

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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In the News



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January 20, 2014 - February 14, 2014

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| COVER STORY |

# Intriguing, young Cuban painter hosts exhibit at TCC

By Gerald Ensley  
Democrat senior writer

**T**housands of Cuban residents have visited Florida since the Cuban government relaxed its travel visa regulations in 2012. On Friday, Tallahassee will welcome one of those visitors when painter Fernando León Hartman attends an exhibit of his paintings at Tallahassee Community College.

Hartman specializes in still lifes and is expected to display a dozen paintings — all of which he has painted since landing in South Florida last month on an artist's visa. All the paintings will be for sale at the exhibit. Hartman will speak about his art and field questions from the audience.

Hartman, who arrives Wednesday, will spend a week in the Tallahassee area. He is expected to speak to elementary and high school students in Gadsden County, as well as to TCC classes.

"This is a wonderful opportunity because we know so little about Cu-

engineer and spent five years working in that profession before following his passion for painting. In 2008, he enrolled at Cuba's oldest and most prestigious arts academy, *Escuela Nacional de Bellas Artes, San Alejandro, La Habana, Cuba*, from which he graduated in 2012.

The visit of Hartman and his paintings is the result of a nearly year-long relationship forged by Tallahassee residents on a visit to Cuba in March 2013.

Travel restrictions for Americans visiting Cuba have been reduced in recent years. And for the past three years during spring break, Betty Jensen, TCC's International

stician. I'm just so impressed with Cuba that it's an honor to bring awareness about it to TCC."

Last March, Jensen's tour group included Windham and Marjorie Turnbull, the former Leon County Commissioner and state legislator. On their final day in Cuba, Windham and Turnbull were walking along Havana's main promenade, when they passed a stall where Hartman was painting.

They were immediately impressed by his work and wanted to buy a painting. A group of Australian tourists already there, however, purchased the five available paintings, leaving only the one on the easel where

for 10 minutes — returning with a fistful of newly printed business cards. Windham began an email correspondence with him, eventually purchased two of his paintings — now on loan to Tallahassee's LeMoyné Center for the Visual Arts — and encouraged him in his efforts to apply for a visa to visit Florida.

In October, Hartman succeeded in obtaining a visa. He arrived in Miami in December, where he has been visiting his fiancée and family members, as well as painting for clients in South Florida and the TCC show.

"I think people will be glad to see his art and be aware there is fine art in Cuba," Turnbull said. "There are some amazing artists in Cuba. And since (travel restrictions have been eased), they talk about the 'boomerang effect.' Many (Cuban native) artists who left because they could paint only 'revolutionary art' (in the past) are returning."

Windham said Hartman is expanding his repertoire, painting portraits and landscapes. She

## IF YOU GO

**What:** Cuban artist Fernando León Hartman will attend an exhibit of his work.

**When:** Friday from 6-9 p.m. Hartman will speak at 7 p.m., with a reception to follow.

**Where:** TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center, 444 Appleyard Drive

**Call:** TCC International Student Services at 201-8457 or e-mail [iss@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:iss@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC Honors MLK With Day Of Service

WCTV.TV

**Students and faculty at Tallahassee Community College spent most of their morning volunteering at non-profit organizations across town.** Places like Second Harvest of the Big Bend welcomed the volunteers with open arms.

**Erika Jarman, an assistant biology professor,** was inspired as a child by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to volunteer, and hopes to pass this trait on to her students.

"Martin Luther King Jr, he was definitely an inspiration for me," she said. "I learned a lot about him throughout grade school and college, so I really wanted my students to have an appreciation for him for the community and for the nation."

Volunteers from TCC also spent time at the Big Bend Homeless Coalition and the Boys and Girls Club of the Bend Bend.

## TCC Holds Day Of Dialogue For Women In Leadership

By Kyra Branch  
WTXL.TV

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WTXL) Tallahassee Community College will host a Day of Dialogue on February 18th.**

The event is “for women, about women, by women” and will feature an emphasis on discussions of women in leadership.

A Day Of Dialogue is presented by TCC Workforce Development’s Leadership Institute.

The day long event will feature a keynote address from Nancy Carter, PhD and Senior Vice President of Catalyst, Inc. Carter has over 30 years experience as a researcher, educator and consultant specializing in women’s professional development and advancement.

TCC is seeking a diverse group of participants in order to have input from women throughout the community.

The event will take place at Mission San Luis from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets cost \$75 and include breakfast, the keynote presentation, all sessions, lunch and a tour of Mission San Luis. They are on sale now.

## TCC African-American History Calendar Honorees Announced

WTXL.TV

**Today, Tallahassee Community College released the names of the 14 people honored in the 14th annual Cherry Alexander African-American History Calendar.**

Monday's 7 p.m. ceremony, to be held in Turner Auditorium, will kick off TCC's celebration of Black History Month.

Each year, the calendar showcases African-Americans who have made significant contributions in Leon and surrounding counties. The 2014 calendar theme is "Civil Rights Unsung Heroes: Great by Choice".

The 2014 calendar honorees are:

Carolyn Colson – public servant with 23 years of experience within the State of Florida, where she served as a special agent for the Department of Law Enforcement and was the first African-American woman with statewide arrest powers. Colson also served in the Florida Department of Labor and Department of Children and Families

Colleen Skipper-Mitchell – avid volunteer and also the first woman and the first African-American to become mayor of Sopchoppy

Doby Flowers – first African-American homecoming queen at Florida State University, owner of The Magnolia Leaf Bed and Breakfast in Thomasville, GA., firm manager of Flowers Law, LLC., and an advocate for improving the lives of women and children

Harold and Erica Uzzell – graduates of Florida State University and founders of the Uzzell Group, one of the first African-American advertising firms in Florida

Irene Thompson Perry – one of the first teachers to integrate the Leon County school district, Perry taught for 37 years before focusing on adult education and community involvement

Jerome Maples – U.S. Army second lieutenant and decorated soldier, Maples is committed to volunteer work and civic service

Keith Dowdell – Member of the Quincy City Commission and current mayor of Quincy

Marilyn Holifield – civil rights lawyer and the first African-American woman to become a partner in a major law firm in Florida (Holland & Knight)

Queen Webster – retired school teacher of 39 years who focuses on youth work

Tommy Mills – retired Leon County sheriff's deputy with 24 years on the force, Mills currently serves in many community organizations

Vernell Ross – retired teacher and athletics coach, Ross has been awarded the Kiwanis Club Community Service Award, been named Teacher of the Year, and been inducted into the Florida Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame

Evangeline Bryant – distinguished educator with more than 35 years of dedicated service in creating a positive difference in school relations and the business community in Leon County

June McKinney – currently serves as an administrative law judge with the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings and the first African-American female president of the National Association of Administrative Law Judiciary

The calendar also includes key dates in African-American history. It will be distributed to 20,000 area youth via schools, churches and other community institutions.

