

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



January 9 - February 12, 2016

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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- January 14 - WCTV - TCC honors 50 prominent alumni for 50th anniversary celebration
- January 19 - WTXL - WEI oyster aquaculture program waiting list growing rapidly
- January 21 - WTXL - Ghazvini radiologic tech alum Nakesha Houston interviewed
- January 22 - WTLH - Veteran, former inmate Harry Fordham unveils art exhibit in TCC Library
- January 22 - WCTV - TCC set to unveil African-American History calendar
- January 25 - WTXL - Free business incubator program for start-ups through TCC
- January 26 - WTLH - 2016 calendar ceremony features inspiring performances, speeches
- January 28 - WTXL - TCC hosts climate change lecture after Paris accord
- February 3 - WCTV - CareerSource holds job fair at TCC
- February 9 - CSPAN2 - Senator Bill Nelson lauds TCC in speech before Congress
- February 9 - WTXL - TCC prepares to host 20th annual Model United Nations conference
- February 11 - WCTV - Police investigate alleged sexual assault at Ghazvini Center
- February 11 - WCTV - Building Legacies Women's Leadership Summit upcoming
- February 11 - WTXL - Sexual assault suspect arrested, charged
- February 12 - WTLH - Wakulla Environmental Institute moving into new building

TCC's spring workforce classes announced

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Division of Workforce Development at Tallahassee Community College is kicking off the year with training opportunities geared toward professional and career development.

The spring 2016 schedule includes short courses on topics such as resume development, business writing, customer service and sales, retail operations, project management and Microsoft Office Specialist Certification exam preparation.

For a complete list of courses and for registration information, contact Lisa Powell at (850) 201-9436 or powelll@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC Simulation Center accredited through 2020

CAPITAL SOUP

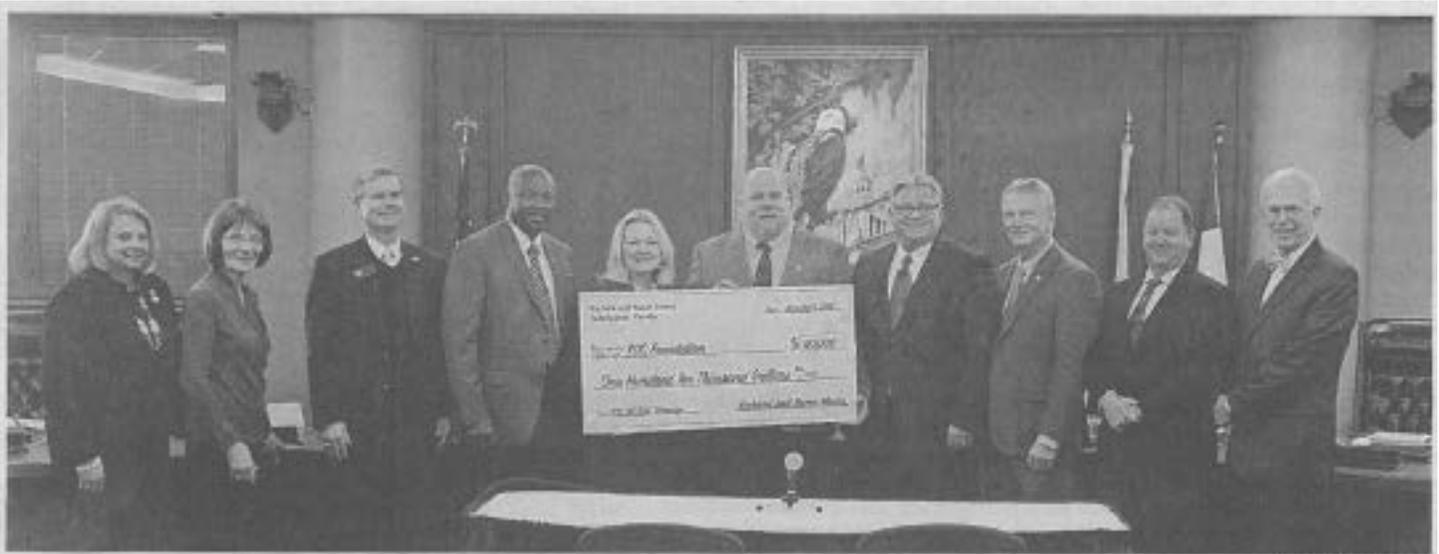
The Society for Simulation in Healthcare has conferred accreditation through 2020 for the Tallahassee Community College Simulation Center at the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education.

The SSH Board of Review accredited the TCC center in the area of teaching and education after reviewing the program. Board members visited the Ghazvini Center on October 8, 2015, to tour the facilities, but full accreditation was not awarded until December.

"To be the second community college in the nation and the second accredited simulation center in the state of Florida is a huge accomplishment," said Alice Nied, dean of healthcare professions and Ghazvini Center executive director. "We are so proud of program director Carla Dormeus and the rest of the staff."

TCC's program will be recognized Wednesday, January 19, at the SSH's Accreditation and Certification Reception in San Diego.

For information, contact Carla Dormeus at (850) 558-4534 or dormeusc@tcc.fl.edu.



JUSTIN ADAMS/TCC

Karen and Richard Moore, center, are honored by TCC District Board of Trustees. The Moores contributed another \$110,000 toward scholarships and TCC's Veterans Success Center.

TCC trustees honor Tallahassee couple for \$110,000 donation

BYRON DOBSON
DEMOCRAT SENIOR WRITER

Having a seat on the District Board of Trustees at Tallahassee Community College holds more meaning for businesswoman Karen Moore than most people know.

In many ways, she is representing the legacy of her grandmother, the late Pearl Lamb Batchelor, who had to leave school in the fifth grade and work in the tobacco fields of North Carolina to support the family. Moore's grandfather, Leonard Batchelor, never learned to read and also left school in the third grade to work.

Moore is CEO of Moore Communications Group, a business she founded in 1992. It is lauded as one of the top-ranked and fastest growing firms in the country.

Since 2007, Moore has been a member of the TCC trustees board, first appointed by Gov. Charlie Crist in 2007 and reappointed by Gov. Rick Scott in 2012. During that time, Moore not only has contributed to the vision of TCC, she and her husband, Richard, COO and legal counsel for Moore Communications, have been generous in giving back to the

college.

Over the past 10 years, the couple has donated more than \$350,000 to various TCC campaigns, largely providing for scholarships and other needs.

"Richard and Karen Moore are the rare donor every organization hopes to have," Heather Mitchell, vice president for resource development and executive director of the TCC Foundation, told trustees Monday.

She praised the couple for giving of their time, talent and treasure.

The Moores were honored during Monday's meeting for their latest contribution of \$110,000. Karen Moore said \$100,000 will be directed to TCC's Veterans Success Center and \$10,000 will be used to endow a scholarship named in honor of her grandmother. The endowment is made as part of TCC's 50th anniversary.

Trustees, in turn, voted unanimously to name the center the Richard W. and Karen B. Moore Veterans Success Center in their honor.

Her grandmother accomplished her dream of earning her GED at the age of 72.

"It's the first scholarship to be given to a recent GED grad who wants to go on to another degree," Karen Moore said. "The scholarship is for whatever they want to do to continue their education."

Over the years, the Moores have contributed through TCC Foundation as Pathways Scholarship donors, Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, and created the Richard & Karen Moore Endowed Scholarship - to benefit a student entering business or education.

Moore, who earned a degree in history from the University of Central Florida, said her father, Douglas Batchelor, was the first in the family to finish high school and earn a college degree.

Her family's background is one reason she feels compelled to do what she can to assist others in getting an education, she said, remembering her grandmother.

"Two generations later, I'm sitting as a trustee on a college board," she said, her voice swelling with pride.

Contact Democrat senior writer Byron Dobson at bdobson@tallahassee.com or on Twitter @byrondobson.

TCC men on roll as team gets healthier

Now 3-0 in league play, Eagles have battle against defending champs looming

JORDAN CULVER

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

While the Tallahassee Community College's men's basketball team struggled during a rough five-game stretch, head coach Mark White said once the Eagles got healthy, they'd be a force to be reckoned with.

The "getting healthy" part was tricky. The Eagles went without several key pieces, including Lincoln High grad Jahvaughn Powell, and dropped five games in a row between Nov. 27 and Dec. 12.

That losing streak is a pretty distant memory now. The Eagles (14-7) have won seven in a row since the slide and have a week to prepare a road date with Northwest Florida State College (16-2) in Niceville. The Raiders are the No. 9 team in the NJCAA as well as the defending national champions.

"I think the greatest strength of our team right now is the togetherness and the team chemistry," said White, who is in his first year as TCC's head coach.

"They're all very unselfish. They're such a close-knit group on and off the court. They enjoy playing with each other. The No. 1 objective is nothing but winning. They're a lot of fun to coach and a lot of fun to be around."

Health has played a huge role in TCC's turnaround, White said. Powell is back from a wrist injury and has scored in double digits four times in the five games since his return. He's averaging 11.5 points per game, fourth on the Eagles.

"I told everybody what a difference Powell would make and it's showing," White said. "He's a great leader and the guys really like him lot. I'm playing him 37, 38 minutes per game.

"We're getting healthier so our chemistry is really good. Kids we've got have bought into the system. They're working hard. They're basically just battling and fighting throughout the game."

Still, the Eagles are battling injuries to key players. Freshman guard Ryan Johnson, the Team's No. 2 scorer with 14.1 points per game, has been out with a stress fracture since playing nine minutes against Gordon State College. White said he's hoping to have Johnson back in practice this week.

"We're giving him off again (Monday)," White said.

"We don't play again until Saturday. We've still got some kids that have some injuries they've been fighting through. We'll give them off another day this week. We hope to get Ryan back in practice this week. We can definitely get a lot better with him back. That'll give us 10 guys."

Despite the injuries and the losing streak, the Eagles are getting hot at the right time. TCC is 3-0 in conference play for the first time since 2007. A win against Northwest Florida State College would give TCC a perfect 4-0 record in its first round of conference games.

"I always say all the credit goes to the players," White said.

"I'm a very tough, hard-nosed, discipline-type coach. Sometimes that's not easy on the players. When you get to this point in January, all of the kids that are with the program have bought in. I can't say enough about these kids and everything they've done since I've been here."

County honors TCC for 50 years

BYRON SPIRES
HAVANA HERALD

The Gadsden County Commission recognized Tallahassee Community College's 50th Anniversary last week with a proclamation.

This year, 2016, marks Tallahassee Community College's 50th year of service to the community.

In the Fall of 1966 the college began as Tallahassee Junior College, changing to the current name four years later.

TCC has since grown into an institution service over 37,000 credit and non-credit students annually across seven campuses in three counties.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh, who was present to receive the proclamation, praised the two Gadsden County TCC trustees, Randy Pople and Eugene Lamb, for making sure that Gadsden County is constantly on the agenda.

"TCC has seen some of the most hard working, most dedicated people come through its doors over the last 50 years, students and employees alike. Each of them have shaped the college in their own way," Murdaugh said.

He added that the new TCC facility being built on Pat Thomas Parkway in Quincy represents permanent roots in Gadsden County and the school's commitment to the community.

The proclamation stated in part:

Tallahassee Community College has grown from 698 in the Fall of 1966 to nearly 14,000 credit-seeking students today.

Tallahassee Community College is the top transfer school to Florida A&M University and Florida State University.

A 2013 economic impact study determined that Tallahassee Community College, its students and former students contribute more than \$387 million in income to the regional economy each year.

TCC celebrating 50th anniversary this year

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – 2016 marks Tallahassee Community College's 50th year of service to the community.

TCC first offered classes in Fall 1966 as Tallahassee Junior College, changing to the current name four years later. The College has since grown into a thriving institution serving over 37,000 credit and non-credit students annually across seven campuses in three counties.

"We are excited to celebrate our golden anniversary in 2016," said TCC President Jim Murdaugh. "TCC has seen some of the most hard-working, most dedicated

people come through its doors over the last 50 years, students and employees alike. Each of them have shaped the College in their own way."

