Chipola’s “Greater Tuna” plays Nov. 1-4

Chipola theater director Charles Sirmon, says, “You might be a redneck, if the residents of Tuna, Texas, remind you of your family and friends.”

The Chipola production of the hit comedy “Greater Tuna,” plays, Nov. 1-4 in the college theater. Show times are Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m., with a 2 p.m. Sunday matinee. Due to subject matter, recommended age is 13 and up.

The plot of “Greater Tuna” centers on the death of Judge Roscoe Buckner, of an apparent stroke, while wearing a 1950 turquoise Dale Evans one-piece swimsuit with “lots of cowgal fringe.”

Among the subplots are Stanley Bumiller’s attempts to walk the straight and narrow after a stint in reform school, Bertha Bumiller’s trying to hold her family together, and the Smut Snatchers of the New Order’s attempts to censor books (including the dictionary) at the local library.

The popularity of “Greater Tuna” has even extended to the most distinguished home in the country, with Command Performances at the White House upon the invitation of President and Mrs. Bush. The absolutely bizarre, highly-amusing, redneck play shows satire at its best.

“Greater Tuna,” are tickets are on sale in the college business office and will be available at the box office 45 minutes before each show. For information about Chipola Theater, call 718-2220.

Chipola officials break ground for new access road

Chipola College officials marked the beginning of construction of the college’s New Access Road with a groundbreaking ceremony Tuesday at the college.

The new road will provide a second major entrance to the college from River Forest Road via Cavern’s Road, and is expected to relieve much of the congestion around Kelson Avenue. The new road will begin at River Forest Road and end between the college swimming pool and the Kiddie Campus Day Care.

Chipola president Dr. Gene Prough, said, “This new road represents new opportunities for our students and the community. It will relieve congestion and provide some much-needed room for growth. We want to thank Rep. Marti Coley and the rest of our legislative delegation for supporting this important project.”

The new road will feature four lanes with curbs, lighting, sidewalks and a large grassy median. Triangle Construction was awarded the bid at $1,080,000. Greenhorne & O’Mara is the engineering firm, and Paul A. Donofro & Associates are the consulting architects.

The roadway will lead to a new Performing Arts Center planned for students and the community to enjoy. The 650-seat theater will feature state-of-the-art lighting and sound capabilities with a scene and costume shop, art gallery, and a reception and concessions area.

The new center will replace the current 300-seat theater which was constructed in 1958.
Cross country completes inaugural season

The Chipola College women’s cross country team recently completed its inaugural season.

The team competed in three meets: Gulf Coast Cross Country Stampede at the University of West Florida, the Southern Cross Country Challenge at Chattahoochee Technical College in Atlanta, and the Coach “O” Invitational at Troy University.

Head coach Rance Massengill says, “This year was a learning experience for all involved in the building of a team. Our runners were exposed quickly to high level competition. We competed in the JUCO divisions; however, at the starting line, our runners were still looking at university teams like the University of Georgia, UWF and Florida A & M. This was quite intimidating, but our runners pulled together as a team to do their best.”

While the team members did not bring home any titles or trophies, they all will be able to say, “I was on Chipola’s first Cross Country Team.”

Team members include: freshmen Laura Day of Marianna, Taylor Dover of Jay, Taylor Guy of Bainbridge, GA, Ellen Manor of Wewahitchka, and sophomores Nicole Hoff of Marianna and Danielle Hughes of Marianna.

Scholarships are available. For information, contact coach Rance Massengill at 850-718-2440.

Chipola Haunted Hoops event is Oct. 30; First Game Nov. 1

The Chipola College men’s and women’s basketball teams invite all children and fans to attend the Chipola Haunted Hoops event, Tuesday, Oct. 30, at the Milton H. Johnson Health Center. Trick or treat goodies for the kids, a costume contest and a player autograph session begins at 6 p.m.

The Lady Indians will play a scrimmage game followed by a 3- point contest at 6:30 p.m. The Indians will hold an inter-squad scrimmage and a slam-dunk contest at 7:30 p.m.

The Indians host Truett-McConnell, Thursday, Nov. 1, at 7 p.m. The game is billed as “Pack the Gym Night,” with free admission for all fans.

For information, call 718-2451

Chipola science ed students present at conference

Future science teachers in the Chipola College Secondary Science Education bachelor’s program recently presented a workshop at the FAST (Florida Association of Science Teachers) conference in Orlando.

The workshop, entitled: Groundwater in Science Education, was created with help from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the LIFE program (Learning in Florida’s Environment). Chipola science professor Dr. Santine Cuccio, says, “Incorporating groundwater into the K-12 Curriculum for scientific literacy is an imperative.”

Teachers in the conference audience participated in instructional delivery methods used by the LIFE program, and learned to use equipment ranging from soil augers and sieve sets to water quality monitoring equipment.

The session includes a combination of presentation, field labs, and group discussion on percolation, sand systematics, karst features, the water cycle and use of a tabletop groundwater model. Teachers also received copies of field lab sessions, a copy of the Water’s Journey Hidden Rivers of Florida DVD, and other valuable materials related to ground water in Florida.

For information about Chipola’s Groundwater Outreach program, call Dr. Cuccio at 526-2761, Ext. 3497.
Masonry Apprentice Program begins

The new Masonry Apprentice program is underway at Chipola College.

