

## ETSU dedicates George L. Carter Railroad Museum on ‘National Take a Model Train to Work Day’

Celebrating “National Take a Model Train to Work Day” – with a nod to November’s designation as “National Model Railroad Month” – ETSU dedicated the George L. Carter Railroad Museum on Nov. 16 to honor the late railroad magnate who donated his farm to the state in 1909 for the development of a normal school that became ETSU.

The Carter Museum, which officially opened to the public Nov. 17 in the old ETSU College of Medicine Building on the pedestrian mall, contains several large, very intricate layouts of towns and landscapes with running model trains as well as railroad-related items of historical interest.

A full-size flashing railroad crossing signal (crossbuck) donated by Norfolk Southern Railroad Group stands outside the building’s entrance on the west side (ground level). The crossbuck’s red lights are blinking when the museum is open.

As part of the dedication ceremony, a presidential train, the “ETSU Express,” was added to the museum’s fascinating and varied collection. The special commemorative train pulls coaches bearing the names of ETSU’s eight presidents, including that of the university’s current leader, Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr., who was also presented with a personalized coach to display in his office.

Although George L. Carter was a very private figure who was not interested in personal recognition, ETSU is paying homage to his foresight in securing the mountainous route for the then Carolina, Clinchfield and Ohio Railroad throughout the region.



Visitors to the new Carter Railroad Museum admire the elaborate, intricate labor of love created by the late Howard Bankus.

The museum opening actually fell on the day that the storied “Santa Train,” now in its 65th year, brought gifts to families along Carter’s old Clinchfield rail line that runs from Shelby, Ky., through Southwest Virginia and into Northeast Tennessee.

The ETSU museum’s creation is the result of numerous man-  
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## Dr. Arthur DeRosier, ETSU’s fifth president, dies in Kentucky

This statement was issued by ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr. following the death of Dr. Arthur H. DeRosier Jr.:



DeRosier

*energy to this campus, and he envisioned ETSU to be one of the nation’s greatest regional universities. Dr. DeRosier valued scholar-*

*It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing of Dr. Arthur H. DeRosier Jr., East Tennessee State University’s fifth president. The ETSU Office of the President learned today that Dr. DeRosier died of cancer November 15, 2007, in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. DeRosier had retired as president of Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana.*

*Dr. DeRosier served as ETSU’s President from 1977 to 1980. He brought boundless*

*ship deeply, and despite the demands on his time that college and university presidencies placed, he continued to study and write about the history of Native Americans. His book on the removal of the Choctaws, published in the 1970s, is still a well-respected classic.*

*Immediately upon taking office at ETSU, Dr. DeRosier worked to tie the university more strongly to its Appalachian region. He celebrated Appalachia, and his legacy lives on through the work of what is now our Center for Appalachian Studies and Services. Dr. DeRosier created both the Institute of Appalachian Affairs and the Archives of Appalachia, which later grew into our first Center of Excellence.*

*Dr. DeRosier strengthened graduate education at ETSU, both as graduate dean and as president, and converted the university from a quarter system to a semester system. He upgraded the university’s*

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*ETSU Accent*, for and about university activities and employees, is published by News and Information Services in the Office of University Relations. News items for upcoming issues should be typed and double-spaced, and forwarded to Jennifer L. Hill, Coordinator, Box 70717, 300 Burgin E. Dossett Hall, telephone 439-5693, e-mail [hill@etsu.edu](mailto:hill@etsu.edu).

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**Photographs by ETSU Photo Lab**

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**Commission on Colleges of the**

**Southern Association of Colleges and Schools**

East Tennessee State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia, Telephone number 404-679-4501) to award certificate, associate, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, and doctoral degrees.

*East Tennessee State University is fully in accord with the belief that educational and employment opportunities should be available to all eligible persons without regard to age, gender, color, race, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status or sexual orientation.*

*ETSU makes available to prospective students and employees the ETSU Security Information Report. This annual report includes campus crime statistics for the three most recent calendar years and various campus policies concerning law enforcement, the reporting of criminal activity, and crime prevention programs. The ETSU Security Information Report is available upon request from ETSU, Department of Public Safety, Box 70646, Johnson City, TN 37614-1702. The report can be accessed on the Internet at: [http://www.etsu.edu/dps/security\\_report.asp](http://www.etsu.edu/dps/security_report.asp).*

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## Concert pays tribute to George Hammonds— musician, former WETS-FM radio announcer

Friends and colleagues of the late George Hammonds will gather at the Kingsport Renaissance Center Theatre for a tribute concert on Thursday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m.



**Hammonds**

Hammonds, who passed away on Oct. 9, was a well-known member of the local music community. He played electric bass in such high-profile bands as Little Chicago, Blues Hangover, The GrooveMasters, King Moon Racer, the Billy Crawford Band, and Light-

nin' Charlie. For several years, he was "The Nightfly," host of a late-night music program on ETSU's public radio station, WETS-FM, where he also served as operations director.