The year will kick off with a series of public proclamations in January, beginning Monday, January 4 in Wakulla County and the next day in Gadsden County. TCC president Jim Murdaugh will speak on behalf of the College at the ceremonies.

Additionally, the College will host a preview party for its "50 for 50" alumni profile series Thursday, January 14, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the

Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education. The series will showcase the breadth and depth of students who have attended TCC over its first 50 years with success stories that will be featured in local media outlets throughout the year.

In February, TCC will significantly expand its existing services in Gadsden and Wakulla Counties with the grand openings of the Gadsden Center and Wakulla Environmental Institute.

"We are doing much more than building buildings," said Murdaugh. "We are building relationships by making long-term commitments to the

communities we serve with these facilities."

The public is welcome to attend both openings.

Further highlights of TCC's 50th anniversary year include a TCC Athletics Hall of Fame event in March, the Springtime Tallahassee festival in April (for which Murdaugh will serve as Grand Marshal), and the first annual TCC Foundation Turkey Shoot at the Florida Public Safety Institute in November.

For information and a full schedule of events, visit www.50.tcc.fl.edu or contact Alice Maxwell at (850) 201-6049 or maxwella@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC celebrates anniversary with 50 success stories

Alumni praise school for flexible schedules, personal attention

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

For Godby High School graduate Al Dennis, the choice to continue his education at Tallahassee Community College made sense. Friends, including Lorenzo Alexander, were attending. It was convenient, offered courses in law enforcement, and most of all, it was easier on his finances.

"It was certainly a good call," said Dennis, who later earned a degree from Florida State University and started a 31-year-career at the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, where he spent the last 10 years as inspector general. He retired in 2014.

"We decided to join together over there," Dennis said of the Godby graduates making the same transition. "It was the quality of education they provided to us, and it was affordable."

Dennis is among the 50 graduates being recognized this year as TCC celebrates its 50th anniversary. Many of the honorees attended a crowded reception Thursday night at the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education. The college has activities planned throughout the year. (Visit www.50.tcc.fl.edu)

The sprawling health care complex located near Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare itself is significant as it represents one of seven TCC campus locations for the institution that first offered classes in the fall of 1966 as Tallahassee Junior College.

"It is a remarkable year we are kicking off now," TCC President Jim Murdaugh said. "We have had 50 amazing years."

The graduates represent a cross section of Tallahassee, from prominent business owners to health care professionals to career public service employees and entrepreneurs.

Most of them talked about the benefits of attending TCC, including the smaller classrooms, the personal contact with professors and course offerings that helped them "find" their career choices.

Shannon Moore attended TCC for about a year after graduating in 1989 from Leon High School. She left a year later after she decided, "I needed to figure it out." She got married and returned at age 27, and as the mother

of a 1-year-old, to finish her degree, and continue her education at FSU.

Today, she is a registered dietitian and owner of F.U.E.L., a nutrition consulting firm. She and her sister also own Paisley Café; while she and her husband, Bruce, own Finnegan's Wake, a bar in Midtown. The couple plans to open a restaurant soon in the area.

"It was a good transition for me to go the school and not get lost," she said of TCC. "I loved it."

Bert Hartsfield, who is retiring this year after spending 24 years as Leon County Property Appraiser, was working the crowd of familiar faces as if he were still campaigning.

Unlike his brothers, one who became an attorney and another who is a physician/health care administrator, Hartsfield said he wasn't as excited about school. He had a job, working noon to 5 p.m. and needed to find a class schedule that worked for him.

He found it at TCC, where he earned an AA degree and later graduated from FSU with a degree in real estate.

"The key to me staying in school was someone telling me to go to the president's office," Hartsfield said of his attempts to find courses that met his schedule. Sure enough, then President Fred Turner found a class schedule that worked.

"He made it possible so I could take classes and continue my employment," Hartsfield said.

TCC celebrates legacy while building a future

JIM MURDAUGH

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (MY VIEW)

I feel very fortunate to be at the helm of Tallahassee Community College as we celebrate our golden anniversary. This institution has seen some of the hardest working, most dedicated people come through its doors over the last 50 years.

Speaking on behalf of TCC's District Board of Trustees, administration, faculty and staff, it has been an absolute pleasure to serve generations of Leon, Gadsden and Wakulla students over the past five decades. We are proud to have touched the lives of so many families in our community. We have provided our students with a quality education and encouragement to grow, and in return those students have graduated to provide our community with a strong economy, leadership and achievement.

To all who have given us the opportunity to educate you and partner with you, thank you for being a part of TCC's history and allowing TCC to be a part of your success.

Looking ahead, I know that while many things will change, Tallahassee Community College's core values will not. We are dedicated to providing a learning environment that prepares students for success in a global economy. We will be responsive to the needs of our community and make adjustments to our offerings in response to changes in the marketplace. We will offer programs that lead to careers. To this end, we have made major commitments to our service district through our county-specific workforce institutes.

Access is the hallmark of a community college. At TCC, we don't have GPA minimums or extracurricular requirements – we have an open door. We keep college affordable by maintaining one of the lowest tuition rates in the state. Every semester we welcome a vibrant and diverse group of students. Each one is an individual, and we are here to bring out the best in them, to help them succeed from their first class to graduation and beyond.

Over the past 50 years, this college has represented the community with distinction both locally and nationally. We are proud of what's been built here. We will continue to be demand-driven and student-centered, we will continue to maintain a high level of quality both in the way we provide education and the way we run our enterprise.

In honor of this momentous year, I want to thank all of our community members, past and present, for making TCC such a special place. We would not be where we are today if it weren't for the efforts of so many who care about the success of our institution.

Please join us as we celebrate in 2016. We will present a photographic tribute to the college's legacy as well as a first look at TCC's 50th anniversary short film on Thursday, Jan. 28, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center. This is just one of many events you can find out more information about on our anniversary site at 50.tcc.fl.edu.

Here's to the next 50.





Together, TCC presidents, left to right, Bill Law, James Hinson, T.K. Wethorne, and Jim Murdaugh have seen to it that Tallahassee's community college is not merely a feeder school but a game changer in the lives of its students and the counties it serves.



its professional education programs, a burgeoning commitment to local workforce development, and a plethora of awards and accolades for the college, its students and faculty.

"Coming up on the 50th (anniversary) you reflect, like with a birthday. You take measure of where you are in a way that you do differently than if this was just another year," said TCC's president, Dr. Jim Murdaugh. "It's a remarkable story. Everywhere I go in this community, the reputation of the college is strong. People say such amazing and kind things. It's an exciting time. Is the college where I want it to be? Yes. Would I change things? Of course. Anybody who's satisfied needs to move out of this office. Your job is to push and to continue to look for

ways to improve what we do for students and how we meet the needs of our community. I'm happy where we are (and) excited with the plans that we have to do those things."

A LOOK BACK

Who better to share a glance in TCC's rearview than Dr. Monte S. Finkelstein, who has spent almost 35 years there as a history professor and dean of the Division of History and Social Sciences.

He started teaching as an adjunct professor in 1982 and became a full-time professor in 1984, but his first recollections of TCC date to 1968, when he arrived as an undergraduate at Florida State University and the college was rising from the remnants of Tallahassee's first airport, Dale Mabry Field. "In 1968, this was the outskirts of town. This was the frontier," he recalled. "They must have had a bus service, but I don't know how people got here. I'm sure there were buildings, but you didn't come out here."

Finkelstein would ultimately earn his doctorate degree from FSU and, after spending a year in Rome as a Fulbright Scholar, he returned to Tallahassee, with thoughts of writing a book and moving on to a career as a research historian. "Didn't work. I was teaching here as an adjunct so when they offered me the job I jumped at it,"

he said. "To be honest, when I came here, I didn't expect to stay ... but I did. I loved the teaching and I loved the students and I had a great time. I didn't want to leave."

At the time, the campus was still relatively small.

"We had about 6,500 students, there were maybe two or three buildings. 'This half of the campus,' he said from his office in the History and Social Sciences building, "didn't exist." He shared a tiny office — and a phone — with three others, another history teacher and two math teachers. "It was actually a good setup because you got a lot of interaction with your colleagues. Nowadays you're over here, math/science is all the way over there. It's a real schlep to go from one end of the campus to another."

There was little diversity when Finkelstein arrived.

"It was white kids," he said. "Now we're nearly half minority students (and) we have international students" representing 79 different countries.

During his tenure, Finkelstein worked under four of TCC's six presidents and each one, he said, left his mark on the campus.

"Every time we had a new president, there was a sea change," the historian remarked. "I think every president (brought) his own little stamp. They all respected academics,

TCC
50
Years



COUNTER-CLOCKWISE FROM TOP

1966 Tallahassee Junior College opens to serve students from Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties. Classes are held at the new Godby High School. Dr. Fred W. Turner is the college's first president.

1967 Three buildings open on the College's permanent site on Appleyard Drive.

1969 TJC receives accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

that's the one thing I can tell you. Dr. Hinson and Dr. Wetherell, they were into putting up buildings, building up the campus, getting us a more diverse and larger student body. Dr. Wetherell started focusing on workforce and the associate in science degree. Bill Law came in and established the Learning Commons. He was into diversity and changes."

Technology and the new breed of millennial student have also transformed the college, Finkelstein said.

"When I taught, we had a chalkboard (and) an overhead projector. Now we've got smart boards; we have smart podiums.

"Nowadays we have collaborative group activities, interaction," he said. "It used to be 'the sage on the stage.' You can (still) impart your knowledge, but you have to do it in such a way that you keep your kids' attention and that's, I think, the biggest change in the classroom.

"I'm such a dinosaur," he said from his office, which actually is staffed with dinosaur figures and a huge collection of Star Wars memorabilia. "You want to know what has changed between '84 and now? In '84, things changed so slowly. If we needed to do something on campus, we were all relaxed. Now," he said, snapping his fingers, "that fast, things change on the campus. We pick up a new initiative now, we run with it. We work at the speed of light around here sometimes."

ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

A point of pride for Murdaugh is TCC's accessibility and commitment to put a college education within the financial reach of all.

One of the newest members of TCC's leadership team need look no further than her own experiences — personal and professional — to understand how personal attention and

PHOTO COURTESY TALLAHASSEE JUNIOR COLLEGE ARCHIVE COLLECTION

TIMELINE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE

“I believe college isn’t for everyone, but education is. People come here who’ve been told that the only way to a better life is through a degree and, quite frankly, I don’t believe that. I don’t think that serves our students well, and I don’t think it serves our employers well.”

**TCC President
Jim Murdaugh**

support can launch a person out of poverty. Dr. Feleccia Moore-Davis, who became TCC’s provost and vice president of academic affairs last August, grew up poor in Mobile, Alabama.

“My life would have been completely different if someone had not reached out and touched my life and brought me along,” she recalled. “My father would always tell me that I would go to college but he would never tell me how, so I’m looking at our circumstances and saying, ‘Yeah, right,’ to myself. Two teachers impacted my life greatly and took me literally by the hand — and sometimes they pulled me by the ear — to get me on the straight and narrow and give me a focus. Because

I think when you get that focus, that dream that belongs to your father or your teacher becomes yours, and that’s where your journey actually starts.”

Moore-Davis worked at community colleges in suburban Houston as an instructor, dean and vice president for more than 20 years before coming to TCC.

“You literally see lives being transformed. The person who has that GED probably never saw themselves going to college — and we can make those dreams a reality for them. That’s what makes being in a community college a wonderful thing,” she said. “You know that’s not the only life you’re touching. You’re touching their children and their children’s children because you’re putting them on a course for success.”

This course for success has to be affordable so TCC’s tuition is less than half the cost-per-credit-hour of Tallahassee’s two universities. Even within Florida’s state college system, TCC’s \$98.83-per-credit-hour tuition is one of the lowest and it hasn’t increased in five years. “We’re very proud of our affordability,” Murdaugh said.

