

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



April 16 - May 13, 2016

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TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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- April 19 - WTXL - Athletes sign commitments to university programs at TCC Signing Day
- April 22 - WCTV - Capital City Band of TCC to play its 50th anniversary show
- April 24 - WTXL - TCC baseball season ends with a loss to Northwest Florida State College
- April 25 - WTXL - TCC softball team narrowly reaches postseason play
- April 27 - WCTV - Heather Mitchell discusses the Foundation's TCC One campaign
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- April 29 - WTLH - TCC One campaign launches
- April 30 - WCTV - Yemeni TCC grad Bashair Binmahfooz interviewed for commencement
- April 30 - WCTV - TCC holds its 50th commencement ceremony at Tucker Civic Center
- May 1 - WUFT - TCC STEM Center performs robotics demonstration at DEO kids' event
- May 6 - WCTV - FPSI hosts corrections officer appreciation luncheon
- May 6 - WTXL - TCC faculty discuss unionizing, petition for vote on representation
- May 11 - WFLX - FPSI hosts DUI test training for officers from around the state

Technology can help the mission at hand

BLAKE DOWLING

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

There seems to be a lot of evil in the world these days, the Brussels attack is certainly top of mind. However it's very refreshing to be able to look around Tallahassee and see a lot of good here. Just about any direction you turn there is someone volunteering for a cause or as their full-time job.

I have had the opportunity to get to know a few charitable organizations and some local learning institutions during my career; and I thought it would be uplifting to see how technology has helped these entities propel themselves into the future and work smarter.

I have been volunteering on the Tree House Board of Directors for the past 10 years. Tree House is a children's shelter that provides a home-like environment for kids who need it since 1986. I had the opportunity to serve as President (2010-2011) and got to contribute in a small way to the organization help kids in need each and every year.

I remember when I asked the Board President in 2006 what the web address was, he informed me that they did not have one. Step one, build a website. The first one was simple and straight forward and it has grown into a robust site with corresponding social media integrated into online fundraising software that keeps the organization running.

This month I sat down with the Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Big Bend, Alva Striplin, and Board Member Adam Watson, and I asked them how technology has helped them with their mission. Striplin said, "Technology has helped us in the area of maintaining records on the children we serve in our community. It also enables us to have immediate access to our volunteer records for security and safety purposes. Agencies across the state and across the country within the Big Brothers Big Sisters network are able to share information on children who may move from one city to another but still want to be actively involved in our program. We didn't have this capability prior to having a nationwide database for Big Brothers Big Sisters."

During my work as Vice-President of the Maclay High School Alumni Board of Directors Alumni Association I was asked by the administration to "like" a Fundraising

Campaign and "tag" fellow classmates in order to get them to participate on social media. At our last meeting the team let me know that those small efforts and no cost lead to some alumni becoming engaged that were not before I tagged about 50 former classmates.

Carri Smith, Advancement Director at Maclay had the following to add about other technology, "All of the record keeping for our constituents is done through software, tracking everything from addresses to graduation year and college major. Donors can register or purchase tickets for events online using event based software that then can upload into our database software to track donations and contributions. The addition of mobile bidding at our annual gala and auction two years ago has helped us see an increase in dollars raised. The majority of our donors now contribute online instead of by check or cash."

Children's Home Society offers services that help break the cycles of abuse in more families, heal the pain for traumatized children, guide teens to successfully transition into adulthood and create strong, loving families through adoption." Charles McDonald, the Executive Director of Children's Home Society, had the following to say about technology and the CHS mission: "Technology helps Children's Home Society of Florida work more effectively and efficiently. It also allows us to collect, analyze and use data to improve our service delivery. Technology helps us stay connected with the children and families we serve in ways never thought possible in social services."

I attended an event last month called Cleaver and Cork, which benefited the Tallahassee Community College Foundation which helps serve the needs of Tallahassee Community College. Their Chairperson, Pam Butler (Aegis founder), gave a nice speech to the attendees highlighting their overall mission. When it came to technology, Butler referenced a specific piece of software called Star Fish which was beyond cool. This application tracks students as they journey through their education process.

Technology can help the mission at hand....

continued

“When we review and award scholarships we can pull data and find students who are 8-10 hours from graduation; that could be at-risk for abandoning their education, and we can say how about we pay for your next semester to rescue the student in question,” said Butler. This gets a degree in hand for the student and the school another graduate. The benefits to our economy, the student and TCC speak for themselves.

We all have our missions in life. Make sure you are using technology to get that mission accomplished. Whether it is blogging, social media, mobility, industry specific software, cloud computing, or a mobile apps, don't be shy and embrace the technology at your disposal.

In closing, a special thanks to everyone quoted in this column for the good work they do in our community and a prayer to those who fight the evil in this world in whatever capacity that might be.

If you have questions about any of the organizations mentioned in this column please search them out on line or email me and I can make an introduction to Charles, Pam, Adam, Alva, or Carri.

Polka Dot Press owner always wanted her own business

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Kim Williams, owner of the Polka Dot Press, was always an entrepreneurial type. She developed an early interest in retail and worked in the industry while still a teenager. After graduating from Lincoln High in 1985, Williams decided to attend Tallahassee Community College.

"I was pretty sure what I wanted to do, but I wasn't completely sure, so I wanted those two years to figure it out before declaring a major," she said.

The time at TCC gave Williams the chance to confirm that she was on the right path. She then went on to study fashion merchandising at Florida State University.

In her late 20s, Williams opened her first store in Tallahassee. Three years later, she married her husband, Mike. Williams, wanting to start a family and looking for more stable employment, closed the shop and went to work for a state agency.

"I quickly realized that bureaucracy was not for me," she said. "I've always been a hang-out-shingle kind of girl; I want to do my own thing. So I quit my job. When I told my husband—back then we were young and poor—he asked me, what are you doing? And I said I'd figure it out."

And she did. While staying at home with her young son, Williams taught herself how to make custom invitations on her computer, planting the seeds for what would become the Polka Dot Press.

"It was all very organic," she said. "After I started doing my son's invites, a neighbor down the street asked if I would do hers, and it sort of grew from there."

Soon, Williams was showcasing her invitation samples at craft shows. Five years ago, she opened her storefront on Market Street in Tallahassee. Though The Polka Dot Press still specializes in custom invites and monogramming, the store allows Williams to carry gift items like specialty candles and beauty products.

Williams is grateful for her two years at TCC and hopes her son, now in high school, will start his college career at TCC, too.

"I'm encouraging my son to do it, not because it's an easier path, but because going to TCC helps focus you for those first couple of years, and I think he and so many others can benefit from that."

TCC staff certified as career development facilitators

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Nine TCC faculty and staff members completed training to become certified global career development facilitators through the Center for Credentialing & Education. The newly certified individuals are Nancy Donovan, Catie Goodman, Tanya Hargrove, Karen Burke Hill, Patrick McDermott, Christy Mantzanas, Amy O'Donnell, Li Pon and Felicia Williams.

Global career development facilitators are trained to help people make informed decisions when considering their own career development. The certification includes more than 120 hours of training on ethical and legal issues in the workplace, career development theories, employability skills and other topics.

TCC Model United Nations earns Honorable Delegation Award

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Community College Model United Nations team traveled to the National Model United Nations conference held in late March in New York City. The conference hosted more than 350 colleges and universities from 149 countries who brought 5,740 graduate and undergraduate students. The TCC team returned with an Honorable Delegation Award for its representation of the Republic of Nicaragua.

The team was led by Landon Glover, president; John Griffin, vice president; and Brannach Craig, head delegate. A student from the University of Managua, in Nicaragua, also participated with the team. Faculty advisers are Tom Waller and Richard Murgu.

TCC encourages students to review GED scores

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College is encouraging those who took the GED test between January 1, 2014, to March 24, 2016, and did not pass in one or more subjects to visit GED.com to check their scores. The Florida State Board of Education has adopted the GED Testing Service's recommendation to lower the passing score for the GED Test from 150 to 145 on each of the four test subjects retroactive to January 1, 2014.

The new passing score means additional individuals may be eligible to receive a high school diploma. For information, contact the Division of Workforce Development at (850) 201-8760.

Maclay's Droze named TCC women's cross country coach

JORDAN CULVER
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Maclay cross country coach Gary Droze has been named the women's cross country coach at Tallahassee Community College.

Droze, who will maintain his duties at Maclay, will be the first women's cross country coach in TCC's history. He said he's excited for the opportunity to begin a program from scratch.

"It's really rare to have the opportunity to start everything from scratch at a place," he said. "I can take responsibly for everything from the get go. It's pretty exciting. It doesn't happen that often."

Women's cross country will be the fifth sport at TCC, and the first addition to the program since the 1994. Droze will be able to hold practices after Aug. 1

"I'm extremely excited to welcome Gary to the TCC athletics family," said athletic director Rob Chaney in a statement. "He is well-known and highly-respected throughout Tallahassee's vibrant running community."

Droze started at Maclay in 1993. He said for now, he's content with growing TCC's program. He said even though the days will be "long" he's ready to be the head of both Maclay's group and the new Eagles team.

"I've been exposed to a lot of different levels of coaching," he said. "The real excitement comes from developing really interested, really motivated athletes. The allure of D-1 coaching is not something that appeals to me."

TCC trustees want a review of reassignment data

Faculty Senate president not happy with trustee vote

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Eager to ward off further faculty dissent over a proposed change in teaching reassignment time granted to professors, Tallahassee Community College trustees Monday voted to hold a workshop on the issue at their May meeting.

