TALLAHASSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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- August 28 Tech@Night hosts Open House
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Tallahassee Community College

Tallahassee Community College is one of the nation's top two-year institutions and offers educational opportunities that rival many four-year universities. The college is dedicated to teaching, to meeting the academic and career needs of the community and to helping students succeed. TCC defines student success as "finishing what you start."

LOCATIONS
Main Campus: 444 Appleyard Drive, 201-6200
TCC Capitol Center: 300 West Pensacola St., 201-7862
Quincy House: 216 North Adams, Quincy, 875-3462
TCC Wakulla Center: 5 Crescent Way, Crawfordville, 822-6299
Florida Public Safety Institute: 75 College Drive, Havana, 201-7000
Center for Workforce Development: 444 Appleyard Drive, 201-8760

ENROLLMENT
TCC enrolls about 13,000 students each semester.

FEES
In-state tuition and fees per hour: $74
Out-of-state tuition and fees per hour: $261.20

KEY DATES
Aug. 21: Last day to register for fall class
Aug. 24: Fall main session begins.
Dec. 11: Fall semester ends.
Jan. 5: Last day to register for spring semester
Jan. 6: Spring main session begins.

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW
Programs offered: TCC offers the associate degree program for students who plan to transfer to a four-year institution to complete their bachelor's degree and for those whose goal is career preparation. The college offers associate degree programs in health care, technology, business, child development and other professions. A full-time student can generally complete a career associate degree in two academic years or less, but TCC's flexible scheduling makes it easy for students to attend part-time as well.

TCC also offers career certificates in everything from health care to law enforcement, and from technology to business. Certificate training usually takes one year or less to complete. TCC also provides short-term computer and job skills training, along with free literacy, GED preparation and ESL classes.

At top: Honors graduate Jamie Gajos celebrates at Tallahassee Community College's May 2009 commencement.
Above: Signs direct visitors at the main TCC campus.

University partners: Via its collaboration with Flagler College, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Barry University and Saint Leo University, TCC students may earn a bachelor's degree without leaving campus.

Flexibility: Students may attend full or part time. The college offers day and evening classes, express sessions and distance learning/Web-based courses and self-paced instruction.

Tailored programs: Residents of Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties
12 notable facts about TCC

1. Began as Tallahassee Junior College in September 1966. Now Tallahassee Community College has locations in Crawfordville, Quincy, Haver, and downtown Tallahassee, as well as the main campus on Appleyard Drive – a total of nearly 2 million square feet.

2. Is the biggest feeder school to Fsu and Fsu.

3. Graduates the highest percentage of African-Americans with A.A. degrees of Florida's 20 community colleges. TCC is one of 82 U.S. community colleges involved in the “Achieving the Dream” initiative with the Lumina Foundation to help more women and minorities succeed.

4. Offers outstanding disability support services. TCC graduates the highest percentage of people with disabilities with A.A. degrees of Florida community colleges.

5. Stretches scholarship dollars. The Bright Futures Medallion (75 percent scholarship) covers 100 percent of tuition and fees at TCC.

6. Offers an honors program for high-achieving students in the Associate of Arts degree program.

7. Produces health care programs graduates that pass their professional exams in extremely high numbers.

8. Provides personalized attention during the advising process. The Student Success Center helps students make a smooth transition to college and develop plans to reach their educational and career goals.

9. Provides free SunMetro bus service for currently enrolled students. Provides ample parking on campus, including a recently constructed parking garage.

10. Offers on-campus child care at the Eagles’ Nest.

11. Offers dual enrollment to allow students to earn college credit while still in high school.

12. Develops an individualized learning plan for each student. The Learning Commons is the place for tutoring and other academic support services in reading, writing, math, and computer skills.

Keiser University

Keiser University is a regionally accredited, private, career university offering master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees. Its main campus is in Fort Lauderdale with additional campuses located throughout Florida and internationally. The university's degrees are offered both on campus and through the Web. Keiser University prepares graduates for careers in business, criminal justice, health care, technology, hospitality, and education. 1700 Halstead Blvd., Building 2, 906-9494.

SCHEDULING CLASSES

Keiser University's unique class scheduling allows students to complete an associate degree in 18 to 24 months (depending on the program) and the bachelor's degree in as little as 47 months. Students take one course at a time for four to five hours a day.

WHAT'S AVAILABLE

- Financial aid, available to those who qualify
- Placement assistance
- Career Degree Programs: Associate of Arts (A.A.) and Associate of Science (A.S.) degrees designed for entry-level careers
- Bachelor's degrees, B.S. and B.A.
- Graduate degree, M.A.
- Transfer options: Associate of Arts (A.A.) degree designed for transfer to 4-year degree programs
- Continuing education: Professional and job-related training courses
- Online education programs
- Day and evening classes

Other area institutions

AVEDA INSTITUTE OF TALLAHASSEE
2020 W. Panorama St.
Tallahassee, FL 32304
(850) 222-4299
www.avedaflorida.com

BAINBRIDGE COLLEGE
2500 E. Shotwell St.
Bainbridge, GA 39819
(229) 248-2500
www.bainbridge.edu

BARRY UNIVERSITY
Woodcrest Office Park Plaza
325 John Knox Road
Building A, Suite 100
385-2279
www.barry.edu

CORE INSTITUTE
School of Massage Therapy and Structural Bodywork
222 W. Carolina St.
222-8673
www.coreinstitute.com

EMBRY-RIDDLE AERONAUTICAL UNIVERSITY
Located on the campus of Tallahassee Community College, 444 Appleyard Drive
201-5330

FLAGLER COLLEGE
Located on the TCC campus, 444 Appleyard Drive
201-8070
www.flagler.edu

LIVELY TECHNICAL CENTER
500 N. Apalachee Parkway
(850) 222-1651
www.livertytech.com

NORTH FLORIDA COSMETOLOGY INSTITUTE
2424 Allen Road
850-226-1651
www.cosmetologyinst.com

THOMAS UNIVERSITY
1501 Millpond Road
Thomasville, GA 31792
(229) 226-1651
www.thomasu.edu
Tallahassee has the best Fire Academy in the state of Florida. I will graduate after six months of training and then continue at TCC to get my EMT certification. TCC has everything I need to fulfill my dream of being a firefighter!

Shannon Daniels, Fire Academy Recruit, Class 5

TCC’s Fire Academy Class 4 earned a 100% Pass Rate on State Exams!

High quality education  Affordable tuition  Flexible schedules

Tallahassee Community College  |  444 Appleyard Drive  |  GoToTCC.com  |  201-TCC1
Students paying price for Bright Futures changes

By Doug Blackburn
DEMOCRAT SENIOR WRITER

The tens of thousands of Bright Futures scholars are in for a rude — and potentially pricey — awakening as the 2009-10 school year gets under way.

Due to changes enacted by the Legislature to the statewide college scholarship program, for the first time most Bright Futures recipients are going to be required to pay part of their tuition.

And that may not be the most costly change for students who qualify for the multi-million dollar program.

Students who decide to drop a class after the initial drop-add period at the start of a semester will be responsible for paying the full tuition for that course. Previously there had not been a penalty for dropping a class.

At FSU — which saw 6,700 drops after the grace period during the 2009 spring semester — that translates into a $378 payment for a typical three-credit course.

Bright Futures also will no longer pay for students’ books, and to be eligible to renew their scholarship, full-time students must earn 24 credits during the academic year, up from 12 credits.

“I feel a little betrayed,” said Benjamin Hodges, a junior at FSU from Tallahassee. “We’re going to college and most of us don’t have jobs to cover all these costs. Hopefully I’ll get everything done before drop-add ends.”

University officials, who are trying to notify all students about the changes to Bright Futures, are concerned that the program in essence discriminates against low-income students.

“I think you may be creating a situation where a richer student has a greater advantage. It can create some unintended consequences,” said John Barnhill, assistant vice president for enrollment management at FSU.

Legislators earlier this year made changes to Bright Futures, started in 1997, in order to trim more than $30 million from the state budget.