That said, it doesn’t necessarily mean the the road to success for all students is paved with academic bachelor’s degrees. With a laser-like focus on workforce education, the president suggests that four years of schooling isn’t the ideal path for many students.

“I believe college isn’t for everyone, but education is,” Murdaugh said. “People come here who’ve been told that the only way to a better life is through a degree and, quite frankly, I don’t believe that. I don’t think that serves our students well, and I don’t think it serves our employers well.”

What Murdaugh considers ideal are “stackable” credentials — everything from “microcredentials” that require only a few hours of study, to



Feleccia Moore-Davis

a work-related certificate, to a two-year degree. “All of this stuff ought to count toward something. It shouldn’t be a certificate to nowhere,” he explained. “You can take that certificate and go to work. Later, if you wanted to come back and work on your degree, you’d get credit for that as part of your degree program.”

NOW IN THE NEWS

Starting in January, for the first time, TCC will offer its own four-year degree program leading to a bachelor of science in Nursing. TCC already offers a two-year associate degree in nursing.

However, a BSN is becoming the preferred credential for nurses at local hospitals and other facilities. “A number of health care providers indicated to us that their demand for baccalaureate-prepared nurses isn’t being met by FSU or FAMU or other providers,” Murdaugh explained. Even though there are BSN programs at the two

Reaching for Excellence

TCC THROUGH THE YEARS

1970

Tallahassee Junior College is renamed Tallahassee Community College



1979

Dr. Marm M. Harris is appointed TCC’s second president by the District Board of Trustees





**TCC
50
Years**

TCC's Computer Technology building, whose advent the school's pioneers never could have foreseen, attests to the need for schools to keep pace with accelerating change if they are to remain viable and relevant.

or they don't want to, then we will step in."

Also in the works is a reimagining of what used to be the Brogan Museum building at downtown's Kleman Plaza. (As part of a three-way agreement with the City of Tallahassee and Leon County Schools, TCC holds a long-term lease on the property.) Part of the first floor is already occupied by the glass-walled studios of WTXL-TV. Below the street level, the college has rooms for conferences, training and events, and business cubicles and offices for lease.

The building's top floor is home to the new Institute for Nonprofit Innovation and Excellence (INIE). TCC took a lead role in creating INIE and funds its executive director position. The center's mission is to provide a training center and resources to local charitable organizations.

"I have a passion for nonprofits," Murdaugh said when the center was launched in June 2014. "They are a vastly underappreciated and underrepresented component of local economic growth, and I believe you cannot have a vibrant economy without them."

universities, "students who come here to FSU and FAMU come from other communities, and many of them go home when they graduate."

Despite the excitement of a newly minted four-year nursing degree, Murdaugh is in no hurry to expand TCC's bachelor's degree offerings. As far as he's concerned, FSU, FAMU and

the college's four university partners get first dibs. "(There are) no additional four-year degree programs that we are actively talking about, and the only way we will consider them is if the provosts from the three institutions meet and talk about a demonstrated need in our community," he said. "(If) the other institutions either cannot meet the need

PHOTOGRAPH BY TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1978 Gov. Bob Martinez proclaims "Tallahassee Community College Day" on July 13.



1983 Dr. James H. Finson is appointed TCC's third president by the District Board of Trustees.



1990 Baseball, softball and men's and women's basketball intracollegiate athletics programs are re-established.



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TCC is tasked with serving Wakulla and Gadsden counties in addition to Leon and has broken ground on two major bricks-and-mortar projects there.

TCC operates the TCC Wakulla Center, offering workforce classes more conveniently located for local residents in Crawfordville. But an even more ambitious project is also underway — the Wakulla Environmental Institute.

While programs have been in operation for the past few years, a WEI facility opens in January. Its focus is offering environmentally focused degrees and certificate programs including programs in environmental science technology, hospitality and tourism, aquaculture management and agribusiness.

One of its high-profile offerings is oyster aquaculture. The first class of nine students is now producing its first harvests of farmed oysters, the second class is underway and the program has a six-year waiting list.

"I've eaten the oysters, and they're remarkable," said Murdaugh. "The oyster aquaculture effort down there is a new industry, and it's going to change the economy of Wakulla County. That's our goal — to make

Wakulla a world-class destination for ecotourism."

The goal in Gadsden County, the president said, "is to create programs that move people out of poverty."

The new Gadsden Center opens in February. It will house programs currently being offered at The Quincy House, including GED preparation, English instruction for speakers of other languages, and a computer lab for the community.

"TCC has had a physical presence in Gadsden County for a decade, but this new facility will be built to fit the types of programs we want to offer, so it will help us better serve the community, especially as far as job training," Eugene Lamb, a TCC board member and Gadsden County resident, said when ground was broken on the project in November 2014.

The first job training to be offered there will relate to HVAC installation and repair, one of the top 10 job needs in the area, said Heather Mitchell, TCC's vice president for resource development.

TCC also operates the Florida Public Safety Institute, also located in Gadsden County. On its nearly

2014 The Golden Guarantee program launches, assuring transfer to Florida State University, Florida A&M University and the University of West Florida for students who complete the program.

1,500-acre campus, you'll find training for law enforcement and probation corrections officers, as well as training for state law enforcement agencies and advanced and other specialized training.

While some might fret about workforce programs taking away from the purpose of a community college, "That's not the case," Murdaugh said. "I don't think you have to diminish one part of the operation to grow another."

"When I describe where we're going (and) broadening, the one thing I want to make sure I emphasize is that we are not deviating from our mission of producing associate in arts degrees that send people on to higher education," he continued. "We will continue to invest heavily in it. We celebrate it. We do it well. This is an expansion and an addition to that effort." ■

1995 Dr. T.K. Wetherell is appointed TCC's fourth president by the District Board of Trustees.



1997 TCC's first internet course, Earth Science — ESC 1140, goes live.



1999 The Florida Legislature authorizes the transfer of the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy to Tallahassee Community College from Leon County Schools.



2002 Dr. William D. Law is appointed TCC's 5th president by the District Board of Trustees.



2003 The Economic and Workforce Development Center is founded.



2010 Dr. Jim Murdaugh becomes president of Tallahassee Community College.





TCC FSU provides guaranteed admission for up to 24 credit hours toward FSU admission.

PHOTO COURTESY TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE



FALL 2011
TCC's Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education opens near Tallahassee's two major hospitals.



50th Anniversary Calendar of Events

To celebrate its golden anniversary, Tallahassee Community College has planned activities and events throughout 2016.

- Jan. 4** Wakulla Proclamation
- Jan. 5** Gadsden Proclamation
- Jan. 13** City of Tallahassee Proclamation
- Jan. 14** 50 for 50 Preview Party, Ghazvini, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- Jan. 26** Leon County Proclamation
- Jan. 28** Archive Gallery Opening, TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center
- Feb. 15** WEI Grand Opening
- Feb. TBD** Gadsden Grand Opening
- Feb. 3** ON Broadway's Next HT Musical, Alumni Reception prior to show, TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center and TCC Turner Auditorium
- Mar. 4** TCC Foundation's Cleaver & Cork Event, Goodwood Museum & Gardens
- Mar. 25** Athletics Hall of Fame Event
- Mar. 30** TCC 50th Anniversary Retired Staff and Faculty Luncheon
- Apr. 2** Springtime Tallahassee Festival, Dr. Murrdaugh to serve as Grand Marshal
- Apr. 6** STU/FAC Day on TCC Campus
- Apr. 23** First Annual Hops & Half Shells 5K Run for WEI
- Apr. 30** Graduation Reception
- May 4** DNE Campaign for Alumni and Friends
- Aug. 12** Student Success Summit
- Sept. 22** Alumni & Friends Reunion
- Oct. TBD** TCC 50th Celebration Downtown GetDown
- Oct. 5** STU/FAC Day and TCC 50th Barbeque Celebration
- Oct. 13** Alumni & Friends Hall of Fame Luncheon
- Nov. 10** TCC Foundation's First Annual Turkey Shoot at Florida Public Safety Institute
- Dec. 1** TCC Foundation's Holiday Hobnob

The Road To Success

FIVE DECADES OF TCC GRADS TALK ABOUT HOW THEY GOT THEIR START AND WHERE THEY ARE NOW

PHOTOS BY LAWRENCE DAVIDSON



BERT HARTSFIELD
LEON COUNTY
PROPERTY APPRISER
Graduated: 1974

When he enrolled at Tallahassee Junior College, as TCC was known in 1971, Bert Hartsfeld wasn't exactly a man with a plan. Unlike others in the waning years of the Vietnam War, his number was far enough down the list that he didn't need a college deferment to avoid the draft.

While his two older brothers and many classmates at Florida High moved on to college, higher education wasn't necessarily the fifth-generation Tallahasseean's chosen path. Knowing that, his father got him a job as a runner at the county Tax Collector's office three days after his high school graduation. Hartsfeld says he quickly realized that more education was a ticket to getting ahead in life and signed up for classes at TJC. At the same time, he got a real estate license and was buying and rehabbing houses — flipping before it had a name.

But college was only going to work for him if he could bend those classes around his working schedule.

"If TCC had made it difficult for me to go, I probably wouldn't have," he said. "But they made the crack open big enough that ... with my interests I could do all three (and) make it balance." He recalls one semester when he had trouble getting the classes he needed and ended up in the office of TCC's first president, Dr. Fred Turner. "I remember it was a small office, he's busy (and) he brings me in. I gave him 'my classes are full' speech. He spun around in his desk and he pulled a card. He was able to get it coordinated so I was able to work," Hartsfeld said. "That wasn't going to happen (anywhere else), even in high school."

Hartsfeld would graduate in 1974, and go on to Florida State University, majoring in real estate. He ultimately worked in the property appraiser's office and was first elected property appraiser in 1992, subsequently serving six more terms. His greatest achievement in office? Computerizing the county's property records in 1995 and putting them on a searchable database — the first property appraiser in the state to do so.

Earlier this year, he announced he wouldn't be running again.

Once he steps down from office in 2017, Hartsfeld said he plans to rev up his real estate investing, help his son expand his roofing business, Hartsfeld Roofing and Construction, and spend time with the seventh generation of Tallahassee Hartsfelds — his three small grandchildren.

TCC
50
Years

Barbara Williams found love and adventure during a four-year hitch in the armed services. She and her husband, Wilbert, would travel around the U.S. and the world, including a year and a half in Sicily.

When their military service was complete in 1967, the couple settled in Tallahassee so that Wilbert could attend pharmacy school at Florida A&M University. Williams was headed for college too — it's why she joined the Navy in the first place — but the "country girl from Arkansas" was hesitant to plunge into university life, so she chose TCC.

"I enjoyed the smaller classes and getting the personal attention from the teachers. After two years at TCC I did feel like I was ready for FAMU," she said. "One thing I remember about TCC was it did help me get a job while I was still a student."

Impressed that Williams wore skirts and blouses while other students came to class in jeans and T-shirts, the teacher recommended her for a job as an office assistant to an FSU professor. "She had a research grant and I was doing some of the research, typing and proofreading. All the things I was being trained to do at TCC," Williams recalls.

Majoring in business teacher education, she would graduate from FAMU, teach for a couple years, then return to her alma mater to earn a master's degree in guidance and counseling. She worked for FAMU as a guidance counselor.

And then she launched a second career as an author of novels and nonfiction, and a publishing consultant.

Her writing career began after her now 15-year-old daughter was born and she became a stay-at-home mom. "While I was home, I just fell in love with reading again," she said, picking up books between naps and diaper changes. Williams said at the time she was a "closet writer, somebody who wanted to write but I didn't feel it was something I could do."

"But I was at the point in my life when I said 'Why not? I'm home every day, I've got some time, I'm going to try this writing thing and see what happens.'"

Her first book was "Forgive Us this Day," a romance novel featuring an African American married couple "going through some trials and tribulations" that was out of the ordinary when she self-published it in 2004.

"I was married and had a daughter," she said. "Most of the novels at that time were about single women being dogged out by men. And that wasn't my life."

