TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



August 13, 2010 - September 20, 2010

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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Cooperation topic of Day 2 of Chamber conference

Speakers at Chamber conference discuss existing collaboration, importance of regional communities

BY DAVE HODGES

DEMOCRAT BUSINESS EDITOR

DESTIN — Tallahassee's economic future is closely tied to the success of the region in the years ahead — a theme stressed Saturday by the CEO of Workforce Florida and other speakers at the 2010 Annual Community Conference.

"It is through regions that we will compete and grow successfully," said Chris Hart, who in addition to his post at Workforce Florida also serves on the Governor's Oil Spill Recovery Task Force.

Because of competitive pressures, however, it is often difficult for communities to work together as a region. The answer, Hart told the conference attendees, is forming collaborative partnerships.

Hart gave examples of collaboration already in place and working — Our Regional Tomorrow, Tallahassee Community College's programs for developing a regional workforce, and the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering that is positioned to support the aviation and aerospace field, an industry identified for its future growth potential in Northwest Florida.

The conference, sponsored by the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce and presented this year by telecommunications company CenturyLink, brought together business and community leaders from throughout the Tallahassee area.

"We need economic diversification. Tourism is a blessing. Agriculture is a blessing," Hart told the breakfast audience at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa. "We rely on these. Defense we have to work for, and we are going to have to work to grow those other (industry) clusters. So what's the best way to do that? Regionalism."

He called Florida's regions the "new economic development athletes" and said it is through them that economies will grow, but most communities are unaccustomed to working at that level. "It is difficult for us to work regionally. We have to work at being a region," said Hart, formerly senior vice president of external affairs and investor relations at Enterprise Florida.

Partnerships allow communities to work on common problems and mutual goals. Hart stressed the importance of vision and leadership in communities charting the course they wish to take. "What are your aspirations? Where do you want to be? And guess what, you've been doing that already."

At a conference session later on Regional Economic Engines, Janet Watermeier of the Bay County Economic Development Alliance talked about the importance of regional cooperation. She facilitated the state's first economic development plan that had a regional focus.

"We are not independent communities," she said of Northwest Florida. "We will fight like the devil when we are competing against each other for the same project, and that is expected. That's what we should do."

But the region's communities don't compete that often, Watermeier said. What's more likely to occur is for her to refer a business lead or promote a resource elsewhere in the region "because I know that we will collectively all work better."

At lunch, Florida A&M University President James Ammons gave another view of the region and the vision for a proposed College of Dental Medicine to serve Northwest Florida.

The concept for the college has already been outlined in a paper that FAMU officials have provided to the Board of Governors, with a formal proposal to follow in September 2011.

"What we intend to do is graduate a well-trained corps of dental students and primary care residents. We also want to increase the supply of dentists from disadvantaged backgrounds, and to provide dental care to low-income citizens in

Cooperation topic of Day 2 of Chamber conference....

continued

rural and underserved areas of this state," Ammons said.

"There is a strong need for this program in the state of Florida because many of our residents do not have access to dental services," Ammons added.

The poor, the medically disadvantaged and those in rural areas are least likely to receive dental care and more likely to have oral disease, he added. Studies that FAMU has researched indicate that only 11 percent of low-income individuals living in rural areas see a dentist annually.

"The dental needs in Florida mandate that we work quickly to add more dentists from diverse backgrounds who are committed to working with underserved populations, especially in rural areas."

He called on the chamber members and community leaders present at the conference to help the College of Dental Medicine become a reality. He and other FAMU administrators see a network of dental clinics serving northern Florida in small towns from Jacksonville to Pensacola.

"I can tell you right now this is not going to be a slam dunk, and I have seen communities and regions across this state come together behind colleges and universities for them to have signature programs. We are going to have to do that," he said.

"I am pretty good, but I don't think I can do this one alone," Ammons said. "We are going to need everybody in Tallahassee and in this region."

Tallahassee Democrat - August 14, 2010

Networking, information big draw to annual event

Annual Community Conference off to good start despite rain BY DAVE HODGES

DEMOCRAT BUSINESS EDITOR

DESTIN — The 2010 Annual Community Conference of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce began Friday with gray skies and gusting winds, but not enough rain to dampen the event that has drawn more than 400 attendees to the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa.

The first-day activities included the annual Defend the Cup Golf Tournament, which proceeded on schedule despite the rain that interrupted play at certain points. Also on the schedule were consulting firm Catch Your Limit's networking and team-building events in the afternoon.

In the conference center's exhibit area, 38 displays featured everything from Ford Motor Co.'s new Fiesta compact car, brought by Tallahassee Ford Lincoln Mercury, to consulting services, printing, fitness, photography and recycling.

Michael Campbell, principal in the online business service Trusteria.com, had a display of his firm's services, along with a box where conference attendees can write up and submit a business testimonial on entry cards provided. Trusteria will select two winners from the cards turned in, with each person receiving a \$100 Visa gift card.

Campbell said he participates in the annual community conference for two main reasons, "the networking and the information."

"One of the things we do is look at who is attending ahead of time to see who we can talk to, and to see the conference sessions that can help our business," he said, adding he likes the diverse array of business topics

Networking, information big draw to annual event....

continued

covered.

A total of 410 business owners, civic leaders and elected officials are registered to attend the conference, which continues through Sunday.

"In spite of all our best efforts throughout the business community, there are those who still do not know about TCC's workforce development mission," said John Chapin, vice president of workforce development at Tallahassee Community College.

The TCC display includes information about the recently opened Advanced Manufacturing Training Center and other programs that support such fields as health and construction. "This is a great opportunity for us to see and be seen by the businesses in the community," he said.

Formal conference sessions begin this morning with a keynote address by Chris Hart, president and CEO of Workforce Florida and the interim director of the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade & Economic Development. Afterward, breakout sessions will cover such topics as low-cost marketing strategies for companies, economic development in the region, accounting and tax issues, changes in employment law, and a session entitled "Business Owner's Guide for the 2010 Ballot" with the Tallahassee Democrat's Mary Ann Lindley and Paul Flemming.

Of the 410 registrants, 35 are local elected officials or government staff members. Taking part as speakers or panelists are Tallahassee Mayor John Marks, City Commissioner Gil Ziffer, School Superintendent Jackie Pons, County Commissioners Cliff Thaell and John Dailey and city and county staff members.

