

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*

---



---

**November 15 , 2012- January 15, 2013**

November 15, 2012- January 15, 2013

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*



- WCTV..... 4, 29
- PRWEB.....5
- The Wakulla News.....5, 10
- Tallahassee Democrat.....5, 8, 9, 11, 17, 20,  
21, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 33, 34, 38, 39
- The FAMUAN.....6, 35
- Capital Outlook.....7
- WFTV .....12
- Community College Times .....13, 31
- Florida Trend.....14, 15, 16
- EDC Business Outlook.....18, 19, 32
- WFSU .....24
- Norwalkplus.com .....28
- WTXL .....30
- FSView .....35

November 2012-January 2013

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*



## Electronic Media

- December 29, 2012, WCTV – feature on men’s basketball player Trevor McDade was picked up by CBS affiliates in San Antonio, Flint (Mich.), Huntsville (Ala.) and Wichita (Kan.)
- January 8, WCTV – Mary Brogan Museum hangs on by one vote
- January 15, WCTV/WTXL– MLK Brunch at TCC

## TCC Celebrates International Education Week

Lanetra Bennett

Eighty countries were represented at [Tallahassee Community College](#) Thursday.

It was "Bringing the World to TCC," an event celebrating International Education Week.

Students and guests were able to visit booths for the more than 80 countries represented in TCC's student population.

It allowed them to learn about different cultures and sample native foods.

Sylvie Michel is a TCC student from Haiti. She says she enjoyed teaching others about her country, and learning about others. She says, "I think it's very amazing to have the opportunity for students to just have a taste of the culture and not have to travel miles away just to see it. So, I think it's a brilliant opportunity for everyone here."

The week is closed out by the Asian Fair tomorrow (Friday, 11-16) from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at TCC's intramural fields.

FSU and Valdosta State are also celebrating International Education Week

## TCC Prepares new Environmental Science Technology Programs for Spring 2013

In the spring of 2013, **Tallahassee Community College** is expanding its offerings to include a Water Quality Technician Certificate and an Environmental Science Technology A.S. Degree. The new programs represent the first phase of **TCC's** Wakulla Environmental Institute, with the goal of preparing the next generation of environmental professionals.

**TCC's** new certificate and degree programs will qualify students to work in the technical areas of water quality, natural resource management and environmental monitoring with the local, state and national levels of government and private enterprises such as environmental consulting firms. Environmental science technology careers offer opportunities to make a difference in the community and to work in a variety of settings from laboratories to the field.

**TCC's** environmental science technology programs are ideal for working students that require flexible class schedules, with courses offered online and in the classroom.

"These programs combine **TCC's** academics with the incredible biodiversity and natural resources of Wakulla County," said Pamela MacRae, assistant professor of biology at **TCC**. "It's a unique opportunity to have such an environment to use as a classroom."

**TCC** plans to implement additional Wakulla Environmental Institute programs in the coming semesters, including hospitality and tourism management, aquaculture management, parks and leisure technology, and agribusiness management.

For more information on the Wakulla Environment Institute, visit <http://tccwakullaenvironmentalinstitute.com> or call (850) 201-8499.

### The Wakulla News- November 20, 2012

## New programs at TCC

In the spring of 2013, **Tallahassee Community College** is expanding its offerings to include a Water Quality Technician Certificate and an Environmental Science Technology A.S. Degree.

The new programs represent the first phase of **TCC's** Wakulla Environmental Institute, with the goal of preparing the next generation of environmental professionals.

### Tallahassee Democrat- November 21, 2012

## Readers appreciating life on Thanksgiving

Jim Murdaugh, President, **Tallahassee Community College**

I have so much to be thankful for. At Thanksgiving, it really becomes personal. I always try to take the time to be most thankful for the things I too often take for granted every day — that's my wonderful wife, my great son, a terrific dad, the people that are closest to me. They're the people who are there for me every day. It's a special time of year for me.

## Tallahassee community leaders, students band together for Thanksgiving giveaway

### Local families to receive turkey, sides and dose of the holidays

Karl Etters

A number of Tallahassee families will get a surprise from Florida A&M, [Tallahassee Community College](#) and Tallahassee officials that they can be thankful for.

Ray Bellamy, a FAMU academic adviser, organized a meeting with FAMU and [TCC](#) administrators, Tallahassee Police Chief Dennis Jones, Sheriff Larry Campbell and several students in an effort to give back to families in the community that may not be as fortunate.

"I'm really proud of the community itself," Bellamy said. "We had some people here today that are difference makers in our communities, and if they can come by and give a hand, then we can move forward. I'm excited about that."

Bellamy took suggestions from community organizations when it came to choosing which families would receive assistance.

More than 40 turkeys, with matching sides, were loaded into boxes labeled with the address of the recipients by the group, who worked together in an assembly-line fashion.

FAMU's Interim President Larry Robinson said the chance to give back in a time when all families are struggling was something that is important to him.

"It just shows the type of connection that we have at this university to the community," Robinson said. "It makes me proud because I know it's going to brighten some people's day."

Robinson did not waste time after the boxes were packed. He planned to deliver a package to a family in person.

"I look forward to meeting with that family," he said.

Jim Murdaugh, [TCC](#) president, joined Robinson. Murdaugh said he was proud to offer assistance to FAMU and the families that the group was helping.

"We're all family," Murdaugh said. "Most often, we help people with their education and realize their dreams, but during this holiday season, we help in a more basic way. We make sure people have food."

JauQuinn Timmons, 22, was one of the students who offered to help load and deliver boxes. He said Bellamy helped him get into school, so that, coupled with his desire to give back, makes helping much more rewarding.

"A lot of people don't really have things," Timmons said. "When people need help, that's what we're here for – to lean on. I hope everyone has a happy holidays."

Bringing together community leaders was important to many in attendance. Robinson said it was a sign of the togetherness that people share during the holidays.

"We're all in this together," Robinson said. "We all have a role – a very positive role – to play in the community. This is another indication of the strong bond and the commonality that we have in serving citizens of this community in our own special ways."

With some exposure, Bellamy hopes to include Florida State University next year.

## Town hall meeting discusses improvements for juveniles

TUSKEE BARNES

The Florida Department of Juvenile Justice hosted the first town hall meeting on Nov. 15 at Ghazvini Center of Healthcare Education to encourage the public to discuss ideas with helping transform Florida's juvenile youth.

"The Roadmap to System Excellence" program strategies are to utilize effective prevention services, identify and implement alternatives to secure detention, keep the community involved, increase the transitional services and strengthen procurement, contract monitoring and quality improvement processes.

Dr. Jim Murdaugh, president of [Tallahassee Community College](#) introduced the focus of the program and its speaker of the night, Secretary Wansley Walters and informed the audience who signed up would have the chance to speak after her overview.

Though Sec. Walters had a dilemma with voice not as strong due to not feeling well, she made great effort to discuss the importance of the program.

"We want to showcase our system for excellence," she said. "We have a juvenile system that leaves children in a worse place than they started."

She explains in the juvenile system, there are three types of children, children who make mistakes, children who are troubled, and children who are serious defenders.

Walters expresses the community has to come together to form the capability to help the children reframe from going deeper into the system.

Unfortunately, The DJJ's budget has decreased by 25 percent in the last year, but according to Walters, they are planning to continue with the program and make this change.

First speaker, Larry Thompson, mentioned that he has worked with DJJ before and expressed how appreciative he was of the program and how he's looking forward to helping.

"We are right here with you," he expressed. "There are juveniles that are on the edge but we will take them in and help them out."

Another speaker discussed her concern with the programs that troubled children are sent to and how they are treated while in custody.

A representative of Pace Center for Girls mentioned that there should be more gender specifics for young women.

"Though the percentage of women in trouble is smaller than that of men, they should have more prevention centers," she said.

Walter addressed her want to have more community interventions, the need to expand and the chance to work with probation services.

Rick Davidson a Juvenile Justice Center worker spoke on behalf of the rural communities and the reassurance smaller counties would not be left out of the program's plan.

Saving millions of dollars by deducting the number of arrest made towards youths who stumble unto trouble was mentioned by Walter.

"It takes a lot of money to make an arrest," she explained.

Majority of the speakers were of community centers and programs geared towards helping troubled youth.

Their main focuses were to inform DJJ about their concerns but to also become a part of the program despite the reduction in funding.

At the conclusion the meeting, the audience seemed more educated about the project, but the community's questions weren't met as of yet. In due time as the program begins, Walter promises to deliver the mentioned goals.

## 'Smarter justice' goal of new Project on Accountable Justice

### Organization aims to reform criminal justice system

Doug Blackburn

Allison DeFoor is pushing for a sea change in the way decisions are made involving the criminal-justice system.

DeFoor, a former Monroe County sheriff turned lobbyist (and Wakulla County representative on [Tallahassee Community College's](#) trustee board) wants data and evidence to be at the heart of the justice system, much like they have become with education in Florida.

"The idea of anybody being held accountable in criminal justice for outcome measures is pretty alien," DeFoor said.

He is hoping to change that with the Project on Accountable Justice (PAJ), a new bi-partisan, independent organization headquartered at Florida State University. PAJ includes among its member institutions Baylor University, the Florida Public Safety Institute at [TCC](#) and St. Petersburg College. DeFoor is chairman of the organization's board.