Trustees chairman Donna Calloway got unanimous approval of her directive to President Jim Murdaugh to provide the board with material related to what reassignment time consists of, how it is granted to professors, the impact it has on teaching and specific examples.

"We don't have all of the information," Calloway told board members. "I would want to know faculty names, what they're teaching, the class loads, what hours they teach."

The second request, she said, was to follow up with naming a task force that would review that data and report back to the board at its June meeting with a proposal to review.

Calloway was responding to a plan originally suggested by Provost Feleccia Moore-Davis that would have ended the decades-old practice of professors being allowed to teach four classes per semester rather than the state required five. TCC has gotten around that mandate by letting some professors out of teaching a fifth class and reassigning them to other duties, also allowed by the state law.

Moore-Davis has said that practice has become unfair at TCC, with some professors using assigned that extra time for activities that have not been monitored. She also said that some professors are not allowed to take advantage of the loophole in the law because of their teaching demands.

TCC's Faculty Senate blasted the idea and the initial suggestion that changes be implemented as early as this fall. Chief among their concerns was they were not given a chance to provide input. Murdaugh, who said he was aware of Moore-Davis's review of the practice but unaware that she wanted to implement changes right away, called off the plan during an emergency meeting with faculty last Wednesday. He proposed, with Moore-

Davis's support, creating a task force that would examine the measure and have their findings vetted by faculty, staff and administrators.

If it was decided to move ahead, it would begin sometime in 2017.

Faculty Senate President Frank Baglione on Monday disagreed with Calloway's proposal of the May review of the practice and the naming of a task force that would come back with a proposal in June.

"Many of us don't teach in the summer," Baglione said. "We were of the understanding the task force would operate in the fall."

Baglione later said he felt Calloway had already made up her mind about going along with the proposal by insisting on having the May workshop. In doing so, he said, trustees would hear the same presentation on data and practices from Moore-Davis that faculty members have been challenging.

Several trustees weighed in on the discussion, agreeing that it needed to be addressed and that they needed to be brought up to date.

"We have outstanding faculty and this should be addressed at the trustee level," trustee Karen Moore said. "It should be based on data."

Trustee Eugene Lamb said it concerned him to read about the proposal and the ensuing controversy in the newspaper.

"It should have come from the president first, to us, and not in the newspaper first," he said.

Murdaugh said he didn't see any problem in meeting the May deadline to present the data. As for having a proposal by June, he said, "I don't know. You are the board. You can tell me what you want me to do."

Calloway said the controversy takes time away from the professors' focus on teaching.

"We are listening to you," she said, addressing about a dozen professors who attended the meeting. She agreed to review the June deadline at the May meeting.

TCC trustees want a review of reassignment data....

continued

In others news:

Trustees got an update on progress with starting their new bachelor's degree in nursing, the first for the college. Classes will start on May 5 taught by a faculty made up of professors with doctorates in nursing, a major plus for TCC.

Of the 29 students enrolled, 17 are TCC nursing graduates.

Trustees also learned that TCC had a 100 percent licensure rate for its nursing graduates last fall in the associate of science degree program.

TCC halfway to \$10 million goal

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation has raised \$5.3 million toward its \$10 million "TCC. We Rise" campaign" introduced in March, Executive Director Heather Mitchell told college trustees on Monday.

Mitchell also hinted at a "very large; quite significant" gift of a building donation that she hopes to announce in May. She announced a May 4 event at which a donor has agreed to personally match contributions with a \$50,000 gift.

At Monday's meeting, Mitchell also introduced three recent donors to the foundation:

Kim and Sammie Dixon are donating \$25,000 to establish a scholarship that each year will provide full tuition to TCC for two members of the Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend. Kim Dixon is a senior financial adviser with Merrill Lynch and Sammie Dixon is the CEO of Prime Meridian Bank.

Separately, Sammie Dixon and Susan Payne Turner were recognized for Prime Meridian Bank's \$50,000 gift to the Foundation that will go toward student scholarships and programs at the TCC's Wakulla Environmental Institute. The new patio reception area at the institute will be named WEI Prime Meridian Bank Patio. Payne Turner is the executive vice president and chief risk officer of Prime Meridian Bank.

Pam Butler and her brother, W. Tom Cumbie, are contributing \$50,000 in honor of their parents, Tom Cumbie Jr. and Nesta Cumbie, to support new programs at the TCC Gadsden Center, which opened last month.

Butler is CEO of Aegis Business Technologies and also serves as president of the TCC Foundation's board. Her brother is a retired military judge in the U.S. Air Force.

Mitchell said the donations are examples of the significance of the fundraising campaign.

"It's about giving our students the strongest possible foundation for being innovative human beings so they can conquer the current and emerging demands of today's and tomorrow's world," she said.

Upcoming fundraising events include:

On Saturday, the Foundation is hosting its Hops & Half Shells 5K Trail Run/Walk at the Wakulla Environmental Institute, 170 Preservation Way, Crawfordville.

So far, 160 people have registered and the deadline for pre-registration is Wednesday. Cost is \$15 (with T-shirt) for TCC students, faculty, staff and GWTC members; \$20 for general registration and T-shirt; \$15, without a shirt.

After Wednesday, general registration increases to \$25 and \$20.

Race participants can cool off with free oysters farmed by WEI students and beer from Grassland Brewery and Proof Brewery.

On May 4, the ONE Campaign fundraising blitz aligned with TCC's 50th-anniversary celebration will be held. Mitchell said a donor has agreed to match \$50,000 with \$50,000 raised. The campaign actually starts April 28, but the social media blitz will be May 4.

"TCC has over 50,000-plus alumni around the world, and thousands more that have partnered with us throughout the Big Bend," Mitchell said. "The funds raised from this special day will be used to support student success at Tallahassee Community College through scholarships and classroom renovations."

For information about the Campaign for TCC, visit www.tccwise.com or contact the TCC Foundation at (850) 201-8580.

Band, chorale mark their anniversaries

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Two musical ensembles with ties to Tallahassee Community College will present milestone concerts this month. The Capital City Concert Band, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2016, will present a Golden Jubilee Concert on Saturday, April 23, at 7 p.m. The concert will be in Turner Auditorium in the Fine and Performing Arts Center at TCC. Admission is free.

The band is led by Michael Grant, whose resume includes postings as associate conductor of the U.S. Navy Band and as director of the U.S. Naval Academy Band. Grant said the program for April 23 includes many familiar band pieces, plus Leroy Anderson's "Fiddle Faddle" and the Rimsky Korsakov favorite, "Flight of the Bumblebee," featuring clarinetist Jeff Drawbaugh.

Concert goers will also be on hand for the world premiere of "A Big Bend Rhapsody," a piece by composer Robert Thurston commissioned in honor of the band's 50th anniversary.

Thurston is a former arranger and composer for The United States Air Force Band. He attended Leon County public schools, TCC and Florida State University. Thurston now lives in northern Virginia, where he has been involved as both percussionist and occasional conductor with the Prince William Community Band.

"I have really come to love and appreciate what these organizations do for their hometowns, not only giving adults of all ages an outlet for making music in a fun, pressure-free environment, just for the fun and the joy of it, but sharing that joy with their neighbors, making the community feel that much more like home."

Thurston's music for wind band includes "Festive Dances," an homage to Charlie Carter. He has also written for FSU's Marching Chiefs and other marching bands. Thurston's adaptation of "Happy Xmas (War Is Over)"—a duet between cellist Yo Yo Ma and ukulele master Jake Shimabukuro—is featured on Ma's 2008 CD "Songs of Joy and Peace."

"As for 'A Big Bend Rhapsody,'" said Thurston, "I was trying to describe the beauty and folk-like charm of the place where I grew up."

The Tallahassee Civic Chorale English Traditions concert on Tuesday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. in Turner Auditorium will also be a special celebration. In honor of the chorale's 30th anniversary, artistic director Leslie Heffner has announced that the concert will feature the world premiere of "The Greatest Ship," by Tucker Biddlecombe.

Biddlecombe, who is associate professor of music and director of choral activities at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University, earned his doctoral degree in music education at FSU. He is also the former choral director at Chiles High School.

"We knew we wanted to commission a piece for our 30th, and as we talked about it, Dr. Biddlecombe seemed like the natural choice, not only because of his roots in the Tallahassee community, but because he actually sang with the chorale as a grad student," said Todd Hinkle, chorale president.

Biddlecombe chose an old English maritime toast "The greatest ship is friendship. Here's to you and me," as the text for his composition, reflecting the chorale's theme of celebrating 30 years of singing and friendship.

Program highlights will also include Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Five Mystical Songs," featuring Samuel Carlton as baritone soloist.

After the concert, the Chorale invites the audience to stay for a reception in the style of an English tea.

Admission to the Tallahassee Civic Chorale concert is \$9 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors. TCC students, faculty and staff will be admitted free.

Both the Tallahassee Civic Chorale and Capital City Band rehearse at TCC and include TCC students. However, membership is open to the community.

For information about the Capital City Band, contact Diana Ossi at (850) 562-2752 or email CapitalCityBands@gmail.com.

For information about the Tallahassee Civic Chorale, contact Leslie Heffner at heffnerl@tcc.fl.edu.

Division I signees thankful for time with TCC

JORDAN CULVER

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Signing day is always a big deal, no matter what school you're at.

JUCO transfers can change a program. A player who spends some time at a community college doesn't have the same learning curve as a true freshman, and in some cases, they can contribute to the starting lineup immediately.

Tuesday, five Tallahassee Community College players signed with larger schools.

Men's hoops players Rashad Lewis and Stavian Allen, softball player Alex Cook and baseball players Zach Featherstone and Rion Murrah all inked letters of intent in front of a crowd of supporters.