She has written a total of 22 books now, most romances but also anthologies and guides to writing and publishing. She created Amani Publishing (named after her daughter) and has published her own books as well as those of 20 other authors. She was also a co-founder of the Tallahassee Author's Network.

The group includes "authors, published authors ... people who are just readers (who) come to mingle with authors and see how the process works. That's how it starts out," she said with a smile. "You're a reader and you think 'maybe I can write a book.'"



BARBARA JOE WILLIAMS
ROMANCE NOVELIST
AND FORMER GUIDANCE
COUNSELOR AT FAMU
Graduated: 1985

The Road To Success

When you're from a tiny city in a tiny Florida county, and the first member in your family's history to go to college, a big university might just lie pretty far out of your comfort zone.

"I'm from Greenville... so the whole idea of going to a university, you know, going to Tallahassee, it may as well have been California for me," remembers Kim Moore, a graduate of and now vice president for workforce development at TCC.

She went straight to TCC after high school and called it a "great experience" because of the smaller classes and the personal attention. When she had a problem with financial aid one semester, Moore was able to quickly meet with an advisor who asked about her aspirations — and remembered her. "Whenever she'd see me, she'd say 'How's it going?' I knew that she knew me. I wasn't just a number." The confidence gained during her years at TCC — she was working full time at McDonald's at the same time — helped her make a smooth transition to Florida State University, where she earned a bach-

elor's degree in criminology. She would later get her MBA from Webster University.

Ever since she was in ninth grade, Moore knew she wanted to be a CEO — of something. "I wrote out this little game plan," she said. Although everything she knew about business was what she saw on television, she did know education was a vital step toward her dream. And that dream was realized when, at 31, she became the head of the career service and workplace nonprofit Workforce Plus (now known as Career Source Capital Region). "I was the youngest one who ever held that position statewide," she said.

In 2013, Moore moved to TCC to continue her career in workforce development. Unlike her previous job, which focused on job placement, she said her new role involves education and training. "I'm directly aligned with business," she said. "We are not job placement, though we play an important role in getting people into jobs."

Locally, the 44-year-old has a high profile, with appointments to the boards of several regional entities. They include the board of trustees at FAMU, boards at Innovation Park, Big Bend Hospice, the Economic Development Council of Tallahassee/Leon County, the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, Awesome Tallahassee, the Klerman Plaza Design Review Board, and the Downtown Redevelopment Commission.

She served a term as president of the Wakulla County Chamber of Commerce and remains a member. "It was the first time they had gone out of the community and elected someone who didn't live there in the community and it's also the first time for someone of color," Moore said. She also serves on the Gadsden County Development Council and the advisory councils of Live! Technical Center and Kiser College.

Moore has a son who followed in his mother's academic footsteps — starting out his college career at TCC, then transferring to FSU to earn a bachelor's degree in information technology. But this workforce-savvy mom encouraged her boy to add "a little bit more school" before taking his first job. He's getting additional certifications at TCC to make him more "value added and valued in terms of compensation," she said.

Learning and growing, Moore believes, is something that should last a lifetime. "Life for me is commas, there are no periods, it's what's next."



KIM MOORE
VICE PRESIDENT
FOR WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT AT TCC
Graduated: 1993

TCC
50
Years

For Shannon Moore, her second shot at TCC was the charm. She started at TCC after graduating from Lincoln High School in 1989. "I had no idea what I was going to do and I enjoyed it," until 1991, when she decided to move to South Florida, married and had a child, she said.

Divorced, and 26 years old, she moved back to Tallahassee and again enrolled in TCC.

"I had a plan of what I wanted to do. It was a whole lot different the second time around at TCC," Moore said. "I was much more focused, being older and more focused and knowing what I wanted to do really made the grades better ... plus it was coming out of my pocket."

The "plan" was to study dietetics at Florida State University after getting her associate degree. She finished her undergraduate studies at FSU in 2000, had her second child two weeks after graduation, and went on to earn a master's degree and begin a career as a dietician, first at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital and then for a dialysis company that would become Davita.

Her boss "saw something in me" and recruited Moore into management at a company facility in Quincy that was going through major upheaval, as well as doing state and regional budgeting. "Definitely not in my lane ... I was going to learn and had really good people around me to teach me. Looking back, I learned a lot of the things I do now (in that job)," she said.

After having a third child and going through another divorce, Moore decided to slow down and return to practicing nutrition, working for a chain of eight nursing homes across the Florida Panhandle.

"I saw all their high-risk residents but also managed their food costs," she said. "I did a lot of dining planning, meal planning and kitchen planning. People don't understand, dietitians don't just wear a halmet ... there's a lot more to it."

And then, she found love again, meeting and marrying Bruce Moore, a retired hydrogeologist who owned the popular Midtown bars Finnegan's Wake and 5th Avenue Taproom.

When she became pregnant with her fourth child, Bruce Moore convinced her to "stay home and be a mom for awhile."

That didn't last very long.

For starters, her sister, Kirsten Lee, convinced Moore to help her launch The Paisley Café, a popular breakfast and lunch spot in Midtown. And her husband convinced her to create her own nutrition consulting business, F.U.E.L., focusing on educating clients about weight loss and nutrition.

Her business was a success when, in January 2014, Lee came to her sister in tears, telling her "I can't do this without you ... I really need a partner," Moore recalled. "I hated to put my nutrition business on hold, but at the same time — it's food." Now, Lee handles all the food service while Moore does the accounting and business management.

Moore also continues to see a few clients, this time focusing on people with eating disorders, a particular need in Tallahassee with its population of college-age young women.

And because her husband decided to un-retire, she's also managing the accounting and event planning for his entertainment facilities and oversaw a major revamp of the Tap Room that included the addition of a kitchen and food service.

At 44, Moore now has four daughters, one in college, one in high school, one in elementary school and the youngest a 3-year-old. "I've got a lot of girls ... which is great. I love my story and I'm glad I have that for them to look (up) to," she said. "I'm glad I went back to TCC and I'm glad I waited because I feel like it really was the right time to just catapult me into what I was meant to do."



SHANNON LEE MOORE
CO-OWNER OF THE PAISLEY
CAFÉ AND OWNER OF
F.U.E.L. NUTRITION
Graduated: 1997

The Road To Success

James Arinaitwe's story is the stuff of fiction, but all true. He was born in rural Uganda and, by the age of 6, had lost his family — his mother to cancer, his father to AIDS, three sisters and a brother to preventable diseases. He was raised by a loving grandmother who, after he finished elementary school with top grades, couldn't afford to pay for his secondary school education. So she sold a goat, bought him some clothes and sent the then 11-year old alone on a 300-mile journey to ask the president of Uganda for help. The First Lady was sympathetic to his appeal and gave him a scholarship, where he again excelled.

But after graduating, jobs were scarce and not for the unconnected. "It's about who you know rather than what you can deliver," he said. "I got frustrated." He worked for six months loading boxes of juice, but decided to work as an interpreter when an American mission group came to town to install solar panels.

There, he would meet Tallahassee psychotherapist Dr. Chen Rainey, who was so moved by his story, she and her husband, dentist Russell Rainey, agreed to sponsor his higher education in the U.S. While they couldn't legally adopt him, Arinaitwe calls them his parents.

At age 19, his first plane trip traversed more than 8,000 miles through seven airports. And that was just the beginning of the culture shock.



Obviously intelligent, Arinaitwe was thrown into a lifestyle that didn't compare even to Uganda's big cities. "I had never driven at all, never used a washing machine," he explained. To face a university situation would be overwhelming to him, so he chose TCC.

Arinaitwe credits International Services Coordinator Betty Jensen with making a great contribution to his success at TCC. "She took me under her wing and introduced me to my professors and helped me select courses," he said. "She checked in with us at least every week... (to) see how things were going."

When he got straight A's, he was asked to serve as a tutor, earning \$15 an hour. After a few weeks of remedial courses on enunciation — while he spoke English, his accent was hard for others to understand — he earned his first paycheck. "I ran to the Western Union and I sent my money to my grandmother," he recalled. "It wasn't just about the money, it was the self-esteem that it gave me. This is what I want to bring back to my country, the idea that you can earn out of your brains and out of your hard work. Back home, there's something wrong with you, a stigma, if the family is poor, I could do something in America — one of the world's great nations. I could help kids learn. I thought I could do anything."

He would go on to ace TCC ("Not even an A-minus.") and give the commencement speech at his graduation. He was given a full scholarship to FSU, where he got both his bachelor's and master's degrees. Arinaitwe would earn several prestigious fellowships over the next few years, all leading up to his current job — to return to his homeland and establish the Teach for Uganda education foundation.

It is similar in concept to Teach for America — to send recent Ugandan college graduates into poor and rural areas to teach school. It would have a double benefit — to provide education to children and employment for young adults.

"Unlike India, we don't have industries for young people," he explained about the landlocked African nation. "We are the youngest (country) in the world. Eighty percent of our population is below 30 years old." He said Uganda has been "lained" by the brutal regime of Idi Amin and an AIDS epidemic that wiped out one million people. "People are always afraid of Uganda, but it's such a welcoming country. You can ask anybody."

His goal? To tap into Uganda's youthful energy and encourage his countrymen to cast off old ways, corruption and a colonial legacy that encouraged dependency rather than self-sufficiency.

While outside help is appreciated, it can also be counterproductive, he said.

"What does that tell the young kid who is growing up? If I need stability, if I need to be able to take care of myself and my family, I need to go to America or find an American or Briton to have my life made," he said. "Now am I guilty of this? I own it. America has given me everything, but I think it's high time we went back and started creating an opportunity for others who will not have to go on a boat to try and get to America."

JAMES ARINAITWE
FOUNDER OF
TEACH FOR UGANDA
Graduated: 2006

TCC
50
Years

Cover Close-Up

Anaisis Diaz is a Typical TCC Student — Extraordinary

When Anaisis Diaz was growing up in Miami, she had a habit of teasing her big sister Anaxis, six years her senior, about her chosen career path. "Who could be a nurse? That's so gross," Anaxis would say.

As it turns out — big sister knew best.

"I never wanted to become a nurse until I started working at the hospital," recalled Diaz, 27, who's now in her final semester at Tallahassee Community College's registered nursing program. "My sister helped me get a job as a unit secretary, and I got to see what the nurses did and how they interacted with the patients. All of a sudden it became a passion of mine."

Diaz emigrated from Cuba in 1995 with her family. She was 7 years old.

She says they won the lottery coming to America. In reality, that's exactly what happened. Her parents and three siblings were chosen via the Special Cuban Migration Program that began in 1994 under the Clinton administration. After friends and neighbors in Cuba discovered their intentions to relocate, her parents lost their jobs and struggled to survive until their departure date over six months later. Luckily, they had guava and avocado trees growing in the backyard for sustenance.

"We were on the first plane out," she said.

Once in Miami, Diaz — a self-described "country Cuban girl" — had a hard time adjusting. English came easier to her and her siblings than it did her parents, who both took on multiple jobs to help propel the family up the socio-economic ladder, but the language barrier made schooling difficult. Gradually though, things started to catch on.

She earned her licensed practical nursing degree straight out of high school in 2006. Not long after she received her pin, Diaz ran into her friend's big brother at a family wedding. Something about James looked ... different.

"We totally knew a month into dating," said Diaz. She and James will be celebrating their sixth wedding anniversary this year. "It was almost like we were saved for each other. That sounds cheesy."



As a nurse, Diaz knew she could find work anywhere. So when James graduated from Florida State University and quickly landed a job in the Capital City, Tallahassee became the young couple's new home.

"We love it here. We really want to be here. It's so family friendly."

After the birth of their first child, Anabelle, Diaz knew she wanted to continue on with her nursing education. Following the birth of their son, Alec, in 2014, she knew she had to. TCC's RN program was the perfect stepping stone to her goals of becoming a nurse practitioner. "It's hard," she assured. "Especially when you have kids, but this program is so great."