Dana Noles, director of events for the chamber, said it's been a tradition at the conference to schedule briefings with elected leaders on the state of the city, county and school district. Chamber members, she added, "want to know what's going on in the city and the county with the budgets and the economy."

Local officials want the opportunity to access the business audience. "They want to provide tools and information for our members, and they feel it's important to be here," Noles said.

At a breakout session during the conference Saturday, Thaell, Ziffer and local-government staff members will be the speakers during a segment entitled "30 Cost Saving Ideas in 60 Minutes." It will cover the various incentives, grants, rebates and procedures available to business owners that could save their companies money and make their operations more environmentally sustainable.

TCC assists Wakulla County residents affected by oil spill

BY ANGELINE J. TAYLOR

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Wakulla County residents have been taking advantage of free classes at the Tallahassee Community College site at 5 Crescent Way in Crawfordville since July 29.

TCC trustees approved for \$50,000 to be designated to TCC in Wakulla in late May due to the BP oil spill.

As a result, continuing education classes raging from social networking, Power Point 2007, E-marketing and other programs will continue to be offered throughout September. For more information call (850) 922-6290.

Tallahassee Democrat - August 20, 2010

TCC presidential search committee to meet today

Tallahassee Community College's presidential search committee is scheduled to meet today from noon -1:30 p.m. on campus at 444 Appleyard Drive.

The meeting will take place in the college's administration building in Room 202a beside the trustee board room.

WCTV - August 20, 2010

TCC Presidential Search Committee Narrows Finalists Down to Ten

The search committee reviewed applicants and narrowed down their list to ten finalists.

Reporter: Stephanie Salvatore

The search for Tallahassee Community College's next president is well under way.

The presidential search committee met Friday afternoon to discuss the applicants. The committee narrowed down the list to ten people, who will now have to answer questions in a ten minute DVD and submit it by September first.

The committee is confident there is someone on that list who can take TCC to the next level.

"Our pool of applicants is outstanding, what we've seen are individuals from the local community, our state and nation. In fact, I believe this is one of the strongest pools of candidates seen by any community college in a while," says Karen Moore, a chair on the Presidential Search Committee.

The search committee will make its recommendations to the Board of Trustees at their October meeting ... and hope to have someone in place by the spring semester.

The top ten finalists are:

- •Sarah Garrett, Vice President Academic Affairs, Bristol Community College
- •Eugene Giovannini, President, Maricopa County Community College
- •Randall Hanna, Managing Shareholder and Chairman, Bryant Miller & Olive Attorney's at Law
- •Betty Inclan, President, Berkeley City College
- •Jeanne Jacobs, President, Homestead Campus, Miami Dade College
- •Thomas Keegan, President, Peninsula College
- •Jim Murdaugh, Assistant Vice President, Tallahassee Community College
- •Luke Robbins, Chancellor, Louisiana Delta College
- •Patricia Rowell, Western Campus President, Cuyahoga Community College
- •Kaye Walter, Executive Vice President/Chief Learning Officer, Valencia Community College

Merry Ann Frisby: Where there's a need, there's good old American ingenuity

MERRY ANN FRISBY

JEFFERSON COUNTY

We all celebrate our own brilliant and hard-working American scientists. Everyone loves to hear about a new and exciting discovery.

The discoveries usually are born from years of study, toil and arguments. Boy, can these university scientists argue mightily. Some symposiums about a particular scientific theory are better than WWF wrestling matches. Since Isaac Newton, intellectual slap-downs have been riveting. A few meetings are so heated that getting beaned with a folding chair is not entirely out of the question.

However, these ladies and gentlemen produce, and we rejoice at each of their innovations. Innovation Park melds scientific research from our universities and the business world. We proudly point to Florida State University's weather forecasting. We loudly applaud the works of Florida A&M and Tallahassee Community College. Recently, they all have especially been hard at work seeking oil mop-up solutions.

A second group of dedicated American innovators is the "get-'er-done" genre. These people are creative geniuses.

They often propose hare-brained ideas not rooted in academic or scientific grounds. Many of the goofy schemes are so silly they make fun reading. But sometimes these amateur scientists are blessed with just the right insight. These geniuses are the come-frombehind underdogs that America so loves to cheer.

The scientific panels, discussions, studies are all cranked up and chewing over how to rid Florida of the oil. When you see photographic coverage of the actual clean-up, it features people in paper suits with cat litter scoops mining the sand for globs. Some practical Joe came up with the cat scoop idea. We should have all bought stock in the companies that make cat scoops.

Two nursing students'"A-ha!" moment may revolutionize blood testing in areas so poor that they do not have electricity. Two Rice University students, Lila Kerr and Lauren Theis, have thought of an inspired low-tech solution.

Blood drawn from the villagers can detect anemia, malnutrition and a host of diseases. The problem is that the health practitioner has to separate the red blood cells from the plasma in order to complete the analysis. These villages have no centrifuges, and if they did, they have no electricity to run one. Kerr and Theis use a salad spinner.

With a few modifications it works just fine. They plan to test it this summer in Africa and South America.

We have been less successful but none the less dedicated to finding alternatives to petroleum fuel. In our frantic search for alternative energy, we turned to biodiesels. Biodiesel made from corn is problematic.

A fresh eye is looking at cellulose burning, but growing anything to harvest and burn robs the soil of nutrients, say soil scientists. Adding fertilizer is one solution, but most fertilizer is made using fossil fuels. Back to square one.

Algae could be a low-tech solution. Business and government subsidies are throwing money at this promise right now. Florida could be a key player. Algae grow abundantly in this beastly hot weather. Heck, local swimming pools might be a great source.

An old practical idea that is taking shape is wood-burning cars. During the Second World War, many cars in Europe were converted to use firewood. Right now, dozens of American handymen are driving around in their wood-gasification cars, I expect scaring the heck out of other motorists. Can't you just hear some North Florida good ol' boy driving a fire-spewing truck and yelling "Yee haw!"?

We applaud America's scientists, both lettered and unlettered. We celebrate American creativity born from our unique American ability to exchange ideas freely. These unhobbled dreams can become reality. No one does this better than we do.

Bless the untamable American inventiveness that makes this country mighty, unpredictable and successful. I am proud to be a part of it all.

Classes a hit at Wakulla Center

By Angeline J. Taylor

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Eighty-three-year-old Delous Sparkman has found a new hobby — learning more about computers.