The concert will open with a performance by Lightnin' Charlie, with whom Hammonds was working at the time of his death. International recording artist Deborah Coleman, featured in last year's HBO production "Blues Divas," will also appear, along with such local favorites as the Billy Crawford Band and the Thunderheads.

Rob Russell, who performs with Rob Russell and the Sore Losers and is director of ETSU's Writing and Communication Center, will act as master of ceremonies.

Tickets for the event are \$20, with proceeds going to the Hammonds family. While tickets are available at the door, advance purchases may be made at the Renaissance Center box office, the Down Home in Johnson City, or any of the Tri-Cities locations of Morrell Music.

For more information, contact Russell at 439-7849.

## Carter Railroad Museum Continued from page 1

hours of labor and personal possessions donated by members of the Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders (MEMR), an all-volunteer group of model railroad enthusiasts that was formed in 1993 as the first such organization in the Tri-Cities area. The dedicated group created one of the larger layouts in the museum and MEMR members operate the trains and continue to develop and perfect the exhibits. Their work had previously been on display at the Carroll Reece Museum.

Another model train exhibit depicting the railroad in East Tennessee was donated by Marian Bankus of Houston, whose late husband created it, and a third is on loan

from Tom McKee of Johnson City.

The president of the modular railroad organization is Dr. Fred Alsop, an ETSU professor of Biological Sciences and the 2007-08 Faculty Senate president, who oversees the new Carter Museum on a volunteer basis.

Since the museum was created and is staffed by volunteers, the hours of operation are currently scheduled on Saturdays from 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

For further information, contact Alsop at 929-3733, (615) 604-8759 or [fredjalsop3@earthlink.net](mailto:fredjalsop3@earthlink.net).

**For more photos from the dedication, see page 5.**

## DeRosier

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libraries, and he led a thorough review of campus curricula. During Dr. DeRosier's term of office, the ETSU College of Medicine admitted its first class. He modernized the university's public relations and fund-raising operations, and, with a strong interest in athletics, he was responsible for ETSU becoming a member of the Southern Confer-

ence. Although he occupied the president's chair for three short years, his presence continues to be felt across the campus today.

For a related article in the *Billings (Mont.) Gazette.*, visit [www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2007/11/16/news/local/18-derosier\\_g.txt](http://www.billingsgazette.net/articles/2007/11/16/news/local/18-derosier_g.txt).

## Faculty and Staff Appreciation Sale

**ETSU Bookstore  
Friday, Nov. 30**

Receive an extra 10 percent off regular-priced clothing and gifts!

# ETSU student and faculty conduct research in western Mongolia

For six weeks this past summer, Honors-in-Discipline student Taylor Burnham, a junior majoring in geology, experienced a rare opportunity, thanks to an ETSU Honors College summer fellowship of \$2,500, in addition to smaller grants from the ETSU student Sierra Club and Geology Club.

Burnham joined ETSU faculty members Dr. Mick Whitelaw, an associate professor of Geology, and Dr. Richard Kortum, an associate professor of Philosophy and Humanities, along with Dr. Jerry Nave, a former ETSU faculty member in the surveying program, to conduct research in Mongolia.

Burnham, a resident of Mountain City, spent the majority of the time working with Whitelaw at Khoton Lake, in Bayan Olgii, a province located in far western Mongolia. They studied the geology of the area and located precisely, thanks to the surveying expertise of Nave, and described the petroglyphs created on three hills, called Biluut 1, 2, and 3, beside the lake—something that had never been accomplished.

“We flew to Beijing, and from there to Ulan Bataar in Mongolia,” said Burnham. “The lake is in the westernmost part of the country—just a few kilometers from the Chinese border.”

The ETSU visitors made the trip to the lake in two Russian-made jeeps and were joined by a cook and two drivers, one of whom was an area English teacher. Also joining the trek were Dr. Y. Tserendagva, an archeologist from the Mongolian Institute of Archeology, and David Edwards, a contract photographer for the National Geographic Society.

The researchers learned that artists spanning thousands of years, from the Paleolithic, Pre-Bronze, Bronze, Iron, and Turkic eras, roughly 7,000 to 900 years ago, had created the pictures. The petroglyphs appear on any surface polished smooth by glacial activity. Burnham notes, “The pictures show animals grazing—especially ibex—and hunting scenes, with very few represen-



tations of humans.” Some of the images are as much as six feet in height.

“There is a 13,000-foot-high mountain two miles across the lake. We hoped to investigate the petroglyphs there, but there wasn’t enough time,” Burnham said with regret. Instead, the group documented some 1,600 images in one of three hills, with perhaps as many as 7,000 yet to be researched in the other two, which would make the area one of the richest petroglyph com-



In these photos by National Geographic Society photographer David Edwards, ETSU Honors-in-Discipline student Taylor Burnham is shown studying and mapping at the Khoton Lake site (above and below left), and Dr. Richard Kortum points to an ancient petroglyph of animals (below right).

plexes in Central Asia.

