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# COMPENDIUM

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A Collection of Good Works  
Published by the Pensacola Junior College Foundation

Spring 2003

A portrait of a man with short, light-colored hair, wearing a dark blue graduation gown with a gold and orange V-neck collar. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. His hands are clasped in front of him, resting on a dark surface. The background is a dark, neutral color.

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Inaugurated

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Universal Scholarships

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of Albert Paley

Celebrations

and more!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



MILLER CALDWELL  
PJC Foundation  
President

Over the last several years you have heard through the message of the Foundation president that PJC has made tremendous strides and successes. I want you to know your hard work continues to pay off.

Endowed teaching chairs and scholarships, visiting artists and lecturers, a revitalized honors program, a spacious visual arts gallery, and a state-of-the-art health complex have been transformed from dreams to reality. A quick stroll around any PJC campus will show students, faculty and community members who are benefiting from programs and technology that the Foundation has helped provide.

As the PJC Foundation president, it is my job to work with the PJC family through the Board of Governors to broaden the friendships of PJC and to raise the necessary funds to ensure the college succeeds in its mission.

As exciting as it is to list our accomplishments, and as tempting as it might be to take a well-deserved rest, we must

also look at the educational needs that remain unmet. In particular, scholarship funds are needed for those students who do not qualify for financial aid and yet cannot afford tuition and books.

Last year, the Foundation established the Universal Scholarship Fund to meet this need. Now it is time for the Foundation to rally community support for this worthy effort. Providing scholarships for qualified students is a sound investment for a progressive community and critical for the continued success of our country.

The PJC family has done a marvelous job, but our job will never be over. As my predecessor, Diane Appleyard, stated at this time last year, "to accomplish the goals of PJC will require passion and commitment." It is our duty to make sure education is at the top of our priorities, and that our legislators know of our resolve. I ask, as she did, for you to continue to find your way of helping.

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*The Pensacola Junior College Foundation, Inc. is a private, nonprofit corporation that has been established to encourage, solicit, receive and administer gifts and bequests of property and funds for benefit of the college and college activities. The PJC Foundation is administered by a board of governors made up of members of the community who have an interest in the college.*

*The PJC Foundation promotes the annual giving program of the college and solicits funds for various projects which the college cannot otherwise fund. In addition, donations are sought for scholarships and other worthwhile projects which assist Pensacola Junior College and its students.*

*As a tax-assisted institution, Pensacola Junior College cannot meet all needs with state and student support. The PJC Foundation assists in obtaining private support to supplement college budgets. The PJC Foundation is a 501(c)3 tax deductible nonprofit corporation and a direct support organization chartered by the state of Florida to provide private support to the college.*

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## COMPENDIUM

Compendium is published for alumni and friends of Pensacola Junior College. The Pensacola Junior College Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization established to solicit, receive and administer private support for PJC. Gifts to the PJC Foundation are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

### NEED INFORMATION? PLEASE CALL!

PJC's College Development/Foundation & Alumni Affairs staff is here to assist you. You may reach us at: (850) 484-1560

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# Celebrating THE Journey



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1. Dr. Tom Delaino was inaugurated as the fifth president of PJC on April 10. The installation ceremony culminated a week of festivities on all three campuses and the Downtown Center.

2. PJC SGA presidents Tonya Burnett, Jennifer Coleridge and Sharon Bruner welcome Dr. Delaino.

3. Dr. Delaino's family: (left to right) Tommy Delaino, Frances Carroll, E.J. Delaino, and Lee Ann Delaino

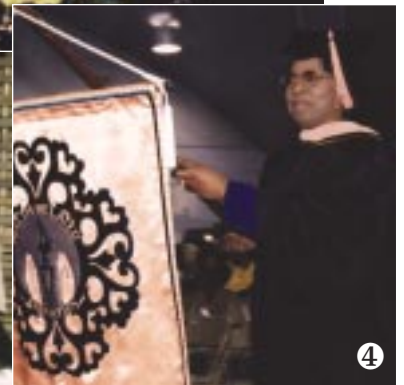
4. Marshal, Shirley Holt-Hill, Professor of Nursing

5. Carol Carlan, Board of trustees chair, installs PJC's new president.

7. Santa Rosa Sound helps PJC Celebrate the Journey in Milton.



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5



7

## Foundation Friends Greet the Season and Celebrate Russenberger Endowed Chair

“Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, Jack Frost nipping at your nose.” A favorite holiday event in Pensacola is the Foundation’s annual Holiday Grande Buffet.

The Foundation welcomed more than 200 guests with festive music, food and a silent auction at last December’s holiday event.

Highlighting the evening was the dedication of the Ray Russenberger Endowed Chair for Telecommunications and the unveiling of Russenberger’s portrait that has been placed in the Hall of Honor in the Barfield Administration Building.

The Russenberger Chair will provide faculty and student training opportunities, release time for continuing education opportunities for faculty, and instructional software and materials.

As CEO of Network Telephone, Russenberger is known for his support of education, health, arts and charitable organizations throughout the community.

Supporting PJC’s Center for Information and Engineering Technology through the endowed chair also an opportunity to bolster the business community, according to Russenberger.

“The capability to recruit trained individuals with ‘hands-on’ experience is a huge benefit for Pensacola area business,” Russenberger said. “PJC’s telecommunications program provides a way for students to enter the workforce with above average pay in as little as two years.

“This program can be a catalyst for economic development for Northwest Florida. Employers locate where they can find qualified employees, and we now can produce those employees locally.”