The quintet of TCC stars all will continue their careers, and they were all thankful for the opportunity TCC provided them.

"My freshman year I went to a Division II school," said Lewis, who was a 3-point specialist in his time with the Eagles. He's heading to Mercer.

"My sophomore year, I had to come to a junior college. Now I'm ready to go to the next level and I'm extremely blessed."

Cook said after her time with TCC, she's ready to become a leader, despite going to a new team. Cook is heading to Presbyterian.

"I don't see myself as a freshman," she said. "I put the work in. I know what it takes to be a leader on the team. I want to just be a transfer junior. I want to be seen as a leader on my team."

Featherstone, who is transferring to High Point University, said taking the JUCO route makes you work harder. He started his career at N.C. State before transferring to TCC.

"You're given things and you've got to work hard to get where you want to be," he said. "At a D-I, when you go there, everything is kind of given to you. They tell you what to do. At a JUCO, you've got to do everything yourself."

*TCC scholarship
available for eligible
students transferring to FSU*

TALLAHASSEE — A select number of Tallahassee Community College students in the TCC2FSU Golden Guarantee Program will be chosen each semester to receive a scholarship to Florida State University.

The intention of the TCC2FSU Transfer Student Scholarship program is to help high-achieving TCC students earn their bachelor's degree from FSU. Successful applicants will receive a scholarship in the amount of \$2,400 per year, renewable for two years.

Students in their last or second-to-last semester at TCC may apply. A minimum 3.0 cumulative TCC GPA is required, and applicants must have successfully completed or be in the process of completing all required prerequisite courses. Selected students must be formally accepted to FSU in order to receive scholarship funds.

Applications for the Spring 2016 semester must be submitted by 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 27. Students may submit applications in person in the TCC Advising Center or by email to Jennifer Iacino, Golden Guarantee Program coordinator, at iacinoj@tcc.fl.edu.

FSU is funding the scholarship program. TCC also offers transfer scholarships to Florida A & M University based on student GPA evaluations and as funds permit.

For information, contact Iacino at 850-201-6567 or iacinoj@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC announces pair of concerts

TALLAHASSEE — Two ensembles with ties to Tallahassee Community College will present milestone concerts this month.

The Capital City Concert Band, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2016, will present a Golden Jubilee Concert at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 23 in Turner Auditorium in the Fine and Performing Arts Center at TCC. Admission is free.

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is a former arranger and composer for The United States Air Force Band. He attended Leon County public schools, TCC and Florida State University.

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Biddlecombe, who



The Tallahassee Civic Chorale will perform music by Tucker Biddlecombe, a former Tallahassee area resident, during a concert Tuesday, April 26. Photo submitted

is associate professor of music and director of choral activities at the Blair School of Music at Vanderbilt University, earned his doctoral degree in music education at FSU. He is also the former choral director at Chiles High School.

After the concert, the chorale invites the audience to stay for a reception in the style of an English tea.

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TCC students, faculty and staff will be admitted free.

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For information about the Capital City Band, contact Diana Ossi at (850) 562-2752 or email CapitalCityBands@gmail.com.

For information about the Tallahassee Civic Chorale, contact Leslie Heffner at heffnerl@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC holds 50th commencement ceremony at end of month

NOODLS-USA

Tallahassee Community College will present its 50th commencement ceremony at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 30, at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center.

TCC will recognize over 2,500 students earning an associate's degree or a certificate from the Summer 2015, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 terms. More than 400 graduates are expected to participate in Saturday's ceremony.

The evening will include remarks from TCC president Jim Murdaugh, TCC Foundation director Heather Mitchell and student speaker Cheire Cook. The guest speaker will be Madeline Pumariega, chancellor of the Florida College System.

Cook began at Tallahassee Community College in Fall 2014, pursuing an Associates of Arts Degree. During her time at TCC, she volunteered in the Peer Leader Program (formerly known as Connect2Complete), a program coordinated through the College's Student Leadership, Involvement and Civic Engagement Office. She also worked closely with TCC professor Brenda Reid, both in the Peer Leader Program and as an intern. Cook will attend Florida State University to pursue a degree in language and literature.

Pumariega became the FCS chancellor in August 2015. She recently served as president of Take Stock in Children, a state-wide non-profit organization focused on breaking the cycle of poverty through education that leads to well-paying jobs. Pumariega was instrumental in establishing Take Stock in Children's largest affiliate, which is currently serving over 600 youth at Miami Dade College. Prior to that, Pumariega worked for 20 years at MDC and served as president of the college's Wolfson campus.

For information, contact Terry Folsom at (850) 201-6147 or folsomt@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC announces three gifts as part of fundraising campaign

CAPITAL SOUP

Tallahassee Community College announced three major gifts at its monthly District Board of Trustees meeting on Monday, April 18.

The first is a gift from Kim and Sammie Dixon establishing a scholarship that each year will provide full tuition to TCC for two members of the Boys and Girls Club of the Big Bend. Kim Dixon is a senior financial adviser with Merrill Lynch and Sammie Dixon is the CEO of Prime Meridian Bank.

The second gift is from Prime Meridian Bank and will benefit students and programs at TCC's recently opened Wakulla Environmental Institute. In addition, the patio outside the WEI building will be re-named the WEI Prime Meridian Bank Patio.

Finally, the third gift is from Pam Butler and W. Tom Cumbie in honor of their parents Tom Cumbie Jr. and Nesta Cumbie. The gift will support programs at the new TCC Gadsden Center. Pam Butler is CEO of Aegis Business Technologies and also serves as president of the TCC Foundation's Board of Directors. W. Tom Cumbie is a retired military judge in the U.S. Air Force.

The gifts are among many received since March, when the TCC Foundation announced its \$10 million "TCC. We Rise" comprehensive campaign. The campaign has already secured \$5.3 million in gifts to support innovation in the areas of teaching and learning environments, programs that answer the community's workforce needs, and preparing a workforce that enriches the local economy.

According to Heather Mitchell, executive director of the TCC Foundation, the campaign is not just a vehicle to help more students attend TCC.

"It's about giving our students the strongest possible foundation for being innovative human beings so they can conquer the current and emerging demands of today's and tomorrow's world," said Mitchell.

For information about the Campaign for TCC, visit www.tccwerise.com or contact the TCC Foundation at (850) 201-8580.

FSU announces commencement speakers

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Florida State University on Friday announced next week's commencement speakers, offering graduates examples of experts in science, entrepreneurship, and business.

Nearly 6,200 students are graduating, with 4,700 expected to participate in ceremonies next weekend. Ceremonies will be held at the Tucker Civic Center.

Here is the lineup:

7:30 p.m. Friday: Marshall Shepherd, director of the Program in Atmospheric Sciences and the Georgia Athletic Association Professor at the University of Georgia, will address the colleges of Arts and Sciences; Human Sciences; Medicine (doctoral degrees only) and Motion Picture Arts. Shepherd earned a bachelor's and master's in meteorology from Florida State in 1991 and 1993 and, in 1999, became the first African-American to earn a doctorate in meteorology from FSU. He also hosts The Weather Channel's award-winning Sunday talk show "Weather Geeks."

9 a.m. Saturday: Jeff Gargiulo, vintner/owner of Gargiulo Vineyards, addresses graduates in the colleges of Applied Studies; Communication and Information; Criminology and Criminal Justice; Engineering; Fine Arts; The Graduate School (materials science graduates only); and Social Sciences and Public Policy. A 1974 FSU graduate in business and marketing, Gargiulo is the vintner and owner of Gargiulo Vineyards in California's Napa Valley, one of the country's top cabernet producers. He's also the former CEO and president of Sunkist.

2 p.m. Saturday: Miguel "Mike" Fernandez, chairman of MBF Healthcare Partners, speaks to graduates of the colleges of Business, Education, Music, Nursing and Social Work. MBF is a Coral Gables-based private equity firm that has invested more than \$500 million in businesses. Fernandez has contributed more than \$100 million to charitable causes. A 2103 Florida Trend report stated that Fernandez also owns the 4,000-acre Little River Plantation ranch in Havana and a total of 9,000 acres in Florida and 25,000 acres in Alabama.

Florida A&M University

U.S. Secretary of Education John B. King, Jr. will deliver the commencement address at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 30, and Adam Putnam, a former Congressman and current Florida Commissioner of Agriculture, will deliver the address at 2 p.m.

Both commencements will be held in the Lawson Center on campus.

Tallahassee Community College

Tallahassee Community College will present its 50th commencement ceremony at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 30, at the Tucker Civic Center. More than 400 graduates are expected to participate. Guest speaker is Madeline Pumariega, chancellor of the Florida College System.

(NOTE: A version of the above related to TCC appeared in Campus Notes on Monday, April 25.)

TCC baseball comes up short in bid for wild card berth

WCTV

Tallahassee Community College's baseball season ended on Sunday when the game-tying run was thrown out at home in a 7-6 loss at Northwest Florida State College.

Tallahassee (34-18) and Northwest Florida State finished with identical 8-12 records in Panhandle Conference play, good for a third-place tie in the league standings. However, today's victory clinched the season series for the Raiders, who won three of five meetings with Tallahassee, and gave them the PC's Wild Card berth by virtue of winning the head-to-head tie-breaker.

Northwest Florida State's season will continue a week from Monday in a one-game playoff against the third-place team from the Suncoast Conference.

The Eagles' season is over – and ended in excruciating fashion.

