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Institute of Agriculture

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From the chancellor

During the past year, Chancellor Larry Arrington has been doing a lot of listening and evaluating regarding the institute’s role in advancing Tennessee. From these sessions, "Four Pillars" have emerged that will help guide our future efforts in all aspects of the institute. Learn more about them in the chancellor’s letter.

Welcoming three new department heads

CASNR Dean Caula Beyl says the quality of our departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology, Food Science and Technology, and Plant Sciences can be seen in the caliber of new administrators the units have attracted. The new department heads join us this spring and early summer. More
Drafting a strategic plan for Tennessee agriculture, forestry

At the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation meeting, Gov. Bill Haslam challenged the federation, the Department of Agriculture and the institute to develop a strategic plan for ensuring the growth and prosperity of agriculture and forestry over the next decade. More

Grow More, Give More at the institute

In Tennessee there are an estimated 840,000 children who go hungry every year. To help address this issue, UTIA is partnering with the Society of St. Andrews on a joint effort called Grow More, Give More with the sole goal of feeding our hungry neighbors.

Collection of produce will start in early June, but you can get started now by planting a little extra in your garden to donate. When harvest time rolls around you can enjoy the fruits of your labor and so can others who are in need!

Commemorating our land-grant heritage

The university has placed a gleaming plaque celebrating our land-grant heritage at the front of Morgan Hall in Knoxville.

The plaque documents key dates starting in 1867 that led to the establishment of our
land-grant mission to teach areas of learning related to agriculture and the mechanic arts.

UT accepted the land-grant, derived from sales of federal lands, on January 19, 1869.

CASNR students excelled in the university's Exhibition of Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievements. Ariel Buehler, daughter of David Buehler of FWF, won top honors, and other students placed high as well.  

In memoriam — O. Clinton Shelby, retired director of Business Affairs, UTIA and Extension agent and Extension district supervisor in West Tennessee, March 5.

Amid news of a still sputtering U.S. economic recovery, a recent report shows the nation's agbioscience industries are growing, especially in the South. 

Veterinary Social Work Summit features Temple Grandin

Famed animal welfare expert Temple Grandin, author of the New York Times bestseller Animals in Translation, as well as Improving Animal Welfare: A Practical Approach and Animals Make Us Human, is a keynote speaker at the third International Veterinary Social Work Summit, April 11 in Knoxville.

The summit is presented by the College of Veterinary Medicine and College of Social Work. 

More
Forestry students excel at Southern Conclave

Pole climbing, log birling, chain throwing and skills in wood technology all factored into wins by members of the UT Forestry Club and the student chapter of the Society of American Foresters.

For the second consecutive year our students took home the Sportsmanship Award in a competition involving students from 14 Southeastern schools. More

U.S. pet obesity rates continued to increase in 2012 with the number of overweight cats at an all-time high. Professor Joe Bartges of CVM discusses the problem in a recent interview. Watch a USA News video about Elmo the cat, who is being treated by the Veterinary Medical Center. More

The UT Plateau AgResearch and Education Center will have a heifer and bull sale on March 22. The sale features high-quality registered Angus, Gelbvieh and Balancer heifers and registered Angus bulls. More

CVM veterinarians David Anderson and Marc Caldwell discussed issues in spring calving and when to assist in the process in a recent news video by Bovine Veterinarian. More

Heather Toler’s entry in the Gamma Sigma Delta photo competition spotlights a crane fly sipping on a rain droplet at the Organic and Sustainable Crop Production blueberry production workshop held last spring. The program’s crop production workshops start the second Monday in May. Toler is a research associate in environmental physiology in the Department of Plant Sciences. All entries for the photo competition must be in by April 5. More