



TROY TODAY

A look inside Troy University for faculty and staff

April 18, 2011

Inside Today

TROY News	2
TROY People	5
Around TROY	8



Runner-up – T-Roy, the official mascot of Troy University, finished as the national runner-up at the recently held National Cheerleaders Association and National Dance Alliance Collegiate National Championships. T-Roy had to perform a 90 second routine that was judged on creativity, characterization, dance, props and overall impression.

Ingalls Award

Dr. Amanda Andrews Benson honored for excellence in classroom teaching



Dr. Amanda Andrews Benson, chair of Troy University's Department of Athletic Training, receives the 2011 Ingalls Award during the Honors Convocation on the Troy Campus. From left to right are: Dr. Hal Fulmer, Associate Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies; Dr. Benson; Dr. Damon Andrew, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services; and Dr. Earl Ingram, interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Amanda K. Andrews Benson, chair of the Department of Athletic Training, is the recipient of the 2011 Ingalls Award for Excellence in Classroom Teaching at Troy University.

Dr. Benson received the award during the University's annual Honors Convocation held April 11 in the Claudia Crosby Theater on the Troy Campus.

The Ingalls Award is given annually to the teacher on the Troy Campus who has "most diligently, effectively and cheerfully conducted his or her classes" See **INGALLS, Page 4**

Lee encourages students to commit to honorable living

Students receiving awards at Troy University's annual Honors Convocation learned some lessons in living an honorable life from a long-time Troy University administrator.

Eleanor Lee, Dean of First-Year Studies, served as the keynote

speaker for the annual convocation, where more than 200 students received awards or were recognized for induction into university honor societies.

Dean Lee encouraged the students to live lives worthy of honor See **HONORS, Page 4**



Eleanor Lee

Dothan Campus kicks off Heritage Week celebration tonight

Troy University will celebrate its ties to the Wiregrass region with a number of special events during Heritage Week on the Dothan Campus April 18-22.

For more than 20 years the Dothan Campus has celebrated its history in the Wiregrass with the Heritage Week festivities,

which include several free events that are open to the public.

"It's a week in which we recognize the special relationship we have with this community," said Bob Willis, dean of student services.

Activities during the 2011 Her-

itage Week will include:

- April 18 – The Troy University Community Band of Dothan will perform at 7 p.m. inside Sony Hall. Admission is free and open to the public.

- April 19 – The annual Health and Wellness Fair, featuring free See **HERITAGE, Page 2**

Ambassador-in-residence Kurt Volker returns for spring presentation

Ambassador Kurt Volker, former U.S. Ambassador to NATO, returned to Troy University this week for the spring leg of his Ambassador-in-Residence duties.

Ambassador Volker, who began his year-long residency in September 2010, conducted a presentation on April 12 focusing on “the United States and the North Atlantic



Ambassador-in-Residence Kurt Volker addresses students during April 12 presentation.

Treaty Organization in the Contemporary World.”

TROY’s Ambassador-in-Residence program is an initiative of the College of Arts and Science’s Department of Political Science and Volker is the third such ambassador to participate.

Ambassador Volker, a member of the U.S. Senior Foreign Service for more than 23 years, served as NATO ambassador under President George W. Bush. Prior to that, he served in U.S. embassies in Hungary and the United Kingdom.

Currently, he is senior fellow and managing director of the Center on Transatlantic Relations at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies and is a senior advisor at the Atlantic Council of the United States. He also teaches at George Washington University.



Dr. John A. Kline (right) is shown with TROY students Addison Brooke Springer, Yelena Arishina and Kasey Colburn during the Higher Education Partnership’s Higher Education Day Rally on April 7.

Higher Education Partnership honors Dr. John Kline with Leadership Award

Dr. John A. Kline, distinguished professor of leadership and director of Troy University’s Institute for Leadership Development, has been honored for his leadership in higher education in Alabama.

Dr. Kline received the organization’s Leadership Award during 2011 Alumni Leaders Banquet on April 6. The award was presented by Hillary Carnel, a member of the Higher Education Partnership’s Alumni Task Force and an alumni affairs specialist at UAB.

“Since the Partnership was first

established, Dr. Kline has been an unparalleled ambassador, providing leadership through motivational and informational presentations about the value of higher education to alumni and student leaders,” Carnel said. “He has been instrumental in garnering the support of literally thousands of University students throughout Alabama.”

