

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*

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February 17 - March 9, 2018

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

## *In the News*



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February 17 - March 9, 2018

# TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*In the News*



## Electronic Media

- February 21 - WPBF - TCC students join FSU/FAMU peers in anti-gun violence rally at Capitol
- February 22 - WCTV - Fiscal experts suggest TCC/state college grads can help diversify economy
- February 28 - WCTV - TCC administration, faculty present to special magistrate on contract
- March 1 - WTXL - FPSI hosts Florida mine safety competition
- March 1 - WCTV - TCC takes part in hosting annual Discovery on Parade event
- March 2 - WTXL - Cleaver & Cork, feat. Amanda Freitag, a successful TCC Foundation fundraiser

## TCC Hall of Fame welcomes Beth Tedio

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (SPONSORED STORIES)

Congratulations to Beth Willis Tedio, one of the recent inductees to the Tallahassee Community College Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame.

Tedio's commitment to volunteerism has been a constant part of her life. From being the Parent-Teacher Organization president to a band mom, she relishes opportunities to help others. As a Rotarian for the last 16 years, Tedio has served in many capacities, from club administration to president to assistant district governor; and she continues to serve on the Ethics in Business Award committee.

Tedio has served as a TCC Foundation Board member for four years and is currently chair of Alumni and Friends Advisory Council. She and her family have established the Uptown Café scholarship at TCC. Additionally, Tedio volunteers as a board member for numerous organizations including Locally Owned Tallahassee (eight years), the Association of Fundraising Professionals, the Chamber Leads Group 1 and Capital Women's Network where she served for three years as president.

Tedio is co-owner of Uptown Café, where she is involved in many crucial aspects of the business. When the recession hit in 2008 she saw the direct effect that was having on nonprofits locally and started Uptown Cares. This monthly program at Uptown Café provides awareness and donations to local nonprofits. It continues to this day and has resulted in over \$50,000 in donations to local nonprofits.

After several significant losses in her personal life, Tedio went to work for Lee's Place, where today she serves as director of development. A nonprofit grief, loss and trauma therapy center, Lee's Place has allowed Tedio to immerse herself in helping others who are also suffering.

Over the years Tedio has demonstrated a strong commitment to helping others and to building a better community. We are proud to call her a TCC alum and welcome her to the Hall of Fame.

## TCC ranks in top 12 among 144 Florida nursing programs

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC's registered nursing program was ranked 12th in the state of Florida for 2018 by RegisteredNursing.org, up three spots from the College's 15th place ranking a year ago. The website compiles the rankings by analyzing current and historical RN exam pass rates of the 144 RN programs in the state. TCC is now accepting program applications for the Fall 2018 nursing cohort. The application deadline is Monday, May 14, at 5 p.m. For information, contact the Healthcare Professions Division at 584500 or [healthedu@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:healthedu@tcc.fl.edu).

## TCC seeking employers for Part-Time Job Fair

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC is seeking employers to participate in its Spring Part-time Job Fair on Wednesday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to noon in the TCC Student Union. Over 250 jobseekers attended the job fair held during the Fall 2017 semester. Employers looking to fill part-time positions or internships should attend. The deadline for all employer registration is Saturday, March 17. Space is limited and registration is \$50.

Details and registration are available online at [www.tccfuturelink.com/events](http://www.tccfuturelink.com/events) or by contacting the TCC Career Center at 201-9970 or [CareerCenter@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:CareerCenter@tcc.fl.edu).

## **TCC staff members receive awards for excellence**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

Four employees of TCC are recipients of the 2017 John & Suanne Roueche Excellence Awards, which are sponsored by the League for Innovation in the Community College.

The honorees are Tricia Rizza, assistant professor of transitional studies, Feleccia Moore Davis, provost and vice president for academic affairs, Daniel James, advising specialist for student accessibility services, and Cicely Brantley, assistant professor of behavioral sciences. The awards celebrate outstanding contributions and leadership by community college faculty and staff. Award recipients from around the nation will be honored at the League's Innovations Conference in National Harbor, Maryland, in March.

## **TCC hosts session about scholarship for students with disabilities**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC will host an information session about The Able Trust Strategic Employment Program Scholarship on Wednesday. The scholarship provides assistance with tuition and other expenses to qualified students with disabilities. All current and incoming TCC students with disabilities may apply, whether they are pursuing an associate degree, a certificate, GED or English for Speakers of Other Languages studies, or workforce training.

Individuals should preregister for the session at [www.TCCready4work.com](http://www.TCCready4work.com). The deadline for the scholarship application is Aug. 31. For information, call 201-9635 or email [SEP@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:SEP@tcc.fl.edu).

## Abandoned baby finds new home after visit to hospital

TAMARYN WATERS

USA TODAY

His newborn legs were bare and cold to the touch.

That chilly May 6 morning, his short-sleeve onesie was wet, his diaper was soiled, his white bib was stained. Curled up in the bed of a Nissan pickup truck, he was without a hat, a blanket or a name.

He was less than a week old. And he was all alone.

No one knows when the baby was stowed in the truck bed or how long he was there. It would be a college student who, drawn by the sound of hushed cries, discovered him while walking through the parking lot of the Meridian Apartments on High Road. Rattled, the 22-year-old called police. It was 8:26 a.m. Within minutes, an officer arrived, followed by paramedics.

As events unfolded, helpful strangers found themselves at the right place, at the right time to help an abandoned baby out of place in a cold world.

And just a week later, as if by divine design, that baby had a name, a home and a grateful mother who longed to nurture a newborn as her own.

His name is Caleb, but his mom and dad call him Charlie.

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Lights and sirens

Leon County EMS Captain Steve Suarez had just grabbed a cup of coffee on West Tennessee Street when a dispatcher's voice piped through his field truck.

Come with "lights and sirens," the dispatcher said. He arrived in two minutes.

Tallahassee Police Officer Beth Bascom already was on the scene at the student apartment complex. In her arms, she held what looked to be a "cold, scared and young baby." All he had was a green pacifier and one unused diaper; a loosely tied shirt was partially wrapped around his head and body, the police report said.

"The biggest concern we had at that point was exposure to the elements," said Suarez, who arrived about the same time as an ambulance with two paramedics on board. "We could tell he was relatively new to the world. I think we were all struck by how cold and alone he felt in the pickup."

That Saturday morning, something told Suarez to put a special equipment bag in his truck. It contained a warming mattress designed for babies and children. The EMS field supervisor had only used it once before while training at Miami Children's Hospital.

