

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



October 14 - November 17, 2017

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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October 14 - November 17, 2017

TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

In the News



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Top Pick U versus the community college

Starting at a community college can be the best route to the dream school degree

CHRISTEN GIVENS

LINK FOR COUNSELORS

High school students have so many options to choose from after graduation. Get a four-year degree? Choose a community college? Move straight into a career after a year or two of college? Choose a major immediately or wait and explore possibilities? Stay close to home or move away?

As a counselor, you work tirelessly to provide your high school students with individualized college readiness advice. Whether the best fit for a particular student is a community college or a four-year university really depends on the student's goals, needs and budget. Many counselors are now guiding their students towards community colleges that have great transfer programs with the student's dream university.

Many teens want to go to large universities with big-time athletics programs. However, this is not always realistic directly out of high school. Students who are not able to secure a spot at their dream school due to finances, test scores or GPA requirements are turning to community colleges to earn an Associate in Arts first and then transfer to complete a Bachelor's degree. When Top Pick University is just not the best fit for your student, find out which community college has the #1 transfer rate to Top Pick U.

Many students who attend community colleges can attest to just how different their college is from what they expected before they arrived on campus. The junior college of yesteryear has evolved into a sophisticated academic institution. Once first-year students arrive on a community college campus they often find that their college is more like a small university.

Community college students have wide-open opportunities to get involved in extracurricular activities like intramurals, theater, debate and civic-minded campus clubs. They likely attend classes taught by full-time faculty members with excellent credentials. Their class sizes are small and their academic discussions are rich with perspective. And a huge added benefit - they save a lot of money. Community colleges are typically half the price of four-year universities, and scholarships can further help with affordability.

Across the country, community colleges have worked to ensure that their associate degree curriculum matches the general education requirements of most universities, especially local ones. For this reason, it has never been easier for students to transfer credits between the two institutions. Many community colleges have adopted a "guided pathways" approach to better address the challenges of transfer students. A guided pathway is a detailed academic plan assigned to all incoming students when they select a major and begin their coursework. These pathways take into account students' interests, funneling them into four-semester course plans that prepare students for transfer to four-year institutions. Completion of the pathway ensures that transfer students have taken all relevant prerequisites and are fully prepared to enroll in upper-division coursework for their chosen majors. These students are equipped to perform well alongside students who enrolled as a freshman at the university.

Community colleges and universities often work together to make information about pathway programs readily available to students. For example, Tallahassee Community College, located just one mile away from Florida State University, offers the TCC2FSU Program to ensure a seamless transfer to FSU after students complete an A.A. degree at the community college. The program provides advising from both institutions, in addition to transfer scholarships and special perks on both campuses.

Counselors can feel confident directing their students towards straight-forward transfer programs like this one. They also feel assured of their students' likelihood of success based on data on the community college's transfer rates and transfer student graduation rates from the university.

A lot of alums say they are glad they came through a community college to get to their university of choice. Take Nicole Stalder as an example, Nicole attended St. Thomas Aquinas High School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and always wanted to attend Florida State University. She applied, was deferred acceptance and was ultimately denied. Nicole did very well in high school and had matched FSU's average weighted GPA of 4.0 for incoming freshman but did not meet FSU's SAT requirement.

Top Pick U versus the community college....

continued

Nicole had not considered a community college until she was told by the admissions office that this could be a viable path for her. After high school graduation, she found herself to be an independent student so the affordability of a community college was very appealing.

Two years ago, Nicole moved to Tallahassee, enrolled at Tallahassee Community College and began working towards a degree. This May she graduated with honors and then transferred to FSU. These types of programs are available all over the country.

When it comes to advising secondary students on whether to attend a two-year community college or a four-year university, encourage them to be open minded about the various pathways that will lead to their ultimate goals. Most importantly, advise students to do their research. Which path a student chooses will rely heavily on budget, the kind of learning environment that works best for their individual and career ambitions. By taking all of these factors into consideration, your students can make good decisions for their education and their future.

Shoulders family makes the most of homeschool dual enrollment

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (SPONSORED STORIES)

When Elijah Shoulders, 20, graduated from Tallahassee Community College in May, he was the first of the Shoulders siblings to walk in TCC's commencement ceremony—but not the first to attend TCC.

Parents Doug and Lorie Shoulders have five children, all of whom Lorie has homeschooled. When oldest son Jed was entering grade 11, Lorie encouraged him to try the dual enrollment program at TCC. The program allows high school students, including homeschooled students, to take college credit courses for free.

Jed dual enrolled at TCC from 2005 to 2007 and then went on to attend TCC as a true college student, earning two associate degrees at the same time—one in Drafting and Design and another in Building Construction. Hannah Shoulders, 25, followed in her brother's footsteps as a dual enrolled student from 2008 to 2010 and earned an Associate in Arts degree in 2012.

So, when Elijah started his dual enrollment at TCC in 2013, the family knew what to expect and Lorie was no longer "scared to death," as she had been when Jed started. After completing his high school requirements, Elijah enrolled as a traditional student at TCC. He graduated in May with a 4.0GPA and is now enrolled at the University of Florida studying civil engineering.

Although some students dual enroll so they can earn all the credits required for an associate degree while still in high school—for free—the Shoulders siblings used dual enrollment to give them more flexibility later when they enrolled at TCC as traditional college students. Having already earned some credits allowed them to take fewer classes each semester and focus on getting top grades, work part-time, or earn more than one degree, as Jed did.

TCC, faculty union remain far apart on key issues

Everything from teaching load to pay on the table

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Community College faculty union representatives claim the administration is ignoring their proposals and making heavy-handed demands that will hurt teaching and students.

But a veteran labor attorney for the firm representing TCC trustees says nearly a year of talks with little progress has given the administration no choice but to declare an impasse, which it did in September.

James Crosland, a labor attorney for Bryant, Miller, Olive's Miami office, said the administration declared the impasse after submitting "30 to 40 proposals," as did the union, with key issues unresolved.

"We are far apart on the core issues," he said. "They said at the table that they thought we declared a premature impasse. We do not agree with that. We feel we have bargained in good faith."

Some of the key outstanding issues include teaching loads, work loads, payment for extra classes, summer assignment pay and faculty advisement.

"TCC is taking an entire contract to impasse, which is totally unprecedented in the state of Florida," said Martin Balinsky, an earth science professor and union vice president.

At the union's request, both sides have agreed to continue meeting, with the next session in November. A special magistrate has been selected, but it could be early next year before hearings start.

Tom Wazlavek, the United Faculty of Florida representative for the union, had instead asked for a mediator, whose services would have been free.

Meanwhile, the union is urging members to attend Monday's board of trustees meeting.

Contract talks are being held against the backdrop of an August 2016 139-22 faculty vote to be represented in collective bargaining by the United Faculty of Florida. The union includes full-time faculty, librarians and counselors hired as of May 2016.

Members of the collective bargaining team say the administration has taken a hard-line stance during the negotiations.

"The idea behind collective bargaining is supposed to be give and take," said Jen Robinson, an art history professor and union president. "We're not saying management is going to agree with everything we've put forward. They have not taken a scrap of anything we've offered."

There have been nine bargaining sessions since September 2016. Balinsky said the administration has not "put anything on the table since Aug. 4."

KEY ISSUES

Teaching loads: Under the current status, faculty teaching large classes may receive extra assignment pay for teaching a fifth class, which the union wants to maintain.

The administration is proposing all faculty should teach either five or six classes, regardless of class load.

Work hours: TCC faculty currently are required to work 25 hours on campus, in addition to 15 hours or reassigned time, used for public service, serving on committees, professional development. The union wants this maintained.

The administration is requiring faculty work 40 hours per week on campus.

"We don't understand why a 40-hour work week is such a burden," Crosland said.

Currently, 80 percent of the faculty have some amount of reassigned time out of the classroom, TCC spokesman Al Moran said.

Moran said better management of reassigned team could result in a savings of \$1 million annually. Currently, adjunct professors are hired to teach the classes if the professor opts out, even though the professor is are paid for teaching a fifth class. They receive more money if they choose to teach a sixth class.

TCC, faculty union remain far apart on key issues....

continued

Overload assignment pay (for teaching an additional three-hour class): The union proposes keeping the current salary rate of \$3,837 for those with doctorates, \$3,600 for those with a master's and \$3,476 with a bachelor's degree.