The Partnership’s annual Higher Education Day Rally was held on April 7 at the Alabama Statehouse.

Heritage

Continued from Page 1
information and screenings from local healthcare providers, will be from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. inside the Harrison Room in Malone Hall. The event is open to the public.

The library’s free international film series will continue with a screening of “LaLee’s Kin” inside Sony Hall at 7 p.m., preceded by a reception at

6:30 p.m. The event is open to the public.

- April 20 – The spring luau on the quad for faculty, staff and students will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

- April 21 – The College of Arts and Science will present the annual Woodham Lecture series featuring Dr. Jenny Brooks inside the Harrison Room in

Malone Hall at 1 p.m. Dr. Brooks will present the lecture “Celebrating Alabama Blues Music.” The event is free and open to the public.

- April 22 – The Outstanding Student Honors Convocation will be from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. inside Sony Hall.

For more information about Heritage Week events, contact Willis at (334) 983-6556 or rwillis@troy.edu.

Donation from Botts estate

\$1.4 million gift will provide support for School of Accountancy, geomatics program

The estate of Elbert A. Botts has presented a \$1.4 million donation to Troy University which will support the School of Accountancy and geomatics program.

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor, expressed appreciation for the gift and said it would help advance two of the University's strongest academic programs.

"The investment of this bequest reflects the value placed on this university by the Botts family and for that we are grateful," Dr. Hawkins said.

A native of Pike County, Elbert Botts attended Troy University (then called Troy State Teachers College) in the 1940s. He went on to open a successful garden center in Augusta, Ga., The Green Thumb West, which he worked at until his death in 1995. He was known both as a civic leader and a statewide pioneer in the horticulture industry.

Botts' nephews, Richard and Nathan Botts, made the presentation to TROY officials during a luncheon ceremony at the University's Foundation Office.

"Uncle Elbert believed in education and felt that [his college education] allowed him to become as successful as he was," Nathan Botts said.



The Elbert A. Botts Estate presented a \$1.4 million donation to Troy University on Wednesday, March 23. The gift will support the University's geomatics program and the School of Accountancy. Pictured left to right are: Dr. Steve Ramroop, director of the Surveying and Geomatics Program; Betsy Botts, Nathan Botts, Richard Botts, Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor; Melody Botts and Dr. Kaye Sheridan, director of the School of Accountancy.

"He really thought a lot about the community that he grew up in and thought a lot about education," Richard Botts said. "This gift is going to a great place and you will do great works with it."

The donation will support scholarships for future geomatics students, said Dr.

Steve Ramroop, director of the Surveying and Geomatics Program, and will allow the program to add new technology and faculty.

The School of Accountancy will use the gift to fund a professorship in accounting, said program director Dr. Kaye Sheridan.



Donation to help provide captioning at Museum – Students from Troy University's American Sign Language Interpreter Training Program club present a \$2,500 donation to help provide captioning for video presentations in the University's Rosa Parks Museum on the Montgomery Campus. University officials formally accepted the gift at a recent ceremony at the museum, and Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. thanked the students for their leadership. Ray White, Vice Chancellor of the Montgomery Campus, said the project to add captioning to the museum's video exhibits is nearing completion.

Ingalls

Continued from Page 1
during the current academic year.” Students nominate faculty members for the award, and a committee of students and faculty advisors selects the recipient. The award consists of a statue of Socrates, a plaque and a check for \$1,000.

“Dr. Benson’s extensive practical experience enables her to provide excellent supervision and guidance for our students both in the classroom and in a clinical setting,” said Dr. Earl Ingram, interim Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. “That type of quality hands-on experience and instruction is invaluable to our students as they prepare to enter the career field. In addition, her work with regional and national professional organizations provides TROY students with tremendous networking opportunities in both the academic and professional realms.”

Dr. Benson joined Troy University in 2003 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2009.

In 2010, Dr. Benson was selected to participate in the University’s Chancellor’s Fellows Program, which is designed to enable qualified faculty and staff to develop increased knowledge and understanding of the programs and operations of Troy University. Participants are selected based on their leadership potential and past service to the University.

Dr. Benson said she was humbled to receive the honor.

“Throughout my education and career I have had excellent mentors, and I have always strived to emulate them both inside and outside the classroom,” Dr. Benson said. “I am fortunate enough to work with outstanding, intelligent, motivated students on a daily basis; so to know that they nominated me for an award of this caliber is extremely humbling.”