Suarez called it "an incredible coincidence" that left him thinking a higher power was at work.

Temperatures dipped to 49 degrees that morning — 10 degrees colder than was common for that time of year. What were the chances he of all people, with the specialized child-warming equipment and experience, was just two minutes away when the call came?

"It gives me chills just thinking about it," Suarez said. "It was one of those days I was honored and thankful that we do the work we do."

Sirens blared as the infant was rushed by ambulance to Tallahassee Memorial HealthCare. Waiting in the emergency room for the baby's arrival was a supervising respiratory therapist just in case the newborn had trouble breathing.

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'My heart went out to him'

Lorraine Nichols will never forget that morning.

Little was known about the infant, who was given the computer-generated name "Whiskey Doe" at the hospital. Nichols, a respiratory therapist for 18 years, said he was hypothermic, his body temperature dangerously low, even after the warming efforts of the paramedics.

His paper-thin skin was peeling. He wailed from hunger pangs. Doctors estimated he was 5 to 7 days old since his umbilical cord had fallen off. Based on the seed-like appearance of his stool, he'd been breastfed.

## Abandoned baby finds new home after visit to hospital....

*continued*

"My heart just went out to him," said Nichols. "He was left alone, and there's no telling how long he was really there."

When he arrived, Nichols monitored his breathing and oxygen intake. For the most part, the newborn was fine — cold, hungry and wet — but fine. No drugs were detected in his bloodstream. He had no obvious abnormalities.

As a supervisor, Nichols works wherever she's needed throughout the region's largest hospital. That morning, she happened to be working in the ER.

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Right place, right time.

Nichols is a two-time breast cancer survivor.

She and her husband, Charles, had spent tens of thousands of dollars on in-vitro fertilization before they were advised to stop trying. The hormones could bring back the cancer.

The couple turned to adoption, completed the exhaustive vetting process and was told it may take years to identify a baby.

Nichols longed to be a mother to a baby like Whiskey Doe.

She fell in love; she bonded the way mothers do when they cradle new life. She was glued to him. She called her husband, telling him about the abandoned baby and her hopes to adopt him. He wholeheartedly supported her.

As the newborn remained at TMH for observation, she speed-dialed the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) and her case manager at the Children's Home Society regarding a possible adoption. DCF empowered Nichols to make decisions for him since the infant had no one.

The abandoned baby arrived at TMH weighing 5 pounds, 7 ounces. Four days later, 6-pound, 7-ounce Baby Charlie went home.

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Welcome home

Charlie arrived May 10 at the Nichols' four-bedroom northeast Tallahassee house in a new rear-facing Graco car seat. A plush cushion supported his head. A soft gray-and-white polka dot blanket kept him cozy. He was safe and secure.

The house, which sits at the entrance of a quiet cul de sac, was plastered in family portraits of his instant, forever family: his parents and three grown siblings, two brothers and a sister, and eight grandchildren (one on the way). Next door to a giant framed taekwondo jacket and belt mounted on a cinnamon-painted wall was Charlie's room.

Block letters spelled out the baby's nickname on a banner.

Inside his nursery, a white crib was lined with baby lion linens. On the aqua blue walls, Charles hand-painted colorful air balloons, flying airplanes and smiley face clouds. "Charlie" was spelled out in even bigger block letters on the front-facing wall.

Everything about the nursery said the Nicholoses were, once again, proud parents.

Lorraine always wanted a baby girl, but she couldn't bear a child. Fertility treatments could have been a death sentence. The couple was told it could be years before they found an adoptable baby. The odds seemed stacked against them.

Baby Charlie arrived one week before they were about to call a private adoption attorney — a costly option — so Lorraine could live her dream of being a mother to a young child.

"I truly believe that what God has for you is for you," she said. "It's on his time, and God said, 'No you're going to get Caleb this time.' And Caleb came with us."

The couple already had a crib and some baby necessities. They had installed childproof outlet covers and doorknob spinners since the Children's Home Society vetted and cleared the couple for adoption in November 2016.

Married for 20 years, theirs was a May-December romance that took root.



## Abandoned baby finds new home after visit to hospital....

*continued*

Lorraine, 46, is 20 years younger than her husband, who is retired from the Army. They met when she was a cashier at the old Albertson's grocery store (now Kohl's) on Apalachee Parkway. He'd walk in with his three bouncing young children, ages 4, 5 and 9. It was quite the sight.

They both were facing a divorce. In time, they found a life mate in each other. His little ones carved a path to parenthood for a woman who always loved children.

"I helped my husband raise his three children," she said. "It doesn't matter who they belong to, I love them."

### ----- The first week

Although she raised his kids, being a mom to a newborn was different — terrifying, even.

Days and nights were consumed by feedings every two hours and fragmented sleep. Nichols feared she'd "break him" — first-time mom jitters.

"Oh Lord, what have I done," she thought. Reality sunk in.

Lorraine, admittedly, was delusional. She thought she could care for the newborn without the benefit of maternity leave. She was wrong. Nichols ended up taking nine weeks, three weeks shy of the maximum leave allowed at TMH.

Throughout the haze of instant motherhood, she was thankful.

She was finally living the wonder and worry of nurturing a newborn, from changing diapers to sifting through mounds of gifted and purchased baby clothes, including church suits with matching neck and bow ties.

This is what she'd been missing. This is what she'd prayed for.

Every day, Lorraine talked to God. She wrote prayers and praises on Post-It sticky notes. On her side of the master bathroom, a sheet of yellow notes covers the inside of her "prayer closet," inspired by the movie *War Room*.

This is where she asked God to make a way, one that would lead to a child who needed her.

God answered.

Two weeks ago, she and her husband sat at their oval-shaped dining room table decorated with holiday plates and napkins. A 9-foot Christmas tree shimmered in silver tinsel and ornaments.

In a sweet child-like voice, Lorraine snuggled against Charlie's soft cheek and said, "Mommy, I made it through, and I'm 7 months old now. You didn't break me."

Lorraine wants to be perfect for him.

She consulted her "Baby Center" app as often as she does her Bible. Co-workers and her Bethel Missionary Baptist Church family showered her with advice, encouragement and baby gifts. Charles is the ideal stay-at-home dad. He pitches in and leans on his experience juggling his young children — two followed his military footsteps.

Fatherhood is different this time around. He's not the Army drill sergeant raising children on his own after his first wife walked out.

