

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*

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October 22 - November 18, 2016



# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## *In the News*

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# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*



## Electronic Media

- October 25 - WTXL - TCC professor Rick Murgo discusses Trump campaign stop in Tallahassee
- October 28 - WTXL - TCC named a top entrepreneurial college by national council
- November 1 - WTXL - Achieving the Dream business incubator program spotlighted
- November 2 - WCTV - TCC hosts job and internship fair
- November 3 - WCTV - FPSI offers hands-on training for boat accident recovery
- November 4 - WTXL - Five student veterans selected for Moore Veterans Leadership Academy
- November 7 - WTXL - TCC and Domi team up to host Startup Weekend
- November 8 - WTXL - Murgo rejoins evening broadcast to discuss presidential election results
- November 10 - WTXL - TCC hosts job fair geared toward veterans and their families
- November 12 - WTXL - Tallahassee Fire Academy hosts open house event for families
- November 14 - WTXL - International Education Week kicks off at TCC with Parade of Nations
- November 15 - WTXL - Largest monetary gift in history of TCC soon to be donated
- November 16 - WTXL - TCC's GED/ESOL program application window opens for Spring 2017

## Maclay's Mary Frances Daniel - WTXL/TCC Scholar Athlete of the Week

ALISON POSEY

WTXL

The Maclay Marauder volleyball team was fueled by one thing this off season, last year's loss in the Elite Eight of the State Tournament.

The Marauders returned nearly everyone off last year's squad, and entered this season feeling pretty good about their chances at a State title.

"I can look at a person, and just know automatically and know they're going to do something," said senior Mary Frances Daniel about the closeness of this team. Most of them have been together since middle school.

"There's a lot of pressure," she said. "I feel that it's not as much as I had when I was younger, because I felt like I had to perform to be great."

"She comes in every day, and works really, really hard," said head coach Erica Bunch. "That's every coaches dream, you know? You want your whole squad to come in ready to go and just push really hard."

How hard has she pushed? Mary Frances reached 1000 career digs last month,

"I tell my liberos that's their job. You get down and dirty, you're the vacuum cleaner of the team," laughed Bunch.

She's cleaning up in the classroom too- boasting a 4.36 GPA.

"Practice makes perfect. So many math problems, so many chemistry problems," she said of maintaining her academics. "Staying up until 1:00 in the morning, it stinks the next day, but you make the best grades you can make. They always say practice makes perfect."

Perfect in the classroom, and if Mary Frances has it her way, a perfect ending on the court in her senior year.

## TCC announces new certification to grant bachelor's degrees

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College has announced that they have been certified to grant bachelor's degrees to local students.

With the recent addition of TCC's Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree, the college applied for the level II accreditation, which is for institutions that can award bachelor's degrees.

The Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges visited the campus earlier this week to review the campus' programs, particularly the newly added nursing program.

SACSCOC found in their review that TCC was fit to be a level II accredited institution.

TCC President Jim Murdaugh said, "This favorable review of TCC as a Level II institution is an extremely important step for the College. It is a credit to the hard work of our administrators, faculty and staff and allows us to provide more opportunities to our students and our community."

TCC said that the change to a level II accreditation is expected to be formally announced by SACSCOC next year.

## FSU program inducted into Florida Division of Blind Services awards program

SASCHA CORDNER

WFSU

A Florida State University program is one of several recognized for its continued advancement of independence for blind and visually impaired Floridians.

During a recent ceremony celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Florida Division of Blind Services, Director Robert Doyle inducted the FSU College of Education's Visual Disabilities program into its "Successful 75."

"As the only Visual Disabilities program in the Southeast, FSU offers one of the most respected and longest standing programs with an elite nationally recognized faculty, who have blindness experience in all majors," he said. "The overall mission and curriculum instruction of the Visual Disabilities program is to prepare highly qualified individuals, again who have a personal and professional commitment to advancing the lives of individuals who are blind and impaired."

Nan McMillan is the President of the Student chapter of the Florida Association of Education and Rehabilitation for the Blind and Visually Impaired. She's also a student of FSU's Visual Disabilities program.

"In our program, our professor prepare students to work with all types of people who have visual impairments as teachers and as orientation mobility specialist," she said. "There is a critical shortage for these professionals not just in Florida, but all across our nation."

**Meanwhile, Lighthouse of the Big Bend and Tallahassee Community College were also inducted into the Division of Blind Services' "Successful 75" awards program—recognizing individuals, organizations, and businesses for their continued contributions to the blind and visually impaired community.**

## County helps to bridge skilled job gap

CHRONICLE

Building on the success of last year's Leon Works Expo, Leon County Government connected more than 600 high school students and job seekers with academic institutions, private businesses, nonprofit agencies, and public sector partners. Leon County did so because over the next seven years more than 10,000 skilled are and will become available in the Capital County region.

"The success of each person that attended the Expo is not only important to the individual, but to all of us," said Leon County Commission Chairman Bill Proctor. "The more we know about skilled career opportunities, the more we can grow together as a community."

Skilled careers require more training and education than a high school diploma, but less than a four-year college degree. These high-demand, high-wage opportunities include the areas of health, business, information technology, creative, and trade.

"Growing the local economy is a constant priority for Leon County," said Leon County Administrator Vincent S. Long. "For the second year, Leon Works connected job seekers with employers and academic institutions to help meet our County's future employment needs."

By 9 a.m., high school juniors and seniors interested in joining the skilled workforce began exploring more than 90 exhibitors from the world of skilled career training and employment. Academic institutions engaged students with hands-on demonstrations such as welding, auto mechanic displays, and more that showcased information about their programs. Local skilled career success stories were excited to share what makes their jobs rewarding, sharing their own experiences with attendees.

"It's great to see so many students and job seekers eager to hear me share what I love about my profession," said Jean Fraser, owner of Cabinetry Design Studio. "The Expo provided the perfect opportunity to share career opportunities that some may not have known existed."

In the afternoon, the Leon Works Expo was open to job seekers throughout Leon County and surrounding areas. Hundreds of citizens looking for new opportunities or hoping to make a career change engaged with peers and other professionals. Job seekers attended workshops,

took professional head shots, and were interviewed by community experts with the goal of enhancing their chances of employment.

Leon County recognizes that the key to a strong community is equipping citizens with the skills necessary to compete in growing and changing skilled job market. The Leon Works Expo builds upon Leon County's continued efforts to develop and sustain a rich local economy filled with the best and brightest workers who choose to define their own success.

**Leon County Government hosted the Leon Works Expo in collaboration with community partners such as Tallahassee Community College, Leon County Schools, Tallahassee-Leon County Office of Economic Vitality, Career Source Capital Region, City of Tallahassee, Florida Department of Education, Keiser University, Lively Technical Center, the Foundation for Leon County Schools, and World Class Schools.**

## TCC training helped Boyd launch health care career

COURTENEY JONES

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Janegale Boyd has accomplished a great deal in her life, and she did it all with an associate degree from Tallahassee Community College.

Boyd moved to Tallahassee in 1972 with the intention of becoming a nurse. Her husband at the time was attending Florida State University, and the couple couldn't afford two university tuitions, so Boyd enrolled at TCC to earn an Associate of Science degree in nursing and become a registered nurse.

She worked as a nurse at Tallahassee Memorial Hospital after graduating from TCC's nursing program in 1975, but after a few years there, she was approached to help start up a new hospital, now Capital Regional Medical Center.

After 18 years working in the business of health care — including one hospital and three managed care plan start-ups — Boyd decided to run for office to help ensure better patient care from the legislative side. Her brother-in-law, Allen Boyd, who was then serving in the Florida House of Representatives, was considering leaving his seat to run for Congress.

In the 10-county legislative district, no woman had ever been elected at that level. Despite the odds, after putting 78,000 miles on her car and collecting thousands of signatures so she could be put on the ballot, Boyd won the primary, and later the seat. She was the first active nurse elected to a state position in Florida.

Boyd eventually left the Legislature and became president and CEO of Leading Age Florida, which works with retirement homes, assisted living communities and nursing homes. She recently stepped down to care for her own aging mother, but still works as a nurse consultant and volunteer.

Boyd has served on numerous boards, including Big Bend Hospice, North Florida Community College, the Florida Society of Association Executives and the advising board for TCC's own school of nursing. She is currently president-elect of the Florida Nurses Association.

Throughout the many phases of her career, Boyd has continued to rely on the education she received at TCC 40 years ago.

"I used my nursing degree all the time, in both my nursing and my professional career," she said. "Even something like triage training works every day, because you have to figure out what's the most critical thing to get done, and what you have to do now to keep your operation on track. My nursing background was helpful to me every day of my career."

## Coach Droze wins Run with The Moose 5K

HERB WILLIS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

2016 is an election year so you hear a lot about polls, and therefore about sample size. Most presidential preference polls use a sample size of about 1,000.