He said PAJ aims to be politically neutral — "We're going to be Switzerland" — as it seeks to gather data that have not been studied in relation to the justice system.

"The goal is pretty simple: Less crime for less money," he said. "In Florida we're putting as much general revenue into corrections as we are the state university system."

Byron Johnson, director of the Program on Prosocial Behavior at Baylor, is one of PAJ's board members. He earned a doctorate in criminology at FSU eight years ago and is the author of the book "More God, Less Crime."

He believes the justice system is long overdue for an evidence-based overhaul. Johnson also is sure that the data that PAJ will be focusing on are likely to be unpopular.

"I suspect our findings will make conservatives and liberals very uncomfortable, and everybody in between. That's good. If you can do that, I think you're beginning to have an impact," Johnson said.

DeFoor, Johnson and other board members believe proper reform can't happen without reams of research, which must be studied and analyzed.

"PAJ is dedicated to curbing our current trajectory of expensive, outdated practices of mass incarceration and refocusing our justice system on ending victimization, turning lives around, rebuilding families and saving taxpayer dollars — all in an effort to enhance public safety," said Deborah Brodsky, PAJ's director. "We have a tremendous opportunity to turn poor outcomes and difficult policies into stronger public interest models that can be used in Florida, and throughout the country."

Jim Murdaugh, [TCC's](#) president and a PAJ board member, is eager to see PAJ lead the way to dramatic reductions in recidivism. Head of the Florida Public Safety Institute before he was promoted to [TCC](#) president in October 2010, Murdaugh helped the Midway facility become the site for a yet unopened re-entry prison.

At the request of Gov. Rick Scott's staff, [TCC](#) has submitted a proposal to provide literacy and job-skill training at the re-entry prison, with the goal of making inmates more likely to find employment once they are released.

"This is the part of (PAJ) that interests me the most," Murdaugh said. "If the college can contribute to that, I think it's a wonderful role for the college to play."



## Education leader raps Scott's '\$10K-tuition'

Doug Blackburn

Gov. Rick Scott's challenge to Florida's state colleges to cut costs in order to offer \$10,000 four-year degrees has drawn sharp criticism from a state education leader.

Roberto Martinez, vice chairman of the state Board of Education, characterized Scott's plan as "a very bad idea" in a letter to the governor.

Martinez said that without a guarantee from the state that it would provide the institutions with funding to replace whatever costs they would be forced to cut, Florida's community and state colleges would suffer.

Scott issued the \$10,000 challenge Monday during a news conference at the Clearwater campus of St. Petersburg College. It was intended for all 28 state and community colleges in Florida's College System, and not the state's 11 public universities. The average cost of a degree at Florida's state colleges is \$13,000, compared to roughly \$24,000 at Florida's public universities.

The challenge doesn't apply to [Tallahassee Community College](#) because it does not offer four-year degrees.

However, [TCC](#) would be required to make substantial cuts to meet Scott's challenge based on its current tuition and fees. One year's tuition and fees for an in-state student at [TCC](#), which did not increase tuition for the 2012-2013 academic year, is \$2,964 — or almost \$12,000 for four years.

The governor's office on Thursday said more than half of the state's 28 community colleges "support our interest in exploring the higher education affordability challenge." Chipola and Northwest Florida State in the Panhandle said on Thursday that they have accepted the governor's challenge.

Scott has been pressing simultaneously for a more affordable and more accountable higher education system in Florida since he took office in January 2011. He has also stressed that too many students are finishing college with considerable debt.

Florida already ranks among the least expensive states in the nation for a four-year degree.

While Martinez was critical of Scott's proposal, Gary Chartrand, chairman of the state board, voiced support in a statement issued by the education department.

"One of the challenges that face students in today's economy as they seek a degree is the cost," Chartrand said. "Gov. Scott's \$10,000 degree challenge is an innovative approach that will help keep a college degree within reach of a broader section of students."

[TCC](#) President Jim Murdaugh said Scott's proposal is not intended for all degrees at every institution in the Florida College System. He believes the governor would like to see select programs, notably those tied to workforce demands, priced at \$10,000.

"Is it realistic? Yes. That's the short answer," Murdaugh said. "But in order to get there, there may have to be some changes in law to permit tuition flexibility."

## Kimberly Moore joins TCC as new VP of Workforce Development

TALLAHASSEE – Tallahassee Community College has selected Kimberly Moore as the College's new vice president of workforce development.

Moore is one of the Tallahassee area's most well-known and respected workforce development leaders, and brings over a decade of expertise to TCC.

Moore comes to TCC from Workforce Plus—where she joined in 2001 and has served as CEO since 2005. Workforce Plus provides comprehensive employment and workforce services and has helped connect thousands of jobseekers with employers.

Before Workforce Plus, Moore served as a senior workforce development specialist at TCC.

Moore's experience has also been shaped by serving on the boards of numerous community organizations, including the Leon County Economic Development Council, the United Way of the Big Bend, the Wakulla Chamber of Commerce and the FAMU Small Business Advisory Council. Moore's community-oriented service has earned her many awards and recognitions, including the Bethel Empowerment Foundation's "Phenomenal Women Making a Difference" award in 2010, the National Hook-up's Gadsden County Woman of the Year in 2012 and Wakulla Chamber Member of the Year finalist recognition in 2012.

"Kimberly's name is synonymous with workforce development and community leadership in Tallahassee," said Dr. Jim Murdaugh, president of TCC. "TCC has had a great relationship with Kimberly and WORKFORCE plus over the years, and we are thrilled that she is bringing her experience and leadership skills to the College."

As vice president of workforce development at TCC, Moore will provide leadership for the College's career-focused training, professional development, adult education and business consulting programs. TCC's Center for Workforce Development offers training across a wide variety of fields, including manufacturing, construction and trades, information technology, green energy and ecotourism, with an emphasis on matching students' skills with employers' needs.

For more information on the Center for Workforce Development's offerings, visit [www.tcc.fl.edu/workforce](http://www.tcc.fl.edu/workforce).

Kimberly Moore's first day at TCC will be March 1, 2013.

## Student Housing Solutions TCC gift nears \$400,000

ROB CHANEY

Continuing a partnership that began in 2007, Student Housing Solutions, for a sixth consecutive year, has made a significant contribution to **Tallahassee Community College**. According to Robin Johnston, Executive Director of the **TCC** Foundation, Student Housing Solutions' latest gift now brings their total support to almost \$400,000 which has enabled international students at **TCC** to secure housing accommodations for the 2012-13 academic year at one of Student Housing Solutions' properties free of charge.

"This is a huge benefit for students who are already saddled with the cost of out-of-state tuition," added Johnston. "In addition, international students face some particular challenges when it comes to housing, as it is much more difficult for them to provide evidence of financial stability or good previous tenancy relationships."

According to Betty Jensen, International Student Adviser, the scholarship sets **TCC** apart from other community colleges in Florida. "International students, unlike their American counterparts, cannot work off-campus while in school," said Jensen. "Because of that, the housing scholarship is significant."

The latest gift from Student Housing Solutions was presented to the **TCC** Foundation during a ceremony on Friday, December 7 in **TCC's** Student Union Ballroom.

Student Housing Solutions is the largest locally owned and operated housing provider specializing in Tallahassee's student housing market. Eagles Point Townhomes, located directly adjacent to **TCC's** main campus, is one of the 20 communities within the Student Housing Solutions family.

A personal experience of Eagles Point Townhomes Owner, Steven Leoni was the catalyst to the housing scholarship program. At one time, he and his family hosted an au pair who attended **TCC** as an international student. The hoops, red tape and road blocks that the Leoni family personally experienced quickly revealed the challenges first-time international students face when enrolling for college in the United States.

"Securing housing is the single most difficult thing an international student has to do," said Leoni. "It must happen quickly, many times prior to arriving in the country. Most students do not have the resources needed to obtain housing, such as a guarantor with a social security card and credit history in the United States."

Student Housing Solutions' Owner, Jennifer Pearce concurred. "As an organization, we identified an area that we could positively impact in our community, as well as the students at **Tallahassee Community College**," Pearce said. "Making a difference in the life of a student was the goal of this scholarship program."

Since the program began, Student Housing Solutions has provided housing for more than 50 international students at **TCC**.

International students interested in receiving more information or applying for the Student Housing Solutions Scholarship should contact Betty Jensen at (850) 201-8457 or [jensenb@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:jensenb@tcc.fl.edu).

## 9 Investigates mobile home improvements

ORLANDO, Fla. — This week, bright sunshine shone down on Bob Tellier's now uncovered driveway in the tornado-ravaged Terra Mar Mobile Home Park. Before the storm, his entire driveway was covered by a carport.

As bad as the lingering damage looks, Tellier believes he may have been in real danger if his home had not had tie-downs. Tie-downs are a series of heavy-duty straps that connect the structure right into the foundation.

"Whether it would've moved and picked up without them, I don't know," said Tellier.

"Do you feel like they played a role?" asked 9 Investigates' George Spencer.

"Definitely," he replied.