**At 67, he enjoys being a support system for his wife who works 12-hour shifts three days a week at TMH and teaches part time at Tallahassee Community College.**

"I just wanted to support my wife," he said. "Whatever she wants. Whatever makes her happy makes me happy."

Since Charlie's arrival, the father-son moments are too many to count. The baby combs dad's beard with his fingers and plants wet, slobbery kisses on his bald head.

"I love Charlie," he said. "That's my buddy, my best friend and my sidekick."

On Sept. 7, four months after Charlie appeared in their lives, his adoption was finalized.

Since then, the couple has tackled each day while planning for the future. Charlie has a passport for a family cruise in March. Swim lessons set up in April. Taekwondo classes by age 3 or so.

## Abandoned baby finds new home after visit to hospital....

*continued*

His parents will encourage him to play an instrument. They'll urge Charlie to attend and finish college. He'll receive a full ride from the state if he goes to a Florida school.

Wrapped presents bunch around the base of the Christmas tree at the Nichols home. A motorized train circles its base. Relatives traveling from as far as California and Texas are set to meet Charlie.

They'll witness the baby's christening on Christmas Eve. For the occasion, he'll wear an all-white pantsuit and dress shoes. They'll take turns holding Charlie, who'll likely steal their hearts with every coo and cry.

This Christmas will truly be special.

"I feel all goodness for him, and that he's going to be somebody," Lorraine said. Her gentle rocking lulled him to sleep in her arms. "And it's all God's plan. I just really believe that, and I tell him that all of the time."

She can't but pray for Charlie's birth mother, who nourished Charlie with her breast milk. Who knows if she was alone when he was born. Who knows what made her, or someone else put the newborn in the back of a pickup truck owned by someone who didn't even live in the apartment complex where he was found.

Who knows.

Lorraine said there are too many what-ifs to count. She thinks of them all. Yet she doesn't judge the mother or the father.

"All I can do is pray for her, and I still pray for her to this day because you don't know what people go through or are going through," she said. "I can just imagine that she wanted her child to be safe."

She prays a divine message may reach the mother to let her know the baby is in good hands. He'll have a good life.

"It's just been amazing," Lorraine said, looking down on his face. "This is my Christmas gift."

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(NOTE: This story was originally posted by the Tallahassee Democrat on Saturday, December 23, and was subsequently published by over a dozen additional newspapers and websites, resulting in over 30 million total media impressions according to monitoring services. A comprehensive list of these publications with dates and approximate potential reach is available by request from the Communications & Marketing Office.)

## Rick Scott announces 14 state board appointments

PHIL AMMANN  
FLORIDA POLITICS

On Tuesday, Gov. Rick Scott announced ten appointments and four reappointments to a variety of state boards. All the following appointments are subject to Florida Senate confirmation.

### New College of Florida Board of Trustees

Felipe Colon, 36, of Sarasota, is a financial adviser. He received his bachelor's degree from Middlebury College. Colon succeeds Bradford Baker for a term ending January 6, 2021.

Mark Aesch, 51, of Spring Hill, is the chief executive officer of TransPro Consulting. He received his bachelor's degree from the State University of New York, College of Brockport. Aesch will fill a vacant seat for a term ending January 6, 2020.

### Northwest Florida State College District Board of Trustees

Charlotte Flynt, 72, of Miramar Beach, is a retired general contractor and owner of Two Oaks Construction, Inc. She will fill a seat previously held by her late husband Michael Flynt, for a term ending May 31, 2018.

Lori Kelley, 51, of Fort Walton Beach, is a certified public accountant with Warren Averett, LLC. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of West Florida. Kelley fills a vacant seat for a term ending May 31, 2018.

Tom Wright, 64, of Niceville, is a retired Major General in the United States Air Force and served as the Deputy Chief of Staff Operations for SHAPE HQ. He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Florida State University, and a master's in National Defense Strategy from the National Defense University. Wright fills a vacant seat for a term ending May 31, 2020.

### Pasco-Hernando State College District Board of Trustees

Lee Maggard, 31, of Zephyrhills, is the assistant vice president and commercial relationship manager for CenterState Bank. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida. Maggard fills a vacant seat for a term ending May 31, 2022.

### Polk State College District Board of Trustees

Ashley Bell-Barnett, 33, of Winter Haven, is a community advocate in Polk County. She received her bachelor's degree from Florida Southern College and her master's degree from the University of South Florida. Barnett fills a vacant seat for a term ending May 31, 2019.

### Tallahassee Community College District Board of Trustees

**Eric Grant, 42, of Tallahassee, is the president of the Municipal Code Corporation. He previously served in the United States Marine Corps from 1998 to 2004. Grant received his bachelor's degree from the United States Naval Academy, his master's degree from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Services, and his juris doctoral degree from the University of Virginia. He succeeds Kevin Vaughn for a term ending May 31, 2021.**

### Higher Education Facilities Financing Authority

John Hooker, 36, of Gainesville, is the Associate Director of Development at the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. He received his bachelor's and juris doctorate degrees from the University of Florida. Hooker fills a vacant seat for a term ending January 17, 2021.

The Higher Educational Facilities Financing Authority of Florida (HEFFA) is a statewide tax-exempt bond channel specifically chartered for nonprofit institutions of higher education to provide an economical and efficient way for private institutions of higher education to access the tax-exempt market.

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(NOTE: Item truncated for reference to TCC.)

# TCC

There is always something new going on at Tallahassee Community College's locations in Gadsden County—the TCC Gadsden Center and the Florida Public Safety Institute.

The Gadsden Center, which opened in March 2016, is located on Pat Thomas Parkway near downtown Quincy. The 4,700-square-foot facility houses classrooms and a workforce training lab.

The lab is home to the Air Conditioning, Refrigeration and Heating Technology program, where students are trained in installation and repair of HVAC systems. That program, which is offered in the evenings, began in the fall of 2016. The first cohort of seven students will graduate this summer. A second cohort will complete the program in the fall of 2018, while a new group of students just began in mid-January. The next session will start in the fall of 2018.

Students in the HVAC program acquire the skills needed to earn Environmental Protection Agency certification, which is used in the industry for employability purposes. The program is also aligned with industry-recognized certifications provided by the National Center for Construction Education and Research.

The Gadsden Center's GED test preparation and English for Speakers of Other Languages classes were again very popular this year. The College also offers GED prep at the Liberty Center in Chattahoochee and at the county jail. Additionally, community members can receive academic advising and financial aid consulting by appointment right at the Gadsden Center. Short-term training in retail customer service is also available.

