

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*

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April 14 - May 18, 2018

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## *In the News*



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April 14 - May 18, 2018

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*



## Electronic Media

- April 16 - WTXL - TCC women's basketball team wins awards following national championship
- April 17 - WCTV/WTXL - TCC students host "Safe, Not Sorry" traffic safety fair
- April 22 - WUFT - President Murdaugh advocates for FCS constitutional codicil
- April 24 - WCTV - FPSI recruits reflect on slain deputies amid training
- April 25 - WCTV - Clothesline Project raises assault awareness on TCC's campus
- April 25 - WTXL - TCC women's basketball team awarded key to the city by Mayor Gillum
- April 26 - WTXL - TCC helps to facilitate, adjudicate Junior Achievement "Shark Bowl" contest
- May 1 - WCTV - TCC commencement to take place May 5 at Tucker Civic Center
- May 9 - WCTV - TCC to unveil eight newly renovated classrooms at special event
- May 14 - WCTV - TCC baseball team bows out of state tournament after second loss
- May 15 - WTXL - Rick Paul talks Spark event exploring particulars of the pitch

## Pick up a few tips at Traffic Safety Fair

PHILIP STUART

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Next Tuesday, April, 17, Journalism professor Reggie Grant will again host his annual Tallahassee Community College Traffic Safety Fair.

IMPAACT is proud to have one of our crashed cars on display and speak to students about driving safety. Grant's traffic safety project is designed to bring an understanding of staying safe while driving to students and all attendees.

Speaking of all attendees, I take this opportunity to extend to all an invitation to come by TCC Tuesday between 11 and 1 o'clock to witness first hand this great example of dedication to public safety.

Other participants include but are not limited to; FHP with roll-over car, Tallahassee Fire Department, Tallahassee Police Department, EMS, Leon County Sheriff's Department, FDOT Safety office (driving simulator), Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD), Anthony Phoenix Branca Foundation (young Anthony, a TCC student, son and big brother to his younger siblings, was Killed by a Texting driver), Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and others. Please join us.

A special thanks to those of you who came by my IMPAACT crashed car display in the Capitol Courtyard. Thank you for your support of this column and IMPAACT.org. I am proud to know you.

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Following the bureaucracy

Many of you continue to ask about the poor condition of Tallahassee roads from potholes to pavement markings. I will share with you, we have the attention of the very people who can get things done. When I say we, I mean "you," through this column, and one very concerned and involved local attorney.

As a matter of fact, I and our attorney friend sat down with a couple of City of Tallahassee Public Works managers recently and I am able to report things are coming up to speed as far as putting in place a meaningful street repair project. Now, when I say coming up to speed, remember this is a government bureaucracy (with some roads, two bureaucracies).

Although the city maintains our local roads many are the primary responsibility of the Florida Department of Transportation. It is FDOT that has the final say if a repair will be permitted. Or not. The city guys might know full well a road is in desperate need of repair but until the DOT agrees and sends their blessing repairs cannot and do not happen.

But, like I say, I see a change in direction. If you haven't already I believe everyone will begin to see progress pretty soon by way of much smoother travel. Keep me informed about your bumpy road and I'll get it on the repair list.

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Reclaiming a sidewalk

Driving east through CollegeTown recently I watched a collection of students walking in the road in front of a construction project at 715 Gaines St.

Apparently, the construction manager has decided to unnecessarily commandeer the full width of the sidewalk. For FSU safety personnel and you guys wondering why you are forced to walk in the already too narrow traffic lane, I have asked the Tallahassee public works guys to tell the on-site project manager to give us the sidewalk back.

If they are met with resistance let me know and I'll handle it. Sometimes it's necessary to close a sidewalk and guidelines are in place to keep everyone safe which doesn't include a hodgepodge of rickety fencing and plastic barriers.

It may take a couple of days to move the fence and barriers so in the meantime please don't walk in the street. Instead, use the sidewalk on the north side of Gaines Street. Now is a good time to make a promise to yourself to never do battle with a motor vehicle while maneuvering through town as a pedestrian.

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(NOTE: Item truncated for reference to TCC.)

## TCC to unveil newest issue of art and literary magazine

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC will unveil the 37th edition of the Eyrie Art & Literary Magazine Tuesday, at 7 p.m. in the Fine and Performing Arts Center on TCC's main campus.

The magazine is a student-run project showcasing previously unpublished literature and artwork created by TCC students. More than 250 works of art and literature were submitted by TCC students. Of those, 50 were selected for publication.

Programming for the unveiling ceremony will include speeches and presentation of published student work. Refreshments will also be provided.

The public is invited to attend this free event. For information, contact Niki Costantino at [costantn@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:costantn@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC receives marketing awards

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC was recognized by The Higher Education Marketing Report with the following awards for the College's 2017-18 Enrollment Direct Mail Campaign: Gold for Total Recruitment Campaign, gold for Search Pieces and bronze for the Student Viewbook. A national panel of industry specialists judged submissions based on creativity, marketing execution and message impact.

## **TCC librarian contributes to book about undergraduate education**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Fyiane Nsilo-Swai, faculty librarian at TCC, co-authored a chapter titled "The Honors Colloquium at QCC: A Decade of Excellence" that appears in the recently published book "Undergraduate Research and the Academic Librarian: Case Studies and Best Practices."

The book, published by the American Library Association Press, examines how the structures that undergird undergraduate research, such as the library, can become part of the core infrastructure of the undergraduate experience.

## **TCC dean elected president of national organization**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Michael Coleman, dean of students at TCC, was inducted as president the Association of College Unions International, which represents student activity centers and student unions in the United States.

Coleman's volunteer experience with ACUI extends back to 2006 when he joined the Region 6 Education Council as facilities and operations coordinator. He has been an atlarge member of the board of trustees and chair of the Finance Committee and was a member of the 100th Anniversary Celebration Task Force from 2011-14.

## Niezgoda, Linton win Hops And Half Shells 5K titles

HERB WILLS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

**Just south of Crawfordville, Tallahassee Community College opened the first building of the school's Wakulla Environmental Institute during early 2016. In April of the same year, TCC hosted the first annual Hops And Half Shells 5K cross-country race on the Institute grounds. Since then, the Institute has thrived.**

So has the race, and on Saturday morning, Michael Niezgoda won the third annual Hops And Half Shells 5K, running 18:10. Christina Linton repeated as the first woman in the race, placing 14th overall in 22:59.

The 158 acres of Institute land include just about every kind of natural feature you'd expect to see in Wakulla County— pine forest, swamps, sinkholes, a natural bridge, and lots and lots of sand. During 3.1 miles of cross-country running, the athletes in the Hops and Half Shells 5K got to experience all of that, especially the sand.

The race got underway just after 9 a.m. Niezgoda was out front immediately and moving away from the rest of the field. Gary Droze, the TCC cross-country coach, led the pursuit during the first half of the race, but after that Vince Molosky took over the second position. And Molosky began to eat away at Niezgoda's lead.

"Vince tried to pull a Meb Keflezighi, running from behind," said Niezgoda. "I didn't see him at the start, but during the race I turned around and there he was."

The second half of the race featured patches of loose sand, footing that you would have expected on the beach rather than in the forest. Already fatigued from a fast start, Niezgoda wallowed through those sandy stretches, conscious of a closing Molosky.

"The last mile was brutal," said Niezgoda.

But Niezgoda endured, beating Molosky to the finish line 18:10 to 18:15. Coach Droze was third in 19:00, the top master runner in the race.

Despite the rugged course, the race and the Institute continue to draw the runners. Vince Molosky, for instance, had been at the first Hops and Half Shells 5K in 2016, and was running the 2018 event in spite of having just finished a 50 kilometer trail race in Torreya State Park a week earlier.

"I love it out here," said Molosky. "It's beautiful."

Coach Droze, who has run all three Hops and Half Shells races, wants to bring even more runners to the Institute. "I'd like to make this our home course and hold at least one meet out here each season," said Droze.

Kendall Ward, on the other hand, hadn't run at the Institute before Saturday. The Chiles High senior hadn't done much racing at all, having only recently taken up running after years of playing soccer.

"I'm not used to running on sand or grass," said Ward.

Nevertheless, Ward was leading the women's field for the first four kilometers of the 5 kilometer race, leaving behind the top woman from the previous year, Linton.

"I didn't think I was going to catch her," said Linton. "But about two-and-a-half miles I did."

After overtaking Ward, Linton pulled away, running 22:59 and taking a second straight women's title. Ward was second in 23:19. Kathy Greene was the first woman master and third female finisher, 20th overall in 23:39.

**Ward may be seeing more of the Institute trails; after graduating Chiles she'll be running for Coach Droze's TCC cross-country squad.** And where will Linton be racing next?

"The Palace Saloon 5K," said Linton.

That certainly shares a theme with the Hops and Half Shells race.

## TCC receives two new gifts to support scholarships

PUBLICNOW.COM

Tallahassee Community College has received two new gifts from local organizations to support student scholarships. The gifts were presented at the April 16 meeting of the TCC District Board of Trustees.

Heather Mitchell, executive director of the TCC Foundation, recognized long-time community partner Refreshment Services Pepsi & Vending for a gift to support the Dr. Pepper, Snapple, SunKist Scholarship. Student Anthony Love won the \$500 scholarship when he participated in a text competition on TCC's campus in January.

Refreshment Services Pepsi & Vending is also a major supporter of TCC Athletics and sponsored last year's renovation of TCC's athletic training facility, which was renamed in the company's honor. The company was represented by Derrick Stephens.

Mitchell also recognized the Panacea Waterfronts Partnership, which made a gift of \$10,000 to create the Panacea Waterfronts Partnership Endowed Scholarship. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist students from Panacea who want to enroll in a degree or certificate program at TCC.

The scholarship fund was the beneficiary of proceeds from the group's popular Rock the Dock Fishing Tournament, an annual event held at Woolley Park in Panacea that attracts anglers from all over North Florida. The 10th annual Rock the Dock tournament will be held on April 28 and 29. The group was represented by Mark Mitchell, chair of the Panacea Waterfronts Partnership, and several other members.

'We see this as an investment in the future of Panacea,' said Mitchell.

For information, contact Heather Mitchell at [mitchelh@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:mitchelh@tcc.fl.edu) or (850) 201-6067.

## Students warn against distracted driving

SHAWN MULCAHY  
WFSU

Students at Tallahassee Community College are speaking out against distracted driving. Students held a campus-wide traffic safety event Tuesday.

"Safe. Not sorry." That's the message TCC students in Professor Reggie Grant's mass media class are spreading as part of a traffic safety fair.

The event featured exhibits like drunk goggles, bicycle helmet fittings and a distracted driving simulator. A number of organizations participated including the Tallahassee Police Department and Students Against Destructive Decisions.