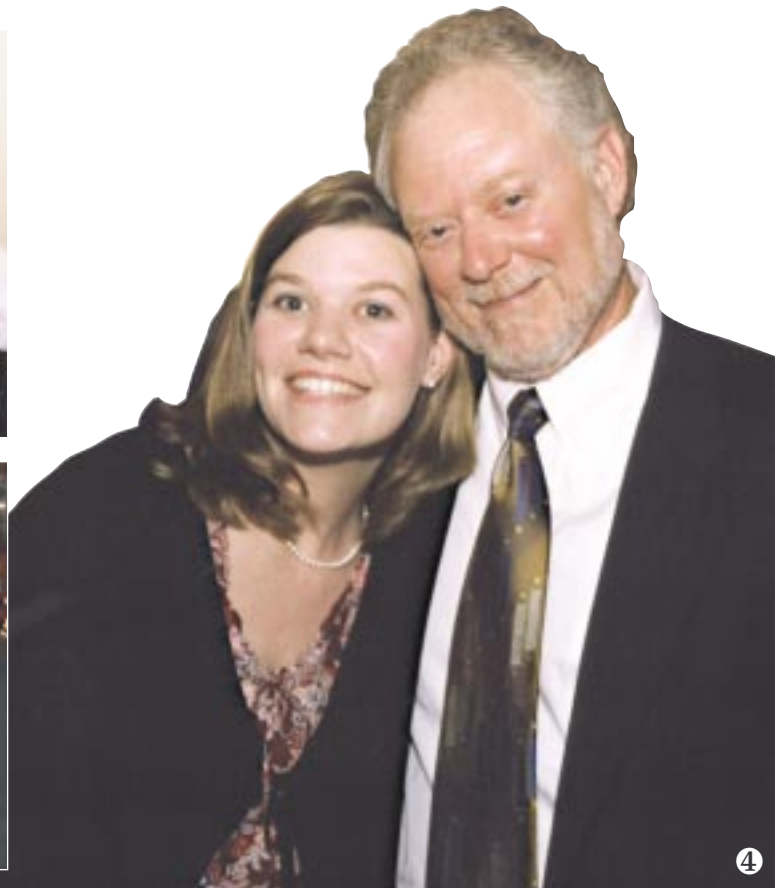
PJC’s commitment to providing top-notch technical programs and training was echoed by Heijia Wheeler, PJC vice president of academic affairs.

1. Ray and Valerie Russenberger
2. Holiday guests dined on delectable dishes prepared by students in PJC’s Culinary and Hospitality Management programs under the direction of program heads, Chef Travis Herr and Sandy Southerland.
3. PJC Ambassadors; Penny Taylor, Tiffany Lindsey and Jenni Williams
4. Rachel Russenberger Mosley and her father, Ray Russenberger



*“The capability to recruit trained individuals with ‘hands-on’ experience is a huge benefit for Pensacola area business.”*

— Ray Russenberger





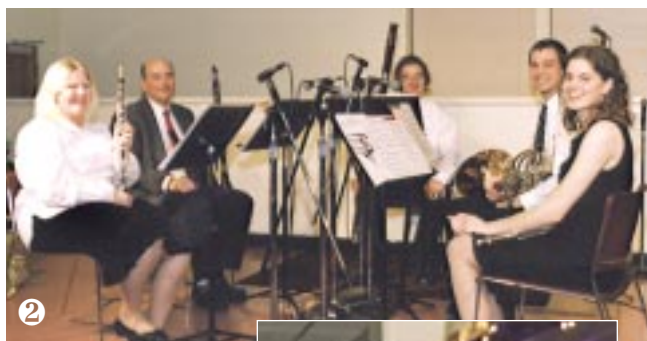
“One measure of PJC’s mission is to be cognizant of industry demands and the need to support economic development of the local community,” Wheeler said. “The Russenberger Endowed Chair, made possible by Mr. Russenberger’s generous donation, will enable our institution to give students and faculty members cutting-edge educational opportunities.”

Citing \$550,000 awarded from the Florida Horizon Jobs grant, the college already is benefiting from the Russenberger Endowed Chair, according to Sue Halfhill, director of the Center for Information and Engineering Technology.

“Many community colleges apply for this grant,” Halfhill said. “What may have made ours stand out was the personal support of Mr. Russenberger.”



1. Penny and Chuck Emling
2. Holiday music, courtesy of PJC’s Woodwind Quintet, greeted the guests as they enjoyed hors d’oeuvres and browsing through the silent auction items.
3. Holiday guests, (left to right) Celia and David Casey, and Lou and Jean Ross
4. Isaac Brigham, Senior Vice President for Planning and Administration, and Elba Robertson



**Thanks to the following generous contributors, the silent auction was a resounding success:**

Andrew Williams with Advocates for Health; AmSouth Bank; Artesana; Ashley Spears; Bailey’s Farmers Market; Betty Gail Peters Interior Design; Betty Wasson; Celebrations; Chen’s Liquors and Fine Wines; Changes Day Spa; Clyde Butcher; Comfort Inn Pensacola Beach; Constance Crosby Interiors; Creative House; Dillard’s; Earnest Hand; Ever’man Natural Foods; Fish House; Galleria Lamps; Gautreau’s; Ginger Bender; Gussie Morris; J.W. Renfro Company; Jeff Bass; Jeweler’s Trade Shop; Junior League of Pensacola; Let’s Play Toy Store; Lisa McKenzie Dampier; McAlpin Interiors; Merry Makers Pottery Studio; Michael Ostaski; Naval Aviation Museum; Oasis New World Rug; Pat Fogg; Patty Paulson; Pensacola Choral Society; Pensacola Greyhound Track; Pensacola Little Theater; Follett PJC Bookstore; Pensacola Opera; Pensacola Symphony Orchestra; Radiante Jacqueline Day Spa; Running Wild; Seville Quarter; Stonehaus Pottery; Tommy Tait and Whitney Bank

**The Endowed Chairs for Excellence Program affirms the value of outstanding teaching and provides extraordinary recognition to the best PJC faculty.**

**For more information on establishing an Endowed Chair or donating to the PJC Foundation, call 850-484-1560 or visit [www.pjc.edu/foundation](http://www.pjc.edu/foundation)**

## Is Everyone a Candidate for Gift Trust Planning?

Yes. There are many people with retirement plans, but those plans are subject to four different taxes in the estate. With creative financial and trust planning, estate tax consequences of this asset can be reversed. Your family may be able to retain more of your assets and have the opportunity to make significant financial contributions. With creativity and proper planning there is something almost everyone can do, regardless of age, circumstance, or amount or type of assets.