By polling that many people, you get a fairly accurate statistic— within the “3 percent margin of error” that you see in the fine print accompanying so many poll results. To bring the margin of error down to 2 percent you’d need to poll many more people — a sample size of about 2,500.

Smaller sample sizes, on the other hand, will increase your error. Very small samples could give you bizarre results. Quincy’s annual Run With The Moose 5K has only been around for four years, so if you take as your sample the winners of that race, you’d have a tiny sample indeed. You’d also end up concluding that half of all overall winners of road races are women, and that the other half are named Droze.

This year is not only an election year, it was a Droze year. On Saturday morning, Oct. 15, Gary Droze won the fourth Run With The Moose 5K in 18:16, finishing close to 200 meters ahead of the next runner. Tallahassee school teacher Laura McDermott was the first woman in the race, placing fifth overall in 22:38.

That sample size could have been even smaller. After holding the Run With The Moose each year from 2010 to 2012, the Quincy chapter of the Moose Lodge shelved the race. The Loyal Order of the Moose revived the event after a four-year hiatus, but with a few changes.

Instead of a summer run, the race was now in October, a less torrid month. The course was the same, but now it was USATF certified, a guarantee that the athletes would actually be running 5 kilometers.

Improvements? You’d think so. On the other hand, anyone who ran slow couldn’t point to the torrid summer weather or speculate that the course was long. The runner had a better event, but they had lost two excellent excuses for poor performance.

If you wanted a reason for running less than your best, though, the course still included some huge hills. After starting north on Shelfer Street, the runners turned east onto King Street and plunged into a ravine, a branch of

Quincy Creek. After racing to the bottom the athletes had to struggle up the other side of the depression. Late in the race, the runners had to make another trip in and out of the ravine on their way to the finish line. It wasn’t a second visit to look forward to.

**On the outward journey, Droze, Tallahassee Community College’s cross-country coach, was the first one out of the defile.** His challenges for the rest of the race didn’t come from rival athletes, but from the law enforcement vehicle escorting the runners. Droze kept overtaking that lead car, which wasn’t often a comfortable distance ahead.

“The fumes are killing me!” exclaimed Droze.

But Coach Droze overcame both hills and hydrocarbons to win the race in 18:16. Tallahassee runner Paul Guyas took second in 19:04, and “Marathon Jack” McDermott was third in 20:10.

“That was tough!” declared Laura McDermott after clearing the final hill on the course.

But that was less than 200 meters from the finish line, at which point it was all over but the cheering. McDermott got the women’s title, finishing fifth in 22:38. Monica Judd was the first woman master and second female finisher, seventh overall in 23:59. Tallahassee master runner Paula O’Neill was third in the women’s standings and ninth overall in 24:10.

Forty-six athletes completed the 2016 Run With The Moose, not a bad turnout for a race back from the dead after four years. Proceeds of the race went to benefit the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer campaign of the American Cancer Society.

## Leon's Matthew Cashin - WTXL/TCC Scholar Athlete of the Week

WTXL

To repeat a title in any sport in an incredible feat. Over the weekend, Leon senior Cross Country runner Matthew Cashin repeated as Class 3A District 3 Champion. This Saturday, Matthew hopes to repeat as Regional Champ, and gear up for a run at State.

"I get up at like 6:00 am to go do a morning run before school, and then come out here after school to go run for an hour or so," said Matthew of his dedication to the sport.

"It does take a special kind of kid," said head coach Andrew Wills. "It's a self motivated, self disciplined kid that you have to manage your time wisely."

A special kind of kid indeed. While Matthews hitting the trails 70 miles a week to train, he's also hitting the books- balancing a 4.17 GPA in the classroom.

"It takes a lot of work," he said. "Just being able to balance it all out, making sure you're staying on top of it, communicating with teachers and just getting all your work done being diligent."

A lot of work that's paid off- both in the classroom, and on the course. Matthew's after his second straight Region title, and after finishing 4th at the Class 3A State Meet last year, he's hoping to go out with a bang.

"That's the goal, all year is just working for placing as high as I can," he said. "If that's first, then that's the top goal right now."

"It's fun watching him grow up," said coach Wills. "He came into a team that was very, very good and had a lot of great runners. He kind of has progressed his way up to being a great runner now and leading by example for those other kids."

A leader on the team, in the classroom, and if things go right, leading the way to gold at State.

## Open Mic showcases Talent at TCC

CHRONICLE

Shauna Smith tried something new.

The Tallahassee Community College professor's students showed little interest in the assigned readings in her English Literature class. So she tapped into their creativity by giving them alternate ways to make meaning of the material. Some students used music and dance. Others turned to poetry and spoken word.

"Their enthusiasm for the assigned work led them to want to share some of their poems, writings, songs and talents," Smith said.

That was 18 years ago, and the class project evolved into a monthly talent showcase called Open Mic.

"I started Open Mic because after I realized how much talent was in my one literature class, I knew there had to be more campus wide," Smith said.

Smith retired from TCC last May, but the monthly event is still going strong with a different name.

Open Mic is now Talent@TCC. It is sponsored by Reggie Grant, assistant professor of journalism.

Grant said he changed the name to build upon what was already an extremely popular student activity.

"Talent@TCC, like Open Mic, is still an event, but it's not just an event," Grant said. "It's a concept. The goal is to build a community that celebrates the creativity of TCC students and gives them a platform to showcase what they can do."

Student work will be published on the new Talent@TCC website. There is also a newly created YouTube channel with video performances from each monthly event.

Promotional items are being produced, and students will receive freebies for performing. There was a student contest and the winning design was printed on Talent@TCC T-shirts, which will be unveiled at the November 9 event. Sponsors are being sought to support the student event.

"There truly is an enormous amount of talent at TCC," Grant said.

Aside from the name change and the recently expanded online presence, not much else about the monthly talent showcase event is different. Students perform songs, dance, poetry or spoken word. They have the opportunity to display their art, photography or short videos.

There is even a familiar face handling some of the emcee duties.

Shauna Smith is no longer in charge of the event, but she still shows up to help out, encourage students and celebrate their accomplishments.

"Even after retiring I often see students who ask if Open Mic is still going on at TCC, and I am proud to say it is."

## TCC's Backpack 2 Briefcase workshop series offered

HAVANA HERALD

Tallahassee Community College's Division of Workforce Development, Career Center, and Accessibility and Resource Center are offering a workshop series designed to improve job readiness for students with disabilities.

The Backpack 2 Briefcase series includes four workshop sessions offered in October and November on topics such as networking, professionalism, interviewing and job searches. All workshops, as well as orientation sessions and capstone ceremonies, will be held in the Center for Workforce Development on TCC's main campus.

The workshop series is offered thanks to a grant from The Able Trust. The series is part of TCC's recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month.

"Research shows people with disabilities continue to be underemployed by comparison to those who do not have a disability," said Kimberly Moore, TCC vice president for workforce development. "This workshop series seeks to help students attain the skills they need to improve their prospects of getting and keeping a job."

Up to 50 current TCC students with disabilities can participate. Those who fulfill all program requirements will receive a free Amazon Kindle Fire device and a one-year membership to Access Tallahassee.

In order to receive the rewards, students are required to attend one Backpack 2 Briefcase orientation session, at least two of the four scheduled career workshops and one capstone ceremony. Additionally, the students must either attend a Career Center Resumania event or prepare a professional resume, and must schedule an appointment to meet with the Career Center placement coordinator.

Over 850 students with disabilities attend TCC. The College has the highest percentage of students with disabilities who graduate among all Florida College System schools, at 9 percent compared to the statewide average of 4.3 percent.

Current students and alumni with disabilities interested in assistance with employment and other services should contact the Accessibility and Resource Center, located in the Student Union.

For information, contact Zarien Colson at (850) 201-9608 or [colsonz@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:colsonz@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC Recognized As One of Top 5 Enterprising Colleges in the Nation

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College has been recognized as one of the nation's top five entrepreneurial colleges for its impact on Tallahassee's economic health according to the National Association for Community College Entrepreneurship (NACCE).

The college announced in a press release that they and four other schools were chosen out of 300 schools to be honored at the 2016 NACCE Awards in Sacramento, California earlier in the month.

The awards focus on showcasing the role of community and technical colleges in building up economic vitality through in their communities.

They school said that the recognition could not have been achieved without the work of the College's Workforce Development Standing Committee in developing the TCC Spark entrepreneurial initiative.

The committee is led by Kimberly Moore, TCC vice president for workforce development, and is comprised of faculty, staff members and administrators.

## Porchfest a tuneful triumph

ERIN HILL

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

Musicians took over downtown Quincy's historic district on Saturday for the fifth annual Porchfest & Sketch Crawl. Music lovers wandered the tree-lined streets while enjoying a wide variety of music, from opera to big band.

**Gospel, soft rock, classical, country, blues and jazz were also featured on the shaded porches, side walks and courtyards, including free concerts by Tallahassee Community College's symphony, and the Thursday Night Music Club on the Art Deco Leaf Theatre stage.**

Colorful, eye-catching Porchfest banners hung at every stop. The event was free to the public and people brought their own chairs, or sat on the grass to relax and listen to the tunes. Others hopped on a Segway and toured the streets.

