

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



September 17 - October 21, 2016

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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September 17 - October 21, 2016

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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- October 14 - WCTV - Marine law enforcement added to FPSI's Instructor Training Seminar
- October 20 - WTXL - Kim Moore talks Startup Weekend set for early November
- October 20 - WTXL - Backpack 2 Briefcase job skills series for students with disabilities

TCC and Domi Station organize event for entrepreneurs and developers

AUTUMN BELL

WTLX

Tallahassee Community College and Domi Station have teamed up to organize a weekend-long event that connects aspiring creators and entrepreneurs with useful resources.

Startup Weekend Tallahassee aims to connect aspiring entrepreneurs, developers, and designers with mentors and resources. The college said that attendees will share ideas, form teams, and launch startups within 2 days.

The event will begin with open mic pitches on Friday where attendees will share their ideas and form teams. Over the next two days the teams will work until they present their ideas and prototypes to a panel of experts on Sunday.

The event is being held Friday and Saturday at TCC's Center for Workforce Development.

It is being sponsored by the Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship, Architects: Lewis + Whitlock, the Leon County R & D Authority, and CareerSource Capital Region.

Panhandle Presidents' Coalition meets at Chipola

KATHY M. FOSTER
FOSTER FOLLY NEWS

A standing coalition of higher education leadership has resolved to work proactively in strategic partnership to promote economic growth and development throughout Northwest Florida.

The Florida Panhandle Presidents' Coalition is made up of state college and university presidents, including: Dr. Judy Bense, University of West Florida (UWF); Dr. Edward Meadows, Pensacola State College; Dr. Sasha Jarrell, Northwest Florida State College; Dr. Jason Hurst, Chipola College; Dr. John Holdnak, Gulf Coast State College; **and Dr. Jim Murdaugh, Tallahassee Community College.**

Chipola President Dr. Jason Hurst, says, "It's unique that presidents at colleges and universities across our region are committed to crossing borders to do what's best for the region and not just our own institutions. CEO's are competitive by nature and we don't always want to share our best ideas. This group has realized that, by working together, we can accomplish much more for the people we serve."

Most colleges brought their resident grant writers to the coalition meeting. Some already have collaborated on successful grant applications. Hurst pointed to the work of the Alabama/Florida Technical Employment Network (AF-TEN) as a positive example of working across boundaries to achieve shared goals. AF-TEN won a \$10 million grant to start new welding programs at Chipola, L. B. Wallace, Northwest Florida State, Pensacola State, and Wallace Community College. The grant was awarded in 2013 by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. Today, all five colleges in the network have robust enrollment in their welding programs. Building onto the multi-college welding initiative, the president's discussed the establishment of a North West Florida Business and Industry Mobile Training Institute.

Additionally, UWF, in partnership with Florida's Great Northwest, recently was awarded a grant by the U.S. Economic Development Administration aimed at creating a regional plan for economic transformational. The aims of the plan will be to provide a framework for the diversification and expansion of Northwest Florida's economy, thereby reducing the region's heavy dependence on tourism- and defense-related revenues.

Darwin Gilmore, Chipola College Dean of Workforce and Economic Development, said, "It is exciting to see what is in store for the last frontier in the great state of Florida. In support of this planned economic diversity, we see our university and college presidents demonstrating a commitment to value our educational assets and develop a coordinated effort to establish the degrees, certificates and ultimately the workforce solution we need for long term success. Without adequate technical degrees and corporate training, new industry will not locate in our region. This will be a key next step in our economic development strategy."

Two major economic development projects also were discussed in the meeting. The first is a 2,200 acre mega site in North Jackson County preparing to receive a tenant, ideally an automotive manufacturing plant. The site, created through an Alabama-Florida partnership, has the potential to employ thousands and spawn related businesses throughout the region.

The second project discussed by the group is the potential for a Panama City company to win a \$10 billion contract to build cutter ships for the U.S. Coast Guard. Eastern Shipbuilding in Panama City is a finalist for the 20-year contract which has the potential to bring thousands of jobs and create supply chain businesses across the area.

Dr. John Holdnak, President of Gulf Coast State College, says, "In this case, a rising tide really does lift all boats. The impact of this Coast Guard project would have far-reaching effects for two decades. Gulf Coast State will need help to provide the training for this project. It is imperative that we work together to serve our college communities and the region at large."

Also attending the meeting were: Dr. Debbie Douma, Pensacola State; Dr. Anne Southard, Northwest Florida State; Dr. Matthew Hughes, Chipola College; Al McCambry, Gulf Coast State, **and Stephen Soloman, Tallahassee Community College.**

(NOTE: This article truncated for relevance to TCC.)

Businesswoman says “core values” first learned at TCC

Smaller classes, lower tuition helped Megan Pietrodangelo choose TCC

KELSEY ANDERSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Although she is originally from Fort Myers, Megan Pietrodangelo and her family moved to Tallahassee when she was in grade school, so she considers herself a Capital City local.

“I was looking for a smaller setting to begin my college experience. I’d heard from a few friends who attended TCC that the campus size and setting was wonderful, and I knew that my parents could afford tuition – that was a definite plus,” Pietrodangelo said of her decision to enroll.

She earned an associate in arts degree from Tallahassee Community College in 2002 and an associate in science degree in nursing in 2004. She then worked as a registered nurse in the pediatric intensive care unit at Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare from 2004 to 2012.

“I loved my nursing classes and instructors,” Pietrodangelo said. “I always felt comfortable coming to class early or staying late to receive assistance if I needed it. I felt like my instructors really knew me, and I wasn’t just a number to them.”

Although Pietrodangelo still holds her R.N. license, she ended her nursing career in the pediatric intensive care unit at TMH in 2012. Today, she serves as the sales and marketing manager at her family’s bakery, The Cake Shop, in Tallahassee.

Her mother, Linda Richards, founder and head pastry chef, also has a TCC connection, having taught ballet at the college during the 1990s.

Pietrodangelo said she enjoys seeing her professors around town and loves taking the time to talk and catch up.

“TCC taught me wonderful core values that I still use today in my everyday life,” she said. “The college helped shape the person I am today.”

Birthday, Brews & BBQ celebrates TCC's 50th anniversary

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation invites community members and alumni to join the party on Thursday, September 22, for Birthday, Brews & BBQ on the Kleman Plaza green in downtown Tallahassee. This celebration of TCC's 50th anniversary will run from 6 to 9 p.m.

The first 100 guests will receive a free craft beer, and the first 50 guests that evening to "buy a brick" to support classroom enhancements and scholarships will receive a free BBQ dinner. Food and local craft beers will also be available for purchase from 4 Rivers Smokehouse, Madison Social and other vendors.

There will be free birthday cake, free t-shirts, a free selfie booth, a free bounce house and free face painting for children, and music provided by Tallahassee-based band Low Flying Planes. Guests can also tour TCC's Center for Innovation located on Kleman Plaza, meet TCC athletes and have their photo taken with the TCC Eagle.

Proceeds, including \$1 for every beer sold, will go to support TCC alumni scholarships and programs. For information, contact Ysonde Jensen at jenseny@tcc.fl.edu or (850) 201-6065.

TCC alum receives national scholarship

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Recent TCC graduate Jezebel Perez received a \$5,000 Life Lessons Scholarship from Life Happens, a nonprofit foundation supported by organizations that are part of the life insurance industry. Scholarship applicants submit essays or videos reflecting on their personal stories about facing financial and emotional hardship as the result of the loss of a parent.

Perez is from Loxahatchee and attended Seminole Ridge High School. She graduated from TCC in the summer of 2016. As a first-generation-in-college student, she received several scholarships through the TCC Foundation. She is now studying film and television at the Savannah College of Art and Design.

Oyster ranching could reinvigorate Florida's oyster production

Oyster farms may help feed future generations

MIKE VASILINDA

NEWS4JAX.COM/CAPITOL NEWS SERVICE

For eons, oysters have been harvested by digging them out at low tide or by tonging, using a long post hole type tool to lift the bivalves from the water, but now the lack of fresh water supplies has devastated Florida's oyster production. Many now believe that the future is in oyster ranching.

The Panacea Oyster Co-Op may soon be the largest oyster ranch in Florida. There are 38 leases and it totals more than 50 acres that are devoted to growing oysters in cages.

