

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



May 15, 2014 - June 14, 2014

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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School news: TCC to host tech-themed summer camp

HAVANA HERALD

SCHOOL NEWS

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014

TCC to host tech-themed summer camp

Area high school students interested in learning about technology will have an opportunity to attend a free, week-long camp this summer at Tallahassee Community College.

The Computers and the Virtual World camp will focus on computer operating systems, hardware and virtualization. The camp runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, July 28, through Thursday, July 31, and from 9 a.m. to noon Friday, August 1.

"One of the primary

things that we hope to accomplish is to expose students to the technology of virtualization and give them an overview of the topics surrounding it," said Carlos Torres, assistant professor of computer networking.

Any high school student curious about the field of technology is encouraged to attend. Torres said the camp is open to students with any level of knowledge and interest.

Torres will lead the camp in room 257 of the Computer

Technology building, assisted by members of the TC4 computer club. Guest speakers include Byron Todd, professor of computer networking, and Mike Vickers, manager of the computer lab.

The camp is free to students and open to the first 20 applicants. Lunch and snacks will be provided. Parents will be invited for the last day of the camp for a presentation prepared by the students.

"By working with our

networking faculty members, students will learn networking magic," said Kate Stewart, dean of technology and professional programs. "I am excited that through an NSF grant, we have a chance to show students that a career in technology is not only lucrative but fun."

For information, contact Carlos Torres at torresc@tcc.fl.edu or (850) 201-8966. To register, go to <https://tcc-summer-camp.eventbrite.com>.

East Gadsden High enjoys Cinco de Mayo program



NJCAA tourney ends early for TCC softball

DEMOCRAT STAFF REPORT

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The Tallahassee Community College softball team's impressive season came to an end Thursday as the Eagles fell to Seminole State College, 2-0, in St. Georgia, Utah during the NJCAA tournament.

TCC entered the tournament as the No. 3 seed, but dropped a heartbreaker to 14-seed San Jacinto College-South, 1-0, Wednesday night in the opening round.

TCC finishes the season 41-14 overall.

New TCC nursing program in limbo

Legislature's last-day action puts moratorium on new four-year programs for community colleges

DOUG BLACKBURN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Unlike almost all of its 27 sister schools in the Florida College System, Tallahassee Community College has never wanted to get into the business of offering four-year degrees.

But when the region's health-care leaders came to TCC President Jim Murdaugh, asking him to add a bachelor's of science in nursing program to help address a critical shortage, the college did its homework and got buy-in from the board of trustees last October.

Now that plan is in limbo, through no fault of TCC.

On the final day of the legislative session that concluded earlier this month, lawmakers passed a bill calling for a 12-month moratorium on new four-year degrees at Florida's 28 state colleges.

State Sen. Joe Negron, R-Stuart, concerned about the proliferation of four-year degrees and the competition they have created with the state's 12 public universities, wants the Department of Education to study the issue and offer recommendations in time for the 2015 session.

TCC's proposal, which had cleared several hurdles and had been submitted to Chancellor Randy Hanna on Dec. 1 for the required 100-day public notice period, became inactive before the education department could approve the proposal and the college could present it to its accrediting agency.

TCC officials are hopeful that the suspension imposed by lawmakers will not delay the launch of their first four-year degree program by more than one semester. If all goes well, TCC could begin offering it in January 2016 instead of the planned August 2015 start date.

"I'm thinking if we'd only done this last spring instead of last fall we'd be good to go," TCC Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Barbara Sloan said. "We're disappointed, but we're still hopeful."

It's possible no one is more disappointed than Mark O'Bryant, president and CEO at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare. He wants TMH to attain a national magnet designation, which requires a hospital to have at least 80 percent of its nurses with BSN degrees. At TMH, only about 50 percent of the nurses have BSNs.

"Clearly we want to add a larger number of bachelor degree nurses," O'Bryant said. "We're not happy, but we'll be patient. We'll continue moving forward, but there may be some delays."

O'Bryant is particularly eager for TCC to begin producing BSN degrees because, unlike the students at Florida A&M and Florida State universities, the students at TCC tend to be from the Tallahassee area and they tend to stay here after earning a degree.

State Sen. Bill Montford, D-Tallahassee, attempted to add an amendment to Negron's bill that would have exempted TCC from the moratorium on reviewing or approving new four-year degrees, but his effort failed. Five state colleges wanted to be added to his amendment with degree proposals that were in the works.

"I felt very strongly about this. It's a workforce issue," Montford said. "These people had a job waiting for them and it would be exceptionally good for the health-care community here. I think they (lawmakers) just didn't want to make an exception."

There has been a proliferation of four-year degrees in the Florida College System. There are 176 as of this summer, the education department reports, and many of the one-time community colleges have changed their name to reflect their new status.

TCC trustees, however, have spent little time discussing a possible name change. They devoted several months to considering the proposal to add a single four-year degree and listed to a unified pitch from O'Bryant and members of nursing programs at Florida State and other schools.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh said he agrees with Negron's concern and welcomes the discussion around baccalaureate degrees from the state college system.

"I just regret the timing. It's a really unfortunate circumstance," Murdaugh said. "It's still a much-needed degree and it's demand driven in our community."

TCC nursing program could be delayed

WTXL

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (WTXL)--Tallahassee Community College's plan to offer a bachelor of science in nursing is now in limbo.

TCC was originally asked by the region's health-care leaders to add the program to address a critical shortage. This is according to our media partners the Tallahassee Democrat.

However during session, a bill was passed that called for a year-long moratorium on new four year degrees at Florida colleges.

This is due to concerns over the proliferation of four-year degrees and the competition that's been created within the state's universities.

School leaders at TCC say they hope the suspension will not delay the start of their first four-year degree program further.

If all goes well, TCC could offer its bachelor of science in nursing degree as early as January 2016.

Despite moratorium, TCC moves forward with nursing program

MAGGIE TOBIN

WFSU

Tallahassee Community College still plans to pursue a new four-year nursing program despite the legislature placing a year-long moratorium on state college baccalaureate degrees. TCC Provost Barbara Sloan says if the moratorium is lifted, the school will prepare to move forward with the proposal as soon as possible.

"We are continuing to refine the curriculum and we are also working on our proposal to send to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, our accrediting agency, so that if the moratorium is lifted, we will be able to submit all of our next steps in a timely manner," Sloan explains.

The new program would be aimed toward existing nurses wishing to earn a bachelor's degree. Before the moratorium, TCC had gotten support from both Florida A&M and Florida State Universities which offer similar programs. The college had already submitted a complete proposal to the Florida Department of Education for feedback, but it can't get final approval for the program by the State Board of Education until the moratorium is lifted.

Sloan hopes the program will be open and accepting students in January of 2016.

TCC's Wakulla Environmental Institute attracts attention

DOUG BLACKBURN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

It may be premature to call the Wakulla Environmental Institute one of Tallahassee Community College's crown jewels.

After all, the highly anticipated facility, which will provide unique educational opportunities for the students at the college as well as eco-tourism and jobs for the county, is at least three months from breaking ground and 10 months away from a grand opening.

Originally funded with \$4.5 million from the Legislature in 2012, WEI officially received an additional \$1.5 million Monday when the college's trustees signed off on a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration. TCC will use money it received in 2012 from lawmakers to match the grant, which will go toward enhanced infrastructure at WEI. The 10,000-square-foot building will sit on almost 160 acres TCC acquired off Highway 319 about 3.2 miles south of Crawfordville.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh, instrumental in developing the Florida Public Safety Institute in Gadsden County when he was in charge of that operation, believes WEI can have an even bigger impact in Wakulla County.

"The difference is that in Wakulla County our intention is to make it a global destination. This could eclipse what we have in Gadsden County," Murdaugh said.

Crawfordville resident Jonathan Kilpatrick, appointed to TCC's board in March, said WEI is the talk of the town. He routinely fields calls from county residents eager to learn how they might be able to work with the institute. Bob Ballard, WEI's executive director, estimates that the institute will create more than 900 private sector jobs in Wakulla County.

TCC officials believed they found the ideal location for WEI when they purchased the property in 2013, but it turns out the land is even richer than anticipated. It contains at least four, and possibly five, separate ecosystems in a space of just under 160 acres.

"We really got lucky with this space. This alone will bring in people from all over the country, if not all over the world," Ballard said.

TCC pitcher Rivera named All-American

DEMOCRAT STAFF

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College freshman pitcher Mariah Rivera was named a second-team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) on Wednesday.

Rivera, a former star at Lincoln High, helped lead the Eagles to their first Panhandle Conference championship since 1998, their first FCSAA state title in 20 years and the NJCAA Region 8B/FCSAA Gulf District Tournament championship and the accompanying berth to the NJCAA Division I Softball National Championship in St. George, Utah.