The state of Florida agrees. But one week after that tornado, 9 Investigates discovered the state program to upgrade mobile home safety has only helped a tiny fraction of eligible homeowners.

Since 2000, Florida has set aside \$2.8 million in taxpayer money each year to add tie-downs on the most vulnerable mobile homes -- those built between 1974 and 1994, the year rules were tightened.

Here's the issue: 9 Investigates has learned that about 637,000 mobile homes in Florida need tie-down upgrades. But so far, after \$33 million in state spending, only about 24,000 properties have been retrofitted. That's just 4 percent.

Experts said the \$1,300 per home upgrade cost is more than many mobile home owners can afford on their own. So the state's \$2.8 million dries up quickly.

Tellier's 1987 double-wide would require even more of the tie-downs, if his home were to be retrofitted to match current standards. He would not object.

"Mine held it, but I would definitely say -- more is better," said Tellier.

The tie-down cost mitigation program is administered by [Tallahassee Community College](#) at a cost of \$150,000 annually. The college then pays outside contractors to do the installations.

## Gov. Wants Low-Cost Degrees at Florida Colleges

**BILL KACZOR**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Gov. Rick Scott has challenged Florida's community and state colleges to develop four-year degrees that would cost no more than \$10,000, which also would continue their move into an area that was once the sole domain of the state's public universities.

The mean level of tuition and fees was \$3,328 during the 2011-12 academic year, according the Department of Education's 2012 annual report for the Florida College System. At that rate, a four-year degree would cost about \$13,300, or \$3,300 above Scott's goal. Tuition and fees for four years at a Florida university averages about \$25,000, or nearly twice as much as for the 28 community colleges.

Scott made his proposal before an audience of elected officials as well as college and community leaders at the Clearwater campus of St. Petersburg College. It's the first school to take up his challenge.

The Republican governor, who campaigned in 2010 on a promise of job creation, said the degrees should be "in fields that will provide the graduates with the best opportunity for employment."

The idea drew applause from state education officials, but the Florida Democratic Party criticized his proposal, noting Scott supported a \$300 million spending cut for state universities this year and reductions in merit-based Bright Futures scholarships.

"We've heard these empty words from Rick Scott before and Florida's middle class families are looking for real leadership — not failed gimmicks masquerading as sound bites," the Democrats said in a statement.

The colleges in recent years have begun offering a limited number of four-year degrees, but the bulk of their students remain in two-year programs. Most of Florida's bachelor's degrees still are produced by the state's 12 public universities. Their graduates, though, include thousands of former community and state college students who transfer for their final two years.

Scott's challenge came just three weeks after his Blue Ribbon Task Force on State Higher Education Reform recommended that Florida's 12 universities be allowed to increase tuition rates if they meet certain quality criteria. That's something Scott has opposed in the past although Florida's tuition rates are among the lowest in the nation.

"As I travel the state, families tell me that they care about three things — getting a good job, a quality education, and enjoying a low cost of living," Scott said in a statement.

St. Petersburg College President Bill Law said the school, which was the first Florida community college to offer four-year degrees, "is once again excited about the opportunity to be part of a statewide college pilot program that lowers the cost of a college education."

Six other colleges also identified programs they could offer for \$10,000 or less including information technology, business and organization management, education and engineering technology. The other schools are Broward College, College of Central Florida, Daytona State College, Santa Fe College, Seminole State College and Valencia College.

Scott's proposal also won the immediate support of several members of the State Board of Education, which oversees the state and community colleges.

Board Chairman Gary Chartrand said it would help reduce the need for student loans or lower the amount people have to borrow. Having to take out large loans may be discouraging people from going to college "even though statistics show the value of a degree in lifetime earning potential," he said.

State University System Chancellor Frank Brogan agreed that ensuring affordability was important.

"We're proud that tuition at our State Universities remains among the lowest in the nation, while our high-quality educational offerings ensure a good return on that investment," he said. Brogan added that he was interested in getting more details on Scott's plan and said additional state funding to accomplish it would be a "worthy investment."

## State College Presidents

Florida has more top-performing colleges than any other state.

Mark R. Howard

Florida's higher education system has been buffeted in recent years by challenges ranging from increasing demands for accountability to funding cutbacks to expanded roles for two-year schools in offering four-year degrees.

Amid the fiscal and political turmoil, community colleges — the frontline institutions vital in creating a skilled workforce for the state — have distinguished themselves. The non-profit Aspen Institute, a respected educational and policy studies institute, placed 14 of Florida's 28 community colleges among the top 10% in the nation. Two — Broward College in Fort Lauderdale and Santa Fe College in Gainesville — are among the top 10 in the country. The institute will pick the top two from among that list.

Florida has the most community colleges among the top 10% of any state. Among other large states, Texas has eight, New York, six, and California, three.

In 2011, Aspen recognized Valencia College as the nation's best community college, based on three criteria: Performance, including retention and graduation rates; improvement in specified areas over five years; and equity, the ability to extend good outcomes to minority and disadvantaged students.

Valencia was recognized for continuous improvement and having among the highest degree-award rates in the country. Its graduates get jobs at a higher rate than almost any other school in the nation, even in an Orlando economy with unemployment rates higher than the national average.

Miami Dade College, was among four other finalists that shared the \$1-million, biennial prize with Valencia.

"We are more accessible, and many of our programs are configured to prepare students for the workplace in the least amount of time necessary to master the subject matter and complete any internship and/or certification requirements. There is another compelling reason: Affordability." — David Armstrong, president, Broward College, Fort Lauderdale

"It's possible to improve student achievement. We know how to do this." — Sandy Shugart, president, Valencia College, Orlando

"Santa Fe has had a history of success at moving our students from college to jobs. The culture of expecting all students to improve has been there a long time." — Jackson Sasser, president, Santa Fe College, Gainesville

"Access to college must be available to all citizens." — Eduardo Padrón, president, Miami Dade College, Miami, TREND's 2010 Floridian of the Year

Overachievers

Florida state colleges among the Aspen Institute's top 10% (in alphabetical order):

Brevard Community College, Cocoa

Broward College, Fort Lauderdale

Chipola College, Marianna

College of Central Florida, Ocala

Indian River State College, Fort Pierce

Lake-Sumter Community College, Leesburg

Miami Dade College, Miami

Northwest Florida State College, Niceville

Beach State College, Lake Worth

Pasco-Hernando Community College, New Port Richey

Santa Fe College, Gainesville

South Florida Community College, Avon Park

St. Johns River State College, Palatka

**Tallahassee Community College**, Tallahassee

Valencia College, Orlando \*

\*Because it won the prize in 2011, Valencia is not eligible to apply for the biennial award this year.

FIND OUT WHY MOFFITT IS YOUR BEST CHANCE FOR BEATING CANCER [LEARN MORE](#) 

Get FREE Business News Updates  
Enter your email address

TWO FREE TRIAL ISSUES 

Login | Register  


# Florida Trend

The Issues, People and Ideas that Define Florida Business

- HOME
- NEWS
- SMALL BUSINESS
- POLITICS & LAW
- DINING & TRAVEL
- PEOPLE
- MEDIA KIT

December 31, 2012


SEARCH:








Jim Murdaugh, President, Tallahassee Community College

**Northeast Florida High Growth Career Training**

- Logistics and Supply Chain Management
- Lean Six Sigma
- Leadership Development

 University of North Florida  
Division of Continuing Education

-  Recommend
-  Tweet
-  Share
-  Email
-  Print

« RETURN TO FLORIDIAN OF THE YEAR NEWSMAKERS OF THE YEAR - NORTHWEST

## Northwest Florida Newsmakers

Quint Studer, BP, Jim Murdaugh and Navy Federal Credit Union

Charlotte Crane | 12/26/2012

» **Quint Studer**  
Chairman, Studer Group, Gulf Breeze

The health care leader built momentum behind developing downtown Pensacola.

“Communities go as the flagship city goes,” says Quint Studer, founder of a health care consulting company. “You have to create something vibrant downtown.”

Studer, believing that Pensacola, his region’s flagship city, had unfulfilled potential, invested more than \$15 million to buy a AA Southern League baseball team. His Blue Wahoos began play last April in the Community Maritime Park, which Studer also helped fund, on the downtown waterfront.

“Bringing lots of people downtown” — some 4,900 per game — was the first step in Studer’s economic development plan. Retail and restaurant development and need for office space would follow, he says. As a catalyst, he and his wife, Rishy, bought two empty office buildings facing each other across Palafox Place, a city thoroughfare, where she opened two stores, Bodacious Olive and Bodacious Brew. They’re also leasing space for a half-dozen more stores and several loft apartments. To spur business interest, they started the Pensacola Business Challenge, awarding the winning entrepreneur startup money and a store site.

BALLOT BOX

REGISTER

### Florida Business News

» **Port strike averted**  
A longshoremen’s strike set for midnight Saturday, which threatened havoc at 15 ports along the eastern seaboard and Gulf Coast, has been averted for 30 days.

» **Fewer banks failing as industry strengthens**  
Banks are ending the year with their best profits since 2006 and fewer failures than at any time since the financial crisis struck in 2008.