Sparkman has taken advantage of free classes at Tallahassee Community College Wakulla Center in Crawfordville at 5 Crescent Way. Last week, he was enjoying a class on e-marketing.

"I'm enjoying the heck out of it," Sparkman said of the classes he's been attending.

TCC started the classes in late July. Officials have featured getting started with computers, social networking, a Word 2007 intro, Internet fundamentals, Excel and others.

"We've had great response," said Bonnie Holub, director of TCC Wakulla Center. "Students are in every class that's been offered."

In September, the Wakulla site will offer a class on introduction to solar water heating. That class, Holub said, prepares trainees to "design, install operate and maintain the most common types of solar water heater systems."

TCC trustees approved \$50,000 to be used for the Wakulla Center to help residents in the area who have been affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster. The money, TCC President Barbara Sloan said, came from the operating budget of the Center of Workforce Development

Wakulla News - August 27, 2010

TCC Wakulla Center offers more free classes

In September Tallahassee Community College will again offer free classes to Wakulla County residents ages 18 or older.

The first set of free classes was offered in August and included Getting Started with Computers, Internet Fundamentals, Social Networking, E-Marketing, Word 2007 Intro, Excel, PowerPoint and QuickBooks.

According to Bonnie Holub, director of TCC's Wakulla Center, two additional free programs will be offered in September. Introduction to Solar Hot Water prepares trainees to design, install, operate and maintain the most common types of solar water heater systems. The class will meet on September 6, 7, 9, 13, 14 and 16 from 6 to 10 p.m. The Wakulla Ambassador Program will provide training in customer service concepts and an overview of Wakulla's natural attractions. That class is set for Wednesday, September 8, from 9 a.m. to noon.

The free classes are made possible by a special \$50,000 allocation from the TCC Board of Trustees to assist Wakulla County residents affected by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. The classes are designed to equip community members with skills that will help them find additional job opportunities. The free and reduced-cost classes will be offered through November.

Holub further noted that the tuition for the Wakulla Center's popular Green Guide Certification Program, which runs from September 20 though Nov. 18, has been reduced. The College also offers limited scholarships to charter boat captains and those who have been working in the fishing industry. Individuals who are not seeking Green Guide certification are welcome to enroll in Green Guide classes and field trips on an individual basis.

The classes are offered at the TCC Wakulla Center, located at 5 Crescent Way in Crawfordville. Classes are also available to those residing outside Wakulla County at standard class fees.

For information on class dates, times, costs, scholarships and registration, call the TCC Wakulla Center at 850-922-6290.

Writing the big college checks

By BRAD BUCK

STAFF WRITER

LEESBURG -- Students returned to classes this week at Lake-Sumter Community College and paid nearly 8 percent more than last year.

Fees for college courses continue an upward climb. The same goes for the state's 11 public universities, all of which boosted their tuition by 15 percent for this school year.

"I can't believe we're at the point where we charge (nearly) \$100 a credit hour," LSCC President Dr. Charles Mojock said. "We're doing what we can" to keep costs down.

Even with tuition spikes, Mojock said students are getting a good bang for their education buck. He meets regularly with student groups, and he hasn't heard anyone complain about the costs.

"It is an investment," Mojock said of a college education. "You have to ask yourself, 'What's the return on that investment?"

Brian Emery, 33, of Leesburg, attends LSCC and pays for those classes using grants.

Emery graduated from high school in New Jersey in 1995. Then he went to technical school and worked in call centers before resuming his education.

"I decided I wanted a real job, so I went back to school," he said.

Emery started attending classes at LSCC in the fall of 2009, studying business administration. This semester, he's paying \$92 per credit hour for nine credits of classes, or \$828 in tuition. That \$92 rate is the in-state tuition.

Because he gets grants, the tuition increases don't hurt Emery as much as some of his classmates.

"If I didn't get grants, I wouldn't be able to afford it," Emery said.

He said he knows at least one student who had to put off LSCC for two years and work to save money for college.

Paying for college could get really expensive for Emery after he graduates from LSCC. He hopes to further his studies in accounting and finance at either Stetson University or Rollins College, both private schools. Tuition and books cost about \$32,000 a year. But those are great business schools, and that's what's driving Emery's desire to go there.

College tuitions continue to climb largely as a result of increased enrollment, said LSCC spokeswoman Pat Landsman.

Enrollment at LSCC has risen 36 percent in the past three years, she said. Just from the fall 2009 to fall 2010, enrollment went up from 4,710 to 5,020, Landsman said.

The community college has an open-door policy, and that means that as long as there is space in a classroom, instructors have to let students take the course. That means paying more for full-time and adjunct instructors.

While enrollment continues to climb, the Legislature is not giving colleges and universities any more money. Essentially, there are three funding sources for LSCC -- state sales taxes, tuition and private donations that go toward scholarships.

Even though students are paying almost 8 percent more in tuition this year, LSCC administrators quickly point to the fact that their tuition ranks the school in a tie for No. 17 among the 28 community colleges statewide.

Students at Tallahassee Community College experienced the biggest percentage increase -- 16 percent -- in their tuition from last year to this year. But if they live in Florida, they still pay less per credit hour than LSCC students, \$85.85 compared to \$92.

LSCC ranks in a tie for No. 14 in the state among all community colleges for credit-hour tuition. Daytona State College is the most expensive at \$94.90 per credit hour.

UCF rates

Tuition at the University of Central Florida has gone up by 15 percent in each of the last two academic years. Paralleling that tuition increase, UCF's state funding has been cut about \$80 million since July 2007, said university spokesman Chad Binette.

Binette tried to put some perspective on the tuition hikes.

The average cost, combined, for tuition and fees in 2010 for an in-state UCF student taking 30 credit hours for the year was \$4,525, he said. This year, it's \$5,020, a 10.9 percent increase. That's because health and other student fees have not gone up as much as tuition, he said.

Furthermore, UCF has used additional tuition dollars for programs such as a comprehensive writing program to help students in that area, Binette said.

"We think that's a fair tuition increase that allows us to provide the best education possible," he said, adding that tuition among Florida schools still ranks among the lowest in America.

Knight getting his life on track, helping others

By TaMaryn Waters

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

It was nerve-racking at first.