Rivera posted a 21-6 record with three saves and a 1.60 ERA in 30 appearances. She recorded 26 complete games (out of 27 starts), pitched 183.2 innings and struck out 141, leading the team in all the aforementioned categories.

She was named Panhandle Conference Pitcher of the Year and earned first-team FCSAA All-State and All-Panhandle Conference honors.

Model UN alumni at TCC receive grant

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

An organization that supports TCC's Model United Nations team received a \$1,000 grant from a local Wells Fargo bank branch. Tallahassee Southern Model United Nations, a group comprised of TCC Model United Nations alumni, collected the Community Connection Grant earlier this month from Wells Fargo's North Monroe Street branch. The group was chosen to receive this award by Big Bend District Manager Wendy Parrish.

For information, contact Richard Murgo, Model U.N. faculty adviser, at (850) 414-2849 or murgor@tcc.fl.edu.

MyView: Women-owned businesses have an impact

KAREN MOORE

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

May is Small Business Appreciation Month, and as the month comes to a close, I think it's vital that we continue to focus on and appreciate the role that small businesses play in our economy.

I am a small-business owner, and my company, Moore Communications Group, is one of more than 8 million businesses nationally that are owned by women. Women-owned businesses employ more than 23 million people and contribute an economic impact of \$3 trillion.

To put this in perspective, if U.S.-based women-owned businesses were their own country, they would have the fifth-largest GDP in the world, trailing closely behind Germany and ahead of countries including France, the United Kingdom and Italy. Women-owned firms are not a small, niche market but are a significant contributor and major player in the overall economy. Locally, there are almost 70 women-owned businesses that are certified by Leon County, with a number of them members of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.

Women have caught the entrepreneurial spirit and are leveraging opportunities to create and run their own businesses. According to an American Express analysis of Census Bureau figures, between 1997 and 2014, the number of women-owned businesses in the U.S. rose by 68 percent, twice the growth rate for businesses owned by men and nearly one-and-a-half times the rate for all companies.

Women-owned businesses make up more than half (52.0 percent) of all businesses in health care and social assistance sectors, and they are making a real impact in other industry sectors, including educational services (45 percent) and administrative support and waste management services (44 percent). Many of these businesses are small to mid-size but have grown to more than \$1 million in revenue. Meanwhile, the number of women-owned firms with \$10 million or more in annual sales has increased 57 percent over the past decade.

Women may see starting a small business as a means to financial independence and flexibility in the workplace. For me, it was the opportunity to build my personal vision for success, then work hard each day to achieve it.

Many new entrepreneurs approach business opportunities by looking for role models or seeking mentors, and asking for help. Like many other CEOs, I have shared my experiences with others who are starting and growing their own businesses. As women, it is in our nature to nurture, and in business, this translates to helping the entrepreneurial community flourish. These relationships and guidance are vital to ensuring the next generation of women-owned businesses continues this incredible success and positive impact on our economy.

In our own community, these opportunities to connect are supported by local programs focused on small businesses. The Entrepreneurial Excellence Program has graduated 85 small businesses to date, with 23 owned by women, including Jennifer Cherrier of Waterway Ecologics, Johanna Money of Social Water, and Eunice Cofie of Nuekie Inc.

We have additional resources such as FAMU's Small Business Development Center, TCC's Workforce Development Center, the new DOMI Station incubator, the Jim Moran Institute, and more. All of these are available to support any small business as part of the ever-growing entrepreneurial ecosystem that's been created over the past few years.

Additionally, having the opportunity to be involved and to serve in leadership positions for both the Chamber and the Economic Development Council of Tallahassee/Leon County (EDC) provided my firm with the opportunity to have a noticeable economic impact on the business landscape. I encourage all women businesses owners to get involved with both the Chamber and the EDC and take advantage of the incredible resources, opportunities and staff that can help make their businesses even more successful.

I'm proud of the progress that women-owned businesses have made over the years, and I'm excited about what the future holds in our community for the next generation of entrepreneurs, innovators and visionaries.

Pearson Efficacy Report Highlights Educators and Institutions Taking Bold Steps to Improve College and Career Readiness

College & Career Readiness report shares positive results of schools working to boost achievement, persistence and employability

PRWeb

HOUSTON CHRONICLE; CINCINNATI.COM; MYSA.COM; STREETINSIDER.COM; BENZINGA

Pearson is committed to working with higher education institutions to provide effective, personalized learning solutions that improve learning outcomes and achieve measurable results for academic achievement and workforce readiness. The company released a report today, "2014 College & Career Readiness Efficacy Results," that highlights the results of educators and institutions working together to build stronger pathways from high school to college and from post-secondary education to careers.

Fifteen institutions partnered with Pearson to share their results in data-driven case studies that highlight applications of Pearson's MyLab online personalized learning tools, Smarthinking online tutoring, and CourseConnect online courses. Each case study offers a unique blueprint to address widely experienced academic challenges, including the need to report on and improve learner outcomes; the need to maintain course quality in an era of scarce resources; and the imperative to help learners achieve mastery in academic, life and career skills.

Pearson's Senior Vice President of Efficacy and Quality, John Tweeddale, said, "We are embarking on a global education initiative and dedicating ourselves to the pursuit of efficacy and improved learner outcomes. As part of this ongoing effort, we're proud to be working side-by-side with these educators and institutions to help them take the bold steps needed to boost and promote student success."

Tallahassee Community College received a grant in 2002 from the Pew Program in Course Redesign to use technology to reduce course cost and enhance quality. The College adopted Smarthinking's Online Writing Lab for its College Composition course to help address the gap between the demand for tutoring services, and its capacity to deliver those services in both online and on-ground courses. Students' average passing rate increased from 61 percent (with zero Smarthinking sessions) to 83 percent for two or more Smarthinking sessions. In addition, the College reduced course costs while increasing writing fluency and pass rates.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Tallahassee Community College, Barbara Sloan, said, "Smarthinking offers students first quality online feedback and support. It complements our campus resources and extends our ability to support student learning from developmental studies through college-level courses, so students get help at the moment they need it."

Hero's Academy in Benton, Illinois, helps meet the growing need for qualified emergency medical technicians. The institution prepares students to pass the Illinois State EMT licensing exam the first time, pass the National Registry EMT exam, respond capably to real life situations encountered as an EMT, and succeed in an emergency medicine career. When the traditional classroom lecture method of teaching wasn't helping students succeed, Hero's Academy adopted CourseConnect: EMT to help students work at their own pace and empower students to achieve mastery. Since then, 100 percent of students using CourseConnect: EMT passed the Illinois EMT exam on the first attempt, compared to the nationwide average pass rate of 68 percent.

Paramedic and Instructor, Tom Stoudt, who created Hero's Academy, said, "CourseConnect enables students to work at their own pace and to fit their studies around a full-time job and family responsibilities. As a leader in the emergency medicine field, I'm proud to deliver highly competent, trained EMTs to meet the growing need for such professionals."

About Pearson

Pearson is the world's leading learning company, with 40,000 employees in more than 80 countries working to help people of all ages to make measurable progress in their lives through learning. For more information about Pearson, visit <http://www.pearson.com>.

For the original version on PRWeb visit: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2014/05/prweb11891553.htm>

Limelight music: Concert takes flight

Sub-head

MARK HINSON & RANDI ATWOOD
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The outgoing showman Marvin Goldstein, who is Tallahassee's piano ambassador to the world, is playing a special benefit concert for Honor Flight Tallahassee, which transports North Florida and South Georgia veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit those memorials dedicated to honor their service and sacrifice. The Goldstein salute starts at 7 p.m. Thursday in Turner Auditorium on the Tallahassee Community College campus, 444 Appleyard Drive. Tickets are \$25 per person. Call 562-3000 or visit www.honorflighttallahassee.org.

Institute seeks to lease Cherokee Sink from state for campground

TCC program would train future park managers

JENNIFER PORTMAN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College's burgeoning Wakulla Environmental Institute wants to lease from the state 2,000 acres adjacent to Wakulla Springs State Park for an educational training site, including a 60-site RV and tent campground near Cherokee Sink.

The request for a 50-year sublease of the property, located west of State Road 61 across from Wakulla Springs Lodge, was sent May 6 to the head of the Florida Park Service by WEI executive director Bob Ballard. In the letter, Ballard said the parcel is the only one in Wakulla County suitable to meet the new institute's need for hands-on training of entry-level land managers and outdoor-recreation and park-hospitality students.

"This would be a great piece of property to train land managers," Ballard told the Tallahassee Democrat. "This would give the next generation of park rangers the full range of skills they need to be a great land manager."