"This whole event was orchestrated around the concept of distracted driving, and not only the commonality of it, but pretty much just making students aware that it's a problem and causes many casualties a year," says co-event coordinator and TCC student Joe Cano. "It's all about getting people informed."

Cano says students need to understand distracted driving comes with serious repercussions. He wants the Florida Legislature to act on this issue.

An effort to ban texting while driving last session was sidelined following the Parkland shooting.

In Florida, texting while driving is a secondary offense – meaning a person can be ticketed for it only if they're pulled over for something else.

## TCC observes Distracted Driving Awareness Month with traffic safety fair

WTXL

As Floridians observe April as Distracted Driving Awareness Month, students at Tallahassee Community College are hosting a traffic safety fair.

TCC is observing Distracted Driving Awareness Month by hosting its second annual traffic safety fair, which they are calling "Safe. Not Sorry."

The event is organized by mass media students at the community college and is supported by almost 20 different exhibitors promoting safe driving.

The Tallahassee Police Department, Leon County Sheriff's Office and Emergency Management Services, Florida Students Against Destructive Decisions and Mothers Against Drunk Driving are just a few of the organizations supporting the fair.

Part of the event honors the legacy of Anthony Branca, a TCC student who was a motorcyclist killed by a distracted driver in 2014.

TCC's fair will display a car mangled by a traffic accident and also interactive simulations - like a motorcycle simulation - to help drive home the point of safety.

"I think that distracted driving is something that is really a societal issue and that we all need to make sure that we're not doing that, because it is so dangerous," said Reggie Grant, an assistant professor of journalism. "And you know how many times is it that you drive down the road and you look next to yourself and you see someone is not looking at the road they're looking at their phone."

A recent study by the Triple A Foundation found that distracted drivers are four to eight times more likely to cause a traffic accident than those who keep their attention on the road.

TCC's Safe Not Sorry is an outdoor event. It was originally scheduled for last week, but rescheduled due to rain. Last year's event drew more than 300 participants.

TCC students will host the fair in the parking lot behind the Lifetime Sports Complex at TCC from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday.

## Tallahassee Community College holds traffic safety fair

ERIKA FERNANDEZ  
WCTV

The month of April is recognized as Distracted Driving Awareness Month, and Tallahassee Community College is helping spread the word. The college held its second annual traffic safety fair Tuesday.

'Safe, not sorry' is the message that TCC students are promoting. It's inspired by a TCC student, Anthony Branca, who died from a distracted driving accident three years ago on his way to school.

The college students have taken the initiative to tell their peers to put down the phone and focus on the road. MADD, LCSO, TPD, and EMS were just some of the groups who talked with students and showed them the realities of drunk driving and distracted driving.

They said they hope the demonstrations and simulations help young people make better decisions when getting behind the wheel.

"One second. You do something for four or five seconds and you take your eyes off the road or your hand off the wheel... that can change your life or someone else's life forever. So we want to make sure if we can save at least one life by doing this, it will be worth it," said Assistant Professor of Journalism, Reggie Grant.

According to AAA, six out of 10 teen crashes involve distracted driving, but this group of students hopes to bring that number down to zero.

## WEI holds Hops and Half Shells 5K

LINDA ANN MCDONALD

WAKULLA NEWS

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation hosted its annual 5K Hops and Half Shells on Saturday, April 14 on the grounds of the Wakulla Environmental Institute.

The event raises funds to support scholarships.

"The proceeds from last year's event enabled us to purchase a motor for the boat that takes students in the Aquaculture Training program to and from the oyster cages," said Heather Mitchell, director of the Tallahassee Community College Foundation.

"The event grows every year," said Bob Ballard, executive director of WEI. "Last year we had 800 oysters and we totally ran out of oysters. This year, we harvested 2,000 of our farm raised oysters for everybody to enjoy," Ballard added.

Some 300 runners registered for the scenic 5K run where the path takes you in the woods and close the coast. Friends Crista Cowley, Mary Niezgodna, Michael Niezgodna, Thomas Womble, and Katie Clark participated in the event and said, "Just say 5K, beer and oysters and we will be there!"

Michael Niezgodna took first place in the 5K run.

Beer was provided to the event participants by Tallahassee's Deep Brewing Company. The three beers served are the company's core beers which included: Spear Pressure, a British Golden Ale, Reef Dweller, an India Pale Ale, and Neutral Buoyancy, a Bavarian Hefeweizen.

"Everyone knows us for our oyster program but we want to do so much more for the environment," Ballard said, .

"When we started the oysters, it was so successful that it took all the air out of the room for everything else we wanted to additionally focus on," Ballard said. "We have other programs here at the Institute such as land management programs and the environmental drone program. The drones can monitor prescribed burns and areas of drought, beetle infestation and monitor red cockaded woodpeckers by taking pictures of their nests and the progress of the hatching baby birds.

"We would like to see employment come out of the programs within the institute that are environmentally focused on the jewels the Wakulla environment has to offer.

"We are thinking about farm raising scallops next," said Ballard.

For more information on the programs Wakulla Environmental Institute offers, visit their website at [www.tcc.fl.edu/about/locations/wakulla-environmental-institute/wei-programs](http://www.tcc.fl.edu/about/locations/wakulla-environmental-institute/wei-programs)

## **TCC's Japonica James earns All-American honors**

### **Alabama native led TCC to first-ever national title**

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

Last month, Japonica James became a National Champion. Today, she is a NJCAA All-American.

James' record-breaking career at Tallahassee Community College hit another high note on Wednesday when she was named First-team All-America by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

The Mobile, Ala., native led Tallahassee to its first NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship in March and was selected to the all-tournament team after averaging 13.0 points and 8.4 rebounds during five games in Lubbock, Texas. She was previously named First-team FCSAA All-State/NJCAA Region 8 and First-team All-Panhandle Conference.

"I'm very excited to see Japonica's hard work recognized by the NJCAA," said Tallahassee head coach Franqua "Q" Bedell. "This validates what she has accomplished over the last two seasons.

"It's exciting for (Japonica) to have won a national championship, which is a team accomplishment, and now to cap off her career with an individual accolade such as All-America is well-deserved and exciting to witness."

James averaged 17.1 points, 8.0 rebounds and 1.7 assists while shooting 57.6 percent from the floor over 35 games in 2017-18, leading the Eagles to a school-record 29 wins.

During the Eagles' NJCAA semifinal win over two-time defending champion Gulf Coast State College, James surpassed former Tallahassee teammate Lawriell Wilson to become the school's all-time leading scorer and finished with 1,143 career points.

James also finished as the school's all-time leader in field goal percentage (56.9%), field goals made (439), free throws made (265) and free throw attempts (446) and finished third all-time with 525 rebounds, becoming the first 1,000-point/500 rebound player in school history.

James joins Wilson (2017) as the only women's basketball players in school history to receive First-team NJCAA All-America honors and is just the fifth NJCAA recipient overall, joining Tamilla Murray (1999, honorable mention), Shamar Harris (2008, second-team) and Jeraldine Campbell (2013, third-team).

## Registration now open for Gadsden Center Safety Series

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

The Tallahassee Community College Gadsden Center will offer a new series of monthly safety trainings targeted to Gadsden County business owners, their employees and community members.

Interested individuals may register by contacting the TCC Gadsden Center at (850) 558-3620 or [GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu). The center is located at 223 Pat Thomas Parkway in Quincy.

### TCC Gadsden Center Safety Series Schedule

Friday, March 30, 1 – 3 p.m.: Human Trafficking Training provided by Mindy Conney, Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles senior intelligence analyst

Friday, April 27, 1 – 3 p.m.: Domestic Violence Training provided by Bobby Smith, Refuge House community counselor

Friday, May 25, 1 – 3 p.m.: Elderly Abuse Training provided by Allison Bryant, Florida Department of Elder Affairs statewide elder abuse prevention coordinator, and the Area Agency on Aging for North Florida

Friday, June 29, 1 – 3 p.m.: Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event Training provided by G. W. Lupton, TCC emergency services coordinator

Friday, July 27, 1 – 3 p.m.: Hurricane Preparation Training provided by G. W. Lupton

Saturday, August 25, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.: Community Safety Awareness Day, featuring Quincy Police Chief Glenn Sapp, community partners, parenting classes and more

For information, contact the TCC Gadsden Center at (850) 558-3620 or [GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu).

## Community college hosts Entrepreneurial Boot Camp

GISELLE THOMAS

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

A number of Gadsden County locals interested in starting up businesses attended the Tallahassee Community College Spark Entrepreneurial Boot Camp at the TCC Gadsden Center.

The all-day event was jam-packed with information about successful self-startup business strategies.

Attendees learned about the Business Model Canvas and its nine building blocks, as well as customer discovery and ways to create a competitive advantage.

The Business Model Canvas's building blocks are: customer segment, value proposition, key partners, key resources, channels, key activities, customer relations, cost structure and revenue stream.

These building blocks are essential in tracking progress and promoting success in a new business.

Customer discovery focused on face-to-face interaction with a potential client. It gives the entrepreneur insight on how to talk about his/her product without coming on too strong.

Competitive advantage is all about figuring out what you can do for your customer better than your competition. For example, when you show statistics on your product or showcase it among other brands so your audience can see the pros and cons.

TCC Instructor of Entrepreneurship, Curt Bender, said the audience was diverse, and the boot camp was open to everyone.

"The audience ranged from a high-school senior that's looking to take over a family storefront, to someone who is looking to franchise, to someone who already has business in healthcare," Bender said.

Julie Todd, a local resident of Gadsden County said the boot camp gave her confidence in starting up her business.

"I actually feel empowered; I wasn't expecting this at all but what has come out of this is a support group," Todd said. "Now I know some people in the community that I can turn to for advice, who can help mentor and coach. Also, some people like myself who are in different stages of self-start up and can be a little support group for ourselves."

TCC service area includes Wakulla, Leon and Gadsden counties. The TCC Spark program's goal is to encourage entrepreneurship in all three.

Rick Paul, TCC Spark Program Coordinator said that smaller businesses in the region and county hire more employees.

"It's a proven fact that small business hire more employees than large businesses. Large businesses let employees go; small businesses grow and hire more people," Paul said. "The Spark program's goal is to help grow small businesses in the county."

This was the first entrepreneurship boot camp offered by the TCC Spark program, but the Spark Program also has monthly Entrepreneurship forums and Mentoring classes.

The next mentoring class meets at 6 p.m. May 8, at TCC's Center for Innovation at 300 S. Duval St., Tallahassee. Parking is available at Kleman Plaza. For information on TCC's Spark program, call 850-201-9438, email [TCCspark@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:TCCspark@tcc.fl.edu), or visit [www.TCCSpark.com](http://www.TCCSpark.com).

## Law enforcement recruits reflect on recent shootings

MIKE VASILINDA

WJHG

Flags were at half-staff in honor of the slain deputies at the Florida Public Safety Institute 25 miles west of the State Capitol, but at the academy, it was training as usual.

