

MTSU fights lead poisoning in children with \$1.97M grant

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has awarded a \$1.97 million grant to MTSU to continue its efforts to prevent the lead poisoning of young children.

This is the third award MTSU has received to eliminate lead hazards. With this new grant, MTSU's work is expected to prevent the poisoning of approximately 250 children under the age of 6. The grant is part of HUD's Operation Lead Elimination Action Program.

Alumnus and U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon ('71) announced the award.

8 new planes arrive

Gov. Phil Bredesen gives a thumbs-up to celebrate the Oct. 30 arrival of eight new Diamond DA40 planes for the MTSU Aerospace Department training fleet. Joined by Gabe Hinkle, left, MTSU assistant chief flight instructor, and President Sidney A. McPhee, right, Bredesen flew the \$365,000 craft from Nashville to MTSU's Flight Operations Center at Murfreesboro Airport. The new planes were purchased with revenue generated from MTSU's flight training school.

J. Intintoli/MTSU Photographic Services



Freeman, Manning address commencement

Grads will hear noted alum, retiring TBR leader during Dec. 13 services

From staff reports

MTSU's fall commencement services, which will be held at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, in Murphy Center, will feature alumnus Darrell S. Freeman Sr. as the morning speaker and retiring Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Charles W. Manning as afternoon speaker.



Manning

for the College of Graduate Studies, Jennings A. Jones College of Business and the College of Education and Behavioral Science.



Freeman

The 1 p.m. ceremony will be for the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, the College of Liberal Arts and the College of Mass Communication.

Approximately 1,624 prospective graduates — 1,402 undergraduates and 222 in the

grad program — will be awarded degrees, the Records Office said.

Freeman ('87, '90) is chair and CEO of Zycron Inc., an information technology service and solutions firm he founded in 1991 in Nashville. He also founded three other businesses: Reliant Bank, Pinnacle Construction Partners and DC Properties.

Manning, who will retire June 30, 2009, has served as TBR's head since April 2000. He oversaw the launch of the Regents Online Degree Program and was involved in the implementation of the settlement of the Geier desegregation lawsuit.

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funding sources such as program service fees and auxiliary fees. For example, TSSBA bonds for the new Student Union will be paid by student fees; TSSBA bonds are issued for parking and transportation improvements and paid by parking fees; TSSBA bonds are issued for housing renovations and paid by housing rents; the Recreation, Health and Wellness Center expansion/addition was made possible by TSSBA bonds paid by recreation and health-service fees.

Gifts encompass donations, bequests and foundations. The Tennessee Miller Coliseum is one example.

Local government funds: Some projects are funded in part thanks to participation by local government.

Federal funds such as grants and matching grants can result in such facilities as the new observatory and Observatory Plaza, made possible by a grant from NASA.

Campus operating funds are balances left from appropriations and tuition that are allotted for improvement projects.

Multiple funding sources: Some projects are made possible by a combination of funding sources. For example, the new addition to the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building was funded by the Christy-Houston Foundation Inc., along with federal grant funds and campus funds; the baseball stadium upgrade was funded by government funds from the City of Murfreesboro, private gifts from individuals and campus athletic funds.

A newer way to build: Construction at MTSU has undergone some fundamental managerial changes in the recent past, which have all but ensured that we are getting a bigger bang and a better building for the buck. "Construction manager/general contractor" is a term applied to a construction company that quite literally oversees every facet of the project, from design and planning to construction materials and costs.

"We're getting a lot better quality building and better control of budgets," Campus Planning's Miller commented. "A construction manager starts at the beginning. He provides budget information because he knows what's affordable, and he knows the differences in costs among materials. He tracks costs throughout the design process. He guarantees his price at the end of the bid phase. He's very professional, structured and knowledgeable—and he adheres to industry standards."

There was a period of time when too many projects were coming in over bid because of inflation in the building industry — especially following Hurricane Katrina, Miller said. Also, the quality of construction over the last few decades has been problematic.

Miller said the State of Tennessee is adding alternative construction-delivery processes to improve pricing, schedule and quality issues.

CALENDAR

Campus-related events

December 2008

- 1 "Messiah"*
- 2 MTSU Symphonic Band*
- 3 Commercial Music Ensemble*
- 5-6 MTSU Performing Arts Company presents "Dance: The Language of the Soul"***
- 13 Fall 2008 Commencement in Murphy Center; ceremonies at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., respectively (see story this page)

January 2009

- 26 Andrea Dawson, violin; Leopoldo Erice, piano; faculty recital *

February

- 2 Stones River Chamber Players*
- 5-7 Wind Band Conference*
- 8 MTSU Choral Concert with Middle TN Choral Society*
- 12 MTSU Jazz Artist Series: pianist/composer Donald Brown*
- 18-22 "Summer and Smoke" by Tennessee Williams***
- 20 MTSU Symphonic Band*
- 22 MTSU Symphony*
- 23 MTSU Jazz Ensembles*
- 24 MTSU Women's Chorale*

* For more information, go to <http://mtsu.edu/~music.com> or call 615-898-2493.

** For more information, please e-mail aarmstro@mtsu.edu.

*** For more information, go to <http://www.mtsu.edu/~theatre/currentseason.shtml>.



Photo from Donald Brown Web site

Pianist and composer Donald Brown visits campus Feb. 12.