The Cherokee Sink tract was purchased by the state in 1999 for \$5.2 million from the St. Joe Co., to protect water quality in the vast, 200- to 300-foot-deep subterranean cave system that connects to Wakulla Spring and other nearby springs and sinkholes. The property, which was clear cut about 35 years ago, was made a part of Wakulla Springs State Park, but lacking money and resources, park staff members have been unable to undertake proper restoration of the land.

The WEI campground plan at Cherokee Sink is similar to one pitched in 2011 by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, when Ballard served as deputy secretary, a post he held for 12 years. That proposal, part of an agency effort to boost state-park revenue, included 120 campsites on 60 acres, as well as 12 equestrian camping areas, but it was halted following widespread public opposition.

WEI's current proposal — which also is being scrutinized by environmentalists — reduces by half the number of campsites, prohibits horses and calls for development at the highest environmental standards. The campground restrooms and all RV sites would be connected to the county central sewer system, and the sewer lines would be specially modified where they cross the underground cave system to avoid sewage spills in case of a broken

pipe. Septic tanks, which are a leading cause of spring water-quality problems, would not be allowed.

"We would never think about doing anything like this if it were not on county sewer," Ballard said. "We want to leave the springs cleaner than when we started."

Along with the 60 RV and tent sites, the 200-acre campground would include 10 yurts, a ranger station with three offices, as well as a restroom and picnic pavilion at Cherokee Sink, a long-popular local swimming hole that has been closed to the public for years because of water-quality problems. The campground also would include access to Wakulla Springs State Park. The use of fertilizer and turf grass would be forbidden, and water conservation efforts such as low-flow toilets and waterless urinals would be employed, along with solar- and wind-power technology.

The rest of the parcel would be restored to its natural state in phases, replacing invasive species with natives such as longleaf pines and wire grasses, along with proper management techniques such as prescribed fire. Both the campground and the surrounding land would serve as a teaching laboratory for upcoming resource managers, Ballard said.

"We have been working hand-in-hand with the Florida Park Service," Ballard said. "We will be listening to their biologists. They will be the experts on what we do to manage (the land). They would have final say."

Sine Murray, assistant chief of DEP's office of park planning, said the agency itself was considering changing the state park management plan to add a 30- to 60-site campground on the property, but now will weigh the institute's plan.

Development of the campground would cost about \$3 million, Ballard said. As it has for other projects, TCC would form a limited-liability corporation, he said, and take out a bank loan for its cost. The school also would give the park service additional money for water-quality projects at Wakulla Springs State Park and pay a nominal \$300-per-year fee.

Institute seeks to lease Cherokee Sink from state for campground...

continued

The park service would enforce compliance with the terms of the use agreement. If conditions weren't met, the land would go back to the state's care.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh said the plan has been shared with the college's board, but it's too soon to vote on it. The lease proposal, as well as changes to the Wakulla Springs park-management plan, would have to be approved by DEP's Division of Recreation and Parks and the state's Acquisition and Restoration Council. The process, expected to take about two years, is expected to begin June 17 with a public workshop.

Murdaugh pledged the project will be done correctly and will be an asset to Wakulla County.

"Our goal is to help Wakulla County grow, to provide recreational and environmental opportunities for people. It's all good," he said. "If you are going to have an environmental institute, it needs to be the showcase of how to protect the environment. At the end of the day, I would take no pride in doing something down there that harms the environment. That's counterproductive to having a program to teach people to be good stewards."

Still, concerns already are being raised. After Ballard presented the WEI proposal to the Wakulla Springs Alliance earlier this month, members of the science-based spring advocacy group reacted with a host of questions, primary among them the size and duration of the proposed lease and the precedent it may set for other colleges or universities to attempt to take over large swaths of public lands.

Ballard said he approached the Wakulla Springs Alliance early on because he knew members would look at the proposal with a critical eye.

"We don't take it as criticism. I wanted to hear from people who actually could make this better," he said, noting that suggested changes by alliance members already have been integrated into the evolving plan. "Instead of throwing stones at each other, we are coming together to be a force to protect the spring system."

Alliance chairman Ron Piaseki said he and fellow member Jim Stevenson, who both serve on the WEI's advisory

board, met with Ballard and park service director Donald Forgione for a lengthy meeting on the project about a month ago. Their input, he said, resulted in changes to its design.

"There is a lot of work to be done, but the concept seems consistent with state parks," Piaseki said. "I have the highest, most respect from Jim Murdaugh, and he's got a proven track record."

Process for WEI lease agreement

- Public workshop to be held June 17. State Division of Recreation and Parks will explain sublease and management-plan process; WEI will present its development and land management plan. Time for public questions and comment.
- If state agrees to go forward, Division of State Lands would prepare a sublease agreement, containing any special conditions, to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review and a vote.
- If the ARC approves the sublease, WEI would have a year to submit a management plan. Division of Recreation and Parks approval of plan would be required.
- WEI would create an advisory group, hold a public workshop and submit ARC draft management plan to state lands. A final ARC meeting would be held.

Providing equity of opportunity for students

Commentary

JIM MURDAUGH

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DAILY

Editor's note: This article is reprinted from Murdaugh's President's Blog for Tallahassee Community College (TCC) in Florida.

A couple weeks ago, I received an evaluation of the Black Male Achievers (BMA) program in my inbox. BMA is a TCC student organization designed to empower and educate its black male students on the importance of the successful completion of their postsecondary education through the practices of academic, social and occupational excellence. I had requested the evaluation in order to determine the educational and personal impact of this program on its participants.

According to the data collected, it was found that BMA members have higher course success rates, higher retention rates and higher graduation rates compared to their non-BMA peers. Five of the program's participants are active members of Student Government Association and of the 12 members who graduated from TCC this month, most will be transferring on to a state university.

Perhaps more significantly, all of the members of BMA reported the program has made a positive impact on their lives, empowering them as students and as citizens to be the change they wish to see in the world. They cited their exposure to positive role models, opportunities to network with professionals, exposure to black history and opportunities to give back to the community as benefits of the program, creating an environment that supports student success.

One student stated that the program helped him get his life back on track, while another called it a "life changer." Through the requirements of the program, rules become habits and habits become success.

Serving unique needs

Why is this important? At the core of every higher education mission is the desire to bring out the best in students through opportunity. But at an open-education institution like ours, we bring out the best in students through equity of opportunity. We aren't

admitting cookie-cutter students based on someone's opinion of what a perfect academic should be. We are open education which means we welcome a vibrant and diverse group of individuals with unique needs and goals. Our job is to create the setting where any student, regardless of race, gender, religion, etc., can take their first step towards realizing their full potential.

We cannot demand success from our students without providing a variety of outlets through which they can grow as individuals. This is why we have programs like BMA, Connect2Complete, Phi Theta Kappa, Model United Nations, Theatre TCC, STEM programs, International Student Organization, Student Veterans Association and many others. It's why we have enriching study abroad programs, a well-equipped library and an award-winning tutoring center. These are not officious organizations and services meant to make us look better on paper; they are living, breathing resources that provide the equity of opportunity our students need.

Equity of opportunity also means going beyond our campus. Relationships with area universities and partnerships with local businesses are equally vital. From the on-campus university partners to our workforce training clients, we are always working on paths to help students along after graduation. In fact, I feel there is a need for an annual meeting with Florida State University and Florida A&M University leadership to evaluate the value of our current degrees and catalog the region's needs.

Resolve is, of course, the student's responsibility – college is hard work and takes no small amount of perseverance – but providing equity of opportunity is our responsibility. To that end, we will proudly continue to foster organizations such as BMA and the valuable qualities they promote in our students.

Murdaugh is president of Tallahassee Community College in Florida. He was a finalist for the American Association of Community Colleges' 2014 Awards of Excellence in the category of emerging leadership.

TCC professor serves educational community

BRITTANY KLEINPETER

WTLX

Tallahassee, Fla (WTLX) - An associate biology professor at Tallahassee Community College spent the last academic year working with science teachers from Gadsden County schools to help improve their teaching curriculum.

Wilbert Butler Jr. assisted seven teachers from Havana Elementary School, Chattahoochee Elementary School, and West Gadsden High School. Butler helped these teachers with lesson planning, activity planning, and implementing new instructional tactics.

Butler focused on educating teachers on how to enhance students' critical thinking skills. Butler hopes to help teachers better prepare students for understanding science concepts at middle and high school levels.

Each of the participating teachers received a \$1,000 stipend upon completing all requirements of Butler's program.

What's happening at UWF, PSC (Campus Briefs)

STAFF REPORTS

PENSACOLA NEWS-JOURNAL

UWF and Tallahassee Community College recently announced a new partnership, as the two institutions establish the TCC2UWF program.