The fact two officers were laid to rest as they trained was not lost on the class.

"It makes you reflect on the, on the seriousness of the job, but that's where we come in here and get the training that we did," said Jonathan McCall, a recruit for the Tallahassee Police Department.

Many recruits like McCall have military backgrounds. They know the pay is low, the danger high. Still, they want to serve.

"I just finished a 25-year career in the military and so I wanted to serve in a different capacity at my community level," said Alexander Perea, another recruit.

Recruits will spend anywhere from 800 to 1,000 hours learning their trade.

The Highway Patrol trains recruits for seven months. Together, 60 state and federal agencies train at the 1,500-acre academy.

"We replicate the real world as much as possible," said E.E. Eunice who is the director of the Florida Public Safety Institute.

By the time these cadets leave, they will have the skills to be a cop. Whether they have the temperament to withstand the dangers is something they will find out on their own once they're on the street.

## Every tee shirt tells a painful story at TCC

TOM FLANIGAN  
WFSU

Students at Tallahassee Community College have a very visible way to raise awareness about sexual abuse and domestic violence this week. They've hung hundreds of message-bearing tee shirts in the middle of campus.

Anyone who thinks abuse is a rare occurrence among college students should talk to TCC Assistant English Professor Dr. Kelly Thayer.

"Every semester, at least 5 or 6 female students confide to me that they were sexually assaulted," she said.

Thayer explained it was the students' idea to make their campus part of the national clothesline project. Each tee shirt carries a message from a student, like Denicia Brown who notes those who experience abuse are often accused of somehow bringing it on themselves.

"It's not their fault," she insisted firmly. "That's victim-blaming. We're not victim blamers; we're survivors!"

Student Christian Villas noted males can be victims of violence as well as perpetrators.

"I don't believe it's all a women thing," he said. "There are a lot of guys who are also domestically abused."

TCC's clothesline and its 100s of shirts will remain up the rest of the week.

## TCC's Clothesline Project helps honor sexual assault victims

WCTV

Emotion was on full display at Tallahassee Community College on Wednesday.

Along the sidewalks of campus, t-shirts hung in honor of victims of sexual assault as part of the Clothesline Project.

It is one of the ways TCC is helping raise awareness.

"You see pictures of faces that have passed away and it's really powerful," said Tatianna Gonzalez. "Their deaths shouldn't be in vain. We should try to fix this as soon as possible. I hope people just start to listen. I hope they have a conversation."

TCC says students can start the conversation by going to the campus counseling center.

## White shirts mark dark days

'Clothesline Project' focuses on sexual assault victims with display at community college campus

NADA HASSANEIN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

"There was no one to tell and nowhere to hide."

"It's not your fault."

"Love is not cold. Love is warm."

The phrases are just a few of the dozens painted and stenciled onto T-shirts strung on clotheslines in a Tallahassee Community College courtyard this week, the last of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

The "Clothesline Project," started by professors Kelly Thayer and Lauren Fletcher, began last spring around the Women's March and continues this year in the wake of the Me Too movement.

Made by students and survivors, the display spreads awareness about sexual assault and domestic violence through an anonymous display of shirts decorated with statistics, anecdotes of hurt, healing — and words of empathy.

It was a breezy, brisk morning. But the air in the courtyard was also heavy with the messages of dozens of survivors.

The students didn't just write about their own traumas; they wrote about their sisters, their friends, their mothers.

Britney Feliciano, a student at Tallahassee Community College, created a shirt inspired by her mother, a survivor of childhood sexual assault.

The tee depicts a woman's swirly graphite-drawn hair, with a barcode underneath and the phrase, "My virginity is not for sale. Please don't steal it."

"I haven't personally had to go through what my mom has," said Feliciano, 20, "but through her, I'm living it."

The prospective nursing student took part because she wanted to shed light on the pervasiveness of the problem.

"This is an epidemic that's in America — and it needs to be stopped," she said.

The Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network reports more than 320,000 people in the U.S. are raped or sexually assaulted each year. The majority of victims are under 30 years old. One in six women has been a victim of rape or attempt.

According to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, there were more than 10,000 reported forcible sex offenses statewide in 2016 alone. In Leon County, 335 were reported.

But most offenses go unreported.

"Through this project, survivors can have a voice," said Feliciano. "Even though it's anonymous, they can still speak their story."

Along with dispelling the shame that often accompanies an assault — the clothesline metaphor is a play on the "airing dirty laundry" idiom — Fletcher, an English teacher, hopes the demonstration empowers victims.

"A lot of times, it feels like it's something that happened to you and this is giving them a platform to take ownership of how they want to share their narrative and they want to share their story... regaining some element of control that you feel like you lose when you're a victim," said Fletcher, 35. "I think it's about transitioning from being a victim to being a survivor, for some people."

Another student, Roney Levinson, 18, recalled a time she was at a club with friends. One guy, who she knew previously, was pressuring her to chug drinks and go home with him, ignoring her requests for water.

"I don't talk to him anymore," she said.

"Honestly, I didn't realize how bad the scenario was until I started this class," the psychology and criminology major said. "I was like, wait, no, all the signs were there. If my friends weren't with me and actually looking at me, everything could have been so different."

Levinson's creation features three stick figure women and the phrase, "Please don't let it be me."

Lexie Blanton, 19, also a criminology major, took part in the project too. She reflected on a former high school boyfriend whose anger and emotional manipulation made her feel threatened and scared. He'd often throw objects — once a cell phone — against a brick wall.

## White shirts mark dark days....

*continued*

"Luckily, I was able to get away from him," she said. "Pay attention to the signs that people talk about... It can get dangerous and you need to get out or get help, or report it to somebody so he can get help." But even if a person doesn't report it to law enforcement, it's important to talk about the experience with someone the survivor trusts, explained Meg Baldwin, executive director of Refuge House, which aids victims of domestic violence and assault. "Even to begin by telling someone in a survivor's life what happened to her can be really the beginning to a really important healing path," Baldwin said. "The most important statement that a survivor can hear or that a friend can offer is a simple statement of: I believe you and how can I help?"

The Me Too movement that's spurred a national dialogue hasn't just brought the problem to the surface, but it also has allowed victims to connect with each other, Baldwin said.

"What's so tremendous about the Me Too movement... is that victims are talking to each other," she said. "They're sticking up for each other. And that's what I think has really changed the feel of survivor disclosure in these recent months... the survivor is saying, 'What happened to you, happened to me.'"

## State tourney bound Baseball punches ticket to Lakeland

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

Tallahassee Community College clinched a berth in the NJCAA Gulf District/FCSAA State Baseball Tournament with Friday's 6-3 win over Pensacola State College.

Tallahassee has won nine of 11 since a 3-7 start to improve to 12-9 in Panhandle Conference play and 34-16 overall. The Pirates have dropped four straight and are now 22-26 (9-14).

Eagle righty Justin Sorokowski (5-0) labored through the first three innings before settling in and eventually pitched into the seventh. He won his fourth straight start while lowering his PC-leading ERA to 1.80 but only after minimizing a slew of early scoring threats by Pensacola State.

The Pirates' first two batters reached base in the first, which turned into a 1-0 lead following a fielder's choice and Josh Rulli's sac-fly to left. Griffin Rivers' two-out single put runners on the corners with two outs but Sorokowski struck out Jake Nemith to end the inning.

Sorokowski found himself in trouble again in the second. After walking the leadoff batter for the second straight inning, Bucky McGlamry doubled and the Pirates had two runners in scoring position with nobody out. Sorokowski didn't flinch, however, and retired the next three batters – two on strikeouts – to get out of the inning unscathed.

Thanks to an assist from his defense, Sorokowski snuffed out another scoring opportunity in the third. With one out, Wilfredo Alvarez tagged up from third on Rivers' fly out to right, but Tanner Thomas made a near-perfect throw and catcher Kyle Benson applied the tag on the second attempt after Alvarez avoided Benson's first but missed home plate.

That turned out to be the Pirates' last real scoring threat until the eighth. By then, Tallahassee led 6-1.

The Eagles also missed a couple of early opportunities to put runs on the board. They loaded the bases in each of the first two innings, despite only recording one hit, but could only score one run. A passed ball in the second allowed Trey Polewski to race home from third.

Tallahassee manufactured single runs in the third and fourth, again with only one combined hit.

Logan Lacey reached on an error to start the third and eventually scored on Polewski's sac-fly. In the fourth, Benson drew a leadoff walk – one of 11 free passes issued by the Pirates – and later scored on Lacey's single.

Benson added a two-run homer in the fifth to extend the Eagles' lead to 5-1, and Jayson Sowden's pinch-hit, RBI-single in the sixth plated Thomas.

Tallahassee preserved its lead with some timely defense in the latter innings.

With a runner on first and one out in the seventh, James Parris sent one deep to right-center but Miller raced over from center and made a diving catch on what turned out to be Sorokowski's final pitch.

Sorokowski scattered six hits and two walks over 6.2 innings while striking out five.

Tyler Lehrmann recorded the final out of the inning but only retired one batter in the eighth before handing the ball to Jake Kinney with two runners in scoring position.

Rivers singled home Alvarez and Nemith's sac-fly scored Josh Rulli to make things interesting and cut the Eagles' lead to 6-3. Cameron Wright, who replaced Benson behind the plate in the sixth, threw out Rivers attempting to steal second to end the eighth.

Sowden, who stayed in the game following his sixth-inning at-bat, made a sliding catch in left-center for the first out of the ninth. The Pirates, however, eventually brought the tying run to the plate, but Kinney, fittingly, ended the game with a strikeout – the Eagles' seventh of the game and 465th on the season, which continues to lead the nation.

Seven different players accounted for the Eagles' seven hits. Benson finished 1-for-1 with two RBI and two runs scored.

Thomas was officially 0-for-1 but walked four times.

Tallahassee and Pensacola State will conclude their season series at 2 p.m. eastern on Saturday in Pensacola.

## TCC to host summer cybersecurity camp for Gadsden County students

HAVANA HERALD

Tallahassee Community College will host a cybersecurity-focused summer camp for rising 7th through 10th grade Gadsden County students June 11-15 at the TCC Gadsden Center.

Participants will learn about STEM career opportunities and important cyber defense skills through hands-on instruction and activities. Highlights include a team competition simulating real cybersecurity situations faced by industry professionals.

The camp runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Lunch will be provided for all attendees.

Interested individuals may find application materials for the camp in-person at the Gadsden Center or online at [www.learnITatTCC.com](http://www.learnITatTCC.com). The registration fee of \$35 must be paid in-person at the Gadsden Center by 5 p.m. Friday, May 11.

The TCC Gadsden Center is located at 223 Pat Thomas Parkway in downtown Quincy.