The program, funded by the Lottery, had covered 100 or 75 percent of a high-school graduate’s tuition, provided the student meets specific grade-point average levels and SAT scores, and the student attends an in-state school. It is only for undergraduates.

Bright Futures no longer pays for a percentage of the student’s tuition. Instead, it will be paying a flat rate that will not match the 15 percent tuition hike going into effect at all 11 schools in the State University System.

More than 21,000 college students in Tallahassee — the vast majority of them at FSU — benefit from the Bright Futures program, which students must apply for to receive.

The changes to Bright Futures also present logistical challenges for the schools, which will be required to collect the fees from students who drop classes.

“Tracking the students who drop a course is going to be difficult. How do we get them to pay the money back?” FSU Provost Larry Abele said. “If you think about it, just the time and effort is huge.

“I suspect that at the end of the year there will be so many complaints from parents and students, the Legislature will drop it,” Abele added. “People will be going nuts.”

Officials at Florida A&M University, which had 1,346 Bright Futures recipients last year, are developing a plan for collecting money from students who drop classes after the grace period, according to Marcia Boyd, director of financial aid.

“The university would be required to return the funds (to Bright Futures) and we don’t have a separate fund for that,” Boyd said. “Depending on how many and how much we’re talking about, it could create a financial hardship for some institutions, including us.”

Bill Spiers, director of financial aid at Tallahassee Community College, doesn’t sugarcoat his reaction to the new rules for Bright Futures. TCC had 1,873 Bright Futures students last year.

“It’s going to be a horrible thing for students, because of the ramifications it has for these bright kids,” he said. “These are really good students and we don’t want to lose them. We want to keep them in school and moving forward.”

continued…
While FSU has sent an e-mail to all students about the changes to Bright Futures and posters are going up around campus, most students who were questioned last week weren’t aware of all of the changes to the program.

“I know it’s decreased but I’m not sure about the rest,” said Kaypree Hodges, a senior from Miami majoring in political science.

When told about having to pay the full cost of a late-drop class, Hodges said: “I think we’re going to have to stick with the bad grades.”

Molly Hamil, a senior from St. Cloud with a double-major in English literature and communications, speculated that upperclassmen who have developed a clear path to graduation will be less affected by late-drop changes.

“I think it’s going to affect first- and second-year students more than students like me, because I know what I’m taking,” Hamil said. “You experiment with courses a lot more when you’re a freshman.”

**Additional Facts**

Bright Futures initially disbursed students ’97 - ’08

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Academic year</th>
<th>Disbursed students</th>
<th>Total disbursements</th>
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<td>1997-98</td>
<td>23,710</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007-08</td>
<td>50,499</td>
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<td><strong>405,311</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,373,997,232</strong></td>
</tr>
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Tallahassee Democrat - August 14, 2009

**Flexible Schedules and Online Classes**

I was able to work 30 – 35 hours a week while attending TCC as a full time student. TCC’s flexible class schedule allowed me to stay on track to graduate on time and transfer to FSU.

Jude “JP” Paul, TCC Class of 2008

Register for Summer & Fall Classes Now!

Tallahassee Community College | 444 Appleyard Drive | GoToTCC.com | 201-TCC

Tallahassee Community College | 444 Appleyard Drive | GoToTCC.com | 201-TCC
Soon, Florida A&M University will not be the only institution affiliated with getting students careers in the field of pharmacy.

At a Monday meeting, Tallahassee Community College's trustee board unanimously approved adding a pharmacy technician program to their institution. A pharmacy tech is a person who assists pharmacists but cannot dispense and advise about medication, according to school officials.

John Chapin, TCC’s vice president for workforce development, said, “(The program) gives people a chance to make a livable wage. They can get into a profession to see if they’re interested.”

According to FAMU’s Pharmacy Dean Henry Lewis, III, techs can make anywhere from $12-$15/ hour. A pharmacist makes about $45/hour, he said.

The newly approved program will be part of TCC’s workforce initiative. The pharmacy technician program is a one-year, post secondary adult vocational program. TCC administrators plan to start it in the spring 2010 with about 20 students.

“The Legislature passed a bill requiring the registration of technicians,” Lewis said. “All must register by the end of the calendar year. They must receive training.”

“We’re trying to be in front of that,” TCC President Bill Law said about the new legislation. “Pharmacy technician would sound to me like a good place to earn some money.”

As an example, Law offered the student working a way through school as a certified pharmacy tech. He said TCC will offer more and more opportunities to be certified in areas “that have value in the workplace.”

The Florida Agency for Workforce Innovation (AWI), Labor Market Statistics Center, lists pharmacy technician as the fourth fastest growing occupation in TCC’s service area. According to TCC’s documents, there are no pharmacy technician training programs in the state of Florida.

The board also had a leadership change. Frank Messersmith’s term as chairman of the trustee board ended Monday. Karen Moore was vote in as chairwoman while Eugene Lamb was named vice chairman.

6 p.m. update

Soon, Florida A&M University will not be the only institution affiliated with getting students careers in the field of pharmacy.

At a Monday meeting, Tallahassee Community College’s trustee board unanimously approved adding a pharmacy technician program to their institution.

A pharmacy tech is a person who assists pharmacists but cannot dispense and advise about medication, according to school officials.

Return to Tallahassee.com for more details.

Morning update

Tallahassee Community College is scheduled to hold a board of trustees’ workshop and meeting today in their administration building on Appleyard Drive.

The workshop is scheduled at 2:30 p.m. The business meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m.

Return to Tallahassee.com for more details.
Students find ways to opt out of the daily parking grind

Katilyn Lero
STAFF WRITER

The campus of Florida State University is one of the largest in Florida, and students may, and often do, have class at one end of the campus with recitation at the opposite end with a class change time of only 15 minutes. Sometimes a car simply does not cut it for the fast pace of college life.

There are many alternatives, however, to traveling by car. From sleek hybrid cars, buses that are available at all ends of the campus, motorcycles, bicycles, skateboards, long boards, rollerblades and even unicycles, there is no shortage of alternative transportation options.

While the car remains the classic transportation of choice for many college students, 'Noles everywhere are adopting new means of getting around campus. Just ask Daniel Welsh, who rides his unicycle to school.

Motorcycles offer a convenient form of transportation on and off of campus, as they get excellent gas mileage and there is ample parking available for motorcycles very close to class.

“I bought my motorcycle because it is significantly cheaper than a car,” said Brad Clawson, a graduate student at Florida State. “I pay for an entire year’s worth of motorcycle insurance for one month’s worth of what I would pay in insurance for a car. Parking is always so easy that I have never had to look for a place to park.”

The light and convenient scooter is also popular with college students around campus.

“I go to school on my scooter,” mentioned Jacob Dees, a sophomore in Athletic Training. “It is really easy to get around in and yeah, there is always parking for me. And it is so affordable for a college budget. I put $2 in the tank once every month.”

Some students pursue alternative transportation in a different vein by not driving their own vehicle at all.

The bus system is funded through student transportation fees at the beginning of the school year. It is air-conditioned and doesn’t require parking on campus.

After hours, the university offers transportation for safety reasons. Those in need of transportation can call 644-SAFE for a ride. Unlike the daily bus route, the SAFE Bus drops students off right at their door.

Hybrid cars, too, have been spotted more and more often on and off of campus. Whether the classic Prius is chosen for its reliability and tried and true all around good performance or for its impact on the environment, the teardrop silhouette of this car is a regular sight on campus to FSU.

Some students eschew motorized vehicles altogether. Many undergraduate and graduate students alike have washed their hands of motorized transport in favor of the always available, extremely portable transit of bicycles, skateboards and rollerblades.

The bike racks on campus are everywhere, closer to class and easy to access. Costs of maintaining a bike are low and there are registered students organizations on campus whose main purpose is biking and bike repair.

These organizations give biking workshops and offer free bike tune-ups from time to time.

FSU’s campus is a popular spot for skateboarders, long boarders and rollerblade fans alike. These forms of transportation are extremely portable and quick, too.