Charles Knight hadn't stepped into a classroom since he dropped out in the 11th grade. Last fall at Tallahassee Community College, the 57-year-old was surrounded by young people in their late teens and early 20s.

Instead of spiral notebooks, his tech-savvy classmates pulled out laptops and typed with turbo speed. He struggled to keep up. Chalk boards had been replaced by SMART Boards, another example of how times had changed.

"It was alarming," said Knight, pushing his glasses onto the bridge of his nose. "But now I've gotten past that."

He survived his first semester, but Knight hasn't shaken his biggest struggle — homelessness.

As Knight adapts to student life, he's also offering insight on what it's like to live on the streets and in crowded shelters as he serves on the Tallahassee-Leon County Homelessness Council — a group that's committed to curbing the local homeless crisis.

Knight has been homeless five times in his life. Most recently, he lived at The Shelter until March, when he moved into HOPE Community, a facility operated by Big Bend Homeless Coalition that offers case management, shelter and meals to homeless men, women and families.

Overcoming past mistakes

Knight admits he's made a lifetime of mistakes that led to his homelessness.

He remembers being hard-headed as a teenage boy. He had a hard time complying with his father's rules.

He was in prison a few times on charges including grand larceny and possession of drugs. He was addicted to crack cocaine, alcohol, marijuana and LCD.

Looking back, Knight realizes his choices played a part in his self destruction.

"My father used to say, if you plant corn, son, don't sit there and wait for tomatoes because you are going to get corn," said Knight, whose father passed away nearly 10



years ago. "Well, today, I understand."

A fresh start in Tallahassee

Knight, a former bus driver, had lived in Jacksonville since 1997 until he came back to Tallahassee, his hometown, last year to take a one-time job driving a bus for a fraternity during Florida A&M University's homecoming.

He decided to stay when the job was over, but he soon realized staying with his family members was not the best fit.

"I felt a need to become my own man," he said.

Now the father of three daughters is trying to put his life back in order. For him, this long process includes trying to help others along the way.

Knight learned about the homeless council earlier this year during one of the many community meetings that addressed the increase in homeless residents.

He remembers when Mayor John Marks asked the audience if anyone wanted to volunteer to serve on the council. Knight's hand was in the air before Marks could finish his request.

"Out of all of the times that I have been in the homeless plight," Knight said, "I have never heard or been in the presence of people who were actually beginning to say 'Yeah, what can we do here as a community and as a group to help these people right where they are."

Susan Pourciau, executive director of the Big Bend

Knight getting his life on track, helping others....

continued

Homeless Coalition, credits Knight with bringing a wealth of information and insight, especially for committee members who don't regularly work with the homeless population. He is, she added, an example of a person the community should not give up on.

"These voices have to be at the table in order for our community to understand homelessness," Pourciau said.

'Every day I heal'

When Knight attends committee meetings, he is overwhelmingly grateful. He sees himself as a liaison between the council and other homeless men and women.

Knight, who wants to get a degree in social work, shares what he's doing with his daughter, Shamica Davis, 32, who lives in Tallahassee, and her children.

She has struggled with her father's decisions, but they now spend time enjoying the present and rebuilding their relationship.

"I'm proud of my father for taking the initiative, for recognizing there has been a problem through the years," Davis said.

There was a time when Knight, who has been drug free since Nov. 17, 1997, was emotionally hurting. No one could detect it.

"I hurt now for those who are hurting," he said, taking a deep breath. "But as for me, every day I heal a little bit. But there are times when I'm still tender."

He uncomfortably shifted in his chair when he remembered how people treated him when his appearance was disheveled and he hadn't taken a bath in a week. He remembers one man threatened him to get off his property or his dog would make a meal out of one of his limbs.

Those memories are still fresh. But today he doesn't have the same worries, such as whether he is going to eat. That's in the past.

Smiling, he said, "I'm OK when I lay down at night."

KEYS raises money for special needs adults' career training

By Iricka Berlinger

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

From the day Allison Tant's son was diagnosed with Williams Syndrome at 4 months old, Tant has been worried about what life would be like for him when he grew up.

"My immediate concern was about what will happen when I am 80 years old and can't care for him," the former lobbyist and mother of three said.

Tant and a group of parents with special needs children have spent the last five years raising money for scholarships to allow special needs adults to pursue career training.

"Something we all want for our children is for them to have an independent future," said Tant, whose son is now 12.

The group of about 13 families, known as Keys to Exceptional Youth Success or KEYS, has raised more than \$71,000 to allow students to pursue training at Tallahassee Community College, Lively Technical School or the school of their choice.

The group had their yearly organizational meeting Sunday at the home of Leon County School Board member Forrest Van Camp to prepare for another year of fundraising.

"This is a great group of dedicated parents," said Van Camp, an ex-officio member. "They have provided books, tuition, uniforms and supplies to students."

Tant said she first found it hard to talk about the concerns she had about her son or his syndrome, but through KEYS has found comfort.

"It has been healing to help others in similar situation," she said. "We want our children to know that they can go on to do anything."

Workforce plus Offers Free Electronic Health Information Specialist Course At TCC

JENNIFER MILTON

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Workforce plus has teamed up with Tallahassee Community College in an effort to train twenty people in our area who are looking for a job in the medical administrative field.

The three day-a-week, six month course begins on September 15th. Tuition and the textbook are free.

Students who pass the Electronic Health Information course and exam will have the requirements needed to apply for a position in the field.

"With the economy like it is, this is an opportunity because this field has so much growth and anticipated growth over the next four years, so these jobs are going to start opening up for people. So, if they can get on board, take the course, they will have a job," said Sonya Fowler.

For more details about signing up for the course or what tasks electronic health information specialists perform, call Workforce plus at 850-617-4602.

WCTV - August 31, 2010

Flagler College Celebrates Ten Years at TCC

To commemorate the milestone, a ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. on September 1 at TCC's University Center, located off Progress Drive on the southwest corner of the TCC campus.

TCC PRESS RELEASE

Tallahassee, Florida. (Press Release) –

On Wednesday, September 1, Flagler College will celebrate the tenth anniversary of its partnership with Tallahassee Community College.

To commemorate the milestone, a ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 10 a.m. at TCC's University Center, located off Progress Drive on the southwest corner of the TCC campus.

Flagler College became TCC's first university partner during the Fall 2000 semester, providing students with an opportunity to earn a bachelor's degree on TCC's campus. The program has attracted TCC graduates, as well as other students looking for a four-year degree in the programs offered.