Down to their final two outs, an Ethan Crout single and Deyvid Silva's third double of the game put the tying runs in scoring position with just one out. After a strike out, Crout scored on pinch-hitter Tyler Kinard's single to left, and Silva rounded third, heading for home with the tying run. But the relay throw was on the mark and the bang-bang call went in favor of the Raiders, ending the game with the Eagles' 11th and final runner left on base.

Silva finished 4-for-5 with two RBIs to pace Tallahassee's 15-hit attack.

The game was a back-and-forth affair from the outset.

Both teams scored two runs in their first at-bat, and Northwest Florida State scored two more in the second but Tallahassee answered to tie the game an inning later.

Doubles by Zach Featherstone, Crout and Silva resulted in two runs to knot the score at 4-all.

The score remained deadlocked at four into the sixth when Bryan Schecker's solo homer put the Eagles in front, conjuring up memories of Mike Dawley's eventual game-winning homer in a win-or-go-home finale 16 years ago at Gulf Coast State College.

Today, however, the lead was short-lived.

The Raiders scored the tying run in their half of the sixth and loaded the bases to knock out Thomas Nicoll, the second of three Tallahassee pitchers. Skylar Arias got out of the jam with just the one run allowed, but the Raiders got to the Tallahassee lefty in the seventh for what proved to be the winning runs.

After the inning began with consecutive hits, Handsome Monica's sac-fly scored the tie-breaking run, and Shawn Feltner's single scored what proved to be the winning run.

Tallahassee lost despite outhitting the host Raiders, 15-9.

In addition to Silva, the Eagles got multi-hit games from Featherstone (2-for-5, 2 R), Crout (2-for-4, 2 R, 2 RBI) and Schecker (2-for-4, R, RBI).

Nick Marchese started and went 2.0 innings for Tallahassee before giving way for Nicoll, who allowed only two hits and struck out five in 3.2 innings.

Arias (5-5) went the final 2.1 innings and was charged with the loss.

TCC launched Dennis' law enforcement career

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Tallahassee native Al Dennis was a member of Godby High School's first graduating class in 1970. Inspired by a law enforcement officer he'd known as a child, Dennis continued his education at Tallahassee Community College, with an eye on a future in law enforcement himself.

"TCC provided a quality education at a cost we could afford and a much-needed transition between high school and a major university," Dennis said. "The smaller class and campus size, cost and family atmosphere blended to make an excellent opportunity for learning. If you graduated from TCC, you were well-prepared to attend any four-year institution."

At TCC, Dennis encountered instructors Ken Katsaris, who went on to become sheriff of Leon County, and Jack Pottinger, who became an assistant state attorney.

"They influenced me to continue in law enforcement," said Dennis. He was also encouraged by his former middle school math teacher, the late Eddie Howard, who had gone on to be an instructor at TCC.

Dennis transferred to Florida State University and earned a bachelor's degree in criminology in 1975. That same year, he joined the Tallahassee Police Department. In 1978, he went to work for the Florida Commission on Human Relations, investigating discrimination throughout the state.

He started his 31-year career with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in 1983, where he would go on to serve as Drug Abuse Resistance Education statewide coordinator, special agent supervisor and administrator of public information. Dennis was FDLE's inspector general from 2004 until retiring in 2014.

Dennis is still making a positive impact in the community, serving on the executive boards of the Lincoln Neighborhood Center Foundation, the Tallahassee Police Department Police Athletic League, and the Alpha Education and Leadership Foundation. He has also served on the board of TCC's alumni association. Grandson Devin Freeman is a 2015 TCC graduate now studying at FSU.

"TCC gave us the tools, confidence, mindset and courage to be successful in our personal and professional lives," said Dennis. "We had outstanding instructors who really cared about us and encouraged us every step of the way because they wanted to see us succeed. As far as I am concerned, TCC is the best community college in the country."

TCC dental programs earn reaccreditation

NOODLS-USA

Two popular healthcare programs at Tallahassee Community College have earned reaccreditation. After site visits by the national Commission on Dental Accreditation, TCC's Dental Hygiene program and Dental Assisting program both earned an accreditation status of 'approval without reporting requirements.'

That status is important for student certification and licensure, as well as for recruitment of prospective students, said Ginny Wagner, who is chair of TCC's Dental Health programs.

'We are very proud of the quality of our Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene programs and the caliber of our graduates. This status validates our dedication, policies and practices,' said Wagner.

The Dental Assisting certificate program at TCC takes three semesters to complete, while the Dental Hygiene associate degree program takes five semesters. Graduates of both programs are in high demand throughout the Big Bend in private dental offices, community health clinics and other facilities.

'You only need to be a dental patient in one of our communities to realize just how important both the programs are to the health of our citizens,' said Alice Nied, dean of the Division of Healthcare Professions.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. The Commission's next site visit at TCC will be in 2022.

For information, write to wagnerv@tcc.fl.edu.

FPSI to host Corrections Week Luncheon

CAPITAL SOUP

The Florida Public Safety Institute will host its inaugural Corrections Week Luncheon on Friday, May 6, at 11 a.m. in the FPSI Conference Center.

The luncheon's keynote speaker is Michael Cockerham, retired unit manager of Tallahassee's Bureau of Prisons Federal Correctional Institution. Cockerham was shot in the line of duty during a shooting incident at FCI Tallahassee in 2006 when two other staff members were killed.

Lunch will be provided beginning at 11:30 a.m. During the program, FPSI will honor a corrections officer, a corrections probation officer, and a federal correctional employee.

Through the luncheon, FPSI intends to highlight the positive impact of corrections employees. Corrections Week was proclaimed in 1984 by then-President Ronald Reagan.

For information, contact Andrea Blalock at (850) 201-7659 or blalocka@tcc.fl.edu.

“TCC One” campaign kicks off

WCTV

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation has launched TCC’s One Campaign. The week-long campaign runs from Thursday, April 28, to Wednesday, May 4.

The Foundation is requesting that donors “make one donation (no matter the size), during one special week” to reflect how TCC has impacted their lives. The goal is to raise \$50,000 in the one-week span.

“We are so excited to see the generosity of TCC’s alumni and friends as they are helping to make a difference,” said Heather Mitchell, TCC Foundation executive director.

Mitchell added that the Foundation has secured a donor who will match up to \$25,000 to help reach the campaign’s goal.

Those who wish to give may do so at alumni.tcc.fl.edu/ONE. TCC’s One Campaign is an initiative of “TCC. We Rise,” the TCC Foundation’s capital campaign.

For information, contact Ranie Thompson at (850) 201-6064 or thompsor@tcc.fl.edu.

Heather Mitchell, Executive director at the foundation says she hopes TCC Eagles give back in a big way. “This is really the college’s first [attempt] into engaging our alumni in any kind of fundraising opportunity. So we’re excited to see how that response rate is.”

Quincy's Cheire Cook to speak at TCC commencement

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Tallahassee Community College will present its 50th commencement ceremony at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, April 30, at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center.

TCC will recognize over 2,500 students earning an associate's degree or a certificate from the Summer 2015, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 terms. More than 400 graduates are expected to participate in Saturday's ceremony.

The evening will include

remarks from TCC president Jim Murdaugh, TCC Foundation director Heather Mitchell and student speaker Cheire Cook of Quincy. The guest speaker will be Madeline Pumariega, chancellor of the Florida College System.

Cook began at Tallahassee Community College in Fall 2014, pursuing an Associates of Arts Degree. During her time at TCC, she volunteered in the Peer Leader Program (formerly known as

Connect2Complete), a program coordinated through the College's Student Leadership, Involvement and Civic Engagement Office. She also worked closely with TCC professor Brenda Reid, both in the Peer Leader Program and as an intern. Cook will attend Florida State University to pursue a degree in language and literature.

Pumariega became the FCS chancellor in August 2015. She recently served as president of Take Stock in

Children, a state-wide non-profit organization focused on breaking the cycle of poverty through education that leads to well-paying jobs. Pumariega was instrumental in establishing Take Stock in Children's largest affiliate, which is currently serving over 600 youth at Miami Dade College. Prior to that, Pumariega worked for 20 years at MDC and served as president of the college's Wolfson campus.

Dual enrollment program gives local high-school students a head start in college

More than 30 students are enrolled in the Tallahassee Community College (TCC) Dual Enrollment program offered at East and West Gadsden High School.

The purpose of the program is to allow high school students to earn credits towards high-school completion and college credits. Students who begin their ninth-grade year are able to earn their Associate of Arts (AA) by the end of their senior year in high school.

The curriculum began in 1997-98. TCC Guidance Counselor Debra McCray is credited with bringing the program to Gadsden. In the beginning, professors from TCC commuted to Gadsden County to teach students. Today, courses and exams are offered through computer labs at the high schools.

Guidance counselors at East Gadsden and Assistant Principal for Curriculum and Sandra Riggins at West Gadsden assist in enrolling students into the program. Geraldine Black, Gadsden County and TCC Dual Enrollment liaison, supervises students once they are admitted into the program on East Gadsden's campus. Black's role ensures students stay on their academics track and have access to resources to complete their courses.

Black supports the program's initiative to present students with the chance to earn



credits for college courses and to take off the financial burden of parents.

"This gives students accessibility to climb career or academic levels. Students can choose to pursue the workforce with either an A.A. or attend a college or university with credits under their belts," Black said.

Shannon Sewell, a guidance counselor at West Gadsden believes for the program to grow and succeed, parents and students must become educated on its benefits. The courses are more rigorous than high school, but that should not discourage parents or students.

"This is an excellent resource for student's educational advancement," Sewell said. Students are able to take college courses for free in high school. The course(s) they take will go toward high-school and college credits. Students will be able to graduate with their high-school diploma and either an A.A. degree or some college credits they can apply to a college or university degree.