This program will provide students the opportunity to complete an associate degree program at TCC and transfer to UWF to complete a bachelor's degree.

For more details, visit TCC2.UWF.edu.

TCC to UWF program to offer unique experience, affordable bachelor's degree

RACHEL REINIG
WTXL

Tallahassee, Fla. (WTXL) -- Tallahassee Community College and the University of West Florida are joining forces to provide students with a transfer program between the schools.

TCC's president, Jim Murdaugh, and UWF's president, Judy Bense, signed the agreement this morning to launch the TCC to UWF program.

The program will provide students the opportunity to complete the associate's degree program at TCC and then transfer to UWF to graduate with their bachelor's degree.

School officials say the program will include a convenient transfer of academic records and will provide students with an affordable bachelor's degree.

The program goes into effect this fall.

Campus Notes: TCC, UWF form partnership

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

TCC and the University of West Florida have formed a new partnership: the TCC2UWF program. This program will provide students the opportunity to complete an associate's degree program at TCC and transfer to UWF to complete a bachelor's degree.

UWF President Judy Bense and TCC President Dr. Jim Murdaugh introduced the program Friday at a signing ceremony. TCC and UWF will share joint coordination of the program, which includes executing outreach to high school students and other members of the community in an effort to encourage them to pursue an associate's degree through TCC, while also providing tailored, intensive advising that will place students on a path toward a bachelor's degree from UWF. For additional information on TCC2UWF, visit TCC2.UWF.edu.

TCC has similar partnerships with FSU and FAMU.

Old-Time Fishers Worry Oyster Cages Could Lock Up Profits

RYAN BENK
WFSU

A quarter of a million dollars doesn't seem like much for a state that has an almost \$80 billion budget. But, one particular environmental school has its fingers crossed, hoping Governor Rick Scott approves its relatively tiny small appropriation. It's money the school's officials say could help save a \$71 million Florida industry.

Bob Ballard carefully swings open the door to a large room and flips on the light switch. Half of the area's space is taken up by thousands of cylindrical oyster cages – stacked passed the room's large windows and touching the ceiling.

Ballard is the Executive Director for Tallahassee Community College's Wakulla Environmental Institute. The institute is currently sharing space with a bank in Crawfordville but is in the process of breaking ground on a new state-of-the-art facility, only the first building of what eventually will become its own thriving college campus.

One of the institute's most anticipated programs is an oyster cultivation school and Ballard has some lofty goals for those students.

"We plan on growing a million oysters with this class - this class of ten, just this class. Each student will harvest about 100,000 oysters if everything goes to plan," Ballard says.

Officials from the fledgling environmental school are hoping an additional \$250,000 in state cash, appropriated last legislative session, can help expand the program, which has technically been functioning since last January. Ballard believes oyster aquaculture - growing and harvesting oysters using cages in rows similar to how crops are harvested on land - has the potential to help struggling oystermen keep their heads above water.

"They will be able to, after they pay us back for the investment that we put in them, essentially the equipment – cages, and line, and what no, and oysters and actually we pay for the lease. Once they pay that back, everything else is theirs," Ballard explains.

Ballard describes the oyster vocational school as an interest free loan and sustainable education program. Students who are accepted pay nothing up front, other than their time and effort. By year's close, they should

make between \$40,000 and \$60,000 after their oyster crop makes it to market. After paying back the initial \$20,000 investment, the student keeps what's left over.

But, not everyone in the seafood industry is convinced of the program's usefulness. Shannon Hartsfield is the President of the Franklin County Seafood Workers Association, an advocacy group for commercial fishing interests in and around Apalachicola.

"The farming issue is something that the Seafood Workers [Association] does not favor at all," Hartsfield says.

He thinks Ballard's vision is a bit of wishful thinking. From his experience, he says, the program will probably be more costly and yield less profit for oysterman than if they just continued to fish for wild oysters in the bay.

"You have to sit there and wait nine months before you could sell any oysters on an acre of oysters and the most you're going to get, if you do get a good turnout, is 500 bags," Hartsfield explains.

He says trying to convert traditional oyster harvesting to a farm-like system doesn't really get to the root of the problems in the bay and with the oyster industry as a whole. He also thinks the people who benefit most from programs like it aren't the fisherman, rather the school itself.

Still, Bob Ballard admits the program isn't meant to replace the harvest of wild oysters, but is simply to be used as a supplement for fishermen and an opportunity to learn other means of extending the industry's life.

The governor is expected to approve the legislature's quarter of a million dollar appropriation for the program.

[UPDATE]

Governor Scott did not veto the \$250,000 appropriation for Wakulla Environmental Institute's oyster program.

Businesses, nonprofits honored for excellence

New Leaf Market wins honor of being business of the year

DAVE HODGES

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Awards

Continued » 1A

"It was a big surprise," said Cristin Burns, New Leaf's marketing and project manager. "I was rooting for us in the local category, but it never even occurred to me that we'd win Business of the Year."

Now in their 29th year, the Chamber Awards are a program of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. More than 60 local businesses and organizations were nominated, a field that was trimmed to three finalists in each of the six categories.

"This is truly an opportunity for us to come together and see some of the best in our community. These are businesses of all types and sizes that are part of what makes Tallahassee a special place to live and do business," said Julie Moreno, president and publisher of the Tallahassee Democrat.

The awards were presented during a luncheon at the University Center Club. Service Business of the Year was the Aloft Downtown Tallahassee Hotel. The Technology & Innovation Business of the Year was Syn-Tech Systems Inc.

"We are lucky to have such a strong local business presence in the Tallahassee community. It is important that we all actively support them. From restaurants and retail to groceries and automobiles, these business types drive our community's economy," said John McNeill, commercial leasing agent for NAI TALCOR, in announcing the Locally Owned Business of the Year.

Mark O'Bryant, CEO of Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare, which sponsored the award for Entrepreneurial Startup of the Year, noted that the category received more nominations than any of the other five in the competition. "That says something about entrepreneurial spirit within Tallahassee," he added, then presented the award to GrassLands Brewing Co.

"We are just totally humbled and honored to be included among amazing business-



Kimberly Moore of Tallahassee Community College and chamber Chairman Ed Murray Jr. present the Manufacturer of the Year award to Mike Wallace of TeligentEMS.



Sue Dick, president and CEO of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, delivers closing remarks at the 29th annual Chamber Awards on Tuesday. PHOTOS BY MARQUEL SCHWARTZ/SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

es," said Gabe Grass, founder of GrassLands, in accepting the award. The company will begin beer production later this summer at a building on Gaines Street near Railroad Avenue.

"Our mission is not just making great beer. It's actually bringing people together," Grass added.

Manufacturer of the Year was TeligentEMS, the custom electronic assembly producer in Havana. Mike Wallace, vice president of business development, accepted the award on behalf of Chris Eldred, company president and CEO, who founded the business 32 years ago.

TeligentEMS provides components in Syn-Tech Sys-

tems and to Danfoss Turbocor locally, as well as industrial clients and product manufacturers across the U.S.

The Nongprofit of the Year was Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Big Bend. CEO Louis Garcia thanked the nonprofit's board members and staff for their dedication, and the volunteers' commitment to the youngsters served.

"We could not do it without the investment of our mentors," Garcia said. "They invest their lifestyle and then they provide one-to-one time with a kid who all they want is someone to show up and listen to them, and be their friend and inspire them to do great things." He dedicated the award to those volunteers.

TCC, UWF announce new partnership/TCC's Take Stock in Children program to host 5k fundraiser for tri-county area students

HAVANA HERALD

TCC, UWF announce new partnership

Tallahassee Community College and the University of West Florida announced a new partnership Friday as the two institutions established the TCC2UWF program.

This program will provide students the opportunity to complete an Associate of Arts degree at TCC and transfer to UWF to complete a bachelor's degree.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh and UWF President Judy Bense introduced the program today at a signing ceremony. TCC and UWF will share joint coordination of the program, which includes outreach to high school students and other members of the community in an effort to encourage them to pursue an associate's degree through TCC while providing tailored, intensive advising that will place students on a path toward a bachelor's degree from UWF.

"We are delighted to sign this partnership today with Tallahassee Community College," said Bense. "It provides an excellent opportunity for students in this region to complete their bachelor's degree at a mid-size regional comprehensive university in Northwest Florida. At UWF, we can focus on providing both a high-touch and quality education with personalized attention, small class sizes, and a unique student experi-

ence."

The TCC2UWF program is part of TCC's

TCC's Take Stock in Children program to host 5k fundraiser for tri-county area students

Tallahassee Community College will serve as the starting point for a 5k walk/run on Saturday, June 7, to raise funds for low-income students in Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties.

Strides for Education is a statewide event developed by the Take Stock in Children program. Registration begins locally at the TCC Workforce Development building at 7:30 a.m., Saturday, and the race is scheduled to start at 8 a.m.