Prior to the calendar unveiling ceremony, a 5:45 p.m. reception will be held in the Fine and Performing Arts Center to recognize the calendar honorees.

## TCC board OKs new plan for development education, readiness

By Dog Blackburn  
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

### A new world order is taking root at Tallahassee Community College and the other 27 schools in the Florida College System.

It's called developmental education, and it comes with a new set of buzzwords, starting with meta-majors. Every incoming TCC student will be required to select a meta-major before they've taken their first class.

Mandated by the 2013 Legislature (Senate Bill 1720), developmental education went into effect Jan. 1 and is expected to be fully implemented in time for the fall 2014 semester. It is intended for the estimated 58 percent of students entering Florida's state colleges who are not prepared for regular college coursework.

TCC instructors are preparing to teach more compressed courses as part of developmental education, but those courses will be like a leisurely stroll compared to the crash course TCC's trustees received Tuesday afternoon prior to approving the college's plan.

"The No. 1 goal in my mind is not efficiency; it's to do things more effective. This will give us more tools to personalize the experience the student has," TCC President Jim Murdaugh said. "It's one of the biggest things we've ever done."

Barbara Sloan, TCC's provost and vice president for academic affairs, led the debriefing for the college's trustees, who were required to approve the plan prior to it being submitted to the Department of Education. She described developmental education as a way to better assess and assist the many students who aren't ready for college at the time they enroll at TCC.

There is an ongoing national debate regarding high school graduates and their readiness for college. Florida's new developmental education is designed to address that issue with more nuance than at any time in the state's history, Sloan said.

Instead of assuming that all incoming students who aren't prepared for regular college need to be treated the same way, developmental education provides

administrators and counselors with new diagnostic exams that will determine exactly how much remedial work a student will need.

Only 42 percent of the students who started at TCC in fall 2012 were college ready, based on at least one performance test such as the SAT, Sloan told trustees. But once the diagnostic exam model was implemented, almost half of those students needed four or fewer courses to be ready for the regular college curriculum. Eleven percent of the students needed extensive remediation in every discipline.

"The problem is, we were treating everybody as if they were in the 11 percent in some way," Sloan said.

Not anymore. Meta-majors are another tool being introduced at Florida's colleges. There are eight meta-majors at TCC, each a cluster of like subjects. Students must begin their time at TCC with some notion of what they want to focus on, Sloan said.

"It helps students if they have a goal and they know where they're headed," she said. "They're more likely to succeed. That's why they now need to make a commitment."

The diagnostic test will be administered before students have schedules or attend their first classes.

"One of our big goals is to communicate often and clearly as soon as they turn in their application," Sloan said.

She acknowledged that TCC will be required to hire additional counselors and tutors to implement developmental education.

Trustee Dana Callen, who has taught at Florida State University and TCC, said the new model needs to be explained in detail to teachers and counselors in school districts across the state.

"You're raising the bar in a way for students," she said. "We're at a point where we need an enrollment increase, too. It's going to be a big challenge."

## Heading Girl Scouts Cookie Rally

WCTV.TV

TALLAHASSEE –Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle will gather to celebrate the 2014 Cookie Product Program, the largest girl-led business in the world, at a Rally on Saturday, January 25, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. **The Rally will be held at Tallahassee Community College in the Student Union Ballroom, 444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32304.**

“The Rally is a fun way for girls to learn skills to participate in the Girl Scout Cookie Program,” stated Raslean M. Allen, Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle, Inc. chief executive officer. “Girls who participate in the Cookie Program benefit from “learning by earning” and develop five financial literacy and entrepreneurship skills - goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics.”

The event will include opportunities for girls to engage in skill building activities on goal setting, customer service and product knowledge. Entertainment to be provided by the girls will showcase their talents through Booth Sale skits and raps. Building on the 2013 theme, “What Can A Cookie Do? A World of Good”, the 2014 program encourages girls to “Show you HOW (Her Own Way)” the purchase of a box of cookies benefits them and the community.

Incorporating the five essential skills learned, girls discover, connect and take action to fund important troop and community projects. More information about the Girl Scout Cookie Program, including a listing of the specific cookie products available, dates and tips on how to buy cookies, can be viewed by visiting [www.gscfp.org](http://www.gscfp.org). About the Girl Scouts

The programs and services of the Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle teach girls to discover, connect and take action, while building courage, confidence and character, to make the world a better place. A United Way agency, the Council currently 4,846 girls across 19 counties of the Florida Panhandle with the assistance of 2,214 dedicated volunteers. For more information on the Girl Scout Run for the Cookies, or to volunteer or join Girl Scouts, call 1-888-271-8778 or visit [www.gscfp.org](http://www.gscfp.org).

## TCC named “Top Military-Friendly College”

EDC TALLAHASSEE

**Tallahassee Community College has been named a Top Military-Friendly College in the 2014 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities, which appears in the journal Military Advanced Education (MAE).**

The guide provides potential students with information about institutions that go out of their way to give back to our men and women in uniform.

Among the attributes considered in evaluating institutions for inclusion in the guide are the flexibility of online learning options, extent of transfer credits, on-campus ROTC, Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) participation, on-campus assistance, support provided to families of service members, faculty trained in veteran reintegration issues, presence on military installations and full-time counselors trained in veteran-specific mental health concerns.

“Our staff used strict criteria to evaluate the submissions of the respondents, and we had a record number of schools participating this year. We believe the guide serves as an invaluable tool for both education services officers and transition officers when advising service members about their educational opportunities,” said Kelly Fodel, MAE’s editor.

The guide was recently released in print and is also available online at [www.mae-kmi.com](http://www.mae-kmi.com). Online users have access to a searchable database that includes survey questions and answers provided by responding institutions, along with explanations about critical issues such as the schools’ activation and deployment policies, withdrawal policies, and scholarship and financial aid availability.