When Flagler-Tallahassee launched in 2000, students could receive a bachelor's degree in either business administration or elementary education. Since then, Flagler has added accounting and exceptional student education to its degree offerings.

According to Sara Williamson, associate director of admissions, current enrollment is close to 500 and over 1,300 students have graduated from Flagler-Tallahassee, many of whom live and work in TCC's tri-county service district.

TCC has since welcomed four other four-year institutions to its campus as a university partner: Barry University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Saint Leo University and Thomas College.

Flagler College Celebrates 10 Years

Although the school started small, it's making a big difference in our community.

Stephanie Salvatore

STEPHANIE.SALVATORE@WCTV.TV

With a cut of the ribbon, Flagler College celebrates a milestone- 10 years since first arriving on the campus of Tallahassee Community College.

What started out as a satellite school of the main campus in St. Augustine has grown to be one of the biggest producers of business administration and elementary education degrees in our area.

"It's grown immensely when we started we had maybe 50-60 students and one class of each thing and now were up to 486 students. We've graduated over 1300 graduates and our graduates stay in the Tallahassee area," says dean of Flagler College, Dr. John Bruno.

Not only do they stay in the area, but they make up a large percentage of teachers in the surrounding school districts.

"Students come here they get their degrees from FAMU and FSU and then they leave town. The beautiful thing

about the Flagler students is that most of the students are local and they remain here in the area and so thats how especially in education where the teachers have really been able to build themselves a great reputation," says Sara Williamson, the college's associate director of admissions.

"I've actually heard a lot from my employers and people who I've interviewed with that Flagler College is well known institution in Florida and it really speaks volumes of the people who are coming out of there," says Karl Loewe, a graduate of Flagler.

The school offers accounting and exceptional student education degrees and plans to expand into new programs in the future.

TCC welcomed four other institutions to it's campus since Flagler in 2000, including Barry University, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Saint Leo University and Thomas College.

Tallahassee Democrat - September 8, 2010

Big Bend briefs

TALLAHASSEE

TCC Educational Talent Search re-funded: Tallahassee Community College's Educational Talent Search (ETS) Program has been re-funded for the fifth straight year, the U.S. Department of Education announced. The \$226,600 grant will be used to help 600 Gadsden County youth with academic potential complete high school and enroll in postsecondary education programs. The initiative is led by Lori Livingston, ETS director of the TCC Florida Public Safety Institute, in collaboration with the Gadsden County Schools and other partners. Begun in 2006, the program provides academic, career and financial counseling to participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue their education at the postsecondary school of their choice. ETS is designed to motivate and support students from diverse backgrounds, with a special emphasis on low-income, first-generation college students and those with disabilities. For information, contact Livingston at (850) 558-3642.

Democrat staff reports

Area manufacturing industry is TalTech focus Wednesday

By Rick Oppenheim

SPECIAL TO BUSINESS MATTERS

Growth, resources and opportunities in the Tallahassee area's manufacturing industry will be in the spotlight Wednesday for the next luncheon meeting of the Tallahassee Technology Alliance.

Co-sponsored by the Tallahassee/Leon County Economic Development Council, the TalTech luncheon will feature a presentation by Bruce Batton, program manager for Tallahassee Community College's new Advanced Manufacturing Training Center, followed by a panel discussion with area manufacturing industry representatives.

Batton will showcase AMTC, which is part of TCC's Center for Workforce Development. He will explain how AMTC is expected to be a resource to enhance employees' careers, improve business effectiveness and provide support for returning adult learners.

His presentation will be followed by a panel discussion with manufacturing representatives who will discuss the industry's status, direction and current technology needs.

"This will be an enlightening meeting that will explore the important role manufacturing and technology play in our area's economic future," said TalTech Chair Chet Hall. "We're excited to see how TCC's new training center will be a resource for our community, workers and employers."

TCC's Center for Workforce Development offers training to refine professional skills needed for in-demand jobs at local businesses in areas such as leadership, teamwork and supervision. In addition to manufacturing, targeted workforce training is offered in other fields including information technology, allied health and business, as well as construction and trades.

Wednesday's meeting will be held at AMTC, 3958 W. Pensacola St., and is expected to last from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no cost for TalTech members; non-members pay \$20 or can join TalTech at the door. For more information on the meeting, go to www.taltech.org and click on "upcoming events."

The Tallahassee Technology Alliance is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit association of businesses, academic centers, entrepreneurs and individuals invested in promoting technology-based entrepreneurship, business expansion and innovation in the Capital region. It currently has 250 members representing more than 75 area technology-based companies, institutions and organizations. The TalTech Alliance is the recognized technology roundtable of the Economic Development Council of Tallahassee/Leon County. For more information, visit www.taltech.org.

Tallahassee Democrat - September 12, 2010

TCC selected for Carnegie Foundation program

By Angeline J. Taylor

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Tallahassee Community College students who have difficulty in basic math courses will soon be given help through a national program from the Carnegie Foundation.

TCC has been named one of 19 community colleges throughout the country taking part in a two-year, \$14 million program aimed at improving developmental math courses.

"Data show so many students get lost and never complete their AA degree," Frank Brown, TCC's dean of science and math. "They take the math and don't understand the applicability of it."

Grant awarded to TCC to assist adults with disabilities

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (September 14, 2010) — A \$34,037 grant has been awarded to Tallahassee Community College by the Florida Department of Education's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to provide therapeutic recreation and active leisure activities for adults with disabilities in Leon, Gadsden and Wakulla counties.

The project will be implemented through TCC by the nonprofit Florida Disabled Outdoors Association (FDOA). Funding is made possible by an appropriation from the Florida Legislature.

The program's goals are to improve stamina and muscle strength, reduce anxiety and depression, promote general feelings of well-being and encourage participation in the community.

The project is the latest in a long history of collaborative efforts between TCC and FDOA, which was founded in 1990 by David Jones, a TCC graduate who had been severely injured in a hunting accident. After extensive rehabilitation, Jones established the association and its annual event, SportsAbility—held at TCC, Ochlockonee River State Park and Miracle Field at Messer Park—to provide others with access to the recreational opportunities that he credits with helping him regain his place in society.

"I came back home to my TCC family to see if we could go forward together to provide active recreation activities for people with disabilities," Jones said.