"This is our first local TSIC 5k event, but we do have a lot of people on board who are trying to help," said Wanda Lewis, TSIC mentor coordinator. "Anything we can do to ensure these students can not only attend college, but also be college-ready and become successful adults is our ultimate goal."

The first three winners of each age group and the top team will receive Take Stock in Children medallions. Additionally, gift certificates in the amount of \$20 will be distributed from Sonny's BBQ, Academy Sports, Wal-Mart and other local sponsors. Moreover, a representative from Comcast Cable will be present to discuss cable packages and distribute care bags from the company.

The TSIC program raises scholarship monies and provides weekly mentorships for students in middle and high school who would otherwise not be able to attend college due to low family income. The group targets primarily first-generation college students.

Individuals who wish to support the TSIC Strides for Education event, but are unable to attend, may contribute by visiting <http://give.takestockinchildren.org> and choosing "Gadsden, Leon, Wakulla" for the location of the event.

WCTV and Comcast Cable are assisting with the event. Wendell Johnson, TSIC program administrator, will appear Sunday, June 1, on the In the Spotlight segment of "WCTV Eyewitness News."

For information, contact Wanda Lewis at (850) 201-8312.

Golden Guarantee Program, which includes various university partners.

"We are excited to be able to offer students another opportunity to create a relationship with a great four-year institution that will help them plan for and attain success," said Murdaugh.

Students enrolled at TCC will be offered admission to UWF early in their academic career in order to receive personalized and attentive transition services for a seamless transfer.

For information, visit TCC2UWF.edu.

Puzzle Solution

STEM	HAD	CHAR	
TULIP	EWI	CRAVE	
ABASE	BEEL	HOTEL	
GENERAL	FLOWERY		
	HID	STIR	
FID	LOOE	TUBBLE	
IRIS	RENT	SALON	
RAVE	ENSUE	NEWI	
STEER	TURN	DEER	
TENDER	AFAR	PNY	
	GELL	GOT	
BRAVADO	STAUNCH		
RAPID	CUE	STOLE	
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GEICO
Local Office

Three TCC Eagles claim NFCA All-America honors

BRAD DALTON

WTXL

Following one of the most successful seasons in school history Tallahassee Community College's softball team landed three players on the National Fastpitch Coaches Association's (NFCA) NJCAA Division I All-America teams.

Outfielder Te Reo Powhiri Matautia earned a spot on the second-team while pitcher Mariah Rivera and first baseman Alexis Huss were third-team selections.

Matautia, a freshman from Mangere Bridge, Auckland, New Zealand, led the Eagles with a .371 batting average, .425 on-base percentage, 66 hits and 54 runs scored while hitting six home runs and driving in 40 runs.

Rivera, a freshman from Tallahassee, Fla., was previously named a second-team All-American by the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA).

Huss batted .355 with 13 home runs, a school-record 53 RBI and a .628 slugging percentage. She was also named an FCSAA First-team All-State selection this year.

TCC players named All-Americans

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College's softball team landed three players on the National Fastpitch Coaches Association's (NFCA) NJCAA Division I All-America teams.

Outfielder Te Reo Powhiri Matautia earned a spot on the second team while pitcher Mariah Rivera and first baseman Alexis Huss were third-team selections.

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TCC raises money for prospective college students

BRITTANY KLEINPETER

WTVL

Tallahassee, Fla (WTVL) - Tallahassee Community College helped raise funds for low-income prospective students today.

TCC held a "Strides for Education" 5k run and walk this morning. The event began at the TCC workforce development building at 8am. The first 10 runners to cross the finish line were eligible for gift cards to various Tallahassee restaurants and stores.

The "Strides for Education" event was developed by Take Stock in Children to help raise money prospective college students. The organization's main focus is first generation college students.

Cherokee Sink lease under fire

Alliance thinks campground project moving too swiftly

JENNIFER PORTMAN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The Wakulla Springs Alliance has come out against plans by Tallahassee Community College's new Wakulla Environmental Institute to develop a campground near Cherokee Sink.

TCC intends to lease from the state 2,000 acres adjacent to Wakulla Springs State Park for an educational training site, including a 60-site RV and tent campground.

In a letter to Florida Division of Recreation and Parks Director Donald Forgione, alliance acting chairman Rodney DeHan said the group voted unanimously last week to oppose the project, contending WEI has not presented a plan with enough detail for the Department of Environmental Protection to make an informed decision.

"We believe the focus of any proposal for this valuable tract which lies within a very vulnerable watershed should be conservation and restoration, rather an intensive recreational use," the letter said. "If approved, this project would be by far the largest lease of state park property ever granted by FDEP. Approving this lease would amount to a fundamental change in state park management practices in Florida and must be very carefully evaluated."

DEP plans to hold a public meeting on the Cherokee Sink lease proposal at 7 p.m. June 17 at the Woodville branch library.

The request for a 50-year sublease of the property, located west of State Road 61 across from Wakulla Springs Lodge, was sent May 6 to Forgione by WEI executive director Bob Ballard. In the letter, Ballard said the parcel is the only one in Wakulla County suitable to meet the new institute's need for hands-on training of entry-level land managers and outdoor-recreation and park-hospitality students.

Ballard, who has twice met with the science-based spring advocacy group to discuss the WEI proposal, said the alliance members have asked good questions that have helped strengthen the plan.

"We want to continue to make this project better and we look forward to help from the springs alliance to make this better so we can move forward," he said Friday.

The Cherokee Sink tract was purchased by the state in 1999 for \$5.2 million from the St. Joe Co., to protect water quality in the vast, 200- to 300-foot-deep subterranean cave system that connects to Wakulla Spring and other nearby springs and sinkholes. The property, which was clear cut about 35 years ago, was made a part of Wakulla Springs State Park, but lacking money and resources, park staff members have been unable to undertake proper restoration of the land.

The WEI campground plan at Cherokee Sink is similar to one pitched in 2011 by DEP, when Ballard served as deputy secretary. That proposal, part of an agency effort to boost state-park revenue, included 120 campsites on 60 acres, as well as 12 equestrian camping areas, but it was halted following widespread public opposition.

The alliance, in its letter, said it is "perplexing" that such a major lease proposal would be so quickly given a public hearing "with no documentation beyond a two-page letter."

"The current process appears to be moving on an accelerated time frame that does not allow adequate time for full consideration of public concerns," said the letter, which includes a list of questions and comments.

WEI's current proposal reduces by half the number of campsites previously envisioned, prohibits horses and calls for development at the highest environmental standards. The campground restrooms and all RV sites would be connected to the county central sewer system, and the sewer lines would be specially modified where they cross the underground cave system to avoid sewage spills in case of a broken pipe. Septic tanks, which are a leading cause of spring water-quality problems, would not be allowed.

Along with the 60 RV and tent sites, the proposed 200-acre campground would include 10 yurts, a ranger station with three offices, as well as a restroom and picnic pavilion at Cherokee Sink, a long-popular local swimming hole that has been closed to the public for years because of water-quality problems. The campground also would include access to Wakulla Springs State Park.

Cherokee Sink lease under fire...

continued

The rest of the parcel would be restored to its natural state in phases, replacing invasive species with natives such as longleaf pines and wire grasses, along with proper management techniques such as prescribed fire. Both the campground and the surrounding land would serve as a teaching laboratory for upcoming resource managers, Ballard said.

Development of the campground would cost about \$3 million, to be borrowed by a new TCC limited-liability corporation. The park service would enforce compliance with the terms of the use agreement. If conditions weren't met, the land would go back to the state's care.

Process for WEI lease agreement:

Public workshop will be held at 7 p.m. June 17 at the Woodville Public Library. State Division of Recreation and Parks will explain sublease and management-plan process; WEI will present its development and land management plan. Time for public questions and comment.

If state agrees to go forward, Division of State Lands would prepare a sublease agreement, containing any special conditions, to the Acquisition and Restoration Council for review and a vote.

If the ARC approves the sublease, WEI would have a year to submit a management plan. Division of Recreation and Parks approval of plan would be required.

WEI would create an advisory group, hold a public workshop and submit ARC draft management plan to state lands. A final ARC meeting would be held.

Some wishes for area's nonprofit community

KELLY OTTE AND ALYCE LEE STANSBURY
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

"What's the one thing you would change about nonprofits if you had a magic wand?" This is the question we posed to a wide range of people who work and volunteer in nonprofits.

Kathleen Brady, executive director of Birdsong Nature Center, said, "I would cast a spell over a nonprofit's board members and staff alike that would give everyone a high quality education about governance, roles and best practices, so that all are operating from the same page from the start and can hit the ground running as a trained team."