“Long boarding is an adrenaline rush,” said David Hyer, a senior at FSU. “At the same time, there is nothing more relaxing than the wind blowing through your hair. The speed is exhilarating and the ride is relaxing.”

Just remember if you are going to cycle to class, a bike lock is required; yellow basket and streamers are optional.
TCC to host Quick Job Training open houses

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. - Tallahassee Community College will host two Quick Job Training open houses August 19 and 20, from 3-6 p.m. The August 19 event will be held at Workforce Plus, 1140 W. Clark Street in Quincy. The August 20 event will take place on TCC’s main campus in the Center for Workforce Development. Program coordinators will be present at both open houses to answer questions.

The Quick Job Training Program offers quick and affordable training for displaced and under-employed workers for in-demand occupations, from medical coding to high-tech machine operation. Quick Job Training classes increase an individual’s skill set in 90 days or less.

“The Quick Job Training program is intended to provide new training opportunities for individuals that are either unemployed or underemployed,” said John Chapin, Vice President for Workforce Development. “We have already completed four series of Quick Job Training classes and the success of the program has demanded that we offer it a fifth time.”

Ready to Work certification is available with the Quick Job Training classes.

The current class schedule may be viewed in detail at www.QuickJobTCC.com. For more information, call 201-8760 or email trades@tcc.fl.edu

Changes at TCC: Furlough? Expanding On-Line Learning

Tallahassee Community College is watching and waiting to see if it’ll enact a furlough, but board members say not just yet.

Reporter: Heather Biance
EMAIL ADDRESS: HEATHER.BIANCE@WCTV.TV

Tallahassee Community College is watching and waiting to see if it’ll enact a furlough, but board members say not just yet.

TCC Board of Trustees says they’re waiting to see how enrollment numbers come in before making the decision to require the campus to shut down for one furlough day during the fall semester.

TCC President Bill Law says the college would save $137,000 for one furlough day.

The college will decide its plan of action at their next meeting September 21st meeting.

“We're taking the precautionary steps to be sure that everybody understands how we would get to that decision. It is not imminent, I have every expectation that we will not do it, but because we are talking about what people earn, I feel the need to be extra careful,” says TCC President Bill Law, Ph.D.

TCC is also looking into expanding its virtual learning program.

Law says with new competition in on-line learning, he says it’s time TCC expands its program, rapidly.

Law says he expects that students will be able to receive a full degree on-line before the fall semester is over.
TCC trustees broaden retirement option for employees

BY ANGELINE J. TAYLOR
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Tallahassee Community College’s trustee board has unanimously approved to increase the number of employees who can retire early to save the school money.

In June, TCC President Bill Law told trustees that a few employees with about two years left in the retirement program known as DROP can opt to end the program early and the college will pay their remaining time. After that June initiative was approved, Law said other employees came to him who had more than two years left.

“If it works for the employee, it works for us,” Law said.

Return to Tallahassee.com for more details.

Tallahassee SCORE chapter plans open house

SPECIAL TO BUSINESS MATTERS

The newly formed Tallahassee SCORE chapter is hosting an open house Aug. 31 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Tallahassee Community College in the Economic & Workforce Development Building.

Volunteers, counselors and supporters will be available for people interested in learning more about the Service Corps of Retired Executives and how to start or improve their small business.

Every year since its establishment in 1964, hundreds of thousands of people have sought out SCORE mentors. The volunteers’ experience and practical business advice serve as resources for the growing numbers of men and women pursuing their dreams as entrepreneurs.

Staffed by volunteers from around the Big Bend, SCORE counselors provide a network with real-world knowledge to aspiring entrepreneurs, established small business owners and non-profit organizations. Their advice is always free of charge, confidential and provided in a one-on-one setting or small group seminars.

The chapter has received generous support and direction from Tallahassee Community College, the Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce, the Economic Development Council, Workforce Plus, Leadership Tallahassee and Florida First Capital Finance Corp.

Check back on Tallahassee.com for updates of this story and look for more coverage tomorrow in the Tallahassee Democrat.
TCC Learning Commons Celebrating Successful First Year
It’s not a library, it’s much more. The Learning Commons at TCC is a one-stop shop for tutoring, research and studying. And the center is celebrating its one-year anniversary.

Reporter: John Rogers
EMAIL ADDRESS: JOHN.ROGERS@WCTV.TV

It’s not a library, it’s much more. The Learning Commons at TCC is a one-stop shop for tutoring, research and studying. And the center is celebrating its one-year anniversary.

The Learning Commons is a state-of-the-art center which gives academic help to students of all academic disciplines.

The two floors of the building are filled with librarians, specialists, tutors and computers all to cater to the student’s needs.

The center has been very successful in its first year and has served more than 14,000 different students.

TCC Student David Stoots says, “They helped me get my Associate of Arts Degree. And the math and science center, those are my weaknesses and I would go in there all the time to get free tutoring so it was very helpful.”

As the Commons looks towards the future, officials plan to collaborate more with teachers and team up with the library to support students writing research papers.

TCC Offering Pharmacy Technician Training
Tallahassee Community College students will soon get the chance to go from studying behind a desk to working behind a pharmacy counter.

Reporter: John Rogers
EMAIL ADDRESS: JOHN.ROGERS@WCTV.TV

Tallahassee Community College students will soon get the chance to go from studying behind a desk to working behind a pharmacy counter.

Starting in January, TCC will offer a one-year pharmacy technician program.

This will prepare students for the pharmacy tech certification exam.

These workers fill prescriptions and take care of patient records while earning around $15 an hour.

TCC officials say this is the fourth largest growing job in the area, and

TCC will be the only school in the panhandle with the program.
Whole Child Leon names new director

By Amanda Nalley
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

Courtney Atkins, the new executive director of Whole Child Leon, said community outreach will be her top priority as she starts work Sept. 8.

“I envision the office to be a busy place, with volunteers and student interns from FSU, FAMU and TCC,” Atkins said, “a place where parents can come and fill out a Whole Child profile.”

Whole Child Leon works with families and the community to help kids succeed.

Atkins has served for the past year as the Whole Child outreach specialist with Leon County Schools, where she met with families, determined needs and enrolled more than 3,000 uninsured children in Florida KidCare, health insurance through the state of Florida.

“Early this summer, our steering committee decided that outreach needed to be our top priority and that we needed to bring on a full-fledged executive director to be our lead on that outreach,” said Loranne Ausley, Whole Child Leon chairwoman. “Fortunately for us, we already had a person on our team who had demonstrated this kind of outreach.”

Atkins replaces Alan Brock, who served as interim executive director for the past year.

TCC holds job-training open houses

Tallahassee Community College will host Quick Job Training open houses today and Thursday from 3 to 6 p.m. Today’s event will be held at Workforce Plus, 1140 W. Clark St. in Quincy. The Thursday open house will take place at TCC’s main campus in the Center for Workforce Development. Program coordinators will be present at both open houses to answer questions. The Quick Job Training Program offers fast, affordable training for displaced and under-employed workers for in-demand occupations. The current class schedule may be viewed at www.QuickJobTCC.com. For information, call 201-8760 or e-mail trades@tcc.fl.edu.

Powell to head Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco: John Powell has been appointed director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco and will officially begin his new job Monday, Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation Secretary Charles W. Drago has announced. A native of Pensacola, Powell has more than 25 years of law enforcement experience. He served 12 years with the Escambia County Sheriff’s Office, where he worked in the areas of narcotics, homicide, property crimes and other felonies. In 1996 he was appointed a Special Agent with the FBI. Following his time with the bureau, Powell served as the police chief in Hartsville, S.C.; Wilson, N.C.; and Dothan, Ala.

OIL PRICES

Oil rebounds to more than $69: Oil prices rebounded sharply alongside the major stock indices Tuesday after a huge sell-off that began the week. Most volume was in the October contract, which rose $2.28 to settle at $71.09.
Tallahassee Community College’s trustee board has unanimously approved an increase in the number of employees who can retire early to save the school money.

The vote on Monday backs up an earlier suggestion made by TCC President Bill Law. In June, Law told trustees that there were 13 employees with about two years left in the retirement program known as DROP.