The administration proposes \$3,300 for doctorates, \$3,000 for master's and \$2,700 for those with a bachelor's degree.

"Overall, they are attempting to take 20 percent to 30 percent of our salary," Balinsky said.

Moran said TCC's salaries for teaching additional classes ranks No. 1 of 19 state colleges providing data on overload salaries. TCC faculty are the seventh highest paid in the state college system, records show.

Summer assignment pay: The union's proposal maintains the current rate of faculty with doctorates earning up to \$22,170 for a full summer load, \$20,820 for those with master's degrees and \$19,815 for those with bachelor's degrees.

The administration's proposal provides for 20 percent of the professor's base salary. The union calculates that based on an average faculty salary of \$57,000, the average maximum allowed under the proposal is \$11,400.

Faculty advisement hours required: The union proposes maintaining the current practice that all faculty are required to spend 10 hours per academic year in advising duties.

The administration is requiring that number be increased from 10 hours annually to 128 hours.

Robinson and Balinsky said only two state colleges use faculty for advising students on classes.

First choice on summer teaching assignments and extra assignments: Full-time faculty currently have first choice on teaching during the summer and extra teaching assignments. The administration says this should up to the discretion of deans.

"We've always had conversations with (deans)," Robinson said. "It's not us strong-arming them."

Library faculty: The union proposes the library faculty maintain tenure-track positions. The administration's proposal removes that status. Crosland said this put TCC in line with trends within the state college system.

TCC seeks employers for Fall Job and Internship Fair

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College is seeking employers to participate in its Fall Job & Internship Fair on Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to noon in the TCC Student Union.

Over 200 job-seekers attended the job fair held during the Spring 2017 semester. Employers looking to fill part- or full-time positions or internships should attend. Employer space is limited and registration is \$100.

Details and registration are available online at www.tccfuturelink.com/events or by contacting the TCC Career Center at 201-9970.

(NOTE: The October 19, 2017 Wakulla News featured this item as well.)

TCC invites prospective adjunct instructors to job fair

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College will hold an Adjunct Job Fair on from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Student Union ballroom on TCC's campus at 444 Appleyard Drive.

The College is seeking to hire new adjunct instructors for face-to-face courses; online courses are also available in some disciplines.

The college is looking mostly for mathematics instructors, but has openings in 'many academic disciplines,' according to Feleccia Moore-Davis, TCC's provost.

Prospective instructors will have the opportunity to speak directly with deans and program chairs at the Adjunct Job Fair. Participants are encouraged to bring their resumes.

A master's degree or higher is required for most academic disciplines. Career-oriented programs have varying requirements.

For information, call 201-8680 or email academicaffairs@tcc.fl.edu.

TPD, LCSO team up for new scholarship for at-risk teens

FLETCHER KEEL
WCTV

With crime a hot topic in and around Tallahassee, at-risk youth are now getting a fresh start at Tallahassee Community College.

The Tallahassee Police Department and Leon County Sheriff's Department are each donating \$10,000 to the New Start Scholarship.

The scholarship is intended to help those caught up in the juvenile justice system to turn their lives around through education.

"The scholarship is trying to create that foundation of education so that way, they have the opportunity to succeed," said Tallahassee Police Chief, Michael Deleo.

The funds for the scholarship come from money seized from drug dealers and other criminals.

The scholarship will be able to support four students and will start in January of next year.

TPD, LCSO partner with Tallahassee Community College to create new scholarship

WTXL

Two local law enforcement agencies are investing in a scholarship at Tallahassee Community College, in hope that they will help teens in the juvenile justice system turn their lives around.

The Tallahassee Police Department and Leon County Sheriff's Office will each donate \$10,000 to TCC to create the New Start scholarship. The scholarship was created in the memory of David and Nancy Lawrence.

The money rewards students who been involved with the juvenile justice system but are turning their lives around through education.

The agencies say that most forms of financial aid are unavailable to these students because of their past, so the New Start Scholarship gives them an opportunity they would not otherwise have.

TCC administration, faculty work to negotiate collective bargaining contract

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College is in the process of negotiating a collective bargaining contract.

Teachers at the Tallahassee Community College have been discussing the collective bargaining contract with administration for over a year but both sides have issues with the contract.

The teacher's union at TCC feels like the administration is not bargaining under good faith and that the impasse that was called for was unprecedented. The administration stresses the impasse is part of the negotiation process and does not mean the two sides are not talking to each other.

Since the two sides could not come to an agreement, the impasse was considered necessary.

The impasse will bring a hearing where both sides will present their cases to a magistrate, who will give his or her findings to the board of trustees. Then, the trustees will decide to accept or reject the ideas presented by both sides.

Seventy-five percent of the teachers are involved in the union to preserve TCC the way it is. In the end, the administration and faculty are still a family and will come together.

The faculty is recognized by the administration for their talent and work inside and out of the classroom. Although neither side will get exactly what they want, there will be a contract and the school will continue to move forward.

At the November 6th session, both of the opposing sides will bring new ideas or adjust current ones to find an agreement.

TCC hosts Wakulla financial aid night, job fair and more

WAKULLA NEWS

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Employers looking to fill part- or full-time positions or internships should attend. Employer space is limited and registration is \$100.

Details and registration are available online at www.tccfuturelink.com/events or by contacting the TCC Career Center at (850) 201-9970.

Commercial Vehicle Driving Program

TCC is also hosting a Commercial Vehicle Driving Program discovery session on Thursday, Oct. 26 from 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. at the TCC Wakulla Center, 2932 Crawfordville Highway in Crawfordville.

TCC welcomes Wakulla residents, as well as current and prospective students, to learn about the opportunities in our commercial driving program.

This event is free and open to the public.

For more information call 850-558-3525.

Wakulla County Financial Aid and Scholarship Night

A Wakulla County Financial Aid and Scholarship Night will be held on Thursday, Nov. 9 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the TCC Wakulla Center, 2932 Crawfordville Highway in Crawfordville.

Learn about ways to receive financial assistance as you begin or continue your college experience at TCC.

Staff from the office of financial aid will be on hand to discuss scholarships and other opportunities, and to help you apply for financial aid for the 2018-19 school year.

Free to attend. All Wakulla County residents are welcome.

Durbin of American Idol shares his story

WAKULLA NEWS

Tallahassee Community College will host a unique musician to share his music and his story.

James Durbin, a 2011 American Idol finalist and the current lead singer of heavy metal band Quiet Riot, will perform Friday, Oct. 27 at 6 p.m. in the TCC Student Union Ballroom.

The concert is free to attend and open to the public. Tickets are available by reservation from Eventbrite at goo.gl/qi9ttp.

In addition to his skills as a singer, songwriter and guitarist, Durbin is noted for starring in the documentary film "Different is the New Normal: Living a Life with Tourette's." The multi-talented musician was diagnosed with Tourette's Syndrome as a child.

Durbin will perform at the college thanks to the stewardship of VSA Florida, a statewide organization on arts and disability.

The concert is the grand finale of TCC's Diversity Week, a celebration coordinated by the Department of Student Services and the Student Leadership, Involvement, and Civic Engagement Office.

For information, contact Emily Rattini-Reich at (850) 201-9484 or rattinie@tcc.fl.edu.

(NOTE: This story also appeared in the Tallahassee Democrat on Saturday, October 21, 2017.)

TCC Fine Art Gallery hosts nationally-known professor

WAKULLA NEWS

The Tallahassee Community College Fine Art Gallery is currently highlighting the works of an award-winning artist.

Lilian Garcia-Roig, a professor of art at Florida State University, presents her exhibit titled "In the Thick of It." Garcia-Roig is a landscape specialist who uses the traditional plein-air process to reconcile the abstract nature of painting with its representational role.

"I draw the viewer into what is first perceived as a dense but conventional space," Garcia-Roig said. "Up close, however, the images break down ... to reinforce the two-dimensional character of abstract painting as both an activity and an end product."

Garcia-Roig has received many prestigious awards and fellowships for her work, including a Joan Mitchell Award for artistic merit in 2006.

The exhibit will be on display through December 14.

The TCC Fine Art Gallery, located in the Fine and Performing Arts Center, is open weekdays from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m.

For information, contact Barbara Cohenour at (850) 201-9889 or cohenoub@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC officials dedicate new garden to founder

WTLX

It's all about green spaces at TCC!