Scheduled to graduate this spring, Diaz only has one real question left: Neonatal or dialysis?

// CHRIS B. BARKLEY

Anaisis Diaz appeared on the January-February 2016 cover of Tallahassee Magazine.

TCC alum Lorenzo Cain is a champion

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

World Series Champion, major league All-Star and Tallahassee Community College alumnus Lorenzo Cain did not have a conventional journey to sports stardom. Cain did not even learn how to play the game until his sophomore year at Madison County High School. And he only tried out for the baseball team when he was not chosen for the school's basketball team.

"I definitely started out a lot later than normal people," Cain said. "To get a chance to get a full scholarship to TCC was definitely a blessing."

Cain said TCC was the only school to give him a shot. "They gave me a great opportunity, getting a chance to play for Coach McLeod."

TCC men's baseball coach Mike McLeod recalled, "Halfway through the spring I realized that we have somebody really special here. And then he got into the minor leagues and struggled a little bit, but he kept figuring stuff out and kept taking that next step forward. Now he is one of the best players in the major leagues and the world seems to love him."

Cain began his pro career playing for Milwaukee's Rookie League Helena Brewers. In 2006, he was moved up to the Class A West Virginia Power, but it wasn't until 2010 that he was called up to big leagues by the Brewers. And then he was traded to the Kansas City Royals.

It would turn out to be a perfect match. In 2014, Cain led the Royals to their first playoff appearance since 1985 and was named MVP of the American League Championship Series. The Royals eventually lost to the Giants in Game 7 of the World Series. The next season, Cain was named a starter for the American League All-Star Team. But the highlight of his career came on Nov. 1, 2015, when Cain and the Royals beat the Mets 7-2 to win the World Series.

"I never thought I'd have a chance to play in the World Series or in an All-Star Game. So I have just tried to pay my dues and continue to come out here and work hard, play hard, and do the best I can, on and off the field," said Cain.

Unique local artist opens exhibit at TCC library

CAPITAL SOUP

Self-taught artist and Tallahassee Community College alumnus Harry M. Fordham III rediscovered his artistic talents during incarceration at the Leon County Jail, turning to paper to create a pencil drawing for nearly every day of his incarceration. A selection of his artwork—offering a glimpse into Fordham's ability to capture images of loved ones, fellow inmates, natural scenery and imagined worlds, will be on display at the TCC library through March 2016.

The public is invited to attend an opening reception for the Fordham exhibit at the TCC library on Thursday, January 21, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. The artist will attend and briefly tell his story.

For information, contact Kelsie Newman at (850) 201-6108 or newmank@tcc.fl.edu.

Forty student-athletes earn fall academic accolades at TCC

WCTV

During the recently completed Fall 2015 semester at Tallahassee Community College, a total of 40 student-athletes earned honors recognition for their work in the classroom.

The following student-athletes were named to the President's List (4.0 GPA): Kyle Cavanaugh, baseball; Elisa Cecchetti, softball; Alex Cook, softball.

The following student-athletes were named to the Dean's List (3.5-3.99 GPA): Casey Durham, softball; Zach Featherstone, baseball; Kristin Gunter, softball; Octavio Marin, baseball; Bret Maxwell, baseball; Alyssa Nesmith, softball; Craig Olson, baseball.

The following student-athletes were named to the Honor's List (3.0-3.49 GPA): Madisen Blair, softball; Deion Bute, men's basketball; Zach Chappell, baseball; Grayson Elmer, student manager; Jackson Garber, baseball; Ross Gardner, baseball; Destiny Glass, student trainer; Austin Grimes, men's basketball; Chase Hahnemann, baseball; Kiara Johnson, softball; Ryan Johnson, men's basketball; Tyler Kinard, baseball; Raya Moncus, softball; Rion Murrah, baseball; Khayreyah Parrish, softball; Deyvid Silva, baseball; Kyle Taddeo, baseball; Caleb Wegner, baseball; Mac Wilson, baseball.

The following student-athletes received Presidential Merit Recognition (students who are in developmental courses and complete a minimum of six hours with a 4.0 GPA): Brooke Bates, softball.

The following student-athletes received Merit Recognition (students who are in developmental courses and complete a minimum of six hours with a 3.0-3.99 GPA): Skylar Arias, baseball; Brooks Buckler, baseball; Manny Chavarria, baseball; Emani Clough, women's basketball; Lwal Dung, men's basketball; Lindsay John, women's basketball; Nicholas Marchese, baseball; Josh Nothdorft, baseball; DamiAnn Prehay, men's basketball; Bryan Scheker, baseball.

TCC Athletics honor students were recognized during Tuesday's basketball doubleheader against Gulf Coast State College.

The art of incarceration

Ex-inmate shares how drawing led to “another place” behind bars

RYAN DAILEY

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Harry M. Fordham III stood before a crowd in TCC’s library Thursday night victorious. A man put through some of life’s most arduous trials brought his art to the world and told his story at his art exhibit’s opening reception.

Many of Fordham’s pieces are pencil sketches, drawn during his time incarcerated. Others are colorful, oil on canvas portraits, still lifes and gorgeous lifelike landscapes.

Fordham, a veteran who received an honorable discharge from the Air Force, found himself in the depths of a severe addiction later in life.

“Here I am, 51 years old, in Tallahassee. Lost, confused. Every day I got up, and every day I got up just to get high,” Fordham recalled, standing at a podium in front of several of his works.

Following a 2007 cocaine possession charge, “God saw fit to put me in jail,” Fordham said.

Stuck behind bars in Leon County Jail, Fordham was unable to be with his siblings or his parents, both sick with cancer.

Despite his failures and mistakes, he had grown up in a very loving household.

When his mother died, Fordham turned to art for peace of mind.

“One day I saw a picture in the newspaper, and I decided to sit down and draw,” Fordham said. “By doing this, it took me to another place. It was very therapeutic, it helped occupy my mind and my time.”

Fordham began drawing every chance he could and gained a reputation as a skilled portrait artist.

However, it wasn’t long after his mother’s passing that his father’s condition worsened.

With his father nearing death, Fordham was moved to draw a picture of a boy and his father fishing, as well as write a letter to give to his father.

He was unable to send them in time. His father died as Fordham was again stuck behind bars.

Fordham shared the story of crying on his cot, when a fellow inmate and friend suggested he read the letter and present the drawing at the funeral home.

Fordham arranged to do so, presenting the photo as his father’s viewing and putting the original copy of his letter, which detailed how Fordham planned to live up to his father’s expectations, in the pocket of the suit he was buried in.

Fordham described art as a way of connecting with others while serving time.

“Art, for me, it introduced me to a lot of people,” Fordham said, adding that he was even “paid” to do portraits of fellow inmates’ loved ones. “Of course when I say money, it could have been a bag of chips or a candy bar,” Fordham said.

He would draw religious scenes for jailhouse preachers. He found it strengthened his faith as well.

After getting out of jail and experiencing a brief period of homelessness, Fordham was referred to HOPE Community and was offered shelter as he got his life in order.

From there, he went to live at the Veterans Village’s housing program.

Throughout this time, Fordham was taking classes at TCC. He thanked his art professors at the reception.

A 2012 graduate of FAMU, Fordham announced that he has plans to pursue a master’s degree in waste management in the future.

TCC is a family affair for the Chapmans

SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College runs in the family for David and Diane Chapman, who both attended TCC from 1970 to 1972.



*Celebrating a legacy
Building a future*

"We both went to TCC, my sister went to TCC, both our sons went to TCC," David said. "It's pretty much a family legacy."

The legacy began with David's parents, Harold and Ruth Chapman. Ruth, David's mother, was on the advisory board for the college's founding. His father, Harold, began teaching in 1967 and eventually headed the humanities department at the college.

David and Diane met the summer before their senior year in high school, he at Leon High and she at Rickards High. David first attended Sewanee: The University of the South in Tennessee, but moved back to Tallahassee to be closer to Diane. For Diane, attending TCC after high school was always the plan. She worked to put herself through school, saving money by living at home.

"For me, TCC really opened up opportunities for higher education," she said. Diane had followed a secretarial track in high school rather than enrolling in college prep courses. At TCC she discovered new interests, such as anthropology and sociology. She also found time to start TCC's first cheerleading squad.

Diane later earned her bachelor's de-



David and Diane Chapman

COURTENEY JONES

gree in political science from Florida State University. She went on to work for several federal agencies, including the National Park Service and United States Probation and Pretrial Services, part of the U.S. Courts.

For David, switching to TCC changed his entire career path. A TCC adviser saw an ad looking for "conservative young men" to be counselors at a day camp at Lafayette Park Community Center and mentioned to Diane that David might be good for the job. He was hired under one condition: that he cut

his shoulder-length hair.

"So I did it, I cut my hair — but I'd let it grow as long as I could before someone would tell me I had to cut it again," he said.

Working at the camp opened up what would eventually be a lifelong career in the Tallahassee Parks and Recreation Department, where he continued to work while pursuing bachelor's and master's degrees in recreation at FSU. David eventually served as deputy director and then as director of TPRD before his retirement.

TCC invites start-ups to participate in free business incubator program

CAPITAL SOUP

Tallahassee Community College, in partnership with the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority, is seeking start-up businesses to participate in its free business incubator program.

This program is part of the Retail Career Pathways Initiative at TCC, which helps prepare students for careers in retail and retail management. The goal of the business incubator program is to support the launch, growth, stabilization and long-term success of businesses in Leon and surrounding counties.

"Great downtowns have great retail. We believe that retail has a strong future in downtown Tallahassee," said Jay Revell, executive director of the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority. "Systems like this are what generate opportunities for new and exciting retail functions in our city."

TCC is accepting applications for the program until February 29. Six participants will receive space at the Saturday Downtown Marketplace for a period of three months to do a soft launch of their business. Mentors from the local business community will present developmental workshops to help participants throughout their business planning process.

At the end of the three-month period, each participant will present a capstone project and pitch to a review committee and potential investors. One participant will be chosen to continue launching his or her business for six months at the TCC Capitol Center free of charge. The winner will also receive a scholarship to participate in the Tallahassee/Leon County Entrepreneurial Excellence Program and a one-year paid membership to the Florida Retail Federation.

Applicants must have at least one professional certification from the National Retail Federation in either Customer Service and Sales, Advanced Customer Service and Sales, or Retail Management Operations. TCC offers training to receive these certifications, and many courses can be completed in one day.

Historic images to debut at opening of Archive Gallery Exhibit at TCC

NOODLS USA

Tallahassee Community College's 50 anniversary celebration continues with the opening of its Archive Gallery Exhibit on Thursday, January 28. The exhibit, which will remain on display throughout 2016, will showcase 50 years of history at the College with a special collection of images pulled from its archives, some of which have never been published.

The event will be hosted by TCC President Jim Murdaugh from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Fine and Performing Arts Center on the main campus.

"The photos and documents we pulled from the archives, some of which dated back years before the doors even opened, were a wonderful reminder of our rich history and the significance of our institution," said Murdaugh in a recent blog.

The College will also premier a short film entitled, 'Celebrating a Legacy, Building a Future,' in honor of the 50 anniversary. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

For more information about TCC's 50 anniversary, visit www.50.tcc.fl.edu or contact the Office of Communications and Marketing at (850) 201-6049 or communications@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC's annual Black History calendar honors anniversary

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College on Monday introduced its annual African-American History Calendar during a community program in Turner Auditorium.

And, in keeping with the college celebrating its 50th anniversary all year, the 2016 Cherry Hall Alexander African-American History Calendar features a local organization each month, as well as a look back on the inclusion of African-Americans on campus, according to TCC.

The theme for the calendar is "Tallahassee Community College: 50 Years of African-American Memories".

Monday night's ceremony was hosted by WCTV journalists Shonda Knight and A. J. Hilton. Alexander, former director of the TCC library, and TCC President Jim Murdaugh were also expected to attend.

The Distinguished Young Gentlemen performed, and calendars were distributed to those attending.