For more information, call the Foundation office. Ask for Patrice Whitten, executive director, and Roger Sizemore, Ph.D., planned giving advisor, and arrange a time to talk about this important planning option for your life. There is no cost to you, only the giving of counsel. Everyone’s circumstance is unique, and this kind of planning requires a level of trust and ongoing discussion with your own financial advisors.



Contact  
Patrice Whitten,  
Executive Director,  
850-484-1560

# Sansing and Universal Scholarships Put Students on the Road to Success

Taking care of business is nothing new to Sandy Sansing, who is recognized all along the Gulf Coast for his successful automobile dealerships.

Seeing a need and meeting it quickly is nothing new to Sansing, who also is



known for his involvement in community projects such as collecting gifts for needy children at Christmas and providing on-going assistance to several public schools through Partners in Education.

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*“I’m just proud to play a part in helping others through education.”*

— Sandy Sansing

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Therefore, establishing a scholarship program at PJC that would benefit students immediately was a logical step for Sansing when he became aware of the many students who qualify for scholarships but are turned away for lack of funds.

Over the next four years, Sansing will provide scholarships for approximately 68 full-time students. Each scholarship will cover tuition, fees and books up to \$1500 per year.

Sansing says the \$100,000 gift will not go into an endowment fund but will be used in \$25,000 increments to provide scholarships as quickly as possible.

The pressing need for scholarships became evident to Sansing last fall during a Foundation fund raising event at the Shuck Shack, hosted by Gus and Nancy Silivos. The event raised awareness for PJC’s Universal Scholarship Fund that was created to reach deserving residents of Escambia and Santa Rosa counties who otherwise would receive no financial aid.

Providing scholarships to benefit PJC students was an easy choice, according to Sansing who graduated from PJC in 1967.

“PJC fills a tremendous need in our community,” Sansing said. “We are blessed to have such an outstanding junior college. It is truly a great place to start. During my years at PJC the teachers, classes and administrators provided a great experience for me.”

Over the years Sansing has seen the college’s role in the community change to meet changing needs. He noted that in today’s economy many older students who have families and debts need scholarships because they must return to class for retraining.

“Sometimes it is so hard for people to get a break,” Sansing observed. “But the two-year degree at PJC can open doors for more education at an upper level university or it can open doors for good jobs in our community.”

Those educational doors opened in January 2003 for the first recipients of the Sansing Scholarship. To make their scholarships more personal, Sansing also hosted a group dinner for the recipients. Dining with the scholarship winners is an event that Sansing plans to repeat each year.

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*“I think the educational needs are there today. With an immediate cash gift, immediate scholarship needs can be met and lives can be changed. Helping people acquire an education is a wonderful way to help them achieve their dreams. Ultimately the community also benefits from their education.”*

— Sandy Sansing

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“I wanted a chance to meet the students, to talk to them, to get them excited about college,” Sansing said.

Filling an educational need is important, but Sansing seems most gratified by the letters of appreciation that have been coming in. One from a single mom with two children, some from students just out of high school, several from older students needing a second chance in the job market. All are in class on a Sansing Scholarship.

Scholarship funds are administered by the PJC Foundation. To find out more about how you can help students, please contact Patrice Whitten, executive director, or Shebbie Shields, scholarship coordinator, at 850-484-1560.

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## PJC Seeks Alums

We are putting together a database of PJC alumni starting with our first graduates who enrolled in 1948, and we are working our way to the present.

If you or another PJC alum would like to be a part of the database, please call **850-484-1560** or send an e-mail to **foundation@pjc.edu** with the information. We envision this database becoming a tremendous resource for PJC graduates — a way to stay in touch, reconnect or make new friends!





# The Sculpture of Albert Paley: More Really IS More

By Stephanie Kress

Excerpted and reprinted with permission from Vision magazine, published by the Arts Council of Northwest Florida.

His work stands as a silent sentry to museums, buildings, crossroads and cities alike. This spring, metal sculptor Albert Paley brought his work to the Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts at PJC.

Paley is a sculptor of international recognition. His works include the Portal Gates for the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.; a plaza sculpture for the AT&T building in Atlanta; the main entrance for the new Naples Museum of Art in Naples; and stairway sculptures for the Worthan Center for the Performing Arts in Houston.

Paley works in a field of public art in which a museum or city can commission him to create one of his fantastical sculptures. But it has not always been so. Paley began his career as a jewelry crafter, creating pieces to move with the body. The gold, silver, and other mediums used in each piece were molded into fluid-like forms that, although each piece was very large, would wear as if it were a single pendant.

In 1973, Paley began the art of blacksmithing, creating metal sculptures and furniture, transferring his jewelry skills and ideas to the medium of sculpture. The word blacksmithing may bring to mind images of a person who makes horseshoes. In the

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*“The Visual Arts Department at PJC has been functioning as a regional art center for a number of years. The Switzer Distinguished Artist Series shows that we function on a national level as well.”*

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— Allan Peterson

Middle Ages, however, the blacksmith was responsible for creating works of art in the form of suits of armour, sword, pots and pans — anything in metal. Today, Paley continues that tradition, creating works of art out of iron and steel.

“Paley makes a sheet of metal appear almost fluid and pliable,” said Allan Peterson, director of the Anna Lamar Switzer Center for Visual Arts, and a personal friend of Paley’s and organizer of the exhibition.

The only metal sculptor to be awarded the coveted Life Time Achievement Award from the American Institute of Architects, the attraction of Paley’s work is defined in a statement used in his biography, “The allure of Paley’s art comes through its intrinsic sense of integration of art and architecture.”

The Paley exhibit brought 15 works of sculpture along with other tables, lamps and candlesticks for the exhibit at the Anna Lamar Switzer Center. Many of Paley’s works were too large to be brought to the exhibit. Instead, maquettes, small replicas that are used to show prospective clients, were brought. For example, the maquette of the sculpture “Olympia” is a mere 5 feet tall, while the actual sculpture is 30 feet tall. As amazing as the actual sculpture, the display of the maquettes allows the viewer to see public art from all over the world in one place.