Whitelaw describes Burnham as “the student closest to a ‘natural’ in this field that I’ve met.” In addition, Burnham has visited countries such as Haiti and Guatemala, and he served in Iraq with the military, so he had no difficulty adjusting to field conditions.

The database developed from the summer’s research will allow the creation of three-dimensional maps of the site, which will help scholars understand how different groups of nomads used the area.

Kortum, who counts art culture among his specialties, was responsible for locating the research opportunity. While his wife was assigned to the United States Embassy in Mongolia, Kortum explored the region’s art, history, and wilderness. Thanks to his grant from the ETSU College of Arts and Sciences and one Whitelaw received from the ETSU Research and Development Committee for faculty projects, the group was able to travel to a place far removed from Northeast Tennessee and to gain valuable knowledge of mankind’s past.



## Cantrell is first Honors College Research Abroad student

ETSU senior Thomas Cantrell enjoys studying Japanese. While browsing through the Japanese section at the library, he came upon the works of poet Ozaki Hosai, an important literary figure in his own country but not well-known in the United States.

Cantrell decided to choose Hosai as the subject of his honors thesis. Since so little information is available here about the poet, Cantrell went to Japan for his research.

The journey was possible because Cantrell received an Honors-in-Discipline scholarship from the Department of English and a student-faculty collaborative grant through the Honors College. Next, he visited Maria Costa, director

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## 'Greene-King' principal-training program partners with two area school systems, earns national recognition

"Greene-King," a principal-training leadership program with ETSU in partnership with the Greeneville and Kingsport city school systems, has been featured nationally in Education Week (September 12 issue), "American education's newspaper of record" that offers comprehensive reports on trends and developments affecting K-12 educators.

The publication also provides periodic special reports on issues ranging from technology to textbooks, as well as reviews of new books of interest to educators.

The Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis in the Claudius G. Clemmer College of Education is collaborating with the two school districts to "overhaul our educational leadership programs," says Dr. Eric Glover, ELPA associate professor and coordinator of the administrator-training endeavor. "This initiative is part of a broader effort designed to improve the quality of principal training throughout the state."

The 16-state Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) is providing financial assistance and advice to Tennessee through a three-year \$750,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The Atlanta-based SREB selected ETSU and the University of Memphis to pilot new programs giving local districts "significant input" into how potential leaders are chosen and trained. Both universities were

asked to create an "experimental cohort" of prospective principals "handpicked" with the help of district officials.

The students in the cohort take all of their classes together and receive internship assignments with mentor principals whose purpose is to provide opportunities designed to bridge any gaps in their educational/professional backgrounds. The topics covered in the cohort classroom parallel the various occasions students have in their mentorship assignments to actually observe, participate, and then lead.

According to Dr. Pamela Scott, the ELPA assistant professor who will lead or co-teach each of the courses, "This is an emergent design which we are redefining as we go."

Each school district allows participating cohort students two days a month of released time from their regular teaching assignments, which is time typically spent at their mentors' schools observing them in action and where the students will ultimately assume leadership roles.

The released time helps students fulfill a statewide requirement that every educator seeking an administrative endorsement must first complete an internship which is required to include work performed in the district's central office as well as community outreach projects.

### Cantrell

Continued from page 3

of International Programs and Services. She discussed with him the possibility of doing research abroad and referred him to Dr. Foster Levy, director of undergraduate research, who is interested in supporting students with such aspirations. Through ETSU's bilateral exchange agreement with Kansai Gaidai University, Cantrell was able to pay tuition and fees to ETSU while studying and researching in Japan.

The Kingston native spent much of his time in the central Japan city of Hirakata, home of Kansai Gaidai University. His first semester was spent living with a local family, and the second semester he lived in a residence hall on campus.

Cantrell conducted research whenever possible, including a trip to Shodoshima, a very small island in the inland sea between the islands of Honshu and Kyushu, where Hosai spent the last years of his life in a Buddhist temple. Hosai's importance in Japanese literary history arises from his efforts to modernize the content and structure of traditional Japanese haiku poetry. Cantrell is evaluating the impact of Buddhism on Hosai's pre-World War II works. In addition to writing his thesis, Cantrell is also translating Hosai's poetry into English.

Now back at ETSU for his senior year, Cantrell remembers his time in Japan as "the most influential experience in my life." In addition to studying at Kansai Gaidai and conducting research, he notes, "Talking with my Japanese friends is still the best practice for my study of the Japanese language."

## Researchers study sleep drug, antidepressant interaction

One drug is used for treating depression, and the other is prescribed for insomnia, but how the two pharmacological agents work when administered together is not well understood.

Two ETSU researchers hope to bridge that gap through a \$104,000 grant awarded by the pharmaceutical company Sepracor. The study involves the relationship between the prescription sleep aid Lunesta® (eszopiclone) and Prozac® (fluoxetine), a common antidepressant.