Steve Evans, a seasoned board member and highly regarded business mentor: "Both the employees and board would be inspired by a vision of what they can achieve over a certain period of time and armed with the leadership, tools, creative thinking and operational guidelines that substitute 'effectiveness' for 'efficiency' as their top priority." Steve recognizes the challenge of running an efficient organization whose effectiveness may be difficult to measure.

Margaret Lynn Duggar, president of Margaret Lynn Duggar & Associates, which specializes in providing executive staffing to state and national associations: "The most significant, and doable, change that nonprofits could orchestrate is to take their boards to not just the next level, but to two or three or four levels of higher performance. Their organizations would be exponentially improved. But, this would require new roles not only for the board, but also for the CEO."

Valerie E. Breen, president and CEO of the Brain Injury Association of Florida, focused on the name "nonprofit" and the image it connotes. This is a topic we have addressed many times and we agree with Valerie, who says, "It is an 'old' term that does not meet the 'new' view of the general public and today's investor market. Whatever our IRS filing is, we are a business, small or large, that requires people to invest, underwrite, and support – with a return on investment to individuals, communities, our state and our country."

Bill Wertman, CEO of Alzheimer's Project, echoed Valerie's sentiments: "My magic wand would change the perception that nonprofits are non-business entities

somehow forbidden from making a profit. We would be seen as businesses run by strong business-minded leaders with a focus on growth and sustainability and an eye on good stewardship of funds awarded."

Rick Munroe, vice president of institutional advancement at Thomas University and director of the Southern Center of Nonprofit Effectiveness in Thomasville, says, "Think big! Too many nonprofits are caught up in the attitude that they are too small or too poor to accomplish real change. Often, once the founder of the nonprofit is gone – the big dream for change goes with them."

We were delighted with school board member and Tallahassee Assistant City Manager Dee Crumpler's response: "Three wishes! I wish everyone in our community could see, as I have, the daily work that is done by our nonprofits and how their employees and volunteers directly impact the quality of life in Tallahassee. I wish everyone could see the testimonials I have witnessed of Tallahasseeans from all walks of life, and how they have unexpectedly been helped by our local nonprofits. And my third wish would be for people to find a way to give of their time or talent to one of these organizations."

Arnold McKay, director of basic needs strategies for the United Way of the Big Bend: "I would increase funding for programs that provide direct human services, to include funding for the marketing and administration of said programs."

We would, too, Arnold! Imagine what great needs would be actually met if our nonprofits had the money they needed to meet the needs of the community.

A man after our own heart, Adam Watson, CPA from Watson & Associates, said that with his magic wand he'd "change the stigma on fundraising and administrative (non-program) costs. It's a very quick barometer to compare one agency to another, but it is in no way an indicator of the efficiency or impact a program has. We should reward agencies that use innovative business and/or fundraising ideas to leverage donations that ultimately increase the funds going to program services."

Some wishes for area's nonprofit community...

continued

Lastly, Kim Moore, vice president of Workforce at Tallahassee Community College, said that after using her magic wand, "the community wouldn't just think about nonprofits during emergencies or urgent needs, but would recognize them as absolutely necessary to our day-to-day quality of life."

Alyce Lee Stansbury, CFRE, and Kelly Otte are board members for the newly forming Institute on Nonprofit Innovation and Excellence. Contact them at notesonnonprofits@gmail.com.

Campus Notes: TCC offers programs for Gadsden students

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

TCC's Educational Talent Search Program will offer educational and cultural enrichment activities for Gadsden County middle and high school students this summer. These activities are designed to help prepare students for college academically, culturally and socially by providing them with exposure to college campuses, information on possible career paths and exciting cultural experiences.

To learn about the specific programs being offered or to enroll in a program, or to register for an activity, call (850) 558-3643. Each activity has limited space, and participants are selected on a first-come, first-serve basis.

UPDATE: Lock down lifted, armed suspect seen on Tallahassee Community College campus

SAMANTHA DIDIO, KIKI JONES & CHRISTINA REZNACK
WTXL

Tallahassee Community College Police say campus is safe after police say a man pulled a gun on a student.

The entire campus was placed on lock down as law enforcement officers searched from the air and on the ground for a gunman who is still on the run. The lock down lasted from 10:30 a.m. to 12:57 p.m. School leaders say there were no shots fired and there were no injuries.

Police say the man was carrying a handgun and was wearing a dark blue hoodie and blue jean shorts. They also say he had short dread locks and gold teeth.

"Whenever people were walking into the classroom, we could hear the alarm in the background," said Thomas Hames, a student at TCC. He says he was sitting in class when the alarms first went off, and many students thought it was just a test.

"We got our TCC alerts saying that there was someone on the campus with a gun," said Hames, "and then they just locked the doors and we just huddled down there."

Students on campus who witnessed what happened say they saw a man with a gun chasing a student near the academic support building.

"Immediately we went into a shutdown and began alerting the campus through all the different communication vehicles we have," said Al Moran, TCC's Vice President of Communications and Marketing.

Despite the warning, many students continued walking through campus, trying to go about their day as usual.

"We would see people walking by and even our professor was like, hey, what are you guys doing, well, I've got to go to work, I'm not going to sit here," said Hames, "so it was just people being stubborn."

"When you see them," said Moran, "you tell them to get into a building, you try to alert them through the website, 'don't come on campus,' and you send the alerts out, text message and email, so they know what's going on."

School officials say they hope to learn more from the incident about communications with students.

"I'm sure we'll all sit down afterward and improve upon what I thought was a pretty flawless process," said Moran.

TALLAHASSEE, FL (WTXL) -- Tallahassee Community College sent out an alert regarding a suspect seen on campus armed with a small handgun Tuesday morning.

The school sent out the alert around 10:40 a.m. The suspect was first seen near the Academic Support building on the TCC campus. For a map of the campus, [click here](#).

Witnesses say saw two people running through campus and that it looked like one man was chasing the other. Students who saw the two said that one of the men pulled a gun on the other.

The man with the gun was described as a black male in his 20's with dreadlocks and wearing a baseball cap with long blue sleeves and a blue jacket. The school updated its alert to describe the suspect as "black male last seen wearing a dark hoodie, blue jean shorts, plaid boxers, short dreadlock hairstyle and gold teeth."

A WTXL viewer also sent in a photo of officers taking someone into custody that matched the original suspect description. Police have not confirmed any information about a possible arrest.

If you have any information please call the campus police at (850) 201-6100.

Gunman spotted at Tallahassee Community College, campus lockdown lifted

The potentially-armed suspect is wearing a dark hoodie, blue jean shorts and plaid boxers.

MATT BRADWELL

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

Local police in Tallahassee have issued a dangerous-person alert after a man carrying a handgun was spotted on the campus of Tallahassee Community College.

According to police, the potentially-armed suspect is wearing a dark hoodie, blue jean shorts and plaid boxers. He is in his early twenties with braided hair and metallic teeth.

Witnesses said they saw two men running and it appeared one was chasing the other.

A faculty member told local television station WTXL that a suspect has been arrested.

Police issued a campus-wide lockdown at roughly 10:40 a.m. before lifting it shortly after 1 p.m.

The lockdown did not affect nearby Florida State University.

All clear given at Tallahassee Com. College

DAVE MILLER

WALB NEWS

The situation is resolved after Officials of Tallahassee Community College issued an alert about a man they believed had a gun on their campus. The all clear went out about 1:00, according to sources in the school.

On their website, they report that their Police Department had issued a dangerous person alert.

The site said that: "an individual identified as a black male last seen wearing a dark hoodie, blue jean shorts, plaid boxers, short dreadlock hairstyle, and gold teeth was seen with a handgun on campus."

Officials told students and staff to stay inside buildings, and do not come to campus until further notice.

ABC affiliate WTXL reports from the scene: "One faculty member told WTXL that a suspect has been arrested, we are waiting to hear back from police. A WTXL Viewer also sent in a photo of officers taking someone into custody that matched the original suspect description. Police have not confirmed any information about a possible arrest."

Lockdown at TCC lifted

SEAN ROSSMAN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

News of a gunman on campus shook Tallahassee Community College students Tuesday morning.

A man called the TCC Police Department just after 10 a.m. saying he was chased by a man with a gun outside the Technology and Professional Programs building in the northwest corner of campus before he was able to get away.

Shortly after getting the call, TCC police put the school on lockdown and instructed students to stay inside buildings and avoid campus.

Shawntelle Williams ended up stuck in her college algebra class for two hours longer than usual because of the lockdown.

"Students just started rushing in from outside, you know, trying to reach safety and it was kind of scary," Williams said. "It kind of freaked me out a little bit."