Rob Olin has several of the leases and has organized the co-op to manage the oysters from spat to the table.

"We're going to be employing four to six hundred people with on-the-water jobs. This is what this county was built on and its been lost due to us, quite frankly, people." Olin said.

When at full production, the oyster ranchers will be producing tens of millions of oysters a year, all on submerged land leased from the state.

Attorney Fred Harris is one of the brains behind the co-op. "We helped put this together so the co-op would be the marketing arm, and the branding arm, and the distribution arm." Harris said.

And while it could take a few years to come to fruition, Olin says oyster farming could be the futures' answer to hunger.

"You get 30 times more protein off an acre of water than you do an acre of land. We have more ranch able water in our state than any other state in the union." Olin said.

The co-op will pasteurize the oysters before fast-freezing them when shipping to out-of-state or foreign markets, eliminating a rare but deadly disease know as vibrio vulnificus. The oyster farming is a product of a new environmental education program at Tallahassee Community College.

TCC receives donation over \$27,000 from Florida College Foundation

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College received a big donation from the Florida College System Foundation.

The school was given more than \$27,000 from the group. College officials said that all of the money donated will go toward scholarships for nursing and first generation students.

Every year the Florida College Foundation works to give hundreds of dollars to schools across the entire state. All of that money goes back into helping make college more affordable students.

This year's donation to the TCC Foundation included \$10,922 from Florida Blue for nursing and allied health scholarships, \$11,338 from the Helios Education Foundation for scholarships for first-generation-in-college students, and \$5,127 from Bank of America for the Dream Makers Scholarship.

TCC celebrates 50-year anniversary

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College is celebrating their 50 year anniversary and is inviting the whole community to the party.

To learn more about the evening, Heather Mitchell joined WTXL's Malcolm Hornsby to talk.

The event is Thursday, September 22, at Kleman Plaza with free admission.

They are also offering the first 100 guests the chance to receive a free craft beer. Other festivities include, free birthday cake and t-shirt, a selfie booth, and a bounce house for kids, along with much more.

Guests can even meet TCC Athletes and have their photo taken with the eagle.

Environment dominates race for House District 9

JIM ASH
WFSU

The aroma of artisan coffee clings to the air as local businessmen and women in chinos, and oystermen and women in blue jeans and T-shirts, stare intently at power point projection.

Up front, Tallahassee Community College President Jim Murdaugh brags about the new Wakulla Environmental Institute as an oyster aquaculture scientific forum is about to begin.

The facility is a marvel of modern science. It is designed to produce more solar power than it uses, and live alongside prescribed burns needed to maintain the wilderness that surrounds it.

TCC's newest jewel is tucked in a massive forest 40 minutes south of Tallahassee. But it owes its existence to a 4.5 million dollar legislative appropriation. It's the kind of bacon the next District 9 Representative is going to be expected to bring home.

The race pits frontrunner Lorraine Ausley, a Democrat who held the seat from 2000 to 2008, against Republican Jim Messer. Both are attorneys, and both grew up enjoying Tallahassee's great outdoors. Both list state workers and the environment as top issues.

Ausley worries about controversial new water quality standards adopted by Governor Rick Scott's Environmental Regulation Commission.

"We have some of the cleanest drinking water in the state and we need to protect that at all costs and I worry about the recent decisions made by the ERC that could potentially put toxins in our drinking water."

Both candidates support a massive proposal to buy land south of Lake Okeechobee. The idea is to store and cleanse polluted runoff responsible for massive toxic algae blooms in Martin and St. Lucie counties and Southwest Florida.

"As a lawyer, I've seldom found that if you ignore a problem things get better. And I think with our state, if we ignore causality, if we ignore cause and effect, it's not going to get better. And I applaud Senator Negron for coming up with a bold plan."

Messer insists there's enough money to deal with the Lake Okeechobee emergency and local environmental priorities, even in a tight budget year. Like Ausley, he supports removing the septic tanks that threaten the Wakulla Springs basin.

"In Leon County, because people here do have a love for the county and a love for the environment, that the situation is not as dire as it is in South Florida and we can do more with the funds that we have."

Ausley says she agrees, in that the environment should not be partisan, or either or..

"To me, our natural resources are an economic development issue. People are not going to come to the state of Florida, two things, if we don't have an educated workforce, and it is our environment, our natural resources, that attract people to come here, to bring their businesses here."

Last year, before Negron announced Lake Okeechobee a priority, House and Senate leaders put a rewrite of state water policy at the top of their legislative agenda. Both Messer and Ausley say they want to keep the trend alive.

TCC named a top online college

HAVANA HERALD

Tallahassee Community College has been named one of the top 20 online community colleges for best return on investment. The rankings were compiled by OnlineCollegePlan.com, which ranked TCC number 16 among community colleges across the nation. The ranking reflects the amount that students pay for their education and their incomes after graduation.

OnlineCollegePlan.com noted that TCC offers students a 16.8 percent return on their investment in their education.

The ranking is in keeping with other recent accolades TCC has received, including being ranked by smartasset.com among the top 15 two-year colleges in the nation for three years in a row based on factors such as student-faculty ratio, graduation and transfer rate, and return on investment.

Tallahassee Community College offers more than 500 classes online each year. Students can also earn one of several associate degrees entirely online, and online students are provided with valuable supports and services to help them be successful in the online setting.

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

Local law enforcement recruits donate school supplies to Tyler Biggins Foundation

LANETRA BENNETT

WCTV

The school year is well underway, but, it's never too late to get more supplies.

Recruits at the TCC Florida Public Safety Institute started collecting supplies in August. Friday, they donated them to the Tyler Biggins Foundation, which collects supplies for school kids.

The foundation is in honor of 10-year-old Tyler Biggins. He, his friend, Vincent Vickers, and Vincent's mother were killed in a car crash in 2012.

Tyler's mother, Tracey Biggins, says it's wonderful what the recruits have done. She said, "They have truly been a blessing to us and our foundation, as well as the students at Ruediger Elementary. When we were contacted by them, we were overwhelmed with the amount of supplies that they gave us. We're so thankful."

Andrea Blalock, the corrections coordinator at the institution, said, "In today's climate with all the issues that are happening in law enforcement, we try to instill in our recruits here that we not only protect, but we serve the communities that we live in, work in, and worship in."

The school supplies will go to Ruediger Elementary in Tallahassee, where Tyler and Vincent went to school.

TCC gave Vander Molen a fresh start

COURTENEY JONES

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

In 2005, Skyler Vander Molen had dropped out of college and was working in an aluminum plant. If someone had asked him then where he thought he would be in 10 years, he probably would not have mentioned working at Facebook. But, 10 years later, that's where he is.

Though Vander Molen had excelled as a high school student, after one semester at the University of Central Florida he had a GPA of 2.0 and was on academic probation. He struggled to keep his grades up and avoid losing his Bright Futures scholarship, so he decided his second semester at UCF would be his last.

Vander Molen moved to Tallahassee and got a job in an aluminum plant, but after a few months, he decided to return to school.

Vander Molen enrolled in Tallahassee Community College and quickly recognized that it was a better fit for him. Though he had left the aluminum plant, he was still working full-time elsewhere and was not sure what he wanted to study, so he appreciated the flexibility TCC offered.

"I probably should have just gone to a community college from the start," he said. "That would have been a much better route for me to take. But there's a lot of pressure to go to a university, and I don't think that's right for everyone."

Going to TCC made him feel enthused about being back to school.

"Previously, a lot of the classes I'd taken didn't really stimulate me that much, or get me excited about learning, and that was one of the things I did get out of my time at TCC," he said. "I had classes that really got me excited to be in school."

After graduating from TCC, Vander Molen earned his bachelor's degree in information technology at Florida State University and began working as a web designer.

Eventually, he landed a job at Postmates, a startup in San Francisco. He moved to Facebook in 2012 and is now part of The Factory, Facebook's in-house ad agency, where he works on Facebook's brand and product marketing.

Vander Molen is glad TCC could give him the fresh start he needed.