Dr. Benson earned her Doctor of Philosophy in Human Performance with an emphasis in Administration and Teaching in 2003 from the University of Southern Mississippi, her master’s degree in physical education in 2001 from Eastern Kentucky University and her bachelor’s degree in exercise science in 2000 from State University of New York in Buffalo.



Bassett wins Sullivan Award – Elaine Bassett, coordinator of the Writing Center at the Troy Campus, was honored on Monday as a recipient of the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award. The award, presented annually to a male student, a female student and one non-student at TROY since 1981, recognizes recipients for their excellence of character, humanitarian service and spiritual qualities. Bassett and seniors Katelyn Buzbee of Pinson and Darin Andrew Chancellor of Pottstown, PA, received their awards during a luncheon on the Troy Campus on Monday. The recipients also were honored during the University’s annual Honors Convocation Monday night.

Honors

Continued from Page 1
after they leave the University.

“What will you do with the honors and accolades you achieve?” Dean Lee said. “Will you put them on a shelf with your other awards and trophies? Once you’ve earned honor, the upkeep is yours to maintain.”

Dean Lee drew on the wisdom of classic philosophers, authors and public figures to define honor, but she also offered her own definition.

“Honor is a way of life, a commitment to make the world a better place,” she said. “Honor is about living honorably, always demanding the

best of yourself, devoting your talents and gifts to the benefit of others—these are the measures of success that endure when material things have passed away.”

Dean Lee, who is retiring this spring after a 29-year career at TROY, added a personal note to her speech.

“As I look back over my time here, I am humbled to say that it’s been an honor, a privilege, and a joy to serve the University, especially the students, to the best of my ability. My fellow travelers have made my time here enjoyable. The journey has truly been amazing.”

‘Ray of sunshine’

Montgomery’s Vivian Smith wins Vergil Parks McKinley Award for March

Vivian Smith, information desk clerk at Troy University’s Montgomery Campus, has received the University’s Vergil Parks McKinley Award for March.

Smith, who has been a member of the Troy University staff since 2007, received the award during a recent ceremony in the Trojan Center Ballrooms on the Troy Campus. Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor, presented the award to Smith, who was nominated by Rachel Skipworth, Auxiliary Services Coordinator.

The McKinley Award is the highest honor that Troy University gives to a non-faculty staff member. It is presented monthly to an employee who has demonstrated outstanding attitude, innovation and work ethic. The award was established by former Texaco CEO John McKinley in honor of his father, Vergil Parks McKinley, who was a Troy University professor during the early 20th century and was key to the development of the University’s athletic program. Winners of this award receive an engraved clock and a \$350 stipend.

In a letter of nomination, Skipworth compared Smith to “a ray of sunshine with so much positive energy.”

“The Troy University employees, students and visitors enjoy Vivian’s presence and helpfulness,” Skipworth said. “Vivian handles the employees and public with care and ease. She is a dedicated employee who goes beyond what is required of her to get the job done and does not leave until all is taken care of. Vivian is truly a



Vivian Smith, information desk clerk at Troy University’s Montgomery Campus, receives the University’s Vergil Parks McKinley Award for March on Tuesday, from Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor, and Rachel Skipworth (left), Auxiliary Services Coordinator on the Montgomery Campus.

great employee.”

Smith said she was honored to receive the award.

“I enjoy working for Troy University, and I love being able to help all of the students,” Smith said. “This is a tremendous honor to receive this award.”



March Reward Callers – Winners of the Reward Callers Awards for March are congratulated by Chancellor Jack Hawkins, Jr. during a ceremony on March 29. Winners, from left to right, are: Deloris Smith of the business office on the Phenix City Campus, Christy Morrow of University Relations and Leisa Frankum of Document Imaging. Winning, but not pictured, is Dionna Hoover of Asset Management. The monthly awards honor employees for their courtesy and proper use of phone etiquette. Winners receive \$25.

TROY PEOPLE

Activities & achievements

Dr. Edward Merkel, professor of economics and director of graduate business programs, and Sarvar Gurbanov, lecturer in economics, Qafqaz University, Baku, Azerbaijan, have published a paper entitled "Avoiding the Dutch Disease: A Comparative Study of Three Successful Countries" in the current issue of the Journal of Qafqaz University: An International Journal.