Cynthia Thigpen said she was in her garden planting her mustard green seeds when she heard the soulful sounds of Kendrick Evans & ReNew'd drifting down the alley.

"I love it," Thigpen said. "It got me up out my chair, and I ran down there."

Thigpen stood at the edge of the road clapping along as the group sang gospel songs.

Loraine Clark painted away as they sang.

"I'm just trying to capture their spirit on paper," Clark said.

Clark said she thought the performance was spectacular. She also said she is a member of Plein Air in Tallahassee. According to Plein Air Florida's website, Plein Air Florida believes that an authentic plein air painting is done outside, on location in front of the subject.

Several Sketch Crawl artists could be seen sitting on the ground at each musical destination, sketching the scenery as well.

It was a fantastic afternoon filled with love, friendship, melodies and amazing weather.

Ken and Sharon Brock, of Tallahassee danced together as Decade Kings sang classic soft rock on the Methodist Parsonage's porch. The couple said they've been coming to Porchfest since it began.

"We enjoy the variety of music," Sharon Brock said. "We just wish more people would come."

## TCC provided foundation for Pankowski's studies

COURTENEY JONES

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

Tallahassee native Joe Pankowski Jr. has received degrees from five different colleges and universities in four different states. He chose each school carefully — including Tallahassee Community College.

"One of the major influencing factors for my going to TCC was the education I knew I could receive there," Pankowski said. "What I was really looking for was a smaller school where I could get individualized attention, which was exactly what TCC provided."

Another influence was the advice of Pankowski's supervisor at Barnaby's Family Inn, where he worked while in high school. The supervisor had attended TCC and recommended Pankowski do so as well, primarily because of TCC's lower tuition and the quality of the instructors.

Pankowski was convinced, and he enrolled at TCC after graduating from Florida High, though he had not yet decided what he would study.

"When I entered TCC, I really didn't have much of a clue as to what I wanted to do — I don't think many 18-year-olds do," he said.

Pankowski particularly enjoyed studying journalism and working on TCC's student-run paper, The Talon. He continued the pursuit after earning his associate degree in 1984 and transferring to Florida State University by writing for the then-independent Florida Flambeau.

By the time he'd graduated from FSU with a bachelor's degree in political science, Pankowski had decided to go to law school. He spent a year after graduation working as the managing editor of the Flambeau while studying for the law school entrance exam. The studying paid off.

In 1987, Pankowski started at the University of Virginia School of Law.

His younger sister, Anne Marie, later followed an almost identical path, going from TCC to the University of Florida, and then to UVA to study law.

Now Pankowski is a wills, trusts and probates attorney at a firm in Stamford, Conn. Since graduating from UVA, Pankowski has earned a master of laws degree in taxation from the New York University School of Law and a master's degree in religion from Yale University, in order to better inform both his practice and relationships with clients.

Pankowski appreciates that it all began at TCC.

"TCC provided me with a great transition from high school," he said. "I could really focus on my studies and keep my grades up. The building block established by TCC was critical to my ultimate success."

## Program gives start-up businesses the chance to operate in rent-free space

WTLX

According to the National Small Business Administration, only 66 percent of small businesses survive their first 2 years of operation.

That's why Tuesday night in the capital city, Tallahassee Community College and the Downtown Improvement Authority are joining forces, to help make the dreams of local entrepreneurs a little more feasible.

What's really unique about the program is that it provides start up businesses with a rent free location to operate out of right in the center of Tallahassee.

After three months of participating in business workshops in the Tallahassee downtown marketplace, the Achieving the Dream Business Program judges the participant' business plans and then selects a winner.

That winner then gets the chance to operate out of the TCC Capitol Center for 6 months free of charge.

The winner of this round of participants was Jasmine Jackson, and her business, Distress by Jazz.

Project organizers said that they're excited for these entrepreneurs to get the chance to house their business in such a great location.

"It's a great downtown, the fact that its continuing to grow and it certainly will with some of the other activities we have this year," said Kimberly Moore, TCC vice president for workforce development. "The fact that you have the capital, you have the city, Florida State right down the road, lots of great traffic moving around. To know that you'll have a business located there and the fact that we were able to spark that interest if you will...it's exciting."

Six startup business participated in this group and now organizers are preparing for the next set of business hopefuls.

The deadline to submit an application for the next Achieving the Dream Business Incubator is Nov. 15th. If you'd like to apply, contact TCC's Division of Workforce Development [here](#).

## Allegations fly in case of fired TCC professor

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College blamed a fired professor for mishandling the accreditation application of a key health care program, costing the school \$8,000 and preventing graduates from certification in their field.

"Donna Francis-Clark failed to live up to her expectations," said Robert Sniffen, the attorney representing TCC in the firings. Because of Francis-Clark's shortcomings, the college is forced to spend "several thousand dollars" to restart the application process.

"Students remain in a holding pattern," Sniffen said. Between 2012 to 2016, Francis-Clark failed to carry out the steps toward gaining accreditation for the program.

"By her own admission, Francis-Clark did not move the accreditation process," he said.

Testimony in the case of Francis-Clark, an associate professor in health information technology who is appealing her termination, took up most of Monday. Nikki Clark, a retired First District Court of Appeal judge selected by TCC to hear evidence in the case, will reconvene the hearing on Nov. 15.

At that time, Clark hopes to conclude testimony involving Francis-Clark. She then will hear the case of Anne Winston, who also was terminated by TCC President Jim Murdaugh. After the hearings are completed, Clark will issue an opinion to the board of trustees, which has the final say.

At issue is the college's failure to complete the process to get its Health Information Technology program accredited. The program comes under the college's Technology and Professional Program, which was recently changed to Business, Industry and Technology.

Francis-Clark was the program chair while Winston was a professor in the program.

Kate Stewart was dean of the program until July 1 when she returned to teaching following a reorganization of academic programs. The new dean is Steve Dunnivant.

The accreditation lapse came to the attention of Provost Feleccia Moore-Davis in July, when two students who had completed their courses said they were denied access to the certification test.

Sidney Matthew, who represents the professors, said TCC officials are blaming his clients because the administration failed to do its job in monitoring the evaluation process.

"Donna Francis-Clark is an outstanding teacher, no question," Matthew said. She's never had a bad evaluation or faced discipline.

Francis-Clark was placed in charge of the evaluation application because the commission required it to be headed by a program chair who had been in the position for at least a year, he said.

"Nobody else at TCC had that experience at that time," Matthew said. "They were treating this program as a stepchild."

Matthew contends Francis-Clark went to TCC's previous provost Barbara Sloan and later to Moore-Davis to seek additional staff help but was essentially told to "do the best you can."

TCC took no action until it heard complaints from students who learned they were ineligible to sit for their certifications, Matthew said. Around the same time, administrators discovered the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education had sent a letter to the school.

"It became a hot potato for TCC in July," he said. "This is what the college has used to fire a professor who has worked her tail off. Feleccia Moore-Davis never went to CAHIIM to try and get the facts sorted out. Within a week, she made up her mind to fire professor Clark."

Sniffen said Moore-Davis was unaware of the stalled process until she heard complaints from students. Matthew later countered that a note was included in the major's catalogue description, saying TCC was seeking accreditation for the program.

## Allegations fly in case of fired TCC professor...

*continued*

During testimony, Moore-Davis said Francis-Clark had told her she was “overwhelmed” and had stopped working on the accreditation.

The provost said she kept Murdaugh abreast of the developments and he became “very troubled” by the what happened. She said reopening the accreditation process cost TCC about \$8,000, including a \$500 application fee.

When pressed by Matthew, Moore-Davis said the college was at first unaware of a letter from the accreditation commission saying TCC had failed to meet a June 2015 deadline. She said Stewart, the former dean, also told her she didn’t know about the letter.

Moore-Davis said she and Stewart couldn’t find confirmation Francis-Clark had been holding committee meetings to work on the application.

Francis-Clark later testified she continued uploading information on the evaluation to the agency since she was unaware that TCC’s application had been halted. She said she held committee meetings in her office.

Matthew said TCC learned it could reopen its accreditation process and it won’t cost the “several thousands of dollars” as the college’s attorney claimed.

He also insisted TCC administrators used Francis-Clark’s resume and other accreditation-related materials to resubmit their application, even though they had terminated her. He called their actions, “misleading, dishonest and unethical.”

During her testimony, Calandra Stringer, associate vice president for academic affairs, testified she went through an extensively detailed chart prepared by Sniffen’s team outlining Francis-Clark’s teaching load, presumably in response to earlier claims that Francis-Clark had indicated she was “overwhelmed” by the process and needed help.

Matthew grilled Stringer on the college’s use of Francis-Clark’s resume and information on the resubmitted application. Stringer replied the college was trying to expedite the re-application process. She also said the college was trying to help students graduate who had been caught up in the misstep.