Folks gathered at Tallahassee Community College's main campus to dedicate a new garden Friday.

The garden is built in honor of founder Louis Hill Sr.

The Louis Hill Senior Garden is located in the center of the college's main campus. TCC officials say that spot was chosen to signify that Hill is the heart of the school.

Hill founded TCC in the 60's and spent his life working in education. His wife says, with the support of FSU's president, hill began to put his heart into opening a junior college.

Hill's daughter says a garden in his honor is very fitting because he loved the outdoors.

Westminster Oaks residents visit TCC

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (SPONSORED STORIES)

Approximately 40 residents of the Westminster Oaks retirement community visited Tallahassee Community College on October 6 to learn more about TCC and how they can get connected with the College's programs and students.

The residents toured the Lei Wang STEM Center, the TCC Fine Art Gallery, the Pankowski Honors Lounge and the Theatre TCC! costume shop. They also received special "all-access" badges that will allow them to check out books from the library, attend athletics and arts events at no cost, and receive a discount at the TCC Bookstore, among other perks.

John Mercer, a retired journalist and Westminster Oaks resident, was amazed by the facilities accessible to students in the STEM Center.

"It's a wonderful place to play and learn," Mercer said. "It's great that students can put to practical application what they learn in the classroom."

This is the first of four Westminster Oaks Days at TCC being offered during 2017-18. The College and Westminster Oaks recently launched a partnership agreement to provide lifelong learning opportunities, volunteer activities, and engagement with TCC students, faculty and staff for Westminster Oaks residents.

A central part of the agreement is the new Growing Resourceful Eagles At Westminster, or G.R.E.A.T., program, which provides courses specifically targeted to residents and taught by TCC faculty. Classes include "Become the Master of Your Smartphone," "Time and Money Saving Apps," "Painting in Acrylics," and "Discovering Digital Photography."

The partnership will also provide opportunities for Westminster Oaks residents to serve as mentors for students, as ambassadors at College events such as Freshman Convocation and as members of the TCC Foundation's Board of Directors. Additionally, the agreement is expected to lead to student internship and career opportunities at Westminster Oaks.

Work of TCC students recognized by state association

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College's student publications brought home 10 awards from the Florida College System Publications Association's annual conference in Orlando in mid-October.

Contributors to the Eyrie, TCC's student art and literary magazine, won awards in several categories: Annelise Jordan for nonfiction; Elizabeth Lehman, Alexa Patton and Natalia Rodriguez for photography; D. J. Paradis for contents page design; and Aliyah Robinson for fiction. Lehman also won for individual photo. The magazine as a whole took home third place in the General Excellence category. Nicolette Costantino, associate professor of English, advises the Eyrie staff.

Staff of The Talon student newspaper received awards in four categories: Oldens LaFortune for news story, Alex Krutchik for feature story, Sedricka Morris for illustration and Seth Russell for arts review. Reggie Grant, assistant professor of journalism, is adviser for The Talon.

TCC employee graduates from criminal justice leadership program

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Andrea Blalock, criminal justice instructional coordinator at TCC's Florida Public Safety Institute, recently graduated from the Senior Leadership Program of the Florida Criminal Justice Executive Institute.

She was one of the 32 most recent graduates who represented criminal justice agencies from around the state. The class met for seven weeks over a 10-month period to discuss topics such as risk management, budgeting, procedural justice and futures forecasting as it relates to criminal justice.

TCC employee honored for safe driving advocacy

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Danielle Branciforte, program coordinator and affiliate state director for Florida Students Against Destructive Decisions and the Florida Teen Safe Driving Coalition, received the 3D Badge of Courage Award from the highway safety advocacy organization We Save Lives. Florida SADD is based at TCC's Florida Public Safety Institute.

For 10 years, Branciforte has led the charge on teen traffic safety initiatives in Florida and has been a visionary for furthering traffic safety education and awareness efforts for teens and parents. In 2017, she received the National Safety Council's Teen Traffic Safety Leadership Award in recognition of her impact on changing behaviors that affect teen crashes in Florida.

TCC hosts Careers in the Foreign Service and the State Department

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

On Monday from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m., TCC will host a career fair in the Center for Workforce Development located at 444 Appleyard Drive. The fair will be in room 123.

As part of the event, a Model United Nations program will host a talk and Q& A session with Amy Radetsky, the United States State Department's Diplomat-in-Residence for the Southeast Region. Radetsky has served as a foreign service officer for 16 years with tours in South America, Africa and elsewhere.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Tom Waller at 201-8159 or wallert@tcc.fl.edu.

First Florida Credit Union supports classroom renovation at TCC

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Another local business has committed to supporting a classroom renovation at Tallahassee Community College. The most recent donor is First Florida Credit Union, which is based in Jacksonville and has locations in many Florida counties, including those served by TCC—Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla.

The credit union's \$25,000 gift was presented at the Oct. 16 meeting of the TCC District Board of Trustees by Brent Lister, First Florida Credit Union's president and CEO. The investment will support technology and infrastructure updates for a classroom in the Science and Mathematics Building.

The TCC Foundation has been working with groups and individuals throughout the community to support classroom renovations and has already identified donors for 34 of the 50 classrooms targeted for renovations.

For information, contact Heather Mitchell at 201-6067 or mitchelh@tcc.fl.edu.

TCC holds Q&A on careers in foreign services

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College held its "Careers in the Foreign Services" talk and Q&A Monday.

The event was held at the center for workforce development.

Attendees were able to talk with Amy Redetsky, the United State's diplomat-in-residency for the south east region. Radetsky served as a foreign service officer for 16 years with tours in South America, Africa and elsewhere.

Dr. Richard Murgó said the point of to help students interested in working overseas.

Murgó says, although they have seen some hesitation from students wanting to work abroad after recent terror attacks, they still have about as heavy an interest as ever.

Nurse on the run between TMH shifts

Nontraditional student excels on TCC cross-country team

JORDAN CULVER

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Running wasn't part of Ashley Maxwell's plan.

The 27-year-old registered nurse at Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare had more than enough on her plate when a mass email from Tallahassee Community College Athletics arrived in her inbox. It was gauging interest in the school's crosscountry team, which was preparing for its second season.

Maxwell worked 12-hour days at the hospital, plus classes to get her bachelor's in nursing. Who would have time to join a junior college cross-country team?

She did.

Now she's getting ready for the NJCAA District/FSCAA State Cross Country Championships, which take place at 8 a.m. on Saturday at Apalachee Regional Park.

"If you told me when I was younger that I was going to be running cross-country on a collegiate level, I'd probably laugh in your face," Maxwell said.

Running was more of a hobby than anything else for Maxwell. She just needed to find a healthy pastime after her divorce two years ago.

Still, she thought, it couldn't hurt to see if head coach Gary Droze and the Eagles wanted her on the team.

Maxwell, who graduated from SAIL and had earned an associate's at TCC, responded to the email, got in contact with TCC Athletic Director Rob Chaney and Droze and geared up for the first race of the season – the Cougar Cross Country Challenge at Phipps Park.

It didn't go well.

"I drank Gatorade before I ran," she said, shaking her head.

"It was awful. It's like poison. I was pretty sure I was going to start breathing fire any second. I had the worst heartburn. It was hot. It was at like 5 p.m. at the end of August. I was just dying. There was an entire mile of that race that I just walked because I was over it.

"I've been fine ever since then, but the bane of my existence was that one race."

She finished the 5K course in 36:09.44, by far her slowest time of the season.

"My parents and my boyfriend were at the finish line," she said. "When I crossed the finish line, I looked at them and I said, 'I don't want to talk about this, ever.' It's fine now, but at the time I was just like, 'Don't talk to me. I don't want to talk about it. That was awful. I'm aware.'" I promised coach it would be better next time."

That there even was a "next time" speaks to Maxwell's determination.

She's in TCC's RN to BSN program. When she's not working at TMH in one of three spots – the progressive care unit, the cardiac ICU or the cardiovascular ICU – she's doing her homework online.

Most days, she's just trying to get ahead.

Plus, she has a personal life. She's got two dogs and a boyfriend. Her leisure time, as rare as it is, is important to her.

"I try to get ahead as much as I can, but sometimes it just doesn't work out that way," she said. "I've never really thought about dropping any aspect of it. I don't think I would change it."