"TCC gave me a chance to figure out how to do college well," he said. "High school was always really easy for me; I didn't have to study to do well, and that was part of the struggle for me at UCF. It was a lot more demanding, and I couldn't figure out how to handle it. TCC was a good place for me to bring my grades up, learn how to study, get excited about being in school and figure out where I wanted to go."

TCC hosts community for 50th birthday party

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation hosted Birthday, Brews & BBQ on the Kleman Plaza green in downtown Tallahassee on September 22. The event drew alumni and community members to help TCC celebrate its 50th anniversary.

There was free birthday cake, free t-shirts, a free selfie booth, a free bounce house and free face painting for children, and music provided by Tallahassee-based band Low Flying Planes. Guests could tour TCC's Center for Innovation in the former Brogan Museum building, meet TCC athletes and have their photo taken with the TCC Eagle.

Food and beer were available for purchase from 4 Rivers Smokehouse and Madison Social. The first 100 guests received a free craft beer, and guests who decided to "buy a brick" to support classroom enhancements and scholarships received a free BBQ dinner. Proceeds, including \$1 for every beer sold, will go to support TCC alumni scholarships and programs.

Event sponsors included Refreshment Services Pepsi & Vending, Tallahassee's Hot 104.9, Madison Social, Jazzercise, FMB, Full Press Apparel, WTXL ABC 27, Express Printing and Periodontal Associates of North Florida.

TCC launches environmental education program at Wakulla location

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College is beginning its new Green Guide Environmental Education Program on October 1 at the Wakulla Environmental Institute in Crawfordville. These short-term classes allow community members to experience the unique environmental features of the Big Bend region under the guidance of seasoned naturalists.

Taught by graduates and instructors of TCC's Green Guide Certificate Program, classes are typically one or two days long, and some are offered on weekend dates. Participants will spend time in the classroom and in the field.

Activities and topics include a hike through Tate's Hell, exploration of Bald Point and Mashas Sands beaches, kayaking through the black waters, the importance of forest ecology, getting to know local butterflies, and bird watching at Bald Point State Park.

For information or to register, visit www.tcc.fl.edu/wei and choose Programs of Study. Interested persons may also call (850) 558-3500 or email wei@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC's Curate Shakespeare: As You Like It a witty delight

TREVOR DURHAM
BROADWAYWORLD.COM

Fans and foes of William Shakespeare have all experienced, in some part of their lives, a wreck of a Shakespeare production. All the dastardly backstage drama, farce by nature, comes bustling out onto whatever innocent high-school stage to bastardize the Bard in high-fashion. Or, perhaps you are the few, the unhappy few, who have ventured out into community, or even professional, theatres to witness catastrophe with a higher ticket price. Don Nigro's Curate Shakespeare: As You Like It is Noises Off meets The Complete Works of William Shakespeare: Abridged, high-brow nonsense of a catastrophe slowly becoming joyous. Tallahassee Community College begins their season with this retelling of As You Like It, with the Bard's characters played by excellent actors playing horrid ones, performing all the roles and requirements of the show in a chaotic mess that couldn't be more serene.

Sitting with director Jacob Harrelson as the cast ran for the first time, the blur between the play's measured insanity and the careful precision of his production became clearer by the line. Curate Shakespeare places an imaginary audience into the no-ticket-sold production of As You Like It (with a majority of the cast missing), with a crazed curate pushing his seven actors to do the full show. The politics and relationships of the performers make this challenge even more arduous, and the silly show that follows is pure wit and folly.

Harrelson is a brave director, but his obvious dedication bleeds across the stage. All rehearsal, he furiously scribbled notes from the opening message and beyond the dimming of lights. His nearly forty-minutes of notes were as detailed as if he wrote the show himself, his soul is obviously very invested in creating the best possible show.

His cast is equally receptive. Keeping the show very well-monitored is a challenge when you balance Elizabethan and modern, but each note was met with discussion and understanding. Even a week before opening, the show seemed crisp at first-glance, but the perfectionist in each of the production team seemed to want more.

The production about chaos has been marred by its own backstage issues, ranging from loss of cast members mid-rehearsal process, to the serious injury of

a performer. Andrew Falls was in a car accident that has left him wheelchair bound, something he has only used to better his performance. He's using his pain as humor, transforming the character he was given into a different man entirely.

Nothing stands in the way of the performers pushing the show further, even Daniel Santillana, who was just given his script a week ago. The actor takes on a bulk of As You Like It's most famed speeches, an outrageous love interest on the stage, and has already come together with the rest of the cast. His growth is remarkable, with no guesses as to where he'll be by opening.

Leading the cast, in a whimsical narratorial role, is Erin Lustria. Lustria's performance is already smooth, with the fluidity of Alan Cumming's Emcee but the steeled physical humor of Robin Williams. Her role is Curate's Fool, Rosalind, who drops helpful narration in the show-within-the-show, interrupting with her own knowledge, and receiving little attention from the rest. From her entrance, it becomes hard to look away and miss the show Lustria gives for the entire two-acts, a show vying for acknowledgement through sheer stage presence and purity.

Alongside her are fellow performers Chelsea Hart-Cantabene and Alexa Roddenberry as stressed-out, washed up actresses struggling to endure the Curate's demands. Hart-Cantabene brings a willful balance to the insane farce of her surroundings, giving clarity and reality back to her imaginary audience. Roddenberry is having a blast becoming the worst actress she can be, giving the worst Shakespearean monologues, dialects, and verse. Gerain Arias plays an amateurish young actor forced into Shakespeare's leading Orlando, giving adept physicality and clownish humor to rival Santillana and Lustria in his bolsterous ham. Behind all the silliness, the farce, the chaotic upheaval each role brings, is Matthew Thompson, who brings Harrelson's goals to life. Thompson plays the director and curate, a dash of ambitious reality holding the ropes to tie everything together. Always watching, ever present behind the foul-ups and giving Lustria direction, Thompson gives real feel to it all.

TCC's Curate Shakespeare: As You Like It a witty delight....

continued

Even though tech week has yet to arrive, Harrelson and his team have moved forward into running lighting, a shockingly professional design by Todd Teagarden. Moving between a 'normal' lighting for the players assembling, a full design to match *As You Like It*, transitioning specials and cues, it's all very quick and subtle. Far from giving it a small, student-level lighting rig, Teagarden goes for the gold in his aim, something already visually stunning a week from open.

Despite what they tell me, that it isn't ready, Curate Shakespeare: *As You Like It* is ready to captivate audiences. TCC is outdoing themselves in the detailed challenges, showcasing a truly astonishing cast and crew prepared to show you how the whole world truly is a stage.

Curate Shakespeare: *As You Like It* runs September 29th-October 9th at TCC's Turner Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door.

TCC launches environmental education program at Wakulla location

CAPITAL SOUP

Tallahassee Community College is beginning its new Green Guide Environmental Education Program on October 1 at the Wakulla Environmental Institute in Crawfordville. These short-term classes allow community members to experience the unique environmental features of the Big Bend region under the guidance of seasoned naturalists.

Taught by graduates and instructors of TCC's Green Guide Certificate Program, classes are typically one or two days long, and some are offered on weekend dates. Participants will spend time in the classroom and in the field.

Activities and topics include a hike through Tate's Hell, exploration of Bald Point and Mashas Sands beaches, kayaking through the black waters, the importance of forest ecology, getting to know local butterflies, and bird watching at Bald Point State Park.

For information or to register, visit www.tcc.fl.edu/wei and choose Programs of Study. Interested persons may also call (850) 558-3500 or email wei@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC receives funds from Fla. College System Foundation

HAVANA HERALD

Madeline Pumariega, chancellor of the Florida College System, presented a check for \$27,387 from the Florida College System Foundation to Tallahassee Community College on Monday. The presentation was made at the monthly meeting of TCC's District Board of Trustees.

Every year, the Florida College System Foundation distributes hundreds of thousands of dollars to Florida's 28 community colleges and state colleges to provide scholarships to students. This year's donation to the TCC Foundation includes \$10,922 from Florida Blue for nursing and allied health scholarships, \$11,338 from the Helios Education Foundation for scholarships for first-generation-in-college students, and \$5,127 from Bank of America for the Dream Makers Scholarship.

During her remarks, Pumariega congratulated TCC for outperforming the national average in student retention and other measures of student success. She also introduced three exemplary TCC students who have received scholarships through the Florida College System Foundation.

