Hooper said. "The Paper Clip Project teaches that it's up to you, No. 1, to make good personal choices. No. 2: What you should be doing, personally, is helping to create a world where love and respect are the rule and not the exception."

She said she has seen how students who participate in the project have changed. They have become more sensitive to how their actions affect others,

See 'Paper Clip' page 7

the RECORD

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Faculty/Staff Update

Appointments

Dr. H. Willis Means (elementary and special education) has been appointed to the board of directors for Rutherford LEAP, a program that works toward providing each seventh-grade student in Rutherford County with a laptop computer for daily use in the classroom to help them acquire the technological skills necessary for their successful futures.

Honors

Coach Dean Hayes (athletics) joined his sixth hall of fame Oct. 10 at his alma mater as part of the five-member 2009 class of the Lake Forest (Ill.) College Athletic Hall of Fame. Hayes has coached MTSU's track and field program since 1965.

Media

Professor Pierre Vincent (speech and theatre) discussed the use of language—rough and otherwise—to express oneself in public venues on "Morning Line with Nick Beres" on NewsChannel5+ Sept. 30.

Presentations

A collaboration between **Dr. Warner Cribb's** geosciences students and a high-school student and chemistry teacher led to their Sigma

Gamma Epsilon Undergraduate Research Posters presentations at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America Oct. 18-21 in Portland, Ore. The topic was "Geochemical Investigation of Potential Toxic Metal Releases from TVA Coal Ash Surface Impoundments into Nearby River Waters and Sediments" and MTSU senior **Miller Wylie** made the presentation. Other participating MTSU students were senior **Jennifer Pickering** and freshman **Caitlin Shannon**. The team also included Siegel High School senior **Matt Jones** and Ravenwood High School chemistry teacher **Scott Crombie**. The research was funded by the National Science Foundation Step^{MT} grant to the College of Basic and Applied Sciences.

Dr. Melissa Lobeger (geosciences) presented her paper, "Using Foraminiferal Communities to Assess Pollution from Pulp and Paper Mills in Coastal Florida," at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America Oct. 18-21 in Portland, Ore.

Deb Sullivan and **Dr. Lynn Parsons** (nursing) presented "How to Make a Difference in Functional Outcomes with Spina Bifida" at the 2009 Congress on Spinal Cord Medicine and Rehabilitation Sept. 23-26 in Dallas.

Appointments

MTSU's School of Nursing conducted a Sept. 19 workshop, led by **Dr. Debra Rose Wilson** and assisted by **Janice Harris**, to certify health care professionals in guided imagery. Guided imagery uses images to induce relaxation, reduce pain and enhance healing. The Tennessee Nurses' Association approved continuing education hours for the 55 MTSU nursing students, 19 Austin Peay students and 10 practicing registered nurses from the community. This certification in guided imagery is offered every semester as part of training in mental-health nursing.

Get noticed in *The Record*!

Submit your Faculty/Staff Update items (including promotions and new hires) and other news tips to gfann@mtsu.edu by **3 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21**, for the Nov. 2 edition of *The Record* or by **3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 4**, for the Nov. 16 *Record*. Don't forget to include the specifics—who, what, where, when and why, plus contact information—with your contributions!