The following organizations are featured in the calendar:

TCC Black Student Union

Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club of Tallahassee

Tallahassee Chapter of The Links, Incorporated

Mount Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church

Tallahassee Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

National Association of University Women, Tallahassee Branch

Tallahassee Area Coalition Center of Excellence

Tallahassee National Hook-Up of Black Women

Capital City Garden Club

The Less Fortunate Still Matters Foundation

Recycle Without Borders

Alpha Upsilon Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

The calendar will be made available to the public beginning Friday in the TCC library.

For information, contact Vivian Pope at (850) 201-9649 or popev@tcc.fl.edu, or Gregory Williams at (850) 201-6070 or williagr@tcc.fl.edu.

Exhibit digs into TCC history



TALLAHASSEE — Tallahassee Community College's 50th anniversary celebration continues with the opening of its Archive Gallery Exhibit on Thursday, Jan. 28.

The exhibit, which will remain on display throughout 2016, will showcase 50 years of history at the College with a special collection of

images pulled from its archives, some of which have never been published.

The event will be hosted by TCC President Jim Murdaugh from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in the Fine and Performing Arts Center on the main campus.

"The photos and documents we pulled from the archives, some of

which dated back years before the doors even opened, were a wonderful reminder of our rich history and the significance of our institution," said Murdaugh in a recent blog.

The college will also premier a short film entitled, "Celebrating a Legacy, Building a Future," in honor of the

50th anniversary. All members of the public are welcome to attend.

For information about TCC's 50th anniversary, visit www.50.tcc.fl.edu or contact the Office of Communications and Marketing at 850-201-6049 or communications@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC workforce initiatives gather steam in Gadsden County

HAVANA HERALD

Tallahassee Community College and Gadsden County moved closer to a new vision of partnership in 2015, as construction of a permanent home for TCC in the county neared completion. The transition from the Quincy House to the new TCC Gadsden Center is expected to begin in March 2016. The 4,700-square-foot building off Pat Thomas Parkway will offer many of the services currently provided at the downtown TCC Quincy House, such as GED preparation and English instruction for speakers of other languages and a computer lab for the use of community members. However, the new center will also feature a workforce development lab providing training to prepare students for in-demand jobs. The first programs will focus on HVAC installation and repair.

The center will be located next to the CareerSource office, making it easier for community members to access services that will help them reach their career goals, including job training through TCC and job search and placement assistance through CareerSource. The location reflects the partnership between the workforce board, which is committed to getting people into jobs, and TCC, which is committed to preparing people for success in the workforce. The Gadsden Center will also provide access to other services of the college on a scheduled basis, such as financial aid and career advising and internship placement. The College provided GED and English for Speakers of Other Languages instruction to more than 120 Gadsden County residents in 2015, including 60 students served at The Quincy House and other Quincy locations and the rest online or at the main campus. For younger residents, The Quincy House provided afterschool tutoring and partnered with Communities in Schools of Gadsden to offer academic and enrichment services during spring and summer breaks.

The 21st Century Community Learning Centers are a collaboration among TCC, Gadsden County Schools, Communities in the Schools, the Gadsden Arts Center and Americorps. The initiative provides afterschool, weekend, holiday and summer programs at Havana Magnet School and Carter-Parramore Academy, with the purpose of improving students' academic performance.

For teens, The Quincy House hosts a chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions in cooperation with Gadsden County Schools and also offers the four-hour traffic law and substance abuse course required for teen drivers.

The Florida Public Safety Institute in Midway is the central location for training of law enforcement and corrections officers and firefighters for this region of Florida. In addition to these basic recruit programs, FPSI provides continuing education for more than 60 law enforcement agencies. The Institute also hosts the annual Rural County Summit along with the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office that brings together members of emergency management teams from Florida, Georgia and Alabama to learn how to prepare for and respond to natural disasters. In 2015, FPSI again hosted advanced training seminars such as the Annual Bloodhound Seminar and the Annual Instructor Seminar. Finally, each year FPSI honors accomplished women and African-Americans in criminal justice history with special recognition ceremonies.

Tallahassee Community College celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2016, and Gadsden County residents are encouraged to join the festivities. On November 10, 2016, TCC will host its first annual "turkey shoot" at the Florida Public Safety Institute on Highway 90. Additionally, several Gadsden residents are subjects of TCC's "50 for 50" alumni profiles, including gospel singer Mary Bush Smith, County Commissioner Andy Gay and Tax Collector Dale Summerford. To read profiles of notable alumni and for information about 50th anniversary events throughout TCC's service area, visit 50.tcc.fl.edu.

TCC unveils 50th anniversary photo exhibit

BRITTANY BEDI

WCTV

Tallahassee Community College has been mentoring bright minds for 50 years. To commemorate the anniversary, TCC put together an exhibit featuring photos from the school's history.

Out of hundreds of archived photos, members of the communications team selected 50 photos to display.

The photos were enlarged on canvas with a description next to each one. Other photos were streaming from the ceiling as giant posters.

The photos feature everything from original buildings, to notable alumni and staff.

Candice Grause is a Digital Communications Specialist at TCC. She says she wants people to know that TCC is more than just a school.

"This institution has been such a huge part of this community for more than half a century now," says Grause. "It's had an impact on tens of thousands of lives, and I think that these pictures show that history."

The exhibit is open to the public during TCC's business hours. It's located on the first floor of the Fine and Performing Arts building.

Archived photos tell the story of Tallahassee Community College

Photo exhibit is part of 50th anniversary celebration

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The scene Thursday evening was reminiscent of those large, family holiday gatherings where the host decides to pull out decades-old photographs, sparking conversations that extend into the night.

Tallahassee Community College opened its Archive Gallery Exhibit inside the Fine and Performing Arts Center on campus to an admiring audience as part of the college's 50th anniversary celebration that lasts all year.

The gallery features 50 color and black-and-white photographs enlarged to poster size by Tallahassee Photo and Frame.

One guest of honor was Dorothy "Dot" Binger, the third employee hired by the college in 1966, where she started as business manager in an office at Park Avenue and Duval Street. Academic classes were held in a wing of Godby High School.

With limited space, it was suggested that she could work from home if that was more convenient.

"I started the college's accounting records in the basement of my home," Binger, now 91, said. "In 1967, we moved out here (Appleyard Drive)."

Binger held various positions in finance and later set up the division of applied science, which included nursing, dental hygiene, EMS training and other career programs. She worked at the college from 1966 to 1991, the last 18 years as director of applied sciences.

Her daughter, Norma Parrish, an accountant, also attended TCC and Binger's grandson, Thomas Parrish, 36, is now enrolled after spending 10 years in the Army.

"It's wonderful to celebrate 50 years and know that you helped to start it," Binger said of the celebration.

Betty Jensen, who has worked at TCC for 28 years and is now international services coordinator, drew several friends to one particular photograph from 1976 showing her as the Student Government secretary meeting with other officers.

She shared the photo with Jim Hinson, TCC's third president, who served from 1983 to 1995.

"Dr. Hinson, come and see me as a student," Jensen said to the man who hired her in 1988.

Jensen said the encouragement she got from TCC President Fred Turner to continue her studies at Florida State University following TCC "changed my life," as she went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees from FSU.

The photos extend from groundbreaking at the new campus, to classroom photos, sports, student meetings and special occasions.

"Diploma in one hand and roses in the other, new graduate Kim Rosenberg is all smiles with roommate Judy Smith in 1991," reads one.

Current TCC President Jim Murdaugh said a committee reviewed more than 100 images before selecting 50 that tell the college's story.

"It's a remarkable reminder of the things we are so proud of with our institution," he said.

The exhibit will be displayed throughout the year.

TCC offers GED courses in downtown Quincy

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College's Adult Education Program has begun offering an afternoon GED preparation program at its Quincy House location in downtown Quincy, Fla.

The new classes are offered Monday through Thursday, from 2 to 5 p.m. The morning classes from 9 a.m. to noon on the same days will remain unchanged.

Enrollment is open throughout the spring semester. Interested persons should apply for admission to TCC and take the TABE placement exam.

For information, contact the Quincy House at (850) 558-3620 or the Adult Education Program at (850) 201-8760 or ae@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC seeks employers for spring part-time job fair

CAPITAL SOUP

Tallahassee Community College is seeking employers to participate in its Spring Part-Time Job Fair on March 2, 2016, from 9 a.m. to noon.

More than 280 people attended the job fair last spring. Employers looking to fill part-time positions or internships should attend.

Details and registration are available online at www.tccfuturelink.com/events or by calling (850) 201-9970. Space is limited.

Severance looks back at career at the Capitol

Sergeant-at-arms, service to country part of history

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

After 40 years of working at the Florida Senate, Donald Severance was one of the most trusted figures in the Capitol. As the sergeant-at-arms for 15 of those years, he was chiefly responsible for maintaining order and security in the Senate chamber.

Severance has a long history of service. Originally from Live Oak, Fla., he served in the National Guard and is a veteran of the first Gulf War. He was also a member of the Florida National Guard Rifle and Pistol Team for more than 20 years.

When Severance began working for the Senate as a 21-year-old assistant sergeant-at-arms in 1976, he also decided to tackle the next challenge of his life and head back to school at Tallahassee Community College.

"I wanted to further my education and I knew TCC was a good school. When I got off work here, I'd go to TCC and stay there 'til about 10 o'clock at night."

In addition to taking academic classes, Severance attended the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy, which is now also part of TCC. He credits the Academy with teaching him how to be professional and deal with different types of people, a skill he used extensively during his long career at the Capitol.

Though he eventually rose through the ranks to become sergeant-at-arms, Severance reflected back to a time at TCC when he wasn't so sure of his skills. He hated English class in high school, so when he was told to write a paper in a class at TCC, he decided to write about a topic that interested him—dove hunting.

"The teacher said, talking about all the papers, 'I've got one here that was a really good paper and I wanted to read it.' And she started reading my paper! It just embarrassed me for the class, but I'll always remember that."

Looking back, Severance is grateful for the instructors who supported him. He retired in November 2015 to a room full of congratulatory senators who wrote a resolution honoring his legacy.

"It's been a great experience and it's kind of bittersweet to retire."

Groups partner for free business incubator program

TAMARYN WATERS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

A recent market study by the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority revealed residents want to see more retail businesses.

It just so happens Tallahassee Community College received a grant that could help meet that need. The two organizations have partnered to launch a free business incubator program that will prepare students for a career in retail and retail management. TCC is accepting applications until Feb. 29 for interested startup businesses.

Kim Moore, vice president for workforce development at TCC, said the goal is to “build or create knowledgeable entrepreneurs.”

“There is a process for entry,” Moore explained. The program was in response to “what we’re seeing in our economic ecosystem” and the timing appears right for retail and commerce to flourish, she said. Applicants must have at least one professional certification from the National Retail Federation in customer service and sales, retail management operations or advanced customer service and sales.

According to TCC, six participants will hone their retail skills operating their own vendor stalls at the Saturday Downtown Marketplace for a three-month period so they can launch their businesses.

Local business owners will serve as mentors and present workshops. At the end of three months, each incubator business will pitch plans to a committee of investors. The winner gets a scholarship in the Tallahassee/Leon County Entrepreneurial Excellence Program, offered through the Chamber of Commerce, and a one year membership to the Florida Retail Federation.

“We said there’s plenty of people in the community who’ve wanted to pursue some kind of retail idea or career. Let’s find a partner, which we did,” said Downtown Improvement Authority Executive Director Jay Revell.

“I think what we’ve put together is a really, really cool opportunity for someone who’s sat around and said, ‘I wish I had a store’ or ‘I wish I had some kind of retail operation that would be cool and unique to this community’ but they don’t know where to start.”

TCC chosen to compete for Aspen Prize

CAPITAL SOUP

Tallahassee Community College is one of a select group of colleges eligible to compete for the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence. The selection places TCC among the nation's 150 best community colleges in a list that was announced on January 26 by The Aspen Institute.