Droze said Maxwell has earned the respect of both him and her much-younger teammates.

"Her performance times have dropped since the beginning of the season," Droze said. "At this point in the season, all of the women have improved, but she's the most improved on the team.

"She's great to work with, especially given she has sort of an unusual situation compared to other college student athletes. A lot of the workouts have to be sort of worked around her schedule. It wouldn't be uncommon for athletes to let that training drop."

Maxwell said she has taken on a defacto "team mom" role on the crosscountry team. And yes, there are a few jokes about her age from the runners who are fresh out of high school.

Nurse on the run between TMH shifts....

continued

"They were like, 'Oh I thought you were only like, 22!'" Maxwell said with a laugh. "I was like, 'I'll take it!'"

Maxwell's 12-hour shifts at the hospital go from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. "Whatever days I'm not working, I'm up in the morning and I'm running with our team," she said.

Kathy Patterson, the nurse manager of the cardiovascular medical surgical ICU at TMH, was Maxwell's first supervisor at the local hospital.

Patterson, 62, still serves as a mentor for Maxwell. The 37-year veteran nurse said she's not shocked to hear about Maxwell's busy lifestyle.

"It's just in her personality," she said. "She's always got her eye on the ball and she's always moving toward it. She's very goal-driven."

Patterson said she's always hearing questions from Maxwell while the two are working together.

"She's very inquisitive and is just trying to experience life in its many forms," Patterson said. "She's always a questioner, wondering why things are done a certain way and if we can do things better."

Maxwell's attitude helps with patients, Patterson said.

"She's very outgoing," Patterson said. "She's the ray of sunshine for the patients in her care. She's always got a smile and something nice to say."

Maxwell is hitting her stride just as the championship is coming around.

On Oct. 14, she finished the 5K at the Chipola Invitational in 25:48.54, her best time of the season. The Eagles won that meet, which was the team's final tune-up before Saturday's FCSAA State Championship.

Apalachee Regional Park's trail isn't ideal for Maxwell, but she's confident heading into the last meet of the fall.

There really isn't time for that confidence to waver.

"Luckily, my life is so chaotic I have a lot of stuff that can distract me," she said.

If the pressure ever catches up with her, she's got music to help calm her nerves. She's an Imagine Dragons fan, but lately she's used Spotify's "Deep Thought" playlist to settle down and focus on the task at hand.

"My forte is the techy, route-y, true trail kind of thing," she said. "With techy stuff, you don't use your calves a lot, but going up and down all these hills is really hard on the calves. I'm pretty confident. We've had two races so far at that course. My first race was pretty good and then I got a little bit better the second time."

She has the confidence of her coach, too.

"She's at the point now where I can certainly say she's evolved from where running is sort of a pastime to a legitimate competitor," Droze said.

"Part of that came from getting exposure to competition at a higher level than what she's used to. You can be intimidated and give up or you can buckle down.

Happily for us, she's chosen the latter path."

TCC student McNeil wins Phi Theta Kappa scholarship

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Sophomore Jessica McNeil has been selected as a Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The national scholarship recognizes 200 members of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated leadership potential.

McNeil, who is a graduate of Chiles High School in Tallahassee, is a member of the TCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is also an active member of the TCC Honors Program. She plans to graduate in the spring of 2018 and hopes to transfer to Florida State University to major in Motion Picture Arts or Digital Media Production.

TCC Job & Internship Fair will be held on Nov. 8

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC will host its Fall Job & Internship Fair on Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to noon in the TCC Student Union Ballroom. The fair will connect individuals searching for part-time jobs with area companies looking to fill open positions.

All members of the community are invited to attend. Jobseekers do not have to pre-register for this event. Business casual dress is required, and attendees should bring copies of their resume. Free parking is available.

For information and a list of employers, visit www.tccfuturelink.com/events or contact the TCC Career Center at 201-9970.

(NOTE: This item was also featured in the Wakulla News on Thursday, November 2, 2017.)

Florida College System Chancellor recognizes four colleges for innovation and excellence

CAPITAL SOUP

At the Association of Florida Colleges' 68th Annual Meeting and Conference today, Florida College System Chancellor Madeline Pumariega recognized four colleges with the Chancellor's Best Practice Award for pioneering inventive practices or enhancing existing programs.

"The Chancellor's Best Practice Awards is an opportunity for our colleges to showcase innovative program strategies that have proven successful at their colleges and in their communities," said Chancellor Pumariega. "The Best Practice Awards recognize colleges for creating successful programs and then shares the best practices with all institutions in the Florida College System."

Chancellor Pumariega recognized the following four colleges with the Chancellor's Best Practice Award:

Valencia College: Got College? Increasing the College-Going Rate in Osceola County as an innovative initiative designed to help students overcome the barriers that historically prevented students from pursuing postsecondary education.

"I am so proud of our community's 'Got College?' efforts to increase educational attainment levels in Osceola County," said Kathleen Plinske, president of Valencia's Osceola, Poinciana and Lake Nona campuses. "Since 2010, Osceola County's college-going rate has increased by more than 20%, demonstrating the success of our collective efforts to reduce the barriers that historically have prevented many students from going to college."

Eastern Florida State College was recognized for creating exciting careers in aviation by developing and sustaining a competitive aviation and aerospace workforce curriculum. Eastern Florida President Dr. Jim Richey said the program reflects the college's commitment to working closely with industry and business partners on a central goal of providing students with new educational opportunities that can lead to good jobs after graduation, with companies reaping the benefits of gaining skilled employees.

"The aviation program stands out for what can happen when vision is combined with workforce needs to give people great careers and help our local economy," said Eastern Florida President Dr. Jim Richey. "That's even more exciting when you consider the program is ramping up to instruct more students to meet the demand at area aviation companies."

Santa Fe College continues to keep college affordable by creating a unique approach to reducing student loan debt through a financial aid campaign that ensures students' progress in their academic programs without gaps in financial support.

"So much of what Santa Fe College aspires to be is practiced in the Florida College System," said Santa Fe College President Jackson Sasser. "We thank you and share this honor with you."

Tallahassee Community College is committed to students having streamlined access to college with its AskStudent Central: Enrollment Call Center 2.0, which improves the college enrollment process through increased communication efforts.

"Tallahassee Community College is proud to be selected for a Chancellor's Best Practice Award," said Tallahassee Community College President Jim Murdaugh. "The call center is a tremendous asset for our college and creates real benefits for students and families. The call center staff not only help students navigate the enrollment process, but also become a familiar and reliable source of information and assistance throughout students' time here."

"I applaud our colleges for their commitment to excellence and innovation in our system," continued Chancellor Pumariega. "It is this commitment that keeps the Florida College System in the forefront as a national leader in higher education."

(NOTE: An abbreviated version of this article appeared in the Tallahassee Democrat's Campus Notes section on Monday, November 6, 2017.)

TCC inducts 16 new members of Hall of Fame

GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

The Tallahassee Community College Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame now has 16 new members, including five former presidents of the College.

The honorees were recognized at a ceremony on October 30, and their names were added to the Wall of Honor on the exterior of the TCC Student Union.

James Kassaga Arinaitwe is co-founder and CEO of Teach For Uganda, a nonprofit organization that enlists Uganda's recent university graduates and young professionals to address education inequity in poor rural and urban schools across Uganda. Arinaitwe previously worked with The Carter Center in Atlanta. He has been a Global Health Corps Fellow, Acumen Global Fellow and Aspen Institute New Voices Fellow.

Eddie Barnes retired from TCC after 24 seasons as a National Junior College Athletic Association head coach. His record at TCC was 274-144, and his overall NJCAA record was 469-254, which makes him one of the NJCAA's top 100 all-time winningest coaches. Equally impressive is the number of players who have moved on to the next level. To date, 60 of Barnes' TCC Eagles have continued their athletic and academic careers at four-year institutions. In 2015, Barnes was voted into the Florida College System Activities Association Men's Basketball Coaches' Hall of Fame.

Pamella J. Butler is the chair and founder of Aegis Business Technologies. She is a graduate of TCC who has served two terms as president of the TCC Foundation Board of Directors. Butler was the lead board volunteer for the Foundation's 2016 fundraising campaign, which raised a historic \$14.4 million in 2016. She is a long-time member of the President's Circle and supporter of scholarships and programs at the TCC Gadsden Center. Aegis has also underwritten the renovation of the Aegis Business Technologies Classroom.

