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your corner editor | ron crow

TCC's new Portsmouth campus could be the envy of them all

SINCE WE DROPPED A LINE on the story about Tidewater Community College's new Portsmouth campus last week, I thought I'd give a few more details about the place.

But first, the story on the cover last week should have ended with saying the Beazley Foundation was established by the late philanthropist Fred W. Beazley. Sorry about that!

The new \$65 million school just off Interstate 264 at Victory Boulevard also bears the Beazley name, but there's so much more. Students began using the state-of-the-art facility this week, and I'm sure plenty of four-year institutions would be envious of the amenities.

Business classrooms have an electronic stock ticker along the walls. The Beazley School of Nursing has doubled in size and boasts human-patient simulators in hospital beds so high-tech that Eastern Virginia Medical School wants some of its students to spend time there.

The four buildings include 25 modern classrooms, 11 computer laboratories and 20 instructional labs. The library alone has 100 computer stations.

TCC's programs in HVAC, welding and computer-aided drafting have been expanded and will make use of high-end computers. The high-tech welding lab looks big enough to build a submarine.

And the First College Program got a \$4.7 million boost from Portsmouth Public Schools to expand its partnership with the college wherein high school students may take college-level courses.

Whatever your educational level, it's great for our area to have such a world-class facility. Three cheers for TCC!