The paper explores whether natural resource abundance is a precondition for poor economic growth in a country or if it can be mitigated with suitable public policy response. Dutch Disease theory focuses on the unbalanced growth of booming goods sectors in juxtaposition to that of non-booming traded and non-traded ones. The nations of Norway (oil), Indonesia (oil) and Botswana (diamonds) are examined. The study reports that whether a nation is economically developed, developing or undeveloped, prudent macroeconomic policies are relaxed by central governments pursuant to large inflows of foreign exchange. Policy suggestions for resource-rich nations at all stages of development are then offered.

The Journal of Qafqaz University is a peer reviewed and refereed journal published by Qafqaz University which is located in Baku, Azerbaijan and is distributed to an international audience of academic, business, and governmental readers.

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Dr. Hae Kim, professor of international relations, presented the paper entitled "The Effects of Regionalism on Economic Development" at the 2011 annual conference of the International Studies Association (ISA), Montreal, Canada. The conference was held March 16-19.

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Dr. John Dunning, adjunct professor, and **Dr. Pamela T. Dunning**, assistant professor of the Master of Public Administration in the College of Arts and Sciences, Atlantic Region, presented their research entitled, "Virtual Technology for Citizen Engagement," at the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration Symposium in Norfolk, VA on March 23.

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Dr. Pamela T. Dunning and **Dr. Pamela A. Gibson**, assistant professors of the Master of Public Administration Program in the College of Arts and Sciences, Atlantic Region, presented their paper entitled, "Beyond the Classroom – Using Technology to Support Mobility," at the 2011 Annual Conference of the Virginia Advisory Council on Military Education in Williamsburg, VA, on March 22.

Drs. Gibson and Dunning also presented their research "Collaboration in Consortium: Factors Influencing Successful Collaboration in a Regional Higher Education Con-

sortium" at the Virginia Social Science Association Annual Conference in Norfolk, VA, on March 24 with their colleagues in the Atlantic Region, **Dr. Christine Burge**, regional director, **Lesa Shepherd**, assistant director of administration, and **Michelle Ellis Young**, director of the Hampton Roads Site.

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Derrick P. Brewster, director of the Trojan Center, received the Dr. Ernest E. Just Undergraduate Advisor of the Year Award on April 2, during the 7th District Omega Psi Phi Fraternity meeting in Montgomery. The award presentation was made during the Ronald McNair Luncheon at the Renaissance Hotel.

Brewster serves as advisor to the Rho Delta Delta chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc. at TROY. He was nominated for this award by State Representative, local graduate and undergraduate chapter Basileus of the fraternity and by **Herbert Reeves**, dean of student services.

The Undergraduate Advisor of the Year award is given to the chapter advisor that truly exemplifies manhood, scholarship, perseverance and ability to uplift. Mr. Brewster has a vast involvement with all undergraduate chapters at the State and District level.

The 7th District is comprised of undergraduate and graduate chapters from Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Florida.

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The paper presentation "Cloud Computing: Items Professional Firms Consider in Selecting Data Storage Firms" by **Dr. Eddy Burks** and **Dr. Stan Lewis** of the School of Accountancy won a Best in Session Award at the Academy of Business Disciplines Conference held last fall.

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Shellye Vardaman, assistant professor in the School of Nursing, is among the University of Texas at Tyler's first graduates from the nursing doctoral program. Her dissertation research project, "Lived Experiences of Transitions of International Nursing Students," focuses on assimilation of foreign nursing students into U.S. culture and workforce. Vardaman will graduate in May.

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Dr. David Hayes, assistant professor at the Fayetteville Site, delivered the presentation, "Egypt, Libya, What's Next for the Middle East?", during the Leadership Fayetteville networking breakfast on April 15.

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Dr. Jim Vickrey, professor of speech communication on the Montgomery Campus, has been honored twice by professional groups during the past month for his career-long

See **ACHIEVEMENTS**, Page 7



Astronaut speaks to Wiregrass students – NASA astronaut Doug Wheelock speaks to more than 1,200 Wiregrass area students during an appearance at Ashford High School on April 14. The appearance marked the end of a statewide school tour in which Wheelock spoke to more than 6,000 students. The tour was organized by Troy University's Wiregrass Math and Science Consortium, located at the Dothan Campus.