One well-received new offering at the Gadsden Center was a series of safety workshops. The five sessions focused on topics such as first aid, civilian response to an active shooter event, and cybersecurity awareness. Attendees included representatives of more than 10

businesses and organizations in Gadsden County, along with retired individuals, TCC students and migrant workers.

The Florida Public Safety Institute on Highway 90 continued to offer training for basic recruits in law enforcement, corrections and other fields, along with advanced training for public safety professionals in skills such as fraud and financial crimes investigation, bloodhound scent tracking, and defensive tactics. In 2017, the Institute served more than 19,000 people in its many programs.

The Institute also hosted more than 215 events last year, including seminars, conferences and specialized courses on leadership, firearms, defensive tactics, driving and many other topics. Thousands of officers attended these programs from Florida as well as other states in the Southeast. In addition, FPSI is one of only two sites in the nation that offer National Association of State Boating Law Administrators boating investigations training. Wildlife officers and game wardens from as far away as Guam attended this week-long training.

The Institute also sponsors many special events each year. In 2017, that included the 10th annual Black History Month Breakfast for public safety personnel and the 10th annual Women in History program to honor women in public safety.

Two individuals with close ties to Gadsden County were among those inducted into the TCC Alumni and Friends Hall of Fame on October 30. Pamela Butler, who was raised in Gadsden County and is now CEO of Aegis Business Technologies, is a TCC graduate who has served two terms as president of the TCC Foundation Board of Directors. Ken Katsaris, who established TCC's Criminal Justice Department and is a former Leon County sheriff, has long served as an instructor at the Florida Public Safety Institute.

These two alums, along with all the faculty and staff of Tallahassee Community College, are committed to strengthening the ties between college and community in 2018 and beyond.



## TCC's Commitment to Gadsden County

The Gadsden Center serves as TCC's permanent home in Gadsden County. Established in March 2015, The Gadsden Center continues the "Partnership for Progress" developed by TCC and Gadsden County over a decade ago. The Gadsden Center reflects TCC's strong commitment to providing programs and services and a meaningful presence that meet the real needs of the local community.

### SERVICES AVAILABLE AT THE TCC GADSDEN CENTER INCLUDE:

- Academic advising*
- Career services*
- Rental space for events*
- Internship placement*
- Testing*
- Computer lab for user online programs and courses*
- Financial aid consulting*
- Ask the Expert*

### SPRING 2018 CLASSES AT THE TCC GADSDEN CENTER:

<b>GED</b>	<b>ESOL</b>	<b>HVAC*</b>
Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - noon	Monday - Thursday 6 - 9 p.m.	Monday - Thursday 6 - 10 p.m.

*\*Financial Aid available*



(850) 558-3620 | GadsdenCenter@tcc.fl.edu  
www.tcc.fl.edu/gadsdencenter

## TCC to host high school seniors

HAVANA HERALD (SHORT TAKES)

Tallahassee Community College will host approximately 400 area high school students on Friday, February 23, for TCC Preview, an event designed to help them begin their journey to becoming TCC students.

The event is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and includes a free lunch for the students.

Students will be bused from public, charter and private schools in Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties to TCC's main campus at 444 Appleyard Drive, where they will participate in a pep rally, academic/career fair, and clubs and organizations fair; enjoy a performance by Theatre TCC; and learn about admissions, financial aid and scholarships.

For information, contact Christen Givens at [bennettc@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:bennettc@tcc.fl.edu) or (850) 201- 8466.

## TCC to host entrepreneurial boot camp

HAVANA HERALD (SHORT TAKES)

Tallahassee Community College's entrepreneurial initiative, TCC Spark!, will offer a hands-on, day-long Entrepreneurial Boot Camp at the TCC Gadsden Center on Friday, February 23. The camp is for individuals with an interest in starting or growing their own business.

The camp will encourage the development of an entrepreneurial mindset through motivational and strategy-focused discussions and activities.

Each event will culminate in a business pitch session, similar to those seen on the ABC program "Shark Tank."

The session will run from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The camp costs \$75 to attend.

Registration for the camp is open at [gadsdenebootcamp-f18.eventbrite.com](https://gadsdenebootcamp-f18.eventbrite.com).

Interested individuals may contact the Gadsden Center at (850) 558-3620 for further details.

This is the first offering of its kind by the college. Future quarterly offerings are slated to include a summer camp for elementary, middle and high school students.

The TCC Spark! program is sponsored by a five-year, \$300,000 grant from First Commerce Credit Union.

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

## Tallahassee on upward trend based on economic growth

ERIKA FERNANDEZ

WCTV

The Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce hosted its annual Economic Forum on Thursday morning, discussing the 2018 year and projections for job growth areas and industries.

According to Chief Economist of Florida Chamber Foundation, Dr. Jerry Parrish, Tallahassee has seen tremendous growth from private sector and partnering with public sector projects. He said they've even seen an uptick in regards to hiring.

The findings also show that Florida is expected to be a \$1 trillion economy in GDP. That means if Tallahassee was an independent country, it would be the 16th largest economy in the world.

Dr. Parrish said he believes the future of Florida is bright. Tallahassee has seen growth in manufacturing, professional business services, and innovation economy.

"Tallahassee is the place to business, and we're finding that industries and our existing industries are seeing that the economy is showing time to re-invest and to hire more individuals, put in money into capital improvements if necessary, and it's very positive right now. All indicators are showing 2018 will be a strong year," said Great Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce President, Sue Dick.

**According to Dr. Parrish, the best way to continue seeing growth is to take advantage of Tallahassee Community College. He said all of the state colleges are producing the graduates that we will need for the next 15 years. They will help diversify economy and create more jobs for the future.**

## **Gov. Scott appoints Municipal Code president to TCC's District Board of Trustees**

BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Eric Grant, president of Municipal Code Corp., has been appointed by Gov. Scott to Tallahassee Community College's District Board of Trustees.

Grant, 42, succeeds Kevin Vaughn, the current board vice chair, who was appointed by Scott in 2014.

Grant joined Municipal Code in 2007 after graduating from the University of Virginia School of Law, according to the Tallahassee corporation's website. Until September 2012, he served as vice president of its Supplement Department.

Grant's term became effective Tuesday and ends May 31, 2021. The appointment is subject to confirmation by the Florida Senate.