He said that if those 13 opted to retire early, the college could pay off the remaining time in DROP and save the school about $1.22 million.

Since June, Law said other employees came to him who had more than two years left before retiring. Many said they wanted the opportunity to leave early.

“If it works for the employee, it works for us,” Law said Monday before the board voted.

Not all trustees agreed with Law. Lyn Stanfield and Bill Hebrock were concerned about a large number of veteran educators leaving the campus.

“I’m one that believes experience matters,” Hebrock said. “I’d hate to see some good people leave.” Law said he recommended adding the 19 other employees who may want to retire early “to keep us from laying people off involuntarily.”

Law added that the school’s budget is continuing to look bad. In September, the board will have to review the issue of furloughs, Law said.

Trustees would have to approve a furlough plan before it’s put in place. However, Law offered early suggestions to the board during his presidential report.

He said everyone would be affected by the furlough. He recommended that the board think about the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Monday before spring break.

“We (would) close the college on those days,” he suggested.

The furlough plan hasn’t been etched in stone, he stressed. The DROP extension, however, has been approved.

“You save some cash this year and hope for a better day downstream,” Law said.
Tallahassee Community College’s (TCC) Center for Workforce Development has received $398,628 in grant awards from the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) to provide adult education and family literacy programs in Leon and Gadsden counties.

The grant program is funded through the federal Workforce Investment Act Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and provides supplemental funds for adult basic education, high school subjects, English as a second language, citizenship, English literacy and civics education. The one-year awards include:

- $178,599 to provide General Education Diploma (GED) services in Leon County;
- $96,886 to provide GED and English for Speakers of other Languages (ESOL) at Gadsden County correctional facilities;
- $49,329 to provide English literacy and civics education for Leon County;
- $46,832 to provide GED and ESOL at Leon County correctional facilities; and
- $26,982 to provide English literacy and civics education for Gadsden County.

“We are grateful for the Florida Department of Education’s generous support,” said Dr. John Chapin, TCC Vice President for Workforce Development. “In these difficult economic times, TCC is excited to receive these funds so that we can prepare the individuals who need the most help take steps toward finding jobs that can support their families.”

The focus of TCC’s Adult Education Program is to improve basic reading, writing and computing skills for individuals who are either preparing for the GED exam or seeking to improve their workforce skills. Instruction is provided on TCC’s campus and at off-campus sites in collaboration with community partners.

The program is a pay-for-performance grant, meaning grant amounts were based on adult student learning gains. Grantees must gather information on the learners, take attendance, assess their progress and complete other objectives to prove students are completing and learning the coursework. The money may be used for instructional costs, teacher salaries, textbooks, instructional supplies, facilities maintenance, childcare and transportation for learners.

For information about participation in these programs, please contact Harriett Abrams by phone, (850) 201-6104, or email abramsh@tcc.fl.edu.
Crist honors Graham as Point of Light

Gov. Charlie Crist has recognized Nancy Graham of Tallahassee as this week’s Point of Light in honor of Senior and Military Awareness Month. An active senior, Graham is involved at St. Paul’s United Methodist Church where she serves as a Church Circle chairwoman. In addition to her involvement at church, Graham volunteers at ECHO, the Emergency Care Help Organization, where she has helped provide food, clothing and job counseling to persons in need for 12 years.

TCC center lands DOE grant: Tallahassee Community College’s Center for Workforce Development has received $398,628 in grant awards from the state Department of Education to provide adult education and family literacy programs in Leon and Gadsden counties. The grant program is funded through the federal Workforce Investment Act Title II: Adult Education and Family Literacy Act and provides supplemental funds for adult basic education, high school subjects, English as a second language, citizenship, English literacy and civics education.

Democratic Women’s Club hosts luncheon: The Capital City Democratic Women’s Club is hosting its fifth-annual Golden Democrats Recognition Luncheon at noon today at the Civic Center. The club will be honoring 21 Democrats from seven area counties. State Rep. Michelle Rehwinkel Vasilinda is the keynote speaker.
TCC Center receives grant to teach GED

By Harriett L. Abrams
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Tallahassee Community College’s Center for Workforce Development received grant awards from the Florida Department of Education to provide General Education Development preparation classes in Leon County.

The focus of TCC’s GED preparation class is to improve basic reading, writing and computing skills for individuals who are either preparing for the GED exam or seeking to improve their workforce skills. The classes also prepare students to transition into non-credit or credit programs at TCC. Instruction is provided on TCC’s campus and at off-campus sites in collaboration with community partners.

“We are grateful for the Florida Department of Education’s generous support,” said TCC Vice President for Workforce Development John Chapin. “In these difficult economic times, TCC is excited to receive these funds so that we can prepare the individuals who need the most help take steps toward getting their high school diploma and finding jobs that can support their families.”

The community locations and class schedules are Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church Annex, 2202 Lake Bradford Road on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Also, Miccosukee Community Center, 13887 Moccasin Gap Road on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Fall semester classes start Monday, August 24. Students can enroll online at tcc.fl.edu. If more information is needed, please contact the Center for Workforce Development at 201-8760.

TCC receives grant to enhance ecotourism

By Staff

Tallahassee Community College announced it will receive a $5,000 Image Development grant from VISIT FLORIDA to strengthen the Wakulla County ecotourism industry. The award to the TCC Wakulla Ecotourism Institute will fund the creation of a DVD showcasing ecotourism opportunities in Wakulla County, and spur community pride and hospitality through the Wakulla Ambassador program, which will distribute the DVD to residents and tourists.

“The purpose of these grants is to help non-profit entities and local governments stretch their tourism marketing dollars in an effort to expand the cultural, heritage, rural and nature tourism activities in Florida,” said Chris Thompson, President and CEO for VISIT FLORIDA. VISIT FLORIDA, a private/public partnership, is the Florida Commission on Tourism’s day-to-day operating corporation.

“VISIT FLORIDA’s generous support will enable the college to enhance ecotourism in and strengthen local partnerships in Wakulla County,” said Dr. Mary Wolfgang, Director of the TCC Wakulla Center.

Ecotourism is a vehicle used to grow new businesses and employment opportunities while benefiting local residents and visitors in environmentally sensitive Wakulla County.

The Wakulla Ecotourism Institute offers Green Guide Certification, a program that certifies students as qualified nature guides. Further information may be obtained by contacting Dr. Mary Wolfgang at wolfganm@tcc.fl.edu, 922-6290.
Grant awarded to Workforce plus

By Staff

WORKFORCE plus, the workforce development board serving Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties, has recently been awarded $148,500 through Workforce Florida Inc. This grant is an effort to enhance educational opportunities in the high growth industry of healthcare to increase the available labor pool of employees.

Partners include Tallahassee Community College, Lively Technical Center, Gadsden Technical Institute and the EDC Healthcare Roundtable.

“The No. 1 priority of Florida’s workforce system is to get Floridians back to work and help employed Floridians grow within their professions,” said Workforce Florida President/CEO Chris Hart IV. “This initiative seeks to do both while supporting an industry - healthcare - that is a key economic driver for our state and is essential to our quality of life.”

Many of the occupations projected to grow the fastest in today’s economy are concentrated in the healthcare industry. In Gadsden, Leon and Wakulla counties, the predicted annual growth is 2.4 percent through 2016.

Through this healthcare resurgence grant, WORKFORCE plus will be partnering with local health organizations and educational institutions to develop and implement e-learning courses for new students. WORKFORCE plus will also look to underwrite the costs of current healthcare professionals to participate and earn Continuing Education Units.

Additionally, the grant will target Quick Start training in the areas of Nursing, Medical Assistant or Home Health Aides to provide immediate employment to high school/ GED graduates, dislocated workers and the current unemployed workers.

“I continue to be impressed by the services being put forth by WORKFORCE plus in meeting the education and training needs of our community,” said Martin Shipman, CEO of Tallahassee Orthopedic Clinic and Chair of the EDC Healthcare Roundtable. “This grant is just another example of the partnership being forged between the educational institutions, workforce and the healthcare community.”

