

SCHOOLS

School of Nursing honors outstanding individuals

64 nursing student receive scholarships; three individuals honored for long-time service to nursing school

Scholarship and Awards night was recently held at the Whitson-Hester School of Nursing at Tennessee Tech. Sixty four nursing students received scholarships. Three individuals received significant awards. The Florence Nightingale award was presented to Karen Lynn by Pauletta Brady. Lynn has spent her career in several positions in public health and has worked in Clay, Celine, Jackson and Macon Counties and most recently in the Upper Cumberland Regional Health Office. She was recognized by her peers as an outstanding nurse. Dr. Tom Lawrence



Thomas Lawrence is honored for his years of service to TTU's School of Nursing with a Distinguished Service Award presented by Becky Tolbert.

and Dr. Barbara Reynolds, were both presented the Distinguished Services Award. Lawrence has been a strong supporter of the School of Nursing since 1981. He has been a vital link between the medical community and the school. His award was presented by Becky Tolbert. Reynolds was recognized for her support of the School both as dean and as president of the Development Council. She is an active member/ volunteer in the greater community and promotes interactions between the School and the Community. Reynolds' award was presented by TTU President Oldham.



TTU President Phil Oldham presents a Distinguished Service award to Barbara Reynolds in recognition of her years of service to the school of nursing.



Karen Lynn receives the Florence Nightingale Award from Pauletta Brady during the TTU School of Nursing's recent awards night.

Pre-professional students find path to health school programs

The steps Zachary Martin took across the stage at Tennessee Tech's commencement ceremony on Saturday were his last as a scholar. He has been accepted to pharmacy program at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis and is among a growing number of Tech's pre-professional health sciences students getting accepted into professional schools. Martin earned his bachelor's degree in chemistry, but he knew he wanted to be a pharmacist and a bachelor's degree is not required for admittance to pharmacy school. However, once Martin got to Tech and became involved in all that the pre-professional health sciences concentration had to offer, he chose to see his bachelor's degree through at Tech. "I worked with a couple pharmacists who had been to Tech, and they said among professional schools Tech is recognized for producing well-prepared students," Martin said. "That gave me confidence to know that if I could do this, I could be accepted anywhere." And when it comes to getting into professional schools, the application and interview process can be tough. Marina Naguib, who also received her bachelor's degree on Saturday before heading to the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, remembers the feelings she had before her optometry school interview.



Zachary Martin, left, and Lana Ngo, right, are among the growing number of students from Tennessee Tech being accepted to professional health school programs. Both Martin and Ngo are spring 2017 graduates of Tech headed to pharmacy school.

"I was very nervous," Naguib said, "but I talked with my advisor, who told me what to expect and did a practice interview with me. That was so helpful and made me feel so much better." Naguib knows that it's easy to become discouraged or be intimidated by the idea of applying to tough professional programs, but she says she felt encouraged by everyone she encountered at Tech.

"Through the Chem-Med Club, I got to meet with an optometrist who talked about how she struggled through getting into school," Naguib said. "She gave me hope that even if I didn't make it the first time, I could do it." Shikha Amin will take her degree in chemistry from Tech with her to dental school at the Medical University of South Carolina, but it is more

than just her degree that she will carry with her. "I think classes have prepared me to do well," Amin said. "I have had such great relationships with all of my professors. "That's what I love about the chemistry department. It is like one big family. The faculty and staff really see the good in you." Add that to the undergraduate research and teaching as-

sistant opportunities that she's had and Amin says she is confident moving on to dental school. Like Martin, Lana Ngo didn't have to have her bachelor's degree to get into pharmacy school. "I wanted to it," Ngo, who has been accepted to the pharmacy program at the University of Florida, said. "Especially here, being in the chemistry department, the relationships and encouragement I have had is worth all of the hard work I have put into it." Health sciences at Tech is not a degree granting program, though many students in the program earn degrees. It is designed to allow students to follow a curriculum path that meets their interest and ultimately makes them well-rounded candidates for professional health schools. "The professors here are totally on your side," said Emily Carney, who is headed to the pharmacy program at Belmont University after finishing this semester at Tech. "They want you to learn and to be able to share that knowledge in your future job. They are here to be your teacher but it's more than that. "They take so much pride in your education and it is extremely encouraging." Health sciences students get personalized advisement within the chemistry department to ensure that the work they are doing at Tech will take them to where they want to go.

Walk for a Cause at Avery May 18

Avery Trace Middle School is hosting a Walk for Cause event on Thursday, May 18 from 8-12:30. The event is open to all families of Avery Trace Middle school and students. The cause this year is to give recognition to individuals that live with disabilities every day. The A.C.H.I.E.V.E. and Peer Buddy classes have designed games and activities for students to experience living with a disability while they play. Donations are being accepted. All donations go to support Rising Above Ministries. Rising Above is a national special needs ministry offering encouragement, support, inspiration, and resources for special needs families.



Keeping trail clean

To celebrate Earth Day 2017, Boy Scout Troop 170 at Algood Methodist Church collected litter along the Rail Trail on May 8. They collected six medium bags of trash. The Putnam County Beautiful Clean Commission provided the grabbers and bags. From left are Cindy Scantland, Silas Trapp, Briley Scantland, Tom Stricklin, Martin Stricklin, Jack Winscott, Roman Evans, Jerry Samon, Andrew Scantland, Benjamin Winscott, Hayden Verble, Lydia Verble, Carson Evans, Cindy Verble, Neal Evans and Aiden Sherman.