"A study published in the journal *Biological Psychiatry* found that patients who were being treated with Prozac® for depression and were also experiencing insomnia saw an improvement in their depressive symptoms when Lunesta® was added to their drug regimen," said Dr. Greg Ordway, chair/professor of Pharmacology at the James H. Quillen College of Medicine. "It may be that simply getting more sleep helped the patient to feel better, but it is important that we understand this connection at the molecular level. Based on unique biochemical actions of these two drugs, there is reason to believe that the synergistic effect of this drug combination results from more than just better sleeping."

Ordway and Dr. Russ Brown, ETSU associate professor of Psychology, will spend the next year studying this relationship by using animal models and measuring the various biological variables when the drugs are prescribed together.

"We want to look very closely at the behavioral interaction of these two drugs," Brown added. "One possible theory is that Lunesta® has the ability to enhance the sensitivity of antidepressant action and produce improved effects."

The project will last for one year.

# All Aboard!

*Scenes from the George L. Carter Railroad Museum Dedication*



Clockwise from top: Dr. Fred Alsop presents ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr. a personalized coach to display in his office; Marian Bankus, who donated her late husband's prized model railroad to the museum, traveled from Houston for the dedication; Alsop describes the history of the museum to attendees; members of the Bankus family talk with representatives of the Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders, who staff the museum on a volunteer basis; and Stanton conducts the "ETSU Express" around the track.



## Roving Artists from ETSU assist local law enforcement with training

Officers with local law enforcement agencies are called upon to serve all members of their communities, which requires them to gain an understanding of a wide range of behaviors. They receive specialized training to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary when dealing with individuals who suffer from mental illness.

Recently, law enforcement officers from ETSU, Johnson City, Washington County, Elizabethton, Bristol and Carter County participated in such a training session, with assistance from students in the Arts Scholars Program within the Honors College. Arts Scholars are talented students carefully selected for a specialized curriculum, including a unique Roving Artist course that allows participants to take cooperative projects onto campus and into the community.



In these photos, courtesy of the Johnson City Police Department, ETSU's Roving Artists serve as actors for law enforcement training scenarios.

With their instructor, Pat Cronin, who is the program director and a professional actor, the Roving Artists conducted scenarios creating dilemmas the police officers might face in the field. The officers were able to improve their communication skills and their ability to de-escalate potentially difficult situations. Cronin and the students then joined in discussion and feedback about the scenarios.

This particular role-playing session was filmed by a Nashville production company, on behalf of the National Alliance for Mental Illness, for distribution to all law enforcement agencies in Tennessee to encourage more of this type of training.



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## *ETSU dance classes take different direction*

Dance at ETSU is taking quite a turn this fall.

As a new facet of the Division of Theatre in the College of Arts and Sciences' Department of Communication, instructors say they hope dance will become better recognized. "The marriage of dance and theater is that rare thing ... a perfect marriage," said Pat Cronin, head of Theatre and longtime actor and director.

This change allows students to take dance classes geared more toward choreography and theater. Cronin said theater graduates have told former professors that choreography has been their weakest area in auditions.

In addition to the anticipated changes, instructors also hope for more visibility, now that dance is no longer mixed in with physical education courses but is an active part of ETSU's theatrical endeavors.

"I believe dance will grow and expand much better," avers Judy Woodruff, longtime dance instructor at ETSU and professional dancer, adding that the partnership should open new doors. "We hope to find a broader interest in students with dancing offered under Dance instead of PE," she said, but advises checking under both listings – DANC and PEXS – in the ETSU catalog of courses.

While dance and theater have had a connection through the years, it is "being put to the test" at ETSU, according to new dance instructor Cara Harker, who adds, "I think they complement each other naturally."

Harker has been dancing since she was 3, while Woodruff has been involved in the ETSU dance program since almost 1982. "Without the amazing leadership of Judy Woodruff, the flame of dance here would have died long ago," Cronin noted.

In 2008, the ETSU dance division will

present its first spring concert. Auditions were held early in fall semester and rehearsals are well under way. Most students chosen for the cast are required to take a repertory dance class, taught by Woodruff and Harker.

"I think the concert is a great way to give the dance program more exposure," Harker said.

Both instructors hope more students will become interested in dance as an academic pursuit, and a minor in dance is also being discussed. Cronin said this should take place within the next three years, followed shortly by a theater major.

The ETSU Division of Theatre welcomes the dance addition, Cronin said. "We are already collaborating in our curricula and in our performance schedule. In addition to dance concerts, you'll be seeing more dance-oriented musicals and operas."



# Campus News Briefs

## **Booksigning: *The Bone Hunters***

This Saturday (Dec. 1), Harry Moore will be at the new ETSU and General Shale Brick Natural History Museum and Visitor Center from 2-4 p.m. to sign copies of his book, *The Bone Hunters*, a first-hand account of the people behind the excavation of the Gray Fossil Site and how their efforts helped preserve this Tennessee and national treasure.