TCC has recently ramped up its services for military veterans, opening a new veterans’ center and partnering with the Department of Veterans Affairs to bring a VetSuccess on-campus VA counselor on-board.

“From tutoring to career counseling to mental health services, our goal is to support student veterans and facilitate their successful transition to college,” said Delorise Robinson, TCC’s veterans’ affairs coordinator.

**For information about veterans services at TCC, contact Delorise Robinson at (850) 201-8406 or [robinsod@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:robinsod@tcc.fl.edu).**

## Tallahassee Coming Together To Assist Families Enrolling For Health Care Coverage

WCTV.TV

**Tallahassee – On Monday, January 27th, Tallahassee Community College (TCC) will be the site of an Affordable Care Act information and enrollment event. Certified Navigators will be available to assist health care consumers in learning about the new Marketplace coverage opportunities as well as helping people to sign up.**

“We are so excited to be holding this enrollment event at Tallahassee Community College,” said Florida CHAIN Health Organizer Ryan Morris. “Nearly half of single young adults who are uninsured may be able to get coverage for \$50 dollars or less per month in the health insurance Marketplace in 2014. We’re eager to get the word out to our young people about all the exciting new opportunities they have to access quality, affordable coverage.”

Who: Mayor John Marks; City Commissioner Andrew Gillum; Former County Commissioner Akin Akinyemi; Elvira Akinyemi, Lead Navigator for the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium; Kristina Finch, Adult Education Specialist at TCC; Amy Datz, consumer; Ken Moore, Vice President of Workforce Development and representatives from the NAACP and League of Women Voters.

What: Media availability to kick off Affordable Care Act information and enrollment event.

When: January 27, 2014, 10-10:30AM.

Note: Enrollment event is from 10:00AM – 4:00PM but is not open to press. If you would like to schedule an interview with one of our spokespeople, please use the contact information above.

Where: Tallahassee Community College, Grand Banquet Hall, Building 38, 444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32304.

Why: To provide information and resources so people can find out what their options are in the new health care Marketplace.

“We look forward to sitting down face-to-face with people from our community to provide them with good information about all the new options now available to them,” said Navigator Elvira Akinyemi.

“Across Florida and across the country millions of people who lack affordable health care today are checking out their new options,” said Tallahassee City Commissioner Andrew Gillum. “And millions more who have coverage today are already receiving benefits – keeping their kids on their plans, not getting dropped for having a pre-existing condition and accessing preventative services. Thanks to the ACA, millions of Americans are already benefitting.”

Florida CHAIN and the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium are hosting this enrollment event.

## **TCC to host ACA Enrollment Event**

Abbey Maurer  
WTXL.TV

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WTXL) - On Monday, January 27th, Tallahassee Community College will host an Affordable Care Act information and enrollment event.**

Certified navigators will be on-hand to help people learn about the new marketplace coverage opportunities and help people sign up.

The enrollment event is from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in TCC's Grand Banquet Hall, Building 38, 444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32304.

## FSU gun policy changes with court ruling

By Doub Blackburn  
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Florida State University immediately repealed its policy banning guns in vehicles on campus in the wake of a December First District Court of Appeal ruling.

The court had overturned a decision in a suit involving the University of North Florida.

Trustees at FSU, informed of the change in policy by chief legal counsel Carolyn Egan during a Friday meeting, were not asked to approve the repeal, which went into effect in December.

"It's the law, and it would put them in a position of possibly voting against the law," FSU President Eric Barron said. "I think it was (Egan's) feeling that it would be inappropriate to vote against the law and therefore it doesn't make sense to have them vote on it."

Public universities and colleges across the state have been revising their policies in the aftermath of the December ruling.

**Trustees at Tallahassee Community College on Tuesday approved a policy change that brought the school into compliance with the law.** Florida A&M's student policy was not in conflict with the revised law, according to a statement from the university.

Florida Carry, a gun rights advocate organization, had filed the suit against University of North Florida, arguing that secured weapons should not be prohibited in vehicles on campus.

Florida Carry earlier this month filed suit against University of Florida, saying the changes it made to the school's weapons policy were insufficient.

"The changes (UF) made were absolutely not sufficient and they were unwilling to work with us to craft a legal set of policies," Florida Carry executive director Sean Caranna said.

Barron said he is always concerned about safety for students, staff and faculty. His primary worry regarding guns in vehicles on campus is burglaries and legal weapons falling into the hands of individuals breaking into cars.

There have been incidents when students and staff have been charged with violating the law banning weapons in vehicles, Egan said. There also had been reports of weapons stolen from cars, she said.

"We have employees who have been disciplined in the past. Some have asked for reconsideration," she said. "We're looking at those to see if we should give them relief. It will be a bit of a change for us."

Parker Morehead, a junior from Plantation, is the new president of the club Students for Concealed Carry at FSU. He said he welcomed the appeals court ruling in December.

"I don't see anything wrong with having guns on campus as long as they're in the hands of people who are good citizens," he said. "I don't think most people understand how hard it is to get a concealed weapon permit. There are so many hoops you have to jump through."

## Girl Scouts host 2014 Cookie Rally

WTXL.TV

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WTXL)-- More than 200 Girl Scouts in the Florida Panhandle fine-tuned their entrepreneurial skills today during their 2014 Cookie Rally.

"The Rally is a great way for girls to learn how to be cookie entrepreneurs as a participant in the Girl Scout Cookie Program," stated Raslean M. Allen, Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle, Inc. chief executive officer. "Through structured activities, the girls learned skills to help them prepare while having fun."

**The program was held at the Tallahassee Community College, and teaches the girls the benefits from "learning by earning."**

Our chief meteorologist Casanova Nurse joined in on the fun and won the celebrity cookie eating contest.

If you want to order some thin mints, or other Girl Scouts favorites, cookie booth sales will begin February 15 through March 16.

To locate a cookie booth near you, visit the Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle's website at [www.gscfp.org](http://www.gscfp.org) and look for the Cookie Locator.

## Wakulla County explores oyster aquaculture

By Bonnie Holub

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

**“Australia is watching us,” said Steve Cushman, instructor for Tallahassee Community College’s Oyster Aquaculture Certification program. The new program, created and administered by TCC’s Wakulla Environmental Institute,** instructs students in the art and science of cultivating, harvesting and marketing oysters. Oyster growers Down Under are watching us, because the type of oyster production proposed in the WEI program is based on Australia’s long-line oyster farming method.