Jean English-Hurst was the founding theatre director and an English professor at TCC who helped design Fred W. Turner Auditorium. She served as Freshman English chair for nine years. She also created and chaired TCC's Signature Seat Program. In 2003, she and husband Ralph Hurst, a noted artist, established the Ralph and Jean Hurst Collection, which is housed in space next to Turner Auditorium in the TCC Fine and Performing Arts Center.

Marm M. Harris took over in 1979 as TCC's second president. The TCC Foundation was established during his tenure, and Harris was instrumental in the creation of an artist series to provide additional cultural opportunities and experiences for students and for the community. The Lifetime Sports Complex, providing a facility for intercollegiate, intramural and fitness programs, was also built during the Harris presidency. He died in 2008.

James H. Hinson Jr. was named TCC's third president in 1983. During his tenure, enrollment more than doubled. He also expanded the TCC Foundation and re-established an athletic program. Facility additions included a major new classroom building, state-of-the-art science labs, a new administration building and a new library. Other buildings were renovated and or expanded and athletic facilities were developed. The size of the campus increased from 64 acres, the smallest in the state, to nearly 200. The TCC Gadsden Center in Quincy was also opened. Hinson retired in 1995.

Betty Jensen began her career at TCC in 1988. She established the International Student Organization and the International Student Services department, which she directed until her retirement in 2017. It was Jensen's passion for international education that led to the development of International Education Week at TCC. It was also through her efforts that TCC became only the second community college in Florida to receive the J-1 visa designation. Additionally, Jensen developed the first Florida International Leadership program.

W. Ken Katsaris was in his early 20s when TCC's founding president, Fred Turner, tapped him to establish and chair a criminal justice education program. While in that role, Katsaris set up the region's first teaching crime lab, which was based at TCC and used by police agencies for preliminary analysis. He even served as campus security director. Katsaris left the program in 1977 after being elected sheriff of Leon County. He is now a police litigation consultant and leads seminars for law enforcement professionals. Katsaris is also still active at TCC, teaching basic recruits at the Florida Public Safety Institute.

William D. Law Jr. was named the College's fifth president in May 2002, serving until 2010. During Law's tenure, TCC opened the Learning Commons, created the Advanced

TCC inducts 16 new members of Hall of Fame...

continued

Manufacturing and Training Center, opened the Economic and Workforce Development Center, and broke ground on the Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education. Law also led an aggressive building program and land acquisition to transform the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy into one of the nation's premiere law enforcement training centers, the Florida Public Safety Institute. Under Law's leadership, the TCC Foundation launched a \$10 million capital campaign.

Kimberly A. Moore serves as vice president for workforce innovation at TCC. Before joining TCC, Moore served as CEO of Workforce Plus—the youngest person, the first African-American, and the first woman to hold that position. Moore, who is a TCC alumna, is a member of Leadership Tallahassee and Leadership Florida, a trustee for Florida A & M University, and a board director for Big Bend Hospice. She has been recognized both locally and statewide for her service and commitment to excellence.

Deborah Robinson, who was the director of library services at TCC for more than six years, was known for her passion for helping students. She was instrumental in developing TCC's EaglePrint program, which allows students to print, scan and make copies in various locations around campus. Robinson was also the driving force in creating the Collaboration Room in the library for faculty, staff and students to collaborate and innovate on various projects. She served as director of the executive board of the Florida Library Association and president of the Florida Association of College and Research Libraries. Deborah Robinson died in 2017.

Chris Summers, who is a TCC alumnus, became TCC's chief of police in January 2014. Summers worked to increase the level of interaction between his department and the TCC community as a whole and represented TCC with organizations such as the Florida Missing and Exploited Persons Information Clearinghouse and the Smart Justice Alliance. In January 2017, he left TCC to become chief of the Department of Law Enforcement with the Leon County Sheriff's Office. Summers still serves as an adjunct instructor at TCC's Florida Public Safety Institute.

Beth Willis Tedio, who is a TCC alumna, has served as a TCC Foundation board member for four years and is currently chair of the Alumni and Friends Advisory Council. She and her family have also established the Uptown Café scholarship at TCC. Tedio is a board member for Locally Owned Tallahassee, the Association

of Fundraising Professionals, the Chamber Leads Group 1 and the Capital Women's Network, where she served for three years as president. She is also co-owner of Uptown Café, where she developed the Uptown Cares program, which has generated more than \$50,000 in donations for local nonprofits.

Marjorie R. Turnbull was executive director of the TCC Foundation from 1995 until 2006, spearheading growth in the Foundation's assets from \$250,000 to more than \$10 million. This included more than 80 endowed scholarships and more than 500 scholarships for Take Stock in Children recipients. Upon her retirement, the Foundation Board of Directors created the Marjorie Turnbull Faculty Fellowship program. Turnbull is a member of the President's Circle and the Signature Seat Program and has established a fund to assist students in TCC's Model United Nations program. She was also a founding board member of TCC's Institute for Nonprofit Innovation and Excellence.

Fred W. Turner was the College's first president. Turner was responsible for planning and building the new college from the ground up—writing course descriptions, hiring faculty and staff, and providing direction for the architect, among other tasks. Students were his highest priority, and Turner was often directly involved in the advising and registration process and frequently sought out student views on matters concerning the College. Turner emphasized maintaining high academic standards, hiring top-quality faculty and support personnel, keeping student costs low, and developing programs that meet community needs. He served until 1979, then returned as interim president in 1982-83. Turner retired in 1983 and passed away in 1987.

T. K. Wetherell, the College's fourth president, took office in June 1995. He is credited with overseeing TCC's evolution into one of the state's premier community colleges. Wetherell more than doubled the square footage of the campus and oversaw the further development of the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy. Under his direction, TCC implemented 50 major workforce development programs, a GED/Adult Education program, an online Associate in Arts degree and significant technology innovations. Wetherell also worked with university partners to offer four-year degree programs on TCC's campus and made it a priority to have TCC actively involved in the community. He left TCC in 2001 to become president of Florida State University.

Some people are opposed to everything

ROBERT SEIDLER

WAKULLA NEWS (LETTERS TO THE EDITOR)

Progress in Wakulla, it seems, is always hard earned.

Insanity is the very best word I can muster as I watch an opportunity of many lifetimes come at risk because of a handful of skillfully mean and intolerant people.

Do we want a rejuvenated fishery and hundreds of jobs available in the county? This was a seafood gathering community for generations and most people did not drive to Tallahassee for work.

The STOPPERS only STOP progress they do not start businesses or invest in where they live. The STOPPERS do not do anything but STOP progress and anything new or improved. STOPPERS are not DOERS.

Oyster leases improve habitat and the entire fishery, period. They produce food, cover and habitat, period. Science has proven this and the link to that science is here at:

Northern Economics, Inc. Assessment of the Value of Shellfish Aquaculture in Gulf of Mexico as Habitat for Commercial and Recreational Fish Species. Prepared for Auburn University School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences and Alabama Cooperative Extension. March, 2014. - This document provides an evaluation of the value of oyster farming in terms of providing habitat in the Gulf of Mexico.

And, yes, one of the STOPPERS said this was not done in North Florida but in Alabama and it's different there. It is different there, there is more pollution, less aquatic life and a much more repressed fishery. If done here the numbers associated with fishery recovery would most certainly be HIGHER.

There are less than a dozen STOPPERS but their paranoia and misinformation seems to make their intentions genuine. And those intentions are a genuine risk to potential great changes for our county and beyond.

Leading the pack of stoppers is a gentleman kicked out of the very first WEI oyster aquaculture class for not completing tasks and not being present. I was there as a class member and witnessed it directly. He sued TCC and received a pre-trial settlement instead of a trial. The expense of the potential trial made the settlement option the correct action for TCC. It was not an admission of guilt from TCC and TCC would have won at trial with certainty.

Co-leads are a pack of conspiracy theorists that have worked to stop a sustainable development in 2002 that offered mixed use and advanced wastewater treatment (AWT). Instead, we got another 500 homes on septic tanks without infrastructure. They only stopped the project, not the people moving here. They worked to stop the Scenic Byway development, worked to stop the Maritime Center and worked to stop coastal development with a crafty wetlands ordinance after the majority of those stoppers were proven to live on filled wetlands, thanks to Ralph Thomas for a Powerpoint presentation at a BOCC meeting showing their homes and their placement.