Moore manages the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Geotechnical Engineering office in Knoxville. Highway construction crews discovered the late Miocene-aged site in 2000 while working on a TDOT road-widening project along State Route 75.

Less than 1 percent of the site has been excavated to date, with thousands of specimens of an entire ecosystem of animals and plants being recovered from the location that measures approximately five acres and is 100 to 140 feet deep. The specimens are between 4.5 and 7 million years old, and a number of the fossils are now on display in the new multi-million-dollar facility.

Moore's other books are *A Roadside Guide to the Geology of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park*, *A Geologic Trip Across Tennessee by Interstate 40*, and *Discovering October Roads: Fall Colors and Geology in Rural East Tennessee* (co-written with Fred Brown). All volumes are available in the Museum Gift Shop at Gray.

The museum is open from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. seven days a week with the exception of the Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day holidays. For more information, call toll-free 1-866-202-6223 or visit [www.grayfossilmuseum.org](http://www.grayfossilmuseum.org).

## **'Living On' exhibit extended**

"Living On: Portraits of Tennessee Survivors and Liberators," a traveling documentary exhibition and project of the Tennessee Holocaust Commission (THC), has been extended at the Carroll Reece Museum due to overwhelming public response.

The display will continue at the Reece Museum through Dec. 20, rather than closing Nov. 29 as originally scheduled.

The black and white photographs by

Robert Heller include images of 74 individuals from throughout Tennessee, all of whom were survivors of the Holocaust, U.S. Army witnesses, hidden children, or refugees prior to liberation in 1945. The exhibit also includes biographies of each, along with maps of Europe showing birthplaces and locations of ghettos and concentration camps.

In addition, streaming audio of Dr. Stephen Fritz's lecture, "The Twisted Road to Auschwitz: Implementing the Holocaust" – one of several lectures and special events held in conjunction with the exhibit, is available online at [mms://etsumedia2.etsu.edu/twistedroad](http://mms://etsumedia2.etsu.edu/twistedroad). Fritz, an ETSU professor of History, is an authority on World War II and the Holocaust.

The "Living On" exhibit is sponsored locally by the Reece Museum and ETSU's Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (CASS), of which the museum is a part, as well as ETSU's Department of English, the B'nai Shalom Congregation, and several anonymous donors.

Regular museum hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Thursday. For more information, call 439-4392.

## **International Student Essay Contest winners**

The Honors College has announced the winners of the recent International Student Essay Contest held in conjunction with International Education Week.

First-place recognition went to New Zealand native Colleen Trenwith, with Li Hui of China capturing second place, and third place ending in a three-way tie among Damir Khuzhakhmetov of Russia, Miguena Samadu from Germany, and Priti Sharma of India.

Shopping in America was a recurring theme in the essays. Trenwith wrote, "When I left the New Zealand shores to fly here, I shed the burden of loyalty to my mother and her peers, who grew up in the Depression and could very rarely bring themselves to buy a brand new garment off the rack of a department store, and I now frequent the women's clothing departments of the American shopping malls. I walk with a liberated

air, leaping with joy on the inside, trying to look as though I do this every day of my life, and I select a brand new pair of jeans, a top, and maybe some shoes, and pay cash . . . just like that!"

Hui's essay said, "Here, in America, I will not be able to see the lively scenes like those in China's traditional markets. No live fish swimming in water, no chickens' cluck, no huckstering, no bargaining. All I have to do is choose, then check out. People will soon get the goods they need, and then leave quietly. Aside from the goods, nothing exciting is happening around the customers. However, I can enjoy the quietness, free selection, and the considerate service of supermarkets."

## **Wind Ensemble to present final concert of semester**

The ETSU Wind Ensemble will perform its final concert of the fall semester Thursday (Nov. 29) at 7:30 p.m. at Seeger Chapel on the campus of Milligan College.

"The concert will include six selections of varying emotion, mood and difficulty, and there should be something on the program for everyone," said Dr. Christian Zembower, director of bands in the Department of Music.

The program features three movements from Robert Russell Bennett's "Suite of Old American Dances," which showcases such older dances as "Cake Walk," "Western One-Step" and the "Rag." According to Zembower, Bennett spent most of his career as a composer on Broadway, and the compositional style that he presents in this piece is very much in the same style and flavor.

Other works to be performed are Clifton Williams' "Caccia and Chorale"; Bruce Yurko's "In Memorial: Kristina," a "beautifully dark piece" in memory and honor of a past student of the composer; and "Trauersinfonie" by Richard Wagner, who wrote the piece as a funeral march for his friend and fellow composer, Carl Maria von Weber, whose remains were being transferred from one burial site to another.

"There could also be a holiday selection thrown in for good measure!" Zembower said.

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The concert is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Zembower at 439-4296 or [zembower@etsu.edu](mailto:zembower@etsu.edu).