For information, contact the Center at (850) 558-3620 or [GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC recognizes two outstanding grads

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College graduating student Allison Matthews is the 2018 recipient of the Dr. Bertha Flowers Murray Award. Matthews is a returning adult student who started her higher education experience in developmental classes and persisted to complete her Associate in Arts degree despite working full-time while attending college.

Mathews, a Tallahassee native, plans to transfer to Florida State University to continue her education and earn a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies, with a minor in child development.

Brianna Mead, who received the Dr. Sally P. Search Leadership Award, also began her studies at TCC in developmental education. Since then, she has made the honor's list, dean's list and president's list for academic achievement. Mead was part of the pilot group of peer mentors for the Math Champions program and is also president of the TCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges. She was also selected as an Academic Allstar by the Florida College System.

After graduating from TCC, Mead plans to attend FSU to study psychology.

## Returning adult student wins scholarship

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC student Michele Gray is the Spring 2018 recipient of the \$500 Developmental Math Scholarship, sponsored by the Florida Developmental Education Association. Gray was nominated by her math professor, Dave DelRossi, for her achievement in his class.

Gray, now a resident of Crawfordville, is an alum of Godby High School in Tallahassee. As a returning adult student, she has continued to work full-time for the State of Florida while pursuing her college degree. After graduating from TCC, she plans to attend the University of West Florida to study marine biology.

## Here come two weeks of pomp and circumstance

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Florida State University — which earlier this year announced a high of more than 50,000 applications for its incoming freshmen class — now is expecting record participation for this week's graduation ceremonies.

In response, the university will hold four commencements, a first in its history.

More than 6,400 students will receive degrees this spring: 5,232 bachelor's graduates, 998 master's graduates and 227 doctoral graduates, the university said.

Of those, more than 5,300 graduates say they will participate in spring commencements at the Tucker Civic Center.

"This is a wonderful problem to have," FSU President John Thrasher said. "Our students are more engaged than ever, and they want the tradition of commencement to be part of their Florida State experience."

Two ceremonies next Friday will feature FSU alumnus Julie Dunn Eichenberg, vice president of brand distribution at Turner Content Distribution, and John Rivers, founder and CEO of the 4R Restaurant Group.

Eichenberg will speak at 2 p.m. Friday to graduates of Arts and Sciences, Motion Picture Arts and Social Work.

Rivers will give the 7:30 p.m. address to graduates of Business, Fine Arts, the Dedman School of Hospitality and the Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship.

Jim Jenkins, chief executive officer for Sodexo's Universities North America East, is the keynote speaker for both ceremonies on Saturday.

Sodexo last year inked a 10-year dining contract with FSU valued at more than \$173 million.

Saturday's 9 a.m. ceremony is for graduates of Applied Studies; the Graduate School (material sciences graduates only); Engineering; Social Sciences and Public Policy; Nursing; and Criminology and Criminal Justice.

The 2 p.m. commencement is for graduates of Medicine; Communication and Information; Music; Human Sciences; and Education.

Florida A&M University is holding three commencements next Friday and Saturday at the Lawson Center, featuring alumni who have made their mark in finance and film/television. More than 1,000 will have degrees conferred, including 810 receiving bachelor's, 180 master's and eight awarded doctoral degrees. There are 99 College of Law graduates.

Shundrawn Thomas, president of Northern Trust Asset Management, is speaker at 6 p.m. Friday.

Filmmaker Rob Hardy, who received his degree in mechanical engineering from FAMU, will deliver the keynote addresses at 9 a.m. and at 2 p.m. Saturday. An Army ROTC commissioning ceremony will be held during the 9 a.m. event.

Hardy is a producer, director and CEO of Rainforest Entertainment, a full-scale production company. Hardy is heralded as one of the country's top producers in film and television.

**Tallahassee Community College's commencement will be held at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 5, at the Tucker Civic Center. More than 400 graduates are expected to attend.**

**Keynote speaker is James Kassaga Arinaitwe, co-founder and CEO of Teach For Uganda, which works to expand educational opportunity to all children in Uganda.**

**Arinaitwe, who was born and raised in rural Uganda, lost his family of six to AIDS and other preventable diseases before he turned 10 and was raised by his grandmother. After high school, he connected with a Tallahassee family who brought him to the United States where he enrolled in TCC.**

**He went on to earn degrees from Florida State University and the SIT Graduate Institute in Washington, D.C.**

**In 2017, Arinaitwe was inducted into the TCC Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame and also received the Reubin O'D. Askew Young Alumni Award from FSU.**

## TCC new policy isn't about civility, it's about coercion

DANA PECK

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (YOUR TURN)

Is Tallahassee Community College's recently adopted "civility" policy, which targets college staff, students, vendors and guests on campus, a campus goal or a management tool?

Some TCC faculty members, who recently unionized, believe college trustees have adopted a civility policy as a vehicle for intimidating them, sort of like curfews passed by government bodies. Is the purpose of a curfew law to bar midnight travel? Nope. It's a handy, legitimate excuse for police to stop people.

As it stands, TCC's civility policy — which inexplicably prohibits criminal acts of violence (as if a policy is needed to back up the law) — has no specific penalties and its requirements are vague. This may create headaches, not only for faculty, but for TCC's administration.

For example, the policy prohibits behavior that a reasonable person might find embarrassing, offensive or humiliating. Problem one: Who defines a reasonable person? I think I'm reasonable, but people reading these comments might disagree.

During my 16 years as a TCC journalism/ English professor, students often complained they were embarrassed, offended or humiliated when they were required to examine ideas they had never encountered.

Some were offended, even repulsed, by Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal," a satiric essay urging the Irish to survive a famine by eating their infants.

Others feigned embarrassment when discussing Aristophanes' "Lysistrata," a 400 B.C. play about women refusing sex until men stopped waging war.

Still others found it disrespectful to contemplate "Civil Disobedience" by Henry David Thoreau, who argued that good people should disobey laws they disagree with.

And there were the students who, when called on to respond in class, were humiliated and angry that their lack of knowledge had been exposed.

The point: College educations explore bubbling stews of ideas, presented in various forms, that can embarrass, offend or humiliate in a quest for knowledge. College is meant to expand the mind and there's no Step 1-2-3 way to accomplish that.

Whether well-intended or not, demanding "civility" by an undefined, amorphous standard of ideas or presentation risks intimidating those who teach and, thereby, may devalue the education TCC strives to provide. Keep in mind: Good stews must be seasoned and stirred in the pot.

## 4 finalists picked for College of Southern Nevada president

NATALIE BRUZDA

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Four college administrators with diverse backgrounds and from different parts of the country have been named finalists to become president of the College of Southern Nevada.

The candidates will visit with the campus community in separate public meetings and will take part in face-to-face interviews with the presidential search committee next week.

By next Friday, it's likely that the Nevada Board of Regents will make a decision on whom to hire to lead the state's largest community college.

"These four finalists represent the best applicants from across the entire country," Thom Reilly, chancellor for the Nevada System of Higher Education, said in a statement. "We are excited to have such a highly qualified and diverse pool of final candidates as we narrow our search for a leader to take CSN to the next level."

The finalists are:

Keith Curry, the president/chief executive officer for Compton College and the Compton Community College District in California.

**Feleccia R. Moore-Davis, the provost of Tallahassee Community College in Florida.**

Utpal K. Goswami, the president of Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods in Kansas City, Missouri.

Federico Zaragoza, the vice chancellor of economic and workforce development at the Alamo Community College District in San Antonio, Texas.

The CSN post is one of three presidential transitions taking place within the NSHE.

The system is nearing the end of a search for a new college administrator to lead Western Nevada College in Carson City, and it is beginning the search for a replacement for UNLV President Len Jessup, who's preparing to leave for a new job.

During an open forum at UNLV on Monday, Reilly said candidate pools differ for each school.

"At Western Nevada College ... there was a great sense that they liked the direction that was set by the former

president," Reilly said. "At CSN we got a different message. We got the message that they want a change agent, that they're looking for someone who's more of a risk taker and more aggressive in dealing with different issues."

CSN's previous president, Michael Richards, served in the role for almost 10 years. Margo Martin, who joined the college as vice president for academic affairs in June, has been acting president since Richards retired in January.

"CSN is saying that we haven't reached our full potential, and here are concrete ideas on how to move the needle," Reilly said during Monday's forum.

Diversity has been crucial in the search. Regent Patrick Carter, a member of the search committee, said he's pleased with the applicant pool.

"Having people that have had past administrative experience in education will be a great asset for CSN," he said.

Several advisory members of the presidential search committee have said diversity is necessary to ensure faculty and students feel valued.

The NSHE hired Wheless Partners to head the CSN search, which began in February.

The following is a schedule of important meetings in the CSN presidential search.

May 8: Public meeting with Dr. Utpal K. Goswami from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. and a public meeting with Dr. Keith C. Curry from noon to 1:15 p.m. Both meetings will be held in Building D, Room 101.

May 9: **Public meeting with Dr. Feleccia R. Moore-Davis from 10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.** and a public meeting with Dr. Federico Zaragoza from noon to 1:15 p.m. Both meetings will be held in Building I, Room 108.

Both meetings will take place on CSN's Charleston Campus, 6375 W. Charleston Boulevard.

May 10: The presidential search committee will meet at 9 a.m. in the June Whitley Student Lounge on CSN's North Las Vegas Campus, 3200 E. Cheyenne Avenue.

May 11: The state Board of Regents will meet to make a hiring decision. The time and location are to be determined.

## Hops and Half Shells offers lesson in oysters

JOSEPH BARNETT  
CHRONICLE

When our Periodontal Associates office asked me to get a team together to support the "Hops and Half Shells 5K Trail Run/Walk" I immediately said yes! This is a fundraiser for Tallahassee Community College students. TCC has provided our office and local dentists with great dental hygienists and assistants for many years.

I love that this event takes place at the Wakulla Environmental Institute, designed by a local architect firm. My daughter, one of their architects asked me to run at the very first event. I love the solar panels that shade the parking lot. Bob Ballard, executive director of the WEI, said the panels supply 2½ times the energy needed to run the entire institute building. Every parking lot should have solar.

The 5K run took us through a beautiful pine forest. We saw a picture perfect lake, lots of spring wildflowers, and even the sparkleberry trees were filled with their white wedding bell blossoms. It was so beautiful; many of us walked, talked and took photos. Caitlyn Johnson laughed when her partner, Garrett Desoto got a medal and she didn't, even though they had the same times, due to so many fast ladies in her age group.

Then we ate fresh oysters from the Panacea Oyster Co-Op and drank local craft beer from DEEP Brewing Company. It was amazing how the casual atmosphere got everyone talking with each other. We met dental hygienists from other offices. We learned teammate Clint Alexander is a veteran and he and his teammate wife Tori knows some of our military friends.