## Crashed car tour coming to the Capitol

PHILIP STUART

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Tallahassee's very own Teen Safe Driving Initiative IMPAACT (Informing More Pupils About Auto Crash Tragedies) is proud to join State Rep. Emily Slosberg, Rep. Jackie Toledo, Rep. Richard Stark and Sen. Keith Perry in convincing the Legislative body to pass House Bill 33 and Senate Bill 90 into law making texting and driving a primary offense.

In that effort the IMPAACT "crashed car on tour" will be on display in the Capitol Courtyard March 1 and again March 7 and 8. My objective at the Capitol is the same as high schools and community safety events. Texting and driving kill. With any luck, enough of our Florida Legislators will see the devastation which can and does result due to texting and driving. Also, Wednesday morning March 7, it's the FSU High School safety fair.

If funds are available, IMPAACT will head to Gainesville, to join the University of Florida, and Shand's Children's Hospital for the UF Pedestrian & Bicycle Safety project.

**In April we're on our way to Tallahassee Community College for the TCC traffic safety fair conducted by Professor Reggie Grant. Please come to the Capitol, TCC or any of our upcoming events to say hello and see how, through IMPAACT, Tallahassee is providing a major contribution to the safety of our teenage drivers.**

The messages IMPAACT provides are many, primarily to understand feet per second. I say to my young recently licensed high school drivers; ...when you are driving along I-10 at 70 mph you will travel the length of a football field in less than three seconds! They can't fathom it, they go into a stare of disbelief. "I know that ain't right" is the retort from the hulking football running-back. He knows how far it is between goal posts. Teachers look at each other. As I explain, everyone is astonished.

You see, understanding how miles per hour equates to feet per second is critical in understanding how diverting attention to a cell phone, away from the road, will get you killed or have you responsible for killing another person. Three hundred feet, in less than 3 seconds! By the time your attention comes back to the road, the horrible crash you created is already in motion. That's why traffic crash forensics experts reduce a second of time into ten-thousand increments. During a traffic crash, one second is a considerably "long time".

Leon Schools Spring break is fast approaching, and that means IMPAACT.org will have a very powerful and convincing safe driving message delivered to every Leon County High School. Thanks to Copart, Inc. and Lake Jackson Towing Co. IMPAACT.org crashed vehicles will be on the road to Tallahassee area high schools. If funds are available, I will again be able to reach high schools outside of our area.

These are vehicles involved in traffic crashes. Bad ones! Cars and pickup trucks I have chosen to exemplify the violence and devastation a motor vehicle crash can bring. I talk about the dynamics, the incredible forces exerted upon the car these young drivers are looking at as they realize the engine is resting against the rear passenger seat. It may take a moment but they also realize the front seat is badly crushed. Then they ask. Was anyone sitting there? ....Yes!, and don't ever let it be you.

Operating a motor vehicle is serious business. This is a demise you don't want any part of and IMPAACT is here to tell you and show you why you don't.

Please visit IMPAACT.org, to help me keep our teenage drivers and this important message alive. Contribute any way you like, help build a better web page. Or come out on a weekend and help set-up the displays at our high schools or during community safety events. If you would rather contribute financially that would help tremendously.

I invite my Street Scene readers to take part in making a difference while saving the lives of our children behind the wheel.

Watch for upcoming events at IMPAACT.org.



## TCC connects young women with scientist mentors

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (SPONSORED STORIES)

Tallahassee Community College hosted a special event on February 8 for young women interested in careers in the sciences.

The Women and Girls in Science mentoring event gave approximately 100 young women the opportunity to interact with women who are already successful scientists.

Attendees learned about the many possible career paths in the sciences, as well as obstacles faced by women in science. Seventeen mentors, from engineers to biologists, talked about their work and their experiences. After the brief presentations, students had the opportunity to meet with mentors in small groups.

"We hoped to give these young women a chance to see themselves in their mentors," said Mabry Gaboardi Calhoun, associate professor of earth science at TCC. "By having conversations with distinguished women scientists of diverse ages, fields and backgrounds, these students had the opportunity to make contacts who can help them realize their dreams of a career in science."

Students attended from both TCC and Florida State University. Younger students came from Leon, Chiles, Lincoln, Wakulla and Gadsden County high schools, along with Jefferson County K-12 Somerset School, Maclay School, Florida Virtual School, Swift Creek Middle School, Raa Middle School, and Tallahassee School of Math and Science.

The event was created by the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory in celebration of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. It is one of several events held throughout February in Tallahassee to commemorate the United Nations-driven initiative.

The Women and Girls in Science event was sponsored by TCC, the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium, WFSU Public Media, Florida A & M University, and Florida State University. It was organized by Mabry Gaboardi Calhoun from TCC, Roxanne Hughes from the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, Adrienne Stephenson from FSU and Brenda Crouch from the Panhandle Area Educational Consortium.

## **TCC designated a Military Friendly College**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC was designated a Military Friendly College by Victory Media, publisher of G.I. Jobs Magazine. Some of the programs and services to assist veterans include the Richard W. and Karen B. Moore Veterans Success Center and the Moore Veterans Leadership Academy. More than 300 veterans are currently receiving veterans educational benefits while attending TCC.

## **TCC wins ADDY award**

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (CAMPUS NOTES)

TCC's Office of Communications and Marketing won a Silver ADDY award from the American Advertising Federation of Tallahassee for a television commercial highlighting the TCC2FSU program. The production was a collaboration between that office and Tallahassee's TREW Media. The commercial featured three TCC students: Tanner Thomas, Kalab Mitiku and Aaliyah Abarzua, along with Leon High School senior Savannah Wheeler.

## Distance runner helps TCC launch track and field team

ST. CLAIR MURRAINE  
CAPITAL OUTLOOK

When the administrative discussions were over about the next sports that Tallahassee Community College should add, Rob Chaney figured having a track and field team would be a no-brainer.

Having a track team shouldn't be difficult to piggyback on the popularity of running in the city, he said.

"It's definitely another positive step," Chaney said. "Young men and women see us growing the department; it's a way to create new opportunities. It's just an extension of being a part of a strong running community.

He didn't have to look far to get the program going – although it's what he considers a "soft launching" with just one runner.

Meagan Giddens is now the face of the new track program. The former Taylor County High soccer player turned runner had already established herself as a formidable cross country runner on a women's team that TCC started in 2016.

She now has hopes of walking on to the FSU team and figures representing the Eagles as an only runner has its advantages. It will help her make the standards that would improve her chances of becoming a Seminole, she said.

