Chipola nursing program ranked in top 10%

The Chipola College Nursing Program has been ranked in the Top 10% of programs in the Eastern U.S. by NurseJournal.org.

NurseJournal is a social community for nurses worldwide which seeks to educate, inform and share information about health science programs.

Chipola was ranked 118th among the more than 1,189 schools in the Eastern Region which were evaluated in five categories: quality, affordability, convenience, satisfaction and value. Data used in the rankings came from the Institute of Education Sciences, Rate My Professors, PayScale, the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the state Boards of Nursing and individual school websites.

Dr. Karen Lipford, Dean of the Chipola School of Health Sciences, says, “A great school is more than just good teachers and low tuition; a great school offers educational options to make it easier for today’s students to achieve the lifelong dream of becoming a nurse. There are many different criteria to consider when selecting a school of nursing. We know that we have an outstanding program, but we are inspired that others outside of our community believe this as well.”

The Chipola School of Health Sciences offers both the Associate Degree Nursing (ADN) program and the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. Both degrees are accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Tuition for the ADN program is $102 per semester hour.

The Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) prepares students to take the Registered Nurse National Council Licensing Examination (NCLEX-RN) to become a Registered Nurse (RN). The ADN program is four-semesters in length with one semester of prerequisites. ADN candidates are accepted into either the day or the evening programs. Candidates for the daytime program are admitted in August and January. The evening program accepts students only in August.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) offers all upper level classes in an online format. The flexibility of the online program allows working nurses to complete most of coursework in one year. BSN applicants are admitted three times during the year: August, January and May. Tuition for the BSN is $115 per semester hour.

“Game On,” Saturday’s event for Backpack for Kids – Jackson County Feeding program offered a host of free activities for children from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Marianna’s Madison Street Park. Members of the Chipola College TRiO Society volunteered to play games/activities with the youth that attended the event.
Chipola Theatre Auditions for ‘Cat on a Hot Tin Roof’

Chipola Theatre director Charles Sirmon will hold auditions for “Cat on a Hot Tin Roof,” Sept. 21 and 22, at 6 p.m. in the Center for the Arts. Auditions are for ages 16 and up. The show will run Nov. 5-8.

Set in the Mississippi Delta plantation home of Big Daddy Pollitt, Tennessee Williams’ Cat on a Hot Tin Roof examines the relationships among members of Big Daddy’s family. Brick, an alcoholic ex-football player, drinks his days away and resists the affections of his wife, Maggie “the Cat.” His reunion with his father, Big Daddy, who is dying of cancer, jogs a host of memories and revelations for both father and son. The Pulitzer Prize-winning drama examines social mores, greed, superficiality, deception, decay, desire, repression and death. The production contains mature content and is not recommended for children under 12.


For information about auditions, visit the Chipola Theatre page at www.facebook.com or www.chipola.edu/theatre

ACT Fund Memberships go on sale

Patrons may join the ACT Fund online at www.chipola.edu/theatre or at the CFA Box Office beginning September 17.

Proceeds from the Applauding Chipola Theatre (ACT) Fund are used to directly support the Chipola College Theatre department as they seek to grow, challenge, dazzle, and of course, entertain.

This year’s production lineup includes: Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (Nov. 5-8), The Addams Family (Feb. 24-28) and our children’s theatre production SuperHero?? (May 12). For more information, contact Charles Sirmon, Director of Theatre at 850-718-2227 or sirmonc@chipola.edu.

Steps to Starting a Business

Fee: $35.00 check only  
(No cost to students & faculty)  
Date: Friday, October 16, 2015  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Location: Chipola College, 3094 Indian Circle, Marianna, FL 32446, Room M-108.  
Register: Visit www.sbdc.uwf.edu - Click Training Opportunities Panama City - Or call 850-818-0570

Chipola Wellness Center Open to Spouses

Chipola encourages the health and wellness of all employees with the 90 for 90 Plan. With supervisor approval, employees may leave their work station for up to 90 minutes a week to engage in approved wellness activities as long as they engage in the activity for up to 90 minutes of their own time.

An example would be to leave work 30 minutes early Monday, Wednesday and Friday, to exercise for a total of one hour each of those days. Another example would be to arrive at work 15 minutes late four days a week and work out for a total of 30 minutes on those days.

Employees should complete a Wellness Center Administrative Leave and Personal Time Log and submit to Human Resources at the end of each month. Leave must be matched with personal time during the same calendar week – Sunday midnight to Saturday midnight. Personal time is not personal leave. It is time beyond the regular work schedule.

Spouses of full-time college employees are now eligible to use the Chipola Wellness Center.

To use the Center, spouses must:
1. Pay annual fee of $100 at college Business Office. Membership is good for fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Cards expire June 30th of each year.
2. Complete Informed Consent, Waiver Release in Human Resources to receive access card.
3. Take access card to Student Affairs (Kim Collins) for picture ID and activation. ID’s are made Monday–Thursday, 8-11 a.m.and 1-4 p.m.
First Responder Challenge

September is the month that all emergency personnel recall and respect nation-wide. First responders are the common thread that determines life and death in many emergency situations. There is never advance warning or practice sessions involved that lead the first on the scene to make the correct decisions. This response comes from hour after hour of professional training, both textbook and hands-on.