These people do not create anything - they just STOP everything. C.A.V.E. people they are called. Citizens Against Virtually Everything.

I and many, many others are tired of Wakulla County getting nothing because of the STOPPERS and their noise.

We cannot do better work together without DOING work. We cannot do great work together without first doing GOOD work and learning from the DOING. We must DO our way to the future with place-based programs and sustainable outcomes. TCC and WEI want these things, too. So do 4 of the 5 county commissioners, the TDC, EDC, Chamber of Commerce and many others. Sitting still will not advance us. Good, then great work will. Thank you, TCC and WEI for your vision and tenacity.

As to change:

Change is difficult to muster. Change is something nobody ever wants and by not understanding how change works you get the worst type of change - short changed - an erosion by default with nothing working together, sprawl and services still a ways away in Tallahassee.

Good change makes communities function and prosper but it takes vision and time. Quality of life is real and can improve everyone's take in Wakulla County. We just have to DO our way to the future, not STOP our way and end up much worse.

Being ignorant of the process is no excuse. Being ignorant and intolerant just makes it that much worse.

James Arinaitwe inducted into TCC Hall of Fame

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (SPONSORED STORIES)

James Kassaga Arinaitwe was one of sixteen people inducted into the TCC Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame last week. James is co-founder & CEO of Teach For Uganda, a nonprofit organization that is leveraging the power of Uganda's recent university graduates and young professionals to address the challenge of education inequity in poor rural and urban schools across the country. James believes that Uganda's future economic and social stability will depend heavily on the quality of education and skills available to the majority of her population. He leverages the educational opportunities he was afforded at Tallahassee Community College and FSU to mobilize resources to achieve the mission and vision of TFU.

Prior to TFU, James had eight years of international development experience working with The Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia. He was a 2012-13 Global Health Corps Fellow in New York where, under the James Zadroga Act, he and a colleague designed the first ever World Trade Center Health Program geared towards providing healthcare and counselling for thousands of people affected by the 9/11 terrorist attacks. James was also a school partnerships manager at Educate!

In 2014, James was selected as an Acumen Global Fellow and spent a year in India working with a social enterprise providing education and livelihood skills to two million underserved youth. James is an Aspen Institute New Voices Fellow, and his op-eds on ethical and effective development solutions to African challenges have been featured in Al Jazeera, NPR, Devex, The Guardian and the New York Times.

We are proud to call him a TCC alum and congratulate James on his induction into the Hall of Fame!

TCC's Alexa Roddenberry named Theatre Student of the Month

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College student and Wakulla High School Class of 2016 alumna Alexa Roddenberry was named the Florida College System Activities Association's Theatre Division Student of the Month for September.

Roddenberry was nominated for the honor by Eva Nielsen-Parks, director of TCC's theatre program. The versatile actress has performed in shows ranging from the comedy "The Curate Shakespeare: As You Like It" to the drama "The Laramie Project."

In addition to sharing her talents on the stage, Roddenberry serves as an officer for Curtain Call, TCC's student theatre group. Her responsibilities include connecting the college's theatre program with the student body through outreach and other efforts.

TCC Model United Nations wins 13 awards at conference

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

The Tallahassee Community College Model United Nations team recently participated in the Florida Model United Nations conference in Gainesville, which included more than 100 delegates from nearly a dozen Florida colleges and universities.

TCC Model United Nations returned with 13 awards, including six for position papers written by students in preparation for the conference and seven recognizing performance in committees by individual or country delegations. The team was led by students Monica Garcia Vega and Roman Ramos.

The team is now preparing for a conference in Banff, Canada, during the Thanksgiving break. They will soon begin the work of hosting hundreds of high school and middle school students for the annual Tallahassee Southern Model United Nations conference, which will be held at TCC's Ghazvini Center for Healthcare Education on Feb. 18. Finally, team members are looking forward to closing out the academic year at the National Model United Nations conference in New York City in March.

FAMU-TCC BRIDGES students to present research at the National ABRCMS meeting in Phoenix

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Two Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences BRIDGES to the Baccalaureate in the Biomedical Sciences Program students' abstracts were presented at the 17th Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in Phoenix, Arizona.

These students along with 12 of their colleagues participated in the 2017 BRIDGES Summer Research Experience Program at FAMU. They conducted research in the biomedical science departments at FAMU.

Tallahassee Community College students Autumn Sherman and Michah Luster-Harvey will showcase their research after spending 10 weeks in the BRIDGES SRE Program. Over the past four years, 20 Bridges participants were given the opportunity to attend and present their research projects at scientific conferences nationally.

The goal of the FAMU BRIDGES to the Baccalaureate in the Biomedical Sciences Program is to cultivate and increase the numbers of underrepresented minority students from Tallahassee Community College to obtain a baccalaureate degree in one of FAMU's outstanding biomedical science programs.

Veterans events Nov. 9 ,2017

WAKULLA NEWS

There are numerous events in Wakulla honoring veterans this week.

RIVERSPRINGS VETERANS' DAY: A Veterans' Day Assembly will be held on Thursday, Nov. 9 at Riversprings Middle School, 800 Spring Creek Highway in Crawfordville. First assembly is at 8 a.m., second at 8:45 a.m. Wakulla NJROTC Color Guard, chorus will sing patriotic songs, Bill Taylor will speak, and drama group will perform a very short dramatic play. Family Fun Day will follow from 1 to 5 p.m.

SHADEVILLE SALUTE TO VETERANS: Shadeville Elementary hosts a Salute to Veterans at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 9 in the lunchroom at Shadeville Elementary, 45 Warrior Way in Crawfordville. Any local veterans are warmly invited to attend.

VETERANS DINNER: Wakulla County Moose Lodge 2510 and Women of the Moose Chapter 2224, are proud to participate in the Moose International Valued Veterans Program.

To let our veterans know just how much they mean to us and just how much we thank them all for what they have done for us, we are having an Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 11 (Veterans Day).

This event will also be for Wakulla County Law Enforcement, Firefighters, First Responders, and Highway Patrol.

The dinner will be from 2 to 5 p.m.

Dinner will be free for veterans, law enforcement, firefighters, first responders and highway patrol (must show ID if not in uniform).

All others will be \$5. The dinner will be an Italian buffet to include lasagna, spaghetti, and other pasta dishes, salads, desserts, and drinks.

This program recognizes the sacrifices our veterans have made.

Wakulla County moos Lodge and Women of the Moose have events throughout the year to show support to all the men and women of the military past and present for all they have done for each and every one of us.

This is just a small way we can show our veterans and public service personnel how much we really appreciate everything they have done and continue to do for us every day.

VETERANS SERVICE IN WEST SOPCHOPPY

Every year there is a Veterans Day service at the West Sopchoppy cemetery to honor all of the men, women and children who have served their country.

This year it will be held on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 11 a.m. at the cemetery just west of Sopchoppy.

Guest speaker is Ed Brimmer.

BENEFITS WORKSHOP: Transitioning from military service to a college education comes with unique challenges.

Join Wakulla County Veterans Services Officer Harold Ross and TCC Workforce Development staff to learn how the Wakulla Center can help you forge a path to academic success.

The TCC Wakulla Center will host a Veterans' Benefits Workshop on Thursday, Nov. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. and again from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The TCC Wakulla Center is located at 2932 Crawfordville Highway in downtown Crawfordville. Topics include:

- **Services offered by the TCC Wakulla Center;**
- **Educational opportunities and continuing education programs;**
- **Overview of medical and otehr benefits, claims processes and the G.I. Bill;**
- **Vocational rehabilitation**

For more info call 850-558-3525 or email WakullaCenter@TCC.fl.edu.

Some people make no sense

JAMES HENNESSEY
WAKULLA NEWS

It is hard to know where to begin with Robert Seidler's letter in last week's News ("Some people are opposed to everything").

He fills his rant with misstatements, false accusations, and innuendo. He suggests a conspiracy against what he views as progress by a small group of evildoers he labels as stoppers. The first clue to the lack of substance in his argument is his insistence on putting words in all caps, as if that will somehow lend credence to his statements.