WORKFORCE plus expects to be able to serve approximately 525 people through this grant. Utilizing a partnership with BigBendHealth.com, WORKFORCE plus will be able to relay information regarding the opportunities available as well as link employers and job seekers directly through the customized recruitment web site. BigBendHealth.com is a first-of-its-kind healthcare network that combines training, continuing education, jobs and resources into one online system.

“Creating job opportunities in an economic downturn is a major challenge,” states Kimberly A. Moore, CEO of WORKFORCE plus. “However, under the Healthcare Resurgence grant we will be afforded a unique opportunity to address the shortages seen in skilled healthcare workers while creating much needed job opportunities.”

Funding for the Healthcare Resurgence grant is provided through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act signed by President Obama in February 2009. The Act has a number of strategic elements that are designed to help stimulate the economy and create or sustain jobs.
TCC Receives Nearly $400,000 in Adult Education Grants

The money will go towards GED programs and English as a second language programs in correctional facilities.

Reporter: Stephanie Salvatore
EMAIL ADDRESS: STEPHANIE.SALVATORE@WCTV.TV

A local college is helping adults further their education.

Tallahassee Community College has received nearly 400 thousand dollars in grants for adult literacy programs in Leon and Gadsden County.

The grant will go toward GED preparation programs and English as a second language at correctional facilities.

The program will serve about one thousand students this fiscal year alone.

“We do have a need in Leon County and Gadsden County and we discovered that need and we want to make sure that individuals who need an education get that education,” says Harriett Abrams, Adult Education Program Coordinator.

Abrams says they encourage the transition from the GED into credit or noncredit classes at TCC.

TCC Quick Job Training Open House

With the job market suffering, more and more local residents are looking to beef up their skills before getting their next job.

Reporter: Heather Biance
EMAIL ADDRESS: HEATHER.BIANCE@WCTV.TV

With the job market suffering, more and more local residents are looking to beef up their skills before getting their next job.

Over the past two days, more than fifty residents from Leon and Gadsden County have come out to TCC’s Quick Job Training open house, allowing them to meet with program coordinators to see what works best for them.

Staff say the best part about it, is students can get training and development within 90 days.

“There looking for skills that they’ll be able to take out to market themselves. Currently, the unemployment rate is high and people are having to look one step above to become competitive,” says Beth Mann Pace, Manufacturing Program Coordinator.

Classes range from Alternative energy, business, construction, manufacturing, health and much more.
Students may notice that change is in the air
TCC expanding while budget cuts mean higher tuition, fewer faculty at FSU, FAMU

By Doug Blackburn
DEMOCRAT SENIOR WRITER

Change is a way of life on college campuses, but it’s safe to say few could have predicted all of the developments in store for the estimated 65,000 students set to begin the new school year this Monday.

T.K. Wetherell enters the fall term hoping it will be his last as Florida State University’s president.

Wetherell, 63 and colorful as ever, in June announced his desire to step down after more than six years as the leader of his alma mater.

He’d be plenty happy if FSU’s trustees announced a replacement for him at their September meeting — though there is little chance of that happening.

The students at FSU and Florida A&M University — particularly the returning students — will surely notice how the dramatic reductions in state funding are playing out at their schools.

Not only are tuition bills going up by about $300 per semester, there are even more student fees at both universities. In addition, Bright Futures funding has been reduced.

No matter how you slice it, despite the fact that Florida’s state schools are the least expensive in the country, going to college here has gotten more expensive.

That’s just for starters.

Both universities have had hiring freezes in effect, which means there are fewer faculty on hand to teach just as many students.

Translation for students: Not every class you want to take will be available, and in most cases you’ll find your classrooms more crowded than ever before.

Not all of the news is negative, of course.

At Tallahassee Community College, which is about to top 15,000 students, the Learning Commons — the modern new study area — has been expanded. Located next to the student union in what had been Florida’s Legislative Research Center & Museum, it provides students with academic support in almost all classes.

“It has been busier and more successful than we could have possibly imagined,” said Sally Search, TCC’s dean of academic support programs. “The computers are always busy, and the study rooms are always full.”

Painful changes are just beginning at Florida State, which has been forced to endure $82 million in reductions in state financing over the past three years.

Due to budget cuts, FSU has eliminated seven bachelor’s degree programs, six master’s degree programs and three doctoral programs starting this fall.

continued…
More than 50 faculty members — including some 30 tenured faculty — have received layoff notices and are likely in their last year at FSU.

“There’s no department that hasn’t been affected in one way or another,” said Joseph Travis, dean of FSU’s College of Arts & Sciences. “We have fewer faculty than we did eight years ago, and it puts a tremendous strain on everyone.

“We’ve been very strained for quite a while and it’s going to continue to be very strained.”

Travis is overseeing one of the biggest changes at FSU, the merger of three prestigious science departments — Geological Sciences, Meteorology and Oceanography — into a single department. It will begin the 2009-10 school year as the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences.

“We really need to see where the economics of the university take us in the next few years,” Travis said. “Every university is contracting in its own unique way.”
FSU, FAMU, TCC busy addressing swine flu

By Angeline J. Taylor
DEmocrat Staff Writer

Long before the start of college classes today, Tallahassee Community College, Florida State and Florida A&M universities launched campaigns to inform 65,000 students about the H1N1 virus, better known as swine flu.

Door hangers were put up at FAMU. FSU formed a swine-flu task force and is creating an informative Web site. Hand sanitizer stations were installed at TCC.

But the key to preventing a surge in the virus is education. Lesley Sacher, director of FSU's Thagard Health Center, is urging students and staff to keep dorms, kitchens and bathrooms clean.

"Clean your kitchens and bathrooms as if your mothers are standing over you," Sacher said.

Tanya Tatum, FAMU's director of student health, said, "The reality is there is very little immunity in this population. We are reinforcing the protective behaviors we need people to engage in."

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that about 40 percent of the country's population will contract swine flu. In many cases, those who catch it have mild symptoms. However, 522 people nationwide have died from the illness, and nearly 8,000 people have been hospitalized, according to the CDC.

CDC health tips are being distributed to students via posters and door hangers. Suggestions include frequent hand-washing; coughing into your shirt-sleeve instead of your hands; staying home from work or school if you're sick; and talking with your doctor about whether you should get vaccinated in the fall.

Sacher said Thagard is set up to distribute the vaccine if enough is produced. The federal government will distribute the vaccine to health departments, she said.

"We are trying to reduce the risk to the campus," Sacher said. "Fall semester is going to be very challenging."

Record enrollment means no furloughs at TCC

By Angeline J. Taylor
DEmocrat Staff Writer

Employees at Tallahassee Community College will not have to endure furlough days to save money due to a record number of students enrolling this fall, TCC President Bill Law said today.

In the first three days of classes, TCC has enrolled 14,177 students, spokeswoman Susie Hall said. That's about 14 more students than the total number who registered in fall 2008.

"We needed a 3 percent (enrollment increase) for our budget," Law said. "We have 5.5 percent. Five percent is manageable growth.

"Some of our friends (community colleges) across the state are growing at double-digit percentages and are struggling to meet the need."

Law said TCC's enrollment may reach 15,000 students once additional fall sessions start on Sept. 9 and Oct. 15. Law told trustees earlier this month that employee furloughs would be inevitable at 3 percent growth or less, but that isn't the case anymore.

"It looks like furloughs are off the table," he said.

However, he admits that with such growth the college will face challenges. He believes the highest percentage of students will need remedial classes to prepare them for college-level courses.

"It's a real challenge. Those are the students who need the most from us," Law said. "We have to put the most energy into them to make sure they are most successful. We're proud we're able to keep the doors open."
U.S. Rep. Allen Boyd, D-Monticello, issued a challenge Thursday to local business leaders to help solve the nation’s most pressing problems: meeting energy needs, educating the work force and improving health care.

“It is most incumbent upon you as a business community to get out front and help us solve these problems,” said Boyd, himself a farmer and agri-business owner.