PJC has awarded Paley another distinction: he has been named the 2003 Switzer Distinguished Artist Honoree. Previous honorees have included Clyde Butcher and architect/designer Michael Graves.

The Distinguished Artist Honoree program is made possible through a fund donated by the Switzer and Reilly families. The fund also provides for scholarships and to support selected faculty in the creation of their own artwork.

“The Visual Arts Department at PJC has been functioning as a regional art center for a number of years. The Switzer Distinguished Artist Series shows that we function on a national level as well,” said Peterson.

Exhibited along with Paley’s works were the ceramics of Stephen Fabrico, an artist out of New York. Fabrico is nationally known for his versatile wide-ranging studio. His pieces are in the permanent collections of museums and trusts in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Texas, North Carolina, and at PJC. His work, which ranges from bowls to birdhouses with teapots in between, has won many awards throughout the country.

President’s Club members and donors were treated to a private reception for Paley at the Switzer Visual Arts Gallery on March 6. The guests enjoyed conversing with Paley while sampling the sumptuous fare.



Portal Gates, Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, forged and fabricated steel, brass and bronze. Photo by Bruce Miller

## Renowned Cornetist Don Gumpert is Honored with Scholarship

Top jazz musicians from around the country gathered at Seville Quarter last December to celebrate the musical contributions of renowned cornetist, Don Gumpert. Filling the evening with the best Dixieland Jazz around, the event also served as a fundraiser to establish a PJC scholarship in honor of Gumpert.

Gumpert is best known locally for his 30 plus years of playing the cornet with Rosie O'Grady's Dixieland Jazz Band in Pensacola and Orlando. But he also is recognized as the "master of the cornet" throughout the United States and Canada.

During his illustrious career, "Gump" has dazzled audiences in such places as St. Louis, Milwaukee, Underground Atlanta, Birmingham and Nashville.

The Don Gumpert Endowed Scholarship will go to a deserving student that is talented in the jazz area, according to Don Snowden, head of PJC's Music and Theatre Department. The scholarship is especially meaningful because of Gump's stature in the music world.

Jack Williams, general manager of Seville Quarter, said, "Don has serious medical problems and was facing major surgery. We wanted to do something in Don's honor prior to surgery so that he could perform with his friends. Don wanted this tribute to be an opportunity for donations to go to a music scholarship fund at PJC in his honor."

The scholarship tribute has been organized by Seville Quarter and the Jazz Society of Pensacola. Donations are still being accepted for the Don Gumpert Endowed Scholarship at PJC.

To donate, visit our website at [www.pjc.edu/foundation](http://www.pjc.edu/foundation) or make checks payable to "PJC Foundation" with a notation referring to the Don Gumpert Endowed Scholarship. Mail your gift to PJC Foundation, 1000 College Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32504.

Donations to the PJC Foundation are tax-deductible according to IRS regulations.



Acclaimed cornetist Don "Gump" Gumpert and Jack Williams enjoy a light moment at Seville Quarter.



PJC President Tom Delaino, Michelle Grier and Sadiqa Ali show support for the African-American Memorial Scholarship program.

## African-American Memorial Scholarship Honors Former PJC Employees

The seventh annual African-American Memorial Scholarship program, sponsored by PJC's Black History Committee, recently awarded scholarships to four students. They are Nicole T. Jones, registered nursing; Felicia T. Nicholson, general studies; Mario A. Taylor, graphic design technology; and Matthew W. Wannamaker, general studies.

"This year's scholarship program exceeded our expectations in fundraising, attendance and program participation," said James Grant, scholarship chair for the Black History Committee. "The spontaneous scholarship donation of \$500 from Dr. Michelle Grier was the first time a program participant contributed at our scholarship program.

"I was pleasantly surprised and overwhelmed by the unexpected, generous donation from our speaker, Dr. Grier. The Black History Committee is grateful to Dr. Grier for energizing our scholarship fund."

The African-American Memorial Endowed Scholarship was established in memory of PJC's deceased African-American employees. Those honored are Ellen Lett, Anthony "Tony" Gaines, Ethel Warren, Robert Walker Jr., Mae Chenier, Maude Jackson, Garrett Wiggins, Joyce McNeal, Freddie Washington, Carl Johnson, Brenda Williams, Lillie Frazier, Annie McCormick and Alton Williams.



Tom Delaino and scholarship recipient Matthew W. Wannamaker



## Realtors Education Foundation Turns Over Scholarship Funds to PJC and UWF

The Realtors Education Foundation, Inc. recently distributed more than \$43,500 each to Pensacola Junior College and the University of West Florida for scholarships to deserving students.

Receiving the donation at the joint presentation were Tom Delaino, PJC president, and Sonny Cushing, executive director of the UWF Foundation.

"We, as a board, feel privileged to have helped as many students as we have over the past 13 years. However, we believe PJC and UWF are able to reach more students in need than our Foundation was able to do," said George Bailey, president of the Realtors Education Foundation.

Other members of the Realtors Education Foundation Board are Bettye Galyean, secretary/treasurer, and directors Theo Baars III, James Callaway, Jerry Norris and Joe Brooks.

"This generous gift will help some deserving students take advantage of the wide range of excellent programs PJC has to offer," said Delaino. Cushing echoed the same sentiments with respect to the programs and curricula offered at the University of West Florida.

Bailey also shared the following background on the scholarship donation.

**Why did the Realtors Education Foundation decide to disburse their scholarship funds?** For several years, the Realtors Education Foundation had difficulty advertising and finding applicants for the scholarships. We felt it would be better for the scholarships to be managed and awarded by the Foundations at PJC and UWF. We decided to leave this important job to the experts.

**Will the Realtors Education Foundation, Inc. continue to exist?** No. The Realtors Education Foundation board voted to dissolve our charitable corporation, which was established in 1990. According to our charter, when we dissolved we had to put our scholarship funds with another charitable organization. So we chose to evenly disperse the funds to the Foundations at PJC and UWF.