Riggins wants students to go beyond just being in the program. She wants them to anticipate where the program can take them in the future.

As the dual enrollment coordinator, she assesses their interests and schedules to determine placement in the program.

"With the increased workload students learn time management and effective study habits," Riggins said. "I've even seen an improvement in maturity and responsibility amongst the students."

With an increase in enrollees since its inception, Riggins believes word of mouth and the buddy system are the reasons the program is a success. Registration, tuition and lab fees and textbooks are waived for dual-enrollment students. Students must have a 3.0 unweighted cumulative GPA and demonstrate readiness through Florida Standards Assessment, SAT, ACT or Postsecondary Education Readiness (PERT). There is no limit on how many students can enroll in the program.

TCC students combine art and community service

KATIE WILLIAMS
CHRONICLE

While many students are writing reports and studying for tests, one Tallahassee Community College faculty member has her students expressing what they've learned in a unique way.

Lindsey Smitherman-Brown had one of her humanities classes build a large sculpture made of donated food to resemble artist Jasper Johns' painting, "Flag." The build took four hours and used 378 cans of soup, 44 boxes of pasta and 122 cans of tuna. The students also organized an on-campus food drive where they collected another 120 food items for TCC's food pantry.

The purpose of the project was to help students see that art can be both beautiful and meaningful, and it is often the medium through which people learn to care about global and community issues. The project began with students identifying creative works that commented on issues of public concern or served as a solution to community problems. They explored works from artists such as Banksy, who created the Dismaland installation in the U.K. and donated the timber and fixtures to create migrant shelters in a French refugee camp.

"Students are nearing the end of their time here at TCC and I want them to understand two things," said Smitherman-Brown. "First, the humanities are not confined to our studies in the classroom. We are surrounded by the humanities and enjoy them each and every day. Second, students are members of a community that desperately needs them to participate."

The students decided to focus their project on hunger, an issue that affects around 115,000 people that live in poverty in the Big Bend region. After the sculpture comes down, all food items will be donated to the campus food pantry.

Smitherman-Brown hopes that this experience will encourage her students to give back to the community in their own way.

"Whether they continue service in the community, become politically engaged, or choose future employment to provide services or solve problems in their community, I want them to begin to understand their ability to offer skills and knowledge to benefit the public good."



ROWLAND

» Tallahassee Community College has named **Sheri Rowland** as its new vice president for Student Affairs. She comes

to the college from Middle Georgia State University, where she has served in multiple roles since 2012, including vice president for enrollment management.

TCC GRADUATION A PROPER SEND-OFF



PHOTOS BY PHIL KELLY / SPECIAL TO THE DEMOCRAT

Students listen to guest speaker Madeline Pumariega during the Tallahassee Community College 50th commencement ceremony at the Tucker Civic Center Saturday.



Guest Speaker Madeline Pumariega, Chancellor of the Florida College System, addresses graduates Saturday.

Natasha King brings smiles to children and adults

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Natasha King took her last class at Tallahassee Community College more than five years ago, but she still has opportunities to work with TCC faculty members and students.

King, who is both a dental hygienist and a dental assistant at Bond Community Health Center in Tallahassee, frequently hosts current TCC dental program students doing clinical rotations under her guidance.

"I really enjoy having the TCC students here," King said. "I know what they are going through, their nervousness because they don't know what to expect. I try to show them the tricks of the trade."

King was born in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and went to high school in Fort Walton Beach. She came to Tallahassee to attend Florida A & M University, but after a few years she still did not know what she wanted to do for a career, so she opted to take a break from college.

Eventually, King decided to search for a stable career she could prepare for quickly. That led her to apply for the Dental Assisting program at TCC. She soon realized that the right career goal had "fallen into her lap."

Even before King graduated from the program in 2008, she was offered a job at The Molar Express, the Leon County Health Department's dental clinic. That started her on a path of providing dental health services to low-income communities.

She then decided to expand her career opportunities and ability to serve the community by enrolling in TCC's Dental Hygiene program. She continued to work at The Molar Express part-time while attending school, graduating with an associate degree in dental hygiene in 2010.

King was hired as a hygienist by Southwestern State Hospital in Thomasville, working with people with developmental disabilities. While there she got a call from dentist Tamara-Kay Tibby, who had supervised King during one of her clinical rotations. Tibby had become director of the Smile Connection at Bond Community Health Center and asked King to join the staff there, which she did in 2012.

Bond provides health services for people who are underserved and unprivileged, do not have insurance, or face other challenges in obtaining healthcare. The Smile Connection provides general dentistry services for children and adults, including exams, cleanings, and fillings.

"My passion is public health. I want to give back," said King.

TCC student Misha Smith honored for civic engagement

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Misha Smith, a second-year student at Tallahassee Community College, was one of the national winners of the 2016 Newman Civic Fellows Award from Campus Compact. The award honors inspiring student leaders who are working to find solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country.

Smith is a senator in TCC's Student Government Association, where she has demonstrated her passion for addressing issues related to poverty. She has served with Literacy Volunteers of Leon County and with the Big Bend Homeless Coalition and has worked to bring awareness of those issues to fellow students. Smith is currently coordinating a service event to advocate for increased community and financial support for people who are homeless and for the prevention of homelessness in the Tallahassee area.

TCC Brain Bowl Team finishes as state runner-up

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Community College Brain Bowl Team finished second at the Florida College System Activities Association State Championship Tournament held in April at Pasco-Hernando State College. The team won 10 of 11 preliminary matches to advance to the final against eventual winner State College of Florida-Manatee. TCC's team was competing in its first state tournament since 2004 thanks to a wild card invitation.

Team members include Maribeth Curci, Landon Glover, Meleket Ferrede, Dylan Johnson and Nathaniel Henry. Curci is a graduate of SAIL High School, Glover of Wakulla High School, Ferrede of Leon High School, and Johnson of Lincoln High School. Henry is an alumnus of Dothan High School in Alabama. The team is coached by David Proctor, professor of history.

Academic Support Program grads recognized at TCC

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Two Tallahassee Community College students were honored Tuesday, April 19, at the Academic Support Programs Division Recognition Ceremony. Bashair Binmahfooz and Heather Crutchfield received certificates for their academic successes in the ceremony held in the TCC Student Union Ballroom.

Binmahfooz, who is pursuing an Associate in Science degree in Health Care and Surgical Technology, plans to apply for optional practical training to gain hands-on experience. Crutchfield, after completing both an Associate in Arts and an Associate in Science degree, plans to enroll in the University of Florida's Master Naturalist Program.

FPSI to host Corrections Week Luncheon

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Florida Public Safety Institute will host its inaugural Corrections Week Luncheon on Friday, May 6, at 11 a.m. in the FPSI Conference Center. The keynote speaker is Michael Cockerham, retired unit manager of Tallahassee's Bureau of Prisons Federal Correctional Institution. Cockerham was shot in the line of duty during a shooting incident at FCI Tallahassee in 2006 when two other staff members were killed.

Lunch will be provided beginning at 11:30 a.m. During the program, FPSI will honor a corrections officer, a corrections probation officer and a federal correctional employee. For information, contact Andrea Blalock at 201-7659 or blalocka@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC faculty request union election

Petition filed to allow vote on representation by UFF

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Faculty at Tallahassee Community College, still stung by a proposal last month that would have affected their teaching load, are now seeking to unionize.

About 70 percent of faculty signed cards indicating their interest in calling for a union vote, with about 50 percent of them agreeing to join the union if the union proposal passed.

The petition was filed with the Florida Public Employees Relations Commission asking for a vote at the beginning of the fall semester. The commission now must verify each of the signatures and then inform the college of the election request.

TCC Faculty Senate President Frank Baglione said there are about 50 members of the United Faculty of Florida among the faculty, and 40 more have pledged to join if the election is successful.

If faculty approve the union vote, it would allow the chapter of the United Faculty of Florida to engage in collective bargaining with the administration. A non-bargaining chapter was established at TCC in 1995.

A majority of faculty voted against an attempt to include collective bargaining in 2009.

Jen Robinson, a professor of art history and president of TCC's UFF chapter, said unionization would ensure that faculty have input in decisions affecting their workplace.

"The needs of the faculty at TCC have changed and now is the time to embrace collective bargaining and secure our voice at the table," Robinson said. "We want the best institution for our students, and that can only happen if we eschew the advisory-only position we now occupy under the current shared governance system. We deserve to have a recognized voice in decisions that alter the students' learning environment, potentially for the worst. Our move to unionize is about making TCC the best it can be."

TCC spokesman Al Moran said the college was caught off-guard by news of the union interests, and had not received any notification from Faculty Senate leadership.

"Of course, the faculty have a right to move in that direction," Moran said. "They have every right to form a union and the college will honor it."

The United Faculty of Florida represents 11 state university faculties and 14 state college and graduate assistant chapters, according to the Florida Education Association. Elections are planned this fall at Florida Polytechnic University and at State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota. FSU and FAMU each have chapters that engage in collective bargaining.

A rift was created between TCC faculty and administrators last month when Provost Feleccia Moore-Davis had deans introduce to faculty a proposal that would have ended the decades-old practice of TCC professors being allowed to teach four classes per semester rather than the state required five. TCC has gotten around that mandate by letting some professors out of teaching a fifth class and reassigning them to other duties, also allowed by the state law.

Moore-Davis has said that practice has become unfair, with some professors using that extra time for activities that have not been monitored. She also said that some professors are not allowed to take advantage of the loophole in the law because of their teaching demands.

TCC's Faculty Senate blasted the idea and the initial suggestion that changes be implemented as early as this fall. Chief among their concerns was they were not given a chance to provide input.