Active recreation and leisure activities help people with disabilities enter the workforce by promoting wellness, increasing stamina and reducing secondary health conditions. For instance, a person with diabetes may well avoid the amputation of a limb through therapeutic recreation. By the same token, the program enhances mental and emotional wellness and promotes social involvement.

"People who can overcome the barriers to recreation can develop the esteem to attack the workforce," said Jones. "The Florida Disabled Outdoors Association is all about active leisure, quality of life and being part of the community."

Since 1995, TCC has supported SportsAbility by co-hosting and contributing to the event while the College's faculty, staff and students have served as volunteers. Jones has served as a director of the TCC Alumni Association and has been honored as a distinguished alumnus of the College.

Individuals interested in participating in this year's project may contact FDOA at (850) 201-2944, extension 3 or info@ fdoa.org. FDOA's offices are located at 2475 Apalachee Parkway, Suite 205, Tallahassee, FL 32301. Please visit www. FDOA.org to learn more about participating in the program or to register online for the SportsAbility event.

TalTech meets today at TCC's new training center

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

The Tallahassee Technology Alliance luncheon today will focus on the area's manufacturing outlook.

Co-sponsored by the Tallahassee/Leon County Economic Development Council, the TalTech luncheon will feature a presentation by Bruce Batton, program manager for Tallahassee Community College's new Advanced Manufacturing Training Center, followed by a panel discussion with area manufacturing industry representatives.

Batton will talk about the AMTC, which is part of TCC's Center for Workforce Development. He will explain how AMTC is expected to be a resource to enhance career training, business' employee recruiting and provide support for returning adult learners.

His presentation will be followed by a panel discussion with manufacturing representatives who will discuss the industry's status, direction and current technology needs.

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TalTech has 250 members representing more than 75 area technology-based companies, institutions and organizations.

Check back on Tallahassee.com for an update of this story and look for more coverage tomorrow in the Tallahassee Democrat.

TCC Professor Arrested in Child Pornography Case

Biology professor Mark Bollone arrested, no longer employed at TCC

Reporter: LCSO Press Release; Julie Montanaro

UPDATED 6:40pm 9.14.2010 by Julie Montanaro

A Tallahassee Community College professor is arrested and accused of downloading child pornography at work. Mark Bollone has lost his job and is facing a trio of felony charges.

Word spread quickly on campus Tuesday that the longtime biology professor had been arrested.

Mark Bollone is accused of downloading child pornography on his computer at work.

"That's very nasty. It's a terrible thing to happen at TCC. I think as a professor he should be a lot more professional," said TCC student Tambria Sneed.

"Definitely ridiculous. That's unacceptable as a teacher, being a role model as a teacher," said TCC student Demetrius Murray.

Deputies say a tip from a porn case in Michigan led them to Bollone's door. Earlier this month they searched his home and deputies say TCC turned over his work computer upon request.

"We performed forensic exams on both his personal and work computers and those examinations revealed illegal pronographic files," said LCSO Spokesman SGT James McQuaig.

Bollone has already posted a 30-thousand dollar bond, but won't be coming back to work.

TCC spokeswoman Alice Maxwell says Bollone is no longer employed at the college. She says Bollone has worked at TCC for 19 years and was teaching five classes this semester. All of them have been reassigned to other professors, Maxwell said.

One of Bollone's environmental systems students says he's disappointed Ballone won't be coming back to class.

"He was direct, straight foward, interactive, fun, you have fun in his class pretty much. His class was one of the best classes I had this semester. I was pretty shocked that he was arrested for that," said Matthew Kishe, who was in Bollone's class for a couple of weeks at the beginning of the semester. Bollone is facing three counts of possession of child porn. Deputies say that's for pictures he downloaded and viewed, not for additional images that he received via email from Michigan.

Reached at home today, Bollone had no comment on his arrest.

UPDATED 9.14.2010 Noon

Mark Bollone was arrested last night and has already posted his 30 thousand dollar bond.

Bollone, who is 56 years old, is facing three counts of possession of child pornography. Deputies say those are for photos he downloaded himself and do not include additional images he received via email.

TCC's website indicates Bollone is a biology professor who teaches both introductory and advanced biology as well as anatomy and physiology.

This whole investigation stemmed from a child porn crackdown in Michigan. Based on a tip from that investigation, detectives seized Bollone's computers on September first and arrested him last night.

TCC officials say they are fully cooperating with the investigation and in accordance with the policies of their board, Bollone is no longer employed at TCC.

(Press Release) --

On September 1, 2010, members of the North Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force executed a search warrant at 1800 Vineland Drive, in Leon County. During the investigation, law

enforcement officers located and seized computer equipment which included images of prepubescent and adolescent children engaged in sexual activity with adults.

On September 13, 2010, task force members arrested Mark G. Bollone, 56, on outstanding warrants after forensic examination of both his personal and work

TCC Professor Arrested in Child Pornography Case....

continued

computer equipment confirmed that he possessed illegal pornographic files. Bollone was transported to the Leon County Jail and charged with three counts of Possessing Images of Child Sexual Performance.

This investigation was linked to a recent case in the state of Michigan. In that case, Bollone was identified as having received child pornographic files via email from a subject living in Michigan.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE), the Tallahassee Police Department (TPD), U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Leon County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) collaborated with authorities in Michigan, which led to Bollone's arrest.

The full press release is attached above.

Tallahassee Democrat - September 15, 2010

TCC professor facing child pornography charges

BY AMANDA CURCIO

DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

A Tallahassee Community College biology professor was arrested Monday on three counts of possession of images of child sexual performance, Sgt. James McQuaig, spokesman for the Leon County Sheriff's Office, said Tuesday in a news release.

Mark G. Bollone, 56, was arrested after the North Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force received a report Aug. 12 from the Oakland County Sheriff's Office in Michigan that linked Bollone to one of their child pornography cases, according to a probable cause affidavit.

Bollone received numerous mass e-mails with images of child pornography from a man in Michigan, according to the affidavit. The children in the images ranged in age.

After obtaining search warrants, task force investigators seized Bollone's personal computer containing images of prepubescent children and teenagers having sexual relations with adults on Sept. 1, the affidavit stated. More illegal pornographic files downloaded from websites were found on his work computer, according to the affidavit.