Late Monday, Sniffen brought in Edwina Porter, who was one of the health information management students affected by the accreditation screwup.

She testified she was under the impression accreditation was not an issue.

She said she was told, “don’t worry, by the time you graduate, the program will be accredited.”

Comments challenged: Attorney Sidney Matthew, who is representing two fired TCC faculty members Monday urged retired Judge Nikki Clark to address what he said was TCC violation of its own policy regarding public comments.

Board policy prohibits anyone involved in the case to make statements or to provide material to the media on cases pending before a hearing officer.

But Matthew was incensed by comments attributed to Al Moran, TCC’s vice president for communications and Provost Feleccia Moore-Davis in Sept. 1 Tallahassee Democrat article, “Two TCC professors under fire for program’s accreditation lapse”.

“The quotes left the impression that TCC had accreditation for the health management program and the college has never obtained accreditation for the program,” he argued before Clark. “Do they intend to continue to make statements in violation of policy? I am requesting this be made of record and reported to the board of trustees.

“No lawyer would advise his client to make these comments,” he said. “The college flagrantly and intentionally violated their own policy and created an impression that my client is responsible for the loss of accreditation.”

Moran declined to confirm the names of the faculty or provide any documents related to the disciplinary action, on the advice of the college’s legal counsel, for the story.

Robert Sniffen, the attorney representing TCC, dismissed Matthew’s charge, saying Matthew had a month to bring up the issue.

“This has never been pointed out,” Sniffen said.

## Boating accident investigation training

LANETRA BENNETT

WCTV

Fifty-five officers from across the country are participating in an advanced training session on boating accidents this week.

Michael Haney, with the Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, said, "It's a very unique experience to be able to get some hands-on training that have been involved in collisions. It really builds confidence, builds qualifications for the investigators to take back out in the field."

Instructors put the boats in real collisions on the water, then placed them in the parking lot of the Florida Public Safety Institute. The officers have to determine the angles of impact and what caused the crash.

"This is the evidence that doesn't lie. This is that physical evidence that we have to closely scrutinize." Said, Gary Haupt, the lead instructor.

During boating accident investigations, officers make sure to inspect the boats thoroughly, assessing the boat from the top to the bottom.

"We treat these as criminal investigations just like vehicle crashes." Haupt said.

However, they don't have road skid marks or stationary factors to depend on, officers say. Officer Haney said, "The boats end up being moved, sometimes debris or even victims end up getting thrown into the water. It's definitely a challenging environment."

The course being held this week is part of NASBLA's Boat Operations and Training program. The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators is funded by the U.S. Coast Guard.

## TCC unites scholarship recipients with donors

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation's event took place Oct. 20

KATIE WILLIAMS  
CHRONICLE

TCC student Kimberly Smith would take naps in the parking lot before school, getting as much shut-eye as she could after working the night shift. Her work schedule left a huge impact on her grades, but a TCC scholarship changed everything.

"The scholarship enabled me to not work so much and not work as often," said Smith, who received the Gene and Anne Michael Walton scholarship. "I can't express into words how much that has done for me. I just pray that I'm able one day to be this for someone else."

Smith and several other students who received life-changing scholarships were able to meet with their respective donors at the Tallahassee Community College Foundation's Scholarship Recognition Ceremony on October 20. Close to 400 people attended the evening event, which was designed to celebrate the donors who choose to invest in TCC and the students who are overcoming odds to ensure a better future for themselves.

"If money is a barrier for you going on to postsecondary education, we want to eliminate that barrier," said Karen Moore, TCC trustee and donor of the Richard and Karen Moore Scholarship, Dream Big Scholarship and Moore Veterans Leadership Academy. "We want you to get your degree, we want you to figure out what your future is, but in the meantime, we want you to know that in this community, there is a group of people that want to help see your success."

The event included a donor recognition and scholarship certificate presentation, presented by members of the TCC Foundation Board, and a dessert reception.

## WEI oyster questions

### Meeting minutes spark concerns about program's activities

NICOLE ZEMA  
WAKULLA NEWS

Some eyebrows were raised at the Oct. 17 commission meeting, when a citizen questioned certain activities of Wakulla Environmental Institute's Oyster Aquaculture program.

Oyster aquaculture is a program of study offered through Tallahassee Community College's Wakulla Environmental Institute. Students are trained in aquaculture and given the equipment they need to start their oyster businesses.

The citizen's interest was piqued when she reviewed September meeting notes posted on TCC's online board meeting portal.

"I was looking at the Board of Trustees minutes for TCC, there's a lot of information in there that relates directly to Wakulla County," said Wakulla resident Dana Peck at the meeting. She read a list of what WEI Executive Director Bob Ballard asked an attorney to research on behalf of the program and its student co-op, called Panacea Oyster Co-Op Corporation.

"Can TCC 'force' students in the oyster program to sell oysters to one source only?" Peck read that Ballard asked in the meeting minutes. The minutes also noted that Ballard asked if it would be a conflict of interest for TCC to enter into a lease agreement with Panacea Oyster Co-op, and TCC receive 2 percent of gross revenues from a company, among other notes.

Commissioner Howard Kessler said he was not familiar with the documents Peck presented, but was shocked by the way the questions sounded. "Especially the question asking if the oystermen would have to deal with one oyster house," Kessler said. "That smacks totally of what the United States is not about."

Commissioner Jerry Moore, who is a student-member of the Panacea Oyster Co-Op Corporation, defended Ballard.

"I think that person has an axe to grind with Mr. Ballard," Moore said of Dana Peck. "Everything she said, Mr. Ballard was clearing with an attorney, so he would not make a mistake in things he was doing. He's a big asset to our community and I stand here to defend him, and what he's done."

"Obviously this is public record," Commissioner Randy Merritt said. "I don't think Ballard is hiding anything. I would encourage anyone with questions to call and ask him."

Because Ballard was not present at that commission meeting, The News later reached out to him for explanation.

First, Ballard wanted to clarify that the meeting minutes were not from a TCC Board of Trustees meeting, but from a small "brainstorming" session with three other staff members and the attorney. The meeting notes are meant to keep Trustees in the loop of what the attorney is working on, and lack context, Ballard said.

"None of this was ever talked about at the Board of Trustees," Ballard said.

So, can TCC force students in the oyster program to sell oysters to one source only? Yes, but that only applies to some students from the first and second oyster aquaculture classes who still owe TCC money for the equipment. Revenues from the first harvests are intended to reimburse WEI for the \$14,500 equipment loan; or students can pay the full amount up-front to participate in the class.

"We're only talking about those people who owe money," Ballard said. "We need our money back! I don't know if I used the word 'forced,' but I might have. I asked (the attorney), what are my options for the students who owe TCC money? The first group totaled \$75,000 and I want that paid off. The second group was more than that. Once that's paid off, the student keeps the lease, the spat, the line, the cages – everything is yours, but you have to pay us off first."

Once TCC is paid in full, "They can sell to China, I don't care, that's not my business," Ballard said. "I just want TCC's money back that we put in. The TCC Foundation gave them this loan."

Ballard explained the policy: Any student can sell to any approved oyster house that has a license to do so in Wakulla County.

## WEI oyster questions....

*continued*

However, there are only two official oyster houses locally. By law, farmers cannot sell oysters directly to the public. They have to go through a licensed oyster house.

One of two local oyster houses belongs to the student co-op and just opened in Spring Creek; and the other oyster house was opened by Tim Jordan and Walt Dickson's co-op, called Panacea Area Oyster Company LLC.

"We hand them a list every week of what is owed us," Ballard said. "I just got three checks Monday for about \$4,000 from Tim and Walt, and it's working great! As soon as each loan is paid off, they won't send us a check anymore. If there is another oyster house that opens up in Wakulla County... I will talk to them and work the same arrangement with Tim and Walt and the co-op."

Panacea Oyster Co-Op Corporation, the student co-op, is made up of 11 individuals – five student farmers, five investors, and Bob Ballard is a co-op board member.

"About 16 to 18 months ago... a lot of students came to me and said we need to have a co-op," Ballard said. "By a show of hands, I asked how many want me to help form a co-op. It was unanimous. I'd never done a co-op before. I talked to CareerSource Capital Region, and they hooked me up with some people and we started a co-op. Eventually all co-op board members will be paid except for me. I am a board member, but never to be paid. My one job is to look out after the student farmer."

Ballard said he has learned in this type of industry, without a co-op, farmers or ranchers are always the least paid, but the hardest working.

"They take advantage of wild oyster farmer," Ballard said. "You get what they give you, and you have no recourse. This is essentially a union for farmers. There is strength in numbers."

Ballard said the contract guarantees farmers 55 cents an oyster for two years, and hopefully the price will go up from there.

"You can sell them for 45 cents to just about anybody," Ballard said. "Now the (student) co-op is selling the oysters at 85 cents. The one who's out there wet and cold, who has to worry about everything from hurricanes, to disease, to poaching – they should get the lion's share of the money. Period."