» **National homebuilders returning to Southwest Florida**  
Some of the largest homebuilders in the U.S. are returning to Southwest Florida, in a sign that the housing market is rebounding in an area hit hard by the Great Recession

**FRIDAY PREVIEW:**  
Coming next week to [FloridaTrend.com](#):

» **Floridian of the Year** - Once again, our editorial staff scoured the news and took your nominations for those Floridians who had the biggest impact on the state during 2012. See whom we selected as Floridian of the Year and check out our roundup of Notable Newsmakers, from Florida Olympians to State College Presidents.

### Florida Trend Video Pick

As for office space, “we’ve got it coming,” says Studer: A \$12-million office building next to the Maritime Park to house Studer Group, relocating from Gulf Breeze, and provide room for other businesses. Construction will start early this year.

“I always feel it’s important to invest in the next generation,” says Studer, who started his career as a special-needs teacher. “If you don’t have talent, you won’t attract business.” The Studers have set up a \$1-million scholarship fund for students to attend the University of West Florida and Pensacola State College; they also outfitted an elementary charter school located in an economically challenged area with a music lab and laptop computers for every classroom.

Studer believes his and others’ community efforts are paying off. The 2012 Community Quality of Life Survey, a Mason-Dixon poll, showed 54% of those polled think Pensacola is headed in the right direction, compared to 23% in 2008.

Personally, he says he’s derived most satisfaction from the Blue Wahoos’ stadium. “It’s become the neighborhood, a melting pot for the community.”

So how many games have they won? “I don’t know,” he says, smiling. “But we led the league in attendance. And we sold out 40 of 68 games.”

» **BP**

Local tourism officials put money

provided by BP in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill to good use. In April 2011, the oil company paid \$30 million to the seven most-affected Panhandle counties, to be spent on tourism marketing. BP provided an additional \$7 million in August. The marketing paid off in increased visitor counts — and big jumps in the seven counties’ bed-tax collections. Terry Scruggs, Pensacola interim vice president for tourism development, noted near year-end: “It looks like our bed tax receipts will yield another 11% bounce over the record-setting 26% in 2011.”

» **Jim Murdaugh**

President, Tallahassee Community College

Jim Murdaugh in 2012 oversaw development of TCC’s new Wakulla Center at Crawfordville and its expanded commitment to Wakulla County, including new environmental studies. He also presided over area town hall meetings to learn citizens’ views of the college’s new strategic plan, organized grant-funded classes to expand workers’ skills in manufacturing and engineering, and received the Leader of the Year award from Leadership Tallahassee, a division of the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce.

» **Navy Federal Credit Union**

Navy Federal added 438 jobs last year to its Pensacola area operations, bringing its workforce to 2,578. It also prepared for more expansion by buying the 240-acre Langley Bell 4-H Center next door for \$3.6 million. The current 602,000-sq.-ft. campus, representing a \$225-million investment, will house 3,100 employees and is the largest regional office of Navy Federal, the world’s largest credit union. A master plan is under way to explore future expansion.

Tags: [Floridian of the Year](#), [Northwest](#), [Newsmakers of the Year](#)

With evergreen wreaths and garlands adorning the stairwells and doors, the Florida Historic Capitol Museum becomes a special place during the holidays.

**Earlier Videos**

**Ballot Box**

My New Year’s resolutions are:

- Physical: Lose weight, exercise more
- Mental: Read more, learn more
- Financial: Improve bottom line
- Charitable/Spiritual: Help others, participate in church more
- Other (can explain in comments)
- None of the above: I never make resolutions!

[See Results](#)

**Get High-Tech Creativity**  
 IADT International Academy of Design & Technology [LEARN MORE](#)

**FEB. 1, 2013**  
 University of Miami  
 Coral Gables, Fl.

**Also on FloridaTrend.com**

**Most Read Articles**



## Higher education in 2013: Institutions look to make changes

Doug Blackburn

The coming 12 months could offer defining moments at each of Tallahassee's three primary institutions of higher education.

Florida State officials will be watching with great interest as lawmakers zero in on funding for the state's universities, hoping that the Legislature once again gets behind a bill that would establish pre-eminent universities in Florida — thereby giving FSU a chance to make major changes. Gov. Rick Scott vetoed similar legislation earlier this year, despite the solid backing of both chambers, the Board of Governors and even the Council of 100.

The bill established metrics for attaining pre-eminent status, and only FSU and University of Florida would have qualified. Being eligible would have given FSU much more control over its tuition and possibly would have paved the way to begin hiring junior faculty to replace the scores who have left FSU for better paying jobs outside Florida.

FSU climbed four spots to No. 42 in the latest national rankings of public universities, but FSU President Barron has said repeatedly that reduced resources are taking a toll on his faculty.

At Florida A&M, trustees are expected to hire a new president to replace James H. Ammons, who resigned abruptly in July. There has been more than one FAMU supporter urging the board to make Provost Larry Robinson — who has served as interim president since Ammons' departure — the permanent president. When Robinson was nominated in August to be interim president, he announced that in the interest of avoiding controversy, he would not be a candidate for the permanent position. FAMU officials also will be focusing on removing the university from the probation ruling handed down earlier this month by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The university had already begun addressing the core areas cited by SACS — better financial controls, and an active plan for eradicating hazing among student organizations — when SACS announced its decision Dec. 11.

Accreditation is critical to FAMU's future. Without it, the university and its students are not eligible for federal aid and grants.

And at [Tallahassee Community College](#), trustees also will be wrestling with a major question: Should the school follow the example set by many of its sister institutions and begin offering four-year degrees, and in the process drop "community" from its name?

[TCC](#) is in a unique position. It is the only state college in Florida located in the same city as two public universities. Administrators and trustees have been reluctant to join the statewide trend in which junior colleges expand their degree programs to include bachelor's — something [TCC](#) has yet to do. Trustees are expected to discuss the possibility during the new year.

HEALTHCARE

# THE PULSE OF HEALTHCARE

You're in the right place for cutting-edge technology and service

Tallahassee is a regional epicenter of medical know-how, education, service, technology and insurance. This industry employs more than 20,000 of the region's workforce of 190,800. The area's expanding healthcare options include two major hospitals, cancer and birthing centers, surgical and urgent care facilities and a quality of care that consistently wins national recognitions.

The towering hospitals of Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare and Capital Regional Medical Center are the most visible symbols of a healthcare system that, while based locally, serves much of the four-county region around the capital city, provides jobs for many and saves lives.

The executives of both hospitals speak about their facilities' accomplishments with more than just a touch of pride.

"We're the regional safety net and serve the needs (of patients) between Jacksonville, Pensacola and Macon, so we do a lot of things most other organizations don't do," said Mark O'Bryant, president and CEO of Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare.

"We pride ourselves on the quality care delivered here at CRMC. At the end of the day I want to be known for the quality care we deliver, and through these recognitions the proof is in the pudding," said Brian Cook, president and CEO of Capital Regional Medical Center.

Both healthcare institutions are making great strides in providing more efficient, cutting-edge healthcare.

TMH recently opened a state-of-the-art neurovascular suite dedicated to diagnosing and treating complex neurological disorders such as ruptured aneurysms and severe strokes. Also recently introduced are new minimally invasive surgical procedures for heart valve replacements, which can now be done via small incisions in the groin as opposed to open heart surgery.

"We are one of the few places in the South doing this," O'Bryant said.

TMH also opened up a cancer center in partnership with the University of Florida and Shands that has some of the best cancer-fighting technology in the nation, he said, explaining the importance of patients not having to leave home to seek treatment.

"There were a strong number of people leaving here to get cancer care, and over

the past two or three years we have made significant investment in upgrading the technology and clinical skillsets around cancer services," O'Bryant said.

TMH is also building a freestanding emergency center near Interstate 10 and Thomasville Road. This facility will be a full-service general ER for all patients and will include specialized care for pediatric and geriatric patients. Meanwhile, severe trauma cases will still be sent to the ER on the main TMH campus.

Meanwhile, CRMC is reaching for the sky – literally. Two new floors are being built and are slated to open in January 2013. The seventh floor will be a shell for future expansion, and the eighth floor is for 44 medical telemetry beds, bringing the total number of beds at the hospital to 242.

"The total project cost is just over \$15 million and 100 new jobs will be created," Cook said. "That's a sign of HCA's investment in the Tallahassee community and meeting the needs of the community. Bringing those 44 new beds online is our current project and we desperately need those. We are running at capacity year-round right now. We've had a tremendous growth rate the last three to five years at CRMC."

Cook also said that Capital Regional is one of only 620 hospitals in the United States to be named one of the nation's Top Performers on key quality measures by The Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of healthcare organizations in America.

Local hospitals aren't the only ones on the move in Tallahassee. Construction of a massive veterans outpatient clinic is slated to begin sometime in 2013 at the corner of Blair Stone Road and Orange Avenue. With a building footprint of 200,000 square feet, the new clinic will be much larger than its predecessor located on Mahan Drive.

"The residual effect is going to be very positive in terms of other commercial development," said Jay Townsend, assistant city manager for Transportation & Development Services. "I think the plan is there will be lots of supporting uses to this clinic so you'll see some restaurants, hotels ... it'll be a regional draw. It could pull in vets from South Georgia."