We learned a lot about oysters. TCC and the Wakulla Environmental Institute were the first in Florida to start oyster farming in the water column. The school trains new oyster farmers, like Bob Ballard, who leases his oyster "ocean lot" from the state. As he "shucked" oysters, Bob taught me all about farmed oysters, quickly noting that "only" native oysters are used.

Oysters are collected and covered in water. After they spawn, tiny larvae are formed. These larvae look for oyster beds to settle on. Since there are no oyster beds in the tanks, the larvae settle on sheets of plastic looking like grains of sand, called "spat."

When ready, the plastic is rolled and the "seeds" pop off to be sent to oyster farmers like Bob.

Bob puts the oyster seeds into cages near the ocean surface. He said the top 6 inches is where they grow better and cleaner than the muddy bottom. The cages keep the oysters separated so they are easier to harvest. The farmers break off the narrow part of the shells causing the shells to grow rounder, making plumper oysters. The oysters clean the ocean and send out natural seeds that increase wild oyster beds.

So far our oysters haven't been damaged from coal and oil caused ocean acidification like Oregon and other areas. He said our oysters are grown in 9 months compared to 3 years up north. I usually eat 4-5 oysters but these tasted so good that I ate at least 12, mostly without sauce which had run out. These great oysters can be purchased for 85 cents each at the Panacea Co-Op located at the Spring Creek Marina.

Can't wait to see everyone at the next year's Hops and Half Shells. It is much more than a race!

## TCC's main commencement is May 5

WAKULLA NEWS

Tallahassee Community College will hold its main commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Donald L. Tucker Civic Center. More than 400 new graduates are expected to cross the stage to receive their diplomas.

The student speaker will be Boca Raton native Susan Liss. She is captain of the TCC forensics team and has helped the team bring home state and national titles.

Liss is also a member of the Phi Theta Kappa international honor society.

The keynote speaker is James Kassaga Arinaitwe, co-founder and CEO of Teach For Uganda, which works to expand educational opportunity to all children in Uganda. Arinaitwe was born and raised in rural Uganda. He lost his family of six to AIDS and other preventable diseases before he turned 10 and was raised by his grandmother. After high school, Arinaitwe connected with a Tallahassee family who brought him to the United States to attend TCC. He holds master's degrees from Florida State University and the SIT Graduate Institute in Washington, D.C.

In 2014, Arinaitwe was selected as an Acumen Global Fellow and spent a year in India working with a social enterprise providing education and livelihood skills to underserved youth. In 2017, Arinaitwe was inducted into the TCC Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame and also received the Reubin O'D. Askew Young Alumni Award from FSU.

## More on upcoming commencement ceremonies

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

This evening's 7:30 p.m. ceremony features for graduates of Business, Fine Arts, the Dedman School of Hospitality and the Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship.

At 9 a.m., Saturday, Applied Studies; the Graduate School (material sciences graduates only); Engineering; Social Sciences and Public Policy; Nursing; and Criminology and Criminal Justice graduates will attend their commencement.

Graduates of Medicine; Communication and Information; Music; Human Sciences; and Education will be featured at the 2 p.m. commencement.

At Florida A&M University, the 6 p.m. commencement this evening in the Lawson Center will feature graduates of College of Agriculture and Food Sciences, College of Education, School of Business and Industry, School of Allied Health Services, School of Journalism & Graphic Communication.

At 9 a.m. Saturday, graduates in College of Science and Technology, College of Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities, School of the Environment will hold their commencement ceremony. The ROTC Commissioning Ceremony will be held then.

For the 2 p.m. ceremony, graduates in the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, College of Law, College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical, School of Architecture and Engineering Technology, School of Nursing will attend their commencement.

**At 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Tallahassee Community College hold its ceremony for 400 graduates at the Tucker Center.**

## **TCC students earn five awards at Model United Nations conference**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Fourteen students from Tallahassee Community College recently traveled to New York City to attend the National Model United Nations, the oldest and largest intercollegiate MUN conference in the world. They joined nearly 6,000 students from 50 different countries in the simulation held March 25 to 29.

TCC's students, representing the U.N. delegation from Ireland, won five awards. The delegation from TCC earned an Honorable Delegation Award for their overall team effort in representing and speaking for Ireland in various committees, along with four Position Paper Awards, which are based on the research and written positions submitted prior to the conference.

While most other colleges and universities provide college credit, TCC MUN students research, practice and participate for more intangible academic, professional and personal benefits.

The team was led by Monica Garcia Vega and Roman Ramos. Faculty advisers are Thomas Waller and Richard Murgo.

## College of Southern Nevada close to getting new president

NATALIE BRUZDA

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

The College of Southern Nevada might have a new leader by Friday.

From all over the United States and with an array of higher education management experiences, the four finalists for the presidency post met with the campus community in public forums this week.

They fielded questions from faculty and staff, and on Thursday they will answer questions during a public interview session with the CSN president search committee.

The committee, composed of regents and community members, will probably make a recommendation and bring it to the full Board of Regents for a vote Friday.

Utpal Goswami: Goswami got his start in higher education at Schreiner University in Kerrville, Texas, where he helped students move onto graduate-level education at Ivy League schools.

"I felt hollow inside because when you're trying to do that, with that mindset, you're focused on finding the best and the brightest," he said. "As a society, we have to take care of everybody."

He made the switch to two-year college administration in the early 2000s. Since 2013, Goswami has been president of Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods in Kansas City, Missouri.

In his role, Goswami said he's helped increase the fall-to-spring and fall-to-fall retention rates of the student body.

"I'm passionate about improving student success," he said.

David Oehler, dean of instruction for MCC-Maple Woods, said once Goswami learns and reviews CSN's data, he should have ideas and suggestions on ways to improve its retention and graduation rates. Under Goswami's leadership, Maple Woods created a honors program and is working to compete more directly with four-year schools by improving the look and feel of the campus and its offerings, Oehler said.

"He's great at setting a vision and relying on people to use their own abilities and creativity to move toward that vision," Oehler said.

Keith C. Curry: For Curry, student success begins at home with his second-grade son. And this week, his son's goal was to pass his spelling test. Curry carries that focus on student success to Compton College in Compton, California, where he has been president and CEO since 2011.

"My slogan started with, 'Every student is a success story,'" he said. "That first day they're on our campus, that's the beginning of their story. Our job is to help them with their success."

Curry said he listened to students when they said they needed Wi-Fi on campus, and he worked to secure \$4 million to make that happen.

He also obtained accreditation for the college, which, lost it more than a decade ago because of administrative failure and widespread corruption, according to the Los Angeles Times. The graduation rate has increased from 14 percent to 15 percent under his leadership.

"It's 1 percent. It didn't go down," he said. "If it moves by 1 percent, or 0.5 percent, that's progress, but we can't stop doing that work."

**Feleccia R. Moore-Davis: As provost of Tallahassee Community College in Tallahassee, Florida, Moore-Davis said everything she does is about student success and completion, and she believes CSN can be a forerunner in the areas of access, equity and success.**

**She said it's not enough to get students in and out with a degree. The school should ensure they can secure a job with family-sustaining wages.**

**"I don't want to hear that our graduates are working at McDonald's as a result of being part of our program," she said. "But that they're gainfully employed (in positions) that we helped to put them in."**

**Sheri Rowland, vice president for student affairs at TCC, said in the 23 years she's worked in education, Moore-Davis's compassion and care for students stands out. Rowland said Moore-Davis is also "equity-minded," ensuring the college can meet the needs of students from all races, ethnicities and backgrounds.**

## College of Southern Nevada close to getting new president....

*continued*

**She said Moore-Davis formed the college's inaugural Diversity, Inclusion and Equity Council and is creating a sister-to-sister mentoring program.**

Federico Zaragoza: Zaragoza said he's a "dreamer." He moved to the United States with his mother, who was a citizen, after he was born in Mexico City.

"We were raised by a single mom, and so a lot of who I am, and my values, go back to that foundation," he said. "She instilled education as the means for us moving forward in American society."

He has served as the vice chancellor for economic and workforce development for the Alamo Community College District in San Antonio, Texas, since 2004. When he assumed the position, the graduation rate was 9 percent. It's now 20 percent.

"We've been on that journey to move that needle," he said. "That happened because I believe we unleashed the power of institution."

Bruce Leslie, chancellor for the Alamo Colleges District, said Zaragoza is highly regarded not only in his office, but regionally, nationally and internationally. He helped create the Alamo Academies, a partnership with industry leaders and the city of San Antonio, to prepare high school students for high-wage and high-skill careers. Leslie said about 100 companies use the program.

"He's very attentive to the whole process of moving a student, whether he's an adult learner or an economically challenged individual, from education and training into employment," Leslie said.

## Does county need more booze?

### GCDC identifies alcohol ordinance as obstacle to progress

CHERI HARRIS

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

Gadsden County Commissioners considered revising the county's alcohol ordinance, then opted to table the issue until a later date.

In a public hearing during the May 1 commission meeting, Interim County Administrator Dee Jackson said the request to modify the county's current alcohol sales ordinance was with an eye toward bringing popular chain restaurants that derive a big chunk of their revenue from alcohol sales - restaurants such as Olive Garden and Ruby Tuesday.

She said Beth Kirkland of Gadsden County's Development Council and some other GCDC board members expressed the opinion at a recent meeting that if the county ordinance that requires establishments that sell alcohol to be 1,000 feet from places such as houses of worship and schools could be changed to 500 feet, it would be easier to attract larger restaurants to the county's Interstate 10 exchanges.

Commissioner Sherrie Taylor said the idea gave her "heartburn." Commissioner Gene Morgan said he thought the issue warranted more discussion. Commissioner Anthony "Dr. V" Viegbesie said he did not mind changing the ordinance if it would bring the county more in line with surrounding areas from an economic development standpoint. He thanked Commission Chair Brenda Holt for explaining that if the same rules for alcohol sales applied in the city of Quincy as in the unincorporated areas of the county, there would be no downtown restaurants selling alcohol.

No one in the audience spoke on the item. Viegbesie made a motion to bring the item back for the second meeting in June. Commissioners Eric Hinson and Taylor opposed the motion.

In other business:

\* Commissioners heard good news from the accounting firm hired to conduct the annual independent audit.

Ryan Tucker of Purvis Gray & Co. in Tallahassee pronounced the audit "clean." He noted that with the amount of state and federal grants the county received in 2017 (more than \$4.5 million), which were mostly for road projects, there came another layer of auditing requirements.

Tucker said the audit includes the offices of all the county's constitutional officers. He said the sheriff's office was not ready for the audit and during the audit, there was a question about accounting for confiscated funds. He said the sheriff's office had responded and the response had been accepted. Tucker said the response would be verified in next year's audit.