Ballard said the student-farmers chose the investors, but declined to give names.

The meeting minutes note that Ballard asked about a conflict of interest if TCC enters into an agreement with the student co-op, where Ballard holds the board position. He explained more about that agreement.

The students' co-op just bought a marina at Spring Creek, with access to the 57 leases in Oyster Bay. The marina's building will eventually serve as the co-op's oyster house. A spat (oyster larvae) nursery is part of the plan at the property.

"What if the co-op that owns this were to donate this piece of property, unencumbered, to TCC?" Ballard asked. "TCC accepted that." This makes the co-op eligible for a \$600,000 matching grant through TCC.

"And TCC would lease it back to (the co-op) for \$1 a month or a year," Ballard said.

Growing spat is a way to expand the business and increase revenues, because spat can be difficult to procure and cultivate.

In the notes, Ballard asked if 2 percent of the co-op's income can be donated to TCC in perpetuity.

"I said, 'What's in it for TCC, guys?'" Ballard recalled. "We have taken all the risk. We didn't know if it was going to work. What's in it for TCC? I said I want 2 percent of your gross. They said yes. And we'll take that money and plow it right back into the program. I need a free place to park the 32-foot WEI boat used to train students. You have to provide insurance, and liability coverage for TCC and WEI. If someone sues for a bad oyster, we're covered and not liable."

## WEI oyster questions....

*continued*

Ballard said TCC's president would decide how to spend the 2 percent of the co-op's gross revenue, "And I hope it would be on WEI projects. It's not a gift. I'm looking out for TCC."

Dana Peck was critical of WEI's lack of academic offerings. While oyster aquaculture is currently synonymous with WEI, the campus' main mission is to prepare students for careers in a range of fields including forestry management, hotel and leisure, parks and recreation, environmental science, and recycling.

"It was never the intention, and we're not allowed, to do basic math or English," Ballard said. "(Courses) have to be tied to the environment. We'll get there. We've only been open since Feb. 15."

Ballard said his original focus as WEI's executive director was to offer land management programs, "But I got sidetracked by oysters," he said. "Sometimes you've got to take what God gives you. Oysters hit and we ran with it. It started doing so much good for environment and economy at the same time – you don't get opportunity like that often."

Ballard said the environmental drone program seemed promising.

"We offered a class this summer, but only six people signed up and I need at least 10 in the class," he said. "I would ask the community – we need your help. If there's something we can do, let us know."

The oyster aquaculture class waiting list is gone.

"CareerSource gave a \$120,000 grant for eight students affected by industry downturn, which is half the students," Ballard said. "The other half paid their own way. So there are 16 total students who are getting equipment."

Ballard said seven more students paid \$250 just to sit-in and learn the information.

Seventeen jobs are already available at the leases, Ballard said, and workers are needed to fill them.

"Our biggest problem is not growing oysters, or producing them, but finding employees," he said.

Ballard made some economic development predictions: "Wakulla will be the oyster capital of Florida within two and a half years, and we're looking to be the oyster capital of the country in five to 10 years. In five years or less, the oyster farming industry will be largest employer in the county."

## The Cynthia Graham Hurd Memorial Scholarship

DONALD HAWKINS  
AGAINST-THE-GRAIN.COM

Cynthia Graham Hurd was a librarian for over 31 years in Charleston public and academic libraries. On June 17, 2015, she lost her life in the tragic shooting at the Emanuel AME Church. She is remembered as “a tireless servant of the community who spent her life helping residents, making sure they had every opportunity for an education and personal growth”.

Leah Hinds, Assistant Conference Director, introduced the award and said,

“Cynthia Hurd graduated from Clark Atlanta University and received her MLS from the University of South Carolina. At the time of her death she served as manager of the St. Andrews Regional Library branch of the Charleston County Public Library. The branch was renamed and dedicated in her honor on June 21, 2016, the date that would have been her 56th birthday.

In addition to working full-time with Charleston County, Hurd worked part time at the College of Charleston’s Addlestone Library since the 1990s—its longest-serving part-time librarian. She worked there with Katina Strauch and many others who attend the conference annually.

There has been an outpouring of love and support from the community and all across the country, and a call to put grief into action to remember Cynthia and the rest of the Emmanuel Nine. We were thrilled when Springer Nature approached the Charleston Conference with the idea to start a scholarship in her name. The goal of the award was to support a person who has demonstrated an active interest in the profession, but has not had an opportunity to attend the conference due lack of institutional funding. The award is closely tied to projects or initiatives designed to enhance diversity in the selection of resources, or provide services to support the research and learning needs of all segments of the academic community. We enthusiastically thank Springer for their support and for bringing the idea to life.”

**This year’s award recipient is Sabrina Dyck, Faculty Librarian at Tallahassee Community College, Tallahassee, FL. Cynthia’s brother, Melvin, presented the award.**

## Moore Veteran Leadership Academy allows for students to explore new paths at TCC

WTLX

Tallahassee Community College recently started the "Moore Veterans Leadership Academy," with five student veterans being chosen to participate in the program

The leadership academy allowed them to receive scholarships as well as learn about other avenues of study and leadership opportunities through various workshops.

Past workshops let the veterans explore what goes into working in the education and communication fields. At Friday's workshop, the veterans got the chance to experience the world of performing arts and theater production. This included touring all the behind-the-scenes stage locations, including the catwalk and the sound booth.

"What this program does is it helps to actually expose the veterans to a variety of different areas and explore, and figure out what you enjoy, or what you're passionate about and then begin designing a path to pursue that," said Rob Collins, a USMC student veteran in the Moore Veterans Leadership Program.

TCC hopes to continue this program with this years veterans becoming next years mentors.

## Dr. Robert Dunkle inducted into FCSAA Hall of Fame

KATHY FOSTER  
FOSTER FOLLY NEWS

Chipola College Assistant Brain Bowl Coach Dr. Robert Dunkle was recently inducted into the Florida College System Activities Association (FCSAA) Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Orlando. He joins Chipola Head Brain Bowl Coach, Stan Young, who was inducted into the hall of fame last year.

Dr. Dunkle taught English and humanities at Chipola College from 1988 until his retirement in 2011. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate and a Rhodes Scholar finalist, Dr. Dunkle earned his B.A. in English from the University of Florida, his M.A. in English from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and his Ph.D. in humanities from Florida State University. Dr. Dunkle's doctoral dissertation title was "The Long Goodbye: Raymond Chandler's Novel and Robert Altman's Film."

Dr. Dunkle began serving as a volunteer assistant coach to his former A+ student Chipola Associate Professor of Mathematics Stan Young in 2006. Dr. Dunkle continues to serve in that capacity. Dr. Dunkle has helped professor Young lead Chipola brain bowl teams to a record seven consecutive FCSAA state brain bowl championships from 2008-2014, and three consecutive National Academic Quiz Tournaments (NAQT) national championships from 2011-2013.

Dr. Dunkle's peers at Chipola nominated him for the Kirkland Excellence in Teaching Award in 2006 and for the Chipola Faculty/Administrator/Other Professional Award in 2011. Florida's brain bowl coaches selected him FCSAA Brain Bowl Coach of the Year in 2012.

In August 2006, Dr. Dunkle and his wife Nancy, who served as a Chipola faculty librarian from 1978 to 2006, used the \$1,000 Dr. Dunkle received when he won the Kirkland Award and matched it with another \$1,000 to establish the Roy Maxwell and Margaret Goff Deloney Memorial College Brain Bowl Endowment. The endowment honors Nancy's parents who were both life-long educators.

**This year's FCSAA Hall of Fame class also includes: Dr. Rick Gaspar, Productions Division, Hillsborough Community College; Rick Hitt, Athletics Division, South Florida State College; Alexa Kyros, Forensics Division (student), Tallahassee Community College; Gaby Pacheco, Student Government Division (advisor), Seminole State College; and John Bill Todd, Forensics Division (coach), Miami Dade College.**

## Six things to know about Tallahassee Startup Weekend

TAMARYN WATERS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

It's Startup Weekend Tallahassee, the time of year when creative minds make entrepreneurial magic. This year is different. Domi Station and Tallahassee Community College have teamed up for an inaugural partnership to showcase talent from students and residents alike.

Activities begin Friday evening with a check-in, kick off and idea-pitching sessions. Oh yes, this is a competition. Activities take place at TCC and Domi Station on Railroad Avenue. Networking is highly encouraged since many of Tallahassee's startup experts and business leaders plan to attend.

Here are six things you should know about Startup Weekend:

3 — The number of years Startup Weekend has been in Tallahassee: first year Domi and TCC teamed up.

7 — The number of judges who'll assess ideas.

7 — The number of coaches and mentors who'll guide participants.

37 — The number of startup participants. They will form teams and brainstorm ideas that may land them in the entrepreneurial winners' circle.