The Aspen Prize recognizes institutions for exceptional student outcomes related to student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and access and success for minority and low-income students. The 150 top colleges were selected from more than 1,000 possible candidates throughout the United States. Those institutions are now eligible to submit a second-round application in hopes of becoming one of the Aspen Prize finalists and competing for \$1 million in prize money. The winner of the 2015 prize received \$800,000.

The Aspen Prize is awarded every two years, and the 2017 prize will be the fourth awarded. The competition was announced in October 2010 at a White House Community College Summit. The Aspen Prize is supported by the Joyce Foundation, the Kresge Foundation and the Siemens Foundation.

"There are exceptional community colleges across our country providing students with a high-quality, affordable education that leads to good careers and strong economic opportunity," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "Through this competition, we're working to inspire community colleges and help them understand how to ensure that more students succeed."

Tallahassee Community College is now preparing its second round application for the prize. TCC will submit data by March 4 demonstrating how much students learn, how many students complete their programs on time, and how well students do in the job market after graduation. In the fall, a committee made up of former community college presidents, respected researchers and policy experts will name 10 finalists. Teams will then visit each finalist institution to obtain additional information and will announce the winner in early 2017.

"This is a prestigious recognition. It reflects our commitment to constantly improve our programs by measuring their impact on student success," said TCC President Jim Murdaugh. "The Aspen Prize process gives us another opportunity to look at our data, reflect on what we are doing and learn from other outstanding community colleges."

TCC African-American History Calendar unveiled



TALLAHASSEE — Tallahassee Community College unveiled its 16th annual African-American History Calendar on Monday, January 25, in Turner Auditorium.

The 2016 Cherry Hall Alexander African-American History Calendar honors local organizations that have made significant contributions to the African-

American community. The theme for the calendar is "Tallahassee Community College: 50 Years of African-American Memories."

This year's edition includes a retrospective on African-Americans' presence on the TCC campus over the years.

See TCC/Page 18

TCC Continued from Page 2

The ceremony was hosted by WCTV journalists Shonda Knight and A. J. Hilton. Cherry Alexander, former director of the TCC library; and TCC President Jim Murdaugh were in attendance. The crowd was entertained by

the TCC African Drum and Dance Ensemble and The Distinguished Young Gentlemen.

The following organizations are featured in the calendar:

- TCC Black Student Union
- Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club of Tallahassee
- Tallahassee Chap-

ter of The Links, Incorporated

- Mount Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church
- Tallahassee Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority
- National Association of University Women, Tallahassee Branch
- Tallahassee Area

Coalition Center of Excellence

- Tallahassee National Hook-Up of Black Women
- Capital City Garden Club
- The Less Fortunate Still Matters Foundation
- Recycle Without Borders
- Alpha Upsilon Zeta

Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority

Individual copies of the calendar will be available at the TCC library and on the TCC website.

For information, contact Vivian Pope at 850-201-9649 or popev@tcc.fl.edu, or Gregory Williams at 850-201-6070 or willagr@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC alum, Harvard grad student LaRose to speak

CAPITAL SOUP

A Tallahassee Community College alumnus who is now a graduate student at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University is coming home to share his tale.

Adam LaRose, who graduated from TCC in 2010 with an Associate in Arts degree in political science, will speak on Thursday, February 4, at 3 p.m. in the Pankowski Honors Lounge. The presentation is part of the TCC Honors Program's Distinguished Lecture Series.

LaRose credits his time at the College with preparing him for success at Florida State University and his eventual acceptance to Harvard.

"TCC did so much for me not only in an academic sense, but in social, professional and psychological ways," said LaRose. "The College gave me the ability to be confident, instilled in me the value of competition, and taught me not to be afraid to set goals and aspirations as high and far as one can imagine."

LaRose's path to Cambridge, Mass., began in August 2008, shortly after he graduated from Leon High School. During his two years at TCC, LaRose was elected vice president of the Honors Program and served as a United States Senate intern.

LaRose is pursuing a master's degree in public policy at Harvard, with a specific focus in social policy. He will discuss his journey from TCC to Harvard and his experiences at an Ivy League university.

For information, visit the Honors Program's website at www.tcc.fl.edu/honors.

TCC Provost speaks to Rotary Club

BYRON SPIRES
HAVANA HERALD

Feleccia Moore-Davis, Tallahassee Community College's new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, was last week's Quincy Rotary Club speaker.

Moore-Davis spoke about the school's assets and new programs.

TCC will be initiating a four-year degree in nursing and their first offering for a bachelor's degree, she said.

There are 14,000 students that now attend TCC with 70 percent of them transferring to a university after graduation.

One important statistic that Moore-Davis stated was that over 84 percent of TCC students who receive A.S. degrees and credit certificates get jobs after completion.

TCC is in running for The Aspen Prize and \$1 million

Marianna's Chipola College also makes the list

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College is one of 150 colleges across the country selected to compete for \$1 million that goes to the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence winner.

The recognition to TCC was announced recently by The Aspen Institute's listing TCC among the top 150 community colleges. Chipola College in Marianna also made the list.

To achieve The Aspen Prize, colleges are graded for academic achievement, completion of certificate and degree programs, employment following graduation and the college's record for accepting and graduating minority and low-income students.

The January announcement makes the fourth time TCC has been nominated for the award.

"This is a prestigious recognition," TCC President Jim Murdaugh said. "It reflects our commitment to constantly improve our programs by measuring their impact on student success. The Aspen Prize process gives us another opportunity to look at our data, reflect on what we are doing and learn from other outstanding community colleges."

TCC and Chipola are among 14 colleges in the Florida College System meeting standards for the award.

The Aspen Award is granted every two years. Chipola, as has TCC, has been included each term: 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017.

"We are proud to be nominated for the Aspen Prize for a fourth time. This nomination affirms that Chipola College is committed to improving our educational programs to ensure student success," Chipola President Jason Hurst said in a release.

Colleges selected to compete for the big money will submit more detailed information on their success to The Aspen Institute by March 4. Teams will visit each college for a review and the winner will be announced at the beginning of next year.

Alexanders found each other at TCC

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Lorenzo and Cherry Alexander are among Tallahassee Community College's many notable alumni. Cherry Hall Alexander, a native of Monticello, Fla., began her college career as a TCC student and eventually returned to her alma mater in 1999 as director of library services. Lorenzo Alexander was a member of Godby High School's first graduating class in 1970. Attracted to the affordable tuition costs and smaller classes, he continued his studies at TCC and graduated in 1973. The two met at TCC.

"She was working as a student in the administrative office when I was trying to register for classes," recalled Lorenzo Alexander of their first meeting in 1970. During their time at TCC, both took chorus and performed with the TCC choir.

After graduation, Cherry continued her education in library science at Florida State University. Lorenzo earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering technology at Florida A & M University, then studied urban and regional planning at FSU. The Alexanders married in 1976. Their two sons, Antron and Ramon, also attended TCC.

Lorenzo Alexander dedicated his career to designing and managing the most efficient ways to move people and products throughout Florida, be it mass transit, rail, sea or air. He joined the Florida Department of Transportation in 1973, distinguishing himself in roadway construction, public transportation and transportation planning. As Florida's seaport manager from 2000 until he retired in 2008, Alexander served as the state government liaison and financing partner for Florida's 14 deepwater seaports.

Alexander knew early on that he wanted to pursue a career that incorporated design. In eighth grade, he found a mentor in his mathematics teacher, the late Ed Howard. "He made math so simple," said Alexander. Their paths crossed again when Howard taught mathematics at TCC. The Ed Howard Scholarship is still awarded to a TCC student who is interested in studying mathematics or mathematics education.

The Alexanders have been active in retirement. Lorenzo serves as chair of the board of directors for the Florida A & M Federal Credit Union as well as the Tallahassee International Airport Advisory Committee. Cherry volunteers at Miracle Hill Nursing and Rehabilitative Center and with Club 25, which is made up of honorees of the Tallahassee Democrat's 25 Women You Need to Know program.

TCC hosts information sessions for bachelor's degree nursing program

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College is holding information sessions for its new Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree program, set to start May 6. The program is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The program is designed for licensed registered nurses who already hold an Associate in Science degree in nursing. Courses will be offered online, allowing students to move through the program at a comfortable, guided pace.

Information sessions are set for February 22 at 8 a.m. and March 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education at 1528 Surgeons Drive.

For information, call (850) 558-4500 or write to healthedu@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC staff certified as career development facilitators

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Several TCC faculty and staff members completed extensive training to become certified global career development facilitators through the Center for Credentialing & Education. They include Catie Goodman, Felicia Williams, Tanya Hargrove, Christy Mantzanas, Li Pon, Patrick McDermott, Nancy Donovan and Karen Burke Hill.

TCC alum, Harvard grad student LaRose speaks at alma mater

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Adam LaRose, a Tallahassee Community College and Leon High School alumnus who is now a graduate student at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University shared his story with TCC students, faculty and staff on Thursday.

LaRose covered a variety of topics ranging from his humble beginnings in Tallahassee to his collegiate experiences at TCC, FSU and Harvard. He stressed his emphasis on hard work and determination at each of those academic stops.

"If I wasn't going to succeed on campus," LaRose said of his time at TCC, "it wasn't going to be for a lack of effort."

LaRose explained the difference between ambitions and aspirations, saying an ambition is something desired while an aspiration is something one wishes to give. He also advised students to pay attention to how people react when they are discussing their future goals.

During his two years at TCC, LaRose was elected vice president of the Honors Program and served as a United States Senate intern. He is pursuing a master's degree in public policy at Harvard, with a specific focus in social policy.

Toward the end of his lecture, LaRose encouraged the students not only to recognize their privilege of receiving an education at TCC, but also to pass that opportunity on to others.

"You have the luxury to sit here in these seats," he said, "and to expand your minds in a way that so many others yearn for. And in my opinion, because you have been afforded that luxury, you have some sort of obligation to make sure others do too, however you feel it should be accomplished."

TCC to host annual women's leadership summit in March

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

To coincide with Women's History Month, Tallahassee Community College will host its annual Building Legacies Women's Leadership Summit on March 1, 2016, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at Goodwood Museum and Gardens.

This year's summit will be focused on entrepreneurship. The program will feature female entrepreneurs who will share their stories, successes and words of wisdom and allow attendees to explore their own passions and entrepreneurial aspirations.

Christine Urban, executive director of Domi Station, will moderate the panel. Kay Stephenson, co-founder, president and CEO of Datamaxx Applied Technologies, will deliver the keynote address.

Guest speakers include Laura Johnson, president of Coton Colors, Cynthia Kimble, a physician and owner of Kimble Family Medicine, and Shannon Moore, owner of F.U.E.L. Nutrition Consulting, managing partner of Paisley Cafe and managing owner of GMT Pubs. The event is sponsored by the Tallahassee Democrat, Prime Meridian Bank, Thurman Law Firm and Club 25. The event is hosted by TCC's Division of Workforce Development and the TCC Foundation.

Preregistration is required. Tickets are \$30 and may be purchased at TCCWomenInLeadership.com. Check-in begins at 8 a.m. and a continental breakfast will be provided. For information, contact Ranie Thompson at (850) 201-6074 or thompson@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC hosts ribbon cutting for Wakulla Environmental Institute

CAPITAL SOUP

Members of the public can get a close-up look at the new Wakulla Environmental Institute at a ribbon-cutting event on Monday, February 15, at 3:45 p.m. Attendees may tour the building and learn about its environmentally-friendly features, taste oysters raised by WEI students, and enjoy brief speeches by Florida Senator Bill Montford and others.

The WEI is part of Tallahassee Community College and is expected to bring together education, conservation and recreation in a way that stimulates economic development in Wakulla County. The Green Guide Certification program will be based at WEI, as well programs in environmental science technology, oyster farming, forest and land conservation, hospitality and ecotourism management, and environmental drone operations. The executive director of WEI is Bob Ballard.