And, faculty argued, the additional three hours of teaching would eliminate the time they spend mentoring students or providing additional guidance to graduate assistants, on top of the time needed to serve on committees and carry out other assigned responsibilities.

The pushback forced TCC President Jim Murdaugh to call an emergency meeting with faculty where he called off the plan. Instead, Murdaugh and Moore-Davis agreed to allow time for the proposal to be vetted by faculty and others, and to have a task force created to examine the issue.

TCC faculty request union election....

continued

TCC trustees at their meeting later this month are expected to hear from Murdaugh and Moore-Davis on material related to what reassignment time consists of, how it is granted to professors, the impact it has on teaching and specific examples.

The board also indicated its support for creating the task force that would review the data and report back to the board in June.

But faculty still aren't satisfied, saying the material trustees will review will come from administrators.

Baglione said having 70 percent of faculty signed cards asking for an election is indicative of the interest.

"We haven't had raises in six years," he said. "That's what got the faculty saying, 'maybe we need to form a union.' The provost made the decision without any faculty input."

Gov. Scott takes short-sighted view on (business) climate

ADAM LAROSE

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Gov. Scott traveled to California recently to convince businesses to leave the Golden State for the land of sunshine and the world's most beautiful beaches. His trip was even preceded by an ad from Enterprise Florida (a public-private nonprofit, predominantly funded by the state and chaired by the governor) that ran in San Francisco and Los Angeles. It repeatedly referenced our state's business-friendly climate, lax regulations, and zero state income tax as top reasons for economic consideration.

While the governor's effort is laudable and the intent behind these initiatives commendable, both miss the point. The governor glosses over the fact that no matter how fertile or how strong our business climate, nothing can understate how susceptible that climate is to climate change and rising sea levels.

Upon Scott's arrival, Gov. Jerry Brown of California penned a letter highlighting what the chief executive of Florida is missing, noting, "If you're truly serious about Florida's economic wellbeing, it's time to stop the silly political stunts and start doing something about climate change."

Gov. Brown went on to reference a report authored by the Risky Business Project, a nonpartisan climate initiative led by Hank Paulson, Michael Bloomberg and Tom Steyer. The report paints a grave and unsettling picture of what the state of Florida is facing economically due to climate change and rising sea levels.

The initiative assembled leading researchers in climate science and catastrophe-modeling to come to some of the following conclusions:

- By 2030, up to \$69 billion in coastal property will likely be at risk of inundation at high tide that is not at risk today; by 2050, that number will increase to \$152 billion.
- By 2030, up to \$15 billion in coastal property will likely be flooded statewide; by 2050, that number will increase to as much as \$23 billion.
- Higher seas will only exacerbate destruction for a state that is more vulnerable to storm damage than any other; storm related economic losses are expected to total \$1.3 billion more per year by 2030; \$17 billion by 2050.

- Rising temperatures are estimated to cost the state just under \$4 billion a year in reduced labor productivity.

This report only scratches the surface for our state. Each year, we lose more and more coastline. We invest millions of dollars in beach reconstruction. And we jeopardize our largest industry, tourism, by neglecting our most valuable resources: the beaches, the seas, the marine life and our coasts.

Climate change is a major threat to the state that I hold dear. Our governor, by seeking to bring in resources and pander in hopeless political persuasion, is neglecting the number one issue facing the state of Florida. He neglects the threats, the science and the economic implications.

We need a governor who is willing to protect and invest in the resources of the state that have allowed us to thrive.

Adam LaRose is a second-year Master in Public Policy candidate at the Harvard Kennedy School. He is a Tallahassee native, and a graduate of FSU and TCC.

Business brings Patrick Regan back to alma maters

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Although Patrick Regan now makes his home in Miami, he still has plenty of connections to North Florida—and especially to Tallahassee Community College.

Regan is a client success manager for Meltwater Miami. His client list has included both TCC and Florida State University—his dual alma maters. Regan enjoys returning to the campuses he inhabited more than a decade ago and helping those institutions monitor, make sense of and make the most of their media coverage using statistical analysis system software and customized support.

He also helps his clients connect with the media easily and effectively in order to build their brand.

Regan earned an Associate in Arts degree from TCC in 2003 and a bachelor's degree from FSU in business with an emphasis in entrepreneurship and small business.

He actually started his college career in the Fort Lauderdale area, but after visiting friends who were attending FSU, he decided to move to Tallahassee and take classes at TCC to prepare himself for FSU's business school. He clearly feels he made the right choice.

"The teachers, the small class sizes, and the honors program were all great for me. The macro- and microeconomics classes were amazing. My business calculus professor was awesome. When it comes to the prerequisites for business, TCC was great."

Regan also benefitted from extracurricular activities while at TCC.

He was a member of student government and fondly recalls a leadership retreat he attended with that group about an hour east of campus. The two-day camping trip gave him a chance to bond with a small group of peers and to develop leadership skills he would use many times in the future.

On a 2015 visit to TCC, Regan described what he appreciates most about his time at TCC.

"It's the college experience without having to go to a big college, living in Tallahassee but not having to attend a big school, and still getting the real college experience," he said. "That's what I liked about going to TCC."

Inaugural Corrections Week program

LANETRA BENNETT
WCTV

The Florida Public Safety Institute in Gadsden County held a Corrections Week Luncheon Friday.

The program honors members of the correctional community, and highlights the positive impact of corrections employees.

Bill Brewer with the Florida Department of Corrections said, "Our correctional officers go out and put their lives on the line every day. They never know when they go in that day, that morning, that evening, what's in store for them, what's in front of them. They do it because they have a real sense of service over self."

The Public Safety Institute plans to make their appreciation luncheon an annual event.

Friday's keynote speaker was Michael Cockerham. Cockerham survived a shooting at Tallahassee's federal prison in 2006.

Prison guard Ralph Hill opened fire on federal agents who had come to arrest him and five other guards.

Hill and Agent William Sentner died in the gunfire.

Agent Cockerham was shot, but survived.

Next month marks the ten year anniversary of the deadly shootout.

Pyramid Studios artists exhibit at TCC

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Artists from Pyramid Studios will exhibit their work in the Tallahassee Community College Fine Art Gallery from May 12 to July 14. The public is invited to an opening reception on May 12, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Many of the artists featured in the show will be there, and Pyramid's band will perform in the lobby during the opening.

Each year, the TCC Fine Art Gallery's summer show supports a local arts group. Pyramid Studios offers challenging opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities.

Students receive one-on-one instruction in their areas of interest and have opportunities to interact with their fellow developing artists.

The gallery is located in the TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center.

TCC faculty needs protection of union contract

FRANK BAGLIONE
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (LETTERS TO THE EDITOR)

The issue leading TCC faculty to petition for a union election goes beyond the unilateral action of the provost increasing faculty workload by 20 percent.

By adding 45 hours of class time each semester, faculty will have 45 hours fewer office hours to meet and consult with students, whose numbers will increase to almost 200 a semester, and less time to do advising and other activities of direct benefit to students and the college.

I have taught at TCC for 26 years and I am very proud of the college, its students and its faculty. The provost's action threatens to destroy what is a very sound academic program. That is why faculty believe they need a union contract to protect the values and culture of this excellent institution.

TCC's academic system seems to work as is

BRIAN BUCKLEY
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (LETTERS TO THE EDITOR)

On the same day as a My View from Adam LaRose about the dangers of climate change, the Democrat had story on TCC faculty wanting a union because the new provost from Texas is changing the decades-long educational system at the college.

LaRose, a Tallahassee native, is now a graduate student at Harvard. He graduated from FSU, but first graduated from TCC with an AA.

I think I am beginning to see why the TCC faculty want to preserve an educational system that can produce this type of academic progress.

TCC sets dates for dual-enrollment fairs

More than 500 high-school students taking classes at TCC

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College is holding three academic fairs next week to enroll students in its dual-enrollment program.

The enrollment fairs will be held on the following dates:

Monday, May 16, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., TCC Gadsden Center, 222 Pat Thomas Parkway, Quincy;

Tuesday, May 17, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wakulla High School, 3237 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville;

Thursday, May 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., TCC Student Union, Advising Center (second floor); 444 Appleyard Drive.

All students interested in dual enrollment must complete the TCC online application at www.tcc.fl.edu (dual enrollment option) and students must bring a signed Permission to Register Form approved by their high-school counselor.

During the 2015-16 academic year, 537 students are dual enrolled, with the majority of them, 277, living in Leon County. Wakulla is next with 169, and 45 from Gadsden County, said Tulani Honablew, TCC's High School/Dual Enrollment advisor/counselor.

In addition, there are 46 home-schooled students from Leon, Gadsden and Wakulla counties who are dual-enrolled at TCC.

Students must have an unweighted 3.0 high school GPA to be considered for dual enrollment and 3.5 GPA for the early admit/dual enrollment sequence, Students must maintain a 2.5 GPA at TCC, said Christen Bennett, TCC's recruitment coordinator.

Students also must take the ACT, SAT, or the Post-Secondary Education Readiness Test, ahead of time to be considered.

She said many of the students opt to take prerequisite courses for nursing or other health sciences.

"They have to test college ready to take any dual-enrollment class," she said. "It's your best and brightest high school students who meet the requirements.

"We have a lot of students who complete their AA (degree) just after high school; others transition into TCC already a step ahead."

Students in the early admit sequence can be a TCC full-time rather than taking classes at their high school.

Dual enrollment is a money saver for parents. Students attending public high schools can have their TCC tuition costs paid by the school district at a reduced cost.