Boyd opened the annual Economic Development Council of Tallahassee/Leon County meeting. The breakfast meeting was conducted at the Florida Public Safety Institute at the Pat Thomas Law Enforcement Academy in Havana.

Touching on the central theme of his 14 town hall meetings in the region this month, Boyd said the U.S. spends more per capita on health care than any other nation in the world, but is ranked 37th worldwide in terms of health outcomes.

He added that the nation’s economy cannot continue to sustain health-care costs that rise annually 7 to 10 percent faster than the rate of inflation.

Boyd touted the efforts of Capital Health Plan in Tallahassee and its CEO John Hogan. Unlike other systems that have administrative expenses that eat up 25 to 35 percent of revenues, CHP’s are 4 to 5 percent.

“We can solve this problem, and I don’t think we have to have a government-run system to do it. We can take the good parts out of our current private-sector system, and one of the good parts is basic choice,” Boyd said.

The Economic Development Council is the local board responsible for promoting and helping facilitate business and industry growth in the Tallahassee area. Composed of local business and community leaders, the board directs efforts to support existing companies, work-force training, small business startups, emerging industries and other aspects of the economy.

Later in the meeting, EDC Chair Tripp Transou stepped down and welcomed incoming Chair Kim Williams. “I think we are here to thank Tripp for what he’s done,” said Leon County Commission Chairman Bryan Desloge, who added that he met Transou 12 years ago when Transou came to Tallahassee. “I have to tell you that we need more people like Tripp Transou moving to this community.”

“He stepped up for the EDC at a time, as everybody pointed out, which has probably been no bed of roses. Frankly, his shoulders have been broad and he has pushed the ball forward and think we are better for his time at the helm, and I thank you for that,” Desloge said.
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Backhoe - $159       Dump Truck - $54

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**Textbooks drain students’ wallets**

By Angeline J. Taylor  
DEMOCRAT STAFF WRITER

**4:20 p.m. update**

Rianna Watson jumped up and down and clapped repeatedly after seeing the new biochemistry book at Bill’s Bookstore. The pristine-looking, eight-pound textbook arrived Wednesday. It was so new it squeaked when the cover was opened.

Watson, who's 22 and from Crestview, is an employee at Bill’s who attends Florida State. She receives a 20 percent discount and won’t have to pay the full $212 price tag for the book she’s required to buy.

Full-time students pay an average of $400-$500 on textbooks each semester, according to university officials. Watson expects to spend about $600 on textbooks this fall.

The book buying season is under way with a year-old state law in place that seeks to make textbooks more affordable. It requires book lists to be posted 30 days before the start of classes, giving students more options — though there’s some question about the effectiveness of the state law.

The majority of the city’s 65,000 students at FSU, Florida A&M University and Tallahassee Community College know about buying online or from peers. And they are celebrating the year-old rental textbook system at Bill’s Bookstore and the new pilot program known as Rent-A-Text at FSU’s bookstore.

Johnny Lee, Bill’s Bookstore general manager, called the rental textbook program a “guaranteed buyback program.” He
Textbooks…

said students are required to pay a deposit and they must return the book in good condition by a deadline. FSU bookstore's pilot program is similar.

"By all indications, it looks to be a successful program," Brian Dudley, marketing manager for FSU bookstore, said. "It's hard to not be (successful) when you're seeing 55-percent savings."

FSU bookstore's parent company, Follett Higher Education Group, is testing the pilot program at FSU, University of North Florida and St. Petersburg College. Follett Higher Education Group also owns TCC's bookstore.

FAMU's bookstore is owned by Barnes & Noble. Bookstore manager Angela Williams said nearly 1,600 students bought books Tuesday.

"Students save money by coming in early and buying the used textbooks versus the new textbooks," Williams said.

Used books aren't always inexpensive, as FAMU psychology student Janay Cook has learned. One used health paperback book cost her $81.50.

“They're expensive,” she said. “I'm buying from friends.”

Some question whether the state law is effective.

Lee, at Bill's Bookstore, said, "We've been getting orders all week from professors that didn't turn their orders in. There's nobody regulating (the law). I don't really see it working."

Next year, however, a federal law will go into effect that is more demanding than the state law. Professors will be required to turn in textbook lists by the time students register for classes.

Larry Dennis, dean of FSU's College of Information, works on a faculty textbook steering committee.

He said, “In principle it gives students access to more used books. The challenge is knowing in detail what's going to happen in the fall semester in early spring (when students register for the fall).”

Morning update

Florida State University student Rianna Watson jumped up and down and clapped repeatedly after seeing the new biochemistry book at Bill's Bookstore on Tennessee Street.

The pristine-looking, eight-pound textbook had just arrived Wednesday. It was so new it squeaked when the cover was opened. But it's the cost, not the look of such mammoth texts, that was the reason behind a year-old state law and a federal law on the horizon.

Full-time students pay an average of $400-$500 on textbooks each semester, according to university officials. Watson, a bubbly, 22-year-old blonde from Crestview, FL, has to buy the $212 new edition of the biochemistry book required for her class. She and about 65,000 students at FSU, Florida A&M University and Tallahassee Community College have been on the hunt this week for more affordable textbooks.

This fall, students know little about the year-old state law enacted to create a market of used textbooks to save money. They know about buying old books from friends. They know about buying books online. And, they are celebrating the year-old rental textbook system at Bill's Bookstore and the new pilot program known as Rent-A-Text at FSU's bookstore.
Tallahassee Community College has received a $1,000 early childhood reading grant from Target.

The grant will support the Fun to Read early childhood reading program at The Quincy House, TCC’s Gadsden County service center.

According to TCC officials, about 100 families from Stewart Street Elementary School in Quincy will participate in the program -- an after-school, weekend and summer book club. The program reaches families in the most educationally and economically disadvantaged county in Florida.

“Our goal is to bring families together to instill a life-long love of reading,” said Roger Milton, manager of The Quincy House. “Target has provided the money, and student volunteers from TCC, Florida State University and Florida A & M University will serve as tutors to make the Fun to Read program possible.”

Tallahassee Community College's African-American History Month planning committee is accepting nominations for the annual Cherry Alexander African-American calendar.

The individual nominated must have made significant contributions in Leon and/or surrounding counties. The committee will screen the nominations and select the individuals to be honored in the 2010 Cherry Alexander African-American History Calendar.

Nominations may be submitted online at: www.tcc.fl.edu/aahc. Nomination forms are also available online and can be returned to TCC. The deadline for nominations is October 1 at midnight.

Tallahassee Community College’s annual Cherry Alexander African-American History Calendar Unveiling Ceremony is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 25.

For more information, contact Rita Dickey by phone, (850) 201-8376, or email dickeyr@tcc.fl.edu.
TCC’s Gadsden County Service Center Receives Early Childhood Reading Grant From Target

Tallahassee Community College has received a $1,000 early childhood reading grant from Target.

Reporter: Press Release
EMAIL ADDRESS: NEWS@WCTV.TV

News Release from Tallahassee Community College:

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.

Tallahassee Community College has received a $1,000 early childhood reading grant from Target. The grant will support the Fun to Read early childhood reading program at The Quincy House, TCC’s Gadsden County service center.

According to TCC officials, approximately 100 families from Stewart Street Elementary School in Quincy will participate in the program, an after-school, weekend and summer book club. The program reaches families in the most educationally and economically disadvantaged county in Florida.

“Our goal is to bring families together to instill a life-long love of reading,” said Roger Milton, manager of The Quincy House. “Target has provided the money, and student volunteers from TCC, Florida State University and Florida A & M University will serve as tutors to make the Fun to Read program possible.”

The grant is part of ongoing efforts by Target to strengthen families and communities throughout the country. Since opening its doors, Target has given five percent of its income to organizations that support education, the arts, social services and volunteerism. Today that equals more than $3 million every week.

“At Target, our local grants are making a difference in the communities we serve,” said Laysha Ward, president, Community Relations, Target. “We’re proud to partner with Tallahassee Community College as part of our ongoing commitment to give back to the communities where our guests and team members live and work.”