TCC, in accordance with the District Board of Trustees policies and procedures, terminated Bollone the week before his arrest, Alice Maxwell, communications and public information director, said in a press statement. TCC plans to "fully cooperate with LCSO's investigation," according to the statement.

Bollone was booked into the Leon County Jail on Monday and later released that same day, according to the jail website. Bond was set at \$10,000 for each of the three charges.

Before being named to TCC faculty in August 1991, Bollone was an assistant professor of biology at Boston University and at Middlesex Community College, Mass., according to TCC's biography webpage.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Tallahassee Police Department, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Michigan law-enforcement agencies and LCSO worked on the case.

TCC Center Offers "Turnkey Workforce" for Manufacturers

TALLAHASSEE, FL (WFSU) - Despite the news that Tallahassee manufacturer Elbit Systems is closing, the Capital City may be better able to attract a successor company. Tom Flanigan reports that's because of a new facility that just opened at Tallahassee Community College.

Housed in a former commercial warehouse on West Pensacola Street, TCC's Advanced Manufacturing Training Center has been up and running a little more than a month. The timing is fortunate, because one of Tallahassee's oldest high-tech manufacturers is shutting its doors. That will put nearly two-hundred people out-ofwork and the training center's program manager, Bruce Batton, says his folks are standing by.

"I know we've heard of Elbit and what's going on there. But we're stepping up, whatever we can do to help train them to move into other sectors, or move up with higher qualifications."

And even though Elbit is going away, there are a surprising number of small manufacturers still in and around the Capital City. One of them is Telligent E-M-S. It's an electronics-maker in Havana and its president is Chris Eldred

"We do business with Fortune 500s, but also small companies as well. They design the products and we manufacturer them to their specifications, so we have robotic assembly - quite a bit of that - and there's a fair amount of very skilled manual labor."

Batton says that's exactly the kind of employee need his facility is designed to fill.

"You know, that's what we're here for, to support the community. The folks in the community as well as industry our main focus is always going to be the current industry in the area, but then if there's other industry looking at the area, you know we want to be part of that equation also."

Batton has been working with the local Economic Development Council as long as he's been in Tallahassee. He says he knows what brings a new company to a community. He also knows what doesn't.

"One of the key issues in several of the decisions not to come to Tallahassee was whether or not there was a skilled workforce available. And so I think we've closed

that gap now. We take that excuse away."

Because, Batton says, his center can have a fully trained workforce ready to go by the time a new company lands in the area.

"We can definitely close that gap provide them with a real-time, quick response type of training to stand their companies up, or to move into the area with an already established company and then bring a workforce in and be productive very quickly."

On Wednesday, Batton hosted a luncheon meeting and facility tour for the TalTech Alliance. One of the local small manufacturers interested in what the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center has to offer was David Houston with Aero Associates.

"That's why I'm so interested in this place. I'm trying to learn if this is going to work for me, that I can send people here to get trained how to do this other mechanical stuff so there's someone else coming up behind me."

Of particular interest to Houston's firm, how-to training on solar power installation. Turns out the center offers that very training.

"Places like this teaching how to do it gosh, it's such a phenomenal opportunity. It just makes me happy."

The area's economic development people are hoping the Advanced Manufacturing Training Center at Tallahassee Community College makes many more businesses happy. Both those that are already here as well as those considering the area.

Expo Association gifts 50 acres to TCC

It began with 50 acres of land and the dream of building a facility large enough to meet the needs of the citizens of Wakulla County far into the future. The Wakulla County Expo Association (WCEA) has gifted the 50 acres to Tallahassee Community College for the construction of a new home for the Wakulla Environmental Institute.

"We wanted to give Wakulla County something they have never had," explained D.R. Vause, President of the WCEA. "We had visions of a multi-functional facility that could attract a variety of groups and house a beautiful auditorium to hold graduation ceremonies, space to host social gatherings and state-of-the-art meeting rooms."

In the fall of 2009, the WCEA approached Tallahassee Community College to discuss a possible joint venture. Ideas began flowing, partnerships began forming and a vision for the Wakulla Environmental Institute was created.

"The years of effort and purpose of the WCEA to provide desperately needed resources and facilities for Wakulla County and its citizens are finally coming to fruition in this partnership with TCC," said Frank Messersmith, long-time TCC Trustee from Wakulla County. "The new look and direction tied to ecology and the environment will prosper and gain for all of North Florida, and we owe the WCEA a great debt of thanks for this new Institute and for never giving up on their goal."

"This is a deal changer for Wakulla County," said TCC Trustee Dr. J. Allison DeFoor. "In 10 years, the environment will be the prime economic driver in the area from St. Marks all the way to Panama City. The Wakulla Institute can lead the way. This will be world class."

"This is a giant step forward for Wakulla County," said Howard Kessler, chairman of the Wakulla County Board of County Commissioners. "This gift will combine our greatest strength — our protected natural environment — with one of our greatest needs, job creation. The future Wakulla Environmental Institute will greatly broaden our economic base, providing job diversification and strengthening our local economy."

Kessler stated that having the opportunity to partner with TCC to develop the Institute is an enormous bonus. He went on to add that Wakulla County would like to create a model similar to TCC's Gadsden County-based Florida Public Safety Institute (FPSI).

The FPSI offers law enforcement and firefighting training and is home to the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy. The FPSI has developed a long-term plan to grow and become an economic force in Gadsden County.

The Wakulla County Expo Association hopes its partnership with Tallahassee Community College will make the same sort of economic, social and cultural impact with the development of the Wakulla Environmental Institute.

"This offers an enormous opportunity to build on our community's greatest asset at a time when our community and state are being challenged to reinvent itself and establish a new economy," said Wakulla Chamber of Commerce President and Workforce plus CEO Kimberly A. Moore.