Virtually everyone I know is supportive of having a healthy oyster industry, improved water quality in the Bay and a rejuvenated fishery. The conflicts that have arisen have been more about the process to get there, and the evident lack of transparency. Some of the initial difficulties of the WEI program, such as hiring an unqualified instructor and lack institutional experience, were self-inflicted. A rush to snatch up available leases in the Gulf by those "in the know" further complicated these issues, leaving others on the outside looking in. Some of the awarded leases have been entirely or partially neglected. During a recent educational program at WEI, Mr. Ballard acknowledged missteps but expressed confidence that the program's future was bright. Hopefully, that is true. Nonetheless, a widespread perception remains that the opportunities to participate in and benefit from the development of oyster farming in Wakulla are primarily going to a small group of developers and the politically connected.

The unmistakable irony is that this group, now touting the benefits to water quality of oysters, adamantly opposed protecting the wetlands a few years ago. Since wetlands perform many of the same functions as oysters in filtering contaminants from our water, Mr. Seidler's grasp of the science appears to end where the interests of his developer friends begin.

Fortunately, it looks as if FAMU scientists will be doing longitudinal studies of Apalachee Bay's water quality to answer such questions.

This leads me to rebut Mr. Seidler's comments about the "crafty wetlands ordinance." If by "crafty" he means based on science and well written, I will accept the compliment on behalf of the Wetlands Alliance.

However, that ordinance was not, as he alleges, intended to stop coastal development.

Rather, it was meant to insure the health of our bay, rivers and water bodies and thereby enable sustainable development.

What was "crafty" in the battle over that ordinance was the hiring of a New Jersey PR firm, funded by out of county developers, to create misleading signage in the weeks prior to the referendum.

In praising Mr. Thomas' PowerPoint at the BOCC for proving that the "majority" of the Wetlands Alliance lived on filled in wetlands, Mr. Seidler is clearly ignorant or unconcerned with the truth.

Our home, used as an example by Mr. Thomas, was built in the footprint of a house we purchased years before from the Lovel family. Not a single shovelful of dirt was used to fill in wetlands in that construction.

In Mr. Seidler's world I guess, lies = "good work."

It remains a bit confusing as to what Mr. Seidler and his allies consider "progress." I suspect that they consider the now infamous and cursed 319/98 intersection an example.

After all, it did land commissioner Moore a hefty profit. So what if it inconvenienced the rest of the citizens, and cost the county a few hundred thousand dollars to relocate utilities. We did add to our gas station collection.

For some of us, having a livable, attractive downtown as Commission Chuck Hess has advocated would be real progress. The recent workshop on the Community Center envisioning an expanded library there and, hopefully, the long-awaited community pool was constructive.

Some of us were there advocating for both.

Interestingly, where the library was concerned there was broad agreement that it would be good to have it centrally located, allowing more people to take advantage.

However, when the pool was mentioned that central location no longer was seen as advantageous.

Some people make no sense....

continued

In fact, Commissioner Moore thought it would be better to wait and place it in a possible recreation complex in the north of the county.

Coincidentally, that would be adjacent to property he owns.

For some, profit = progress.

Maybe Mr. Seidler is right; change is difficult, just not for the reasons he claims.

FAMU trustees won't have to conduct search for president

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

FAMU's board of trustees passed a critical hurdle in naming Larry Robinson president Thursday when the Board of Governors approved its request to bypass conducting a national search.

The BOG took the vote after about five minutes of discussion.

Trustees are in the process of completing their evaluations of Robinson's performance for 2016-17. Robinson also will be providing his self-evaluation.

The board's next scheduled meeting is Nov. 30.

The BOG also voted without discussion to approve extending Robinson's contract as interim president through next September.

Robinson has been serving as interim since last September. It marks the third time in his 20-year-career at FAMU when he has been called upon to lead the university in an interim capacity.

"We feel that Dr. Robinson's reputation speaks for itself," FAMU trustees' chairman Kelvin Lawson told the BOG during its meeting in Orlando. "We believe this is the person who can move us forward."

Lawson said trustees completed an exhaustive process of getting input from students, faculty, staff, alumni and others in determining the needs of the next president. It also hired a consultant to meet with those groups and trustees in developing a presidential profile.

Lawson said trustees voted to approve the profile's content and believe that Robinson is a good match.

Board of Governors member Alan Levine said he suggested to Lawson that trustees hire an outside consultant to create the profile to help trustees understand themselves what the university needs in its president, and then decide if they are comfortable that Robinson is a good match.

This marks the first time the BOG has granted a waiver against holding a national presidential search since adopting guidelines last year.

"We should be concerned about precedent, but (FAMU trustees) did commit themselves to a process," Levine said before the vote.

BOG chairman Tom Kuntz said he wasn't concerned about other members of the State University System coming forward with waiver requests.

National searches currently are underway to select candidates for president at the University of North Florida and the University of Central Florida.

"If another university has someone who has been interim three different times, we'll consider it at that time," Kuntz said.

His term as chairman ends in December. Current vice chairman Ned Lautenbach was elected chair Thursday. Sydney Kitson was named vice chairman.

Norman Tripp, who in the past has been critical of FAMU's operations, said he's had the chance to observe Robinson and is impressed with the interim president's leadership.

"I think he's wellplaced to continue that (role)," Tripp said.

In other BOG action: Kimberly Moore, vice president for workforce development at Tallahassee Community College, was reappointed to the FAMU Board of Trustees.

TCC to host creator of largest incubator

JADE BULECZA
WTLX

Tallahassee Community College is bringing the creator of the largest incubator to the Capital City.

You can learn all about starting your own business from the founder and CEO of Cambridge Innovation Center, Tim Rowe.

The event is Friday, November 17. It starts at 8:30 a.m. and the cost is \$20.

TCC student wins national Phi Theta Kappa scholarship

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (SPONSORED STORIES)

Tallahassee Community College sophomore Jessica McNeil has been selected as a Coca-Cola

Leaders of Promise Scholar and will receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The national scholarship recognizes 200 members of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society for their outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated leadership potential.

McNeil, who is a graduate of Chiles High School in Tallahassee, is a member of the TCC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa and is also an active member of the TCC Honors Program. She plans to graduate in the spring of 2018 and hopes to transfer to Florida State University to major in Motion Picture Arts or Digital Media Production.

McNeil coordinated the Honors Program's participation in the March of Dimes Walk for Babies and also led a diaper drive for Florida Baptist Children's home. In addition to a busy school schedule, she works part-time at a local video company.

McNeil spends time between classes studying, relaxing and collaborating with fellow Honors students in the Pankowski Family Honors Lounge, which was renovated in 2015.

"I love TCC. I'm so glad I came here first. Not only is it a good transition, but I really like the community, especially being in the Honors Program because we have really small classes," said McNeil.

TCC prepares to celebrate International Education Week

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Tallahassee Community College has announced the lineup of events for its 11th annual celebration of International Education Week, Nov. 13–17.

TCC kicks off the week with the Parade of Nations on Monday at 2:30 p.m. During the parade, students create a beautiful display around the campus flagpole in the Louis Hill Sr. Garden, carrying their home country's flag and introducing themselves in their native language.

Tuesday, from 11 a.m. to noon in the Student Union ballroom, students and faculty will be providing information about study abroad and student exchange programs, and a U.S. passport representative will be on hand to answer questions.

On Wednesday, the popular Bringing the World to TCC event returns to the Student Union ballroom from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. Guests may "visit" various countries represented in TCC's student population—learning about the culture and traditions, sampling native foods, and talking to international students about their home countries and how they came to be at TCC.

On Thursday, there will be an International Music Dance Party from 2:30 to 3:30 in the Student Union ballroom.

Friday's schedule features an International Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner in the Student Union ballroom from 5:30 to 8 p.m., when everyone is invited to bring a dish to share as they watch students perform.

TCC celebrates start of International Education Week with Parade of Nations

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College kicked off their Parade of Nations Monday.

It is all to celebrate the 11th annual International Education Week.

Students created their own displays around the campus flag pole on Louis Hill Sr. Garden Monday. Each one carried their own flag and introduced themselves in their native language.

The event featured remarks by Chaquan Marlin Virginia, an international student from St. Maarten, one of the Caribbean islands hit hard by Hurricane Irma.

Events are happening on TCC's campus all week long, including the Bringing the World to TCC event where guests may learn about various countries represented in TCC's student population.