### **World AIDS Day**

In recognition of World AIDS Day, the ETSU HIV/AIDS Center of Excellence will offer free HIV testing and informational material on Friday (Nov. 30) from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in the D.P. Culp Center.

The HIV/AIDS Center of Excellence is an affiliation of the James H. Quillen College of Medicine. Other event sponsors include the ETSU Office of Multicultural Affairs, the Northeast Tennessee Regional Public Health Office, and HOPE for Tennessee (formerly known as Project HOPE), a non-profit prevention and support organization.

An informational booth will be located outside the ETSU Bookstore on the second floor of the Culp Center. Confidential testing will be done in a private location.

“Knowledge can be lifesaving when dealing with HIV,” said Roxanne Underwood, clinical coordinator with the Center of Excellence. “Many people who have HIV are not aware they are infected. At the same time, being tested will also bring peace of mind to those who fear they may have been exposed. HIV is now a very manageable chronic disease as long as those affected seek care as soon as possible.”

The HIV/AIDS Center of Excellence offers a team approach in treating patients and families who are dealing with this chronic disease. The staff includes physicians and nurses specializing in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, medical care management that links eligible individuals to grant-funded resources, supportive psychotherapy services for patients and significant others, and social work services to connect patients

and families with community resources and available financial support.

World AIDS Day was established by the World Health Organization to raise awareness and focus attention on the global AIDS epidemic.

For more information, contact Underwood at 439-8546.

### **Percussion Ensemble concert**

ETSU’s acclaimed Percussion Ensemble will perform in concert Sunday, Dec. 2, at 3 p.m. in Mathes Hall.

The Percussion Ensemble’s repertoire includes various styles of literature from traditional African music to contemporary jazz and Latin music. The ensemble won the Marching Festival Small Ensemble category at the 2005 Percussive Arts Society International Convention.

This concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call Dr. Rande Sanderbeck, Percussion Ensemble director, at 439-5783.

### **Christmas Concert sells out**

Anyone who had planned to buy tickets at the door for the ETSU Chorale’s annual Christmas Concert on Friday, Dec. 7, is too late – Chorale members sold all the tickets as of Nov. 19, three weeks before the event in Munsey Memorial United Methodist Church.

Under the direction of Dr. Thomas Jenrette, professor of Music and director of Choral Activities, the 80-voice Chorale will perform masterworks dating from the Renaissance to the 21st century, from Allegri’s “Miserere” to Arvo Pärt’s “Berliner Messe,” in addition to well-known carols.

For more information about this or any upcoming Department of Music concert or recital, call 439-4276.

### **Financial Aid Night**

ETSU invites students from Washington and Unicoi counties to attend a Financial Aid Night on Thursday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. in the D.P. Culp Center Ballroom.

Information will be available concerning Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarships and state and federal financial aid, including instructions for filing FAFSA forms.

In addition to ETSU, representatives will attend from Carson-Newman College, Emory and Henry College, King College, Lees-McRae College, Milligan College, Northeast State Technical Community College, Elizabethton’s Tennessee Technology Center, Tusculum College, the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and Virginia Intermont College.

The Tennessee Student Assistance Corporation will also send staff members.

For more information, call 439-4300.

### **Renaissance Child Holiday Art Workshop**

The Office of Professional Development is offering a Renaissance Child Holiday Art Workshop Dec. 19-21.

This creative experience provides new activities each year for children ages 6-11. The schedule includes copper embossing, creating and personalizing holiday treasures, and baking holiday treats. An ice skating adventure at York Skating Rink is also planned.

The workshop operates from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. on the ETSU campus and costs \$40 per day or \$110 for all three days. Each child should bring a sack lunch and wear “paint friendly” clothing.

To register, call 439-8084 or go to <http://faculty.etsu.edu/dyed/campregistration.htm>.

## **ETSU musicians to participate in Songfest to benefit IHN**

Several musicians associated with ETSU’s Bluegrass, Old-Time and Country Music Program will appear Sunday (Dec. 2) in “Songfest 2007: A Bluegrass/Gospel Music Extravaganza” to benefit Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) of Greater Johnson City.

Raymond McLain, director, and faculty member Ed Snodderly will perform, as will the ETSU Bluegrass Band and former stu-

dents George Boetcher and Jill Andrews. Other performers include educator and pastor Vincent Dial, SunnySide, the Bethel Christian Church Choir, and more.

IHN is a network of churches and community agencies that help homeless families remain together while addressing the challenges they face in obtaining permanent, affordable housing. These families receive counseling and services that meet their

specific needs while an organized coalition of churches provide them with food and temporary shelter.

The concert will be held from 3-5:30 p.m. in the VA Memorial Theatre. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students and senior citizens, and are available through the Bluegrass Program office, 439-7072; all Bank of Tennessee locations in Johnson City; and the IHN office, 929-9967.

## Campus ministry plants ‘tators’ at ETSU, watches for results

Everything comes up roses for some people, but for Baptists at ETSU this fall, it’s coming up “tators.”