"It's a lot of commitment," Giddens said. "I have to train year-round and put in a lot of miles."

She has already started preparations for the season with Garry Droze, who coaches the Eagles' cross-country team. She will make her debut in track and field, competing at the middle distance and 5,000-meters, Droze said.

Giddens' official debut is set for the FAMU Relays later this spring.

Her work ethic is good enough for her to turn in competitive times during the season, Droze said. He harkened back to last fall when she won the junior college Region 8 state title with the TCC team at a meet where she wasn't favored.

"She is not afraid to try to push as far as she can in terms of her best," he said. "She doesn't shy away from hard work. She is not afraid to put in the work to get to the next level.

"She is absolutely up to the task to make the most out of the talent that she was handed."

While the plan is to have Giddens represent the Eagles in as many meets as possible, Chaney said it all will be part of a study of the logistics and cost of running a track and field team.

"We want to have a full-fledge track team and this allows us to jump into it even a little bit more," he said. "It's something that I have put out there but we just have to know we have all of the logistics in place."

## TCC administration, union meet for special hearing

BREA HOLLINGSWORTH

WCTV

The Tallahassee Community College Administration and the United Faculty of Florida Union at TCC met for a special hearing on Wednesday.

The meeting follows 14 negotiation sessions since September 2016 for a collective bargaining agreement.

A contract was drafted by a third party that heard from both sides during the meeting. The main issues discussed were class sizes and faculty workload.

The faculty union also said they wanted smaller class sizes with a set cap of students, and also stated that they wanted to be able to attend two academic conferences a year.

Administrators said their budget does not support paying for every faculty member's trip, and some staff members are taking advantage of a policy allowing them to work less hours in exchange for work benefitting the college.

"They're doing some wonderful things and they're legitimate and they should be excuses; reassigned time to work on those other ones. The problem was that there's no accountability. You had the same people getting off three credit hours every year to edit a textbook," said TCC's Vice President of Communications and Marketing, Al Moran.

The magistrate special hearing will continue on Thursday and Friday.

## Capital Report: 03-01-2018

WFSU

With about a week left of the 2018 legislative session, lawmakers are facing increased pressure to pass gun safety legislation—in response to last month's mass school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas. But, as Sascha Cordner reports, the process is pitting people within the same parties against one another.

While some of the priorities announced by Florida lawmakers at the beginning of the legislative session have taken a back seat to efforts to respond to the Parkland school shooting, Regan McCarthy reports a measure to help curb the state's opioid epidemic has moved forward in the House.

Meanwhile, addiction specialists and law enforcement officials are pleading with Florida House members to keep funding an injectable opioid-addiction treatment. As we hear from Ryan Benk at member station WJCT in Jacksonville, the House's proposed budget zeroes out funding for vivitrol, a drug that can block opioid receptors in the brain for up to thirty days.

Florida Senators have teed up a change to the state's death penalty rules, which is now heading to the chamber floor. It comes two years after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling declaring the previous system unconstitutional. Lynn Hatter reports.

**Tallahassee Community College President Jim Murdaugh talks with Tom Flanigan about what he and other college administrators had been hoping would happen during this Legislative Session and how they're prepared to be disappointed yet again.**

The Florida House of Representatives has passed a bill that bans a particular medical procedure. Affiliates of Planned Parenthood, along with some lawmakers, believe the ban is really an effort to restrict abortion. Bill supporters insist that's not the case. Davondra Alston tries to sort it all out.

## 'Faculty told me they hated it.'

When an academic-alert system backfires—twice

SYDNEY JOHNSON  
EDSURGE

Some say the third time's a charm. But can—or should—the cliché hold up in higher ed?

Tallahassee Community College is finding out with a student-success technology known as early alerts. The idea is to gather information about a student based on factors like academic performance or attendance, and notify a professor or advisor to intervene with students who show early signs of struggle.

The North Florida college first introduced an early-alert system in the mid-2000s. But after two failed attempts and more than a decade later, the college finds itself yet again redesigning its early-alert platform and procedures.

"Faculty told me they hated it," Feleccia Moore-Davis, provost and vice president for academic affairs at the college, said during a session at Achieving the Dream's national conference last week. "They didn't understand why we were doing it and they weren't getting any feedback."

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### Beginner's (Un)Luck

The first early-alert effort at the college, which serves around 12,000 students, was built into the college's existing student record system, called Integrow, and focused specifically on first-time college students and those in developmental-education courses. Faculty were asked to "flag" students having trouble and provide an overall status report at specified periods in the term. Students with two or more flags were then assigned to an advisor for follow-up.

The system wasn't perfect. Referrals were sparse and typically came in bursts around the time reporting was due. And fall-to-fall retention for first-time college students showed no signs of improvement, dipping from 58 percent in 2007 to 53 percent in 2012.

Things got even more difficult around 2013, when the college began to feel the effects of a broader higher-ed trend of decreased student enrollment.

"In the fall of 2012, the institution experiences a 10 percent enrollment decline," said Sheri Rowland, vice president of student affairs at Tallahassee Community College. "That was a huge hit financially."

In response, the campus formed a task force on enrollment strategy, with a subgroup focused on retention. "If high school grads are declining [in college enrollment], then we need to keep everybody we have here," said Rowland. "It's less expensive to retain students when they get here than to replace those who are walking out the door."

The retention subgroup was tasked with examining the existing early-alert system, and ultimately decided to replace the homegrown tool with a third-party product. The task force went with a widely-used early-alert provider, called Starfish, whose parent company Hobson's claims is used at nearly 400 institutions.

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### Second Chances

Early on, the institution enacted changes to how the system would operate. The new early-alert effort was implemented for all students, no longer limited to a targeted group. To respond to the lack of use from the first system, faculty were also required to report attendance daily. And all of the incoming early alerts were fielded by two "pathway coaches."

It wasn't long before new challenges emerged, however. Having only two individuals oversee all flags at the institution "wasn't a feasible model to sustain," Rowland told EdSurge. Moore-Davis also stated at the session that the software could be unreliable: "I was hearing so many great things about [early-alerts], but every semester something crashed."

Poor communication about the purpose or impact of the technology caused some faculty to resent the initiative as well.

"We didn't tell [faculty] any results," Moore-Davis said. "It was siloed—faculty raised the flag and someone else was supposed to contact the student, but faculty didn't know if that person ever contacted them."