54 — The number of hours the event lasts. The idea is to attract Tallahassee techies, designers, developers and others. Teams are formed based on the top ideas, which are all voted on by the participants. Teams have 48 hours to come up with an idea. Judges will make their decision on Sunday.

500 — The amount of money the grand prize winner will receive. It will be used to launch the winning idea into a legitimate startup.

## TCC a tradition for banker, family

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

As a senior vice president and city executive for FMB Bank, Don May is active in the community's business as well as charitable circles. May oversees FMB's four Tallahassee locations and its employees and specializes in small business lending and commercial real estate loans.

He is past chair of the Tallahassee YMCA, has delivered meals for Good News Outreach, and with his family has raised more than \$68,000 for the American Diabetes Association.

May attended Tallahassee Community College after graduating from Godby High School in 1985. He earned an Associate in Arts degree in 1987 and participated in the Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

Inspired by his father, banker Ben May, Don May went on to earn a degree in finance from Florida State University and an MBA from Troy University.

"I didn't fully appreciate the value of TCC and the positive impact until I moved into a larger college," May said, May, citing small class sizes, quality professors, and class schedules that accommodate working students.

After working in bank positions in Miami and Jacksonville, May returned to his Tallahassee roots in 1991. He has been employed by FMB for more than 21 years.

"It was a natural progression for me to want to attend TCC because my siblings went there before me," said May, who was the youngest of four children.

His siblings Phil May, Karen May White and Ted May all went on to earn degrees at FSU as well. May's wife, Kristie, a kindergarten teacher, has taken continuing education classes at TCC.

The Mays' oldest daughter, Haley, a 2014 Chiles High School graduate, is upholding the TCC family tradition. "When my wife and I were making plans to take Haley on college tours, she stopped us before our first trip," said May. "She could have gone almost anywhere, but she suggested she go to TCC."

Haley graduated TCC this summer is now enrolled at Flagler College-Tallahassee, located on the TCC campus. She is pursuing a degree in elementary education and exceptional student education. The Mays' younger daughter, Morgan, a senior at Chiles, also plans to attend TCC.

"I'm thankful for the opportunity that TCC offered to me and that it is available to my children," said May. "As a Tallahassee business leader, it's great to see how TCC is working with local government in collaboration with FSU to raise the bar for our community."

## Fire Academy hosts open house on Saturday

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Fire Academy invites the public to attend its Family Fun Day and Open House on Saturday, November 12. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Fire Academy, which is located near the intersection of West Pensacola Street and Appleyard Drive.

The Fire Academy is part of Tallahassee Community College's Florida Public Safety Institute. Students in TCC's firefighter and emergency medical technician training programs will present simulated emergency responses and rescues. They will put out a car fire and rappel down the 100-foot practice wall. Adults and children are invited to try on the gear and check out the fire trucks and paramedic vehicles. Free food will also be available.

Instructors from both the firefighter and EMT programs will be on hand to answer questions about their programs for individuals who might be interested in training to become a public safety professional.

For information, contact Michael Randolph at (850) 558-4366 or [randolm@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:randolm@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC's monthly talent showcase gets new name

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College's monthly talent showcase, formerly called Open Mic, has been rebranded and is now called Talent@TCC.

TCC students and alumni will step on stage on Wednesday in the TCC Student Union Ballroom from 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

The line up will include a variety of performances, such as music, dance and poetry. Participants also have the opportunity to display their art, photography or short videos.

There was also a contest for a new design to represent Talent@TCC, and the winning design will be unveiled at the Wednesday event.

For information, contact Reggie Grant at [TalentAtTCC@gmail.com](mailto:TalentAtTCC@gmail.com) or 850-201-8055.

## Veterans selected for TCC leadership academy

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Five Tallahassee Community College student veterans were chosen for Tallahassee Community College's Moore Veterans Leadership Academy.

Robert Collins III, William Gilmore IV, Taquanna Lamar, Caylan Roberts and Matthew Spinney are participating in the two-semester program, which provides outstanding student veterans an opportunity to participate in leadership activities related to various career areas and participate in civic engagement activities. They receive scholarships to help cover educational expenses. Each student who fulfills the Academy's requirements will receive an additional monetary award at a special graduation ceremony in Spring 2017.

For information, contact Jennifer Barr at (850) 201-6124 or barrj@tcc.fl.edu.

## TCC students receive scholarships to FSU

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Six Tallahassee Community College students were selected to receive merit scholarships to Florida State University through the TCC2FSU Golden Guarantee Program. Alex Banegas of Miami, AnnaMarie Fountain of Tallahassee, Taylor Nye of Valrico, Silvio Valdes of Hialeah, Ana Najera-Santana of Quincy and Monika Jimenez of Coral Springs will receive scholarships in the amount of \$2400 per year, renewable for two years. The TCC2FSU Program provides guaranteed admission to FSU for qualified students who earn an Associate in Arts degree at TCC.

## Two local philanthropists to be honored

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The Big Bend Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals is proud to announce the recipients of the 2016 National Philanthropy Day Awards. These awards were created to recognize the best in philanthropy in our community and are part of an international day, Nov. 15, celebrating philanthropy. The Big Bend Chapter of AFP will honor the following awardees at the National Philanthropy Day Gala Luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 10, at the DoubleTree Hotel.

Susie Busch-Transou and family will be honored as the 2016 Philanthropists of the Year. This prestigious award is given annually to a member of the community who has shown exceptional commitment to personal philanthropy by direct gifts and leadership to area non-profits. Busch-Transou, her family, and businesses have demonstrated that commitment in many ways, large and small.

Paloma Rambana will be honored with the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award. At 10 years old, Paloma has shown all of us that it is never too early to be an advocate and make a difference in the lives of others.

**Karen Moore, President of Moore Consulting Group, will be honored as the Communications Partner of the Year. This award is given annually to a member of the media or marketing community who has shown an overwhelming support of non-profits. Moore has demonstrated personal commitment through her leadership of the Tallahassee Community College Campaign and endowing a scholarship, as well as supporting many non-profits in their efforts to engage and connect with the community.**

Madison Social will be recognized with the Community Partner of the Year Award for its broad-reaching support of our community and many non-profits through celebrity bartending nights, contributions to local events, and by opening their doors to foster and enhance philanthropy.

Finally, Mickey S. Moore will be awarded the Outstanding Fundraising Professional of the Year award for his leadership and mentoring in the fundraising and non-profit community. Mr. Moore demonstrated fundraising expertise, professionalism and dedication in his former role as the President at Southern Scholarship Foundation.

His efforts continue in his current position as President and Chief Advancement Officer of the Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare Foundation.

These awards, as well as individual Heart of Gold Awards, will be presented as part of National Philanthropy Day at a luncheon on Thursday, Nov. 10 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, 101 S Adams St., in downtown Tallahassee. To reserve a table, purchase individual tickets, or recognize a loyal donor or volunteer with a Heart of Gold sponsorship, please visit [www.bigbendafp.org](http://www.bigbendafp.org) for submission forms and details.

The Big Bend Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals enhances philanthropy and volunteerism, fosters development and growth of fundraising professionals and promotes high ethical standards in the fundraising community.

A list of past National Philanthropy Day® honorees and more information is available at the Chapter's website, [www.bigbendafp.org](http://www.bigbendafp.org).

## TCC gets ready to celebrate International Education Week

WTVL

Tallahassee Community College has announced the lineup of events for its 11th annual celebration of International Education Week, from Nov. 14 to Nov. 18.

TCC announced that it will kick off the week with the International Parade of Nations on Monday at 2:30 p.m. During the parade, students will carry their home country's flag and introduce themselves in their native language.

Monday is expected to end with comments from several speakers and a showing of the film *Hotel Rwanda* at 3:30 p.m. in the History and Social Sciences conference room.

Tuesday, event goes will get to interact with international students at information tables set up in the Student Union from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Participants will test their global knowledge with multicultural activities and games.

The day is expected to come to a close with the Passport to the World event, where attendees who need to get or renew a passport can meet with a U.S. passport representative on campus, and a TCC women's basketball game at 5:30 p.m. in TCC's Bill Hebrock Eagledome.

On Wednesday, the Bringing the World to TCC event returns to the Student Union Ballroom from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Guests may "visit" 15 of the more than 80 countries represented in TCC's student population to learn about the culture, sampling native foods, and talking to international students about their home countries and how they came to be at TCC.

The day ends with a showing of "Bigger, Stronger, Faster," a documentary on the American preoccupation with winning at all costs, at 3 p.m. in the H.S.S. conference room.

On Thursday at 1:30 p.m., a panel discussion will take place on the presidential election results and how they will affect the world.

That same day, students will have the chance to Go Global during a speech contest at 2:30 p.m. Thursday's events will all take place in the Student Union ballroom.

Friday's schedule includes the International Photo Contest Showcase in the Student Union ballroom at 11:30 a.m., which will display winning photography from TCC alumni, current students and employees.