Christians should be “tators,” says Eric Hogstrom, the Baptist Collegiate Ministries campus minister of seven years. Every year BCM’s leadership team comes up with a new theme to promote the organization, and this year’s is “I’m A Tator.”

“Everything’s about potatoes,” said BCM intern Justin Wolfe, an ETSU May graduate with a bachelor’s degree in biology.

The “tator” is a comical and fun concept on the surface, Wolfe says, but there is a deeper meaning. According to Hogstrom, the theme was inspired by Ephesians 5:1 in the New International Version of the Bible, in which Paul tells Christians in Ephesus, “Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children.”

“BCM’s purpose is to create those ‘imitators’ of God through connecting, growing and serving,” Hogstrom said.

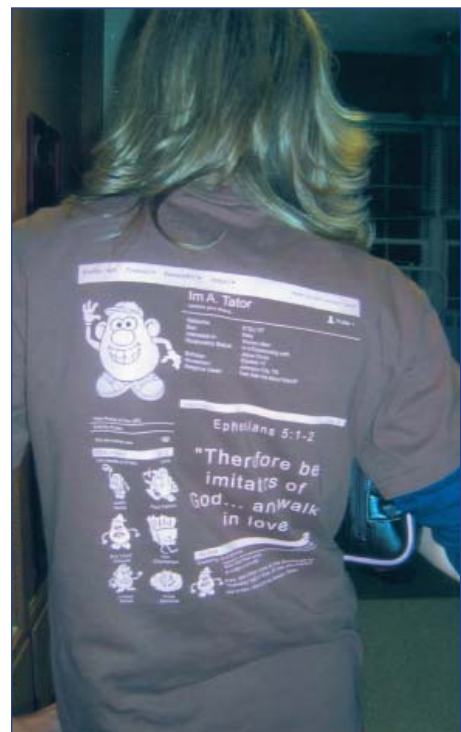
Students help others through service projects and by providing leadership through BCM. “We want them to see the bigger picture,” Hogstrom said, “and ‘I’m A Tator’ is a

fun way to communicate our message.”

BCM has already promoted its “I’m A Tator” theme in a variety of ways around campus, including the first promotional dinner this semester which offered a baked potato bar for new and returning students. The theme was then explained in more detail at the first worship service.

The organization also has T-shirts for purchase by anyone who does not mind being dubbed a “tator.” The shirts, which feature a Facebook profile of Mr. Potato Head and an explanation of the “I’m A Tator” theme, are \$10 and may be purchased at the BCM house, 1012 Seminole Dr.

Though it is a Baptist organization, BCM is open to persons of all denominations. At 7:30 p.m. every Tuesday, BCM holds a weekly service – The Exchange – which is full of activities, including worship led by the BCM praise band, a brief message from a speaker that varies every week and time to get to know other people involved with the organization. Bible study groups, conventions, intramurals and retreats are all part of BCM’s initiatives.



A student models an “I’m A Tator” shirt that explains the theme used this fall by the Baptist Collegiate Ministries at ETSU.

## Sobol, others to perform in inaugural benefit for National Storytelling Network

Dr. Joseph Sobol, director of ETSU’s Master’s Degree Program in Storytelling, will join other renowned storytellers in the first “Tales of the Season” Benefit Storytelling Concert at the Jonesborough Repertory Theater on Friday, Dec. 7.

In addition to Sobol, this event will feature tellers Sheila Kay Adams, David Novak and Connie Regan-Blake in an evening of seasonal tales. Delanna Reed, a faculty member in the ETSU Storytelling Program, which is co-sponsoring the event, will serve as emcee.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and are available at the Jonesborough Visitor’s Center or by calling 753-1010. A limited number of dinner/concert

packages are available for \$60 per person. The 6 p.m. dinner at Jonesborough’s Bistro 105 includes soup or salad, an entrée, dessert and a non-alcoholic beverage. (Gratuity and alcoholic beverages not included.)

Proceeds from this event will benefit the National Storytelling Network, a member-driven organization which offers direct services, publications and educational opportunities to several thousand individuals, local storytelling guilds and associations. These services are designed to improve the quality of storytelling at all levels - in entertainment venues, in classrooms, organizations, medical fields and wherever storytelling can make a contribution to quality of life.

**“For a nation which has an almost evil reputation for bustle, bustle, bustle, and rush, rush, rush, we spend an enormous amount of time standing around in line in front of windows, just waiting.”**

— Robert Benchley, Benchley — or Else!

## ETSU use of 3D printer featured in magazine

The cover of the September/October issue of *Time-Compression Technologies* magazine displayed the title of one of the major articles inside, “Advanced Technology at East Tennessee State University.”

The article related ways students and faculty in the Department of Technology and Geomatics are using a Dimension BST-fused deposition modeler, or 3D printer, to rapidly turn their designs into durable ABS plastic. The 3D printer builds accurate models layer by layer, allowing users to evaluate design concepts and test for functionality, form and fit.