## 'Faculty told me they hated it!....

*continued*

Even more than lacking feedback, the provost said the “top-down” approach of asking faculty to flag their students, and adding a new system to their workload, “was a mistake from the beginning.”

Moore-Davis admits one of the biggest failures in the process was leaving out their bottom-line: students. “[Students] saw the flags, but we failed to engage that population about what the flags meant,” she said. “When we implemented this, we forgot a significant part of our population.”

The provost said that the college “couldn’t measure success” using the technology and saw “very few measurable outcomes.” One measure was clear though: fall-to-fall retention rates for first-time college students again weren’t improving, going from 57 percent in 2013 to 56 percent in 2016.

But because they spoke with other colleges who had seen success with the tool, it was unclear who or what was to blame. “There are a lot of other people using Starfish,” said Rowland. “We weren’t sure if the product failed, or if we did.”

So in 2016, the school began to reevaluate the system it had set up around Starfish. A group of researchers at the college spent the 2016-2017 academic year studying their own failures and best practices, and talking with other institutions that had implemented similar technology.

The outcome was a plan to redesign early alerts at Tallahassee Community College for a third time. Starting in Fall 2017, the college began issuing early alerts through TeamDynamix, a ticketing software the college already uses in areas on campus such as the IT help desk.

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### Going For Three

The college will save a sizeable amount by moving away from Starfish. Moore-Davis said with Starfish the school spent at least \$73,000 annually. “We already own the TeamDynamix system, so it just costs us to expand its use for intervention purposes,” she explained, estimating that the new system will cost around \$2,500 per year.

In addition to the software switch, the college is again overhauling the way faculty, advisors and students interact with early alerts. For starters, instructors no longer have to record attendance daily.

Also under the new ticketing system, faculty must document the ways they first tried to help students who showed signs of struggle. If the instructor’s initial intervention is unsuccessful, he or she must report what effort was made before they are able to raise a flag to get additional help.

Then, when a flag is raised for a student, the faculty member must notify the student. In both previous efforts, Moore-Davis said students were unaware they were flagged until they received a call from their advisor. After creating a student focus group to get feedback on the process, she discovered that students had felt they were being unknowingly tracked and reported.

Now, flags are sent directly to a specific intervention team, such as financial aid, pathways coaches, tutoring or counseling, rather than an advisor who would then refer them out or may be unable to help with academic challenges. “When a student has an academic issue, they go to our learning commons intervention team,” explained Moore-Davis. “The same thing happens if the faculty thinks they need counseling—they get referred to counseling intervention team.”

Both Moore-Davis and Rowland acknowledge that the new system could run into its own unique challenges. But rather than ditching the idea entirely after two failed early-alert system attempts, they still cling to the idea. “I believe in the principles of early-alert, and I know there is a better way to get to where we want to go,” said Moore-Davis.

It remains to be seen if the latest iteration will prove more successful for Tallahassee Community College. And to complicate matters further, the school is using TeamDynamix as a temporary solution. The college is in the midst of transferring to Workday for its student records, and the officials don’t yet know if the system they are creating now will integrate when Workday officially launches in 2019.

In the meantime, the school continues to design around its past mistakes. “No faculty would disagree with the outcome you’re trying to get to. It’s disagreements about the process of getting there,” Moore-Davis said. “Understand the culture before you start making changes to it.”

## Havana hosting initial emergency response competition for surface mining at FPSI

HAVANA HERALD

Participants in a first aid refresher course on Monday practiced administering first aid to training manikins as part of the Inaugural Surface Mining Emergency Response Training and Competition taking place in Havana. It also is the first surface mine rescue training and competition to take place in the Southeastern United States. The event is taking place at the Florida Public Safety Institute (75 College Drive) in Havana and concludes today (Thursday, March 1). The event is providing an opportunity for miners, emergency responders and safety workers to test and hone their skills across a wide range of realistic emergency response scenarios, while also being recognized for their outstanding contributions to the safety and emergency response fields. Today, teams will participate in the first aid practical, which is the final portion of the competition. The four-day event began on Monday, with training sessions and free demonstrations on topics including rope rescue, first aid and medical response to trauma. On Tuesday, the team competition kicked off and included a multiple-choice exam. On Wednesday, there was a field exercise, during which teams were deployed to an area and faced with a rescue scenario. Today's first aid practical is the final portion of the team competition.

## TCC seeks employers for part-time job fair

HAVANA HERALD (SHORT TAKES)

Tallahassee Community College is seeking employers to participate in its Spring Part-time Job Fair on Wednesday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to noon in the TCC Student Union.

Over 250 jobseekers attended the job fair held during the Fall 2017 semester. Employers looking to fill part-time positions or internships should attend.

The deadline for all employer registration is Saturday, March 17. Space is limited and registration is \$50.

Details and registration are available online at [www.tccfuturelink.com/events](http://www.tccfuturelink.com/events) or by contacting the TCC Career Center at (850) 201-9970 or [CareerCenter@tcc.fl.edu](mailto:CareerCenter@tcc.fl.edu).



## Discovery on Parade showcases local research ventures

BYRON DOBSON  
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

Research funding is a multi-million-dollar venture at both Florida State and Florida A&M universities.

From 5:30 to 8 p.m. Thursday, the public will get a chance to see the latest studies being conducted at both campuses, and at Tallahassee Community College, during Discovery on Parade.

The free event will be held at the Turnbull Center, 555 W. Pensacola St.

The event will consist of more than 60 display booths featuring demonstrations and materials provided by representatives of the three campuses. Exhibits featured include engineering, technology, water research, food and agriculture, medical research and what could become the next big personal product.

The main event starts at 6:45 p.m. and will feature a performance from the TCC African Drum and Dance Ensemble and a talk from Valerie Browning, director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Defense Sciences Office.

Free parking is available in the adjacent five-story garage after 5 p.m. The fourth floor of the garage is adjacent to the first floor of the conference center.

Those planning on attending are asked to complete an online registration, which can be found at <http://www.discoveryonparade.com/>.

## TCC advances to state JUCO tournament

TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT (LOCAL BRIEFS)

Tallahassee Community College's women's basketball team won its fourth straight game on Tuesday, defeating Northwest Florida State College, 57-53, in a one-game playoff to advance to next week's NJCAA Region 8/FCSAA State Tournament as the Panhandle Conference runners-up.