The week will close out with the World Potluck in the Student Union ballroom at 12:30 p.m., when everyone is invited to bring a dish to share.

## Career Source hosts job fair for military personnel

SYMONE DAVIS

WCTV

One agency is honoring veterans by helping them get back into the workforce.

This morning, Career Source Capital Region hosted 'Paychecks for Patriots' at Tallahassee Community College.

The job fair invited veterans, active military and their spouses to meet with employers.

Organizers say they hope this fair helps make the transition back into society a little easier for military personnel.

"They just need a little help knowing which employers are hiring and so forth. In addition, they need help translating their military experience on a resume to attract civilian employers. And that's where we kind of bridge the gap for them," said organizer and veteran Derrick Sykes.

The first hour of the fair was open to military personnel only and then the general public was able to speak to employers.

## Veteran Luke Murphy continues to serve

CARMY GREENWOOD

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (50 FOR 50)

When Luke Murphy delivered the keynote address at Tallahassee Community College's commencement in May 2015, it was not the first time he had spoken to a large audience. But it was a special experience just the same.

Murphy was a TCC alumnus returning to his alma mater as an honored guest. Although he had addressed Fortune 500 companies and spoken at a governor's inauguration, Murphy gained a new perspective that night in the Civic Center.

"I went out and saw all those students hooting and hollering, and I knew that many of them had struggled with all kinds of adversity," said Murphy. "They were cheering like they were getting a Ph.D. from Harvard. I just tried to encourage them to keep going forward and don't stop."

Murphy has had his own run-in with adversity. In 2006, while a member of the 187th Infantry Regiment during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Murphy was wounded when an explosively formed penetrator device detonation cut off his right leg and severely damaged his left. He was awarded a Purple Heart medal for his service and sacrifice.

In 2009, after undergoing numerous surgeries and extensive rehabilitation, Murphy was ready to enroll in college. He knew he wanted to attend his father's alma mater, Florida State University, but he decided to start at TCC.

Having been out of the classroom for 10 years, Murphy thought he would benefit from the smaller classes and supportive environment. He is convinced it was the right decision.

"If I hadn't started at TCC, I wouldn't have finished at FSU," he said. "They gave me the right tools."

Murphy found a welcoming environment at TCC. Professors appreciated the perspective he brought to the classroom, with different life experiences than many younger students. The Disability Support Services office helped make his time at TCC barrier-free.

Even the TCC Police helped. "On rainy days or days when there was no disabled parking available, they would come with the golf cart and drive me to class. That's something that might not happen at a big university," said Murphy.

Murphy earned his associate degree in 2011 and then went on to FSU, where he majored in political science. After graduation, he began working in real estate and now owns Southern Land Realty with business partner Rob Langford.

Murphy has written (with Julie Bettinger) a book about his experiences titled *Blasted by Adversity: The Making of a Wounded Warrior*, which won the gold medal in the memoir category from the Florida Authors & Publishers Association in 2015.

He also travels extensively to raise money for a nationwide philanthropic organization, Homes for Our Troops.

"They're taking care of the most severely wounded," Murphy said. "They build them a home with countless accessibility features and then give them the key. They built me a home, and they changed my life."

## TCC student publications win statewide honors

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Talon student newspaper received awards in eight categories at the Florida College System Publications Association's annual awards, including third place for General Excellence. Angelique Fullwood earned a first-place award for Editorial, a second-place award for News Story and a third-place award for Design. Kylie Pope shared the third-place award for Design and also won a first-place award for Picture Story. Akilah Clark won first-place for Illustration. Sydney Selman earned a second-place award for General Column. Alec Palombo won a third-place award for Sports Writing.

The Eyrie student art and literary magazine won three first-place awards for Fiction, Photography, and Contents Page. Leah Wirgau's "The Constant Friend" won for fiction, the work of students Jairo Cortes-Marin, Torrey Kiele, and Sally Waddill won for photography, and the design talents of Kira Poole won for the Contents Page. The Eyrie also brought home second-place awards for Artworks (credited to Annelise Jordan, Erin Titus, and Ashlee Biggins), and Poem (credited to Colt Landen). Poole's cover placed third, and the magazine took home second place in General Excellence.

Reggie Grant, assistant professor of journalism, is adviser for The Talon. Nicolette Costantino, associate professor of English, advises the Eyrie staff.

## High school students invited to College Goal event on financial aid

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College will host the local College Goal event on Tuesday, November 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. It will take place at TCC's Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education at 1528 Surgeons Drive in Tallahassee.

At College Goal, high school students and their families can receive free assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA. Colleges determine students' need-based financial aid awards using information provided through the FAFSA. Financial aid advisers will also be available to help students complete the Florida Financial Aid Application for Bright Futures scholarships and other state aid.

There will also be a drawing for a \$200 TCC scholarship.

Reservations are not required. For information, call (850) 201-8135 or email [greenet@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:greenet@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC to host showcase for high school students

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College will host its Extracurricular and Academic Enrichment Showcase on Saturday, November 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Union Ballroom.

The showcase is designed to introduce local high school students to TCC's dual enrollment offerings. However, all high school students interested in enrolling in TCC are welcome to attend.

Representatives of many TCC many student activities will be on hand to provide information, including The Talon student newspaper, the Eyrie art and literary magazine, Talent@TCC performance series, speech and debate team, Brain Bowl team, Theatre TCC, and STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) program.

No reservation is needed. For information, call (850) 201-88045 or email [nicolasm@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:nicolasm@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC kicks off International Education Week with Parade of Nations

WTLX

The U.S. Department of State and the Department of Education are promoting international education this week across the country and here in the Capital City, Tallahassee Community College is taking part with their own campus celebration.

TCC's 11th annual International Education Week spotlights the international student population on campus.

The week long celebration kicked off today with a parade of nations.

Students gathered in a circle in the center of campus displaying their country's flag and introducing themselves in their native language.

Organizers said the event is not just about celebrating international students, but also about celebrating the diversity on campus that allows U.S. students to interact with other cultures.

The week long event continues Tuesday with an event in the Student Union from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. where students can test their global knowledge with multicultural activities and games.

The day continues with the Passport to the World event, where attendees who need to acquire or renew a passport can meet with a U.S. passport representative on campus.

On Wednesday, the Bringing the World to TCC event returns to the Student Union Ballroom from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Guests may "visit" 15 of the more than 80 countries represented in TCC's student population to learn about the culture, sampling native foods, and talking to international students about their home countries and how they came to be at TCC.

The day ends with a showing of "Bigger, Stronger, Faster," a documentary on the American preoccupation with winning at all costs, at 3 p.m. in the H.S.S. conference room.

On Thursday at 1:30 p.m., a panel discussion will take place on the presidential election results and how they will affect the world.

That same day, students will have the chance to Go Global during a speech contest at 2:30 p.m. Thursday's events will all take place in the Student Union ballroom.

Friday's schedule includes the International Photo Contest Showcase in the Student Union ballroom at 11:30 a.m., which will display winning photography from TCC alumni, current students and employees.

The week will close out with the World Potluck in the Student Union ballroom at 12:30 p.m., when everyone is invited to bring a dish to share.

## TCC prepares for next session of business incubator program

WTVX

After five budding entrepreneurs completed Tallahassee Community College's "business incubator" program, organizers have announced that the deadline to apply for the next session is Tuesday.

TCC said that five budding entrepreneurs completed the Achieving the Dream Business Incubator Program and were honored at a capstone presentation on Oct. 26.

Jasmine Anderson with her business "Distressed by Jas" won top honors and was awarded six months of rent-free space at the TCC Capitol Center, admission into the Leon County Research and Development Authority's Entrepreneurial Excellence Program, \$500 in CPA services from Carroll & Company CPAs, and a one-year membership in the Florida Retail Federation.

The school said that the review committee was so impressed with the startups and presentations that they awarded scholarships into the Entrepreneurial Excellence Program to three others who completed the program.

The deadline for application for the next ATD Business Incubator Program is Nov. 15. Up to six applicants may be chosen to participate.

Interested candidates should contact Jynelle Robinson at (850) 201-9644 or [sneedj@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:sneedj@tcc.fl.edu).

## Bill Law resigning as president of St. Petersburg College

PETER SCHORSCH  
SAINTPETERSBLOG.COM

William D. Law is stepping down as president of St. Petersburg College.

Law made the announcement today at the end of the monthly meeting of the college's trustees.

In a letter presented to board chair Lauralee Westine, Law said that his "six and one-half years here has been fulfilling and rewarding" and assured the board he would do everything in his power "to facilitate the process of finding the next president."

Law's resignation is effective June 30, 2017.

In the coming weeks, the board of trustees will outline the process to ensure a smooth transition to new leadership, according to a preliminary statement released by the school.

Smooth transition or not, Law's abrupt resignation caught most at the college off guard.

"We were very, very, very surprised this morning," said one trustee.

Board members were quick to praise Law's tenure.