Long-line oyster farming is much different than the tonging method used locally, and was not legally possible in Florida until about six months ago. Cushman’s connections to Australian oyster farmers have turned their eyes to Wakulla County, curious for the results of the program. Prior to July 2013, oyster harvesting was primarily restricted to oysters growing wild in beds on the bottom of our bays. Until then it was illegal for anyone to use the entire water column for aquaculture, restricting water use to only 6 inches above the bottom. On July 1, 2013 the law changed, allowing full use of the water column for aquaculture.

The new law presented an opportunity for Florida to introduce a different process for cultivating oysters. “This is an experiment,” said WEI executive director Bob Ballard. “The purpose of the program is to bring jobs and money to Wakulla and the surrounding areas. If successful, this will change the economic face of Wakulla County.”

A Wakulla restaurateur and family members were the catalyst for WEI’s research into oyster production. Leo Lovel and sons Clay and Ben of Spring Creek Restaurant began the experimentation of cultivating oysters in cages in the summer of 2012 with promising success. Mature 3-inch oysters, grown over a nine-month period in Alligator Harbor proved to be as tasty as their wild cousins and had an even more appetizing half-shell appearance on the plate.

The Lovels began serving their cage-grown bivalves at the restaurant to rave reviews. Ballard took note, and the Lovels’ experimentation is now being improved and expanded upon as part of WEI’s curriculum. It was Lovel and Ballard who initiated the legislative change in the use of the water column for aquaculture. WEI’s program kicked off on January 14 with a charter class of seven men and three women, ranging in age from 20-something to 60-something. The three-hour weekly class and weekend field experiences run through May 10.

“Look around. This is our team,” said Cushman to the students sitting in a classroom at TCC’s Wakulla Center in Crawfordville. “We are going to work as a team to make this program a success.” Cushman and Ballard stressed that although each student will have individual leases, cages and oysters, all team members are responsible for the success of each other and the program as a whole.

After classroom and field training, the team of students will continue to work the oyster leases, expecting to harvest in August. And if the program is a success, each student will make enough money through the sale of the oysters to pay back student loans of \$7,500 each and realize a profit, which can then be re-invested into their own oyster farming businesses. “That’s the intent of WEI. This is a jobs program,” said Ballard.

The initial student loans from TCC Foundation funds cover expenses such as the long-line infrastructure materials, cages and 100,000 oyster spat per student. On repayment of the loans, students will own their equipment and have the knowledge and opportunity to spawn oyster farming businesses.

Most of us who live or visit along the Gulf coast have witnessed the picturesque scene of hardworking oystermen lifting heavy tongs of catch onto their boats. And although the long-line method does not involve heavy tongs, it does require physical labor.

## **Wakulla County explores oyster aquaculture....**

*continued*

Students in the program have to lift and turn each cage, suspended below the water line from long-line cables, at least once a week, to keep the young oysters and cages free of unwanted barnacles and debris. Students accomplish this by walking in chest-deep water or figuring out how to lift and turn the cages from their boats.

"The long-line method of oyster farming does not replace the traditional oyster tonging method," said Ballard. "We believe this method will complement the tonging method and enhance the oyster industry as a whole for our region."

Future oyster aquaculture certification classes will be scheduled based on the progress of the initial class and funding opportunities.

## TCC Unveils African-American History Calendar

WCTV.TV

### **Fourteen members of the community were honored at Tallahassee Community College Monday.**

An unveiling of a new calendar unofficially kicked off black history month. The 14th annual Cherry Alexander African-American history calendar highlights significant contributions by African-Americans in Leon, Gadsden and Wakulla counties.

"They are extremely honored because often times these are not the people who are the most popular or well known but they have worked hard within their community," said co-coordinator Louis Dilbert.

WCTV's Gina Pitisci emceed the event. These calendars will be given out to thousands of youth in the Big Bend.

The honorees are as followed:

Jerome Maples  
Colleen Skipper-Mitchell  
Queen Webster  
Marilyn Holifield  
Carolyn Fitzgerald Colson  
Vernell Ross  
Dr. Evangeline Bryant  
Irene Thompson Perry  
Tommy Mills  
Judge June McKinney  
Doby Lee Flowers  
Harold and Erica Uzzell  
Keith Dowdell

## TCC's Murdaugh finalist for national leadership award

By Doug Blackburn  
PUBLICATION

**The trustees at Tallahassee Community College aren't the only ones impressed with Jim Murdaugh, who's been the school's president since November 2010.**

The American Association of Community Colleges announced this week that Murdaugh is one of four finalists for a national award in the emerging leadership category. Awards will be presented in six categories at the AACC annual convention April 7 in Washington, D.C.

"I'm shocked and stunned," the 61-year-old Murdaugh said. "I never expected this or saw it coming."

Murdaugh has received glowing annual reviews from members of the TCC board of trustees, including the most recent evaluation last spring. Eugene Lamb, chairman of TCC's board, praised Murdaugh in a nominating letter to AACC.

"From the first, Jim made it clear that he believed the college would thrive if he created an environment in which faculty and staff feel empowered to apply their talents, implement creative solutions to problems, and contribute their own vision to the overall mission of the college," Lamb wrote.

Leadership development has flourished at TCC since Murdaugh became president. At the time of his appointment, the core leadership development program for faculty and staff, Leadership TCC, had been dormant for five years. Murdaugh revived it in 2011 and then expanded it by adding Advanced Leadership TCC in 2012.

Murdaugh left a communications position at Florida Department of Law Enforcement in 1999 to take over TCC's Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy in Gadsden County. The academy experienced unprecedented growth under his watch, including the opening earlier this month of the Gadsden Re-entry Center, affiliated with the state Department of Corrections.

"I did not come to the college with aspirations of being president. It was not on my bucket list, it was not on my career plan," Murdaugh said. "It wasn't until Bill Law left (2010) that it even entered my mind."

## Ross to throw out first pitch for TCC

By Jim Henry

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT



David Ross hasn't stopped since he helped the Boston Red Sox win the World Series last October.

The former Florida High star and Tallahassee resident has made a number of special appearances nationally as a result of winning the Series.

But one fact won't change.

Ross keeps his hometown close to his heart.