TCC police were assisted by the Leon County Sheriff's Office, the Tallahassee Police Department, Florida Highway Patrol, the U.S. Marshal's and Leon County Schools security.

Officers searched the campus for the gunman and the gun for several hours before lifting the lockdown just before 1 p.m. Throughout the whole ordeal, a helicopter flew overhead, while a loud speaker repeated demands for students to stay inside.

No shots were fired and police never found the suspect.

As of Tuesday afternoon, law enforcement officials were still talking to the victim who made the call. The man made a statement, but was not cooperative with authorities, said Al Moran, vice president for marketing and communications at TCC.

Despite the warning that an armed and dangerous man may be on campus, many students continued to mill about and exited campus buildings.

"I saw a number of folks walking on campus after the alert sirens had just sounded. That's something we're going to have to do some follow up with," said TCC Police Chief Christopher Summers.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh said the incident was an opportunity to make improvements in how the university and its students respond to emergency situations.

"There are certain things you can't ever predict, but certainly I think things went as well as they could possibly go today," Murdaugh said. "The good news is that nothing bad happened."

If you have any information on the incident, please contact TCC PD at 201-6100.

Update 1:10

The lockdown at Tallahassee Community College has been lifted, according to Chief Christopher Summers of the Tallahassee Community College Police Department.

An inside look at the Tallahassee Community College lockdown

SAMANTHA DIDIO

WWSB

When one thinks of a lockdown, they imagine a desolated campus filled with police on the hunt for an armed gunman. Some students have been practicing for this instance since elementary school, in hopes of never having to put this practice to use. On June 10, 2014, Tallahassee Community College was put to the test when they were faced with this very scenario.

At 10:30 a.m., a TCC alert was sent out to students and faculty, as well as placed on their website, that a man pulled a handgun on another student. The armed gunman was seen around the Academic Support building. Everyone in the area was told to remain in their classrooms and avoid coming to campus.

The alert read, "Tallahassee Community College Police Department has issued a dangerous person alert. An individual identified as a black male last seen wearing a dark hoodie, blue jean shorts, plaid boxers, short dreadlock hairstyle and gold teeth was seen with a handgun on campus. All persons on campus are advised to stay inside buildings and do not come to campus until further notice."

I was at TCC getting a look into what it was like being a student on lockdown.

I first arrived on campus at 11:30 a.m. through the Tennessee Street entrance, where cars were driving in and out of campus, just like any other normal day. As I drove further, a siren could be heard over a loud speaker warning those on campus of the danger. When I arrived at the Student Union, there were two police officers in their cars surveying the area, two TCC police cars were also parked and a helicopter was flying overhead.

Although there was a lockdown in place, there were still students seen congregating outside of the union and in the parking lots. Some students could be seen waving to our news cameras and taking pictures of the police activity. There was no sense of urgency to get into a safe location.

"We just got here to go to class. The alarm started going off and we got a text message on our phone, a TCC alert," TCC students James Burkette and David Mailhot said.

"It told us to get in a secure location...Helicopters and undercover cops showed up."

As I continued to drive around TCC, I saw faculty and students standing inside of the glass doors of the T.K. Wetherell History & Social Sciences Building. Once inside of the building, many students were roaming the halls, claiming they were allowed to leave their classrooms to visit the vending machines and bathrooms. Some were listening to music on their headphones and talking on the phone. The two faculty members were allowing students to exit the building if they had a ride home.

"I was just sitting in class taking a test when the alarm started sounding," TCC student Joey Franklin said. "I left after I saw Marshalls and police were on the scene, and we thought the area was secure."

The sirens continued as I made my way to the Fine and Performing Arts Center, on the other side of campus. There were about 10 police vehicles parked with officers walking around with their weapons. Many students were outside of the building and behind the police cars, talking with their friends.

"When on a lockdown, I would expect to see nobody walking around," TCC student Kayla Osburn said. "I would think you would have people blocking us off, telling us not to go on campus...It was too laid back."

According to Al Moran, TCC Vice President of Marketing and Communications, "The response from law enforcement was extremely quick...We waited to give the all-clear until law enforcement had the chance to make sure campus was safe."

At 12:57 p.m., police cars were leaving the TCC campus, as the department and school declared an "all-clear".

TCC and friends held show for Cuban artist

Eight paintings commissioned

JEANNETTE WINDHAM
CHRONICLE

TCC and friends held show for Cuban artist

Eight paintings
commissioned

By Jeannette Windham
Special to the Chronicle

On Jan. 31 Tallahassee Community College and friends hosted the very first show in the U.S. of the oil paintings by young Cuban artist Fernando Leon Hartman.

The TCC Show was well attended and a resounding success. The gracious and friendly people of Tallahassee embraced this fine young artist and marveled at the

extraordinary quality of his paintings, which seem to mirror the skills of early European still life masters.

On May 9, Fernando returned to Tallahassee to deliver eight new paintings commissioned by some of his Tallahassee Art Patrons. Betty Settig and Martha Ann McCaskill, arranged a lovely reception at The Parry Center, at Westminster Oaks to welcome Fernando back to see old friends and meet new ones.

The Westminster showing of his latest works was attended by 40

guests, who enjoyed the wonderful hospitality, the truly good food, and especially, the opportunity to talk with this fine artist about his work and technique.

Guests, as they did at the January Show, expressed awe at the quality of Fernando's work and the exquisite rendering of light and shadow in his compositions.

Everyone was delighted that Fernando returned to Tallahassee, and we look forward to seeing him, and more of his beautiful paintings in the future.



On Jan. 31 Tallahassee Community College hosted the very first show in the U.S. of paintings by Cuban artist Fernando Leon Hartman. KEN HARRIS/SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

TCC, University of West Florida forge new partnership

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

TCC, University of West Florida forge new partnership

TALLAHASSEE — Tallahassee Community College and the University of West Florida announced a new partnership recently as the two institutions established the TCC2UWF program.

This program will provide students the opportunity to complete an Associate of Arts degree at TCC and transfer to UWF to complete a bachelor's degree.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh and UWF President Judy Bense introduced the program at a signing ceremony. TCC and UWF will share joint coordination of the program, which includes outreach to high school students and other members of the community in an effort to encourage them to pursue an associate's degree through TCC while providing tailored, intensive advising that will place students on a path toward a bachelor's degree from UWF.

"We are delighted to sign this partnership today with Tallahassee Community College," said Bense. "It provides an excellent opportunity for students in this region to complete their bachelor's degree at a mid-size regional comprehensive university in Northwest Florida. At UWF, we can focus on providing both a high-touch and quality education with personalized attention, small class sizes and a unique student experience."

The TCC2UWF program is part of TCC's Golden Guarantee Program, which includes various university partners.

"We are excited to be able to offer students another opportunity to create a relationship with a great four-year institution that will help them plan for and attain success," said Murdaugh.

Students enrolled at TCC will be offered admission to UWF early in their academic career in order to receive personalized and attentive transition services for a seamless transfer.

For information, visit TCC2.UWF.edu.

TCC talent search hosting summer activities

HAVANA HERALD

TCC talent search hosting summer activities

TCC's Educational Talent Search Program will offer educational and cultural enrichment activities for Gadsden County middle and high school students this summer. These activities are designed to help prepare students for college academically, culturally and socially by providing them with exposure to college campuses, information on possible career paths and exciting cultural experiences. The following programs will be offered:

College and Career Computer Camp: June 9-12 or June 16-19 (choose one session), Florida Public Safety Institute Com-

puter Lab (Pat Thomas): Students in grades 6-12 will build their computer skills through college and career readiness activities.

Cultural Field Trips: June 23, 24 and 25, Historical sites and museums in North Florida: Students in grades 6-8 will enjoy a day of history, culture and learning.

FAEOPP Olympics (Florida Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel): July 18-19, Florida A & M University, Students in grade 8 will participate in athletic, academic and arts competitions and make friends with students from other

TRiO programs across the state.

College Tour: July 23-24, University of Florida and University of North Florida. This two-day tour will provide students in grades 9-12 with information on how to prepare for and enroll in college.

Talent Search is one of seven national TRiO programs that serve middle, high school and college students across the country. The goal of Talent Search is to help prepare students for success in college. TCC's Talent Search Program serves more than 500 middle and high school students in Gadsden

County.

"Each year, we are amazed to see the growth that our students experience through participation in the program. We are committed to the success of each student and are excited to be able to offer another year of engaging and relevant activities," said Lori Livingston, director of the TCC Talent Search Program.

To enroll in the program or to register for an activity, call (850) 558-3643. Each activity has limited space, and participants are selected on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Business news sound bytes: June/July

LINDA KLEINDIENST
850 MAGAZINE

Local Honors

> 850 — The Business Magazine of Northwest Florida and Tallahassee Magazine have been announced as finalists in the 2014 Sunshine State Awards competition hosted by the Society of Professional Journalists Florida Pro chapter. Winners will be announced this summer.