Wakulla Ecotourism

INSTITUTE

Become a Certified Green Guide

90 hours of in-class and in-the-field instruction: \$320

Fall certification courses run September 20-November 18

OR

Individual classes are offered on weekday evenings for \$20/class Individual field trips are on weekend afternoons for \$40/field trip



Classes begin September 20th

Clas	ses begin september 20		
9/20	Business Basics I and Startup	6-	-9 p.m.
9/21	Water-Related Businesses: Fishing, Kayaking, Bait and Ta	ckle 6-	-9 p.m.
9/26	St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge Field Trip	1-	-5 p.m.
9/27	Wakulla Landscape I	6-	-9 p.m.
9/28	Business Basics II	6-	-9 p.m.
10/2	River Ecosystems/Tree Identification Field Trip 9	a.m12: 1	l5 р.т. -5 р.т.
10/4	Creating Web Pages and Web Marketing I	6-	-9 p.m.
10/5	Wakulla Landscape II	6-	-9 p.m.
10/10	Kayak Field Trip	1-	-5 p.m.
10/11	Creating Web Pages and Web Marketing II	6-	-9 p.m.
10/12	Geological Features	6-	-9 p.m.
10/17	Forest Field Trip I — Leon Sinks	1-	-5 p.m.
10/24	Birding & Sea Life — Mashes Sands/Gulf Specimen Marine Lab Field Trip	8 a.m	-1 р.m.

This is a partial schedule—for remaining schedule

Call **(850) 922-6290**

e-mail WakullaCenter@tcc.fl.edu or visit workforce.tcc.fl.edu/Wakulla

Scholarships available to Wakulla charter boat captains and those working in the seafood industry.

The Wakulla Ecotourism Institute is part of Tallahassee Community College

Apply online at www.GoToTCC.com



offers **construction programs** to help you get the skills you need for in-demand jobs. September classes include:

include:				
Low Voltage Cabling Sept. 13-29 MonThur. 6-10 p.m \$126				
Carpentry Level 1, Part A Sept. 13-29				
Successful Business Practices for the Small Construction Contractor Sept. 13-30				
Electrical Level I Sept. 13-Nov. 2 MonThur. 6-10 p.m				
Plumbing Level I Sept. 13-Nov 4 MonThur. 6-10 p.m				
Heavy Equipment Operator Sept. 13-Nov 9 MonThur./FriSat. (lab) 6-10 p.m \$627				
HVAC Level I Sept. 20-Nov 4 MonThur. 6-10 p.m				
Masonry I Sept. 21-Dec. 1 TuesThur. 6-10 p.m				

Join the Workforce of future

Introduction to **Solar Hot Water**

September 6-16 Monday, Tuesday *and* Thursday 6-10 p.m.

FREE to Wakulla County residents

The intent of this 24 hour Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC) course is to provide trainees with the knowledge and skills needed to design, install, operate and maintain the most common types of solar water heater systems. The course presents an overview of solar thermal applications, provides basic information on the principles of solar energy, reviews solar thermal technologies and provides detailed instruction on the safe, efficient installation of solar water heating and pool heating systems.

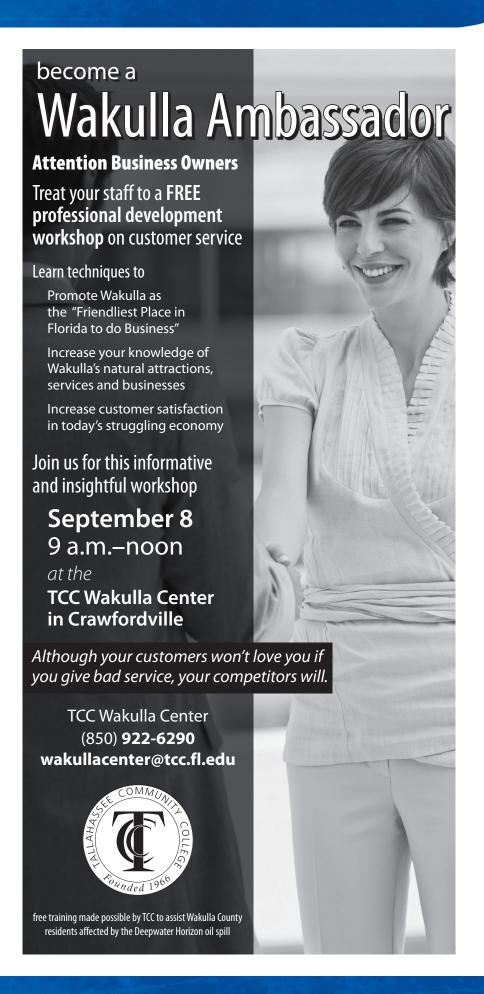
To register or for more information

call (850) 922-6290 or visit the

TCC Wakulla Center

5 Crescent Way Crawfordville





Workforce Development

offers construction programs to help you get the skills you need for in-demand jobs. Classes include:					
Low Voltage Cabling Sept. 13-29	MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$126			
Carpentry Level 1, Pa Sept. 13-29	rt A MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$150			
	Practices for the Small Construction Construction Mon. Tues. Thur. 6-9 p.m				
Electrical Level I Sept. 13-Nov. 2	MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$354			
Plumbing Level I Sept. 13 - Nov 4	MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$390			
Heavy Equipment Op Sept. 13-Nov 9	MonThur./FriSat. (lab) 6-10 p.m	. \$627			
HVAC Level I Sept. 20-Nov 4	MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$339			
Masonry I Sept. 21-Dec. 1	TuesThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$354			
Drywall I Oct. 4-Nov. 9	MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$255			
Masonry Residential Oct. 5-14	TuesThurs. 6-10 p.m	\$75			
Carpentry Level 1, Pa Oct. 11-Dec. 2	rt B MonThur. 6-10 p.m	. \$338			
Masonry Repair and Oct. 19-27	Restoration TuesThurs. 6-9 p.m	\$45			



offers **construction programs** to help you get the skills you need for in-demand jobs. Classes include:

HVAC Level I (\$339)

September 20-November 4 Monday-Thursday 6-10 p.m.

Masonry I (\$354)

September 21-December 1 Tuesday-Thursday 6-10 p.m.

Drywall I (\$255)

October 4-November 9
Monday-Thursday 6-10 p.m.

Masonry Residential (\$75)

October 5-14
Tuesday-Thursday 6-10 p.m.

Carpentry Level 1, Part B (\$338)

October 11-December 2 Monday-Thursday 6-10 p.m.

Masonry Repair (\$45) and Restoration

October 19-27

Tuesday-Thursday 6-9 p.m.



offers construction programs to help you get the skills you need for in-demand jobs. October classes include:		
Drywall I Oct. 4-Nov. 9 MonThur. 6-10 p.m		
Masonry Residential Oct. 5-14		
Carpentry Level 1, Part B Oct. 11-Dec. 2		
Masonry Repair and Restoration Oct. 19-27		
(950) 201 9760 . workforce tee flodu		