In September 2004, TCC opened the doors of The Quincy House for continuing education courses and after-school tutoring programs. Additionally, TCC initiated Team Gadsden, a partnership with a number of existing community groups and organizations to promote increased learning opportunities.

The Quincy House enables and encourages Gadsden citizens of all ages to see that lifelong education opportunities and meaningful careers can be part of their future.
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. –

Tallahassee Community College will offer industry-recognized heavy equipment operations training classes Monday, September 14 - December 8.

All classroom sessions will take place on TCC's main campus Monday-Thursday evenings, from 6-9 p.m. Hands-on labs will be held at TCC’s Florida Public Safety Institute in Midway on select Fridays and Saturdays.

The courses are offered through TCC’s Center for Workforce Development and are designed for individuals who want to learn backhoe operation or improve their current backhoe skills. Graduates who successfully complete the training will receive industry-certification in heavy equipment operation.

TCC began offering heavy equipment operation training in October 2008, after an industry-trend study of building services determined there was a need to increase the quality and quantity of construction workers in the Tallahassee region.

On the heels of the study's analysis, Florida's Great Northwest Inc. (FGNW) funded a grant for Tallahassee Community College’s Center for Workforce Development to address the shortfall. The class proved to be a success, providing certificates of completion to 25 of the 32 attendees.

“The need for skilled backhoe operators and dump truck drivers continues to be a critical issue,” said Rick Frazier, TCC’s Director of Business and Industry Services Center. “The US Department of Labor projects jobs in the construction industry sector will see an increase of 800,000 new jobs in the next five years.”

Frazier also points to the need for industry growth to keep up with current demographic and economic opportunities: “This need to grow the construction trade is compounded by the fact that Florida will undergo substantial infrastructure and expansion projects from population growth and from the impact of the Federal Economic Stimulus and Recovery Act funding.”

The course is designed for students to learn safety, maintenance, engineering and basic employability skills, as well as how to get the most out of their equipment. Students have the opportunity to practice on simulators before actually operating a backhoe or dump truck.

The program has two tracks: backhoe operation ($159) and dump truck operation ($54). Students must successfully complete the backhoe course, before enrolling in the dump truck course. A significant portion of the training fee is offset by the FGNW grant.

To register for the Heavy Equipment Operations program, call (850) 201-8760 or e-mail Trades@tcc.fl.edu.
Project will train installers to weatherize homes

DEMOCRAT STAFF REPORT

Workforce Plus, Capital Area Community Action Agency, Tallahassee Community College and the Early Learning Coalition of the Big Bend announced Tuesday the creation of “Operation Reemployment,” an effort to create green jobs, reduce energy costs and weatherize homes in the area.

Funded through the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act, Operation Reemployment is a training program that prepares individuals for jobs in making buildings more energy efficient.

“The infusion of stimulus dollars provides the perfect opportunity to create the model for partnerships,” said Dorothy Inman-Johnson, Capital Area Community Action Agency executive director. “While addressing energy-efficient housing and lower utility costs, we are also creating jobs and improving our community’s economy.”

Classes are being conducted for weatherization installers at Tallahassee Community College. Classes begin Sept. 14 and are 3½ weeks.

“TCC is very excited about being a partner in Operation Reemployment. The college has dedicated significant resources to making this project a success. TCC two years ago made a heavy commitment in the development and delivery of green training,” said Rick Frazier, TCC director of workforce development.

“The weatherization training we will be offering through this project gives us an opportunity to not only grow our local economy by putting people to work, but train citizens in new green occupations and technologies - for today and tomorrow. This unique partnership is very cutting edge in reducing energy consumption on the individual level,” Frazier said.

To be eligible to receive this free training, individuals must meet income eligibility requirements. Anyone currently unemployed or underemployed and interested in participating should contact Workforce Plus at 414-6085 or Capital Area Community Action Agency at 222-2043.

TCC announces classes in green construction, alternative energy

SPECIAL TO BUSINESS MATTERS

Tallahassee Community College will begin offering courses Monday that prepare workers for jobs in the green building construction and alternative energy fields. The training will continue throughout the fall semester.

The schedule of classes is designed to meet the needs of people already in the construction and building fields. Sessions are held on TCC’s main campus and at the TCC Wakulla Center.

Classes run Monday through Thursday from 6 to 10 p.m. Topics include Introduction to Solar Thermal Hot Water Heating, Introduction to Photovoltaics and Your Role in the Green Environment.

“A growing number of environmentally conscious and well-informed consumers are making building choices based on whether products and services are earth friendly, ethically produced, recyclable and energy efficient,” said Rick Frazier, TCC’s director of the Business and Industry Services Center. “We are offering classes to increase consumer knowledge of the choices available to lessen their impact on the environment.”

For more information on attending green building classes, call TCC’s Center for Workforce Development at 201-8760 or e-mail trades@tcc.fl.edu.
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. –

Tallahassee Community College is joining the national trend to offer training in the rapidly growing “green building” industries. Beginning September 14 and continuing throughout the fall semester, TCC will offer several classes designed to prepare students for jobs in the expanding alternative energy fields.

The schedule of classes is designed to meet the needs of people already in the construction/building fields. Sessions are held on TCC’s main campus and at the TCC Wakulla Center.

Classes run Monday through Thursday; from 6-10 p.m. Topics include Introduction to Solar Thermal Hot Water Heating, Introduction to Photovoltaic and Your Role in the Green Environment.

“A growing number of environmentally conscious and well-informed consumers are making building choices based on whether products and services are earth-friendly, ethically-produced, recyclable and energy-efficient,” said Rick Frazier, TCC’s Director of Business and Industry Services Center. “We are offering classes to increase consumer knowledge of the choices available to lessen their impact on the environment.”

The construction industry recently began rebuilding itself to reduce its impact on human health and the environment through better design, construction, operation, maintenance and removal. Through their efforts, natural habitats, watersheds and ecosystems are better preserved, our air and water quality is increased and greenhouse gas emissions and solid waste are reduced - all while conserving natural resources.

Want to learn about digital photo editing?

Introductory classes are being held on Tuesdays, from 5-7 p.m., Oct. 20 through Nov. 17 at the Gadsden Arts Center, 13 N. Madison in Quincy. Instructor is Edward Babcock. Registration is $50 for GAC members, $60 for nonmembers. You must register in advance, and checks must be made to the Gadsden Arts Center. Call 875-4866.

The Havana Learning Center Inc., a local nonprofit organization committed to helping Havana’s citizens to expand their education and helps those seeking employment to have the tools they need, is holding in cooperation with Tallahassee Community College its fall computer classes starting Monday, Sept.14, and each Monday after that through Oct. 26, from 6-9 p.m. at Havana Middle School. The cost is $25. The first class is “Computer Basics(1),” and following Mondays will cover “Internet Fundamentals, Internet Explorer Intro, BasicBrowsing, Searching,” “Living Fundamentals,” “Living Online: Email (1),” “Word 2000, Intro (1),” “Word 2000 Intro (2)” and “Excel 2000 Intro (1), and Excel 2000 Intro (2).” There also will be classes on financial literacy provided by GadsdenSAVES (part of the Consumer Federation of America for those who seek to learn how to be fiscally responsible and save money). Those classes also are $25. Call (850) 321-8512 or (850) 228-5782 to register, or e-mail: marvinj38@yahoo.com.

— Nikki Beare
Bright Futures is fading away
By Faran Foy
STAFF EDITOR

The 2009 Florida Legislature voted to change the standard for Bright Futures participation. Bright Futures is a scholarship program for Florida residents sponsored by the Florida Lottery.

The changes include students no longer being required to take 12 credit hours each semester to receive the scholarship. They are now allowed to divide the 24-credit hour requirement up into semesters and still receive the award. This is helpful to seniors because this change means that they do not have to be full time their last semester to receive Bright Futures. For example, in a students final year, the first semester can be 15 credit hours and the last semester can be nine credit hours and the scholarship will still cover tuition.