(left to right) Jerry Norris, Patrice Whitten, James Callaway, George Bailey, Tom Delaino, Sonny Cushing, Bettye Galyean and Theo Baars III.

**Why were PJC and UWF chosen as recipients of the scholarship funds?** We felt that there were deserving students at PJC and UWF who could use the financial assistance and we wanted the scholarship funds to be used locally. In addition, we knew that placing the funds with the Foundations at PJC and UWF could add to their growth through state matching funds and accumulating interest.

**In the past, were the Realtors Education Foundation scholarships always awarded to students at PJC and UWF?**

No. Originally the scholarships were designated for any applicant to be used at any college or university attended.

**Are there restrictions on the scholarships now?** No. The scholarships are open to all students but preference may be given to realtors and their dependents. Also the schools may have criteria concerning grade point average.

**What will the scholarship be named at PJC?** At PJC, the Realtors Education Foundation funds were added to the existing Robert McColskey Scholarship — Pensacola Association of Realtors Fund and will keep that name. By combining these two scholarship funds, the corpus will be much bigger and able to earn more interest.

**How will this affect the Realtor's scholarship at PJC?** We now have the chance to double our number of scholarship recipients.



## PJC Foundation Funds Fill Financial Gaps

The long hours and hard work involved in fundraising by the PJC Foundation are paying off — literally. Due to Foundation efforts, students, faculty, programs and departments are seeing improvements.

From fiscal year 2000 to 2002 the Foundation disbursed \$2.4 million on behalf of PJC, according to Lynn Hobbs, PJC Foundation Business Manager.

Areas receiving the largest share of disbursed funds from 2000 to 2002 are scholarships with \$498,755, equipment with \$386,830, and facilities with more than \$1 million.

"This generous amount clearly reflects the support that the Foundation provides to the college for our programs and our students," said PJC President Tom Delaino.

## ALUMNI PROFILE



Sparkie Folkers

### EDUCATION:

Pensacola Junior College, A.A. 1973

### OCCUPATION:

Folkers Window Company  
Marketing Director

### CURRENT AFFILIATIONS:

Better Business Bureau, Board  
Gulf Breeze Rotary, Past President  
PJC Foundation, Board of Governors  
Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church,  
Council  
Grace Music Festival, Board

### PJC EXPERIENCE:

"PJC is the only college I attended, and that experience was so positive. As a student I saw what an important role it played in providing a good foundation for future success. As a business woman, I am impressed with the quality and scope of the college's programs. I'm proud to have such a high caliber college in our community for economic development and for the people who live here.

"Tom and I have continued to support PJC because we have seen how well it serves as a springboard to higher education or straight to the job market. You really can get there from here!"

*If you are  
a PJC alum  
and have a story  
to share, please call  
850-484-1564 or  
e-mail  
foundation@pjc.edu.*

## PJC THEN AND NOW

### You can get there from here.

Sparkie Folkers says the PJC slogan, "You can get there from here," could have been based on her college experience.

When she entered PJC directly from high school in 1971, Folkers had no particular career goals.

"I could have gone elsewhere to college, but I was unsure of a major," Folkers said. "So my parents suggested that I get the basics at PJC and then decide where to transfer. Besides, a lot of my friends were going to PJC."

Attending PJC may have started as a casual decision but Folkers smiles as she remembers the role it played in her future both professionally and personally.

Folkers studied business and accounting and gained a business foundation that has served her well for the last 30 years.

"Richard Irvine was my first accounting teacher. He was new on the faculty then, and he made accounting seem like an exciting career," she said. "I remember so many good teachers who

made learning important — Dr. Audrey Atherton in social science, Dr. William Bennett in biology, and Winnie McManus in English are just a few."

Oh, and there is one other remnant from her PJC days that remains a major influence for Folkers. She met her husband of 31 years, Tom, at a fraternity pledge dance two weeks after classes began. They got married the following summer and graduated from PJC the next year.

After graduation, Tom pursued a bachelor's degree at the University of West Florida and Folkers used her accounting and bookkeeping skills in the family business, Folkers Window Co. They both have continued working at Folkers where

Folkers is now the marketing director, and Tom is the president.

Staying with the family business was a particular advantage when their children, Julie and Brad, were young.

"I was able to do a lot of the company bookkeeping from home, and I could schedule my work hours around the children," she said. "Being with them when they were

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*"PJC has done a  
good job of  
changing with  
the times, of  
anticipating and  
meeting job  
market and  
community needs."*

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— Sparkie Folkers



small was very important to us. Now Julie has graduated from UWF and works in Atlanta, and Brad has graduated from the University of Florida and works in Boca Raton. They are our pride and joy."

Since her years as a PJC student, Folkers has seen a number of changes at the college, especially in the area of community outreach.

"During the early 70s when Tom and I were students, PJC seemed focused mostly on providing the first two years of a four-year degree," she said. "Now PJC offers much more with campuses in Milton and Warrington, and it has many more technical programs."

"Tom and I still see friends that we met more than 30 years ago at PJC," she said. "I feel good about contributing to the college through the volunteer work I do with the Foundation, especially when I see the widespread influence PJC has in the community. PJC really is much more than just the first two years of college."

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Sparkie and Tom Folkers met at a fraternity dance, married the following summer and graduated together the next year.

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## Where Are They Now? PJC Alumni Share Their Stories



Richard Sample

When Dr. Richard Sample graduated from Tate High School in 1983, he didn't know what he wanted in a career. Since 1982 he had been a volunteer with the Ensley Fire Department and

had seen firsthand the importance of emergency medical training. He decided the EMT program on PJC's Warrington campus might be a good place to start.

Over the next six years at PJC, Sample completed the Emergency Medical Technology and Paramedic programs, and also took various courses in fire science, organic chemistry, and pre-med basics.

He completed his bachelor's degree at the University of South Florida in 1992 and headed to medical school at Western University in Pomona, Calif. Along the way, he also earned an airplane pilot's license.

