

IN THE NEWS

COMMUNITY & SOCIETY PAGE

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UTC student wins award for resolution that pays homage to Alex Haley



Miles Mosby stands in front of Chamberlain Pavilion on the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga campus.

By Camm Ashford

Miles Mosby said he was apprehensive before his recent trip to the Tennessee State Capitol in Nashville. Mosby, a University of Tennessee at Chattanooga political science major, serves as president of the campus' chapter of the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature, better known as TISL. College students from across the state come together for TISL's annual mock government competition--a forum to learn how government works, to exchange ideas and express opinions.

At last year's event, held in a virtual setting due to COVID-19, Mosby received a Carlisle Award, TISL's oldest and most prestigious honor, which recognizes 10 outstanding student legislators.

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga once again brought home "Best Overall Delegation" accolades, with 27 colleges and universities from across the state participating at the Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature (TISL) 52nd General Assembly.

But this year's competition met in person, and Mosby had his doubts.

"Three weeks before we went, I was talking to my mom and told her, 'I'll be satisfied with just making sure we get everyone there in one piece,'" he said. "I had these thoughts in the back of my mind like, 'Did we win simply because everyone else was off their game? Or since it was online, maybe people weren't paying attention.'"

Mosby need not have worried, as he again was awarded.

En route to winning his second Carlisle, Mosby--a native of Henning, Tenn.--wrote a bill that paid homage to Alex Haley, the famed author of "Roots."

"It was inspired by growing up in Henning, where there's this big placard out in front of Alex Haley's boyhood home," said Mosby, a UTC senior participating in his third TISL competition. "Just seeing this placard every time I walk by it gives you that extra level of, 'This isn't just some random house.'"

"The bill that I wrote was a resolution to add historical context to Confederate monuments and the placards that we have around the state of Tennessee on other historical things. It was about adding placards to those monuments to talk about the roles these individuals played. It's meant to be a compromise between completely removing the statues or leaving them up and offering no context."

Nicki Messer, who is graduating with a bachelor's degree in political science, was also a Carlisle Award recipient. Messer served as vice chair of the TISL LGBT caucus, advocating for equity and inclusion.

Other UTC award winners included Evelina Kertay, who won Best Bill and Best Researched Bill honors for the second straight year; Anna Linkous (Best Lobbyist-Overall); Mateo Jose-Jimenez (Best Lobbyist-Individual Firm); and Jessica Pruitt (Best Lobbying Firm).

In addition, Julia Stranahan (lobbying director) and Madison Wallace (attorney general) were elected to statewide TISL executive positions for 2022.

Chris Acuff, assistant professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Service, is the group's faculty advisor

Sigmas Give to the Salvation Army



Major Mark Smith of the Salvation Army (at left) proudly accepts check from Avery Smith, (no relation) co-chairman of the Sigma Social Action Committee. The Brotherhood of Epsilon Xi Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. continues the spirit of giving with a donation of \$750.00 to the Salvation Army of Chattanooga for its Angel Tree Program. (Photo: G. Faye Stoudemire).



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Community Service Announcement: Courtesy of Chattanooga News Chronicle

Hamilton Co. Health Dept. to Begin Administering Pfizer Booster Shots to Ages 16 & 17, No Appointment Necessary

HAMILTON COUNTY, TN – The Hamilton County Health Department is now offering Pfizer COVID-19 booster shots to anyone 16 years of age or older.

Individuals who received their second Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine at least six months ago are eligible to receive their booster shot. Please bring your COVID-19 vaccination record card when receiving your booster shot and be prepared to wait at least

20 minutes after the vaccine is administered. Masks must be worn while on site. To find a Health Department vaccination site, visit vaccine.hamiltontn.gov or call 423-209-8383.

Booster Sites:
Tennessee Riverpark, 4301 Amnicola Highway, Chattanooga, TN 37402.

Tuesday-Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Pfizer & Moderna boosters available. Pfizer is approved for ages 16+ and Moderna is approved for ages 18+.

Sequoyah Health Center, 9527 W Ridge Trail Rd, Soddy Daisy, TN 37379.
Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Pfizer booster available.

Birchwood Health Center, 5625 TN-60, Birchwood, TN 37308.
Tuesday & Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Pfizer booster available.

Health Department Main Facility, Pediatric Clinic, 921 East 3rd St, Chattanooga, TN 37403.

Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Pfizer booster available for ages 16 & 17 only.

Details & Additional Resources
Parent or legal guardian must be present at the appointment and bring current, valid photo ID. If you are a legal guardian, please bring proof of guardianship with you.

To accelerate the process, bring the completed vaccine encounter form with you, available at this link. Forms will also be available on site.

Call the Health Department's COVID-19 at 423-209-8383 if you have questions about vaccinations, locating testing, or if you seek isolation or quarantine guidance.

Vaccines are widely available in the community through a number of providers. Please visit vaccines.gov to find a vaccination site near you.