**Ross will throw out the ceremonial first pitch at Tallahassee Community College's home opener on Thursday at 4 p.m. against Gordon State (Ga.) College.**

"It's always nice to be active in Tallahassee baseball," Ross said Tuesday.

"I have felt so much love from my hometown. It's nice to give back to such good people – that's why I live here."

Ross was recognized by Florida High's baseball program on Saturday.

A few days earlier, he dropped the ceremonial first puck before a Worcester (Mass.) Sharks' game in the American Hockey League.

Ross, who reports to Fort Myers for spring training on Feb. 15, was also named Boston's "Good Guy" for 2013 by the Boston Chapter of the BBWAA.

At Chipola College on Saturday, another major-league veteran will be honored.

Russell Martin, a catcher at Chipola College in 2002, will have his jersey retired.

Martin, with the Pittsburgh Pirates, will be part of a star-studded alumni weekend that will also feature former players Jose Bautista (Toronto Blue Jays), Jeff Mathis (Marlins) and Matt Gamel (Braves), among others.

Saturday's festivities will include the popular home run derby at noon, followed by Martin's jersey retirement, a silent auction and autograph session.

Chipola College opens the weekend with a double-header on Friday against Shelton State at 10 a.m. and Walters State at 1 p.m.

"As a coach, this is the thing that makes you proud when guys are willing to come back and show the respect and appreciation to the program they played in," Chipola College coach Jeff Johnson said of the program's fifth annual alumni program.

"It's a big weekend for us."

## TCC is proud to partner with many groups and individuals in Gadsden County

by Carmy Greenwood

Tallahassee Community College is proud to be a partner with the many organizations and individuals in Gadsden County who are building a better quality of life for their neighbors.

TCC provides opportunities for adults to improve their skills and prepare for a better job by offering GED preparation and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes

in Havana and Quincy. In 2013, seven Gadsden County residents earned their GED through these classes, as did 46 inmates of the Quincy Annex Correctional Institution. The College also offered a new GED preparation class in Spanish at the Panhandle Area Education Consortium (PAEC) Migrant Education Program

in Quincy to meet the needs of the growing hispanic population in the area.

New this year, the College offered health literacy education to ESOL students at PAEC, based on the "Staying Healthy" curriculum provided by the Florida Literacy Coalition, which addresses preventative health, nutrition, reading and communicating with a doctor, understanding medicines, living with chronic dis-

eases and other topics.

TCC also entered into an agreement with Unlimited Path and the Florida Department of Corrections to provide educational services to

432 inmates at the Gadsden County Re-Entry Facility located on the College's Florida Public Safety Institute (FPSI) campus in Midway. It is the only prison in the United States to be physically located on a college campus. TCC employees will provide GED and ESOL instruction, vocational training, and academic support to inmates—all with the goal of reducing recidivism. The Re-Entry Center will employ 137 people through TCC, Unlimited Path and the Department of Corrections.

The College's reach extends to all ages, as the highly successful 21st Century Community Learning Centers continued to serve students at Carter Parramore Academy, Havana Middle School, Stewart Street Elementary School and



*continued*

Shanks Middle School. Many young people, along with adults, also took advantage of programs at TCC's Quincy House. In fact, TCC officials are reviewing options for expansion to a larger facility in Gadsden County to better meet citizens' needs for education and training.

In November, Gadsden YouthBuild, a collaboration between TCC and WORKFORCE plus, completed a 2,000-square-foot house in Midway. The construction of a two-bedroom, two-bath house for a qualifying low-income family and vocational training in construction were the goals of the program that exclusively served Gadsden County youth ages 18 to 24. In its two years, the program served 62 students, 58 of whom earned industry-recognized credentials in construction. Fifty percent of those enrolled in adult education courses earned their GED diploma, and 29 students were placed into further education or employment.

On National Manufacturing Day (October 4), students from West Gadsden High School and Carter-Parramore Academy toured TCC's Advanced Manufacturing Training Center (AMTC). They enjoyed hands-on demonstra-

tions of the facility's training equipment and face-to-face interaction with local manufacturers. Gadsden companies in attendance included Teligent EMS, BASF Quincy and Coastal Plywood. A manufacturers' discussion panel gave students the opportunity to learn about the many employment opportunities available to high school graduates who successfully complete industry-recognized training.

Education and economic development go hand-in-hand, so in November, TCC's Division of Workforce Development and Gadsden County convened a Gadsden County Stakeholders Conversation at FPSI. The focus was on understanding workforce needs, capitalizing on area strengths, and creating a framework for economic and workforce development success.

Each year, FPSI hosts numerous community meetings, in addition to its highly respected programs in law enforcement and corrections that bring individuals from around the state to Gadsden County for training.

TCC welcomes suggestions for ways to further serve Gadsden County residents. Please call (850) 558-3620 or stop by The Quincy House at 216 N. Adams Street.

## Quincy approves new TCC campus

By Rachel Mock

HERALD OF GADSDEN COUNTY

**At the Quincy City Commission meeting on January 28, commissioners approved the site of a new Tallahassee Community College campus.**

TCC had approached the commission in July 2013, requesting to build a campus on Ward's Lot, adjacent to Quincy's City Hall. In response, the commission expressed their gratitude for TCC's intentions but encouraged TCC staff to find a more suitable location.

David Wildes, a TCC representative, approached the commission on January 28 in order to report on its selection of a vacant lot on Pat Thomas Parkway.

This property, next to the Workforce Plus building, is approximately 1.5 acres.

According to Wildes, the campus could be built in as few as 12 months.

Mayor Pro-Tem Larry Edwards made a motion to donate this City of Quincy property to TCC, and the commission unanimously approved this motion.

The commission also passed two resolutions during the meeting.

They approved the request to temporarily close several roads on February 22 for the Black Heritage Parade.

The commission also passed a resolution to adjust water and sewer rates in order to satisfy the principal and interest due on loans from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The city accrued outstanding costs for the construction of its "Quincy Wastewater Treatment Plant Biosolids Dewatering Facility" in 2013. In order to pay the outstanding \$267,615 due to the contractor, the city was advised to adjust water and sewer rates so that FDEP would close on a loan that would cover these costs.

City Manager Jack McLean told the commission that the rates would go up by approximately \$1.92 for water and \$5.53 for sewer.