After medical school, Sample spent six years in Michigan practicing medicine in an Urgent Care group as well as an independent practice. Two years ago, he returned to Pensacola to be near his family.

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*"PJC courses kept me going forward. I had no idea I could be a medical doctor when I started in the EMT/Paramedic program. But at PJC, I was inspired to advance my education."*

— Dr. Richard Sample

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Returning to his roots, Sample says he now enjoys teaching part-time in PJC's Paramedic program and volunteering with local fire departments.

Looking back at his many years of schooling for his medical career, Sample

says he appreciates the foundation he got at PJC.

"Some of the best times of my life were at PJC in the EMT and Paramedic programs with professor Joe Diamond," he recalled. "He was challenging and fair, and these programs definitely gave me an advantage over other students in med school and helped me graduate in the top one-sixth of my class."

The real advantage of his PJC training, according to Sample, came from the hands-on learning he got in the EMT and Paramedic programs.

"EMT and Paramedic helped develop my confidence, my skills and my medical knowledge," Sample said. "It was excellent preparation for that first experience as a hospital intern. While other interns were wringing their hands and wondering what to do, I was ready to jump in and get my hands dirty!"

That "can-do" attitude was a natural outgrowth of his PJC experience, Sample says.

"For me, PJC was the bridge between high school and upper level education," he said. "I didn't know what I wanted to be. At PJC I could take my time, get my feet wet, learn how to study and become more focused without a lot of pressure. I got a quality education that will stick with me the rest of my life."

And that thirst for knowledge continues for Sample.

"I'm considering going back to school again. I may finish by the time I'm 65," he said with a laugh.

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Carole Paradis Gentry

Carole Paradis Gentry graduated from PJC in 1988 and from Florida State University in 1990. She currently lives in Tallahassee with her husband Gary (A.A., 1992) and their three young sons Mitchell, 10;

Spencer, 9; and William, 4. Carole and Gary are Cubmasters in their boys' Cub Scout Pack, active in little league baseball, and Carole is a school volunteer. Gary is a senior mechanical engineer with General Dynamics.

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*"I know my education at PJC was the finest I could have received. I will encourage my sons to begin their college career there, as well. Then they will be the third generation of our family to attend PJC."*

— Carole Paradis Gentry

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Carole sent the following note to share with Compendium readers:

"I have fond memories of PJC and thoroughly enjoyed receiving my education from an institution which my father and sister also attended.

"I did not attend college directly out of high school. After several years of working two minimum wage jobs while living on my own, I knew I needed to further my education. I completed the six-month ward clerk class on the Warrington campus and landed a job at West Florida Hospital. While working there, I enrolled again at PJC and earned my A.A. in Elementary Education.

"I may have been one of the first students to roller-skate on campus. To me, PJC was huge. I bought some Ridell skates with hot pink wheels and would skate around campus to my classes. I don't know what others thought of the sight, but I was never late to class.

"After graduating from PJC in 1988, I transferred to FSU and literally ran away to the circus! I enjoyed being part of the FSU Flying Circus while keeping up with my studies. The medical terminology I learned while at PJC during my ward clerk class helped me land a job in the Eckerd Pharmacy so I could continue to pay my way.

"I was a member of Phi Theta Kappa at both PJC and FSU and will never forget our PJC PTK trip to Washington D.C. That was my only time visiting our nation's capitol, and those memories are precious.

"After graduating from FSU in 1990, I moved back to Pensacola hoping to teach. A year later, I married my sweetheart from Tallahassee, Gary, and we stayed in Pensacola while he also finished his A.A. at PJC. Then we moved back to Tallahassee so he could finish his degree at the FSU/FAMU College of Engineering.



## Faithful Friends

Gulf Breeze Hospital Auxiliary members have contributed faithfully since 1988 to fund a scholarship for a student in the medical field. This year's recipient is **Jamie Bunch**, a freshman in the radiography program. Bunch is doing well in the program and says, "it is a tough course load, but it is all worth it."

Bunch is pictured with **Dick Fulford**, Gulf Breeze Hospital administrator; **Shebbie Shields**, PJC scholarship development specialist; and **Georgia White**, Auxiliary president.



## Golf Tourney Puts In Scholarship Funds

The Ami Lee Wilder Golf Tournament, sponsored by Liberty Sertoma, recently added \$5,793 to the Ami Lee Wilder Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund. Thanks to consistent support from Liberty Sertoma, at least seven students attend PJC each year with Ami Lee Wilder funds. Already this year, \$4,000 has been awarded to four students for the fall and spring terms and three more students will receive scholarships for the summer terms.

Accepting the donation (shown left to right) are **Harry Wilder**, father of Ami Lee; **Patrice Whitten**, PJC Foundation executive director; and PJC President **Tom Delaino**.

## PJC Scholarship Student Continues to Shine

**Shannon Maguire**, a scholarship student who excelled at PJC, is continuing a stellar academic career at the University of South Florida. She was selected to serve as the AFROTC Wing Commander for Spring 2003 with more than 180 cadets under her supervision.

At the AFROTC's annual award ceremony, Maguire garnered more awards than any other cadet. She received the physical fitness award, honor award, superior performance award (awarded to top five percent of cadets), warrior spirit award and academic leadership scholarship.

Besides her studies and AFROTC responsibilities, Maguire also works as a student assistant in the USF Office of the President and Office of Board of Trustees Relations.

"Shannon has been tremendously helpful to the president and others as they have worked to implement the new University Board of Trustees. She has learned a lot and has made a significant contribution to the university in that role," said Robert Sullins, dean of Undergraduate Studies and Community College Relations at USF.



## PJC Connects Students with Real Goals, Real Careers

When PJC students need a little help with career planning, college transfer or life goals, the newly expanded Career Connection is the place to go. With locations on all three campuses, the Career Connection provides traditional and non-traditional counseling, resources and technology to help students realize their potential and put their talents to work.