**\* Representatives who want to build a high-speed test track for FHP in conjunction with the Florida Public Safety Institute and a developer, Paul Hoppes, who says it would hurt his planned residential construction project were urged to work out their differences. Commissioners continued two quasi-judicial public hearing until the June 5 meeting before voting on whether or not to approve a special exception use permit and site plan for the project.**

\*Plans for the walking/bike trail in St. Hebron moved forward with commissioners voting 4-1 to approve the state grant to build the trail at St. Hebron Park. This grant calls for a match of \$25,000 and \$175,000 in in-kind services. Morgan cast the dissenting vote.

## One of these 3 people will be the next leader of Reynolds Community College

JUSTIN MATTINGLY  
RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

And then there were three.

After receiving 102 applications, the finalists have been named to succeed Gary Rhodes as president of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. Rhodes announced in January that he will retire in September after more than 16 years at the school.

The Virginia Community College System started a nationwide search after the announcement.

The finalists, one internal and two external, will visit the college, the third-largest in the Virginia Community College System in terms of enrollment, this month and meet with faculty, students and other members of the community.

"The Reynolds Community College presidency is attracting a talented collection of leaders from across the country," said Glenn DuBois, the chancellor of Virginia's Community Colleges, in a prepared statement. "That's no surprise. The college plays an important role in a community that is both growing and increasingly vibrant. The college has some promising initiatives on the horizon, like its culinary arts institute under construction in Church Hill, that makes this an exciting time for the institution as well as the people and businesses it serves."

The three finalists are:

**Gene D. LeRosen:** LeRosen, of Glen Allen, started in education as a business and adult education teacher in Henrico County in 1983. A few years later she went to the College of William & Mary to serve as a senior budget analyst and later as the assistant to the provost for academic planning.

In 1991, LeRosen joined the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia as an academic affairs coordinator.

Six years later she went to Northern Virginia Community College as a division chair for workforce technologies.

She's familiar with the Virginia Community College System.

In 2000 she was named a special assistant to the chancellor at VCCS and in 2003 joined Reynolds as the college's executive vice president. She still holds that position.

LeRosen is a graduate of the College of William & Mary, Virginia State University and the State University of New York at Albany.

**Feleccia R. Moore-Davis:** Moore-Davis, of Tallahassee, Fla., has spent most of her life in higher education.

She started as a psychology faculty member at Fayetteville Technical Community College in 1988 before going to the Central Campus of Houston Community College in 1992 as the psychology, sociology and anthropology department chair.

A decade later Moore-Davis joined Lone Star College in Houston as the dean of business, math, communications and CIT, before becoming the college's vice president for instruction.

Moore-Davis is provost of Tallahassee Community College, a job she's held since 2015.

She's an alumna of Regent University, Texas A&M University and Xavier University of Louisiana.

**Paula P. Pando:** Pando, of Atlantic Heights, N.J., is also a longtime higher education official.

She began in 1994 as the director of campus activities and programs at Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, N.J. In 2003 she became the associate dean for student services at Hudson County Community College, also in Jersey City.

At Hudson County CC, she's had three vice president roles, including her current one as senior vice president for student and educational services.

Pando graduated from Rowan University, Saint Peter's University and Stockton University.

## Student movie stars headed for Cannes Film Festival

TOM FLANIGAN

WFSU

Two Tallahassee college students are heading to France's Cannes Film Festival May 14. They're going because of their roles in a documentary on high school life in South Florida that will be screened during the world-famous cinematic celebration.

These two new movie stars are:

"Jamelia Burroughs, a 2nd year pre-pharmacy student at FAMU from Pahokee, Florida," and "**Na'Kerria Nelson, a 1st year nursing major at Tallahassee Community College from Pahokee, Florida.**"

Although now attending two different schools in Tallahassee, both Burroughs and Nelson attended Pahokee Middle/Senior High School in the tiny town of Pahokee on the shores of Lake Okeechobee in Palm Beach County. In recent years, that school and its largely African-American student population has become fertile fodder for filmmaker Patrick Bresnan whose base of operations is West Palm Beach. He's made a number of short documentaries featuring school customs and rituals, such as last year's "Prom" and this year's sequel, which Burroughs says was entitled "Skip Day."

"It's a tradition," she pointed out. "We have senior skip day after prom that Monday, so instead of doing prom this year like they did last year, they wanted to see how skip day was going. So me and a couple of friends got ready at my house and they filmed the entire thing."

Nelson also had a part in this flick. She was the girlfriend of the male student who eventually wound up with Burroughs.

"I really didn't think that I was going to be in the film as much as I was in the film," she grinned. "Because I thought that it was about him (the boyfriend). I didn't know I was in the film as much as I was being the girlfriend."

Seasoned film performers that they are, Burroughs said it still came as a real shock when Bresnan announced that "Skip Day" was being shown at this year's Cannes Film Festival and that the Pahokee students who appeared in the movie would be flying to France.

"I was excited!" she exclaimed. "Not only was I going to France, but it's about a film that I was in!"

Nelson said Bresnan and her mom conspired to withhold the news from her until they knew it would have the most impact on her.

"At first I said, 'Huh? Are y'all for real?!' she remembered. "And they were like, 'Yeah, we're serious!'" And I didn't take them serious until Patrick sent me the tickets and I was like, 'Oh my God! This IS for real!!!"

Burroughs and Nelson will depart the U.S. for the Festival this coming Monday. Both say their lives have already been deeply impacted by their movie making experience and that they wouldn't hesitate to try roles in other films should the opportunity present itself again.

## Three finalists contend for community college presidency

VIRGINIABUSINESS.COM

Three finalists are contending to become the next president of J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College.

They are Genene D. LeRosen of Glen Allen, Feleccia R. Moore-Davis of Tallahassee, Fla., and Paula P. Pando of Atlantic Heights, N.J.

Gary Rhodes, Reynolds' third president, will retire on Sept. 1 after leading the college for 16 years. The State Board for Community Colleges selected the finalists from 102 applicants.

LeRosen has worked at Reynolds since 2003, where she is executive vice president. She earned a doctorate from the College of William & Mary; a master's degree from Virginia State University and a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Albany.

Moore-Davis has served as the provost of Tallahassee Community College since 2015. She holds a doctorate from Regent University, master's degree from Texas A&M and a bachelor's degree from Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans.

Pando is senior vice president for student and educational services at Hudson County Community College in Jersey City, N.J. She holds a doctorate from Rowan University in Glassboro, N.J., a master's degree from Saint Peter's University in Jersey City, N.J., and bachelor's degree from Stockton University in Pomona, N.J.

The finalists will each visit the college in the middle of May to meet with faculty, staff, students and community members.

## TCC Starbucks disrupted as manager quits

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College has temporarily closed its Starbucks café in downtown Tallahassee after the manager's resignation left nobody to run the business.

A sign greeting customers at the Kleman Plaza cafe attached to TCC's Center for Innovation, reads: "Our Sincere Apologies: This Starbucks will be temporarily closed May 7, 2018 - May 21, 2018 for onboarding and in-service training. We look forward to creating your next Starbucks experience when we reopen, Management."

"It sucks," said a customer who wanted to buy a Frappuccino Thursday morning. "If they are doing training, that's OK. I don't need Starbucks every day. I'll just go to another one."

TCC spokesman Al Moran said Kimberly Moore, TCC's vice president for workforce development, has hired a new manager and the café will reopen.

"(The previous manager) submitted her resignation on May 1, effective May 1," Moran said. "There was only one fulltime manager and four part-time employees."

The café is open Monday through Friday.

Moran said two of the four part-time employees are leaving and the remaining two, if they choose to return, along with the manager and new employees, will begin training next week.

"Unfortunately, the departure of the manager resulted in us to pause operations for 10 days," he said. "We plan to have the store fully staffed and operational on the 21st."

The closure is the latest challenge for the Starbucks, which TCC opened in January 2017 with hopes of helping to stimulate pedestrian traffic downtown and to provide a training opportunity for its students seeking retail experience.

An audit released in April by the Auditor General's Office said the college hasn't provided proof the cafe's primary goal is to serve students, faculty and staff —as prescribed by Florida College System guidelines— rather than the public.

It also noted TCC lost more than \$200,000 in its first year of operation.

TCC spent \$841,000 in auxiliary funds to construct, license, and supply the 1,400-square-foot Starbucks. From January through December 2017, the cafe generated \$227,000 in sales and incurred \$436,000 in expenses.

TCC defended the operation, saying the Starbucks is funded by money generated by its other auxiliaries and not state dollars.

## College of Southern Nevada appoints new president

NATALIE BRUZDA

LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Driven. Approachable. Inclusive. And passionate for change.

These are among the adjectives College of Southern Nevada faculty and staff used to describe their next leader after their first interactions with him. The state Board of Regents on Friday unanimously appointed Federico Zaragoza as the next president of CSN.

"I think he's the one who has the most potential to transform our campus," Regent Trevor Hayes said.

Zaragoza, who holds a Ph.D. in urban education and administrative leadership from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, was one of four finalists in a search that one regent lauded as being "unbelievable" because of the caliber of the candidates.

"This is my fourth search that I've been a part of," Regent Carol Del Carlo said Thursday during a meeting of the president search committee. "This was by far the toughest one."

He will earn an annual base salary of \$285,000 and his contract will run from Aug. 15 through to June 30, 2021.

On Friday, after his appointment, Zaragoza said he was struggling at first with his decision to apply for the job, but that he encountered a loving and giving community.

"I felt really something special about this opportunity, especially about CSN," Zaragoza said.

Others highlighted the diverse pool of the candidates, with one advisory member saying it's the most diverse pool she's seen.

Zaragoza, the vice chancellor for economic and workforce development at Alamo Community Colleges, won the approval of the committee following a public interview session on Thursday, where the two other finalists also interviewed. Keith Curry, president and CEO of Compton College in Compton, California, dropped out of the search after attending the public forums, and receiving an outpouring of support from his college.

Utpal Goswami, president of Metropolitan Community College-Maple Woods in Kansas City, Missouri, was named the runner up.

Some advisory members and regents thought Goswami would make a better choice, **and some favored Dr. Feleccia-Moore Davis, the provost of Tallahassee Community College in Florida**, but the praise for Zaragoza won out.

"I believe he's a multi-systems thinker," said Ricardo Villalobos, an advisory member and the executive director of workforce and economic development at CSN. "Ultimately, he'd be a great catalyst for change. The other two would be status quo."

One advisory member highlighted Zaragoza's achievement of raising graduation rates at the Alamo Colleges from 9 percent to 20 percent over 10 years.

"We can't ignore that aspect," said Eric Gilliland, an advisory member.

Zaragoza's personal story also impressed the committee. In the first 18 years of his life, Zaragoza said he lived a "dreamer existence."

"I'm very sensitive to our students from that perspective," he said.

His mother, who was born in Chicago, lived in Mexico City when she gave birth to Zaragoza and his two sisters. He was raised in south Texas, and at the age of 18, became a citizen.