Tallahassee Community College's Glavin Center will double its enrollment capacity in healthcare programs over the next five years to serve the area's two hospitals and expanding VA Clinic.

## HEALTHCARE



The TCC Ghazvini Center is equipped with cutting-edge technology, allowing students to strengthen and apply their skills in simulated real-time settings.

### Preventing Illness

Of course, nobody wants to be sick to begin with or spend time in a hospital or pay the high costs of all of the above. That's why health insurance providers like Capital Health Plan and Florida Blue place emphasis on the prevention of illnesses such as hypertension and high blood pressure, which lead to stroke and heart attack.

"The CDC just came out with a report that says public health enemy No. 2, right behind cigarettes, is the challenge we have in our country identifying within our population adults with high blood pressure and, beyond that, controlling high blood pressure," said CHP's CEO John Hogan, captain of one of the top-ranked insurance providers in Florida. "The ballpark estimate is that 30 percent of the adult population in the U.S. has high blood pressure. Generally, only about 50 percent of the folks who

have it, have it under control via diet, exercise and medication if necessary so it doesn't get to a point where it's dangerous. One of our priorities within the health plan is to control high blood pressure. We want CHP members to, ultimately, have the best blood pressure control of any region in the country."

Keeping close watch on blood pressure, cholesterol and sugar levels is something that Florida Blue (formerly known as Blue Cross Blue Shield) has taken a keen interest in as well, and has incorporated into the operations of its new retail sales center on Apalachee Parkway in Tallahassee. Nurses are on staff to serve as community resources for Florida Blue members navigating healthcare issues, according to Center Director John Padgett.

"What they do is provide information on access to care providers, cost and quality and how to save money on prescriptions. Then our sales staff have a 'health plan

checkup' where they look at your plan to make sure it's the best fit for you," he said.

What makes the new retail center special, Padgett said, is the health screening fairs that are held the second Saturday of the month. These are open to anybody regardless of insurance or carrier. Nurses are on hand to check blood pressure, cholesterol and sugar levels, measure height and weight and to help people put together their own health and wellness plan.

"Our mission is to help people in the community achieve better health," he said. "It's personal support in a friendly, face-to-face environment."



@CapitalRegional

@FloridaBlue

@TMHForLife

## Brogan board may decide to permanently shutter museum

### Brogan board may decide to permanently shutter museum

Doug Blackburn

The beleaguered Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science, one of Tallahassee's signature cultural offerings with ties to the venerable Smithsonian in Washington, may be in its final days.

The museum's doors have been closed to the public since Jan. 15, 2012, and its board has spent the past 12 months trying to eliminate a substantial debt while developing a new mission. But its plans relied on \$150,000 from the county, which commissioners voted down last month.

Take our quick survey here and tell us your opinion of the Brogan Museum

Dissolving the board, and thereby permanently shutting down the museum, will be on the table when the board meets Monday.

Leon County Commissioner Kristin Dozier, a member of the Brogan board who cast the lone vote last month in favor of funding the museum, said she wants to hear the board discussion Monday before making a final decision.

"But unless something dramatic happens, I think the Brogan board has done as much as we can do and it's time to move on," she said.

**Tallahassee Community College** holds the lease for the building housing the Brogan, located at the corner of Duval and Pensacola streets on the southeast corner of Kleman Plaza. Jim Murdaugh, **TCC's** president and also a member of the Brogan board, said he has been impressed by the hard work put in by Felicia Nowels, the board chair, but he doesn't expect the museum to survive.

"I don't know that there's a happy ending for the Brogan. We are a year out and I don't believe there is a plan that anybody could describe in its entirety that would reflect a reinvented Brogan," Murdaugh said.

The **TCC** Capital Center, an office and training space, is located below and behind the museum. The college would continue to hold the lease to the space occupied by the Brogan, but Murdaugh said he does not have a well-thought-out plan for the rest of the building. Whatever project **TCC** might undertake would require approval from the city, which owns the land, and Leon County Schools, which secured the original public funding to construct the building, Murdaugh said.

Nowels, the board chair, believes it's premature to write the Brogan's obituary. She has been a member of the board for almost a decade, and moved into the chair position at the December 2011 meeting when the board decided to close the museum temporarily and executive director Chucha Barber officially stepped down. The possibility of dissolving the board and shutting down the museum has come up more than once during the past year, Nowels said.

"As a board we have an ethical and fiduciary duty to the institution. Whatever the board decides is most responsible, that is the step we'll take."

Several Brogan board members echoed the comments voiced by Dozier and Murdaugh regarding the fate of the museum. Still other members of the 20-person board asked to not be quoted for a story.

The Mary Brogan Museum is named in honor of one of its most passionate patrons, the late wife of Frank Brogan, chancellor of the State University System and former lieutenant governor. He was traveling Thursday and could not be reached for comment.

Gil Ziffer, a city commissioner on the Brogan board, said he is going to need good arguments to not vote in favor of dissolving the board on Monday.

"I'm going to have to be presented an extremely strong argument to move forward. At this juncture, I don't see that we have the financial wherewithal for us to continue," Ziffer said.

Brogan's financial woes intensified, former director Barber said, in early 2011 when it hosted a high-profile exhibit of Baroque paintings on loan from a museum in Milan, Italy (which, incidentally, included a work plundered by Nazis during World War II and became part of an unrelated, international story).

The Brogan was hurt badly by the unfavorable exchange rate, Barber explained at the time, and it never recovered. A new fund-raising campaign failed to produce the donations necessary to make the Brogan solvent.

## Brogan board may decide to permanently shutter museum...

*continued*

The museum sold some of its artwork during the past year and was successful at erasing its debt, Ziffer said. But it has not been able to develop a funded, working plan and has been open only for occasional fundraisers and children's camps during summer and the winter break.

Sheila Costigan, the school board's representative on the board, bemoaned the lack of support for the Brogan.

"I don't know how we're not going to fold," Costigan said. "This community has to decide if they want to keep a museum downtown as an anchor tenant. I am so frustrated. I thought we would have more of a community outpouring."

Tallahassee Democrat - January 6, 2013

## TCC, Wakulla County have high hopes for new environmental institute

Doug Blackburn

The building doesn't yet exist. In fact, the land on which the building will be constructed has yet to be officially purchased.

But make no mistake: Officials at **Tallahassee Community College** are gung-ho about their new environmental institute in Wakulla County, a project college and county leaders are describing as a potential "game changer" for Wakulla.

Even without an official facility — ground-breaking is expected this spring — **TCC** is rolling out its first classes this month as part of the Wakulla Environmental Institute. Capitalizing on the county's rich natural resources, from Wakulla Springs to the St. Marks Wildlife Refuge, and the biodiversity found in a low-lying coastal region where the Atlantic and Gulf each have a profound influence, **TCC** is touting WEI as focusing on three fronts: education, conservation and recreation.

There's a fourth factor that no one is overlooking: economic development.

Armed with \$4.5 million from the Legislature to build WEI, **TCC** is expected to be responsible for several hundred new jobs during the year it will take to build the WEI center, not to mention an estimated 900 jobs it should generate and sustain once WEI is up and running.

"It's huge. This will impact Wakulla County for a long time with many benefits," County Commissioner Howard Kessler said. "When you construct a campus like **TCC** is talking about, it's a tremendous project.

"Wakulla County has always been looked at as the bedroom community for Leon County and Tallahassee. We've got limited opportunities for jobs here," Kessler added. "This opens a whole new door for the county."

**TCC's** mission is to serve the citizens of Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties. It already has satellite campuses in Gadsden and Wakulla, and during the past decade the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy in Midway has mushroomed into the Florida Public Safety Institute, a state-of-the-art training center that draws law-enforcement officers from across the state and even nationwide.

Jim Murdaugh, primarily responsible for FPSI and Pat Thomas' remarkable growth before he was promoted to **TCC's** president in 2010, believes WEI is capable of being as big a boon to Wakulla.

"I fundamentally believe it's a game changer, certainly for Wakulla County. It's huge for the college. The goal is to make a world-class destination," Murdaugh said. "Potentially, this could be bigger than FPSI."

'LASER-FOCUSED'

It starts with education. **TCC** now offers a 64-credit associate degree in environmental science technology. Bob Ballard, who spent the past 12 years as a deputy secretary with the Department of Environmental Protection before being hired in July as WEI executive director, believes graduates of the program who don't go on to earn four-year degrees will find jobs immediately.

"It's laser-focused for a student to get their A.S. degree and get an entry job with a water management district, a drilling company. The training they're going to get is fairly specific and what the employers are looking for," Ballard said.

## TCC, Wakulla County have high hopes for new environmental institute...

*continued*

The two new courses being offered this month are Chemistry and Biology of Natural Waters, and the lab class Earth and its Environment. Pamela MacRae, chair of the environmental science technology program, will be teaching the natural waters class. She characterized it as a hybrid, designed to cater to students with full-time jobs. There will be online evening classes and Saturday field trips she will lead at St. Marks Wildlife Refuge or in kayaks on the Wakulla River. Students will learn how to conduct water tests, what to look for and how to identify specific aquatic life such as miniscule mosquito fish and insect larvae.