Instructor Melvin Dawson leads classes for apprentice students every other Saturday in order to verify competencies toward completion of the apprentice training program.

The program is open to apprentice trainees at any time. Apprentice students must be employees of licensed masonry contractors in order to qualify for the instructional program; however students may begin the program regardless of whether they are presently employed by a licensed masonry contractor.

Program completion is achieved through on-the-job training and related instruction in the 6000-clock-hour program.

For more information, call Dean Bud Riviere at 718-2268.

Caribbean Sound Steel Band to perform at Chipola

The Caribbean Sound Steel Band will perform Tuesday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m., as part of the Chipola College Artist Series.

A limited number of tickets—$12 for adults and $8 for ages 18 and under—go on sale Oct. 30 in the Chipola Business Office.

Caribbean Sound will present their exciting “American Carnival” show, an exhilarating evening of music, entertainment and fun. The show presents an exciting look at the development of “pan” music, a unique innovation of the 20th Century, mixing the sound and culture of the Caribbean through Calypso, Soca, and Latin Music with Classical, American pop and original compositions.

Since 1986 Caribbean Sound has performed traditional Calypso, Contemporary Classics, original compositions for the steel pan and World Music striking new territory with an incredible sound. The music of Caribbean Sound is grounded in classical and Jazz traditions combined with years of cultural research of Caribbean Rhythms. The one-of-a-kind ensemble provides presents the amazing influences from around the world that came together to create the steel pan.

Some of Caribbean Sound’s outstanding performance venues include the Florida International Festival in Daytona Beach, the University of Florida Center for the Performing Arts, Ruth Eckerd Hall, Mahaffey Theater, the Jacksonville Symphony, the Louisiana Philharmonic, and the Rockford Symphony Orchestra. Caribbean Sound has been on the Florida State Touring Program through the Division of Cultural Affairs since 1998.


The Artist Series is funded through Chipola’s Performing Arts Fund, with grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Southern Arts Federation, the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs, the Chipola Regional Arts Association and corporate donors.

For information call the Chipola business office at 718-2204.

Sunday Afternoon with the Arts set

Artists and photographers from the region will participate in the third Annual Sunday Afternoon with the Arts visual art exhibit and Artist Reception, Nov. 4 from 1 to 5 p.m., at the Arts Center.

Sponsored by the Chipola Regional Arts Association, the fun family-oriented art event has attracted hundreds of guests in its first two years.

The event features light refreshments, live music, a variety of artists demonstrating their work and door prizes.

This year’s exhibit features new emerging artists from the region and include potters, painters, jewelry designers, wood carvers and film makers. Demonstrations include: Potter, Dawn Prietz; Grady Smith, shell carver; Roberta Newell painting with melted crayons and Kathy Wycoff demonstrating pastel portrait techniques.

Other artists included in the exhibit, are: Gloria Albu, John Dunaway, Mark Hebb, Amethyste Holt, Allen Simmons, Dawn Prietz, Helene Wyckoff, Jerry Whitson, Nancy Zurenda, Angela Arnold, Jill Arrazatee, Rick Bass, Judy Brooten, Helen Rankin Byrd, Eddie Lou Conrad, Darren Ellsworth, Pat Furr, Dr. Eddie Griggs, Toollie Harks, Tom Harris, Ed Hebb, Berit Jackson, Lois Jones, Ellen Kimball Michele Tabor Kimbrough, Anna Gitana Layton, Debra Pelc Menacof, Roberta Newell, Rosa Nichols, Marian Oswald, Suzanne Payne, Dr. Robert Payne, Sharon Ray, Karen Roland, Starr Shumaker, Grady Smith, Jim Wyckoff, Kathleen Wycoff and Carol Yoder.

An added attraction at this year’s Sunday Afternoon reception will be the showing of the film “Apalachicola River: An American Treasure” by filmmaker Elam Stoltzfus.

Following the event, the exhibit will be open to the public Monday through Friday, through Nov. 13.

For information, call 850-718-2277.
FBAT TEST SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE. All applicants for Corrections and Law Enforcement programs must earn a passing score on the Florida Basic Abilities Test (FBAT).

Requirements to sit for the test are: standard high school diploma or a GED equivalent and a background check.


For information, contact Steve Anderson, (850)718-2479; e-mail andersons@chipola.edu or FAX requests to (850)718-2497.

Chipola nurses score well on NCLEX

Chipola nursing students performed well on the latest NCLEX exam. Chipola’s fourth quarter NCLEX-RN passing rate is 87.5 percent and the NCLEX-PN passing rate is 100 percent. The year-to-date passing rate is 84.44 percent for NCLEX-RN and 92.86 percent for NCLEX-PN. Here, nursing student Marie Spivey (right) of Bascom, checks the blood pressure of fellow student Precious Dixon as Kathy Wheeler, Director of Health Sciences, looks on. For information, call 850-718-2316.

Neel is Employee of the Month

Louise Neel (right) accepts the November Career Employee of the Month award from college vice president Dr. Sarah Clemmons. Neel has worked at Chipola since 1983 and now serves as Senior Office Assistant in Continuing Education.