Efforts sparked by 2015 trip to Boulder

Local government, business leaders got ideas from 3-day visit

TAMARYN WATERS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

A year ago this month a trip to Boulder, Colorado, was supposed to inspire grand ideas that could work in Tallahassee.

Some of Tallahassee's most powerful and influential government and business leaders made the whirlwind three-day trip. Boulder was selected because it's light years ahead of Tallahassee's startup environment. There, research-based innovations at the University of Colorado also were notable enough for locals to pose the question — How can Tallahassee do that?

"We have the ability in our community to come up with new innovations, new ideas and ways to partner with each other," said Sue Dick, president and CEO of the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.

Here's a look at five projects that were inspired by the Boulder trip:

Waterworks project — A historic building on the fringes of Cascades Park was used to generate water for the city of Tallahassee until 1958. It sits on an L-shaped acre of land. Now it's poised for redevelopment and financial assistance from the City Commission in order to restore the building for future use. Knight Creative Communities Institute's 2016 Waterworks Catalyst team, the project facilitators, has drummed up a few ideas that range from an art exhibit to a tourist information center.

During the Boulder trip, the Tallahassee group visited the Dairy Arts Center — a former dairy plant that was repurposed as an art museum.

"It's a huge opportunity for economic development down there in order to activate that area," said Betsy Couch, KCCI's executive director, regarding the Waterworks building.

Tallahassee Brew District — Four local businesses — Proof Brewing Co., GrassLands Brewing Company, The Brass Tap and Madison Social — teamed up to create this new libation destination.

"All of us are kind of trying to do the same things and that's push alcohol down people's throats, in a very responsible way," Madison Social owner Matt Thompson said, which triggered light laughter from members of

the Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce. "Fortunately, the collaboration was there from the start."

Thompson said the immediate area is entangled in a branding nightmare. There's a mash-up of existing and proposed areas: All Saints, Railroad Square, Gaines Street District, College Town, the Arena District and Madison Mile. Now comes the Tallahassee Brew District.

"And we don't really know what we are. So we figured we'd throw one more in the mix, and we can sort out the rest later," Thompson said.

The four companies have an operating agreement and bylaws. And, they're required to play nice with one another.

MuniMod — This project was designed to harvest startup brainpower. Led by the Florida League of Cities and Domi Station, it challenged bright college students to come up with ideas that could improve operations for municipalities.

Leon County Commissioner John Dailey made the Boulder trip. He came back with an idea that became MuniMod, which stands for Municipal Modernization in the 21st Century. From Jan. 11 to April 20, teams worked on ideas and participated in a "Demo Day." They competed for a \$5,000 grand prize and a \$200 stipend upon completing potential course credit.

"Over the course of eight weeks, they actually built new technologies that helped municipalities solve problems they are facing moving forward," Dailey said. "The things these students are coming up with to help municipalities and local governments moving forward is absolutely unbelievable."

The program has gone statewide and will return to Tallahassee this fall.

Retail Incubator — This is another project designed to inspire startups. Tallahassee Community College and the Downtown Improvement Authority teamed up to create a retail incubator. The idea is to provide a free business incubator program that will prepare TCC students for a career in retail and retail management.

Efforts sparked by 2015 trip to Boulder....

continued

According to TCC's Workforce Development Department, retail is expected to spark 1.1 million new jobs in the United States by 2022. More than 1,300 retail jobs have appeared in Leon County in the last year. By 2022, almost 6,000 retail jobs are expected to take root in Leon County.

The goal of the incubator is to create a stronger workforce and potentially spark new businesses. Kim Moore, vice president for workforce development at TCC, said one critical takeaway from the Boulder trip was a need for more collaborations.

"There's such great opportunity to create something new that's never been experienced," Moore said, adding that could involve brick-and-mortar businesses and e-commerce. She said plans are in the works to expand the retail incubator in Tallahassee and Gadsden County.

Commercialization/research efforts at Florida State University — In Boulder, significant attention was placed on how to tap into university-produced research that could eventually work in the market.

Roughly \$250 million every year is devoted to research at FSU, which is largely federally funded. The university has made significant investments in local research facilities, including the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory or the "Mag Lab."

New professors are being hired at an "incredibly fast rate," said Larry Lynch, a program consultant within the FSU Office of Commercialization. They are coming on as professors with an emphasis on entrepreneurship.

In addition, he said the university is working on ways to bring outside companies into the Tallahassee area that can utilize the city's research-based innovations.

TCC faculty should unionize

PETER JOHNSTON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (LETTERS TO THE EDITOR)

As a retired TCC faculty member, I could only shout "Amen!" after reading Frank Baglione's letter of May 10. I remember six or eight years ago when Frank and others led a strong campaign for unionization. Unfortunately, the controlling, micromanaging administration at the time decided to visit each division, preaching an anti-union message and saying life would be miserable for faculty if we voted for the union.

Too bad over 75 percent of faculty bought the threats. Coincidentally, the same day faculty voted "no" to the union, FSU adjunct professors voted "yes."

Faculty, don't pass up this opportunity again. I was very saddened to read the recent Democrat articles. It looks as if things have worsened since I left the TCC. Take a stand now and vote "yes" to unionization. In spirit, I stand with you.

Eyrie award winners excel in arts, literature

TCC students showcase their talents in magazine

JUSTIN ADAMS
CHRONICLE

When Tallahassee Community College student Tatyana Cabrera snapped one more photograph of her daughter before leaving the park one day, she didn't know that picture would be an award-winner.

"She was tired of playing and posing for me," Cabrera said. "I remember she said 'Mama, no more photos.'"

The photograph, aptly titled "Tired," appears in the 2016 edition of the Eyrie art and literary magazine. "Tired" earned Cabrera top honors in the genre of photography as voted on by faculty judges.

Cabrera and the other four genre winners were celebrated at the magazine's 35th-edition unveiling party on April 12, 2016, in the TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Leah Wirgau, the 2016 genre winner for fiction, was astounded to learn that her short story, "The Constant Friend," was chosen as best in the field.

"Being a part of the Eyrie staff has been such an amazing privilege," Wirgau said, "but being able to be a part of the magazine itself adds so much."

Wirgau's story chronicling the inner monologue of a trampoline as it witnesses the passage of time received high praise from TCC English professor Lu Vickers, who deemed the story "a lovely portrait of the seasons of childhood."

Additional genre winners include Kevin Szortyka (for nonfiction, "The Promise of Bread and Wine"), Madeline Domning (art, "The Inbetween") and Colt Landen (poetry, "How to Erase Your Child's Identity").

Nicolette Costantino, associate professor of English and Eyrie faculty adviser, said the magazine is a testament to the dedication and passion students bring to its production.

"It's a tradition I'm extremely proud and privileged to be a part of," she said. "Every year, without fail, I am reminded by my students of why I became a teacher."

The Eyrie is currently accepting submissions for the 2017 edition of the magazine. Interested students may enter original, unpublished work for consideration by visiting <https://tallahassee.collegiatelink.net/organization/eyrie>. All submissions must be entered by January 6, 2017.

Cabrera said she was excited to be chosen as the genre winner for photography, but added she does not take pictures with the aim of winning awards in mind.

"I just try to enjoy the moment while I do what I like," she said.

*Gadsden County Chamber
announces
guest speaker for monthly meeting*

Gadsden County Chamber Of Commerce will have its next "Go Gadsden" meeting from 8 to 9 a.m. Thursday, May 19, at University of Florida Research Center, 155 Research Road, Quincy.



Kimberley Moore

Coffee, juice and light refreshments will be served.

Those planning to attend RSVP via email to jstallworth@gmail.com or call 850- 627-9231.

Guest speaker will be Kimberly Moore, vice president for Workforce Development at Tallahassee Community College.

She will be speaking on customer service initiatives for Gadsden County.

Moore has spent

More than a decade in the workforce development arena.

In her current position, she is responsible for developing strategic solutions that address the needs of employers and those seeking to enter the workforce.

Prior to joining TCC, she served as the Chief Executive Officer of WORKFORCE plus.

This meeting is sponsored by TDS.

TCC dual-enrollment fairs scheduled for May

Tallahassee Community College's Student Success and Retention office will host three Dual Enrollment fairs for local high school students this month. High school students will need to complete the TCC online application at www.tcc.fl.edu (choose Dual Enrollment as the

program option), and each student will need to bring a Permission to Register Form completed by their high school guidance counselor, and official copies of high school transcripts and test scores.

Dual-enrolled students must maintain a 3.0 un-weighted high school

grade-point average, and a TCC GPA of 2.5 and a 75% success rate.