The eight-team, single-elimination tournament will take place in Ocala March 8-10. Tallahassee, ranked No. 7 in the final NJCAA Division I Women's Basketball Poll, released earlier on Tuesday, will open tournament play at 8 p.m., Thursday, March 8, against Mid-Florida Conference Champion Daytona State College.

Tallahassee shot just 18-of-54 from the field (33.3 percent) and was just a little better from long distance, going 6-for-16 (37.5 percent) in Tuesday's dramatic win.

Japonica James hit one of two from the free throw line to extend TCC's lead to three with just under a minute left. The Eagles survived a pair of game-tying three-point attempts in the final 10 seconds.

James hit another free throw with .3 left and finished with 17 points and seven steals.

Makiah Black hit 6-of-8 three-pointers en route to a 23-point night.

## Florida Public Safety Institute hosts inaugural mining competition

JAMILLIA COLSON  
GADSDEN COUNTY TIMES

The inaugural Surface Mining Emergency Response competition brought out-of-state first-responders to Gadsden County. This weeklong training exercise tested the lifesaving abilities of nine Surface mining rescue teams from across the country.

The Florida Public Safety Institute (FPSI) teamed up with the Mine Safety and Health Association (MSHA) to welcome first-responders from various mining communities. The nine teams who registered for this event traveled from Nevada, Tennessee, Alabama and Florida. Other partnering mining associations and grant recipients from Kentucky and Texas assisted in the Feb. 26 to March 1 event.

"With MSHA's blessing we're having the Inaugural competition here," Kim Allen, the director of the Florida Public Safety Institute said.

"The Florida Public Safety Institute has been lucky enough to have MSHA place the safety and training mining grant with Tallahassee Community College. Florida offered, because we have the footprint here at the Florida Public Safety Institute, to host real-life situations," Allen said.

Mining is booming business in Florida, and the Sunshine State has more than 1,300 mining locations and containing the largest known deposits of phosphate in the United States.

"The Panhandle has a lot of small sand and gravel operations. All of your concrete and asphalt has to come from a mine somewhere," said Sam Pierce, Southeast District Manager for the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

However, mining of any kind is extremely dangerous and the safety of the miners who risk their lives excavating Florida's mineral-rich land is a serious matter for MSHA, and it's necessary to test the first-responders' skills in the event of an accident on a mine site.

"By having a trained team on site, if you have a mine emergency then you have people there that can get to them very quickly. That is what this training is about — helping them learn and helping them be prepared in the event of an emergency," said Pierce. "Some of the mines

are located remotely, and it may take several minutes for 911 to even get there. So, they are trained and ready to respond to any emergency that might occur to get the miners immediate help."

These field exercises were designed keep first-responders sharp and ready in case of any crisis, which is why the surface mining first responder's education goes far beyond first aid and CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation). The teams were drilled and tested on their proficiency and knowledge of rope rescue, water safety and survival training as well as dealing with traumatic incidents.

"In 2017, there were 28 deaths in the mining community. One in particular in Florida and most of the Florida accidents and/or deaths are water-related, so MSHA asked us to set up a water training and a water scenario," said Allen.

## Amanda Freitag fires it up as guest chef

RACHEL FACKENDER  
TALLAHASSEE DEMOCRAT

The Tallahassee Community College Foundation hosted its third annual Cleaver and Cork signature event on Friday, March 2 featuring the talents of iconic Food Network personality Amanda Freitag.

"If you turn on your TV, it's likely you'll find Chef Amanda Freitag," said Heather Mitchell, Executive Director of the TCC Foundation. "She was truly a perfect pairing for our event this year."

Outside of her success on the Food Network, Chef Freitag is an accomplished chef and author. For more than 20 years, she has been a highly successful chef in New York City, working in popular restaurants such as Cesca, Gusto and The Harrison. During her three-year stint, as executive chef of The Harrison, the restaurant received numerous accolades from local and national media.

"I titled my first cookbook, The Chef Next Door because I wanted to add joy to home cooking," said Chef Amanda Freitag. "I found that after cooking in restaurant-style kitchens, I was intimidated to cook at home in my tiny apartment kitchen. My cookbook was made with home cooks in mind – with restaurant-quality recipes, skills, tips and tricks – and that's exactly what I brought forward in this year's menu."

Cleaver and Cork is the Foundation's signature farm to table wine affair styled by local event extraordinaire John Gandy. The event hosted 324 individuals and celebrated the essence of the region with an abundance of southern hospitality including a cigar and oyster bar. The event also featured a four-course meal consisting of locally sourced ingredients and wine pairings, including Gulf shrimp ceviche, an avocado and bacon salad, pernil with creamed mustard greens, and a Meyer lemon tart with fresh berries.

"The event is a celebration of community, southern culture, and of course, the higher education opportunities TCC brings to our area," said Cleaver and Cork event chairs, Russell and Cheri Rainey. "It is more than just a meal, it's an experience."

All proceeds from Cleaver and Cork benefit the TCC Foundation which supports TCC by providing funding that elevates educational program opportunities, provides scholarships and enhances teaching and learning facilities. This year, the proceeds will be put towards the renovation of two classrooms on campus – being matched dollar for dollar to better shape the future of students.

## TCC Quiz Bowl team to compete on national level

CHRONICLE

With its strong finish at the NAQT North Florida Community College Sectional, the quiz bowl team from Tallahassee Community College proved themselves worthy to play on a national stage. On March 2, the team will represent their school in a 24-team national competition: National Academic Quiz Tournaments' Community College Championship Tournament.

Quiz bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic activity for teams of four students. Quiz bowl teams use buzzers to answer questions about science, math, history, literature, mythology, geography, social science, current events, sports, and popular culture. The matches feature a blend of individual competition and team collaboration, since no individual player is likely to be an expert in all subject areas. Participation in quiz bowl both reinforces lessons from the classroom and encourages players to develop new intellectual interests.

Tallahassee has attended the Community College Championship Tournament four times before. Most recently, in 2017, they made the playoffs and finished in 15th place.

Tallahassee may face familiar foes in Rosemont, as Chipola (from Marianna) and Florida Gateway (from Lake City) will also be attending.

The team will consist of Max Culbreath, Charles Hamilton, Jeremy Jones, and Jeremy Pennington. The team will be coached by David Proctor.

In addition to being a championship for community colleges the CCCT is also a qualifier for NAQT's Intercollegiate Championship Tournament in April. The four top teams at the CCCT will compete in the ICT against schools such as Harvard, Berkeley, MIT, and Texas.



Able Trust

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