"My mother was a single mom," Zaragoza said. "It instills a value system in you where education is very, very important. For many of us that was the only way out. My mother was my hero. She was the hardest working person that I've ever met. I believe I've inherited some of her values and her work ethic."

Zaragoza's educational journey took him to the Midwest, where he received his bachelor's degree at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He also spent his early years in higher education in the Midwest before he moved to San Antonio to serve as Vice President of administration at St. Philip's College.

Since 2004, he's been at the Alamo Community Colleges, which is made up of five independent colleges. In his current position, he makes sure the colleges are providing workforce programs that are responsive to industry needs and that align with student pathways.

## 3 finalists named for Reynolds CC presidency

HENRICO CITIZEN

The State Board for Community Colleges has certified three finalists for the position of president at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College. The finalists were among 102 applicants from across the nation.

The three finalists are Dr. Genene D. LeRosen of Glen Allen; **Dr. Feleccia R. Moore-Davis of Tallahassee, Florida;** and Dr. Paula P. Pando of Atlantic Heights, New Jersey.

“The Reynolds Community College presidency is attracting a talented collection of leaders from across the country,” said Glenn DuBois, chancellor of Virginia’s Community Colleges. “That’s no surprise. The college plays an important role in a community that is both growing and increasingly vibrant. The college has some promising initiatives on the horizon, like its culinary arts institute under construction in Church Hill, that makes this an exciting time for the institution as well as the people and businesses it serves.”

LeRosen has worked in education for 35 years, starting as a business and adult education teacher in Henrico County in 1983. LeRosen moved to the College of William & Mary in 1987 to serve as a senior budget analyst and later as the assistant to the provost for academic planning. In 1991, she joined the State Council for Higher Education in Virginia as an academic affairs coordinator, rising to senior level.

LeRosen joined Northern Virginia Community College in 1997, serving as a division chair for workforce technologies. She became a special assistant to the chancellor at the Virginia Community College System Office in 2000 before joining Reynolds Community College in 2003, where she continues to serve at the college’s executive vice president. LeRosen earned a doctorate from the College of William & Mary; a master’s degree from Virginia State University; and a bachelor’s degree from the State University of New York at Albany.

**Moore-Davis has worked in higher education for more than 30 years. She began her career as a psychology faculty member at Fayetteville Technical Community College in 1988. She moved to the Central Campus of Houston Community College in 1992, where she became the psychology, sociology, and anthropology department chair. Moore-Davis began working at Lone Star College in Houston in 2003, serving first as the dean of business, math, communications and CIT, and then later as the college’s vice president for instruction.**

**She currently serves as the provost of Tallahassee Community College, a position she has held since 2015. Over the past decade, Moore-Davis has also worked as an online instructor, teaching classes at both Lone Star College and the University of Houston. Moore-Davis earned a doctorate from Regent University in Virginia Beach; a master’s degree from Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas; and a bachelor’s degree from Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans.**

Pando has worked in higher education for more than 21 years. She began her career in 1994 as the director of campus activities and programs at Saint Peter’s University in Jersey City, New Jersey. Beginning in 2000, Pando worked as a consultant for a New York firm, facilitating sensitivity and diversity training, among other topics. In 2003, she joined Hudson County Community College, in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the associate dean for student services.

She has since risen through the ranks, holding three different vice presidencies, including her current role as senior vice president for student and educational services. In 2017, Pando was among 38 leaders from across the country selected for the Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence, a 10-month applied leadership program. Pando holds a doctorate from Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey; a master’s degree from Saint Peter’s University in Jersey City, New Jersey; and bachelor’s degree from Stockton University in Pomona, New Jersey.

The three finalists seek to succeed Dr. Gary Rhodes, the college’s third president, who will retire on Sept. 1 after serving in that role for 16 years. The community is invited to join faculty, staff and students at the following Reynolds Presidential Finalist Forums:

- **Dr. Feleccia R. Moore-Davis Forum – Monday, May 14, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., Lipman Auditorium, Parham Road Campus**
- Dr. Paula P. Pando Forum – Tuesday, May 15, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., Lipman Auditorium, Parham Road Campus
- Dr. Genene D. LeRosen Forum – Thursday, May 17, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., Downtown Campus Auditorium

## **TCC unveils first eight classrooms with support from local donors, businesses**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College this week unveiled eight newly renovated classrooms to a group of donors who have provided support for those upgrades.

The purpose of the event was to thank donors who have contributed to the TCC Foundation's First Class Project, and most of the guests were community members and businesses that have sponsored the renovation and naming of a classroom.

The Wednesday event began with a reception in the Lei Wang STEM Center. The group then gathered to watch TCC alum and long-time supporter Pam Butler cut the ribbon on the door of the newly named Aegis Business Technologies Classroom.

Butler, chair and co-founder of Aegis Business Technologies, was joined at the event by co-founder and vice president Brad Mitchell.

The guests then toured the seven other classrooms, which are located around the campus, with donors enjoying a first fresh look at the classrooms that now bear their names.

The eight classrooms represent the first set of completed renovations. The remaining renovations will be completed over the next four years.

The classroom renovation initiative began in 2016 with a wish list of 50 classrooms that needed sponsors. Those who sponsored a classroom made a donation of \$25,000 that was matched by TCC for a total \$50,000 renovation.

Today, there are only 10 classrooms still awaiting "adoption." Classrooms have been sponsored and named by local businesses and by individuals and families.

## A red carpet ride

### Two Tallahassee students get a 'Skip Day' pass to the Cannes Film Festival

MARINA BROWN

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

It's not often you're the subject of a movie. Not often you get to go to Cannes. Now, two students from a small Everglades community who attend Tallahassee colleges are heading there and taking it all in stride.

The world of the teenager is often a closed one to adults. It exists in whispers in hallways, in texts and selfie-dramas. It is filled with bravado and profound self-doubt and it quixotically turns on a dime.

And perhaps just as unexplored, there are the forgotten hamlets and minority communities spotted around Florida's rural inlands.

One of them, Pahokee, a dot along U.S. 98 near the muck of the Everglades and Lake Okeechobee became, along with its high school juniors and seniors on the cusp of their graduation, the focus of an award-winning documentary-short that will soon find its stars transported to a larger body of water — the shores of the Mediterranean where the film, "Skip Day," will vie for a prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

**Tallahassee should take notice because, two of its featured players are now students at TCC and at FAMU.**

Husband and wife, Patrick Bresnan and Ivete Lucas are the independent filmmakers who have captured the youth of Pahokee in three films: "The Rabbit Hunt," "The Send Off," and the newest, "Skip Day."

In each, young people are followed without script or written dialogue. The Bresnan's work is pure cinema verite, with the conceit that real life unfolding before us is often not only fascinating, but more truthful than anything imagined on paper.

Pahokee, however, seemed an unlikely place to search for profundity. A tiny place to begin with, where unemployment is rampant and a fifth of the population has left in the last five years, the industrial agriculture that used to fuel the community through cane, citrus, and corn has diminished, leaving fragmented minority families and youth with similarly narrowed options—at least for those remaining in Pahokee.

And yet, watching the subject/players in one of the Bresnan's films—the teenagers hunting for rabbits with a stick and a sprint as the burning cane fields flush the animals across the fields or seeing plain girls preparing for their prom only to appear on the big night as glamorous as Beyonce as they step from a rented Bentley sedan, is to have a privileged view into lives and a place that are ephemeral.

Patrick Bresnan and Ivete Lucas, whose films have won honors at the Sundance Film Festival, SXSW (South by Southwest), the AFI Fest, the San Francisco International Film Festival, the Berlinale, and 19 awards at six Academy-qualifying events, seem to have "discovered" Pahokee and its residents by total accident as they were driving along the highway.

Now they plan a filmed "year in the life" of the town and another about a different nearby place, the area surrounding Mar-a-Lago, where only an hour away from the poverty and hardship of Pahokee, the President of the United States golfs in splendor seemingly a planet removed from those who catch rabbits to eat.

But it is not a political statement that the filmmakers wish to make. They prefer to let reality play out and tell its own story.

In the short, "The Send Off," we see an out of work mother telling her high school daughter how proud she is to be able to dress her up and see her in a fine car the night of her prom. A kind of rite-of-passage, prom night is all about extravagance and glitz; if you can't do anything else, you can somehow see your son in a tux, your daughter in rhinestones, and give them a ride in a Ferrari. Why not? They'll remember it forever. And so will we.

Two of the girls who appear at their proms and in the newest film, "Skip Day," are Jamelia Burroughs and N'Kerria Nelson.

"Skip Day"—the second part of the graduation tradition, where upper classmen skip school the Monday after prom — and before the exotic cars must be returned — is spent at the beach, where the girls with their lovely hairdos still intact, are 'ritually' dunked in the surf. It's the finale of a weekend lost in time.

## A red carpet ride....

*continued*

Nelson and Burroughs were delighted and surprised when the film began earning awards, they say, but they were stunned when Bresnan and Lucas provided them tickets to fly to France. In Paris for two days, followed by five days at the Cannes Film Festival, they say, "We even have cards they printed up with our names on them that say we are the "stars of Skip Day."

Nelson, who would like to be an R.N., says when asked what it was like being filmed at the prom and the following Monday, says quietly, "It was normal. After a few minutes we forgot they were there."

For her, it is the school memories, the people she's known and who have known her her whole life, and what parents have done for their children on these special days that will remain. And of course, there is Cannes.

Jamelia Burroughs, who is studying pharmacy, agrees that "starring" in a film hasn't gone to her head, although Patrick Bresnan wonders if asked, if she would turn down an opportunity to model or act. "Having the camera there was nerve-wracking at first," she says. "But then we forgot they were there and just had fun."

And from May 14-20, as the girls step onto red carpets, blink as cameras flash around them, sign autographs and perhaps sip a bit of French bubbly, they will no doubt place the Cannes experience beside the Pahokee prom and skip day experience and compare.

With the deep and nurturing roots set solidly in the Everglades soil, Cannes may, for once, come up short.

## TCC provost among three finalists for president's post in Virginia

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Feleccia Moore-Davis, provost at Tallahassee Community College, is one of three finalists to be the next president of Reynolds College in Virginia.

Moore-Davis is scheduled to be interviewed on Monday.

She also was one of four finalists considered this week for the presidency of College of Southern Nevada's North Las Vegas campus. The Nevada System of Higher Education CSN Presidential Search Committee recommended another candidate, who was to be voted on Friday.

Moore-Davis, who was named provost and vice president for academic affairs by TCC President Jim Murdaugh in June 2015, said she's not looking to leave Tallahassee or the college.

"Everything is wonderful at TCC," she said. "You have to stretch yourself on occasion. Both (positions) presented an opportunity for me and an opportunity to grow."

Moore-Davis made the final cut for the Reynolds College presidency from a pool of 102 applicants, according to the Richmond-Times Dispatch.