Associate Professor Bill Hemphill outlined several projects greatly facilitated by the 3D printer, including a request from Dr. Delbert Hall of the ETSU Division of Theatre and Dance to develop a better snap hook, used to allow actors to “fly” across the stage.

Another major project involved the creation of a surgical simulator system used to train medical students to handle more than a dozen OB/GYN surgical scenarios.

## Dr. Dhirendra Kumar's research published in *Science Magazine*

A new research discovery by an ETSU biology professor and colleagues could help scientists develop crops with better capacity to fight disease and pests.

"Methyl salicylate is a critical mobile signal for plant systemic acquired resistance," an article published in a recent issue of *Science Magazine*, was co-authored by Dr. Dhirendra Kumar, associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, and associates from the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Ithaca, N.Y.; Cornell University; and the University of Toronto, Canada. Their research is funded by the National Science Foundation.

The article describes the discovery of a disease resistance signal molecule. This molecule – methyl salicylate (MeSA) – is produced at the site of pathogen infection, from which it moves not only to other parts of the infected plant, but also to neighboring healthy plants.

For more than five decades, plant scientists have been searching for a mobile "messenger" that transmits a signal from infected to non-infected, healthy parts of a plant, readying the plant for any future attack by elevating its resistance.

Kumar explains that high levels of salicylic acid (SA) – the active ingredient in aspirin – are produced by plants that show resistance to microbial pathogen infection. Scientists initially thought these higher levels of SA moved through the food-conducting phloem tissues to the healthy parts of the plant. However, later studies showed that SA is not the phloem mobile signal that triggers resistance elevation.

Kumar said his team, in research published in 2003 and 2005 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, identified a protein – SABP2 – that converts MeSA to SA, which then binds in the active site of the SABP2 enzyme and inhibits its activity.

This led the researchers to hypothesize that the MeSA may be the phloem mobile signal, because it is lipid-soluble and can readily cross the membranes.

"It is important to note that SABP2 is required in the target tissues to convert the methyl salicylate into salicylic acid to initiate the defense response of the plant," Kumar said. "Plants lacking SABP2 are susceptible to pathogen infection."

"Plants under attack by herbivores send out an SOS – a signal for help," he continued. "They do this by emitting a cocktail of volatile chemicals, and one of the major components is methyl salicylate. These chemical compounds attract the predators of herbivores. It appears that methyl salicylate may be one of the global signals used by plants for communication, and these studies will help us develop crops that are more pest- and disease-resistant."

## Global health expert to speak about HIV/AIDS

Dr. Linda M. Distlerath, one of the nation's leading experts on the global AIDS epidemic, will speak at ETSU on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 7 p.m.

Her presentation, "Public-Private Partnerships in HIV/AIDS: Lessons from Botswana," will be delivered in the lower level auditorium of Stanton-Gerber Hall and follows World AIDS Day 2007 (Dec. 1).

Distlerath is currently the senior vice president of APCO Worldwide, a global public affairs and strategic communications firm headquartered in Washington, D.C. She is also the former vice president of global health policy and health policy for Merck and Co., Inc., where she led the development and implementation of the African Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Partnerships (ACHAP), a unique public-private partnership among Merck and The Merck Company Foundation, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the Government of Botswana.

Other major initiatives included the Inter-Company Collaboration for AIDS Drug Development, a Merck-led consortium of 16 research-based pharmaceutical compa-

nies, and the Forum for Collaborative HIV Research, a partnership between leaders representing the pharmaceutical industry, academia, government, and the AIDS advocacy community.

While at Merck, Distlerath led efforts in forging relationships with the AIDS advocacy community in the early 1990s during the clinical development and introduction of Crixivan, Merck's HIV protease inhibitor. She is an active contributor to numerous HIV/AIDS-related forums and programs.

Distlerath holds a B.S. in medical technology from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in environmental health from the University of Cincinnati. She completed a post-doctoral fellowship in biochemistry at Vanderbilt University and holds a J.D. from Rutgers Law School-Newark.

She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, a trustee for the Committee for Economic Development, an advisory board member for the journal *Global Health Governance*, and an adjunct professor of public health at ETSU.

For more information, call 439-4243.

### TCPSC receives continuation grant

The Tennessee Child Passenger Safety Center (TCPSC) at ETSU has received a continuation grant of \$353,000 for 2008 from the Governor's Highway Safety Office (GHSO).

Located on the ETSU at Kingsport campus, the TCPSC supports the GHSO's Occupant Protection Program goal to promote and increase the usage of safety belts and the proper use of child safety systems.

It does this by planning and implementing regional programs to train, certify and recertify child passenger safety technicians; assisting technicians in carrying out child safety checkpoints; interpreting collected data to help develop improved educational materials and strategies; and working through community and commercial agencies to promote the proper use of child restraint systems in all vehicles.

For more information on the TCPSC, visit [www.etsu.edu/tcpsc/](http://www.etsu.edu/tcpsc/).