One of the goals with WEI is to capitalize on the Panhandle's biodiversity, regarded as one of top five "hot spots" in the nation by the Nature Conservancy. E.O. Wilson, the acclaimed, two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning biologist, has written extensively about North Florida's unique flora and fauna and has established an institute at Nokuse Plantation in Walton County, with which TCC officials hope to develop a partnership.

Bruce Means, a naturalist and executive director of the Big Bend-based Coastal Plains Institute, said North Florida is uniquely situated to be influenced by the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. He regards Wakulla County as part of a greater piece — Liberty County is ground-zero, he said — of unique bio-diversity.

"The Panhandle is a complicated mix of interesting things: Continental versus peninsula, low latitude, and the closer to the Equator you get the more species you tend to find," Means said. "A number of factors come together to make this part of the Panhandle unique."

### 'OPEN TO IDEAS'

WEI will have its headquarters on 158 acres in central Wakulla County that TCC officials have identified but are waiting for zoning changes to go through before making an official announcement. It will be completely separate from the college's Wakulla Center, located in leased space in the Centennial Bank building in Crawfordville.

Ballard envisions the new facility being a showcase in its own right.

"We want to show the world how to build it right," he said. "We want to take the mystery out of solar energy. It will be how people should build buildings in the future."

TCC is working with engineers to create a 21st-century Cracker-style building with a wrap-around porch that will self-generate as much energy as it uses. It will feature a cistern to collect water, possibly for irrigation as well as for use in plumbing.

WEI will start as a single building, but could expand as demand and need dictate, Ballard said. The facility itself could be a springboard to additional degree programs.

"There are things people are approaching us with that we hadn't thought of. We're considering a degree in solar panel education," Ballard said. "Who knows where it's going to go, but we're open to ideas as they come in."

Murdaugh, TCC's president, believes WEI is an ideal economic engine for Wakulla that combines development and conservation.

"You don't have to choose. I believe you can do economic development in an environmentally sound way," Murdaugh said.

TCC Trustee Allison DeFoor, the Wakulla County representative on the college's board, began lobbying former TCC President Bill Law to look into a project that would take advantage of his county's natural resources. DeFoor tipped his hat to Murdaugh for securing the \$4.5 million from lawmakers during tough economic times.

"I don't think anybody fully understands how big this is going to be. This has the potential to be nation-wide and even world-wide because the resource it's being built around is so special," DeFoor said.

Commissioner Kessler anticipates a growing ripple-effect from WEI, particularly as tourists from across the country follow biologists to discover all that Wakulla County has to offer.

"People will be going out to these various areas to see firsthand the bio-diversity. Just like Wakulla Springs calls people from all over the world. I think this institute will do the same," Kessler said.

Kessler, a Democrat, and DeFoor, a Republican, both marvel at how WEI manages to unite a county well-known for political in-fighting and endless bickering.

"It protects the environment and it creates jobs," DeFoor said. "Even in Wakulla County we won't find anything to fight about with this."

## Brogan hangs on by one vote

### Board rejects dissolution, keeps museum in existence, for now

TaMaryn Waters

Half the board members of the Mary Brogan Museum of Art and Science are urging the community not to give up on one of Tallahassee's cultural centers.

The rest of the board is less than hopeful the cash-strapped museum on Kleman Plaza can carry on. That trepidation prompted City Commissioner Gil Ziffer to resign from the board. Leon County Commissioner Kristin Dozier said she may follow, but plans to decide today. [Tallahassee Community College](#) President Jim Murdaugh decided last month he would resign as well if the board continued efforts toward reinvention and he present his resignation letter to board chairwoman Felicia Nowels at the meeting.

For the first time in months, the board had a quorum with 16 of 20 members present.

A motion to dissolve the Brogan deadlocked the board at 8-8. One proxy vote decided the matter, with the final tally 8-9 against dissolving.

Dissolving or reopening remain on the table, Nowels said.

This week the board's executive committee plans to meet to discuss logistics of dissolution, including paying off remaining debts. Alternate possibilities will also be discussed, including greater specificity about reinventing the museum's mission to focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

A detailed presentation will be made to the full board, Nowels said.

Some board members said their concerns deepened once learning the museum is still in debt, although it's far less than the estimated \$250,000 debt choking the museum's finances a year ago when the board was forced to close.

Board treasurer Greg Follensbee said about \$135,000 is still owed but the final debt figure isn't known at this time.

With an estimated \$48,000 in the bank and minimal monthly expenses — \$2,500 — concerned board members couldn't see delaying the inevitable.

"I cannot continue to support what we have been trying to do for a long time," Murdaugh said. "I am as about an optimistic a guy you're ever going to run across. And yet in December, I have found myself at that personal place

where I started thinking, after looking at everything we tried and looking at the heroic efforts of Felicia and Trish (Hanson) and others, I spent more time over the holidays thinking about this than I wish I had."

He said if the board dissolved and board members walked out of the room, he would be the one left with looming responsibilities for the use of the building. With that said, Murdaugh found himself thinking more about those commitments than the reinvention mission others are energized about.

"I don't have a desire to be toxic," he added. "I have a desire to let those who have that passion to continue."

In December, the Leon County Commission decided not to contribute \$150,000 toward the museum's new mission. Dozier cast the lone vote in support of funding the museum.

The county commission next meets on Jan. 29. Several Brogan board members believe approaching the county again, now with more information from partners, could make a difference. More pieces of the museum's new programming plan are firm now, they said.

Tallahassee attorney and board member Seann Frazier voted against dissolving because he believes there's still hope.

"Keep on trying, at least for the short term," Frazier said.

"We made one ask and it didn't work," Dozier offered. "As someone who gets asked a lot for a lot of things, this proposal was not ready ... We have done a tremendous amount and we have hit a rock."

Although clearly divided, those in support of saving the Brogan said additional community support is needed now more than ever. Suggestions such as board members writing their own checks or promising to bring in \$1,000 each were offered. Others said fundraising will be critical.

Parents like Darice Richard, president of the Delta Kappa Omega Foundation, sat along the wall listening as the museum's troubles unfolded. Her 7-year-old son, Morgan Richard, a student at Astoria Park Elementary, is dubbed the "Mad Scientist" at school and she credits his curiosity for science to what he's learned at the Brogan.

## Brogan hangs on by one vote...

*continued*

Not knowing the Brogan's plight, Richard said, "I was just blown away that we were at this point," and she was going to do all she could to rally support.

Ziffer, said it would take millions of dollars to truly save the museum. He proposed the board hand over its programming, information and other materials to the Challenger Learning Center since it already has a science and technology program in place.

"We're at a point where we can either try to pay off debts or move forward. I feel the organization is at a point, since we haven't been able to raise more dollars in outside money, will continue to spend dollars and go further in debt," Ziffer said. "I, for one, can't be a part of this and I think its time has come ... I think this building has other potential uses."

WFSU - January 8, 2013

## Tallahassee Community College Treks Into The Wilderness With New Institute

THOMAS ANDREW GUSTAFSON

**Tallahassee Community College** is taking its classes outside. This year the college begins construction on the new Wakulla Environmental Institute. Construction of the Institute's Crawfordville campus should begin this Spring, but environmental classes are already offered online. And when it opens next year, the institute's executive director Bob Ballard says classes are just a part of what it'll offer.

"We plan to bring in tourism from around the world to show and demonstrate what we've got here in this part of the county. And bring them on environmental tours that will educate them about the environment and also bring them on an adventure." Ballard says.

And taking courses will also mean getting your hands dirty. The associate degrees they offer involve field work like testing water quality and doing controlled forest burns.

For more information about the Institute or how to sign up for classes visit the Institute's website here.

For more news updates follow Thomas Andrew Gustafson on Twitter @tandrewgus



## Our Opinion: Resource development

### TCC institute exemplifies a shared vision

Whether it's training workers for health-related careers, providing work re-entry courses or implementing programs that meet the demands of manufacturers, **Tallahassee Community College** clearly has filled a void in the Leon County community.

And, while the Appleyard Drive campus is its main entry point, the thriving community college has continued its outreach into the regional neighborhoods in Gadsden and Wakulla counties.

Equally as important as its academic offerings is the economic boost that **TCC** brings to these communities in the form of building leases and jobs.

As reported in Sunday's Tallahassee Democrat, the college now is focusing its efforts on creating an environmental studies presence in nearby Wakulla County. Over the years, **TCC** has made its offerings available in Wakulla County, where its operations are housed right in the middle of Crawfordville.

It is this type of outreach that gives **Tallahassee Community College** the growing reputation that it deserves. The college is one of the keys to educational advancement in the Big Bend, but it also plays a key role in shaping the economic picture. That's a result of the students who will be trained in particularly demanding fields such as nursing and other health-related areas, but this venture into Wakulla County will certainly boost that community's economy, with the college forming partnerships with existing businesses and prospective new interests as the Wakulla Environmental Institute takes shape.

"It's huge. This will impact Wakulla County for a long time with many benefits," Wakulla County Commissioner Howard Kessler told the Democrat.

What Mr. Kessler and others in this community south of Leon County are eyeing is the projection of hundreds of jobs made available when **TCC** is ready to start construction and the estimated hundreds of permanent jobs the institute is capable of creating down the road.