Shelbi Reffitt is a sophomore dental hygiene student who received a scholarship from Florida Blue. She plans to continue her education at St. Petersburg College. Freshman Charlotte Brookshire received a scholarship from the Helios Education Foundation and plans to later attend Florida State University and become a trial attorney. Walter Connelly, who received one of the Dream Makers scholarships from Bank of America, also aspires to transfer to FSU after graduating from TCC.

For information about the TCC Foundation, contact Heather Mitchell at (850) 201-6067 or MITCHELH@tcc.fl.edu.

For information about the Florida College System Foundation, contact Judy Green at (850) 245-9494 or Judy.Green@fldoe.org.

TCC bash celebrates 50 years

ERIN HILL
Reporter

Celebrating 50 years, Tallahassee Community College had quite the birthday with food and fun for all who attended. The weather was beautiful last Thursday evening Sept. 22, as people gathered

at Kleman Plaza in downtown Tallahassee for the Birthday, Brews, and BBQ event. Partygoers sat in the grass, under the clear skies, while listening to Tallahassee-based band, Low Flying Planes perform.

There was birthday cake, T-shirts, a selfie

booth, face painting, and a bounce house for children, all of which were free. There were also food vendors such as Madison Social, 4 Rivers Smokehouse and The Cake Shop. Food and beer were available for purchase from 4 Rivers and Madison Social. The first 100

guests received a free craft beer, and guests who decided to "buy a brick" to support classroom enhancements and scholarships received a free barbecue dinner.

Guest had the opportunity to tour TCC's Center for

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BASH

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Innovation, located on Kleman Plaza. They also got a chance to meet some of TCC's athletes, and have their photo taken with the TCC Eagle.

Several TCC faculty, students and alumni came out to celebrate. Recruiters were also there signing people up for tours of the different campuses. Allison Menendez, staff assistant for online support, was their promoting the new Ales, Lagers and Fermentation online certified beer server prep course. She said the course teaches students how to create

Partygoers sit in the grass, and enjoy the live entertainment. Photo by Erin Hill

and ferment beer, and prepares them for the Cicerone Certified Beer Server exam. The online course, which launched this fall, is available to any TCC student, for a fee of \$169, and includes a voucher to pay for the Cicerone exam.

Desiree, Gorman, Gadsden's center manager, said part of TCC's 50-year pledge was to have a brick-and-mortar location in Gadsden County before its 50th birthday. The TCC Gadsden Center opened March 21, and classes began there this fall. The Gadsden



Center offers General Education Development, English as a Second Language, and Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning classes. Gorman said in the GED and ESL

classes, all but one student are from Gadsden County. She also said on average, about 30 people a day come to the center to utilize the computer lab. Gorman said they use the

computer lab to do school work, apply for jobs, or to apply for school. Gorman also said the conference room, classrooms, and computer lab can be rented out.

Quincy City Commissioner Andy Gay found his calling while at TCC

COURTENEY JONES

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Quincy native Andy Gay admits he took his time earning his associate degree from TCC—five years to be exact. He knew he wanted to work toward earning a college degree but wasn't sure what he wanted to study.

"I was searching for what I wanted to do, like a lot of kids just out of high school," Gay said.

While attending TCC, Gay met Ricky Bell, the athletic director for Leon County. Bell asked Gay if he would volunteer to help coach junior varsity football at what was then Shanks High School in Quincy.

"That was something I felt a calling to do, coaching and being involved with children and athletes, and I thought, well, you can't do this unless you have a college degree," he said. "So then I had my motivation. Once you realize what your path is, things get a lot easier."

After earning his associate's degree, Gay went on to Florida State University to earn his bachelor's in movement science and was then hired by Shanks, first as a physical education teacher and assistant football coach, and eventually as the athletic director and head football coach. After Shanks merged with Havana Northside High School in 2000 to become East Gadsden High, Gay stayed on as athletic director and in 2005 was made assistant principal of the school. Gay was also elected a Quincy city commissioner in 2005 and is now serving his fourth term, having been re-elected in April. In 2013, Gay left East Gadsden to become the director of school transportation for Gadsden County Schools.

Though Gay's role has shifted in his more than two decades working for the school system, his commitment to students has been constant.

"The athletic aspect was what drew me to working with the schools initially, but once you get in there and start developing relationships with the children and you get to see them become successful, see the light turn on for them, it's a satisfaction that you can't describe," he said.

Now, after more than a decade as a Quincy city commissioner, Gay can appreciate not only the role TCC played in his personal life but also the work TCC is doing in Gadsden County through the Florida Public Safety Institute and the new TCC Gadsden Center.

"Just from a political side, I have been so appreciative of TCC's involvement in this community, and I think they're making a huge impact," he said. "I'm very proud to say I'm a TCC alumnus."

At Florida colleges, inclusion through education

PAM FORRESTER

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

"If a police officer tells me to do something, I would, but not all autistic people know how to react," says 19-year-old Sarah Stephens. The sophomore at Tallahassee Community College was speaking to a recent law enforcement gathering after a caregiver protecting an autism client was wounded by police.

The unexpected advocate for her autism community wanted to make sure police would de-escalate a situation. "I was afraid police did not always recognize a student with disabilities so would hurt someone because they don't know how to deal with someone with challenges."

Stephens was immediately reassured that Tallahassee Community College was already offering training to recognize and handle incidents without using force. That didn't completely surprise Stephens, who readily sings praises of the school's Accessibility Services Office.

"I would not be where I am today without taking advantage of the disability services offered, from advisory to emotional support. Sometimes I just don't know what is appropriate to say to a professor or another student."

Earlier this year, the state provided funding for the Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities at the University of Central Florida. It would act as a clearinghouse and a resource of programs for students and parents at universities and colleges statewide.

Gulf Coast State College in Panama City implemented a new program this semester to assist autistic students. The Peer Mentorship Program connects a third-semester student, usually studying social work, psychology or education with a student on the autism spectrum who is just entering into higher education. Mentors act as social and transition guides on the campus and often assist with social skills, executive functioning, and getting students on the autism spectrum involved in school.

The coordinator of Disability Support Services, Desiree Klemm at Gulf Coast State College says, "We have found that transitioning periods are often difficult for students on the autism spectrum who may not always be prepared to enter mainstream classes. For example, they may need extra support to learn how to work in groups or even make friends in the larger college setting."

The Peer Mentorship Program students are meeting one to two times per week with their mentors. Klemm adds, "We are starting small with eight students and three mentors but hope to add more in the future and eventually offer these mentorships for all students who need social and transition support."

More than 20,000 students with disabilities are enrolled in Florida's Colleges with the number growing each year. The Florida College System website touts an open and accessible admission policy, so no student is turned away.

Disabilities encompass a wide variety of conditions. Students with visual or hearing impairments, traumatic brain injuries and physical impairments can all be accommodated at the 28 colleges scattered around the state. Stephens is just one of more than a 1,000 students with disabilities studying at Tallahassee Community College. Gulf Coast served more than 325 students with disabilities last semester.

Sometimes accommodating a disabled student requires assigning a specific seat at the front of the classroom for visually impaired students or giving extra time on a test or exam, others like Sarah work frequently with the Student Accessibility Services Office throughout the school year.

Advising Specialist Danny James at Tallahassee Community College often works with Sarah.

"I encourage students to come by and visit as often as they want or need. They can come into the office in tears," James said. "Something as simple as a student making noise while eating in the classroom can set them off into a complete meltdown because they don't have the same coping mechanisms or skills."

At Florida colleges, inclusion through education....

continued

That's when James helps them gain control assisting the student through the situation. They focus on one day and one class at a time. The method is working, says James. "Our students have a higher graduation rate than the general population in the school."

Chancellor of the Division of Florida Colleges Madeline Pumariega says, "Colleges are about opportunities and empowering students to learn, no matter the age or ability. Students learn differently, they think differently but they can graduate and transition successfully into the work force."

The Able Trust, a nonprofit public/private partnership focused on providing career opportunities for Floridians with disabilities, shows dollars spent on the front end, accommodating a diverse student body pays off. For every dollar invested in vocational rehabilitation, \$13 to \$26 are infused into the economy.