"President Law has been instrumental in creating an environment at the college where student success is paramount," said Westine. "While his leadership and friendship will be missed by our college community, our focus on student achievement will not waiver. We will be ever grateful for Dr. Law's transformative dedication to St. Petersburg College."

Another board member, Deveron Gibbons, called Law "a strong, capable, knowledgeable leader."

"We are a better college because you came here. I remember your interview, here on this campus and you promised us that you were going to get certain things done ...and you've done that," Gibbons said. "I appreciate you and all that you've done."

**Law became St. Petersburg College's sixth president on June 7, 2010. He was tasked to fill the shoes of Carl Kuttler, a larger-than-life figure on and off campus. Before his appointment, Law had been the well-regarded president of Tallahassee Community College.**

Law has become well known as an advocate of economic and workforce development, student success, and community outreach. He currently serves on multiple local, state, and national boards.

A release from the school touted Law's effort to increase student success that has allowed him to work at state and national levels and has provided opportunities such as consulting with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Aspen Institute, providing expert testimony to the U.S. House of Representatives, and serving as a member of the Florida Task Force on Community College Baccalaureate Education.

Law was a vocal champion of the creation of the Douglas L. Jamerson Jr. Midtown Center, which opened in August 2015 to high acclaim for its community focus and commitment to providing educational equity.

Under Law's leadership and guidance, SPC was selected as one of only 30 community colleges in the nation to participate in the prestigious Pathways Project led by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC), and the development of the College Experience. The College Experience was awarded the Chancellor's Best Practices Award in 2014 for its effectiveness in improving student success rates, particularly among First-Time-in-College (FTIC) students and especially FTIC minority males.

## TCC engineering students build a better toy car

CARMY GREENWOOD

CHRONICLE

Most college students probably think they are too old to play with toy cars, but a group of students at Tallahassee Community College recently got a chance to play with a special kind of toy car as part of a class assignment.

The students are members of a course called Introduction to Engineering Technology, which is taught by Bret Hammond. They are enrolled in one of TCC's career degree programs, either Engineering Technology, Building Construction or Drafting and Design.

The students worked in teams to design and build the miniature race cars powered by a mouse trap. The teams were required to use all the parts that came in the mousetrap racer kit, although they did not have to use the parts in the way intended, and they could use additional parts of their own choosing. The kit included DVDs for wheels and other needed hardware. Students had two weeks to build their cars and be ready to participate in a time trial in the TCC gym.

One of the purposes of the activity was to give students experience working in teams — scheduling meetings, dividing up the work, and solving both technical and interpersonal problems. Teamwork skills will be vital for these students to be successful in their future industries, which all rely on teamwork to a great extent.

"Being able to come together in a collaborative vein to solve a specific problem is extremely important," said Hammond.

The students also got some early design experience through the activity, which reinforced classroom lessons.

"We looked at weight, distance and speed. We talked about how to tune up the cars to get the best performance, such as making sure the wheels were straight and aligned."

Hammond noted that students used various design modifications to try to get their car to the finish line in the fastest time. The winning team, which included students Jillian Whitsellm, Kasus Clark and Kim Parsons, drilled holes in their car in order to decrease its weight. They also put cut-up pieces of balloon on the edges of the wheels to get extra traction.

Hammond gave members of the winning team gift cards for Olive Garden Restaurant.

Hammond said he plans to give the students another team engineering project later in the semester, when they will have more skills and experience to bring to the activity.

For information about engineering technology and related programs at TCC, contact Bret Hammond at [HAMMONDB@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:HAMMONDB@tcc.fl.edu) or (850) 201-8334.

## Oysters on ice?

### Commissioners approve oyster activities at Spring Creek facility

NICOLE ZEMA  
WAKULLA NEWS

A receiving facility is needed to quickly chill market-bound farm-raised oysters boated in from the bays.

But before ice and oysters meet, county officials must approve this use of Panacea Oyster Co-Op's property at Spring Creek on a conditional basis.

Commissioners unanimously approved the adoption of an amendment to the Land Development Code, pertaining to the C-3 Zoning District. C-3 zoning is defined as "heavy commercial" zoning, subject to conditional use for certain manufacturing and production. This conditional use includes food and kindred products manufacturing, processing and packaging.

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the Code amendment in October.

Planning and Zoning Director Somer Strickland explained that a conditional use permit is procured through a special application process, approved on a conditional basis by the Planning Commission.

"I want to reiterate it's a conditional use," said Commissioner Randy Merritt. "It's not changing an existing zoning."

Spring Creek citizens expressed positive expectations for the growing oyster aquaculture industry, but also concerns about what a receiving facility might do to property values and quality of life.

"My wife and I live on Apalachee Bay on Spring Creek, not far from the new home of Panacea Oyster Co-Op," citizen James Hennessey said. "We are strong supporters of the oyster industry, and firmly believe if done right, it can be a significant benefit to our area in terms of the economy, job creation, and our local environment. Our hope, in fact, is that increasing focus on water quality can be inextricably linked to a thriving oyster industry."

However, Hennessey said the public notice for the conditional use was vague, and neighbors were not notified of the possible changes at the property.

"What will this mean to the Spring Creek community, property values, and the environment?" he asked. "Will it prove to be a clean, sustainable industry that brings jobs, high quality food, and economic growth? Or will it mean large trucks on sand roads, piles of smelly oyster shells – think Eastpoint – and effluent discharging into a highly prized fishing and recreation area? I believe citizens of Spring Creek deserve answers to these questions before moving forward with such a change to the land use."

Spring Creek resident Jude Burke said she and her husband have been watching the activity from their porch, directly across the canal from the co-op facility.

"We're fine with the oyster farming, and I think it's great," she said. "My concerns were the smelliness, and extra people who might be coming in."

Burke was told there would be no shucking at the facility.

"I will be interested in watching this go forward, to ensure some of the assurances I've been given verbally are true," she said. "I'm an oyster lover – so go oysters!"

**Bob Ballard, executive director of Tallahassee Community College's Wakulla Environmental Institute, said there will not be piles of oyster shells, and there will be no shucking at the facility.**

**"It's designed to receive oysters from Oyster Bay, put immediately into a cooler on site, and then as soon as those oysters get to 55 degrees, they are taken to a processing warehouse, which we have under contract at the moment and intend to buy in the very near future," Ballard said. "This is just a receiving facility."**

**He added that the property will be used for cultivating oyster spat (babies) in the future.**

**"When you find out this is one of the finest places on the planet to grow oysters, and at the same time help the economy, what a wonderful gift that has been given us," Ballard said.**

Commissioner Howard Kessler said seafood smells at a marina are to be expected.

## Oysters on ice?....

*continued*

"But when you're allowing this C-3 to go throughout our county with this use in it – that should raise an awareness," Kessler said. "I understand safeguards are built in at two levels. If the conditional use proves to be a nuisance, it can be revoked."

**Other citizens also weighed in on the discussion. Citizen Dana Peck expressed criticism of TCC Wakulla Center and WEI's lack of academic or GED programs.**

John Trice was critical of specific members of the co-op who are prominent in the business community, instead of including struggling maritime workers.

"It looks like the county commissioners are going to look out for these boys that have been in the real estate business," Trice said.

Oyster farmer Bob Danzy said all the questions indicate that certain groups are anti-growth.

"There is nothing better, nothing cleaner than these oysters," he said.

But Commissioner Merritt wanted to focus on the item at hand.

"We're not here to argue about the pluses or minuses of oyster harvesting," he said. "We're here to determine whether or not food or kindred products... should be an allowable use in C-3 anywhere in Wakulla County."

Commissioners approved the use 5-0.



## Two TCC Gateways in Wakulla County

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### WAKULLA ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE

170 Preservation Way • (850) 558-3500

**Explore the Black Backwaters of Tate's Hell Swamp Canoe / Kayak Trip**

GGL0103 | November 5 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. | \$22

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

GGL0104 | November 12 | 8 a.m. – noon | \$22



### TCC WAKULLA CENTER

2932 Crawfordville Highway • (850) 922-6290

**HR for Non-HR Managers**

BUS0026 | November 7, 10 and 14 | 6:30 – 9 p.m. | \$89

**Retail Management and Operations**

BUS0251 | Mondays, Nov. 14 - Dec. 12 | 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. | \$795

**TCC Retail Pathways Certification Information Session**

November 22 | 11 a.m. | Free and open to the public

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**TCC WAKULLA CENTER**  
WORKFORCE & TRAINING



**WAKULLA ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE**  
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# Pursue a career in **Environmental Science** at TCC

## **Spring 2017 classes**

### **Chemistry and Biology of Natural Waters**

EVR 1080C - assessing water quality and wetland ecosystems

### **Environmental Regulation and Compliance**

EVR 1858 - environmental laws and environmental justice

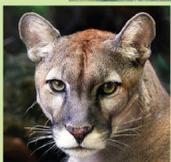
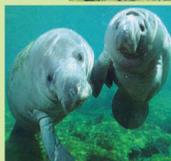
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