More important, having the vision to plan and get financial approval for such an undertaking is likely to result not only in boosting the image of Wakulla County, but also in bringing national and potentially international attention to the environmental gold mine that the area represents. This will be an attraction for researchers, as is the case with the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory at Florida State University, but also will open plenty of opportunities for the county to solidify its reputation as an eco-tourism destination.

What **TCC** is embarking upon is an example of what can be accomplished through a shared vision of the leaders of an academic institution and the community it serves.

## Gerald Ensley: The Brogan is one more dream we can't afford

Gerald Ensley

Far be it from me to be "toxic" — as [Tallahassee Community College](#) President Jim Murdaugh ably put it Monday — to the passions of my neighbors.

But it's time to call it quits on the Mary Brogan Museum of Art & Science.

The Brogan board may have agreed Monday — by a single vote — to keep alive the museum that has been closed for a year. But it's time to listen to more pragmatic voices, including board members who resigned in protest of the vote.

The Brogan has been neither fish nor fowl in its 14 years of existence: It's been neither a good children's science museum nor a good art museum. It was never managed well: How else to explain the \$135,000 debt of a museum blessed with great location and free rent? And it's in a building poorly suited for many purposes, cursed with wasted nooks and horrible acoustics that keep it from being an effective space even for receptions and weddings.

But the larger problem with the Brogan is not the Brogan's fault. It is the age-old problem in this city: Tallahassee is not big enough for its dreams.

The population of Leon County is 277,000, and that includes 65,000-plus college students, few of whom ever visited the Brogan. We are bordered in all four directions by some of the least populous counties in Florida and Georgia. Aside from college football, which draws statewide, we cannot attract consistently large audiences for anything.

Yet, we're a town of dreams. Big dreams. A town full of highly educated, sophisticated people who like art and music and culture and want first-class amenities in their town. A town of engaged parents who want their children exposed to the best science and education programs. A town of people who have lived other places where they have such things and don't understand why Tallahassee doesn't.

Because we're not big enough. Because we don't have enough people to support all the things we'd like to have, especially in a slumping economy in a modern world where everything has become more expensive.

It's why we don't have a performing arts center. It's why longtime cultural icons, such as the LeMoyne Center

for the Visual Arts, Goodwood Mansion and Gardens and Springtime Tallahassee, struggle. It's why Artspace couldn't lift off, it's why downtown struggles, it's why one of our malls is dying, it's why we no longer have a professional golf tournament, it's why restaurants come and go in Tallahassee.

We're a town that cannot afford all its desires. I suspect every mid-size city with a university and/or a state capital suffers this problem. Such cities are blessed with the intellectual energy and appreciation for sophisticated culture. But they have too few people to support every kind of enterprise simply on their patronage or their taxes.

Every group in Tallahassee dreams the same way: "If we can get grants and private donations and a corporate donor or two, we can make such-and-such happen." No doubt they could.

But where would the grants come from?

Everywhere, state and federal agencies have reduced their grant money to a trickle. And even in the best of times, government grants are only supplemental income.

Where would the private donations come from? Let's say every man, woman and child in Leon County gave \$10 to help the Brogan — which they wouldn't, but we're pretending. That's only \$2.7 million for the Brogan, whose woes are estimated to need several million to repair.

Where do we get the corporate backing? Yes, we have several national retail companies and small corporations in Tallahassee. But Wal-Mart, Target and the like make such donations with a cold eye: They're not going to spend millions in a community of 300,000 when they can spend that same money in a community with five times the population. And the smaller local corporations are already giving all they can to the dozens of local entities that beseech them annually.

I know there is talk of turning the Brogan's focus to a more sophisticated science-only center for children. But, again, even with the \$150,000 seed money that some think the County Commission will provide (despite having voted it down once), where will the money come from?

## **Gerald Ensley: The Brogan is one more dream we can't afford...**

*continued*

And do we need the Brogan?

We already have a nationally renowned Mag Lab that introduces children to advanced science concepts during various events. We have a grand Challenger Center, which introduces them to astronomy and space travel concepts.

Maybe the Brogan was a fine idea when it was affordable. Now, it's not affordable. This town has numerous museums and cultural centers that have stayed open in these tough times through their own pluck and innovation. How does one justify throwing money at the project that hasn't worked?

There are many wonderful things about living in medium-sized cities such as Tallahassee. We have less traffic, less crime, less hassles than big cities. We have a kinder, gentler lifestyle than big cities.

But we also don't have every amenity we want. We fund the ones we can and let the others go.

It's time to let the Brogan go.

Contact senior writer Gerald Ensley at [gensley@tallahassee.com](mailto:gensley@tallahassee.com) or 850-599-2310.

## Norwalk Community College joins national program to train baby boomers for new jobs

### Norwalk Community College

NORWALK, CT - Norwalk Community College was recently chosen to join the Plus 50 Encore Completion Program, a national effort to train 10,000 baby boomers for new jobs in healthcare, education and social services. The program is sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

The college will assist adults age 50 and over in completing degrees or certificates in high-demand occupations that give back to the community. With many adults age 50 and over out of work or seeking to transition to a new career, the program offers skill updates and career makeovers. Norwalk Community College will prepare older adults for such careers as medical or dental assistants, home health aides, and child development associates.

NCC has long been committed to serving mature learners and understanding their unique needs. In 2010, NCC launched an innovative partnership with Meadow Ridge, a senior retirement community in Redding, Conn., to provide onsite courses for residents taught by NCC faculty. NCC also hosts the Lifetime Learners, a 20-year-old nonprofit adult education organization offering lectures and courses on the NCC campus for learners over 50.

Norwalk Community College is one of only 17 colleges recently selected for the Plus 50 project.

The Plus 50 Encore Completion Program is offered by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) in cooperation with its member colleges and will ultimately comprise 100 colleges with special training programs for students age 50 and older.

Since 2008, AACC and its network of Plus 50 Initiative colleges have worked with baby boomers to help them prepare for new careers. An independent evaluation of AACC's Plus 50 Initiative found that 89 percent of students agreed that college work force training helped them acquire new job skills, and 72 percent attributed landing a job to such training.

"Many adults age 50 and over want to train for new jobs that help others and are hiring, but they need to update their skills. Community colleges offer a supportive environment where baby boomers can train for new jobs quickly and affordably," said Mary Sue Vickers, director for the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC.

Vickers says the program expects to add additional colleges in 2013 that will help it reach 10,000 baby boomer students by 2015.

In addition to grant funds to augment training programs, participating colleges gain access to toolkits and extensive marketing resources tailored to reach baby boomers. They'll also benefit from the advice and support of staff at other community colleges that have successfully implemented programs for older learners and understand the unique needs of the plus 50 student population.

The Plus 50 Encore Completion Program is funded with a \$3.2 million grant to AACC provided by Deerbrook Charitable Trust. The Plus 50 Encore Completion program supports AACC's work to increase the number of students who finish degrees, certificates, and other credentials. In April 2010, AACC committed alongside other higher education organizations, to promote the development and implementation of policies, practices and institutional cultures that will produce 50 percent more students with high quality degrees and certificates by 2020.

In addition to Norwalk Community College, the 16 other newly-selected Plus 50 colleges are: Blue Ridge Community and Technical College (Martinsburg, W. Va.), Elgin Community College (Elgin, Ill.), Guam Community College (Mangilao, Guam), Halifax Community College (Weldon, N.C.), Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Northwest (Valparaiso), Lake Region State College (Devils Lake, N.D.), Lenoir Community College (Kingston, N.C.), Montgomery County Community College (Blue Bell, Pa.), Northern Wyoming Community College District (Sheridan, Wyo.), Salt Lake Community College (Salt Lake City, Utah), Seminole State College of Florida (Sanford, Fla.), **Tallahassee Community College** (Tallahassee, Fla.), Tarrant County College District (Fort Worth, Texas), Tri-County Technical College (Pendleton, S.C.), Wayne County Community College District (Detroit, Mich.) and Zane State College (Zanesville, Ohio). The new colleges join 11 colleges chosen in August 2012.

## TCC Ranked 2nd Safest College Campus in Florida

Lanetra Bennett

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (January 11, 2013) – StateUniversity.com, the leading Web site for college information, has released its 2012 rankings of the safest colleges and universities in the United States and **Tallahassee Community College** was rated the second-safest campus in the state of Florida.

StateUniversity.com's report looked at all colleges and universities in the state and is based on crime reports submitted by college and university law enforcement between January 1 and December 31, 2011.

In the 2011 report, which reviewed colleges based on the 2010 calendar year, **TCC** was ranked fourth.

"In this day and age, there are many challenges facing college campuses across the country," said **TCC** police chief David Hendry. "Being recognized as the second safest college in the state of Florida truly exemplifies the commitment to ensuring safety and security at **Tallahassee Community College**."

**TCC** received an overall score of 96.69 (out of 100)

As part of the Safest Schools ranking, StateUniversity.com analyzed crime statistics for 450 colleges and universities and assigned a safety rating to each school. Safety ratings are determined based on the number of occurrences of aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, theft/larceny, motor vehicle theft, forcible rape, and murder on campus, and then are weighed based on the probability of each incident happening to each student since naturally larger campuses would be expected to have a higher number of total incidents. Violent crime is given more weight in the ranking system, and has a greater effect on the safety rating than non-violent crime such as theft.