That leaves little doubt that the money is well spent but educators like, Chancellor Pumariega look beyond the numbers. "We are providing students with an environment where they may learn skills for the work place but just as important, we are creating opportunities for life long success stories," she said.

This October's theme for National Disability Employment awareness month is #Inclusionworks; It works for Innovation, It works for opportunity, It works for businesses. At Florida colleges, the first step to inclusion is an education.

20 officers join the Tallahassee Police Department

SYMONE DAVIS
WCTV

The Tallahassee Police Department is continuing to grow. Monday morning 20 new recruits graduated from the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy.

Dozens of family and friends came out to the Florida Public Safety Institute to watch their loved ones reach the pinnacle of all their hard work.

Basic recruit class 438 spent 5 grueling months in training.

The class president tells us it was all worth it.

"I've seen things and I feel like I can contribute to society and I feel like I can assist every citizen in Tallahassee," said Class President Tri Dinh.

Following graduation, all 20 recruits were sworn in to officially become officers of the Tallahassee Police Department.

Tallahassee Police welcome newest academy graduates

WTXL

The Tallahassee Police Department welcomed a new class of police academy graduates on Monday.

At 10 a.m., the police academy graduates earned their badges and became police officers at their swearing in ceremony. The ceremony took place at the Florida Public Safety Institute Conference Center in Havana.

Mayor Andrew Gillum, Scott Maddox, Nancy Miller, and several other city officials were in attendance at the graduation.

The new arrivals have undergone written tests, mock police chases, been tasered and pepper sprayed, and done traffic stop drills prior to graduating.

TCC graphic design students receive city awards

WTXL

Three Tallahassee Community College students from a graphic design class received awards from the City of Tallahassee for their display panels on the city's wastewater treatment facility.

TCC students Kira Poole, Cassandra Holston and Gregory Daniels all received recognition for their banner designs that were created digitally, printed on vinyl, and placed on the outside of the Thomas P. Smith wastewater treatment facility.

"In this class, my students are challenged to push themselves creatively and technically," said Roopali Kambo who taught the class. "One of my goals is to continue to incorporate real projects into the curriculum. The benefits of working on a project like this are myriad."

The collaboration between TCC and the City of Tallahassee provided an opportunity to improve the aesthetics wastewater treatment facility, which motorists view as they travel along Capital Circle Southwest.

City of Tallahassee staff met with the students multiple times throughout the process to discuss the project and determine the specifics for how the panels would be displayed.

CoT's Underground Utilities technology manager and TCC Trustee Jonathan Kilpatrick presented the students with their awards.

"Choosing the final winners was difficult due to the high caliber of work presented by the students," said Kilpatrick. "The creativity and quality of work that these students illustrated is certainly an indication of the exceptional level of student talent and faculty instruction at TCC."

The display panels are eight feet tall and four feet wide.

Former sheriff Ken Katsaris at home in classroom

CARMY GREENWOOD
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

In 1966, Ken Katsaris was a promising young member of the St. Petersburg Police Department who had just moved to the Big Bend when Tallahassee Junior College's first president, Fred Turner, tapped him to start a criminal justice education program at the new college. In the years that followed, Katsaris built the program from scratch, sending many students on to Florida State University and other universities and into police departments, sheriff's offices, and jail and prison departments throughout the South.

In 1970, Tallahassee Junior College became Tallahassee Community College. Katsaris chaired the TCC program until 1977. While in that role, he also set up the region's first teaching crime lab, which was based at TCC and used by police agencies for preliminary analysis. He even served as campus security director.

Katsaris left the program in 1977 after being elected sheriff of Leon County. One of the most notable cases Katsaris handled was the murder investigation that resulted in the conviction of serial rapist and murderer Ted Bundy in 1979. Katsaris is still a certified law enforcement officer and a fully sworn member of the Leon County Sheriff's Office.

"Obviously I was very motivated to work the case. I had two young daughters at home, and I just vowed that this person would be stopped," said Katsaris. "I put everything, my heart and soul and skills, to work on it, and together with a big team of people we came up with leads, a person and eventually a conviction. The state attorneys handling the case worked it very well. The law enforcement officers worked it very well."

Even while sheriff, Katsaris continued to teach part-time at the Florida Highway Patrol Academy and at the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy, which was then part of Lively Technical Center. After leaving office in 1981, Katsaris served briefly as assistant to the director of Florida's prison system before setting out on his own. Since then, he has been highly sought after as a consultant on police and jail policy and procedures.

Katsaris says he is the only person in the U.S. who has been retained as a police litigation consultant in all 50 states. He also leads seminars for law enforcement

professionals on topics such as street survival and critical incident response. Among his training clients are the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the Institute for the Prevention of In-Custody Deaths.

Throughout the extensive travel and high-profile cases, Katsaris has retained his passion for teaching basic recruits – those who have just been hired as officers or are looking for their first job. He is currently teaching segments of the curriculum to several different basic recruit classes at Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy.

"The students love Ken," said E. E. Eunice, executive director of TCC's Florida Public Safety Institute, which includes PTLEA. "He is also one of our most effective instructors. He provides real world experience coupled with current cases of constitutional law. His students have been highly successful on the State Officer Certification Exam."

Katsaris is certified to teach all areas of the program, from traffic law and firearms use to vehicular operation and high-risk encounters. He has also trained other experienced law enforcement professionals to serve as instructors themselves.

"I enjoy sharing the process and procedures of law enforcement. I remember saying many times, 'I can't believe they are paying me to do this.'"

In fact, TCC is not paying Katsaris to teach. Since 1999, he has chosen to teach at the academy without pay.

"Because I travel a lot, I can't participate in a community service organization. This is my community service."

Over the years, Katsaris has seen many of his former students achieve success, including the TCC criminal justice program's first graduate, George Brand, who later served under Katsaris as head of the violent crime unit at the sheriff's office, and Tom Coe, who was Tallahassee's chief of police from 1994 to 1997.

Former sheriff Ken Katsaris at home in classroom....

continued

Bill Bierbaum, FPSI's director of certificate programs, took a class from Katsaris in 1976. Bierbaum still has the textbook, "Evidence and Procedure in the Administration of Justice," which was written by Katsaris. The two men recently discovered another piece of shared history: Bierbaum is the current president of the Florida Criminal Justice Educators Association, and Katsaris was founder and first president of the same organization.

Katsaris also has a connection to Jim Murdaugh, TCC president. Katsaris hired Murdaugh as a deputy sheriff in 1977, his first law enforcement job after earning a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from FSU. Katsaris later promoted Murdaugh to sergeant and appointed him to lead the county's first crime prevention unit. It was Murdaugh's first promotion to a supervisory role.

"When I became president, I reached out to people who had an influence on me and my career to thank them for their support," said Murdaugh. "Sheriff Ken Katsaris was one of those people who supported me in the beginning of my career and has continued to support me over the years."

Katsaris, 71, shows no sign of leaving the classroom any time soon. He says the recruits are just as enthusiastic and committed as they ever were. "They really want to learn, and that makes a big difference. That's the motivating force for me."

Paramedic charmed three times with TCC degrees

KELSEY ANDERSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Darryl Hall is a big fan of Tallahassee Community College.

Born and raised in Jefferson County, Hall spent four years in the Army before enrolling at TCC in the summer of 1987. He later earned an Associate in Arts degree, an Associate in Science degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology, and an Associate in Science degree in Nursing from the college.

"TCC prepared me to succeed in my career field," said Hall. "When my girlfriend transferred to Florida State after obtaining her degree, I decided to stay put and pursue my higher education goals at TCC. I saw no need to go anywhere else."

To say that Hall hit the ground running once he entered the world of healthcare is an understatement.

He spent seven months working for Calhoun County Emergency Medical Services before returning to Tallahassee to work as a paramedic at Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare. He even spent some time as a flight nurse for LifeFlight before turning to the administrative side of healthcare and joining Leon County Emergency Medical Services—a fairly new department that got its start in 2003.

Hall began as a field operations supervisor and continued to move up the ranks. He was appointed deputy chief of operations for Leon County EMS in July of 2015 and continues to serve in that post.