The WEI is located at 170 Preservation Way in Crawfordville, about 3.1 miles south of the TCC Wakulla Center, which is housed in the Centennial Bank Building on Crawfordville Highway.

For information, contact Al Moran at morana@tcc.fl.edu or (850) 201-6079.

TCC alum, Harvard grad student LaRose speaks at alma mater

CAPITAL SOUP

A Tallahassee Community College and Leon High School alumnus who is now a graduate student at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University shared his story with TCC students, faculty and staff on Thursday.

Adam LaRose, who graduated from TCC in 2010 with an Associate in Arts degree in political science, spoke before an intimate crowd in the Pankowski Honors Lounge as part of the TCC Honors Program's Distinguished Lecture Series.

LaRose covered a variety of topics ranging from his humble beginnings in Tallahassee to his collegiate experiences at TCC, FSU and Harvard. He stressed his emphasis on hard work and determination at each of those academic stops.

"If I wasn't going to succeed on campus," LaRose said of his time at TCC, "it wasn't going to be for a lack of effort."

LaRose explained the difference between ambitions and aspirations, saying an ambition is something desired while an aspiration is something one wishes to give. He also advised students to pay attention to how people react when they are discussing their future goals.

"When you start telling people around you, in your circles, at your jobs, in your classes, or even in your families that you want to fly in space, find a cure for cancer, be Secretary of State or President, or whatever it is, you will begin to see who is on your team," he said.

In addition to suggestions for success, LaRose's lecture featured numerous personal anecdotes, such as a recounting of the moment he called his mother to share his acceptance to the Kennedy School at Harvard.

"It was a moment that I will never ever forget," LaRose said, his voice trembling with emotion. "This was the epitome of what my parents worked so hard for."

During his two years at TCC, LaRose was elected vice president of the Honors Program and served as a United States Senate intern. He is pursuing a master's degree in public policy at Harvard, with a specific focus in social policy.

Toward the end of his lecture, LaRose encouraged the students not only to recognize their privilege of receiving an education at TCC, but also to pass that opportunity on to others.

"You have the luxury to sit here in these seats," he said, "and to expand your minds in a way that so many others yearn for. And in my opinion, because you have been afforded that luxury, you have some sort of obligation to make sure others do too, however you feel it should be accomplished."

TCCPD investigating campus sexual assault

KARL ETTERS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College Police Department is investigating a sexual assault that took place Tuesday morning at the school's Ghazvini Center for Health Education.

Around 10:30 a.m., a female student reported she had been sexually assaulted at the Surgeons Drive campus. The woman has some knowledge of the suspect's identity, said TCCPD Chief Chris Summers in an email to the TCC community.

TCCPD is working with the Tallahassee Police Department to identify the man.

He is described as a black man in his 20s or 30s, 5-foot 10-inches tall and weighing 145 pounds. He was last seen wearing a black sweater, blue jeans and Ray Ban style sunglasses.

The man left the scene in a smaller, dark-colored 4-door vehicle, according to TCCPD.

"I would recommend students continue to be cautious about their surroundings," Summers said in his email. "TCCPD will provide enhanced patrol to our campus areas of the next several days during class hours."

Anyone with information is asked to contact TCCPD at (850) 201-6100 or TPD at (850) 891-4200.

TCC announces African-American History Month Events

CAPITAL SOUP

Tallahassee Community College will commemorate African-American History Month with special events throughout February.

On Tuesday, February 16, the Florida Public Safety Institute will host the Ninth Annual Black History Month Breakfast at 8:30 a.m., with a media meet-and-greet scheduled for 8 a.m.

The theme for this year's breakfast is "Sites of African-American Memories in Public Safety." Breakfast will be held at the FPSI Conference Center.

TCC will host the African-American History Health Fair on Friday, February 19, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom on the College's main campus. The fair will cover a variety of topics to raise awareness and encourage healthy living habits.

To round out the month, the African-American History Month Committee will present the annual Soul Food Fest and Gospel Extravaganza Saturday, February 27, at 5 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom.

All events are free to attend and open to the public and media.

For information, contact Vivian Pope at (850) 201-9649 or popev@tcc.fl.edu, or Gregory Williams at (850) 201-8361 or willagr@tcc.fl.edu.

Free financial seminar will be Feb. 16

WAKULLA NEWS

Are you into financial fitness? The Tallahassee Lender's Consortium will help you get in shape at a special seminar – Home Buyer Readiness and Financial Fitness on Tuesday, Feb. 16 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the TCC Wakulla Center.

Do you need help with your credit? Are you interested in buying your first home? Do you want more money in your pocket? Then come to this free event.

The TCC Wakulla Center is located at 2932 Crawfordville Hwy. For information call 222-6609 ext. 100.

Lunch at TCC, catered by Kast Net

PETRA SHUFF
WAKULLA NEWS

We were off to a great start with our first monthly networking luncheon of the new year, hosted by TCC/Wakulla Environmental Institute. We hope that part of the amazing record of 88 attending came for the great company and Mary's bubbly personality but, everyone knows that Ms. Thu at Kast Net brings on the goods, and dessert!

Bob Ballard, Executive Director of WEI greeted the crowd, and let us know that the new building is just about ready to move in, and will be hosting a ribbon cutting/Grand Opening Feb. 15 at 3:45 p.m., 170 Preservation Way (3.1 miles past Centennial Bank). Join us at this event for a taste of oysters, grown by WEI students. The February luncheon is scheduled to be hosted at this new facility also.

Mary introduced our incoming president, Dustin Grubbs before our attendants introduced their guests. Dr. Rachel Sutz Pienta had invited the American Cancer Society Wakulla Community Manager, Kelsea Clark. Kelsea is in charge of the Relay for Life from noon until midnight, April 30.

Our spotlight was on Wakulla Realty. Owner/broker Sonya Hall shared that Wakulla Realty was bought in 1999, and was formed by Susie Tooke in 1986. Susie remains at the company as a broker. Wakulla Realty sells real estate but is also a property management company. Sonya also introduced her staff – Karen Williams, Kathy O'Neal and Victoria Osborne. Sonya or any of her staff can be reached at (850) 926.5084. The March spotlight will be on American Cancer Society.

Sara Daw won the cash drawing. Charlean Lanier asked to share information on any known homeless people in Wakulla to get as close to an accurate count as possible. Bill Snowden with The Wakulla News invited everyone to the 18th Annual Valentine's Day celebration and parade, and the Cupid Run/walk. Entry forms and links to the race can be found on the Chamber website.

Mary also made everyone aware of our 6th annual Low Country Boil set for April 2 at 3Y Ranch.

Each January, Cook Insurance and one of Mary's premier companies, Olympus, gives a special treat, a bottle of

wine from a Florida winery "Chautauqua" in Defuniak Springs. This year's label was themed "May the Force be with you."

Thanks to individual and businesses for their contribution to our drawing: Centennial Bank, Petra Shuff, Root 319 Salon, John Shuff, Wakulla Realty, Jim Wetherton Marketing, American Cancer Society, Thrivent Financial, Wakulla Insurance, Lionel and Marianne Dazevedo, Keith Key Heating & Air, Eden Springs Rehab and Nursing Facility, Waypoint Realty, Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Shepard Accounting, and The Wakulla News.

44 BASKETBALL TIMES



Tallahassee's Daishon Smith getting shot at Wichita State

Tony Jimenez

Junior Colleges

When 5-foot-9, 150-pound Daishon Smith was a freshman at North Florida Educational Institute High School in Jacksonville, Fla., he wasn't the least bit intimidated by the fact he was starting alongside two sophomores and two seniors who were much taller and much heavier than he was.

They might have been larger and older, but that was no big deal to him.

The way Smith saw it, he was able to "get ahead of other players ... I loved basketball and the competition and so it didn't matter."

That's why when he transferred to Ribault High School and his team got blown out in a couple of games against Providence, a team led by 6-5 Grayson Allen, he of Duke fame, Smith took it as another learning experience.

"All along," he said, "I just kept saying, 'I can't wait to get my shot.'"

It was, in the end, more than wishful thinking, given that he has signed a national letter of intent with Wichita State.

While Smith, for the most part, felt he had the game to play at a high four-year school level out of high school, academics forced him to take a detour down Jacob Lane. Now he has proved himself; he is now one of the most unheralded jaco sophomores in the USA.

"I was very disappointed when I found out I had to go to a jaco," said Smith. "...very disappointed. But I learned a lot. Playing in jaco helped me. If I had played the same way coming out of high school at a four-year school, I would have had problems."

White in JC, he learned he was picking up his dribble too early.

And he didn't manage the game clock like he should have.

As a freshman at Eastern Florida, his academics got better, but a change of scenery – and a transfer to Tallahassee – seemed best for coach and player at season's end. Jeremy Shulman of Eastern Florida was Mark White's assistant coach at East Mississippi jaco for three seasons and White was in his first season at Tallahassee.

Both kept Smith and his future on their No. 1 concern.

"I knew Tallahassee would be a perfect fit for Daishon," Shulman said. "I thought he made great strides throughout his freshman year, but I also knew the move would be perfect for him. He has really excelled there. I know he will continue to blossom into a truly outstanding player."

"Coach Shulman," said White, "truly cares about the success of kids."

Smith, now 6-1 and 170, wouldn't have had to go to a pair of two-year schools in two years had his GPA been in order.

That, he said, has been rectified: His GPA has gone from 2.2 in high school to 2.7 in the first semester at Tallahassee. And on the floor, he went into 2016 at a blistering pace.

He averaged 18.1 points, 5.2 rebounds and 4.6 assists and shot 44.2 percent from the 3-point line. In a three-game stretch in January – all Tallahassee wins – he scored 83 points.

• Against Shelton, Ala., State, he had 27 points, eight rebounds and three assists.

• Against Gordon, Ga., State, he got all of his 32 points, six rebounds and seven assists in the game's first 27 minutes.

• Against Florida State-Jacksonville, he recorded a triple-double – only the third in a quarter of a century at Tallahassee – with 24 points, 13 rebounds and 11 assists.

"He has really taken off since we moved him to the point," White said. "He is playing like a high-major player... as good as any (jaco) player in the country."

White, though, contends that Smith can do better.

"He is a heck of a player, but he doesn't see himself that way," White said. "I would like to see him play more aggressive on defense. He has great potential to be a shut-down defender."

White knows that the rigors of playing at a higher level at Wichita State won't be easy. Games come quicker. And are more difficult.

"It's always an adjustment, going from one level to the next," White said. "The right-in, right-out level of competition is what he will have to get used to. At Wichita State, every game's a big game and so he will have to work on understanding how hard he has to play every night."

While he doesn't dwell on it, Smith says he will be a bit more motivated by the death of his father, Charles, who was murdered in a robbery on July 28, 2012. Just over a week later, on Aug. 7, Daishon turned 17 years old.

Tallahassee athletic director Rob Chaney says Smith has handled everything – his game, his ac-



Tallahassee's Daishon Smith will get his opportunity next season with the Shockers.

denies and his pain – with grace. "You can tell he has found a nice comfort zone," said Chaney. "It's translated to success. Daishon's a pleasant individual, someone who always says 'Hello' when you pass him or will wave as he walks by the office. As administrators and coaches, you want to create an environment that will promote student success... Daishon has embraced the opportunity."

• NOTE: Eastern Florida, featured in the last issue (January) with a 52-game home court winning streak, had it snapped at 53 on Jan. 2 by Harsco, Pa., 87-86.

Tony Jimenez is based in Wichita, Kan., in the heart of JC country and home of the Wichita State Shockers.

TCC Eagle Basketball

Upcoming Home Schedule

Jan. 19	vs. Gulf Coast State	5:30 pm (W) 7:30 pm (M)
Feb. 2	vs. NW Florida State	5:30 pm (W) 7:30 pm (M)
Feb. 6	vs. Pensacola State	5:30 pm (W) 7:30 pm (M)

All home games played at the Bill Hebrock Eagledome
(M) - Men; (W) - Women
General Admission: \$5

TCCeagles.com





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