

Welcome to Tennessee Soybean Festival 2017

On behalf of the Board of Aldermen, staff, and residents, I want to take this opportunity to welcome you to Martin—home of the Tennessee Soybean Festival and the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Just like the Tennessee Soybean Festival, the City of Martin has seen positive change and growth over the years. We hope that you come to Martin to see for yourself and enjoy the festival.

While you are here, I encourage you to take advantage of our many unique shops, parks and restaurants.

The Tennessee Soybean Festival is one of many committees on which I serve, and it happens to be the most enjoyable. Each year the festival has its challenges, but we always manage to find the right mix of everything to present a bigger and better festival year after year.

In the pages ahead, you will find a complete event schedule, sponsor recognition, and special articles featuring agriculture, events, and local highlights happening in Martin relating to the festival.

Much recognition and



thanks goes to the many who diligently work to make the Tennessee Soybean Festival a success. I sincerely thank those who give of their time, contribute financially, and in-kind.

While the Tennessee Soybean Festival has a proven significant positive economic impact for our local businesses, it is the spirit of community the Tennessee Soybean Festival exudes that is the most rewarding.

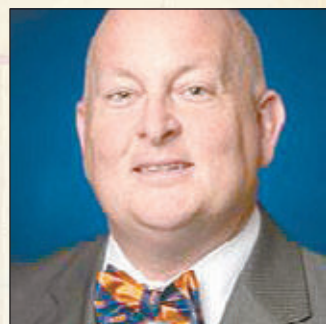
Please accept my invitation to witness Historic Downtown Martin transformed into the Tennessee Soybean Festival. See you at the bean!

Randy Brundige
Mayor, City of Martin

When you think about this region, we obviously have some great traditions. But when you really think about Martin and Weakley County, you think about the Tennessee Soybean Festival and the impact of soybeans and agriculture.

This festival, which used to be a two-day event, has grown into not only an educational and cultural event but a major social event as well. We've seen license plates from all over the region in the past few years, and I am delighted to welcome local residents and visitors alike to our 24th-annual celebration.

Hollianne, the kids and I are excited to be back in Martin this year to celebrate with you and are honored to represent the University of Tennessee at Martin as your festival grand marshals. Hollianne and I grew up in this region, and there is no feeling like coming



home at last.

UT Martin has been a strong supporter of agricultural education and our local producers since the beginning, and the university is proud to partner with the city of Martin each year to offer the week of entertainment, food, crafts and community that make this festival such a success. I hope you will enjoy your time with us and take a bit of our "homegrown" hospitality wherever life may lead you.

Dr. Keith S. Carver Jr.
Chancellor, UT Martin



Friends, on behalf of The Tennessee Soybean Festival Planning Committee and the many, many good people who play vital roles in the production of our festival, welcome to the Award Winning Tennessee Soybean Festival for 2017! HOMEGROWN is once again our festival theme and what could be more homegrown than the SOYBEANS grown right here in West Tennessee!

We often refer to the soybean as "The Magic Bean" because of its versatility in the



development of a host of products. Almost daily we hear the news of another good and positive way the soybean is being used to better our quality of life. It all begins with the West Tennessee farmer who is working hard to produce those soybeans. A good part of the Tennessee Soybean Festival is about celebrating their hard work and the corresponding economic benefit to our region. West Tennessee farmers make it happen and we are proud of their many contributions to our communities.

HOMEGROWN at the

Tennessee Soybean Festival is also about celebrating our West Tennessee culture and who we are as a community. HOMEGROWN is about coming together to celebrate not only the harvest of the land but to celebrate and foster friendships. Each September, we open our doors to the world and we invite all that can to come and enjoy all the HOMEGROWN goodness this community has to offer... good food, good music, a host of attractions, products and merchandise, and best of all... good people.

We say it every year... come and find the magic of the bean! The challenge is not

only to find it but, once found, to spread it... to enhance this spirit of community not just for a week in September but each day and each week throughout the year!

It is my sincere hope that you enjoy the 2017 Tennessee Soybean Festival. Many good people have worked very hard to insure that our festival is filled with quality opportunities designed to educate, inspire, and entertain. I tip my hat to them... what a pleasure it is to be a part of this community!

Spread the bean magic!

David Belote,
Executive Chairperson
The TN Soybean Festival