TCC's Start Up Week kicks off with "Womentoring" workshop

WTXL

Tallahassee Community College's Start Up Week has begun.

It's a five day celebration for small businesses and entrepreneurs in our area.

Monday, Working like Mothers held their "womentoring" workshop. The goal was to bring working moms together and to relate the tasks that mothers go through day to day, to start their own business.

Working like Mothers founders, say raising your baby is a lot like building a business, and they want moms to know they are not alone in their struggles.

For more Start Up Week events, [click here](#).

Entrepreneurs take over during Tallahassee Startup Week

TAMARYN WATERS

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee Startup Week takes place through Friday and proves there's growing momentum surrounding the dreamers, the risk takers and the innovators.

Tallahassee Startup Week offers more than 30 events centered around entrepreneurs and how to help them and their businesses, including workshops, coffee meet-ups, guest speakers and a startup showcase closing out the week.

Scheduled stops also are geared toward niche populations among entrepreneurs, including minorities, military veterans, stay-at-home moms and dads and teens and tweens.

"I think this is a great example that we are creating a no wrong door approach to serving and assisting entrepreneurs," said Kim Moore, vice president of workforce innovation at Tallahassee Community College, which is offering its TCC Capital Center downtown as the host venue.

"We are looking to create this whole excitement at every level," Moore said.

The event comes at a pivotal moment in Tallahassee. Inaugural classes started this fall for the Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship at Florida State University, which is months away from opening its new building — the nation's only degree-offering collegiate school dedicated to entrepreneurship.

During Startup Week, the school will showcase its "7 under 30" segment and spotlight young entrepreneurs.

"This year is so exciting as many of our faculty members have mentored or taught these speakers," said Susan Fiorito, director of the Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship, in a statement. "Interest in entrepreneurship has grown steadily at FSU and the major is gaining popularity. I think putting the spotlight on these speakers is a great way to celebrate the launch of the Jim Moran School of Entrepreneurship."

Featured Startup Week speakers will touch on high-demand topics. On Wednesday, Heidi Otway, vice president and partner of Salter Mitchell PR, will share tips for an effective 30-second pitch.

Friday speakers are uniquely qualified to talk about startups.

Derek Grant, a Tallahassee native, is the vice president of sales at SalesLoft in Atlanta. He'll talk about "startup journeys," which took him from being a regional sales manager for local enterprise technology from DataMaxx to now working for one of the fastest-growing startups in the Southeast.

Tim Rowe, founder and CEO of the Cambridge Innovation Center, a global leader in creating co-working and office space for innovators, will talk about co-working spaces. The trend is becoming increasingly popular in Tallahassee.

"I think there is a momentum in our community to empower those entrepreneurs, whether they work at home or storefront businesses," said Samantha Strickland, CEO of The Pod Advertising and creator of a co-working space called CoLab on Marriott Drive near Park Avenue and Magnolia Drive, which is offering free space during Startup Week.

She said, "People are taking their future into their own hands."

Debra Dabney Austin: An education pioneer

DOROTHY INMAN-JOHNSON

CAPITAL OUTLOOK (PERSON OF THE WEEK)

Tallahassee residents who have been around since the 1980s will remember Dr. Debra Austin and her husband, Ken Austin, as one of Tallahassee's young power couples. They were junior high sweethearts and have been married for 39 years. She is a native of Leesburg, Florida; earned her Bachelor degree in English from Michigan State University, a Master's degree in English from the University of Florida, and both a Master's degree in Business Administration and a doctorate in Higher Education from Florida State University. She moved to Tallahassee in 1978 and became a rising star in the education arena while her husband was an up and comer in local government; first as assistant to City Manager Dan Kleman, one of the first Black City of Tallahassee department heads, and later retired from the position of Director of the Tallahassee Regional Airport.

Debra began her 33 year professional career in higher education as an English instructor at Lake Sumter Community College in her hometown of Leesburg. After relocating to Tallahassee, her career caught fire. She has held high profile positions in all three of the major institutions of higher education in Tallahassee. Dr. Austin has served as Executive Vice President and Acting President at Tallahassee Community College, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Clinical Professor in FSU's Higher Education Program, and Provost/ Vice President of Academic Affairs at Florida A & M University. But, her crowning achievement was being appointed the first Black female Chancellor of the State University System of Florida.

Though she is currently enjoying retirement, Debra continues to contribute valuable community and professional service. She is a Life Member of Leadership Florida (Class XV), President of the Tallahassee Chapter of the Links, Incorporated, Co-Director of Vacation Bible School and Sunday School Superintendent of the Bethel A.M.E. Church in Tallahassee, and a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She served three terms on the Board of Tallahassee Memorial Healthcare; was a founding member of Whole Child Leon, on the Board of the Tallahassee Urban League, and on the Board of the Alfred B. Maclay College Preparatory School.

She has been recognized for her extraordinary professional contributions and service with an honorary doctorate from Flagler College, the Guardian of the Flame Award in the FSU College of Education, the Christopher J. Campbell Distinguished Alumni Award from the FSU College of Business, and the Franklin Academy Distinguished Achievers Award. She was, also, one of seven women featured in the book Answering the Call: African-American Women in Higher Education Leadership.

Debra and Ken have two adult daughters, a son-in-law, and two very energetic grandchildren. Dr. Austin has set a wonderful example for her daughters and all women; and is, therefore, being recognized as the Capital Outlook Newspaper's Person of the Week.

Makers make their mark at Startup Week

TOM FLANIGAN

WFSU

This is Startup Week in Tallahassee. The observance is intended to promote more entrepreneurship and business creativity.

One of the occasion's first events took place on Monday (11/13) morning and focused on local small businesses that actually make things. A Capital City mother/daughter team was talking about the popular household do-it-yourself videos they upload to YouTube before a small but entranced audience. David Brightbill, who created the Making Awesome hi-tech workshop, was facilitator for the Makers Town Hall at Tallahassee Community College's Downtown Innovation Center.

"We're asking each person to come and tell us what's good about being a maker and small business person in Tallahassee and what's missing from our eco-system. We're already getting some interesting ideas about that. We're especially honored to have Al Latimer here from the (Leon County) Office of Economic Vitality to listen to the makers. We hope it's the beginning of a dialogue between the small makers and government. That's what we're doing here today."

Startup Week events continue at various venues around town through this Friday.

Jim Moran Institute to host 'VEThursday' event

WCTV

In an effort to connect veterans with local business opportunities, The Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship in the Florida State University College of Business is hosting VEThursday, an entrepreneurship expo for military veterans throughout the Big Bend Region.

The event will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16, from 9:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Tallahassee Community College Center for Innovation.

Managing Director for the Jim Moran Institute, Melissa Roberts, says, "We encourage all local veteran business owners and veterans who are interested in starting a business to participate. We will be giving them an unparalleled opportunity to connect with the people and resources from the Tallahassee community that will help them grow their existing business, or develop their idea and start their venture."

VEThursday is part of the Inclusion and Diversity track during Tallahassee's Startup Week, and will consist of entrepreneurial sessions, an exhibitor space, and networking opportunities.

Organizers say the goal of the event is to build a network of veteran entrepreneurs in Tallahassee by connecting them with the needed resources.

Those interested in attending VEThursday should visit bit.ly/VEThursday to register. They can also check out the Jim Moran Institute's Facebook page for more information.

Registration will remain open until Nov. 16.

For more information about VEThursday, visit jimmoraninstitute.org.

VEThursday brings networking opportunities, entrepreneurial sessions

WTXL

VEThursday today will provide entrepreneurial sessions, exhibitor space and networking opportunities to connect local veterans with resources.

The free event will be held Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017, from 9:45 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Tallahassee Community College Center for Innovation at 300 West Pensacola St.

It is part of the inclusion and diversity track during Tallahassee's StartUp Week.

TCC HAS THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE AND AFFORDABILITY YOUR STUDENTS ARE SEEKING

Tallahassee Community College is one of the top 15 community colleges in the nation based on student success rates, return on investment and affordability. We offer guaranteed transfer programs to neighboring Florida State University and Florida A & M University, in addition to four-year degree opportunities right on TCC's campus. Plus, Tallahassee is an ideal Florida city for college students.

Find out more about our guaranteed transfer programs, including TCC2FSU, TCC2FAMU and the TCC-Flagler bridge to teaching program at:

www.tcc.fl.edu/link