The Public Service Department of Chipola offers Certified Training to first responders in an effort to assure that emergency personnel are up to the task when such a critical situation arises. First responders often run into the critical situation, not away from it. As a Certified Training Center by the state of Florida, Chipola’s Public Service Department offers Firefighter Training to those interested in Commitment, Sacrifice, and Investment.

Thus, there has been a First Responder Challenge Scholarship Fund established at the Chipola Foundation. Steve Anderson, Director of Public Service Programs at Chipola, has kicked off the challenge with a $200 personal donation of his own. “I have been both the first responder as well as the recipient of first responder services in my 40+ years of Public Service. In either situation, it is assuring to know that the first responder is trained professionally. Too often, we come to expect this professionalism in the time of disaster, but yet fail to acknowledge the training costs involved to achieve this goal. The most rewarding acknowledgement that we can offer first responders is to invest in their training. I have issued the First Responder Challenge to give the entire community the opportunity to invest in a safer environment. This is an opportunity for both businesses and individuals to invest. The contributor will only need to contact the Chipola Foundation, Julie Fuqua at 718-2478, or email fuquaj@chipola.edu in order to become a partner in the First Responder Challenge. The mailing address is: Chipola Foundation, 3094 Indian Circle, Marianna, FL 32446. Please note First Responder Challenge on checks.

The Firefighting Program is entering into a new era of first responder training with the introduction of George Gay, as the new Coordinator of Chipola’s Firefighting programs. George is a seasoned first responder with 20+ years as both a first responder and adjunct instructor. He will be responsible for assuring that the long recognized quality of Firefighters receiving training continues for the local community.

In a pro-active approach, Gay announces that a Firefighter I class will begin in early October, followed by a Firefighter II class. He is available to assist interested in the application process. Additionally, Gay will be able to offer a $200 scholarship to the first 10 individuals registering for the October Class. For information, email gayg@chipola.edu or phone 718-2483 or 573-0188.

Florida Lottery to sponsor Fall Festival Oct. 1

The Florida Lottery will participate, for the fourth year in a row, in the Chipola Fall Festival, Thursday, Oct. 1, to welcome Bright Futures scholarship recipients and to celebrate the Lottery’s 27-year history of supporting education in Florida.

All students are excused from classes Thursday, Oct. 1, from 10:30 a.m. until 2:45 p.m. Chipola’s Student Government Association puts on the annual event for the student body. In addition to Outrageous Relay Races, students will enjoy music, free food and giant inflatable games at the Chipola Pool. Several universities are expected to send recruiters to meet with potential students.

The Florida Lottery Bright Futures program will provide free t-shirts and offer a drawing premium door prizes to Chipola students.

The Bright Futures Scholarship Program, which is funded primarily by the Florida Lottery, was created in 1997 by the Florida Legislature to assist students in pursuing post-secondary educational and career goals. Bright Futures scholarships are awarded to Florida high school graduates based on high academic achievement.

Since the program’s inception, the Florida Lottery has contributed more than $3.9 billion to send more than 600,000 students to college. To date, more than 5,000 Bright Futures scholarships have been awarded to students attending Chipola College, totaling $8,256,622.14.

For more information about Bright Futures Scholarships, visit www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf. For information about the Fall Festival Event, call 718-2308 or visit the Chipola Student Activities Office, K-105.
PBL to host Pie the Professor at Fall Fest

Chipola Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) will host the Pie the Professor event at Fall Festival on Oct. 1 to raise funds for March of Dimes. Many college employees have agreed to be “pied” in the face for this worthwhile cause.

PBL members will distribute donation cans to classrooms this week. Pie victims will also be auctioned off at the Festival. At the 2014 Auction, Dr. Rachel West brought in the most money, so she is the one to beat this year. During the Festival, PBL will also sponsor the fantastic face painting artistry of Kim Chatwood of VonArt.

PBL hosted a Membership Madness Meeting on Sept. 9, attracting more than 25 students, who were treated to pizza and desserts. Kathryn Meadows, president, and Shareem Goodlet, vice president, explained the mission and benefits of PBL. Current members and former members shared their stories of PBL. PBL members practiced their recruiting efforts by manning a table at Club Day.

PBL sponsored a School Supply drive for students and instructors at Golson Elementary School. Upcoming PBL events include a Goodwill clothing drive, an October Zombie Crawl, BackPack for Kids food drive, and a Yankee Candle fundraiser. PBL members also assist Partners for Pets on a weekly basis, volunteering at Mr. Bingo to collect donations for the local no-kill animal shelter.

Phi Beta Lambda is a business-centric organization open to all students. Members work on developing leadership skills, serving the community, fundraising, and studying for state and national competitions. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month with the next scheduled for Oct. 6, at 4 p.m. in M-108 in Business and Technology.

Contact advisers Glenda Bethel at bethelg@chipola.edu or Jonathan Chaney at chaneyj@chipola.edu. PBL is on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/ChipolaPBL1

Kevin Hill, UF aerospace engineering graduate, and Chipola Honors program alumnus, addressed students in the Chipola Honors program. He is pictured here with current Honors students who are engineering majors.