Reynolds Community College, founded in 1972, serves about 16,000 credit students, making it the third-largest school in the Virginia Community College System. It has campuses in Henrico and Goochland counties and downtown Richmond.

It also serves an additional 10,000 non-credit students in workforce training and credential programs through the Community College Workforce Alliance, a joint venture with John Tyler Community College in central Virginia.

By comparison, TCC's enrollment is about 13,000.

"We are always happy to see our team members advance in their careers, even if that means that we lose a key TCC administrator," Murdaugh said. "We support Dr. Moore-Davis in her pursuit of a college presidency."

Moore-Davis is a strong advocate for the community college experience. As TCC's chief academic officer, her duties include overseeing faculty hiring and firing, academic programs, strengthening dual-enrollment and creating opportunities for college access.

She has run into opposition for challenging some long-standing practices at TCC.

In April 2016, she came under fire from faculty when she asked deans to introduce a proposal that would have ended the standing practice of professors being allowed to teach four classes per semester rather than the state required five. TCC has skirted the mandate of a fifth class by reassigning them to other duties, also allowed by the state law.

At that time, Moore-Davis said the practice was unevenly administered, with some professors using the extra time for activities that have not been monitored or properly documented.

That, along with other workplace issues, led to TCC faculty voting in favor of unionization and formation of a United Faculty of Florida-TCC chapter to handle collective bargaining.

## TCC receives gift from Rock the Dock sponsors

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Panacea Waterfronts Florida Partnership donated \$10,000 to Tallahassee Community College to create the Panacea Waterfronts Partnership Endowed Scholarship. The purpose of the scholarship is to assist students from Panacea who want to enroll in a degree or certificate program at TCC.

The non-profit group was represented by Mark Mitchell, chair of the Panacea Waterfronts Partnership, and several other members.

The money for the scholarship comes from the group's popular Rock the Dock Fishing Tournament, an annual event held at Woolley Park in Panacea that attracts anglers from all over North Florida.

## Theatre TCC! production receives superior rating

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Community College theatre program, Theatre TCC!, received a superior rating from the Florida College System Activities Association for its production of "Schoolhouse Rock LIVE." That is the highest rating the FCSAA awards.

Cast, crew and production team members earned six individual awards as well. Freshman Madison Metcalf, who portrayed the character of Dina, was among the individual acting awardees, along with sophomore Kevin Jimenez. Top technical and design honors went to lighting designer Jacob Inman, sound designer and engineer Ian Plouffe, and props master Kaitlin Evans. The adjudicator also recognized TCC alum Jason Vizzo for his projection design.

## TCC to host summer cyber camp for area students

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College will host a cybersecurity-focused summer camp for rising 7th through 10th grade students June 25-29 at the TCC Center for Workforce Development.

Participants will learn about STEM career opportunities and important cyber defense skills through hands-on instruction and activities. Highlights include a team competition simulating real cybersecurity situations faced by industry professionals.

The camp runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Lunch will be provided for all attendees.

Interested individuals may find application materials for the camp in person at the Center for Workforce Development or online at [www.learnItatTCC.com](http://www.learnItatTCC.com). The registration fee of \$195 must be paid in-person at the Center's second-floor desk by 5 p.m. Monday, May 21.

The TCC Center for Workforce Development is located on the College's main campus at 444 Appleyard Drive.

## Two from TCC named to academic all-district teams

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (LOCAL BRIEFS)

Tallahassee Community College student-athletes Brandie Callaway and Cole Vann have been named to the Google Cloud Academic All-District 1 Softball and Baseball Teams, respectively, for College Division schools. Selected by CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America), the award recognizes the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the field and in the classroom. Callaway and Vann were the only representatives from FCSAA member schools to make either list in District 1, which also consists of student-athletes from 21 other states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia.

Callaway, a native of Glen St. Mary made the alldistrict team as an outfielder. She appeared in 91 games during her career for TCC, posting a .234 batting average, three home runs and 34 RBI.

A nursing major, Callaway graduated with honors from TCC earlier this month with a 3.94 GPA. As a freshman in 2016-17, she was named All-Academic by both the Panhandle Conference and FCSAA.

For Vann, who made the all-district team as a designated hitter, the Google Cloud academic honor is the latest in a growing list of accolades for the Colquitt, Ga., native and biology major. He has already received the Panhandle Conference's Buddy Kisner Baseball Scholar-Athlete Award and was a finalist for the FCSAA's Bill Tuten Scholar-Athlete Award.

As a freshman in 2016-17, Vann was selected All-Academic by both the Panhandle Conference and FCSAA. On the field, he has played in 108 career games and has a .386 batting average, 14 home runs and 99 RBI.

## TCC to host entrepreneurial boot camp at Wakulla Center

WAKULLA NEWS

Tallahassee Community College's entrepreneurial initiative, TCC Spark!, will offer a hands-on, day-long Entrepreneurial Boot Camp at the TCC Wakulla Center Tuesday, June 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., for individuals with an interest in starting or growing their own business.

The camp costs \$25 to attend. Participants should bring a brown-bag lunch. Registration is open at <https://wakullaebotcamp.eventbrite.com>.

This will be the first offering of its kind at the Wakulla Center. Interested individuals may contact the center at (850) 558-3525 or [WakullaCenter@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:WakullaCenter@tcc.fl.edu) for further details.

## Test track stalls

RANDALL LIEBERMAN  
HAVANA HERALD

Paul Hoppes of Havana is against building a new high-speed test track on the Quincy-area campus owned by Tallahassee Community College.

So far, Hoppes, a land developer and managing partner of Havana's Bradley Road Partnership, has stalled the project.

At the May 1 meeting of the Gadsden County Commission, Hoppes spoke against the Florida Highway Patrol's proposed track. The track would be 57 feet from his property line.

He succeeded in stalling the project when the commission voted to hold another hearing June 5.

The commission gave Hoppes and the Florida Highway Patrol time to reach a compromise without the commissioners having to broker one.

The proposed track, at the college's Florida Public Safety Institute, located 3.7 miles east of Quincy city limits on U.S. 90, will be used to train state troopers in conditions more similar to those they would encounter in high-speed pursuits on the Interstate.

The Florida Highway Patrol's current track is 0.7 miles in length and the maximum speed attained doesn't exceed more than about 55 miles per hour.

The proposed track would be about 1.4 miles in length, allowing training at much higher speeds.

The track is expected to cost \$2.1 million to build, with funding coming from the Florida State Legislature, with in-kind services provided by the Florida National Guard.

Chief Mark Brown of the Florida Highway Patrol said the track's presence would mean funds for the county when visiting officers stayed in hotels while here for training.

Brown estimated the track would be used by about 1,700 Florida Highway Patrol officers.

Hoppes told the commissioners that he and a partner plan to build 200 single-family homes on 300 acres of land they own near the proposed site.

"This track is adjacent to the most viable part of my property for single-family affordable housing," Hoppes told WTXL. "Adding affordable housing to Gadsden County would give families more options to live in the county and would bring the county much-needed revenue as well. It would make a dramatic difference to the Gadsden County community to have this affordable housing available to them that is currently unavailable."

Hoppes told WTXL that having the test track next door to the housing is what developers call an "incompatible" situation.

He said the college owns 1,296 acres and must have other locations on its grounds that could house this training facility.

The parties have agreed so far upon adding a vegetative buffer (a hedge of trees) to the track to lessen the sound of the sirens.

They have also talked about limiting both the track's days of operation and operating hours.

The Florida Highway Patrol also offered to possibly not use any sirens until after the housing development breaks ground.

However, the parties have been unable to reach an agreement yet, so the county's commissioners gave them more time to work together before the commission will make a final decision about the project on June 5.

## TCC coffee shop debacle shows where public, private lines should be drawn

MARK MCNEES & SAMUEL R. STALEY

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (YOUR TURN)

Tallahassee Community College recently made the wrong kind of headlines when an audit discovered it lost \$200,000 on its coffee shop after spending \$841,000 from its auxiliary fund to build out the space and pay Starbucks for licensing its brand name and selling its coffee. Their missteps, however, provide important lessons for public entities thinking about entering into the entrepreneurial space in Tallahassee and elsewhere.

TCC's intentions were certainly legitimate: A coffee shop would enhance the services provided to students and others attending classes, seminars, and workshops in its downtown facility. The problem appears to be in the execution of the plan. TCC decided not to outsource its coffee operations, calculating it could become a revenue generator. This is where the college went off track.

Coffee is not an essential service, either in day-to-day life or as a publicly owned and operated enterprise. Specialty coffee shops have sprouted up across the nation as a "coffee culture," pioneered nationally by Starbucks, has become embedded in our daily routines. In Tallahassee, a relatively small urban market, Starbucks alone has more than a dozen locations. Newly established local chain Lucky Goat Coffee has four locations. RedEye Coffee, a nationally recognized Tallahassee-based social enterprise, also has four locations. Its coffee is also served through privately operated and managed food service operations on the FSU campus.

News reports indicate that TCC spent over \$841,000 to build the facility in a space that local vendors indicated could be accomplished for significantly less than \$100,000. Private vendors would even be willing to shoulder the full financial risk of the enterprise.

A better approach is for the public sector to create an entrepreneurial ecosystem where innovation and creative approaches to addressing consumer desires can occur through private risk taking and experimentation. Florida State University, for example, has several Starbucks as well as two RedEye Coffee locations. But FSU does not own these facilities or run them. Rather, they contracted with national food and hospitality service provider Sodexo to run the campus food services. Then Sodexo actively solicited strategic partnerships with local and national vendors to execute the contracts.

Another example is the city's approach to the new South City area. Empty and dilapidated buildings impede new investment and development, so the city created economic incentives for private business to come in and risk their own capital through tax credits. The result? Happy Motoring, Proof and Catalina Cafe are all investing their own money to revitalize South City by creating jobs and tax revenue.

Open, inclusive and transparent public private partnerships are essential for creating a thriving entrepreneurial ecosystem. But the government should never be in the business of competing directly with private business or subsidizing them. By creating a broader entrepreneurial ecosystem for private enterprise, the private sector shoulders the financial risk without adding burdens onto taxpayers. In the long run, this is the most effective and sustainable route to revitalizing older areas of cities.

## THE TCC2FSU PROGRAM

*The TCC2FSU program helps students reach the goal of earning a four-year degree at Florida State University. Earn an Associate in Arts degree at Tallahassee Community College while working with TCC and FSU advisors to meet transfer milestones for FSU.*



Learn more at [www.TCC2FSU.com](http://www.TCC2FSU.com)



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The Gadsden Learn Scholarship is awarded exclusively to Gadsden residents who are current high school seniors graduating from a Gadsden County public or private high school or who are home schooled. The scholarship is a one-time award for tuition assistance for up to \$1,000 per student provided by the TCC Foundation.

Apply for the Gadsden Learn Scholarship today at  
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