The most detrimental change is students having to repay the institution for a dropped class funded by Bright Futures. This change has already affected hundreds of students who wish to drop a class after the drop/add period. In the future, this will cause Bright Futures recipients to think more in-depth when enrolling in classes.

The most significant change made to Bright Futures are the reduced awards. Students receiving the Medallion or Gold Seal Vocational scholarship, will only receive $92 per credit hour. These scholarships used to cover 75 percent at an in-state public institution like Florida A&M and Florida State University, and 100 percent of tuition at any in-state community college like Tallahassee Community College. These recipients now have to pay the remaining amount out of pocket or with other aid. The difference for many of us, totals about $300 or more.

Students receiving the Academic Scholars award that covers 100 percent tuition at a public in-state institution, will no longer receive their college expense allowance. Many recipients used this allowance to help cover the cost of books.

When I graduated high school last year I was grateful to receive a scholarship that would help pay for my education. I fear that with such drastic changes made just one year later, student financial security is fading. With the cost of tuition, rent, books and other bills growing, who's to say any of us will be able to afford college.

It is no wonder more and more of my friends and former classmates are back home, and deciding to stay local for college. Meanwhile, the lottery jackpot continues to increase.

Many students are struggling. They are working more than one job to support themselves. Education to many, is important enough that many college students will continue to take out thousands of dollars in loans, just to stay afloat.

These changes are proof that Bright Futures is dying. I predict that there will not be a Florida resident scholarship at all within the next five years. My younger brothers and sisters might not have the same opportunity to attend the college of their choice even with the same grades and credentials I had.

We will have to better prepare for our own children’s future. Bright Futures is great, while it lasts, but we cannot expect for it to live forever.
Open university doors with a degree from Tallahassee Community College

TCC has excellent transfer relationships with its neighbors, Florida State and Florida A&M and many other universities. You can even stay on TCC’s campus to earn your bachelor’s degree through one of TCC’s four university partners.

TCC also offers degrees, quick job training and certifications for in-demand jobs.

For more information about TCC, visit GoToTCC.com or call (850) 201-TCC1.
TCC Seeks Mentors To Help Students Achieve Success

Tallahassee Community College Press Release:
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. -
Tallahassee Community College is looking for caring members of the community to serve as mentors for targeted students in grades 6 through 12.

Mentors are provided training and work with a student once a week at the student’s school site, offering support to help the student achieve the dream of attending college.

The mentors are part of TCC’s Take Stock in Children College Reach-Out Program (TSIC CROP), which began in 1985 and now serves more than 450 students yearly.

The purpose of the program is to increase the number of low and lower-middle income “first generation in college” students to successfully complete a college education.

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The purpose of the program is to increase the number of low and lower-middle income “first generation in college” students to successfully complete a college education.

Participants are initially recruited as sixth graders and remain in the program through twelfth grade. After high school graduation, they receive a pre-paid college tuition scholarship and have the opportunity to become the first generation in their family to earn a four-year college degree.

“Mentors provide support, advice and encouragement to students, helping them to take steps on their path to college,” said Wanda Lewis, mentor coordinator. “By offering a little of their time and energy, mentors can become role models for students, giving them an example to strive for.”

To become a mentor or to learn more about TSIC CROP, call (850) 201-8314 or visit www.tcc.fl.edu.crop.
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TCC Preview October 20 • 5:30-6:30 p.m. • SU Ballroom
Scholarship Fair October 29 • 5:30-7:30 p.m. • SU Ballroom

Dual Enrollment Application Deadline for Spring 2010: Dec. 1

www.GoToTCC.com | (850) 201-8555 | admissions@tcc.fl.edu
Chipola Students Benefit From Wired Scholarships

Thirteen Chipola College students were awarded special scholarships this Fall thanks to a new grant for students in computer and technology-related majors.

Officials from Florida’s Great Northwest in July announced the organization’s investment of $1,150,000 to be used for scholarships in information technology (IT) and engineering programs at seven community colleges and universities in the Panhandle.

Chipola received $50,000 to promote and fund scholarships for students enrolled in several computer-related programs. Chipola is participating in the program with the University of West Florida, Pensacola Junior College, Northwest Florida State College, Gulf Coast, Tallahassee Community College and Florida State University.

Chipola’s scholarship recipients were introduced at a press conference on Tuesday. They are: Christopher Bennett of Graceville, Kevin Kimbro of Cottondale, Brandon Evans of Marianna, Tory Brown of Marianna, Eric Holmes of Greenwood, Joseph Phinney of Blountstown, Nicholas Simmons of Marianna, Marlin Boyd of Cottondale, Sharon Kowitz of Chipley, Thomas Rudolph of Grand Ridge, Tucker Nebel of Marianna, Josef Stackowicz of Greenwood and Fred Gilley of Bonifay.

Chipola president Dr. Gene Prough, said, “These scholarships couldn’t come at a better time for our students. We have selected several bright, motivated students who will succeed in these programs.”

WIRED scholarships are available for the following programs: Associate in Arts (AA) degrees in Computer Science and Information Technology; Associate in Science (AS) degrees in Computer Engineering Technology, Computer Information Technology and Networking Services Technology; and a Workforce certificate program in Computer Systems Technology.

WIRED Scholarships may fund all or part of costs for tuition, fees, textbooks and software and are available only for the 2009-2010 school year.

For information about WIRED scholarships, contact Gail Hartzog or Pat Barfield at 850-718-2342 or Nancy Burns at 850 526-2761, Ext. 3210, or email: burnsn@chipola.edu
Tallahassee, Fla. (September 16, 2009) – Ralph “Buck” Hill, an electrical apprenticeship instructor at Tallahassee Community College, recently attained certification as a Master Instructor from the National Training Institute (NTI). The NTI, originally based at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and recently moved to the University of Michigan, provides professional training for instructors teaching apprentices and journeymen in the electrical industry.

Mr. Hill became a journeyman electrician in 1978, after completing his own apprenticeship. Since then he has worked on a variety of projects, from light commercial to heavy industrial. Hill began teaching apprenticeship courses at TCC in 2002. The Gainesville Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee sent him to the National Training Institute in 2006, and he graduated earlier this year.

“I feel fortunate to have participated in this program and I know my students will benefit,” said Mr. Hill. “I now have a better understanding of how to teach adults, how to formulate and present lesson plans, and how to incorporate technology into apprenticeship classrooms.”

TCC’s apprenticeship program allows students to enroll in a masonry or electrical training program and receive classroom and on-the-job training in a career field with a future. The apprenticeship programs at TCC are offered at no cost to apprentices; the only cost may be textbooks. Both the masonry and electrical apprenticeship programs are also Veteran Affairs-approved, meaning that veterans may be eligible for a monthly housing allowance, a stipend for books/supplies and other benefits.

To learn more about TCC’s apprenticeship programs, call (850) 201-8760 or e-mail Trades@tcc.fl.edu.

GOVERNOR NAMES NEW TRUSTEES AT TCC

Tallahassee Community College’s seven-person board of trustees will welcome two new members when the board meets on Monday.

Gov. Charlie Crist on Tuesday named Dana G. Callen and J. Allison DeFoor II as new appointments to the board, replacing Lyn Stanfield and Sathy Shirah whose terms ended Tuesday.

Crist also reappointed Kimberle Moon McKee to another term.

Callen is an assistant principal at Chiles High, while DeFoor, a managing member of Castille, DeFoor and Armstrong, will represent Wakulla County on TCC’s board. McKee is the designated representative for Gadsden County.

“I commend Gov. Crist for appointing capable community leaders who can contribute to the continued excellence of the college,” TCC President Bill Law said. “The governor has again chosen talented and experienced people for the TCC board who will serve the college and the community very well.”

DeFoor is more than a little familiar with the inner workings at TCC. He is on the board of the college’s foundation, which is TCC’s fundraising organization, and was one of three finalists for the TCC president position when Law was selected seven years ago.

Karen Moore, chairwoman of the board, saluted Stanfield and Shirah for their service.

“TCC applauds the great service of trustees Shirah and Stanfield,” Moore said. “Our college has been very well served by their contributed talent.”