Aside from meeting his wife at TCC, Hall said that he also has the college to thank for equipping him with the tools necessary to thrive in the fast-paced world of healthcare and emergency medical services.

"I am a product of Tallahassee Community College," Hall said. "When I say I'm a big fan, I truly mean it."

TCC offers customer service courses

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Workforce Development Division at Tallahassee Community College will offer customer service classes starting Wednesday, October 12.

Five Customer Service and Sales Fundamentals classes will be offered, rotating between the College's main campus, the TCC Wakulla Center and the TCC Gadsden Center. The courses, which cost \$125, are offered each Wednesday from October 12 through November 16.

Additionally, a five-week Retail Management and Operations course will meet on Mondays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wakulla Center beginning November 12. The five-week class costs \$795.

Promotional rates and discounts are available for employers who wish to train their staff.

For schedule information and promotion details, contact Jynelle Robinson at (850) 201-9644 or needj@tcc.fl.edu.

Deadline for African-American History calendar nominations Oct. 21

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College is accepting nominations for the 2017 Cherry Hall Alexander African-American History Calendar.

This year's calendar will honor current or retired African-American educators, teachers or school-related employees who have served or currently serve students of color in Gadsden, Leon or Wakulla County. Community members are invited to nominate individuals in the tri-county area for contributing to the educational success of students of color.

The nomination form is available at www.tcc.fl.edu/aahc. Nominations must be submitted by Friday, October 21, 2016, no later than 11:59 p.m.

For information, contact Gregory Williams at (850) 201-8391 or aahmc@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC and Domi to host Startup Weekend in November

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College and Domi Station are seeking participants for Startup Weekend Tallahassee, which has been rescheduled for November 4–6.

Startup Weekend connects aspiring entrepreneurs, developers and designers with mentors and resources. Attendees share ideas, form teams and launch startups in just 48 hours. Startup Weekend events are held all over the globe, reaching more than 100 countries and 200,000 entrepreneurs. Startup Weekend Tallahassee coincides with National Entrepreneurship Month in November.

The event will be held at TCC's Center for Workforce Development. Beginning with open mic pitches on Friday, attendees will share their best ideas and inspire others to join their team. Teams will focus on customer development, validating their ideas, practicing Lean Startup methodologies and building a minimal viable product. On Sunday afternoon, teams will demo their prototypes and receive feedback from a panel of experts. Typically, half of Startup Weekend's attendees have technical or design backgrounds, and the other half have business backgrounds.

Interested individuals may sign up at tallahassee.startupweekend.org or contact Marissa Mainwood at (850) 201-6672 or mainwoom@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC to induct new Hall of Fame class Thursday

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College will induct a new group of honorees into its Alumni & Friends Hall of Fame on Thursday, October 13.

The presentation will begin in the Student Union Ballroom at 11:30 a.m. and move outside to the new Alumni & Friends Hall of Fame Wall, which will be unveiled during the event.

The 2016 class of honorees includes 12 inductees, former students and special friends whose accomplishments have brought prestige, honor and support to TCC.

For information, contact Carmy Greenwood at (850) 201-8470 or greenwoc@tcc.fl.edu.

Criminal justice trainers learn lessons in local seminar

STEPHEN JIWANMALL

WTVL

Law enforcement agencies from three states are in Gadsden County this week for the Florida Public Safety Institute's 8th annual instructor training seminar.

Two speakers during Monday's opening ceremony shared stories to encourage law enforcement to stay alert and continue to work hard -- because lives depend on it.

October 10 is a day Bill DeMott can't forget. Monday marked one year since his 20-year-old daughter Keri Anne was killed by a drunk driver.

Since her death, DeMott has given several talks about driving under the influence.

"Decisions can cost lives or save lives," he said. "Everybody's got to make a decision, and we just want to make sure they're making the right one."

Miami-Dade police officer Mario Gutierrez had to make a difficult decision three years ago. He said nearly lost his life stopping a man from setting a gas station on fire.

"Fear basically gripped me," Gutierrez said. "I said, 'We're going to die. This is going to explode -- this 8,000-gallon tank.'"

Gutierrez said the man stabbed him and nearly bit off one of his thumbs. The officer used a taser but was forced to fire his weapon to save his own life.

He was hospitalized for a week in serious condition with multiple conditions.

"It's a tough job, but it's also a calling, so that's what I recommend," Gutierrez said. "You have to have a cop's heart."

Oyster experts featured at WEI science panel

NICOLE ZEMA
WAKULLA NEWS

Oysters and the scientists who know them well were featured at a special presentation at TCC's Wakulla Environmental Institute on Sept. 12. About 50 people attended.

The event coincided with the start of the third WEI Oyster Aquaculture class.

Jim Murdaugh, president of Tallahassee Community College, discussed the still-recent history of WEI, and described the campus' energy-neutral features.

With the new aquaculture students adjusting to the program, Murdaugh said, "I thought it was timely to not just talk about what we're doing, but also talk about the science of oysters."

Four marine and aquaculture scientists were invited from various regional universities to discuss their oyster research.

"This is not only for jobs," Murdaugh said of the growing aquaculture practice, "But also for the environment."

Dr. Tim Moore, vice president for research at Florida A&M, served as the moderator. He said the presentation was a scientific lesson. He rattled off three figures: 20, 2.5, and 60 percent.

"In 20 years there will be two and a half more billion people on this planet," Moore said. "To find a way to feed those people, we can't do it through the traditional agricultural means."

He said 60 percent of all new jobs in this country in the next 15 years will be entrepreneurial.

"I tip my hat to Dr. Murdaugh and his team for this reason, because they saw a reason to bring economic diversity and job development to the area," Moore said. "This program is exactly what the state college system is supposed to be about – creating jobs, and giving workers tangible skills to be successful."

A video was shown, demonstrating how oysters filter particulate in the water. One tank without oysters stayed murky, and the other tank with oysters cleared up within the same timeframe.

Dr. William Walton of Auburn University's School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences, said he is known as "Dr. Oyster." Walton is also a Senior Marine Scientist at Dauphin Island Sea Lab.

"Ecosystem services are what the oysters do for us," Walton said. "The more filter feeders you have out there, the clearer the water should be, the more sunlight gets to the bottom, the more seagrasses you should have, and the more fish and crabs you have out there. Shellfish fishing allows generations to stay in communities. It is a job, but it's also part of the tradition."

Dr. Charles Jagoe of Florida A&M Environmental Cooperative Science Center also served as a panelist.

"We're doing research to look at effects of oyster aquaculture on water quality, and regard it as a management practice to improve water quality here and in other locations," Jagoe said.

His work focuses on the transport, fate, and effects of pollutants such as heavy metals and radionuclides in aquatic, terrestrial and coastal systems.

"Our mission at center is to train students in NOAA-relevant disciplines, and also support the NOAA mission of healthy oceans, and resilient coastal communities and economies," he said. "We have students who will work on interesting problems and issues that arise in these coastal systems."

Dr. Huiping Yang, a University of Florida professor focused on Molluscan Shellfish Aquaculture and Restoration, also discussed her research on shellfish aquaculture production, technologies, applications, and restoration. This includes selective breeding programs for local aquaculture shellfish species, development of new aquaculture techniques, and aquaculture of new native species to diversify the industry.

Marine law enforcement training

LANETRA BENNETT

WCTV

For the first time, marine law enforcement is added to the annual Law Enforcement Training Seminar.

It all happened at the Florida Public Safety Institute in Gadsden County.

Lt. Paul Pratt with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office said, "This training is very important because we have a major river and lakes; lots of lakes, lots of small lakes in our county."

Lt. Pratt participated in Thursday's marine law enforcement training course. "We have to patrol those lakes on a regular basis. We also have a dive team that goes out to retrieve any items that might be for any court cases or any boat crashes. So, we're out there quite a bit." He said.

"Officers got to know how to operate a variety of boats." Said, Scott Olson. Olson is an officer with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission. He is the trainer for the course.

Law enforcement officers from across the region participated in a basic marine law enforcement course. Olson took the officers out on one of the ponds at the Public Safety Institute.

They learned how to navigate the waters. Olson said, "This is one of the things we do to establish a wake so when the officer come through the course, it simulates being out on the salt water. You're having to adjust to wind and current."