"The students really enjoy their experience at the Career Connection," said Marsha Layfield, career coordinator. "When they walk in the door, we can say 'yes,' to their requests for career advising, college transfer information and interview training skills."



At the Career Connection, students have access to 32 computers, or they can browse through the library for information on occupations, job hunting, educational programs and internships. They also can take advantage of free career advising and career development workshops.

The Career Connection fills a definite need, according to Layfield. She pointed out that the average college student changes his or her major five to seven times, and the average American makes three or more career transitions during his or her lifetime. The Career Connection promotes a greater awareness of the world of work and the need to view career development as a lifelong process.

## Reception Welcomes Delaino as PJC President

The home of Miller and Debbie Caldwell was the setting for a reception honoring PJC President Tom Delaino and his wife, Frances. Friends of the college gathered for an evening of delicious food and festivities welcoming Delaino as PJC's fifth president. Thank you **Debbie and Miller Caldwell**, PJC Foundation President, for sharing your home.





# A Breakfast for Champions

On February 20, PJC family, friends and community members gathered together for the Breakfast of Champions Scholarship Donor Appreciation Breakfast, bringing together scholarship donors in celebration of the gift of education.

Guests were treated to a breakfast buffet catered by Delicious Impressions and a solo performance of "Wind Beneath My Wings" by PJC scholarship recipient Jina Mazzeo, first recipient of the Rising Star Scholarship and former member of the Pensacola Children's Chorus.

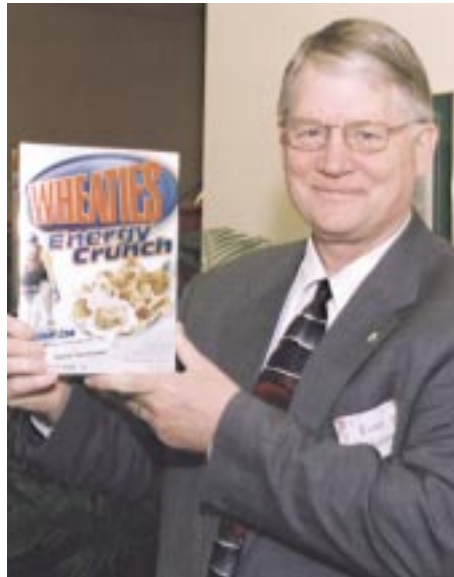
Executive director of the Pensacola Junior College Foundation, Patrice Whitten, opened the breakfast recognizing PJC's scholarship donors as champions for the students and the college's cause. "You have enabled, through your gifts, thousands of students to reach their goal of attending college who otherwise would not have been able to," Whitten said.

Miller Caldwell, president of the PJC Foundation, introduced the guest speaker Sandy Sansing as "a man we can all look up to." Sansing is an alumnus of PJC, an active member of many civic organizations, and has participated as a major donor in the PJC scholarship program. He described his education at PJC as phenomenal, and reminded everyone that "education is something you have for life... something that is priceless."

*"...education is something you have for life... something that is priceless."*

— Miller Caldwell

"When we give money, I look at it as if we are making an investment. We have a lot of choices as to where we can make the



In light of the recent trend of state and federal budget cuts for higher education, PJC President Tom Delaino thanked donors, saying "the resources you provide for us are so phenomenally helpful in these tough times. We truly appreciate what you do for us."

investment. To me, an investment in a scholarship to PJC is both immediate and tangible," Sansing said. "You actually meet the people that our dollars have gone to help. I can think of no better return on investment than a changed life of an individual."

After reading some stories from scholarship donors whose lives were changed forever by the gift of education, Sansing went on to liken PJC scholarship donors to dream makers, recognizing that donors have not only allowed young people to find their dreams, but "you (scholarship donors) have allowed their parents' dreams to come true."



Table of Champions — Enjoying the scholarship donor appreciation breakfast are (from left) Miller Caldwell, Tom Delaino, Peggy Sansing and Sandy Sansing.

## VOLUNTEER CORNER



CAROLYN DAVIS

"Serving on the Pensacola Junior College Foundation for more than 10 years has been a privilege because this Foundation makes a very real difference in the lives of individuals.

"We helped Jim bridge the gap between leaving home and adjusting to a major institution in unknown surroundings. We helped Laura, a displaced homemaker, attain marketable skills that decreased our welfare roles and greatly increased her self-esteem. We've helped Maya who 'fell between the cracks' of traditional scholarships through our Universal Scholarship Program.

"Jim, Laura and Maya are just three people who have benefited from the PJC Foundation. These are people...not just a good cause. They have faces and lives. I've met them. These people, and many others with equally compelling stories, are why I've stayed on this Board for so many years. They are why I support the PJC Foundation and encourage others to do the same. People's lives are being changed in a positive way. This change improves their lives, and it improves our entire community.

"I've received so much more than I've given and would encourage anyone interested in helping people improve their lives through educational opportunities provided by the PJC Foundation to consider volunteering their time to make someone else's dream a reality."

## PJC PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following PJC employees who have recently received transfers or promotions:

**Isaac Brigham**, senior vice president for Planning and Administration; **James Callaway**, interim vice president, Student Affairs; **Gean Ann Emond**, vice president, Business Affairs; **Gael Frazer**, associate vice president, Institutional Diversity; **Mary Graves**, computer system analyst, MIS; **Tammy Henderson**, director, Human Resources; **Shirley Korinchak**, coordinator, LRC Technical Services; **Tania Leon**, senior administrative secretary, Human Resources; **Karen Roshell**, executive secretary, Planning and Administration; **Mary Scott**, executive secretary, Institutional Diversity; **Brenda Brantley**, administrative secretary, Arts and Sciences; **Michael Miller**, supervisor, Maintenance; **Mischel Douglas Johnson**, administrative secretary, Engineering Technology; **Tanesha McCreary**, human resources representative, Human Resources; **Rhonda Likely**, support specialist, Human Resources; **Gayle Kuhhirte**, administrative secretary, Nursing; and **Mike Smolensky**, producer/director, WSRE-TV.