After commissioners expressed their hesitation about raising the rates of their constituents, city lawyer Jerry Miller urged them to vote objectively. He stated that this was a responsibility that needed to be met.

"I support it if it's necessary, but I don't like it," said Commissioner Micah Brown.

The resolution passed 4-1 with Commissioner Derrick Elias dissenting.

## Program to create internship matches

By Dave Hodges

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Ask anyone in school who has an eye on a career about their desire for an internship and you'll probably get a "when do I start?" sort of answer.

I had a newspaper internship eons ago. I know local firms that provide them in many different occupations, and I know of interns who have proven their skills and have gone off to do great things in their field.

The local partners in an initiative called Florida Trade want to create this same opportunity in manufacturing for trainees who are enrolled in a program and working toward a career in industry. Florida Trade's internship program is filling a void that exists for these students, and Workforce Plus, **Tallahassee Community College**, the Economic Development Council of Tallahassee-Leon County and the Manufacturers Association of Florida are working to make it happen here.

"It is the best example of colleges, manufacturers and workforce boards coming together I have ever seen in the state of Florida, and why? Because we know that we've got 6,000 manufacturing jobs open in Florida right now and we don't have the talent to fill those jobs," says Nancy Stephens, executive director of the association.

There are companies in the Big Bend who have such openings, and manufacturing firms who would love to offer internships, but can't find the students for them.

It appears a little match-making is in order.

**Bruce Batton, the director of TCC's Advanced Manufacturing Training Center, says the partners are looking for participating companies. A total of 12 different colleges across the state are doing the same — hoping to match trainees with businesses where they can get some on-the-job experience.**

**"What we are trying to do is open up opportunities for these students as they go through training and earn these credentials," Batton says.**

**Besides internships, companies can participate by offering a tour of their facilities, or perhaps having a representative speak to manufacturing students at TCC or put on an event for the students.** Ben Pingree, vice president of business retention, expansion and public policy for the EDC, says he'll be putting the word out to the members of the Capital Region Manufacturers Association to get more participation.

Florida's manufacturing future is a bright one, but it needs skilled people to recruit and Florida Trade's program, funded by a federal grant, can hopefully contribute to that process. Adds Stephens, "It will make a huge difference in the state of Florida."

If you want to get involved or know of a manufacturer who might participate, contact Pingree at [bpingree@taledc.com](mailto:bpingree@taledc.com).

## TCC student Steve Murray goes from homeless to thriving

By Doug Blackburn  
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT



**Steve Murray wears a starched white shirt and a red and brown tie as he crosses the campus at Tallahassee Community College, a book bag over his shoulder. He is the picture of success.**

He won a statewide contest last fall with an essay he wrote for one of his classes at TCC, the first

time Murray ever submitted a paper he wrote into a competition.

Murray, 45, would seem to be a man who has it made. Murray's appearance and recent success, however, belie an incredible journey.

You would never know by looking at him that Murray had been homeless for more than four of the past five years.

A native of Chattanooga, Tenn., Murray left his hometown in 2007 when his marriage came undone. He wanted a fresh start. Friends urged him to give Miami a try.

He'd never been there, but he was game. Murray figured a hard-working guy could find plenty of jobs in Miami.

He never got there. Murray's car broke down in Tallahassee. He has been here ever since.

He has endured one setback after another. He was on his own in 2012, living in an apartment and working at a local fast food restaurant, when he had a stroke.

By the time he recovered he no longer had a job. He went back to The Shelter.

Murray remained unbowed.

"I had to start all over again. I said, 'That's OK. It's just material things.' It doesn't matter if I lose them or not as long as I have myself, my sanity," Murray said. "You can always buy material things again. As long as I got myself, my sanity and I stay positive, I know I'll be OK."

His life improved markedly in 2013 when he transferred to Hope House. A case manager directed him to TCC, and it has been a good fit.

Like more than half of the students at TCC, Murray wasn't ready for college-level courses right away. He needed to complete a developmental education curriculum before beginning on his associate's degree.

Murray described his ordeal, from homeless to full-time college student, in an essay for a developmental education writing course.

**Ellenar Harper, his instructor, was stunned by what she read. She has been teaching at TCC for six years. No student has shared a story like Murray's.**

"If I had not read his essay I would never have known he had gone through those trials," she said. "Those things kind of shocked me. He always has a pleasant demeanor, dedicated to getting his work done, a classroom leader. I never would have known he had gone through all that."

Murray shrugs off his ordeal like a duck shaking water off its wings. He has goals, aspirations.

**TCC student Steve Murray goes from homeless to thriving....***continued*

Harper, who works with numerous adults who have been out of school for a decade or more, believes TCC is like an island in a fast-rushing stream to students like Murray.

"TCC allowed him to start a new chapter in his life. Hopefully it will allow him to accomplish some goals he always wanted to accomplish," she said. "I believe that's true for many returning adults who attend TCC, whether they're looking to get a college degree or they're looking to start a new life, whether it's in terms of their personal life or their career."

For Murray, it's both. He's focused. He knows what he wants: a degree in business administration.

Winning the statewide essay contest, sponsored by Florida Developmental Education Association, gave Murray's self-esteem the boost it needed.

"I was astounded they chose my paper. I was down on my luck and this encouraged me to keep going and keep going. It's really lifted my spirits up," he said. "I decided if I can do this, I can graduate. I can get a degree and a career. Not a job, a career."

## Campus Notes

TCC in running for Aspen Prize

Moran new TCC vice president

Vickers lecture at TCC library

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

### TCC in running for Aspen Prize

**TCC is one of 15 Florida College System institutions eligible to compete for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence.** The Aspen Institute has identified the top 150 community colleges in the nation based on exceptional levels of student success. The \$1 million Aspen Prize, awarded every two years, is the nation's signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America's community colleges and recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes. The Aspen Institute reviews publicly available data to determine which community colleges demonstrate student success in three areas: student persistence, completion and transfer; gains in outcomes over time; and equity in outcomes for under-served students.

### Moran new TCC vice president

**TCC has named Alan Moran as the college's new vice president of communications and marketing.** Moran comes to TCC from Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland, where he served as vice president for marketing and communications since 2008. Previously Moran was the vice president of college relations (1997 to 2008) and director of college relations (1990 to 1997) at Oberlin College in Oberlin, Ohio. As vice president of communications and marketing, Moran will lead the TCC Office of Communications and Public Information.