The officers' main objective is safety. They learned the proper way to approach someone when doing a stop on the water.

Olson wants to make sure the officers understand that making a stop out here on the water is much different from out on the streets. He said, "When you're out here stopping a boat, you got so many different elements environmentally. You got wind, you got current, you got other vessel traffic, on top of all your many stressers and distractors that come with it."

Olson added, "Being out is one of the best jobs in the world."

The seminar runs all this week.

It also includes hands-on training sessions related to guns, defensive tactics and leadership.

Cross-country key to developing TCC athletics

ROBYN MURRELL
CAPITAL OUTLOOK

Tallahassee Community College athletic program is expanding this fall with the addition of women's cross-country, which director of athletics Rob Chaney calls a pivotal piece to build a year-round athletic program.

Cross-country gives TCC five teams. Women's cross-country is an addition that Chaney said should help the school maintain gender equality in accordance with Title IX requirements. A men's cross country team may be added in the near future, Chaney said.

"I want to see how participation looks this year with cross country and how strong of a position it puts us in," said Chaney. "If I see that we're in a really good position we might be able to come back as early as next fall with a men's cross country team."

The new team will compete as a Division I program in the National Junior College Athletic Association. TCC will not offer scholarships in the first year of the program.

While TCC is getting out of the chutes late in terms of recruiting, Chaney believes that having veteran Tallahassee runner Gary Droze as head coach could help attract some top-flight athletes for a 12-runner team.

Droze has coached Maclay High School's track team for at least two decades. He's led the Marauders' boys and girls track teams to 20 Florida High School Athletic Association state championships.

He didn't waste any time recruiting for his new team.

"I put out some announcements on some state-wide running websites and I've gotten some good responses there," said Droze. "Just in the first week after it was announced I've had seven young women contact me. I'd say we're probably a little ahead of schedule for what I expected."

Droze, an advocate for academics first, has impressed Chaney with his approach.

"Like my other coaches he'll invest himself in those young ladies not just for the athletic participation, but to promote the importance of being a student first and an athlete second," said Chaney. "I know it sounds cliché but we really do, we really do promote that."

While the Eagles mainstream sports such as baseball and basketball have attracted strong followings, Chaney expects cross-country to do the same.

"I think it's good whenever you can bring in a new sport that the student body can rally around," said Phillippe Lilavois, an assistant coach with the men's basketball team. "When you have a lot of successful student athletes, I think it helps the image of a community college."

Twelve named added to TCC Hall of Fame

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Twelve members were inducted Thursday into Tallahassee Community College's Alumni & Friends Hall of Fame, marking the first additions since 2006.

The names of the new inductees were added to a new prominent wall display outside one of the entrances to the Student Union building. It brings the number of inductees to 51.

On Thursday, TCC's Alumni and Friends Association hosted a luncheon in support of the Hall of Fame effort. The association is a committee of the TCC Foundation.

"We intend to do this every year," said Heather Mitchell, executive director of the foundation. The purpose, she said, is to recognize those who have come through the halls of the college in the past "and those going through right now."

Mitchell said the 12 honorees were selected from more than 50 nominations. The idea to resurrect the Hall of Fame fits well with the college's celebration of its 50th anniversary, she said.

"We knew we wanted to bring it back," Mitchell said. "The 50th anniversary was a way that we could bring this back and reintroduce it in a special way."

Among those inducted was Markeal D. Dickey, described as "one of Tallahassee Community College's most distinguished and promising young alumni."

Dickey died in an automobile crash in 2015, the same year he graduated from TCC and had entered Florida State University.

His father, Melvin Dickey, and several family members attended the event.

"It was an honor to have him receive the award," Dickey said. "Markeal was extraordinary."

The 12 inductees honored Thursday were:

TCC Original Advisory Committee and First District Board of Trustees (Group): The original Advisory Committee helped set the groundwork for the new college that opened in 1966. The individuals who made up the original Advisory Committee and the first District Board

of Trustees were Julian Alford, Murden M. Ashcroft, Ruth Chapman, Sam Cunningham, Leo L. Foster, Earl Lambert, Charlie Macon, John A. Madigan, Jack O. McMillan, John S. Pigott Jr., Aubrey Lee Porter, Harry G. Smith and J. Edwin White.

Stanley James Brainerd: Tallahassee attorney specializing in lobbying

Thomas Cumbie: retired Quincy pharmacist

Al Dennis: former inspector general of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Markeal Devonte Dickey: Writer for the Talon student newspaper and editor for the Eyrie art and literary magazine who died in 2015

David C. Jones: founder and president of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

Freda King: supervisor of the DISC Village LIFT re-entry program for inmates.

Karen B. Moore, founder and CEO of Moore Communications Group, member, TCC District Board of Trustees.

Pankowski Family: Mary and Joe Pankowski and their adult children: Anne-Marie, Mark and Joe Jr.

Susan Payne Turner: executive vice president of Prime Meridian Bank

Hugh VanLandingham: Tallahassee physician

Kim B. Williams, president of Marpan Supply and Marpan Recycling, was inducted into TCC's Hall of Fame on Thursday. (Photo: Democrat file photo)

Kim B. Williams: president of Marpan Supply and Marpan Recycling.

Theriot's met on first day of class

KELSEY ANDERSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Maggie and Louis Theriot got several important things started when they attended Tallahassee Community College—higher education, successful careers and, most importantly, their marriage. The Theriot's met on their first day of psychology class on TCC's campus. They were married in 2008.

"Of all of the textbooks I owned in college, I thought that our psychology textbook had the most meaning to both of us. So, we keep it on a shelf in our home, along with mostly other non-academic books. It's somewhat of a memento for us," Maggie said.

Tallahassee native Maggie Theriot graduated from TCC in 2001 with an Associate in Arts degree. She went on to earn three more degrees from Florida State University, finishing up her undergraduate studies in 2003 and then earning two master's degrees, one in urban and regional planning and another in public administration.

"My mom always told me that college was going to be a new frontier and a great experience. I'd get to experience different cultures, different people. She assured me that it was going to be the best years of my life," Maggie said. "Finding the man I was going to marry on the first day of my very first semester of college probably wasn't what she had in mind, but it happened that way anyway."

During her time at FSU, Maggie landed an internship with Leon County and became interested in government. That internship led to a full-time job as assistant to the Leon County administrator, a position she still holds.

Originally from New Orleans, Louisiana, Louis migrated back to his home state after his time at TCC. He started an automotive and truck accessory business with a friend, but two years later, returned to the Capital City to rejoin Maggie while she completed her degrees at Florida State. Louis purchased Minco Auto & Truck Accessories on North Magnolia Drive in Tallahassee in 2005 and continues to own and operate the business today.

Theatre Tallahassee dinner performance will benefit TCC

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Theatre lovers can enjoy Agatha Christie's most famous murder mystery while supporting scholarships for international students at Tallahassee Community College. The show is a November 3 benefit performance of "And Then There Were None" by Theatre Tallahassee.

The doors open at 7 p.m. for the included dinner buffet and wine. There will also be a silent auction with items for bid, including a special dinner for 10 people at the home of local restaurateur Lucy Ho. The show begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$20 for students.

For tickets, contact the International Student Services office at (850) 201-8258 or email to ISS@tcc.fl.edu.

The theater is located at 1861 Thomasville Road.

TCC job/intern fair is November 2

HAVANA HERALD

Tallahassee Community College will host its Fall Job and Internship Fair on November 2 from 9 a.m. to noon in the TCC Student Union Ballroom. The job fair will connect individuals searching for jobs and internships with local companies looking to fill open positions. This event is not limited to TCC students. FSU students, FAMU students and all members of the community are invited to attend.

Jobseekers do not have to pre-register for this event. Business casual dress is required and attendees should bring copies of their resume. Free parking is available for all attendees.

For information or to register as an employer, visit www.tccfuturelink.com/events or call (850) 201-9970.

Student athletes show track record of success at TCC

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

Student-athletes at Tallahassee Community College are proving that hard work pays off in the classroom, just like it does on the court or the playing field.