## Online Giving

Visit our Website!

We are pleased to announce that donors can now submit their credit card gift to PCJ by way of our online secure server. Giving online is fast, convenient and secure!

# Job Opportunities Are Just a Click Away for PJC Students and Alumni

By Chris Monteleone

Excerpted and reprinted with permission from The Corsair, PJC's student newspaper

PJC Job Services has implemented a new program to give alumni and current students more convenience in locating employment. The service, known as PJC Works Online, will allow students to directly post resumes for prospective employers.

It will also allow employers to directly contact students at home or via e-mail for interview purposes, says Gil Bixel, coordinator of cooperative education, a division of Job Services.

This should do away with the students having to go through the inconvenience of constantly coming into the office for paper referrals, Bixel added.

*"PJC Works Online is likely the best job search resource found anywhere for PJC students and alumni and for the employers wishing to recruit these applicants."*

— Tim Miller, placement specialist

The cost of the software, \$5,000 a year, is covered through the Carl Perkins Federal Fund and the Job Location and Development Program, both of which are designed to help colleges and students interested in vocational education, said Laney Hiller, director of the job placement program.

"However, one advantage of going online is that you can directly contact the employer and won't have to come in to get a paper referral," Hiller said.

PJC will not post every job opportunity that comes along.

Jobs that are not considered appropriate, that carry too high a liability, and that fail the screening process will not be posted online, said Hiller, who is also the system's primary gatekeeper.

No Job Services personnel will be affected by the new program. "We actually anticipate more applicants with this program due to its added convenience," Hiller said. That means the current Job Services staff could stay busy.

A survey is posted online with the service, and both Bixel and Hiller encourage students to give their feedback.

For more information, students and alumni can contact Bixel at 484-1653 or Hiller at 484-4655.





## IN MEMORIAM



### RICHARD SHANNON, A.D. PJC English/Communications Department

Dr. Ric Shannon, associate professor of English, died Dec. 18, 2002 following a two-year battle with cancer. He was 55. Dr. Shannon taught at PJC from 1983 until 2001.

Throughout his 18 years at PJC, Dr. Shannon was known as a popular professor who encouraged discussion and interaction in his classes. He is fondly remembered for always challenging his students to think for themselves.

"He was the kind of teacher who forced students to think past their comfort zones, to think through their assumptions and ideas, to examine the basis of their beliefs," said Marian Wernicke, head of PJC's English Department. "Many students said being in his class was a life-changing experience."

Dr. Shannon is survived by his wife, Ruth, and son, Michael, both of Pensacola.



### MARY "GUSSIE" BAKER MORRIS

Mary "Gussie" Baker Morris, wife, mother, teacher, media specialist and volunteer, died April, 27, 2003 of cancer. She was 68. Mrs. Morris was a cherished member of the PJC Foundation Guild. She gave freely of herself to promote education and more specifically PJC. She is fondly remembered by her friend Diane Gup, "Gussie loved life to the fullest, felt blessed by her family and friends, yet faced death with dignity as an adventure with new things

to fulfill." Mrs. Morris enjoyed the camaraderie of the guild members and worked for the goals that challenged them. She is survived by her son Dr. John C. Morris and his wife, Elizabeth of Virginia Beach, Va.; by her daughter Anne Morris Banos and her husband, J. Luis Banos Jr. of New Orleans, La.; four beloved grandchildren; her brother John B. Baker Jr. and his wife, Nancy of Canton, Ohio; her sister-in-law, Carolyn B. Baker of Overland Park, Kans. and numerous nieces and nephews. Prior to her passing, Mrs. Morris requested memorials be designated to benefit students of PJC through a scholarship fund.



### AL GILBERT PJC Summer Dance Workshop

Al Gilbert, co-founder of the PJC Summer Dance Workshop, died Feb. 3, 2003 of cancer in Los Angeles. He was 81. He taught sessions in each workshop from its inception through last summer.

Known by many as the "Pied Piper of Dance," Mr. Gilbert began tap dancing on the street corners of New York as a child.

Famous for his Hollywood Theatrical Dance School that he started in 1947, Mr. Gilbert taught dance to stars such as Michael Jackson and the Jackson 5, Annette Funicello, Chastity Bono, Maureen McCormick and Annette O'Toole.

In 1981, Mr. Gilbert collaborated with PJC dance instructor Terry Dillon to develop the first PJC Summer Dance Workshop. Over the years, his support drew famous guest artists from across the country to teach dance sessions at the workshop.

Mr. Gilbert is survived by his sister, Rose Marcanio, and niece, Roseann Wahl, both of Pensacola.

## Why give to the unrestricted fund for PJC?

The unrestricted fund provides current-use, budget-relieving income for PJC. It not only serves as an important financial vehicle, but also as an opportunity for alumni, parents and friends to become involved in supporting the college. Tuition and fees currently cover only a portion of PJC's operating budget. The remaining amount is covered by the state and charitable donations. Unrestricted funds allow PJC to have the financial flexibility to act quickly, to move forward in new directions and to act on emerging academic initiatives.

By its nature, a community college is organized to support the local community and meet the needs of its citizens. The college is designed to not only promote the needs of students, but also to promote the economic well-being of the community it serves. Leaders of business and industry benefit from PJC's involvement in the education of the local community, and unrestricted funds assure this continued success. By investing in PJC, you are not only investing in the future of students, but also in the community as a whole.

We are not selling scholarships or community services, we are offering the opportunity to assist students and help ensure the future of Northwest Florida. It is important for us to make sure that our local educational institutions continue to grow and prosper, guaranteeing that our community continues to have access to quality education.

Unrestricted gifts are vital to PJC's continued growth, our students, and Northwest Florida. They can be described as the greatest gifts donors can make to the college.

Please make an unrestricted gift to PJC. Call 850-484-1560 or visit [www.pjc.edu/foundation](http://www.pjc.edu/foundation).



During inaugural festivities at the Warrington campus, PJC President Tom Delaino takes a moment to contemplate the exciting journey ahead.



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