## TCC joins program to train 10,000 older workers for jobs nationwide

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.-- **Tallahassee Community College** was recently chosen to join the Plus 50 Encore Completion Program, a national effort to train 10,000 baby boomers for new jobs in healthcare, education and social services. The program is sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

The college will assist adults age 50 and over in completing degrees or certificates in high-demand occupations that give back to the community. With many adults age 50 and over out of work or seeking to transition to a new career, the program offers skill updates and career makeovers. **Tallahassee Community College** will prepare older adults for such careers as nurses, radiologic technicians, dental hygienists, diagnostic medical sonographers and other specialties.

"TCC has always prioritized matching students' training with the needs of the local workforce," said Amy Combs, program coordinator for information technology at TCC's Center for Workforce Development and project director for the Plus 50 Initiative at TCC. "TCC also supports lifelong learning, and this grant gives us a great opportunity to expand our commitment to both of those values."

"We recognize that the Plus 50 population has unique strengths, and we will teach to those strengths," said Dr. Jim Murdaugh, president of TCC. "Our goal is to retrain and return Plus 50 students to the workforce in the shortest time possible, or assist them in pursuing higher degrees."

**Tallahassee Community College** is one of 17 colleges recently selected for the project. The new colleges join 11 colleges chosen in August 2012.

The Plus 50 Encore Completion Program is offered by the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) in cooperation with its member colleges and will ultimately comprise 100 colleges with special training programs for students age 50 and older.

Since 2008, AACC and its network of Plus 50 Initiative colleges have worked with baby boomers to help them prepare for new careers. An independent evaluation of AACC's Plus 50 Initiative found that 89 percent of students agreed that college workforce training helped them acquire new job skills, and 72 percent attributed landing a job to such training.

"Many adults age 50 and over want to train for new

jobs that help others and are hiring, but they need to update their skills. Community colleges offer a supportive environment where baby boomers can train for new jobs quickly and affordably," said Mary Sue Vickers, director for the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC.

In addition to grant funds to augment training programs, participating colleges gain access to toolkits and extensive marketing resources tailored to reach baby boomers. They'll also benefit from the advice and support of staff at other community colleges that have successfully implemented programs for older learners and understand the unique needs of the plus 50 student population.

The Plus 50 Encore Completion Program is funded with a \$3.2 million grant to AACC provided by Deerbrook Charitable Trust. The Plus 50 Encore Completion program supports AACC's work to increase the number of students who finish degrees, certificates, and other credentials. In April 2010, AACC committed alongside other higher education organizations, to promote the development and implementation of policies, practices and institutional cultures that will produce 50 percent more students with high quality degrees and certificates by 2020.

For more information about the Plus 50 Initiative at AACC, see [plus50.aacc.nche.edu](http://plus50.aacc.nche.edu).

## Funding roundup

### California

Santa Rosa Junior College received a \$1-million donation from an anonymous donor. The funds will be added to an endowment that provides scholarships for continuing and transfer students. The same donor gave the college \$5 million in early 2012.

### Florida

**Tallahassee Community College (TCC)** was awarded \$97,333 from the University of Central Florida (UCF) to train K–12 science teachers in the region. **TCC** and UCF will offer a five-day science workshop to prepare 50 K–12 teachers for new state standards.

### New York

Niagara County Community College (NCCC) plans to expand community-based partnerships and programming using four new grants totaling \$2.1 million.

A \$147,854 grant from the Garrett Lee Smith Suicide Prevention Grant Program will allow NCCC to develop a campus suicide prevention program. The program will especially target veterans and their families, Native Americans, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender students. The funds came through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The New York State Education Department awarded the college \$350,000 each year for five years for the Niagara Liberty Partnerships Program. NCCC will work with three school districts in the county to provide services to students who are at risk for dropping out of school.

NCCC will host American history workshops for school teachers using a \$175,122 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The two one-week workshops will focus on the construction of the Erie Canal.

The college also received \$418,803 through the 2012-13 Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. The funds allow NCCC to enhance programs for its career and technical education students.

Queensborough Community College will partner with the American Social History Project/Center for Media Learning at the City University of New York Graduate Center to use a \$359,659 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. They will develop curricular materials for “Bridging Historias through Latino History and Culture,” a project to deepen and expand the teaching and understanding of Latino history and culture across the humanities disciplines.

### Texas

Lee College’s developmental education program will expand with the help of a \$249,955 grant from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. The college will work with high school seniors to prepare them for college-level English and math courses. Funding also will allow Lee College to transform its current developmental education lecture-style classrooms into studio learning environments emphasizing hands-on active learning methods.

## TCC Named a Florida State College Overachiever

Tallahassee Community College TCC has been named a Florida State College Overachiever and among the top 10 percent of all community colleges in the nation by the non-profit Aspen Institute.

Florida has the most community colleges among the top 10 percent of any state.

Recent successes led by TCC president Jim Murdaugh include an expanded commitment to neighboring Wakulla County, town hall meetings and grant-funded classes to expand workers' skills in manufacturing and engineering. In 2011, Murdaugh was named Leader of the Year by Leadership Tallahassee.



# FIND A JOB IN HEALTHCARE



TCC's CNA Program is  
*affordable* and only *120 hours*

**Course Cost: \$329.50**

**Hours of Instruction: 120** (*includes 40 hours of clinical internship*)

Tallahassee Community College's Nursing Assistant Program prepares students for the certification exam and employment as a CNA in long-term care facilities, clinics, home care and hospitals.

**Apply today at [www.tcc.fl.edu/cna](http://www.tcc.fl.edu/cna)**

*January Express Session  
Application Deadline:*

**DECEMBER 10**

*February Express Session  
Application Deadline:*

**FEBRUARY 8**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**, call TCC's Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education at **(850) 558-4500**

Enroll in Tallahassee Community College's  
**Environmental Science Tech Program**

——— Make a difference ———

Train for challenging and rewarding careers in water quality, natural resource management and environmental monitoring — with opportunities to work in private enterprise or the government.

This TCC Wakulla Environmental Institute program, with both online and classroom instruction, is ideal for working students.



(850) 201-8499 | [TCCWAKULLAENVIRONMENTALINSTITUTE.COM](http://TCCWAKULLAENVIRONMENTALINSTITUTE.COM)



TCC is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access campus. Visit [www.tcc.fl.edu](http://www.tcc.fl.edu) for full statement.

# Don't let academic or financial roadblocks prevent you from earning a degree

Tallahassee Community College is accepting students for Spring 2013

- Small classes.
- Affordable tuition.
- Student services.
- Career planning.

**GoToTCC.com**



**(850) 201-TCC1**

TCC is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access campus. Visit [www.tcc.fl.edu](http://www.tcc.fl.edu) for full statement.

Ran in the FAMUAN from 11/19, 11/26, 12/3, 12/5 and 12/7

Ran in the FSView from 11/19, 11/26, 11/29, 12/3, 12/9



On behalf of Tallahassee Community College Athletics,  
welcome to the Bill Hebrock Eagledome for the  
**2012 Capital City Holiday Classic**

**FOR THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES ON THE TCC EAGLES**

Online 24/7 at [TCCeagles.com](http://TCCeagles.com)



Watch *TCC Athletics Weekly*  
Tuesdays on YouTube @TCC Eagles HD



Find us on Facebook and Twitter  
@TCCeagles

## Comfort Inn Holiday Classic

*Tallahassee Community College's Bill Hebrock Eagledome*

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28

5:30 p.m. Lady Eagles vs. Georgia Perimeter

7:30 p.m. Eagle men vs. East Georgia State

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29

5:30 p.m. Lady Eagles vs. Central Florida

7:30 p.m. Eagle men vs. Gordon State

General admission: \$5 | Children 12 and under FREE  
TCC students, faculty and staff FREE with valid TCC ID

Games also at 1 and 3 p.m. daily



Improve your career opportunities in 2013!



TCC offers career-focused degrees and certificates, flexible scheduling, online options, financial aid and more.

Register for Spring classes at [GoToTCC.com](http://GoToTCC.com)

**IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO REGISTER  
FOR SPRING 2013 CLASSES**

January Express Session II • Begins Jan 22  
February Express Session • Begins Feb 27

**TCC FALL 2013 SCHOLARSHIPS**

Apply by Feb 1 • [www.tcc.fl.edu/scholarships](http://www.tcc.fl.edu/scholarships)

**TCC PREVIEW**

Feb 7, 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. • TCC Student Union Ballroom



APPLY NOW



[GoToTCC.com](http://GoToTCC.com)  
(850) 201-TCC1



\*Also running in The Chronicle on January 24 and 31.

**Tallahassee Community College**  
and **Lively** have teamed up to offer an  
**evening welding program.**

Work your day job and train for a high paying welding career in the evening. Welders are in demand in almost every industry, from construction, manufacturing to alternative energy.



**The TCC Applied Welding Technologies Program starts January 22.**

Register today at **[workforce.tcc.fl.edu](http://workforce.tcc.fl.edu)**

Contact **[trades@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:trades@tcc.fl.edu)** or **201-6105**