### Vickers lecture at TCC library

**In celebration of African-American History Month, the TCC Library will host a guest lecture on "Paradise Park: African-American Oasis in Central Florida" by TCC English professor Lu Vickers.** The novelist and distinguished author on Florida history will discuss the history of Paradise Park, a segregated attraction in central Florida near Silver Springs. The event will be held at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 18 in room 265 of the library. Also on Feb. 18, the TCC Riley House Archive will be hosting an open house. The archive is a part of the John G. Riley House Museum, located at corner of East Jefferson and South Meridian streets.

## Registration open for FPSI Mine Safety Program

WTXL.TV

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Tallahassee Community College's Florida Public Safety Institute is now offering Spring Training Courses for the Florida Mine Safety and Health Training (FMSH) Program.**

The primary goal of the FMSH Program is to have a positive impact on the awareness of safety and occupational health hazards in Florida mining environments.

FMSH will conduct effective mine health and safety training classes in order to eliminate fatal injuries and reduce the frequency and severity of mining accidents.

"We are very proud that Florida's incident rate continues to be below the national rate, and among the lowest in the United States, due in no small part to the effective training of its mining workforce provided by FMSH," said Karen Miller, program coordinator of the Florida Mine Safety Training Program. "Our miners are our most precious resource, and they are the foundation of everything we have achieved. We place the highest value on designing programs to reduce mining accidents, injuries, and illnesses."

The FMSH Program continues to provide training in direct response to mining companies and contractor needs to ensure that they are in compliance with mandatory health and safety training programs for all miners in Florida.

**For more information on the FMSH Program, please contact Karen Miller at (850) 201-7689.**

## “The Next America: Making Community Colleges Work” se realiza en el Miami Dade College

Este lunes 10 de febrero, el senador floridano Marco Rubio tratará este tema en el marco de la Cumbre “The Next America: Making Community Colleges Work”, presentada por National Journal en el Campus Wolfson del Miami Dade College (MDC) en downtown Miami. / On Monday February 10, Florida Sen. Marco Rubio will address this issue in the context of “The Next America: Making Work Community Colleges’ Summit, hosted by National Journal at the Wolfson Campus of Miami Dade College (MDC) in downtown Miami.

MIAMI DARIO

En la medida que siguen creciendo las poblaciones de minorías étnicas en los Estados Unidos, lo mismo ocurre con la demanda de acceso a la enseñanza universitaria. Sin embargo, queda mucho por hacer en este aspecto.

Estarán presentes en el panel, que será moderado por Ronald Brownstein, Director Editorial de Atlantic Media; el Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, Presidente del Miami Dade College (MDC); el congresista Joe García, graduado del MDC; **el Dr. Jim Murdaugh, Presidente de Tallahassee Community College;** el Dr. Davis Jenkins, Investigador Principal de Community College Research Center; y Richard Kahlenberg, Profesor Invitado de Century Foundation; y Mariana Atencio, co-presentadora del programa “The Morning Show” de Fusion.

Este es el segundo evento de la serie “The Next America” de National Journal, que explora la forma en que la cambiante demografía de los Estados Unidos afecta la agenda nacional.

**TRANSLATION:** As they continue to grow ethnic minority populations in the United States, so does the demand for access to university education. However, much remains to be done in this regard.

They will be on the panel, to be moderated by Ronald Brownstein, Editorial Director for Atlantic Media, Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, President of Miami Dade College (MDC), Congressman Joe Garcia, a graduate of MDC, **Dr. Jim Murdaugh, president of Tallahassee Community College,** Dr. Davis Jenkins, Principal Investigator of Community College Research Center, and Richard Kahlenberg, Century Foundation Visiting Professor, and Mariana Atencio, co-host of “The Morning Show” Fusion program.

This is the second event in the series “The Next America” National Journal, which explores how the changing demographics of the United States affects the national agenda.

## TCC Hosts Youth Day

By Lanetra Bennett  
WCTV.TV

**Tallahassee, FL - More than 100 students from Leon, Gadsden, and Wakulla counties participated in Youth Day at Tallahassee Community College Wednesday.**

It was part of TCC's Black History Month activities. The annual event gave students education on African American History, as well as exposure to college.

Ninth grade Rickards High School student, Jacobe Ferguson, says, "It helped me figure out what I want to be later on in life. I love math and I want to be an entrepreneur in business. So it helped me learn how to manage my money."

## TCC presents Community Connections Fair

WCTV.TV

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WTXL) – **The Tallahassee Community College African-American History Planning Committee will host the Community Connections Fair on Saturday, February 22, 2014, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the first floor of the Student Union on TCC’s main campus.**

The event will showcase the arts by providing the area residents with a greater knowledge and appreciation of local artistic achievements. Organizers hope to inspire more active patrons of Tallahassee’s cultural offerings. Several local agencies that provide health or prevention/intervention services will also be on hand to share information.

“One of our goals is to present a concrete vision of Tallahassee as a healthy and cultural community where people want to live, work, go to school, visit, and do business,” said Dr. Brenda Anthony, associate professor in TCC’s Business program.

The schedule includes an authors’ showcase, dance, spoken word, music and much more. These events are intended to further enliven TCC’s African-American Month celebration activities. Among the confirmed authors, artists, and organizations:

Nathaniel Wesley, Author  
 Altha Manning, Author  
 Irene Gilliam, Author  
 Charles U. Smith, Author  
 Huberta Jackson-Lowman, Author  
 Phyllis Gray, Author  
 Barbara Williams, Author & Publisher  
 Terri Gerrell, Author & Publisher  
 Tremayne Moore, Author  
 Melinda Michelle, Author  
 Gwedolyn Jones, Author & Musician  
 Dhyana Ziegler, Author  
 Dorothy Inman-Johnson, Author  
 Melissa Mallory, Author  
 Freddie Grooms, Author

Kim Williams, Author  
 Kome Onokpise, Author  
 Kyle Brown, Author  
 Olugbemi Molye, Author  
 Roslyn Thomas-Gillam, Author  
 Laurina Osborne, Author  
 SokheChapke Publishing  
 Big Bend Cares  
 DISC Village  
 Tallahassee Community College Dental Clinic  
 FSU Thagard Health Center  
 Bond Community Health Center  
 Leon County Health Department  
 Sickle Cell Foundation  
 Megellan Health Services  
 Quality Care Services  
 Steven Cruz, Dramatic Interpretation  
 Cynthia Lamb, Author  
 Taylor Lee, Singer  
 Andrew La Fleur, Saxophonist  
 Sachelle Cuffy, Spoken Word  
 Janet Hughes, Dance  
 Diamond Paige, Dramatic Reading  
 Cierra, Musician  
 Kenneth Reshard, Artist  
 Reggie Cuyler, Author  
 Kelsie Newman, Singer