> Sperry Van Ness Florida has named Carlton Dean, CCIM, SIOR, managing director in Tallahassee, as a Top 5 producer for 2013. Dean earned the No. 2 spot based on his overall transaction performance.

> Kim Williams will be recognized with the Lifetime Leadership Award by Leadership Tallahassee for his contributions to the community on Sept. 18 at the 20th Annual Distinguished Leadership Awards. Williams is president of Marpan.

> Allison Harrell of Thomas Howell Ferguson P.A. recently won the Tallahassee Network of Young Professionals Gold A.C.E. Award in the finance category.

> Mainline Information Systems™ of Tallahassee is the first IBM business partner in the U.S. to receive the IBM Gold Accreditation for IBM Cognos Business Intelligence.

> Allstate agency owner Tom Paterson has received the Agency Hands in the Community Award for his commitment to helping others in the Tallahassee community. With this award came a \$1,000 grant from The Allstate Foundation to the Capital Region YMCA where Paterson volunteers.

> Vicki Long, who has served as executive vice president of the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida) since 2004, was honored with the AIA National Service Award.

> **Two TCC students enrolled in the graphic design technology Associate in Science program received high honors from the Tallahassee chapter of the American Advertising Federation. Cheyenne Youngblood and Michael Frazier won silver ADDY awards.**

> **TCC was also recognized at the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations conference, taking home four 2013 Paragon Awards, more than any other college in Florida.**

> Local signs and graphics provider FASTSIGNS of Tallahassee was named one of the top 25 centers out of more than 500 locations at the 2014 FASTSIGNS Convention. The CEO Circle Award is given to the centers with the highest sales volume from the previous year.

Appointed by Gov. Scott

> **Jonathan Kilpatrick, Randolph Pople and Kevin Vaughn to the Tallahassee Community College District Board of Trustees. Kilpatrick, 45, of Crawfordville, is a technology manager for the City of Tallahassee. Pople, 64, of Quincy, is the chief operating officer of Pople Financial Consulting. Vaughn, 52, of Tallahassee, is the president of Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Insurance Inc.**

> Michelle Rambo-Roddenberry, 42, of Tallahassee, an associate professor with the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, to the Board of Professional Engineers.

> Brian Yablonski, 46, of Tallahassee, external affairs director for Gulf Power Company, to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

(Note: This article intentionally truncated for clippings to reflect relevant sections and consolidate space.)

Rave Mobile Safety Continues Rapid Expansion as Higher Ed Safety Leader with Guardian Mobile App Adding to Momentum

Nebraska, Oklahoma State University, Arkansas University and Dozens of Other New Partner Institutions Highlight Strong Trend of Migrations to Rave

GLOBEADVISOR.COM

Rave Mobile Safety (Rave), the trusted software partner for campus and public safety, today announced that more than 50 additional higher education institutions have chosen Rave as their safety partner in recent months. This continues the growing trend of institutions moving to Rave's technology to upgrade their safety infrastructure. Rave's solutions are used at more than 1,000 campuses and in nearly every U.S. state, with continued growth building upon a market leadership position punctuated by a 99 percent customer retention rate.

Rave Alert provides best-in-class, highly available emergency notification solutions for institutes of higher education nationwide. Offering multi-modal broadcast messaging through email, SMS, voice, RSS, social networks and other mechanisms, Rave Alert is the most reliable method to react and respond to both emergency and day-to-day communications in a systematic, cost-effective manner.

"While investigating different solutions, Rave immediately impressed us," said Bret Ingerman, vice president for information technology at Tallahassee Community College. "Rave Alerts' ease-of-use, robust multi-channel capabilities and ability to seamlessly integrate with our current and future systems, using powerful tools like CAP, made it stand out from the rest."

Rave Guardian, the nation's first and most widely deployed campus safety app, has also seen strong growth with dozens of institutions choosing the industry leader's patented solution in the past few months. The Rave Guardian App creates a virtual safety network of "personal guardians," such as friends, family and campus safety, resulting in improved student security. Leveraging Rave's public safety-grade Software-as-a-Service platform, its features include:

- **Guardian Timer:** Once set, selected Guardians are notified and automatically provided with the user's location and profile in order to proactively identify and check-in on the individual. If the user does not deactivate their timer, an escalation process ensures the proper responders are notified.

- **Panic Button:** Provides immediate connection to campus safety with GPS location and personal profile information.

- **Anonymous Crime Reports:** Enables 2-way communication and crime tip reporting via text and picture messaging.

"Empowering our students with the best in safety tools is of paramount importance," said Scott Law, director, Campus Public Safety of Drake University. "After looking at the available solutions, we chose Rave Guardian as the app to put in our students hands because of not only the robust features but also Rave's solid performance and industry leading reputation. Going with anything less than the best for a safety application just didn't make sense."

Rave's market leading campus safety solutions will be demonstrated at the IACLEA Conference, taking place June 20 - 24 in Montreal. Attendees are invited to visit Rave at booth #61 in the IACLEA Exhibit Hall, located in the Hilton Montreal Bonaventure.

"Since the company's founding, our goal has always been to deliver powerful, scalable and easy-to-use solutions that allow institutions to be safer through better and more effective communication," said Tom Axbey, CEO of Rave Mobile Safety. "Our track record of growth and customer retention speaks to our success in delivering valued solutions to our client partners."

About Rave Mobile Safety ?Rave Mobile Safety is the most trusted software partner for campus and public safety. Used by leading institutes of higher education and state and local agencies, the award-winning portfolio of Rave Panic Button, Rave Alert, Rave Guardian, Eyewitness, Smart911 and SmartPrepare enables millions to feel safe, secure and connected. Rave Mobile Safety is headquartered in Framingham, MA. For more information, please visit <http://www.ravemobilesafety.com>.

B6 THE GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES • THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2014



The TCC2FSU program offers **guaranteed admission into Florida State University** if you stay on track and meet all transfer requirements as you complete your Associate in Arts degree at Tallahassee Community College. You will have a special orientation and advising opportunities with both TCC and FSU advisors to keep you on track to meet program requirements.

The TCC2FSU program allows you to stretch your college funds further. Tuition at TCC is about half the cost of tuition at a state university and many scholarships are available.

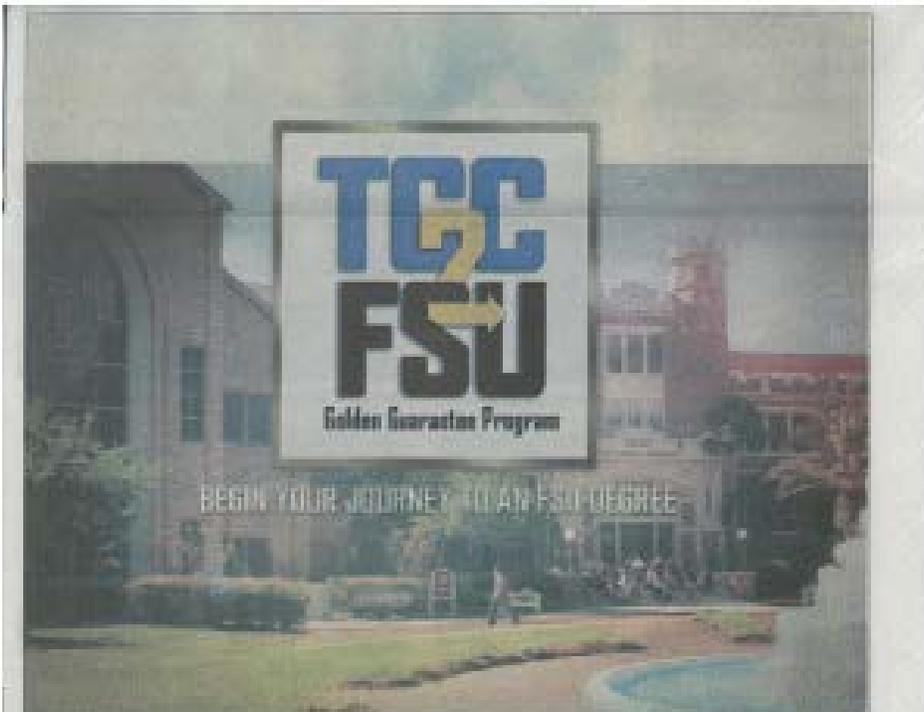
Find out more and sign up today
www.tcc.fl.edu/TCC2FSU

Happy Memorial Day



*Serving those
who served for us*

TCC IS A MILITARY FRIENDLY SCHOOL



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Find out more and sign up today

www.tcc.fl.edu/TCC2FSU