The three dates and locations for TCC's Dual Enrollment Fairs are:

- Monday, May 16, 2016, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.: Tallahassee Community College Gadsden Center, 222 Pat Thomas Parkway, Quincy

- Tuesday, May 17, 2016, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Wakulla High School, 3237 Coastal Highway, Crawfordville

- Thursday, May 19, 2016, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.: TCC Student Union, Advising Center (2nd floor), 444 Appleyard Drive, Tallahassee



Dr. Leslie Heffner
Artistic Director

presents

English Traditions

Tuesday, April 26

Turner Auditorium
on the Campus of TCC

7:30pm

sponsored by



www.CivicChorale.org



Need Summer Classes?
CHECK OUT TCC'S SUMMER CLASS OPTIONS

REGISTER TODAY AT TCCPASSPORT.TCC.FL.EDU

May Main
May 5 – July 20

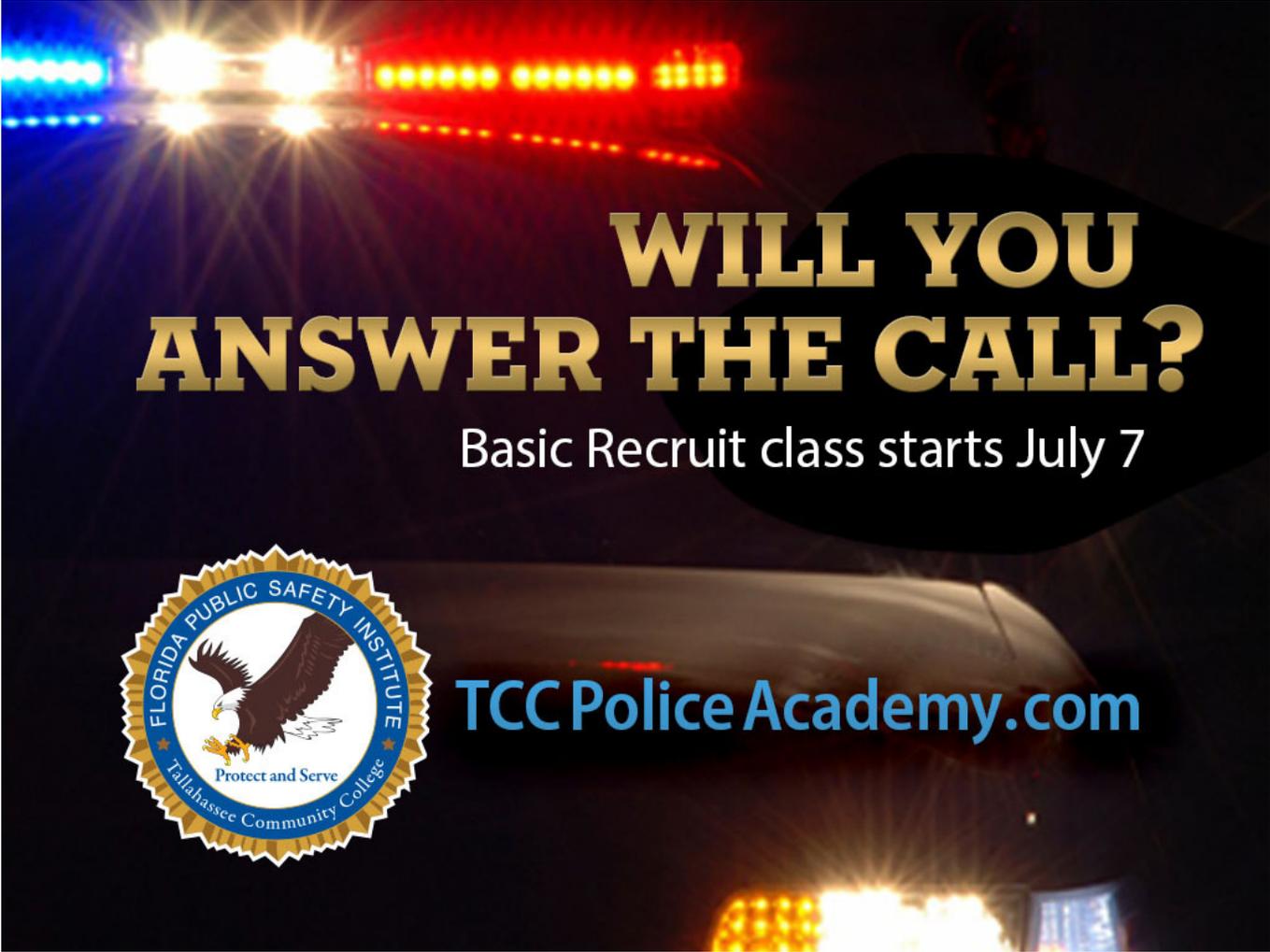
May EXPRESS
May 5 - June 17

June EXPRESS
June 22 – August 7

Summer Mini-Mester
May 9 – June 1

Going home for the Summer?
Take classes anywhere through TCC Online. Find out more at:
www.tcc.fl.edu/tconline

Coming this Fall:
Weekend College!
Earn your associates degree on the weekend!
3-year Saturday-only track offered



WILL YOU ANSWER THE CALL?

Basic Recruit class starts July 7



TCCPoliceAcademy.com



TCC2FAMU
Golden Guarantee Program

TCC is the #1 transfer school to FAMU



TCC awards more than \$1,000,000 in scholarships each year.

Apply today at www.tcc.fl.edu/scholarships | Applications Due June 1



**Get a jump start on college.
Enroll in TCC Summer Classes.**

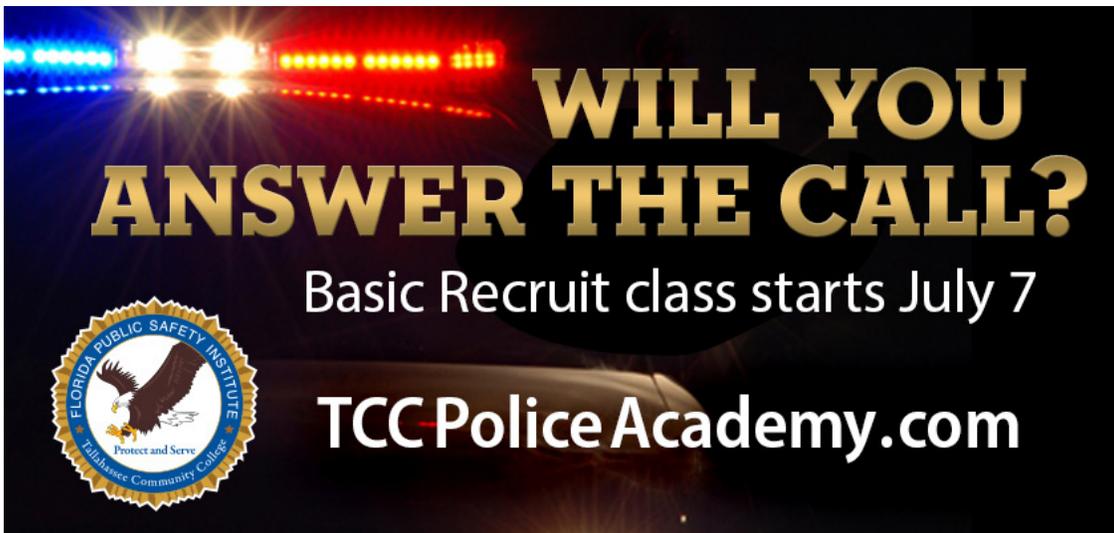
Register today at www.GoToTCC.com | Classes June 22 - August 7



**TCC
2
FSU**
Golden Guarantee Program

BEGIN YOUR
JOURNEY
TO AN
FSU DEGREE
TCC2FSU.COM

The billboard features a central graphic with the text 'TCC 2 FSU' in large, bold letters, with a yellow '2' and an arrow pointing from TCC to FSU. Below this is the text 'Golden Guarantee Program'. To the left is a photograph of a brick building with a large arched window. To the right is a photograph of a large, multi-story brick building with towers. The right side of the billboard has a dark red background with white text.



**WILL YOU
ANSWER THE CALL?**
Basic Recruit class starts July 7
TCCPoliceAcademy.com



The billboard has a dark background with a police car's emergency lights (blue and red) at the top. The text is in large, bold, yellow and white fonts. The logo for the Florida Public Safety Institute is in the bottom left corner, featuring an eagle and the text 'Protect and Serve' and 'Tallahassee Community College'.



TCC Gadsden Center is open and ready to serve Gadsden County



TCC GADSDEN CENTER
 222 Pat Thomas Parkway | (850) 558-3620

- Testing services, academic advising, career services, and financial aid consultations on a scheduled basis
- GED preparation and English language instruction for speakers of other languages
- Computer lab for programs, including our online A.A. degree
- Resource room connecting individuals with training, internships, career opportunities, and support in securing employment.
- A hands-on workforce training lab
- Retail customer service training
- Specialized job training for individuals with disabilities

Coming soon: HVAC installation and repair program

Coming soon: Office technology with an emphasis on healthcare

JOIN TCC FOR

TCC Dual Enrollment Fair

Thursday, May 16 | 6 - 8 p.m.
 TCC Gadsden Center

Customer Service & Sales Fundamentals

May 19 | 6 - 10 p.m. | \$125

TCC's Arrive. Apply. Accepted.

June 2 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Our admission and financial aid event where you can apply to TCC and get help with financial aid forms.

Enter to win a TCC scholarship and enjoy some free food and fun!



Two TCC Gateways in Wakulla County



TCC Wakulla Center

2932 Crawfordville Highway | (850) 922-6290

TCC's Wakulla Center features workforce-focused programs including retail customer service training, online small business management certificate with an entrepreneurial focus, and job training for individuals with disabilities.

Join us for the following:

- Customer Service & Sales Fundamentals (BU50240)
May 24 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. | \$125
- Retail Management & Operations (BU50251)
May 31, June 28 - Tuesdays, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. | \$795
- Customer Service & Sales Fundamentals (BU50240)
June 2 | 6 - 10 p.m. | \$125



Wakulla Environmental Institute

170 Preservation Way | (850) 558-3500

The TCC Wakulla Environmental Institute combines education, conservation and recreation to stimulate economic development in an environmentally responsible manner. Programs include oyster aquaculture, environmental drone technology and environmental science technology and Green Guides.

TCC's Arrive. Apply. Accepted.

Thursday, June 16 | 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
TCC Wakulla Environmental Institute

Don't miss this admission and financial aid event where you can apply to TCC and get help with financial aid forms.

Enter to win a TCC scholarship and enjoy some free food and fun!