Join us for an upcoming  
**TCC Preview** event to learn  
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programs, college admissions  
information, financial aid,  
scholarships, leadership  
opportunities, extracurricular  
activities and much more

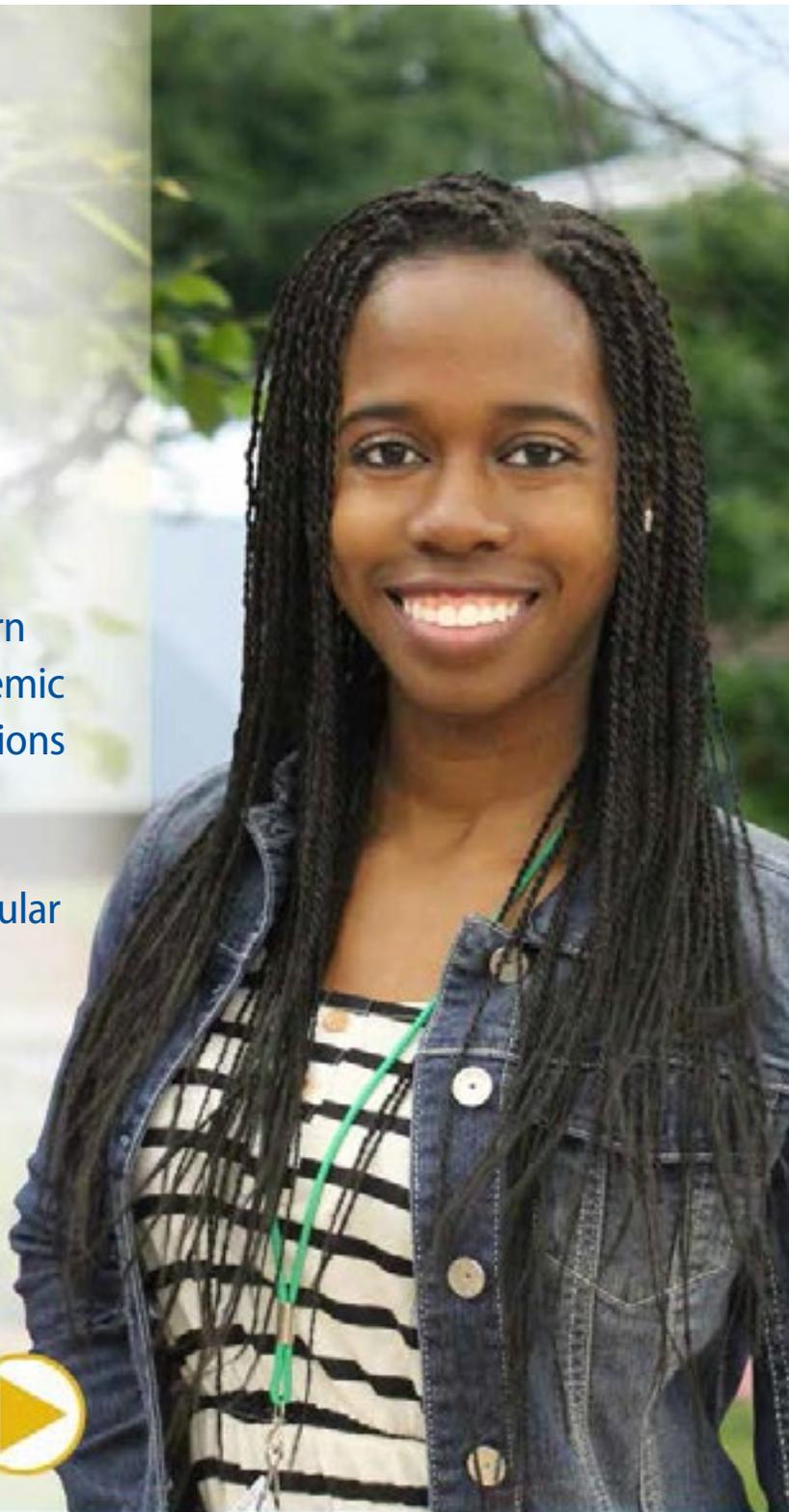
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**March 6**

**April 17**

**May 8**

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activities and much more

**February 20**

**March 6**

**April 17**

**May 8**



# FLORIDA MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH TRAINING (FMSH) PROGRAM

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) State Grants Program for Florida



## FPSI MINE SAFETY PROGRAM NOW OFFERING SPRING TRAINING COURSES



The purpose of the Florida Mine Safety and Health Training Program is to assist mining companies with their safety and health training and retraining of miners in order to eliminate fatal injuries and reduce the frequency and severity of mining accidents.



### Annual Refresher Training

This eight-hour course is designed in compliance with MSHA requirements for the retraining of miners. The set of topics can be used to help meet requirements for annual refresher training for all surface miners and mining contractors.



### Heartsaver/Family and Friends First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor Training

This course is ideal for individuals seeking authorization to be a First Aid/CPR instructor. Successful completion of this two-day course leads to certification as American Safety & Health Institute or American Heart Association Heartsaver/Family and Friends First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor.



### MSHA New Miner Training

New Miner Training is for newly employed inexperienced miners or individual contractors needing to conduct work at a mine site. This course covers introductory mining topics and provides First Aid/CPR/AED certification.



### MSHA Instructor Institute

This course is tailored to professionals who aspire to teach or train miners. This is a three-day Surface Metal/Nonmetal Mine Safety Train-the-Trainer course.



### First Aid/CPR Certification

This is a combination of the adult First Aid, CPR and AED training programs. It helps employers meet Occupational Safety and Health Administration, MSHA, and other federal and state regulatory requirements for training employees to respond to medical emergencies at work.

*"We provide effective training for the mining workforce."*

For registration or specialized custom training, contact the Florida Mine Safety and Health Training Program coordinator (850) 201-7689 | millerka@tcc.fl.edu