At a recent meeting of TCC's District Board of Trustees, Rob Chaney, director of athletics, talked about student-athletes' successes during the 2015-2016 academic year. He noted that TCC's student-athletes had a course completion rate of 94%, compared to 77% for the general student body. Even more impressively, second-year athletics participants had a 100% graduation rate. Nineteen of those graduating student-athletes transferred to a four-year college or university to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

"That shows that our students are succeeding both athletically and academically," said Chaney. "That's a tribute to the hard work of the students and their coaches, and to the faculty members, advisors and other TCC staff who support them."

Thirty-five TCC student-athletes were named to the 2016 Panhandle Conference All-Academic Team, and 20 of those were also named to the Florida College System Athletic Association's All-Academic Team.

Six student-athletes even earned a spot on the National Junior College Athletic Association All-Academic Team: softball players Elisa Cecchetti, Casey Durham, Bre NeSmith and Alexandra Cook, along with baseball players Octavio Marin and Craig Olson. Cecchetti was recognized in the Pinnacle category, for players with a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Cecchetti, Durham, NeSmith and Marin are sophomores this year, while Cook and Olson have graduated. All four current students emphasized the need for good time management to balance practices, games and workouts with a rigorous class schedule.

"With softball we are not going to pay bills, so we need an education," said Elisa Cecchetti. "Coach Patti [Townsend] always tells us life is about choices. So if we want to be successful, in life as in softball, we've got to focus on school and practice."

Cecchetti, who plays catcher for the Eagles, plans to major in journalism and would like to become a sports journalist. She attended high school in Arese, Italy.

Octavio Marin, a left-handed relief pitcher from Miami, agreed on the importance of time management.

"If you don't manage your time, you're going to be stressing all the time. The less stress you have, the better you perform in the classroom and on the field."

Marin plans to major in athletic training and hopes to become a physician's assistant. He would like to continue playing baseball at a four-year school after graduating from TCC.

Casey Durham is a utility player from McDonough, Georgia, and is interested in criminology. Her teammate Bre NeSmith, who plays catcher, intends to major in education. She is a graduate of Chiles High School in Tallahassee.

Gadsden inductees among TCC hall of famers

HAVANA HERALD

Tallahassee Community College has inducted 12 new members into its Alumni & Friends Hall of Fame.

A large crowd gathered inside the Student Union Ballroom on October 13 to applaud the inductees, who represent various eras of the College's 50-year history. Afterwards, many inductees and family members went outside to view the new Alumni & Friends Hall of Fame display, which has been set up on an outside wall of the Student Union near one of the entrances.

The 2016 class includes 12 inductees, former students and special friends whose accomplishments have brought prestige, honor and support to TCC:

TCC Original Advisory Committee and First District Board of Trustees

The original Advisory Committee provided guidance regarding personnel, curricula, finance and the general operation of the new College that was to open in 1966. In 1968, responsibility was transferred to the newly created District Board of Trustees. The individuals who made up the original Advisory Committee and the first District Board of Trustees were Julian Alford, Murden M. Ashcroft, Ruth Chapman, Sam Cunningham, Leo L. Foster, Earl Lambert, Charlie Macon, John A. Madigan, Jack O. McMillan, John S. Pigott Jr., Aubrey Lee Porter, Harry G. Smith and J. Edwin White.

Two of those individuals, Sam Cunningham and Charlie Macon, attended the event. Others were represented by family members.

Stanley James Brainerd, Tallahassee attorney specializing in lobbying

Thomas Cumbie, retired Quincy pharmacist

Al Dennis, former inspector general of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Markeal Devonte Dickey, young alumnus and writer for the Talon student newspaper and editor for the Eyrle art and literary magazine who passed away in 2015

David C. Jones, founder and president of the Florida Disabled Outdoors Association

Freda King, supervisor of the DISC Village LIFT re-entry program for inmates

Karen B. Moore, founder and CEO of Moore Communications Group

Pankowski Family, Mary and Joe Pankowski and their adult children, Anne-Marie, Mark and Joe Jr.

Susan Payne Turner, executive vice president of Prime Meridian Bank

Hugh VanLandingham, Tallahassee physician

Kim B. Williams, president of Marpan Supply and Marpan Recycling

TCC helps students with disabilities get ready for workforce with workshops

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College has kicked off a workshop designed to improve job readiness for students with disabilities.

The Backpack 2 Briefcase Series includes four workshop sessions offered this month and in November on topics such as networking, professionalism, interviewing and job searches.

The workshop series is offered through funding from a grant by the Able Trust.

The series is part of TCC's recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"For us its focusing on the abilities that they have," said Kimberly Moore, the vice president for work force development. "So we consider this to be one addition to what our focus is already, and making sure student success is our first priority."

All workshops, as well as orientation sessions and capstone ceremonies, will be held in the Center for Workforce Development on TCC's main campus.

'Start-Up Weekend' aimed at aspiring entrepreneurs

MALCOLM HORNSBY

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College and Domi Station are teaming up for 'Start-Up Weekend'. The weekend is a chance for entrepreneurs to get a jump on their businesses and pitch ideas to judges.

The weekend kicks off Friday, November 4th at 5 p.m. to Sunday, November 6th at 5 p.m. at Tallahassee Community College's campus.

Tickets are \$30 for students and \$50 for the general public.

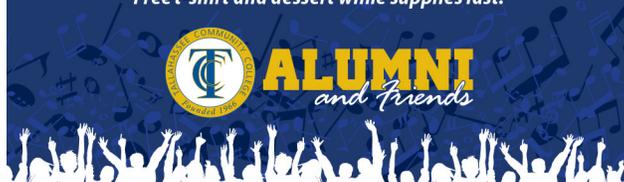


**BIRTHDAY
BREWS & BBQ**
TCC'S 50TH CELEBRATION

Tallahassee Community College is turning 50 this year!
Join us for a special birthday celebration hosted by
TCC's Alumni & Friends Association

**SEPTEMBER 22 | 6 P.M.
KLEMAN PLAZA**

Enjoy music by *Low Flying Planes*, local craft beer and
4Rivers BBQ. Bring the family to the bounce house, face painting,
take your photo with the TCC Eagle and meet our athletes.
Free t-shirt and dessert while supplies last.



**ONE FREE BEER TO THE FIRST 100 GUESTS
FREE BBQ TO THE FIRST 50 PEOPLE THAT BUY A BRICK**



*Celebrating a legacy
Building a future*

HELP US CELEBRATE! JOIN US AT:

Oct. 28	TCC 50th Celebration: Downtown GetDown
Nov. 9	TCC Jazz Band at the North Florida Fair
Nov. 17-19 and Dec. 1-3	Theatre TCC! presents "The Crucible" TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center (FPAC)
Dec. 3	Capital City Band of TCC Holiday Concert Tallahassee Winter Festival
Dec. 10	TCC African Drum & Dance Ensemble: End of Semester Show TCC FPAC

Find a full list of TCC 50th anniversary events and more at
www.tcc.fl.edu/50



GREEN GUIDE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Year-round educational programming promoting the unique environmental features in the Big Bend. Taught by graduates of WEI's Green Guide Certificate Program, topics vary from butterflies to ecosystems. Both classroom and field trip educational training.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

Tate's Hell State Forest Driving and Hiking Excursion

Thursday, October 6 | 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

A four-mile moderate hike through scrub habitat found around the High Bluff Coastal Trail in search of the Red October Flower.

GGL0102 | \$22 per person

Local Birds and Butterflies Information Session / Field Trip

Thursday, Oct. 13 | 1 - 5 p.m. *and* Saturday, Oct. 15 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Half-day introduction to the butterflies and birds found in the Florida Panhandle followed by a field trip to Bald Point State Park.

GGL0101 | \$50 per person

Explore the Black Backwaters of Tate's Hell Swamp*

Saturday, November 5 | 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Four-mile intermediate canoe/kayak trip through Tate's Hell Swamp, one of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world.

**Provide own kayak/canoe.*

GGL0103 | \$22 per person

Beach Exploration: Tracks, Signs and Critters of the Forgotten Coast

Saturday, November 12 | 8 a.m. - noon

Come explore Mashes Sands and Bald Point beaches and discover the diversity of life hidden under the sand and in the water at low tide.

GGL0104 | \$22 per person

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

(850) 558-3500 or www.tcc.fl.edu/greenguide

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