History of Alabama blues music to be focus of Woodham Lecture

Troy University professor Dr. Jeneve R. Brooks will discuss the history of blues music in Alabama during the annual Woodham Lecture at the Dothan Campus on Thursday, April 21.

The lecture, titled "Celebrating Alabama Blues Music," will be held at 1 p.m. inside the Harrison Room in Malone Hall. The annual Woodham Lecture is part of the Dothan Campus' Heritage Week celebration and admission is free and open to the public.

Dr. Brooks' lecture will highlight some of Alabama's rich blues heritage and the songs of key artists from Alabama such as Big Mama Thornton and Eddie Kirkland.

Dr. Brooks is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the Dothan Campus. Her research focuses on popular culture (with a focus on U.S. protest music), media and social movements.

The Woodham Lecture Series is sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences and is named for John Woodham, who was a long-time professor and head of the History Department on the Dothan Campus.

Achievements

Continued from Page 6
support of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, particularly its Freedom of Speech Clause, which some experts consider to be the linch-pin of the entire Bill of Rights.

At its annual convention in March in Little Rock, AR, Dr. Vickrey, received from the Southern States Communication Association its "James Madison Award in First Amendment Studies," presented by its Freedom of Speech Division, for his presentation of a paper at the 2010 Convention in Memphis on the burgeoning doctrine of "government speech," which in revised form was published in the e-journal, *Communication Law Review*, on the board of which he sits.

The second award for which Dr. Vickrey has been selected this spring is the 2011 "Intellectual Freedom Award" of the Alabama Library Association, which will be presented to him at the Association's annual convention in Orange Beach on April 21.

McDaniel honored for volunteer service

Shirley McDaniel, business developer/corporate recruiter for Troy University's Atlantic Region, was recently honored with the Volunteer of the Year Award by the Virginia Advisory Council on Military Education (VA-ACME).

The award is presented annually to a VA-ACME member in recognition of outstanding contributions and accomplishments to the cause of military education. The Council serves all branches of the armed forces, veterans, family members and Department of Defense civilian employees within Virginia by promoting, supporting and advocating educational opportunities.

McDaniel joined the Troy University staff in 1991.

In addition to serving as a VA-ACME member-at-large, she is also a



Shirley McDaniel, business developer/corporate recruiter for the Atlantic Region, was recently named Volunteer of the Year by the Virginia Advisory Council on Military Education.

member of the organization's planning and scholarship committees.

McDaniel holds a bachelor's degree in human relations from Golden Gate University and a master's degree in human resources management from TROY.

Blakeney roast

Event honors coach for 20 years at the helm of Trojan football program

Troy University fans and friends gathered Saturday night at the Renaissance Hotel to honor Trojans football coach Larry Blakeney for his 20 years of service.

The highlight of the evening came when Allen Owen, a member of the Troy University Board of Trustees, read a proclamation renaming the playing surface at Veterans Memorial Stadium as Larry Blakeney Field.

“No one said gotcha, but they got me,” Blakeney said of the honor. “This is a celebration of Troy University, this is not about me.”

Blakeney was roasted by friends David Housel, Bob Butterworth and Pat Sullivan as well as former Troy player Lawrence Tynes on behalf of more than 20 former players in attendance who went on to have NFL careers.

“Mr. College Football,” Tony Barnhart, served as the master of ceremonies for the night.

Dr. Jack Hawkins, Jr., Chancellor of TROY, also made remarks during the roast, calling Blakeney the best football coach in America.



Above, former TROY player Lawrence Tynes speaks on behalf of the more than 20 former players in attendance who went on to have NFL careers during a roast held in honor of Trojan head football Coach Larry Blakeney. The roast, held Saturday night at the Renaissance Hotel and Convention Center in Montgomery, honored Blakeney for his 20 years at the helm of the TROY football program. At left, Blakeney displays a resolution proclaiming the playing surface at TROY's Veterans Memorial Stadium will be named Larry Blakeney Field. The resolution was presented to Blakeney by Allen Owen, a member of the Troy University Board of Trustees.



Building demolition nears completion – Demolition of the Executive Building, also known as the Shepherd Building, is nearing completion at the Montgomery Campus. Donated to TROY in 2002, the aging 8-story structure had become a hazard due to its disrepair. The lot will be used to provide green space and additional parking for the campus.